

CAMBODIAN RED CROSS DISASTER MANAGEMENT POLICY



PRODUCED BY:
DISASTER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
CBDP TEAM UNDER TECHNICAL SUPPORT
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2003 and finalized 2005



កាកបាទក្រហមកម្ពុជា

FORWARD

The Cambodian Red Cross (CRC) was a main implementer of disaster response after January 1979. From 1979 to 1992 this was done through general resource mobilization from charities, peoples, local organizations and international organizations especially from the Socialist Countries. At that stage the CRC was an organization situated itself under the umbrella of the Ministry of Health (MoH). Lok Chumteav **PHLEK PHIRUN** was President and **Prof. My Samedy** was Vice-President and Secretary General. Most of the CRC staff then belonged to the MoH.

Since 1994, many stakeholders have actively contributed resources and funds to implement the current DM program - for example USAID, Pact, adpc, OFDA, DFID, ECHO, Dip-Echo and a number of Participating National Society (PNSs) and especially the Country Delegation of the International Federation of Red Cross/ Red Crescent Society.

In 1994, the CRC established its "Disaster Management Department" after the 1st General Assembly - and in order to carry out its Disaster Management Program effectively and efficiently, have been working hard to produce the CRC's "Disaster Management Policy". The following have been involved in the drafting of this important policy document:

1- *Dr. Ian Wilderspin*, Head of Disaster Risk Reduction Unit of SEA RDMU, 2- *Mr. Antony Spalton*, Head of Delegation of the Federation in Cambodia, 3- *Mr. Sanny Jegillos*, Executive Director of IDRM, 4- *Mr. Jerome, Casals* IDRM Officer, 5- *Mr. Alastair Burnett*, DP Delegate of the British Red Cross, 6- *Dr. Uy Sam Ath* Director of Disaster Management Department of CRC and the *effort of his CDBP team were hard working to produce this.*

This Disaster Management Policy shows most of key issues related to the impact of different disasters as mentioned in its content table.

At the time being, the DM Policy is finalized and adopted by the CRC's Secretary General **Prof. My Samedy** for use and it will be rectified as needed; The Disaster Management Department of Cambodian Red Cross will continuously review and update the DM Policy and use it accordingly.

This DM Policy will also be shared with other DM staff of organizations who are implementing DM programs in Cambodia to use for common purpose.

Phnom Penh, 20.04.05

Approved by, 

Prof. My Samedy,
Secretary General of Cambodian Red Cross,





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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

On behalf the leaders of the Cambodian Red Cross and on my own behalf; I would appreciate very much for their strong commitment, experience, knowledge and time to produce this Disaster Management Policy for the CRC: to guide people involved in DM to implement effectively this important program - one of the core programs of the National Society (see the CRC's strategy planning 2003-2010).

I Congratulate:

<i>Mr. Kien Vaddanak</i>	Deputy Director of Disaster Management
<i>Mr. Yim Son</i>	Head of DP/DR Sub- Department
<i>Mr. Dy Sina Deputy</i>	Head of DP/DR Sub- Department
<i>Mr. Ross Sovan, Mr. Chum Vuthy and Mrs. Leng Sotheavy and Mr. Kong Sophal</i>	Ex- CBDP Project Managers)
<i>Mr. Seng Sam Bann</i>	CBDP Project Manager
<i>Mr. Pen Monorom</i>	CBDP Risk Reduction Officer
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<i>Mr. Khun Virak</i>	CBDP Trainer
<i>Mr. Y Prosith</i>	CBDP Trainer
<i>Ms. Yin Bunsopheaktra</i>	CBDP Trainer
<i>Ms. Seng Nimol</i>	CBDP Trainer
<i>Mr. Muon Vong Dy</i>	CBDP Trainer; and
<i>Mr. Khun Sameng</i>	CBDP Volunteer

I very appreciate *Mr. Andrew Oliver Smith* DP Adviser to the Disaster Management Department with his effort to help us in polishing and finalizing this precious Policy.

