



ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

Tonga Red Cross Society

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Nuku'alofa, TONGA



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FOREWORD

One of the objectives of the society act in 1972 is to carry out its work to assist the development of health, prevention of any disease and the mitigation of suffering throughout the world in time of peace and war.

During the period of 2018 and 2019, society focus responding to Tropical cyclone Gita on 2018 who affected the islands of Tongatapu and Eua, the support from sister's societies were acknowledged, the outcome of the revision of society's overdue constitution since 1972. The constitution revise has been adopted in Mar 2019 on special AGM.

The safe drinking water for the island community of 'Atata one of the island of Tongatapu. Society provided water tanks to the residents of the island of 35x5000lt water tank together with gutters and footing in 2018 funded by Canada Government.

The Royal visit of HM King Tupou V1 to the head quarter of the Red Cross and Red Crescent at ICRC in Geneva in the month of August 2019 strengthen the ties between the Movement and the kingdom of Tonga.

The head of ICRC for Pacific visited the society in 2018 witness how much that the movement developed its relationship with the Kingdom of Tonga and respect by the Government the role of society in the communities specially in time of emergency.

For the future, the society is looking forward to construct a new building complex on its premises in Nuku'alofa together with OTA disability center.

Tonga Red Cross Society appreciated all support from overseas partners and local donor's contribution towards society activities to the most vulnerable people in the Kingdom. We do hope the continuation of cooperation will be in future.

Respectfully



Mr. Sione T Taumoefolau
Secretary General



MISSION

***TO PREVENT AND ALLEVIATE HUMAN SUFFERING IN TONGA FOCUSING
ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, HEALTH
PROMOTION AND HUMANITARIAN LAWS AND VALUES***





VISION

**TO BE THE LEADING HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATION IN TONGA
THROUGH PROVISION OF PROFESSIONAL, EFFECTIVE AND QUALITY
SERVICES**



Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

- Humanity*** The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, born of the desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battlefield, endeavors, in its international and national capacity, to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace amongst all peoples.
- Impartiality*** It makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. It endeavors to relieve the suffering of individuals, being guided solely by their needs, and to give priority to the most urgent cases of distress.
- Neutrality*** In order to continue to enjoy the confidence of all, the Movement may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of political, racial, religious or ideological nature.
- Independence*** The Movement is independent. The National Societies, while auxiliaries in the humanitarian services of their governments and subject to the laws of their respective countries, must always maintain their autonomy so that they may be able at all times to act in accordance with the principles of the Movement.
- Voluntary Service*** It is a voluntary relief movement not prompted in any manner by desire for gain.
- Unity*** There can be only one Red Cross or one Red Crescent Society in any one country. It must be open to all. It must carry on its humanitarian work throughout its territory.
- Universality*** The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in which all Societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities and duties in helping each other, is worldwide.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



*Mrs 'Anaseini Kolo Iotebatu
Disaster Management Officer*

Disaster Management Program starts off with our new Disaster Management Officer Anaseini Iotebatu. She was introduced into Tonga Red Cross to manage disaster program including Coordinating Cyclone Gita Response.

TONGA RED CROSS SOCIETY RESPONSE

Target population:



WASH: 2,000 households will receive hygiene kits, jerry cans and benefit from information on safe water treatment.



Logistics: TRCS has received by airfreight from ARC and NZRC a total over 54 tonnes of relief goods since the start of TC Gita operations, to supplement existing NFI stocks in country.



Shelter: 2000 families will receive emergency shelter assistance.



Hygiene Promotion: Up to 12,000 people will benefit from disease prevention and health promotion activities.



Protection and Social Inclusion: 2000 households assessed to ensure the most vulnerable groups (PLWD, Elderlies, Female Headed Households and Pregnant women) Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety is promoted and addressed through our response.



