

Development Operational Plan 2013

Myanmar country office

PROGRAMME INFORMATION	
Host National Society:	Geographical coverage:
Myanmar Red Cross Society	Various locations throughout Myanmar
Number of people to be reached:	
203,110 ¹	
Business Line:	Budget 2013: *
1 – “To raise humanitarian standards”	
2 – “To grow Red Cross Red Crescent services for vulnerable people”	1,863,762
3 – “To strengthen the specific Red Cross Red Crescent contribution to development”	2,065,903
4 – “To heighten Red Cross Red Crescent influence and support for our work”	138,181
5 – “To deepen our tradition of togetherness through joint working and accountability”	491,860
Total annual budget (CHF):	4,559,706
Partner National Societies:	
American Red Cross, Austrian Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, Hong Kong branch of the Red Cross Society of China, Japanese Red Cross Society, Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Singapore Red Cross and Taiwan Red Cross Organization.	
Other partner organisations:	
None	

1. Executive Summary

Country context and needs

Myanmar is a union of seven states and seven regions. Covering an area of 677,000 square kilometres, it is strategically located between India and China, and is the largest country in mainland Southeast Asia. It has an estimated population of about 57.5 million, with an annual growth rate of 1.52 per cent². The first general election in 20 years was held in 2010, while a semi-civilian government was installed in March 2011. Reforms and positive developments in several spheres including politics and finance have been instituted by the government since 2010, and continue. The partial lifting of sanctions by foreign governments has also occurred, while the World Bank is re-engaging with the country and significant numbers of prospective overseas investors from the government and private sectors are flocking to the country.

In 2011, Myanmar ranked 149 out of 168 in the Human Development Index³. Health, education and poverty continue to pose pressing challenges - public expenditure on health and education was about 0.2 per cent and 0.6 per cent of the GDP respectively⁴, while in 2010, the national poverty headcount index was 25.6 per cent⁵. The country also has

¹ Note that the number of targeted beneficiaries will be reviewed during the monitoring and evaluation meetings scheduled for January 2013, as indicated on page 10 of this document

² Thematic Analysis 2011, Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in Myanmar, United Nations Country Team in Myanmar (Statistical Year Book 2009, Central Statistics Office).

³ Human Development Report 2011, UNDP.

⁴ Human Development Report 2011, UNDP.

⁵ Thematic Analysis 2011, Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in Myanmar, United Nations Country Team in Myanmar (MNPED and UNDP, IHLCA 2010). Note that the national poverty headcount index was 32 per cent in 2005.

a significant propensity for natural disasters – according to the *Global Climate Risk Index 2012*, Myanmar is the second-most disaster-prone country in the world, based on disasters which occurred between 1991 and 2010.

Key priorities of the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS)

The Myanmar Red Cross Society's key priorities are outlined in its Strategic Plan for 2011-2015 which aims to improve the lives of the most vulnerable, in line with Government's socio-economic targets. These include the Government's Millennium Development Goals 1 and 4 to 8.⁶

The society's strategy is premised on reaching vulnerable communities through community-based interventions which are planned in consultation with targeted communities, and which involve significant levels of community participation and facilitation, leading to community ownership of interventions and ultimately, the continuation and maintenance of interventions and facilities by communities themselves who should be self-sufficient. These community-based interventions are aided by township-level Red Cross volunteer brigades which will be strengthened to enable them to provide the strategic support required by communities – this strengthening of individual Red Cross township structures will include enabling them to function with a certain level of self-sufficiency which will be reached through income-generation efforts at township branch-level. The community-based efforts are also conducted in coordination and collaboration with local authorities including township-level health, drainage and irrigation, education, and planning representatives/structures.

Accordingly, MRCS will engage in several community-based programmes or projects with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), in 2013. All of them represent the continuation or expansion of interventions undertaken in 2012, aimed at improving the resilience of vulnerable communities towards current risks (health risks included) and future disasters. Main interventions include disaster risk reduction (DRR) efforts aimed at high-risk rural and urban communities, as well as school children; community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) for communities in several locations throughout the country; water and sanitation efforts in two communities; first aid and blood donation project.