All my Leaders of the CRC are very supportive in the initiative to have this policy as well. Without their support; this document will not be produced and used. I really hope that this Disaster Management Policy will guide us to perform a successful and sustainable DM program in Cambodia.

Phnom Penh, ២០ April 3, 2005
Director of DMD/CRC

Dr. Uy Sam Ath

THE CAMBODIAN RED CROSS DISASTER MANAGEMENT POLICY

- I. Introduction
- II. CRC Guiding Principles in Disaster Management
 - 1. General Principles
 - 2. Principles in of Disaster Preparedness
 - 3. Principles of Emergency Response
 - 4. Principles in International Disaster Relief Assistance
 - 5. Principles of Accountability
- III. CRC Disaster Management Policies
 - 1. Emergency Response Policy
 - i. Scope
 - ii. Statement of what CRC will do in Emergency Response
 - iii. Psychological Support
 - iv. Financial Resources – Appeal Process
 - v. Human Resources (importance and what shall be emphasized)
 - vi. Information Resources (purpose, process, involvement)
 - vii. Physical Resources (purpose, process, involvement)
 - viii. Responsibilities
 - ix. Cooperation with UN Agencies
 - x. Gender Policy
 - 2. Disaster Preparedness Policy
 - i. Scope
 - ii. Statement of what CRC will do in Disaster Preparedness
 - iii. Responsibilities
 - iv. Gender Policy
 - 3. Development Policy (1995)
 - i. Principles
 - ii. Approach
 - iii. Programme Focus
 - iv. Development Planning
 - v. Development Cooperation
 - vi. Responsibilities
 - 4. Food Security Policy (2003)
 - i. Introduction
 - ii. Scope
 - iii. Statement on what CRC shall do in Food Security
 - iv. Responsibilities
 - 5. Refugees and Other Displaced People Policy
 - i. Introduction
 - ii. Scope
 - iii. Statement
 - iv. Responsibilities
 - 6. Capacity Building and Development Policy
 - i. Definition of Development
 - ii. Principles
 - iii. Approach
 - iv. Program Focus
 - v. Development Planning
 - vi. Development Cooperation

- vii. Responsibilities
- 7. Psychological Support Policy
 - i. Introduction
 - ii. Scope
 - iii. Statement
 - iv. Responsibilities
- 8. Gender Policy
 - i. Introduction
 - ii. Scope
 - iii. Statement
 - iv. Responsibilities

Annexes

- A. Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief
- C. Emergency Relief Appeals (2001) with local appeal
- D. Disaster Relief Emergency Guidelines (2002)
- E. Contingency Plan
- F. Guidelines of an Emergency Response Operation
- G. Memorandum of Understanding with NCDM
- H. Refugees and other Displaced People Policy

DISASTER MANAGEMENT POLICY

I. INTRODUCTION

As a National Society, which is the once of the member of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society of the International Federation, as a member of the South East Asia Regional Disaster Risk Reduction Unit of the Bangkok Office and based on its 04 core areas that have been stated in the strategic plan 2003-2010;

To fulfill the second core area accordingly, the CRC has to produce its Disaster Management Policy and uses it as guidance in implementing the DM program.

So far the CRC just doing things bases on the theory of “Learning by Doing” therefore, the CRC’s Disaster Management Department trying with all effort and possibility to produce this document.

II. GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND BASIC RULES OF CRC DISASTER MANAGEMENT

The guiding principles and values underlying the Cambodia Red Cross (CRC) approach to disaster management are presented in this section of the document. They are consistent with and are adopted from the International Federation’s Principles and Rules for Red Cross and Red Crescent Disaster Relief (endorsed by the 26th International Conference of the Red Cross in Geneva, 1995); the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; The Statutes of the Movement; and the Geneva Conventions and their additional protocols.

I. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

1. Field of application

The principles enumerated in this document apply to disasters resulting from natural or other calamities. In the event that disaster relief operations need to be carried out in a time of war, civil war, or internal disturbances, operations shall be regulated by the provisions of the Agreement of 1989 between the ICRC and the Federation, or by any subsequent agreement. Accounting and auditing standards defined in this document shall also apply to situations described under paragraph 1.2 above.

