

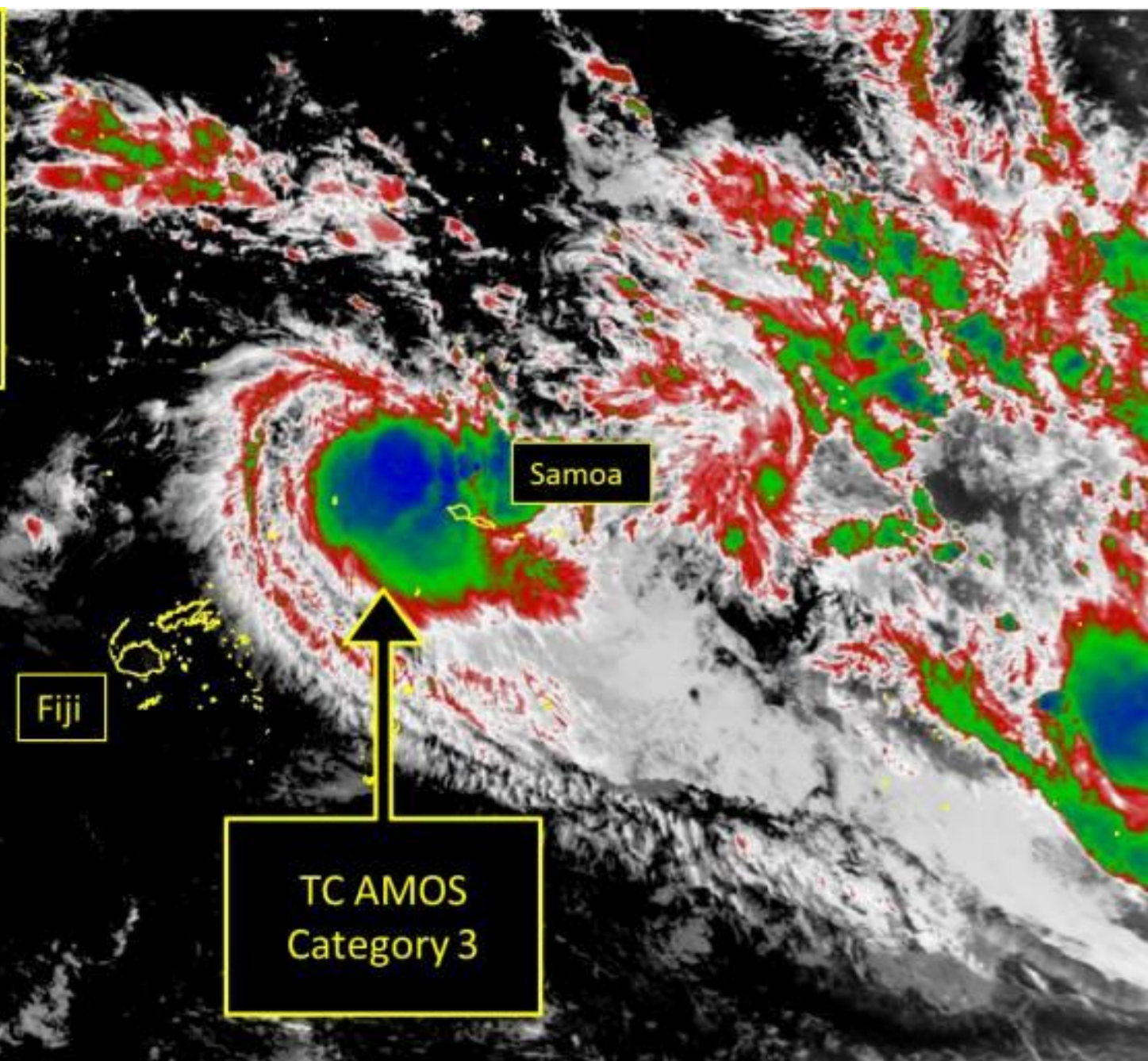


MetService

Midday

23/04/2016

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JMA



Samoa Red Cross Society

Report 2015-2017

who we are

The Samoa Red Cross Society (SRCS) is a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The largest humanitarian organisation, represented in 190 countries worldwide.