It should be noted that DRR, CBHFA and water and sanitation efforts in particular will not be implemented in isolation – as such, there will be a conscious effort to integrate these efforts with each other, depending on the identified needs of communities. This will mean that while a particular programme or project (DRR, CBHFA, and water and sanitation) will serve as an entry-point for outreach to a targeted community, the support ultimately extended to the community will probably comprise a combination of interventions (DRR / CBHFA / water and sanitation), depending on the needs identified. This approach entails close coordination between programmes and projects, this will be further encouraged and facilitated through a community safety and resilience framework initiated with IFRC support in 2012, and which will be taken forward in 2013.

Other efforts for 2013 include the strengthening of the society's emergency response capacity so that a multi-tiered, multi-sectoral disaster response mechanism is in place, resource mobilization efforts, and high-level humanitarian diplomacy efforts with the new state/regional and central governments to improve awareness of Red Cross efforts and facilitate relevant support from the authorities. Revisions to the society's legal base will complement the efforts to improve awareness of the role of the Red Cross. The IFRC in turn, will extend efforts to acquire legal status in the country – such an achievement will enhance the current work arrangements including travel to Nay Pyi Taw, and ultimately strengthen the support extended to MRCS. All these efforts also represent the continuation/expansion of interventions undertaken in 2012.

Key lessons

The year 2012 has featured several heartening examples of vulnerable communities responding positively to community-based interventions and displaying significant ownership of these interventions, while it has been observed that competent township Red Cross structures are instrumental to the success of these community-based efforts. Accordingly, and in view of the great needs among vulnerable communities throughout the country, these efforts will be renewed and amplified. On a related note, coordination and collaboration among the various divisions, programmes and units with the National Society's headquarters, will play a key role in the efficacy and holistic quality of outreach extended to vulnerable communities – as such, efforts towards this end will be continued with facilitation support from IFRC.

⁶ G1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; G4: Reduce child mortality; G5: Improve maternal health; G6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases; G7: Ensure environmental sustainability (in reference to improved drinking water sources, sanitation facilities and the improved lives of slum dwellers); G8: Develop a global partnership for development.

2. The Operation

2.1 Business Line 1 – “To raise humanitarian standards”

The lessons learnt from major disasters in recent years have highlighted the need for reinforcing international humanitarian standards such as Sphere⁷ in disaster response interventions. The inter-agency humanitarian country team (HCT) has reiterated its commitment towards further disseminating and improving standards through advocacy/networking with duty bearers, field practitioners and other stakeholders. As a first step forward, MRCS and IFRC with the support of government agencies, the United Nations (UN), international and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), translated the Sphere handbook into the Myanmar language and has distributed it to Red Cross branches. In 2013, MRCS aims to conduct Sphere training based on the translated handbook, for staff, volunteers and members to enable them to apply these standards in relevant interventions.

Objectives	Project Code	Targets for 2013
Outcome 1: MRCS has improved the quality of services to vulnerable people and raised the humanitarian standards in the country.		
Output 1.1: MRCS has promoted the application of Sphere standards in humanitarian response in the country.	PMM011	One Sphere training conducted for MRCS staff and volunteers to maintain humanitarian standards.
		National disaster response team (NDRT) and emergency response team (ERT) training curricula revised based on Sphere handbook (translated version).

2.2 Business Line 2 – “To grow Red Cross Red Crescent services for vulnerable people”

The *Global Climate Risk Index 2012* has confirmed the disaster propensity of Myanmar – the country has been ranked the second-most disaster-prone country in the world, based on disasters which occurred between 1991 and 2010. This, coupled with conflict situations in several parts of the country (including the communal violence in Rakhine - MRCS has assisted approximately 75,000 displaced people since the outbreak of unrest in June 2012), contribute to significant levels of vulnerability among the Myanmar population. In view of the great needs of vulnerable communities, the strengthening of disaster preparedness capacity within all levels and units of the Myanmar Red Cross Society in order to enable it to deliver timely and appropriate relief through the application of a clear disaster response mechanism, the efficient utilization of resources, and coordination with partners, is vital. Accordingly, in 2013, the society with the support of IFRC, and in reference to coordination with stakeholders, will engage in strategic strengthening initiatives in disaster management, water and sanitation, and public health in emergencies.