2. The Duty to Assist

The CRC in its endeavor to prevent and alleviate human suffering, considers it a fundamental right of all people to both offer and receive humanitarian assistance. Hence, it has a fundamental duty to provide relief to all disaster victims and assistance to those most vulnerable to future disasters. CRC recognizes that in helping disaster victims to survive, relief programs must also look to the future and ensure that people are not left more vulnerable to the future disasters. Where ever possible, relief programs will attempt to build upon the capacities of those being assisted, involve them in the management and implementation of the program and act with a sense of accountability towards the beneficiaries

3. Role of the Cambodian Red Cross

Prevention of disasters, assistance to victims and reconstruction are first and foremost the responsibility of the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC). The CRC actively offers assistance to disaster victims in a spirit of cooperation with the RGC.

The CRC acts as an information center by collecting data and information from its provincial branches regarding situations caused by disasters and coordinates with others DM bodies or Institutions.

4. Coordination

Considering that assistance to disaster victims requires coordination at local, national and, at times, international levels, the CRC, whilst remaining true to its Principles, should, in the implementation of its disaster management program, endeavor to take into account interventions and activities of the NCDM, UN Relief Agencies, local and international non-government organizations and other humanitarian aid agencies.

Due to CRC's position as one of the most capable and leading local disaster response agencies in the country, the CRC should offer its services to the RGC, through the NCDM, to assist with the coordination of disaster relief operations.

5. Role of the Federation

The Federation should support the CRC in their negotiations and agreements with the government with a view towards establishing and developing CRC's position and role in any official national disaster preparedness and response plan.

The Federation should strive to increase the capacities of CRC to fulfill its agreed disaster management roles and responsibilities with government, through training and other capacity building related activities and interventions.

6. Preparedness and Mutual Aid

It is the duty of CRC, particularly the Disaster Management Department (DMD), to prepare and be able to give assistance in the event of a disaster. Only when faced with an emergency or crisis situation exceeding its own resources to respond, should the CRC request assistance from other National Societies and the International of the Federation. In assisting each other in this way, while respecting the independence of each other and the sovereignty of the stricken country, National Societies contribute to the strengthening of friendship and peace among peoples.

7. Ways and Means of Assistance

CRC assistance to victims is given without any distinction as to sex, nationality, race, religion, social condition or political opinion. CRC emergency relief is administered with economy, efficiency and effectiveness. Its utilization is the subject of reports, including audited accounts of income and expenditure, reflecting a true and fair view of the operation.

II. PRINCIPLES OF DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

8. National Relief Plans

CRC should actively advocate and support the government agency responsible for coordinating disaster response efforts in the country, the NCDM, in the development and continuous updating of a National Contingency Plan or any other similar plan that outlines an effective national strategy and mechanisms that will ensure effective distribution of emergency relief for potential disaster victims. The National Contingency Plan should assign to all sectors of the community - public services, CRC, voluntary agencies, social welfare organizations and qualified persons - precise responsibilities and tasks in the fields of disaster prevention, relief and reconstruction. To ensure rapid mobilization and complete and effective use of material and personnel resources, the CRC should support efforts of the NCDM.

9. Preparedness of the CRC

The extent of any planned CRC relief program depends on the magnitude of the disaster, the needs already covered by other humanitarian organizations, and the responsibilities delegated to the CRC by the RGC. The CRC must prepare itself to assume the responsibilities that may be placed on it as a result of a disaster event. It must establish its own contingency plan; adapt its organization accordingly.

The CRC, as with all National Societies, face the possibility of responding to disasters beyond their capacities to address. The CRC should therefore make preparations that will enable it to receive and manage international assistance provided. The CRC should make every effort to obtain facilities from governmental or private transport services in their countries.

The CRC should also endeavor to obtain from the RGC, exemption from all taxes and customs duties, concerning the entry into and transit through the country, of funds and relief supplies intended for the victims of disasters. The CRC should seek to obtain travel facilities and the quick granting of visas for Federation, Red Cross and Red Crescent personnel taking part in relief operations.