Established in 1952 as a branch of the New Zealand Red Cross, and as a recognised member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in 1984, following adoption of the 1949 Geneva Conventions and its Two Additional Protocols by the Government of Samoa in 1983.

The SRCS Headquarters locates at Tuana'imato Faleata, with a branch in Tuasivi, Savaii. The National Society welcomes everyone in the country to become voluntary members and participate in the daily activities, through provision of its humanitarian services for the most vulnerable.







our vision

Through humanitarian actions, we strive to empower communities, recognize and address human suffering, respect human dignity and promote peace among all people.

our mission

We recognise developing of our capacity, to provide **humanitarian support** to the **most vulnerable people** in the community and help them **prevent, prepare for** and **respond** more effectively to impacts of natural disasters and climate change, through services that are in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of the Movement.

our core values

-  **PEOPLE** are our most valuable resource.
-  **INTEGRITY** is our moral principle.
-  **PARTNERSHIP** is our ability to work with others.
-  **RESPECT** is our ability to recognise others.
-  **LEADERSHIP** is our ability to make a difference.
-  **INNOVATION** is our ability to do new things.

the fundamental principles

Humanity

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, born of a 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 a political, racial, religious or ideological nature.

Independence

The Movement is independent. The National Societies, while auxiliary 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 only be one Red Cross or 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.

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Sites of country covered by the Samoa Red Cross Society humanitarian services in 2015-2016



Acronyms and Definitions

AED	Automated External Defibrillator is a portable electronic device that checks the heart rhythm and treats sudden cardiac arrest when heart stops beating.
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome is a set of symptoms and illnesses that occur at the very final stage of HIV infection.
ARC	Australian Red Cross is an independent relief organisation and member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
CBHFA	Community Based Health and First Aid is an approach to empower people in the communities to take charge of themselves.
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation is a response to global warming and climate change seeking to reduce vulnerability and offsets sudden changes impacts
CSSP	Civil Society Support Fund Program coordinates response to the challenges faced by civil societies.
CCST	Country Coordination Support Team is the IFRC secretariat for Pacific NSs. It's office is in Suva, Fiji.
CPR	Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation is a lifesaving technique used on anyone whose heartbeat or breathing has stopped.
CDCRM	Community Disaster and Climate Risk Management is an effective approach in empowering villages to take responsibility of their own safety in the threat of disasters and climate change.
CYG	Commonwealth Youth Games is an international multi-sport event between Commonwealth nations, every 4 years. Samoa hosted the CYG in 2015.
DRM	Disaster Risk Management is a practice to reduce disaster risks through efforts to analyse and reduce casual factors of disasters.
ERT	Emergency Response Team are highly-trained Red Cross people capable of working with specialised tools and tactics to resolve high-risk situations.
EU	European Union is a political/economic union of 28 member states in Europe
FA	First Aid is the initial help and care given to anyone suffering a sudden illness or injury, in order to preserve life, prevent further injury and promote recovery.
FINPAC	Finnish Pacific (project) funded by the Finnish government and coordinated through SPREP with its partners such as IFRC, aiming to improve lives of Pacific communities by delivering effective weather, climate and early warning services.
GBV	Gender Based Violence is a term used to capture violence associated with each gender and power relationship within a society.
GD	Gender Diversity is equitable or fair representation between genders.
HH	Household is a house and its occupant or a dwelling which consists of one or more people, sharing meals and living accomodation etc.
HIV	Human Immuno-deficiency Virus attacks and weaken the immune system and leads the infected person towards AIDS, the last stage of HIV infection
ICCAI	International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative of Australian government which helped address high priority adaptation needs in SIDS
IDRL	International Disaster Response Law is a set of guidelines to assist governments with the domestic facilitation and regulation of international disaster relief and initial recovery assistance.