TONGA- TROPICAL CYCLONE GITA



TONGA RED CROSS SOCIETY



INTERNATIONAL
FEDERATION

CYCLONE GITA RESPONSE & POST ACTIVITIES



Crackers donated by Tongans Community in Fiji to distribute to the affected families after Cyclone Gita. Volunteers assessing and distributions relief items at Gita Response.

Disaster Program - Post Cyclone Activities





Stock Relief House Maintenance in outer island branches



Store Relief stock house were taken into consideration on maintenance and erecting of 3 more storage house in Tongatapu. Totaling up to 15 store house from previous 10 existing store houses. 6 in Tongatapu, the main island, 5 in Ha'apai Branch, 1 each on 'Eua, Vava'u. Niuafou'ou and Niuatoputapu. At the same is the stock take and replenishing of relief items as part of disaster preparedness.

Emergency Response CORE Team Training.



Increase Volunteers knowledge about what to expect when a disaster occurs; Improve the partnership between Volunteers in disaster preparation and response; Improve the capacity for villages to prepare for, and respond to, disaster. Seek their contribution and support to TRCS and in the community

'Atata Water Tanks Project - Women and Children Accessing safe clean Water



35 new water tanks were launched in 'Atata island by Canada Fund represented by Mr Fakailoatonga Taumoefolau, Coordinator of Canada Fund for Local Initiatives, Wellington Office and Hon. Losaline Ma'asi, Minister of Internal Affairs.

People of 'Atata island encountered water problems over the past years. The aim of this project is to improve accessibility to clean water for women and children in 'Atata. Secretary General of Tonga Red Cross, reports various major response to 'Atata, including drought in 2014 and also Cyclone Gita earlier 2018.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Mr. Viliami Mahe
Health Coordinator

Pacific Senior First Aid Train of Trainers

Fifteen Senior Pacific First Aid Instructors were trained to conduct First Aid training programs in Tonga. 3 representatives were selected from 3 outer island branches and the rest from the National Office in collaborations with New Zealand Red Cross co facilitating with Samoa Red Cross trainer were held in the main office



. First Aid Kits sold at the National Office as an income generation program to the Health Department for years.





First Aid training programs conducted in two different type, Community First Aid training and Senior First Aid training as Commercial First Aid Training. Besides these trainings, there are also First Aid services in which we engage youth and Volunteers to attend in main sporting events such as Rugby Tournaments on Saturdays.

Type of First Aid Training 2018 &219	Male	Female	Total
Senior First training	217	262	479

Blood Donors recruitment as main program outlined on the Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Health as an ongoing program to the Blood Bank at Vaiola Hospital, thousands of Blood bags donated to the Blood bank during both these years. The team continue to renew the M.O.U with Ministry in which to strengthen the agreement both Tonga Red Cross and Ministry of Health, Tonga.



SPECIAL EDUCATION – 'OFA TUI 'AMANAKI CENTER



Mrs Tiulipe Peleketi
Special Education Coordinator

O.T.A center consist of 85 students, including home stayed students. They were divided into 2 groups, Hihifo Districts on Monday & Wednesday and Hahake District on Tuesday and Thursday, Friday is the teacher's planning day for the next week. Our center attracts National Teams to visit as an empowerment to the team of our school in which they involved in different sports events, including Special Olympic. The society full support the special Olympic SOTA on its initiatives to promote the sport for the intellectual disability. In Mar 2019 the TRCS SG leading the SOTA team to UAE to be part of the international games. Four athletes attended with four officials. This SOTA team bring back home 2 golds and two silver. HE Fane Tupou Vava'u Tu'ivakano shows her full support this program by participating the opening ceremony on leading the Tonga team to the millions of people who view the game on internet. Special thanks for the Tongan in UAE who provide uniform and others towards the SOTA athletes. Most of the cost of the trip has been covered by the sponsor from Digicel Tonga Limited. The Government of Tonga sponsor part of the cost for the airfare and the rest of the other cost has been met by the international Special Olympic Committee. The society appreciated the support from the Government and Digicel towards this initiative to support the intellectual disability in Tonga. SOTA Tonga started in 2011 and Tonga Red Cross is one of few organizations who initiatives to establish this association for the benefit of intellectual disability in the Kingdom.