10. Agreements on Mutual Assistance

As part of their disaster preparedness strategy, CRC should endeavor to conclude all agreements of cooperation with others. For the most disaster prone provinces, the CRC shall endeavor to negotiate pre-disaster agreements with the provincial branches of the disaster prone province aimed at enhancing the disaster preparedness activities of the branch and improving the timeliness and effectiveness of CRC response to major disasters.

III. PRINCIPLES IN INTERNATIONAL DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE

11. Initial information

To enable that the CRC to act as a reliable source of disaster information from all its level.

12. Use of the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund

To accordingly used Emergency Fund (DREF), through the Federation, the CRC has to recognize the DREF rules and regulation.

13. Request for Assistance and Appeal

Any request from CRC for international assistance shall be addressed to the Federation by respecting the different step of DREF. On receipt of such a request, the Federation will, when conditions call for it, launch an Appeal to all National Societies or, depending on the circumstances. The Federation may, however, take the initiative to offer assistance, even though the CRC has not asked for it.

14. Relations with the International News Media

Since the media can have a major influence on public support for a relief operation and the generation of funds, the CRC should make every effort, consistent with the efficient conduct of the relief operation and any regulations laid down by the authorities (Media especially). When a disaster situation attracts large-scale international media interest, the CRC should request the Federation. The DMIS is the most effective way in information sharing.

15. Regular Communication of Information

The CRC will keep the Federation informed on the development of the situation.

16. Information on Assistance

When, as a result of a Federation Appeal or as a result of mutual agreement or other special circumstances, a National Society provides assistance to CRC, it will immediately inform the Federation.

17. Implementation of Federation Assistance

When a provincial branch of the Red Cross is in receipt of substantial international assistance, the CRC should assign a representative or a team of delegates, whose name or names will be communicated to it as rapidly as possible. Where technical assistance personnel are provided, the Head of Delegation in consultation with the CRC will be responsible for the judicious and effective utilization of the team of experts. CRC should not allow any staff assigned to it by the Federation to take over its primary roles and responsibilities. The Representative or Head of Delegation shall be given all necessary communication facilities for the swift dispatch to the Federation, of all the information likely to enable it to back up its Appeals to National Societies and inform them as fully as possible on the needs resulting from the disaster.

18. Foreign personnel

All personnel provided by Participating Societies to assist in the implementation of the operation, will be placed under the direction of the Federation in the country.

19. Transmission and forwarding of relief

Assistance that may be donated by a National Society to CRC shall always be sent through Red Cross and Red Crescent channels, either direct to the CRC or through the

intermediary of the Federation. Funds sent to the Federation will be specifically earmarked for the disaster for which they are contributed and will either be sent to the CRC. National Societies and the Federation may agree to transmit relief from non-Red Cross sources to a stricken country.

20. Soliciting of contributions abroad

Unless there is a previous agreement, the CRC will not try to obtain, either directly or indirectly, funds or any other form of assistance in the country of another Society.

IV. PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTABILITY

21. Principle of Accountability

When the CRC receives gifts from sister Societies, the Federation, the ICRC or any other source in the context of a joint or separate Federation and/or ICRC operation or program it must conform to the following rules as regards accounting and auditing:

21.1 Donations in Cash

Bank account

The CRC shall open in its own name a special bank account whose sole purpose shall be to receive all the funds and cover all the expenditures in the operation of the project. There shall be one bank account per operation / program.

Financial Reporting

The CRC shall render a periodic account of the funds held by it for the operation or program showing: opening balance brought forward from the previous period; income from all sources during the current period; actual disbursements during the period and the closing balance for the period. The periodicity of these reports shall be established in the agreement, The Federation and/or the ICRC would in that way be prepared to give consideration to making an appropriate supplementary advance in cash.

Auditing

Auditing is a normal, integral step in any professionally managed operation. In the interest of sound of financial and administration, the CRC's accounts related to the operation / programme shall be audited at least yearly by auditors designated by the Federation and/or the ICRC.

Internal and external auditors are needs.