ICRC	International Committee of Red Cross is part of the International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, mandated to protect victims of wars
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross Red and Crescent Societies is the world's largest humanitarian organisation with 190 member National Societies.
IPA	Implementing Partner Agency is a recognised agency under the MNRE "Water For Life" Water and Sanitation Sector Plan 2012-2016
MDG	Millenium Development Goals of the UN with measurable targets and clear deadlines for improving lives of the world's poorest people
NZRC	New Zealand Red Cross is an independent relief organisation and member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
NS	National Societies (190) are members of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, making up the International Federation (IFRC).
PwD	People with Disabilities is a term used to refer to individual physical and mental impairment and various types of chronic diseases.
RDRT	Regional Disaster Response Teams are IFRC human resources or tools made up of NS staff and volunteers with cross-sectional expertise in health, WASH, relief, logistics etc who can be deployed at short notice to respond to disasters.
RFL	Restoration of Family Links is a NS program aiming to prevent separation and disappearance, looking for missing persons, restore and maintain contact between family members etc.
RWH	Rainwater Harvesting is a technique of collection and storage of rainwater into tanks or cisterns.
SIDS	Small Island Development States such as Samoa
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Environment Program is a regional entity based in Samoa focused on climate change and environment issues affecting SIDS.
SRCS	Samoa Red Cross Society is an independent relief organisation and member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
TC	Tropical Cyclone is a rapidly rotating storm system characterised by a low pressure centre, a closed low-level atmospheric circulation, strong winds and thunderstorms that produce heavy rain.
TTM	Tupua Tamasese Meaole (hospital) is the main hospital in Apia, Samoa.
UN	United Nations is an intergovernmental organisation tasked to promote international cooperation and to create and maintain international order.
US	United States is a country of 50 states covering North America, Alaska and Hawaii in the Pacific Ocean.
VCA	Vulnerability Capacity Assessment is an essential part of the Red Cross Red Crescent operations for surveying health risks and abilities to cope.
VIP	Ventilated Improved Pit (latrines) are an improvement to overcome the disadvantages of the simple pit latrines.
VNRBD	Voluntary Non Remunerated Blood Donors is people giving blood and blood products through their own free will and receive no payment from it
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene are three separate field of work. Each is dependent on the presence of the other. eg. without toilets, water sources become contaminated; without clean water, basic hygiene practices are not possible.

Message from the President



*High Chief Vaasiliifiti Moelagi Jackson
President, Samoa Red Cross Society*

As President of the Samoa Red Cross Society (SRCS), it is my very pleasant duty to offer this brief foreword to the Report of the SRCS for the years 2015 to 2017.

At the outset I would like to congratulate our Secretary General for the tremendous work in putting together this excellent report. I would like to thank our staff and our many volunteers for their dedication and commitment to the work of our Society in general and in upholding the principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Without a doubt it is this dedication and commitment that ensures the survival of the SRCS together with the generous support of our development partners and sister societies in the region, the New Zealand Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, Japan Red Cross and the ICRC, through strong coordination of our IFRC secretariat office in Suva Fiji.

I would like to add my personal thank you to our Samoan Government and community leaders, our business community and all those who have helped our Society over the many years, and pray that God will compensate you all manifold for your kindness.

Last but not least, I wish to thank my colleagues on our Governing Board for their time and unwavering belief in the work of our Society. Very often it is a thankless job, but virtue is its own reward. And whether it is on the field or in the form of moral support, they all help in achieving the objective of our humanitarian work.

Let me Wish Everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year, 2018

Fa'afetai tele lava

High Chief Vaasiliifiti Moelagi Jackson
President



Message from the Secretary General



SRCS has come a long way since its inception in the early 1980s as an Independent National Society. It continues to serve as a ray of hope for people in their times of greatest need. These past years, our inspiring volunteers, staff, stakeholders and development partners, provided humanitarian services to thousands of people in need in our communities across the country and around the region. Whether responding to raising public awareness against health emergencies, mitigating risks and adaptation actions against disasters and climate change impacts, meteorological drought effects, water and sanitation needs and tropical cyclones destructions affecting our neighbouring countries, Fiji, Tuvalu, Vanuatu etc. SRCS was always there to provide assistance, comfort and most importantly, hope for the future.