Objectives	Project Code	Targets for 2013
Outcome 1: MRCS, with the support of IFRC, has improved its response preparedness by strengthening staff, volunteers and national society structures and facilities at all levels.		
Output 1.1 MRCS’ warehousing and management capacity is improved to preposition disaster preparedness stock.	PMM026 PMM011	MRCS has replenished disaster preparedness stock for immediate response to emergencies.
		MRCS’ network of warehouses is expanded and strengthened, and human resources, systems and procedures strengthened.
Output 1.2 MRCS’ emergency response capacity is enhanced through clear operational guidance and procedures, well-trained national and state/regional-level emergency response teams, improved communication, efficient logistics management systems and increased funding	PMM011 PMM026	Update MRCS contingency plans at all levels.
		Expansion of NDRT and ERT teams.
		Review of standard operating procedures (SOP) conducted at least once in 2013.

⁷ Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE).

Objectives	Project Code	Targets for 2013
resources.		<p>Review of disaster response equipment (logistics, communications and water and sanitation) conducted.</p> <p>Establish emergency operations centre (EOC) at MRCS headquarters (HQ) with standard facilities and equipment.</p> <p>Application to IFRC DREF⁸ is made to respond to medium and large-scale disasters, according to needs.</p>
Output 1.3 MRCS has signed pre-disaster agreements with partners concerned.	PMM011	One pre-disaster agreement meeting has been conducted for MRCS to standardize approaches and materials in case of emergencies.
Output 1.4 MRCS has enhanced its capacity for emergency response in water and sanitation.	PMM008	<p>Expansion of existing pool of water and sanitation staff and volunteers trained in emergency response, and deployment of these resources.</p> <p>14 units of existing pre-positioned emergency response equipment are maintained and ready for deployment.</p>
Output 1.5 MRCS is better prepared to respond to public health in emergencies, and provide first aid in times of emergency.	PMM011	Expansion of existing pool of ERT members equipped with skills and knowledge in public health in emergencies (PHiE), first aid, psychosocial support and participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation (PHAST), and deployment of these resources.
Output 1.6 MRCS with the support of IFRC, conducts timely, effective and multi-sectoral responses to major disasters in the country and undertakes specific mandated tasks, as and when these arise.	PMM011 <i>(Note: Codes to be confirmed upon the finalisation of the overall MRCS recovery Plan of Action)</i>	<p>MRCS, with the support of IFRC, has provided early recovery/recovery assistance to communities displaced by communal unrest in Rakhine state.</p> <p><i>Note: The overall recovery Plan of Action for the MRCS response to the Rakhine unrest (which will outline the framework within which MRCS partners including IFRC can provide support) has not been finalised yet. As such, the targeted number of beneficiaries and sectors of intervention in reference to this output will be described in the Quarter 1 update for 2013.</i></p> <p>In the event of a disaster, MRCS will cover the basic needs of at least 15 per cent of the affected population.</p>

2.3 Business Line 3 – “To strengthen the specific Red Cross Red Crescent contribution to development”

The Myanmar Red Cross Society's Strategic Plan 2011-2015 outlines an integrated community-based approach in health and care, water and sanitation, and disaster risk reduction, as the centre of its development work. This will mean that while a particular programme or project (DRR, CBHFA, and water and sanitation) will serve as an entry-point for outreach to a targeted community, the support ultimately extended to the community will probably comprise a combination of interventions (DRR / CBHFA / water and sanitation), depending on the needs identified. To this end, efforts in 2012 to integrate community-based interventions (e.g. CBHFA with DRR or water and sanitation) will

⁸ Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF)

continue and be further enhanced through the community safety and resilience framework initiated in 2012 with IFRC support. It should be noted that specific disease-related programmes (HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria etc) will be integrated as widely as possible within these community-based interventions, depending on the needs identified among targeted communities.

In order to reach communities more efficiently, MRCS with the support of IFRC, will continue to strengthen the capacity of Red Cross branches. This will be done through the Branch Development Model initiated in 2012, which aims to enable them to provide crucial monitoring, supervisory and sustainability support for community-based interventions). This strengthening of branch capacity will include improved systems and procedures including finance management, resource mobilization and general human resource management (volunteers and youth).