21.2 Donations in kind

When gifts in kind are made to CRC, records of the stocks showing the origin and use of such contributions shall be submitted monthly and upon completion of the operation or program.

22. Exceptional Rules of Procedures

The Federation and/or the ICRC may, in certain exceptional circumstances, not be fully satisfied with the way in which resources for CRC, Federation and/or the ICRC operations and programs are managed and accounted for by either Participating or Operating Societies. In such circumstances, the CRC,

23. Use made of Gifts

Whenever the CRC benefits from the assistance of sister Societies, the CRC will give the Federation's and/or ICRC's Representative or Head of Delegation the opportunity to see, on the spot, the use made of the gifts received.

24. Unsolicited Relief Supplies

If a National Society wishes to send relief supplies which are not mentioned in the Appeal launched by the Federation and/or ICRC, it shall first obtain the agreement of the National Society of the stricken country or of the Federation and/or ICRC. In the absence of such an agreement, the receiving National Society is free to use unsolicited relief supplies at its own discretion, without being bound by the provision of Article 29.3.

25. Donating supplies while receiving assistance

When the CRC is in receipt of international assistance for its own country, it shall not contribute assistance of a similar nature to a sister Society without the prior authorization of the Federation and/or ICRC.

26. Use of gifts

Gifts and donations sent to CRC may only be used for the purpose designated and will serve in the first place to give direct assistance to the victims. The CRC may in no event use cash gifts to cover administrative expenses included in its ordinary budget, nor may it transfer cash gifts donated to it to another organization or group for use by that organization or group. If in the course of a relief operation it becomes necessary to sell or exchange a part of the goods received, the donors will be consulted through the Federation and/or ICRC. The funds or goods thus obtained may only be used for the relief action.

27. Relief Balances

Goods or funds remaining on hand after the termination of a relief action may be; used for subsequent rehabilitation activities, used for Society disaster preparedness activities, transferred to other priority programs, or returned to the Participating Society.

Final Provisions

28. Obligations

Whenever the CRC accepts spontaneous or special assistance is bound to conform to the obligations laid down in the present "Principles and Rules" even though it has not requested assistance within the terms of Article 12.1.

V. CRC DISASTER MANAGEMENT POLICIES

The following policies provide the detailed direction and boundaries for the conduct of CRC disaster management activities and the people working within it. They serve as a point of reference to ensure complementation and consistency in the global decision-making standards of the Federation and ICRC.

1. EMERGENCY RESPONSE POLICY.

Introduction:

Emergencies can be on any scale, affecting a single household or a local community, causing disruption at a national or even global level. Emergencies are defined as life threatening situations which put people at risk of death or severe deterioration in their health status or living conditions, and which have the potential to out-strip the normal coping capacity of the individual, family, community and state support systems. In addition, emergencies affect men and women differently, and they in turn have differing ways of coping with emergencies.

Scope

This emergency response policy establishes the basis of CRC emergency response and applies to all types of emergency response whether carried out by a single CRC provincial branch, by the CRC itself, or by the CRC acting collectively with the International Federation, UNDMT members or with other humanitarian relief agencies.

Statement

The Cambodian Red Cross shall:

1. Seek to assist the most vulnerable people in emergencies.
 - o Adequate safe water and sanitation.
 - o Adequate food.
 - o Adequate health care including psychological support.
 - o Adequate shelter.
2. Recognize the Red Cross role as auxiliary to the government in humanitarian services and thus will not replace or undermine the roles and responsibilities of government institutions and agencies, such as the NCDM and other government ministries and agencies, when their potential for appropriate action exists.
3. Undertake emergency response according to the Fundamental Principles Disaster Relief (See Annex A).
4. Work within its competence and the International Federation that supports it.
5. Base their actions on appropriate disaster preparedness programming and planning.
6. Work towards self reliance and sustainability of programming.
7. Continue until the acute threat to life and health has abated.
8. Maximize the strategic advantage of the International Federation by 'working as a Federation' to mobilize all appropriate resources.