Preparedness is a vital part of our mission and for the past three years, we expanded our CBHFA approach by innovatively building capacity of our members to implement the national CDCRM tool kit, which saw vulnerable communities becoming more efficient in learning additional sets of skills, and equipping themselves well in advance, to be able to respond more effectively when emergency and disasters arise.

VCA is conducted in every community we work in, to identify the most vulnerable HHs and ensure readiness to cope with potential health emergency we may face due to poor water supply. Incredibly, our ERT members have become experts in WASH through ongoing exposures in their daily roles, learnt experience from response operations in recent disasters affecting Samoa and through IFRC online and RDRT Impact field training courses. These fantastic opportunities have consolidated our members' expertise in managing WASH projects, as in an EU funded MDG WASH and Food Security project, providing for over 80,000 direct beneficiaries of 1200 RWH tanks, 1200 VIP latrines and 1200 vegetable gardens,

including 500 more eligible HHs identified under the CSSP for RWH tanks and 50 village communities who each received 2x10,000L RWH tanks on sites their respective evacuation shelters, under the ICCAI project. Such an extent of public demand for members of our ERTs to handle, but have helped develop their confidence and readiness to be able to respond to bigger events, that whilst they were fresh at it, TC Winston hit Fiji and our Team leader, Mr. Isara Iose was deployed to assist Fiji Red Cross, respond to the urgent WASH needs of the Fijian people, who have been seriously affected by the impacts of TC Winston for months.

Beyond our disaster work at home and abroad, SRCS continued to work with members of the US military, training more than 300 of our community based volunteers on First Aid, CPR and AED skills, providing First Aid services at the 5th Commonwealth Youth Games in Samoa, in September, 2015.

The past years also saw the SRCS continue its tireless efforts to ensure the safety and reliability of the nation's blood supply through recruitment and educating of voluntary blood donors (in villages & church groups, school institutions, businesses and expatriate communities), on therapeutic use of "blood" and its components to save lives, if appropriately utilised. In May 2017, 15 cardiac patients had open heart surgery in the TTM hospital in Moto'otua, and close to 300 units of blood were collected from the wider Samoan community to support this critical life-saving process. All patients pulled through successfully, and we're happy to acknowledge the altruistic donations by all our Blood Donors.. Fa'afetai tele lava !!!

Working together in partnership has helped strengthen our ability to do things better, enabling our response to be more focused on our people's immediate need.

I am confident, we will continue to carry forward our great humanitarian mission **"to prevent and alleviate suffering"** in years to come. As always, our efforts are only possible because of the support of committed and compassionate individuals like you.

I hope that you will find this report interesting and helpful and I encourage you all to provide us with your feedback for future improvement of our services.






Soifua ma la Manuia

Namulauulu Tautala Mauala
Secretary General

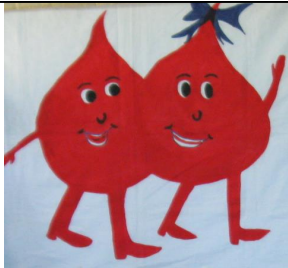


Highlights from FY 2015/2016



HH Assessments	Water	Sanitation	FA Training	FA Service
 <p>HHs assessed (VCA) 3,855 Direct beneficiaries 26,710 People reached 45,118</p>	 <p>RWH Tanks installed 1,750 Total capacity 7,200,000 L Direct beneficiaries 85,000</p>	 <p>VIP latrines installed 1,250 Direct beneficiaries 8,250</p>	 <p>FIRST AID TRAINING</p> <p>FA Training 160 Certified FA 255 People reached 38,550</p>	 <p>FA services 510 Casualties 2,812 Hosp transfers 152</p>