Objectives	Project Code	Targets for 2013
Outcome 1: Communities have increased their safety and resilience through integrated community-based initiatives (DRR, health, and water and sanitation).		
Output 1.1: 150 communities in 33 townships with disaster- and health-related risks are reached through integrated community-based interventions (with DRR / CBHFA / water and sanitation).	PMM011 PMM009 PMM008	Community-based programming based on the community safety and resilience framework will be introduced in 2013 (integrating DRR, health, and water and sanitation).
	PMM011	DRR: 75 communities in 18 townships are reached through community-based disaster risk management (CBDRM)/urban DRR/ *early warning activities.
	PMM009	Health: 55 communities in 11 townships are reached through CBHFA.
	PMM008	Water and sanitation:
		20 communities in 4 townships are reached through water and sanitation.
		150 communities in 33 townships are engaged in sustainable community-based programmes.
	The safety and resilience of at least 40 per cent of communities targeted (142) have improved.	
Output 1.2 Disaster risk reduction (DRR) is mainstreamed into various emergency and recovery activities to reduce vulnerability and future disaster risks.	PMM011	All recovery interventions after major disasters will include disaster risk reduction as a cross-cutting theme in respective plans of action.
Output 1.3 MRCS has contributed to the control of HIV and other non-communicable diseases in the country.	PMM009	The prevention of HIV and other diseases will be integrated into CBHFA activities in all townships where it has been identified as a priority.
Output 1.4 MRCS has provided first aid and safety services to people in need throughout the country	PMM009	25,000 community members will gain basic first aid skills through training provided by MRCS first-aid trained instructors.
		An updated first aid curriculum is used for first aid training.
		MRCS has increased its income by at least 10 per cent based on its baseline income

Objectives	Project Code	Targets for 2013
		from 2010, through commercial first aid.
Output 1.5 MRCS has supported the mobilization of voluntary non-remunerated blood donors in the country.	PMM009	A 10 per cent increase is achieved in the number of voluntary non-remunerated blood donors in the country (compared to 2010 baseline).
Outcome 2: MRCS is better structured and organized at all levels to deliver quality community-based services to the vulnerable people in Myanmar.		
Output 2.1 MRCS is supported technically and financially in achieving the strategic goals set in its strategy for 2011-2015.	PMM0012	MRCS has actively disseminated its Strategy Plan 2011-2015, based on approved implementing guidelines, to another 20 per cent of township branches (40 per cent of branches were reached in 2012).
		Follow-up on understanding and utilization of strategic plan among all branches which were provided with the Plan in 2012.
		The new financial management system of MRCS is utilized at HQ using new financial software and extended to *33 branches with training and support provided
Output 2.2. MRCS's capacity and systems are improved at all levels to undertake community-based and disaster response activities.	PMM012	*33 township branches have strengthened their institutional and management capacity to support community-based programmes.
Output 2.3. MRCS has progressively involved the Red Cross youth in active participation in MRCS's decision-making and programme implementation through improved branch youth activities.	PMM012	The revised MRCS Legal Act which include a provision for a representative of the Red Cross youth to be a member of the Central Council shall be in implementation once passed and approved.
		Participation of Red Cross youth in all programmes and activities is continuing and properly captured and acknowledged.
Output 2.4. MRCS has maintained a pool of highly competent staff, fulfilling their defined roles and being fairly rewarded within a human resource (HR) system of accountability.	PMM012	The package of MRCS HR policy, staff regulations and Code of Conduct is approved and implemented, disseminated and closely monitored.
		Approved MRCS performance appraisal guidelines are utilized.
Output 2.5. A volunteer management system is developed to enhance voluntary service to vulnerable people.	PMM012	Volunteer management policy, and guidelines are revised and approved by MRCS leadership.
		Development of volunteer management handbook is completed.