Financial Resources

The primary tool for CRC emergency response fund-raising are the national and international Emergency Appeals. National Appeals are launched within the country by the CRC while International Appeals are launched by the Federation Secretariat. The Appeal process is governed by CRC regulations (Annex B) and, internationally, by the Principles

and Rules for Disaster Relief.

Human Resources

Recognizing the vital role of human resources in emergency operations, the CRC must ensure the proper identification, placement, retention, development, support, administration and management of suitably qualified, trained and experienced personnel to work in the service of the most vulnerable. The CRC must be vigilant to minimize the risk to the safety and security of Federation delegates, staff and volunteers working for the programs.

Information Resources

The CRC recognizes data and information as key resources in its emergency response. It is committed to establish itself as a reliable and timely source of disaster related information. Information systems will be designed and implemented in order to maximize:

- The speed, efficiency and effectiveness of emergency response.
- The security and safety of beneficiaries, staff, volunteers and fixed assets.
- The timeliness, accuracy and clarity of reporting and accountability systems.
- The involvement of beneficiaries and local organizations.

Physical Resources

CRC shall clearly define the required physical resources, ensure that quality standards are in place, that delivery is timely, that stocks are adequately maintained and distribution controlled. Physical assets not used in the emergency response program or surplus to operational requirements, as the program scales down, should be deployed to support other emergency programs when no longer needed for the emergency at hand, subject to national government regulation.

Consistent with the above, the impact of local purchase upon the local economy and well-being of the population should be assessed to ensure that such actions do not cause undue harm.

Responsibilities

- The CRC and the International Federation have a responsibility to ensure that all emergency response operations and programs are carried out in compliance with this policy; that all staff and volunteers participating in emergency response programs are aware of the rationale and details of the policy; and that all relevant governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental partners are adequately informed of this policy.

Cooperation with UN Agencies

In order to maintain a coherent approach that will preserve the Movement's unity and independence, the CRC shall keep the Federation and/or ICRC informed should it wish to conclude a cooperation agreement with a specialized agency of the United Nations. In particular, it shall keep the Federation and/or the ICRC informed of any negotiations likely to lead to a formal agreement with UNHCR which should be undertaken in association with the Federation and/or the ICRC.

2. DISASTER PREPAREDNESS POLICY.

Introduction:

The readiness to predict and, where possible, prevent disasters, reduce their impact as well as respond to and cope with their consequences at international, national and local levels is central to the work of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and to the CRC..

Scope:

This policy establishes the basis of CRC action in disaster preparedness. It applies to all types of disaster preparedness activities at local, national, and regional levels whether carried out by a single provincial branch of the CRC, by the CRC or by the CRC acting together with the International Federation.

Statement:

The CRC through the active assistance of the International Federation shall: Recognize that disaster preparedness should be one of the primary activities of the CRC, regarding it as the most effective way of reducing the impact of both small and localized as well as large-scale disasters. Recognize disaster preparedness and risk management as an effective link between emergency response, rehabilitation and development programs and strive to build disaster preparedness and risk reduction in the programming of the other key areas of CRC work such as in the health sector.

Recognize the CRC role in disaster preparedness as complementary to government and thus will not replace state responsibilities. In addition, the CRC should actively advocate with the government, through the NCDM, on the need, focus and nature of the National Emergency Plan and encourage the assignment of clear roles and responsibilities for the CRC, supported by appropriate agreements and legislation. Advocate, where necessary, with government (e.g., NCDM), donors, non-governmental organizations and the public, the need for effective disaster preparedness and risk reduction strategies and measures. Strengthen the organizational structures at national and local levels required for effective disaster preparedness. Improve co-ordination by promoting better co-operation and partnerships between CRC, ICRC, the NCDM, non-governmental organizations, UN Agencies and other disaster response organizations at different levels. Identify those persons, communities and households most at risk to disaster through assessment and analysis of risks, vulnerabilities and capacities (Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment) and programming activities.

Raise awareness of disaster hazards and levels of disaster risks through public education, encouraging vulnerable people to take preventative and mitigating actions where possible before disaster strikes. Ensure that the knowledge from prediction and early warning systems were used.