Youth for Mental Health Fiji visited Tonga and staff of the center have the opportunity to have sessions at the center.

At the same year, Mrs Sisilia Muimuiheata retired from being a teacher at the center for more than 40 years of service at Ofa Tui Amanaki Center.

GOVERNANCE REFORM

The Governance board leading by Hon Alaileula Tuku'aho since 2000. One of the main goals of the board is the revision of the society constitution that had never been revised since the society established in 1972. Society constitution started to revise in 2014 with the assistance provided by NZRC, ICRC, ARC and CCST in Suva, consultation with society's volunteers and management included Governance. In Mar 2019, adoption and endorsement of the new constitution passed by the special AGM for the constitution. Implementation of the new constitution introduced to all branches of Vava'u, Ha'apai and Eua included Tongatapu, in addition the establishment of a committee on each branch to operate the function of society towards the communities of Tonga.



Special AGM for society new constitution current board members with Head of CCST Ms Kathryn Clarkson

CONSTITUTION – Branches Committee Election

The revised constitution of Tonga Red Cross endorsed at the Annual General Meeting of March. One of the main focus is formulations of committee in all branches. Communication Officer on a mission trip around the islands for membership recruitments and elections of their committee: It was done to Tongatapu, Ha'apai, Vava'u and 'Eua. After this mission 4 Branch

committee were elected awaits the Annual General Meeting to elect the new Board and operations on the new Constitution.

Branch	Male	Female	Cooperate	Subscription	Youth	Total
Tongatapu	51	101	3	95	53	152
Ha'apai	6	10	-	11	5	16
Vava'u	10	34	-	43	1	44
'Eua	18	35	-	21	32	53



Tongatapu Branch elected committee as well as Vava'u Branch Committee as their meeting



Ha'apai Branch Committee and 'Eua Branch Committee after their meeting and elections.

First National Youth Forum 2019



TRCS hosted its first National Youth Forum bringing together youth representatives from Branches in Eua, Vava'u, Ha'apai including youth members from Tongatapu with support and participation from the Branches Officer in Charge (OICs).

The TRCS revised its National Society Constitution, in reference to the Constitution, TRCS initiated Branch Committees in its Branches and a youth representative is being part of the Branch Committee. The TRCS have identified branch youth representatives from each of its Branches and this Branch youth representative attended the first TRCS National Youth Forum and it was the first time for the Branch youth representatives to convene.

During the forum, the IFRC Pacific CCST provided guidance to TRCS in terms of youth and volunteering development as TRCS plans to strengthen youth and volunteer engagement and participation. Guidance provided was based on the IFRC key reference documents such as the IFRC Youth Engagement Strategy (Y.ES.), IFRC Youth Policy, IFRC Volunteering Policy. In addition, key youth and volunteering priorities in the Pacific such as the outcome of the Pacific Youth Network (PYN) Meeting, April 2019. This ensured alignment of TRCS youth and volunteering initiative with international and regional strategies, policies, commitment and priorities.

Branch youth representatives and OICs had the opportunity to share and highlight key and ongoing activities being undertaken in their branches. This sharing provided an overview and current status of what's happening in the Branches and youth representatives had the opportunity to brainstorm and discuss key activities they can undertake for their branches.

Branch Youth Representatives with support from their OICs formulated Branch action plan highlighting key activities that can be undertaken by youths through an integrated approach with other TRCS programs and services. This action plan was then consolidated and the draft finalized by the end of the youth forum

Law and Fundamental Principles – Communication



Mr. Polikalepo Kefu
Dissemination Communication Officer

ICRC funded program with Tonga Red Cross, operated and coordinated by our Communication officer. Working with other part of the programs to raise visibility and raising the profile of Red Cross in Tonga, regional and international. Dissemination of Movement Fundamental Principles, induction of persons joining Red Cross. Help building capacity of our Branches. Conducting IHL programs with relevant government departments. Restoring Family Links also a part of this Department. Hosting and managing Communication platforms such as Tonga Red Cross Facebook page.