**As per townships identified in Outcome 1, Output 1.1. Note also that some disaster management and water and sanitation interventions will be subject to funding availability.*

2.4 Business Line 4 – “To heighten Red Cross Red Crescent influence and support for our work”

As the Government of Myanmar continues to undertake reforms towards the development of the country now with a civilian government and an elected parliament after 40 years, the Myanmar Red Cross Society is also taking efforts to align itself with this development. This includes the revision of its Legal Act in order to have a more diversified membership in its leadership from national to the branch level, as well as taking bolder steps through its resource mobilization strategy in order to better sustain its services to the most vulnerable groups.

This further entails a need for MRCS to project a high profile of all its sectors of intervention in order to achieve better understanding of the society's role among local and central authorities and generate greater support and participation from the Myanmar people. In this connection, humanitarian diplomacy activities at all levels undertaken through dissemination and specific high-level advocacy sessions undertaken in 2012 with a good response from audiences including commitments of support from state and regional governments, will be further expanded in 2013.

Objectives	Project Code	Targets for 2013
Outcome 1: IFRC/MRCS has promoted understanding and respect for Red Cross principles, diversity and human dignity; and reduced intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion in Myanmar.		
Output 1.1 MRCS is actively involved in humanitarian diplomacy to support vulnerable people in Myanmar by defining strategies to advocate and disseminate to higher-level authorities.	PMM013	Advocacy sessions will be held with parliamentarians and state or regional governments.
Output 1.2 MRCS has promoted the Red Cross Red Crescent principles, values and international humanitarian law (IHL) to mobilize support to the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement within the country.	PMM013	MRCS continues to engage with the media to promote Red Cross Red Crescent principles and IHL.
		MRCS will utilize IFRC resources and tools to strengthen its communication system and capacity.
Output 1.3 MRCS' communications system and capacity are strengthened at all levels.	PMM013	The MRCS library for internal communications will be strengthened.
	PMM013 PMM012	Reporting from township branches will be further strengthened.
Output 1.4. IFRC has actively participated in the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) meetings and has kept a close working relationship with the donor community and other national and international humanitarian actors.	PMM004	IFRC is a regular participant in the majority of HCT Core Group, HCT Forum, international NGO forum and MHPG (donor) meetings.
Output 1.5 MRCS/IFRC has contributed towards the gathering of reliable information on humanitarian issues in Myanmar and strengthened advocacy towards the Myanmar government, donor governments and other stakeholders to increase humanitarian space.	PMM012 PMM011 PMM013	MRCS with support from IFRC, provides regular updates to donors and national and international humanitarian actors on humanitarian and development action.
Output 1.6. MRCS's legal base is revised and approved to enhance the National Society's functions and delivery of services in the country.	PMM012	The revision process of the MRCS Legal Act with support from ICRC and IFRC is finalized and submitted to the relevant authorities.
Outcome 2: MRCS has achieved a higher level of self-sufficiency, sustainability and independence by improving its income generation activities.		
Output 2.1 A resource mobilization division in MRCS is established with a defined policy, objectives and strategies.	PMM012	Approved policies and procedures of the resource mobilization unit of MRCS (established within its national headquarters to achieve higher level of self sufficiency and sustainability) are in place.
Output 2.2 . Existing income generation (IG) activities are mapped, and a donor database and pilot income generation activities for branches are developed for replication in the future.	PMM012	The catalogue of IG practices is approved by the mRCS leadership and disseminated to the branches.
		The donor database that had been initiated in 2012 is updated in early 2013 and circulated.
Output 2.3. Income generation initiatives are rolled out to a minimum of five township branches	PMM008 PMM009	*33 township branches with community-based programmes have initiated financial means to sustain minimum branch standards

Objectives	Project Code	Targets for 2013
with community-based programmes, per year.	PMM011 PMM012	and support for communities.
Output 2.4. Business opportunities for higher income generation are identified and strengthened.	PMM012	The initiated plan on resource mobilization will be expanded to include corporate partnership, membership, links with media, events, and enhancement of Red Cross income-generation initiatives, and will be approved by the MRCS Executive Committee and disseminated to the branches.
	PMM012	Fundraising and income-generation at national level will contribute towards 5 per cent of headquarters core costs.
Outcome 3: Sufficient resources are mobilized by MRCS with IFRC assistance to support the implementation of the 2012-2015 planning framework.		
Output 3.1. MRCS with the support of IFRC has developed an appropriate resource mobilization strategy.	PMM012	MRCS resource mobilization strategy is approved and in place.
		The RM Strategy clearly provides for the diversification of funding sources in accordance with the upholding of Red Cross principles.
Output 3.2. MRCS with the support of IFRC has worked closely with all partners and donors to mobilize resources to support the implementation of the 2012-2015 Planning Framework.	PMM004	MRCS through IFRC has received 90 per cent funding of its programme costs.