Improve the ability of vulnerable communities to cope with disasters through community-based disaster preparedness strategies that build on existing structures, practices, skills and coping mechanisms.

Recognizing that a community-based approach is the best guarantee that improvement in disaster preparedness programme will be realized and sustained.

Responsibilities:

The CRC and the International Federation have a responsibility to ensure that all disaster preparedness activities and programs are carried out in compliance with this policy.

3. DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY.

Definition of Development:

The Red Cross and Red Crescent defines development as the process by which communities, families and individuals grow stronger, can enjoy fuller and more productive lives, and become less vulnerable. Development also means the strengthening the CRC so it can carry out its humanitarian mandate.

Principles:

The rationale for Red Cross and Red Crescent development work lies in our Humanitarian mandate: to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found, and the challenge to improve the situation of the most vulnerable. Capacity building - of people and institutions - is at the centre of our development work. It complements the work of the government and other organizations

Approach:

Capacity building requires that the people who are to benefit participate as much as possible, taking gender considerations into particular account. Development programs shall be based on an analysis of the vulnerabilities and capacities of the people involved. This approach helps people help themselves by building upon their existing resources, strengths and skills. Development programs should be sustainable in the long run.

Programme Focus:

CRC programs are primarily in three sectors: health, social and disaster preparedness. Priority needs shall be addressed on the basis of sectoral policies, Red Cross and Red Crescent criteria and the Federation's strategic plans. Disaster response, development and service delivery programs shall be properly balanced and mutually reinforcing.

Development Planning:

The CRC should develop a comprehensive development plan. The plan shall be based on priority needs in accordance with the Society's mission and on the Federation's strategic plans. It shall reflect what the CRC can reasonably and effectively do. Partners should be consulted about the development plan and its various programs. Monitoring and evaluation as well as accounts and audits are the essential program tools.

Development Cooperation:

- Development cooperation is a mechanism by which National Societies help build each other's capacity to carry out the global humanitarian mandate of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

- Development assistance in Cambodia shall be channeled through the CRC to maximize the potential of the Federation. It shall be administered with economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- Development cooperation shall be carried out within agreed guidelines and procedures. Delegates may be employed, with the consent of the CRC, to provide support and monitoring, to complement local expertise and to improve skills.

Responsibilities:

- The CRC has the responsibility for its own development and all Red Cross and Red Crescent activities within its country.
- Other Societies may contribute to activities and programs in accordance with CRC's development plan.
- Development cooperation shall be based on mutual respect for the particular responsibilities of both the Federation and CRC.
- The Federation promotes and facilitates the development process of the CRC and plays a leadership role in the coordination of development assistance.

4. FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION POLICY.

Introduction:

"Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food for a healthy and active life." (World Food Summit, 1996)

In recognition of the right to food *, and the increased vulnerability of households to food insecurity as a result of disasters, the CRC will participate in the International Federation's food security programming to improve the availability, access to and utilization of food.

*Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the relevant statement (Article 11 (1)) from the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Scope:

This policy establishes the basis of CRC action in food security in the country. It applies to all types of food security programming i.e. risk reduction, disaster preparedness, response or recovery at local, national, regional and international levels whether carried out by a provincial branch of CRC, by the CRC, by CRC in collaboration with the International Federation, or by National Societies and the International Federation acting together.

Statement:

The CRC with active assistance of the International Federation shall:
Recognize, undertakes, builds its capacity, support, provides, promotes and ensure of 14 regulations which is started in the CRC disaster Management guidelines.

Responsibilities:

The CRC and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies have a responsibility to ensure that all food security programming is in compliance with this policy; that staff and volunteers participating in such programs are aware of the rationale and details of this policy and that government, non-governmental partners and other humanitarian agencies operating in the country are adequately informed of this policy.

5. GENDER POLICY.

Introduction:

The rationale for integrating a gender perspective in the activities of the CRC lies in the Red Cross and Red Crescent humanitarian mandate - to prevent and alleviate human suffering without discrimination. Gender equality ensures that there is no sex-based discrimination in the allocation of resources or benefits, or in access to services. The purpose of this policy is to define the main approach used by the Federation, and adopted by CRC, on how to address gender issues in all its actions.