The screenshot displays the Facebook page for the Tonga Red Cross Society. On the left is the 'Manage Page' sidebar with navigation options: Home, Inbox (21 new messages & 21 new comments), Events, Appointments, Manage Jobs, and Notifications (34 new). The main content area features a large banner titled 'BE RED CROSS READY' with the Tonga Red Cross Society logo. The banner includes three icons: a first aid kit, a person with a checklist, and a radio. Below the banner are three buttons: 'PREPARE A KIT', 'MAKE A PLAN', and 'STAY INFORM' (with an 'Edit' icon). The page header shows the profile picture (a red cross), the name 'Tonga Red Cross Society', and the handle '@tongaredcross - Nonprofit Organization'. At the bottom, there are navigation links for Home, Events, Reviews, About, and More, along with utility buttons for Promote, View as Visitor, and a search icon. The browser's address bar shows the URL 'https://www.facebook.com/tongaredcross/inbox/' and the taskbar at the bottom lists open files: 'BloodDonorsDay.png', 'Vilimai Mahe.jpg', and 'Anaseinilotebshu.jpg'.

World Red Cross Day



World Youth Day Program funded by the Law Fundamental Principles Program



World First Aid Day and Youth Day commemorated, dissemination Program conducted to Youth, Volunteers and staff,



Dissemination and sessions with Volunteers and Core team, put up information stalls to public on main national Programs to highlight and raising profiles to people.

VISITORS TO TONGA RED CROSS SOCIETY



Cyclone Gita affected Tongatapu & 'Eua in February 2018, HRH Princess Latufuipeka Tuku'aho visited the society operation center for support the society response.



ICRC focus in the Pacific on issues related to the strengthening and implementation of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and issues related to IHL training to Armed Forces; also contacts with police forces / training in international policing standards and human rights. Alfred from ICRC visited Tonga in a mission to meet related government officials. ICRC focus in the Pacific on Multilateral Affairs; relations with PIFS and ICRC presence at PIF annual leader's meeting.

Acknowledgements

Tonga Red Cross society faces huge of challenges between 2018 and 2019 with trying to cope with Hight demand on responding to natural disasters but same time the society express its heartfelt gratitude to the support that has been provided by ARC, NZRC, ICRC and IFRC-CCST Suva on core cost program that resume in 2019. Millions of thanks for the Australian Red Cross for the supporting the core cost for Tonga in coming 5 years.

On behalf of us we would like to thank s each and every one of you who always there for us when we call

- 1 New Zealand Red Cross
- 2 Australian Red Cross Society
- 3 Japanese Red Cross Society
- 4 Japanese Government
- 5 International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
- 6 International Committee of Red Cross
- 7 Australian Government - Department of Foreign Affair and Trade
- 8 New Zealand Government - Ministry of Foreign Affair and Trade
- 9 China Aid and People Republic of China
- 10 Switzerland Embassy
- 11 Alfred Cowley and Sons
- 12 Prema & Sons Limited
- 13 Si'i kae Ola
- 14 'Oholei Beach Resort
- 15 Vakaloa Beach Resort
- 16 Ministry of Internal Affair
- 17 Ministry of Inland Revenue and Customs
- 18 Tonga Police Force
- 19 His Majesty Arm Forces
- 20 Tonga Telecommunications Cooperation
- 21 Digicel Tonga
- 22 Free Church of Tonga
- 23 Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga
- 24 Kiwi Tonga Limited
- 25 Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
- 26 Tonga Ports Authority
- 27 Pacific Timber Hardware
- 28 National Reserve Bank of Tonga
- 29 Mr. Sefita Tangi
- 30 Seventh Day Adventist Mission
- 31 Magic Sign

- 32 Cocker Enterprises
- 33 Tonga Airport Limited
- 34 BSP Bank of South Pacific