**As per townships identified in Business Line 3, Outcome 1, Output 1.1.*

2.5 Business Line 5 – “To deepen our tradition of togetherness through joint working and accountability”

The presence of the IFRC in-country to provide support to the Myanmar Red Cross Society has been maintained since 1992. In this regard, IFRC fulfils an advisory and counseling role to further strengthen the National Society. This is in the area of planning, implementation, and to account for its programmes supported by various donors. Specific areas being given attention to are capacity in planning, monitoring and reporting, resource mobilization, branch development and community-based approaches. While the move of the MRCS headquarters to the new capital Naypyidaw, had put additional challenge on capacity development efforts and the close cooperation required between MRCS and the IFRC country office, all avenues are being explored jointly for greater efficiency and productivity.

Objectives	Project Code	Targets for 2013
Outcome 1: Close coordination and management between MRCS and IFRC are maintained to ensure joint working and accountability.		
Output 1.1 The IFRC country office has maintained an effective management structure to provide MRCS with technical and financial support.	PMM004	IFRC has maintained its in-country presence adapted to the requirements of MRCS and has sufficient financial resources to maintain the country office.
Output 1.2 MRCS with the support of IFRC has strengthened its planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) capacity and financial management to improve its accountability and donor reporting, and their qualifications and	PMM004	MRCS has an established monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan for each of its IFRC-funded programmes/projects which is linked to the development operational plan 2013.

Objectives	Project Code	Targets for 2013
competencies through learning, training, knowledge and experience sharing.		MRCS will make use of RMS tools to strengthen its reporting.
Output 1.3. MRCS with the support of IFRC has improved its coordination with all partners concerned.	PMM004	MRCS has held at least eight Movement coordination meetings and initiated two non-Movement partner meetings.
Output 1.4. MRCS has participated in the Federation-wide reporting system (FWRS), and the organizational capacity assessment and certification (OCAC) process.	PMM004	MRCS actively participates in providing information in the FWRS database.
		MRCS actively participates in the OCAC process.

3. Programme support strategy

3.1 Finance

The finance unit of the IFRC country office is composed of national staff, who have many years of experience in IFRC finance management – they employed their skills and experience commendably during the 40-month Cyclone Nargis operation from 2008 to 2011, with a budget of CHF 70 million. The MRCS finance division has also gained tremendous experience over the last few years and accordingly, finance development initiatives involving facilitation support from the IFRC regional office as well as the IFRC country office, will continue.

3.2 Administration

The administration unit which includes human resources, fleet and logistics continues to be headed by a highly experienced executive administration/human resource manager who has handled the administrative support required of a large office (i.e. 25 delegates and 50 national staff) in the past. Internal guidelines and regulations are all in place (staff, filing, procurement, vehicle use etc) and are monitored.

3.3 PMER

The main responsibilities in planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) are incorporated into the job descriptions of the programme coordinator and the reporting development delegate - however, every delegate and national staff has to contribute to the PMER system. The PMER capacity building initiative launched in early 2012 was impeded by the sheer volume of regular, ad hoc and emergency reporting, communications and advocacy needs faced by the country office and which needed to be addressed by limited human resources. Nevertheless, this initiative received a positive response from the National Society, and efforts to strengthen PMER structures and practices will continue in 2013 (see M&E section below for details).

3.4 Resource Mobilization

While resource mobilization is part of every delegate's job, the programme coordinator and MRCS heads of division have specific responsibilities in relation to partner national societies as well as in-country international donors. Efforts to engage with potential international donors with representation in Myanmar including international agencies, e.g. European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), UK Department for International Development (DFID), Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and key embassies, will continue in 2013.