Scope:

The Federation's focus is on *gender*, rather than specifically on women. Gender refers to the roles, responsibilities, needs, interests and capacities of both men and women. These are influenced by social and cultural factors. Therefore the term "gender" does not replace the term "sex" which refers exclusively to biological differences.

Statement:

The CRC Secretariat has to recognize the following main point:

- natural disasters, conflicts, social and political instability may affect men and women differently and that CRC emergency response and long-term humanitarian assistance may also have a different impact on men and women;
- the integration of a gender perspective into CRC action is an important strategy towards the fulfillment of the Federation's humanitarian mandate to improve the lives of the most vulnerable;
- the full participation of both men and women in all CRC actions not only ensures gender equality, but also increases the efficiency and effectiveness of the work of the organization;
- it shall be the primary task of the CRC to ensure gender sensitivity in their existing programs, they may also implement projects to assist special groups of men or women, if local situations so require.

To achieve its goal, CRC and the Federation's Secretariat shall:

1. Ensure that the needs of different status;
2. To ensure that gender-specific vulnerabilities and capacities of men and women are systematically identified and addressed;
3. Ensure that data on beneficiaries is disaggregated by sex for needs
4. Design strategies for capacity building in gender mainstreaming.
5. Ensure that reporting and accountability mechanisms

Responsibilities:

The *senior management* of each National Society and the Federation's Secretariat is responsible for:

- Increasing awareness and skills of staff and volunteers.
- Conducting a systematic review of the institution's procedures.
- Enabling a gender balance in the different levels of the structure within their organization,

- Ensuring equal opportunities among female and male staff members and volunteers.

6. Refugees and displaced peoples policy.

Introduction:

At the time being, Cambodia is fully in peace; anyways as a National Society we have to produce the "Refugees and displaced peoples Policy" and apply it when it is required.

The CRC will follow the existing Policy of UN HCR and the Internal Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society, in implementing it as accordingly.

Scope:

The CRC as well as the Federation will focusing into the most vulnerable group amongst the refugees or displaced peoples. The gender issue has to be considered and followed.

Statement:

The CRC have to recognize and conduct the operation by respecting the below condition:

- Having the green light from it Government.
- Not to be a leading Agency in this.
- Coordination and cooperation with UN HCR/ Federation/IOs, NGOs especially the NCDM is necessary.

Responsibility:

The CRC has experiences on the Returnees and displaced peoples so far; we have been assigned by the Cambodian Government to implement:

- Displaced peoples since 1977.
- Returnees since 1990 (preparation stage).

The CRC plays many key roles during that time.

7. Capacity building and Development policy.

Introduction:

The CRC has to follow on what that all National Society are implementing in regards of this.

Scope:

The CRC has to identify and prioritize the area in the Capacity building and development.

Statement:

The Cambodian Red Cross will strictly respected to it strategic plan 2003-2010. The capacity building and development initiative can be performed only by followed what has been planned.

Responsibility:

The CRC has to ensure that:

- Build the capacity to the write people, based on the TNA and needs.
- Motivations and detentions of staffs built is priority.
- Promotions are required.

8. Psychological support policy.

Introduction:

During any disasters happened, the most expose to shock are disaster victim and mostly the female, children, elderly and others.

Scope:

The CRC has to defy correctly its beneficiary. During and after disaster; many people have their different impact, therefore we have to prioritize:

- Who are they?
- Degree of shock?
- What we have to do? For whom...

Statement:

As a Humanitarian organization, the CRC has to commit strongly in performing this policy produced. The CRC has to think about the seven fundamental principles.

Responsibility:

So far, CRC performs its disaster response operation by based only on its practice; therefore we have to produce this DM policy which has to include everything in this.

This policy has to be always referred to what have been performed by other National Society as well as by the Federation.

To notify that, if any clarification on some points of this DM policy manual please, read the Disaster Management guideline.

REFERENCES:

(Please see all references that shown in the Disaster Management guideline).