VNRBD Recruitment



Registered Blood Donors: 4157
 Group 'O' Rh+ 2120
 Group 'A' Rh+ 1411
 Group 'B' Rh+ 507
 Group 'AB' Rh+ 119
 Rhesus (-) 2
 % voluntary BDs: 100%

HIV/STI



PLHIV cared for: 11
 Active Young Peer Eds: 30
 Condoms distributed: 182,404
 Outreach programs: 50

Disaster Preparedness



Outreach programs 55
 No. Drill exercises 20
 People reached 38,447

Disaster Response



Outreach Programs: 18
 People reached 13,875

Climate Change

Outreach Programs 25
 People reached 15,613



SRCS prepared as TC Amos approached Samoa

SRCS helped local residents prepare in advance as TC Amos edged towards Savaii island, bringing torrential rain, damaging winds and sea-swells. Relief stocks of tarpaulins for emergency shelter and other essential aid were quickly moved to Savaii. 50 volunteers and staff were activated and 200 more community based volunteers were called on standby as first aiders, blood donors and conduct of initial damage assessments. Preparations made in Apia included identifying of water sources in two locations, close to identified evacuation shelters with some of our volunteers also on standby to help set up and administer the shelters.



Helping communities adapt to climate change (CCA) by reducing Disaster Risks (DRR)



The CDCRM Program is being provided to communities to become more resilient in the face of disaster threats. This program's origins are partly rooted in the experience of TC Evan which highlighted a lack of knowledge among communities on how to prepare for and respond to disasters. SRCS works with dedicated villages' ERTs, comprising identified committees with specific focus on areas of early warning, security and first aid, WASH, project management.

More families are now moving inland from coastal settlements due to damaged properties and lost livelihoods, water supply, food shortages. Here, SRCS help communities to recognise and build upon skills and resources they have and become more resilient when the next disaster strikes.



LEFAGAOALI'I

- GALULUE MO SE AFIO'AGA UA LAVA TAPENA MO FESUIA'IGA O LE TAU MA FA'ALAVELAVE MATUIA
- WORKING TOWARDS A CLIMATE & DISASTER READY COMMUNITY

NUMERA MO FA'ALAVELAVE FA'AFUASE'I
EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

- TINEI MŪ / FIRE: 994
- LEOLEO / POLICE: 995
- TA'AVALE FALEMAI / AMBULANCE: 996
- FA'ALAVELAVE MATUIA / DISASTERS: 997
- KOLUSE MŪMŪ / RED CROSS: 23686
- OFISA VA'AITAU / MET OFFICE: 20855

FA'ATUPEINA: SPREP ma le Malo Finland
Funded by SPREP through the Finland - Pacific (FINPAC) Project

Logos for SPREP, the Government of Samoa, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies are displayed at the bottom.

Tackling DRR and CCA

The FINPAC project, implemented in 2015/2016 by 10 Pacific Red Cross Societies including SRCS and their National Meteorological Offices, had an MoU between IFRC and SPREP, which was initially signed in 2014, to make climate and weather information more accessible, relevant and user-friendly for users such as fishers and farmers.

The partnership was about strengthening local humanitarian response and reducing disaster risk by making climate and weather information relevant to the needs of communities living on the frontline of climate change.

No. of People reached - 514

(Men) 263 (Women) 251 (PwD) 8



2017 Programmes Activities



Our Actions

Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA)

Addressing Vulnerability

Vulnerability is most often associated with elements of inaccessibility to lifelines and/or essential services, especially when people are living in isolation, insecure and defenseless in risk situations or when in shock or stressed. In its endeavours to improve lives of individuals, the SRCS gives priority to the most urgent case scenario. The challenge of reducing vulnerability and enhancing capacity requires an intimate knowledge and understanding of the local reality. It is this awareness that encourages development of sensitive and responsive community based approach, through:

- working with vulnerable people & empower them to take charge of their lives;
- understanding vulnerability and recognising local capacities;
- delivery of efficient service and effective advocacy.