3.5 IT

Within the IFRC administration unit, one experienced national staff is employed as an IT senior officer, servicing all IFRC IT equipment and also advising the MRCS IT department. As Myanmar still has very limited IT infrastructure, presently the IFRC country office can only marginally benefit from global or regional IT initiatives and processes and still needs to seek local solutions. Consultation and coordination with the IT unit in the zone office will continue.

3.6 Communications

The MRCS communications division has established strong links with the national media over the years, so much so that the involvement or assistance of the IFRC country office is hardly needed. However, owing to the development of media organizations and journalism as a whole in Myanmar over the past year, media interest in Red Cross work has grown and in reference to dealing with international media coverage of Red Cross emergency efforts, MRCS has relied on support and guidance from the IFRC country office and communications teams in the regional and zone

offices. It is anticipated that this situation will continue in 2013. As such, consultation and coordination efforts with the regional and zone offices with the aim of strengthening the communications capacity of the National Society, will continue.

For media contacts in general, the head of country office will continue to serve as the IFRC focal point.

3.7 Human Resources

Issues related to human resources management are mainly handled by the head of country office with the support of the country office's executive administration/human resources manager. Staff regulations are updated on a regular basis and a complete HR filing system is available for both national staff and international delegates. Staff appraisals are conducted on a regular basis; however the country office is presently unable to use the web-based HR online system due to the unreliable Internet connection.

3.8 Logistics

In 2013, the country office will have a single national logistics staff member responsible for managing mainly local and international procurement. This staff member was trained in 2012 by the logistics development delegate upon the conclusion of the Nargis Operation. Fleet management will continue with a fleet manager who is responsible for the daily management of the five drivers and vehicles in the country office.

3.9 Security

Security regulations are in place and updated every six months. All national staff and international delegates have undergone the respective basic security or security management training.

3.10 Legal

In view of the continuing positive developments undertaken by the Myanmar government to take the country forward and the increasing opportunities for IFRC to engage with the authorities, the country office will continue to exert efforts to acquire legal status for IFRC.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) meetings are scheduled for January 2013 and will be facilitated by the IFRC programme coordinator, with the aim of developing or strengthening specific M&E plans for programmes and projects, in alignment with the development operational plan for 2013. The opportunity will also be used to refine or tighten programme logframes. This entire process will help improve the quality of reporting to be produced in 2013. The meetings will begin with a first phase targeted at programme delegates. The second phase will feature a gathering of both programme delegates and their MRCS counterparts.

Several project agreements with partner national society donors include reviews and evaluations, which will be carried out in accordance with the respective cooperation and project agreements.

5. Budget summary

	Project code	2013	2014	2015	Total
BL 1. Humanitarian Standards					
Outcome 1: MRCS has improved the quality of services to vulnerable people and raised the humanitarian standards in the country					
BL 2. Grow services for vulnerable people		1,863,762			
Outcome 1: MRCS, with the support of IFRC, has improved its response preparedness by strengthening staff, volunteers and national society structures and facilities at all levels	PMM026 PMM011	728,808 1,134,954			
BL 3. Contribution to development		2,065,903			
Outcome 1: Communities have increased their safety and resilience through integrated community- based initiatives (DRR, health, and water and sanitation).	PMM008 PMM009	456,368 1,025,677			
Outcome 2: MRCS is better structured and organized at all levels to deliver quality community-based services to the vulnerable people in Myanmar	PMM012	583,859			
BL 4. Heighten influence and support		131,181			
Outcome 1: IFRC/MRCS has promoted understanding and respect for Red Cross principles, diversity and human dignity; and reduced intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion in Myanmar.	PMM013	138,181			
Outcome 2: MRCS has achieved a higher level of self-sufficiency, sustainability and independence by improving its income generation activities					
BL 5. Joint working and accountability		491,860			
Outcome 1: Close coordination and management between MRCS and IFRC are maintained to ensure joint working and accountability	PMM004	491,860			
Total Budget		4,559,706			

6. Annexes

1. Logframes
2. Funding plan
3. Workshops and training plan
4. Personnel plan
5. Vehicle plan
6. Detailed budget
7. Activity plans