Save Lives Protect Livelihoods and Strengthen Recovery from disasters:

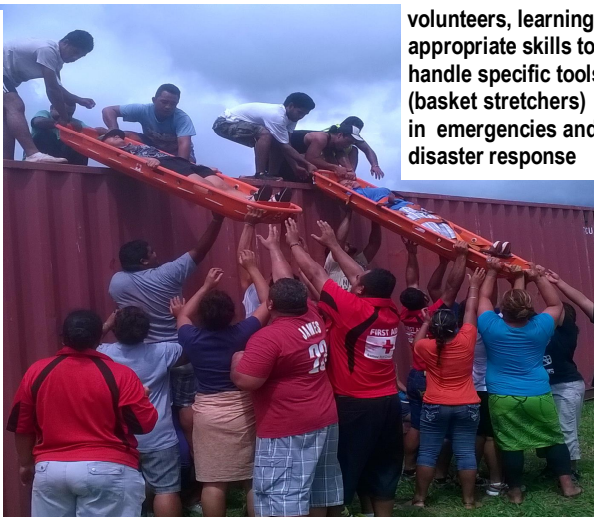
Preparing and Responding to Disasters

- We mobilised and build capacities of our community based volunteers.

FA Training

FA is a humanitarian act that must be accessible to all. Volunteers and communities are trained and empowered to save lives without discrimination.

FA is widely taught in community groups, sport schools, workplaces and businesses.



volunteers, learning appropriate skills to handle specific tools (basket stretchers) in emergencies and disaster response

- We maintained and pre positioned contingency stocks of essential supplies and optimising logistics and communications.



- We keep and improve our simple translations of weather bulletins for effective community actions to save lives, protect assets and livelihoods in disasters.



- We provide essential healthcare service, food and nutrition and WASH...



- We promote and advocate disaster laws guidelines, principles and rules through the National Disaster Advisory Council, seeking reduction of operational barriers and strengthening communities' roles to respond more effectively in disasters, with respect to the dignity and rights of affected people especially the PwDs.

International Disaster Response Law (IDRL)



- We promote pre disaster coordination arrangements that facilitate disaster response and deployment to disaster-affected areas, catering for immediate needs of our affected people, enhancing preparedness measures and increasing appropriateness and predictability of the services we provide.
- **Compassionate Leave Requests**

We help bring home our sons and daughters, who are serving in the US military, to be with their families in times of greatest need or on other family obligations, through requests for "**Compassionate Leave**", directed to the Medical Army Corps of the American Red Cross.



Enabled Healthy and Safe Living

We strengthen community resilience by training people to prevent and reduce health risks in order for them to enjoy better healthy living.

Better Health - We aim to reduce community vulnerability through the following identified priorities based on local prevalent health patterns:

- expand accessibility of people in under-served communities to primary health care and public health in emergency services;



- promote VNRBD and advocate for the safe provision of blood and blood products;



- promoting preventative measures against HIV/STI is our continuing priority along with supporting PLHIV against public stigma and discrimination;



- support the most vulnerable through nutritional, education and other complementary inputs;
- encourage actions that determine good health and have the potential to reduce preventable death, disease, injury disability including health promotion, access to portable water and sanitation, basic personal hygiene, reduced exposures to communicable diseases, improving safety at work, home and on the road.



Promote Social Inclusion and a Culture of Non Violence and Peace

The most prevalent vulnerabilities arise not only from disasters and diseases but also from complex factors such as grievances that are born from deprivation and unfairness, marginalisation that is rooted in equality, alienation and injustice or despair that comes from loneliness, ignorance, poor and isolation.

Many a times, these are expressed through violence against one another which can even be magnified into wider feuds and disturbances within and/or between families and village communities, societies etc.

Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change

Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change, is the Red Cross flagship initiative on the promotion of a culture of non-violence and peace . This program seeks to empower individuals to take up an ethical leadership role in their community.



SRC youth, Mr. Junior Usoalii and Ms Astrid KoonWaiYou attending a Japanese Red Cross Youth Meeting in Japan

It does so by triggering a process of self-transformation amongst young people that result in positive and lasting changes of mindsets, attitudes and behaviours, including behaviour designed to generate change in others in accordance with our Fundamental Principles..

We promote social inclusion in all our activities and services, behavioural skills to communicate, mediate and diffuse tensions in a peaceful manner



We mainstream Gender Based Violence in all our programs' activities focusing on humanitarian/crisis response planning, frameworks and programming which is informed by gender analysis and needs assessments. This requires both the technical tools and direct support to local women's organisations to engage effectively in humanitarian planning and programming.



Our Strengths

Our Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values

The Seven Fundamental Principles are an expression of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's values and practices. They serve both as a guide for action and as the Movement's common identity and purpose. The principles guide our work and decisions in all situations and at all times. They bond together NSs, ICRC and IFRC. They guarantee the continuity of our humanitarian work.

Year 2015 brought together members of the Movement to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the fundamental principles, not only to celebrate this remarkable milestone but to share experiences and learn from one another and to reassert the contemporary relevance and importance of the fundamental principles.

Our Volunteers are Our Greatest Assets.

Our Strength lies in our Volunteer Network. There is no higher calling than when a person gives his or her own life, time, skills, knowledge or resources to someone in need of help. The value of volunteering provides credible evidence of the economic value of volunteers and the work they do for SRCS and the communities we serve. Our Volunteers are the hands and feet of our Society. They assist with the daily office operations and are mostly involved in running successful community programs



Our Auxiliary Status

Our auxiliary status is permanent and is part of the legal foundation that our government (GoS), has initially recognised us by, on the basis of the Geneva Convention and of the national legislation, as a voluntary aid society, auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field.

Our auxiliary role therefore, provides essential space for dialogue and mutually beneficial relationship with our public authorities in the humanitarian field, within the framework of the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Our strong auxiliary relationship with our government have made humanitarian and development action more effective and efficient., through our government, providing in-kind contributions (office space, land etc); tax exemptions and fiscal concessions (including customs, gifts and legacies); and are yet to also provide direct contributions for core operating costs; fees for service provision; special benefits (preferable rates on telecommunications, taxes or fees levied); licenses to run profit-making endeavours (charity shops, commercial FA courses etc).

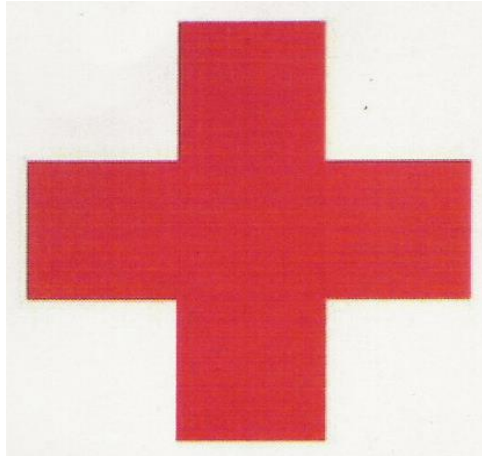
Our Partners

We believe that working alone frustrates development. Therefore, working together through partnership continues to improve development of our work. The SRCS has managed to develop partnerships with government sectors and coporations, businesses and the private sector in country, who have largely contributed in supporting the continuity of most of our activities. Our Movement partners, IFRC, ICRC, ARC, NZRC, Japan Red Cross and others are our main supporters for our programs and resource development.

Working with the Community

SRCS has further expanded its community outreach through implementation of the CSSP Enhancing Climate Resilient Project, where 20 villages are trained on DRM/CCA principles and knowledge and to identify climate change-related projects towards community resilience.

Alternatively, SRCS also engages 40 Catholic parishes through Caritas Samoa community resilience program, training them on DRM and CC and assist in facilitating respective community groups' roles in emergency and disasters. Working with communities is ongoing as part of our DP/DR program through CDCRM approach.



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