

Maldivian Red Crescent

Annual Report 2017

Cover:

MRC Staff Team



CONTENTS.

04

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL

08

WHO WE ARE

10

HIGHLIGHTS
FROM 2017

12

DISASTER MANAGEMENT
AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

28

HEALTH AND
SOCIAL CARE

40

SOCIAL INCLUSION

45

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
AND VOLUNTEERISM

50

RESOURCE
MOBILIZATION

52

PARTNERSHIPS

54

GOVERNANCE AND
SPECIAL EVENTS

59

CAPACITY BUILDING

63

FINANCIAL
SUMMARY

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & THE SECRETARY GENERAL



Ali Nashid, President of MRC & Aishath Noora, Secretary General of MRC

2017 brought many opportunities for MRC to provide humanitarian services to the most vulnerable across the country. Our efforts go hand in hand with the support of the partners we work with – public authorities, corporates, NGOs, and other civil society actors – as we strive to alleviate human suffering. MRC has established and strengthened working relationships as an auxiliary organization while addressing the humanitarian needs of the society independently, impartially, and neutrally, while promoting humanity, unity, universality, and volunteer service, embracing the 7 Fundamental Principles at the heart of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

In March 2017, the increase in cases of influenza that broke out across the country was responded to by volunteers and staff of MRC, across our Branches and Units, who worked tirelessly with concerned authorities and corporate partners who supported the efforts on epidemic control. Time and again, such emergencies always shed light on marginalized populations and the critical roles in addressing gaps around better inclusivity and the work that must be done to reach the most isolated. Our response included a crucial element of translating awareness and prevention messages into nine languages that was done with the help of our diverse pool of volunteers. This ensured that over 20 thousand migrant workers were reached across the Maldives. MRC was also part of the nationwide campaign to eliminate Measles and Rubella, and played a similar role to ensure that the most hard to reach

youth were able to access vaccination through encouragement by our young volunteers, and by facilitating mobile vaccination points in the larger cities. We stand by the principles of impartiality, neutrality, and unity and our work reflects as such.

Our strengths in disaster management and emergency response contribute to national efforts in these areas. As such, MRC supported tsunami drills targeted to schools, in collaboration with the UNDP in Maldives, NDMC, and the Ministry of Education, helping to increase preparedness and resilience in island communities. We recognize the importance of taking action to adapt to the collective effects of climate change – flooding, rough seas, irregular and excessive rainfall – as we become front and center to bear the brunt of extreme weather events and consequent disasters.

As we face a world becoming more globalized and urban by the day, becoming conscious of the changes and increasing the capacities to respond to disaster and crises is important to us. Maldives is made of a geographically dispersed collection of islands, some more vulnerable, heavily populated, and less resilient than others. As such, building said capacities in cities and islands alike are crucial to ensure preparedness and resilience.

Our work to respond to emergencies continues and has been broadened with the increased dependency and reliance on MRC’s capacity to provide Psycho-Social Support to the affected.

PSS work is an integral part to any emergency response and recovery. We are working towards increasing and strengthening our pool of trained volunteers who can facilitate interventions as and when necessary.

As we look to explore sustainability of our programmes and services, corporate partnerships are an essential part of the support we get. As such, our long term partner, Universal Enterprises Pvt. Ltd renewed the support given to our Patient Transport Services – an initiative that will help MRC generate its own income to ensure that we continue giving timely and relevant humanitarian services.

One of the biggest and most impactful works that we did in 2017 was to raise funds for the Emergency Appeal by the IFRC for the people fleeing to Bangladesh from Rakhine State, Myanmar. The MRC assisted in transferring over MVR7 million, raised by the people of Maldives, to affected families living in Cox’s Bazaar, for water and sanitation, food, shelter, and nutrition. The generous donation has notably been the biggest contribution per capita so far for this cause by any country. We, as Maldivians, have been lauded for showing solidarity and putting humanity first, through the emerging complex humanitarian emergency in Bangladesh.

Migration and all its aspects have frequented headlines, statements, and reports, over the years and the MRC has been working towards shifting a stronger focus on tackling issues that migrant workers face in Maldives and to help within our humanitarian sphere. We are



part of regional and global level conversations and the work to strengthen the partnerships that will address the needs. MRC co-chairs the IFRC’s Asia Pacific Migration Network and in the Statutory Meetings held in Turkey, had been part of a panel discussion on the topic of migration.

After operating our National Headquarters in rented spaces, shortly after our 8th Anniversary we relocated our national headquarters to Hulhumale’ to a building of our own, constructed with the support of IFRC.

Our successes are never complete without thanking those who have been with us through our journey, every step of the way. Thank you to the Australian Red Cross and the Canadian Red Cross for the assistance provided through projects that were concluded in 2017. Our heartfelt appreciation goes to the ICRC and the IFRC, for the constant guidance and support, for seeing us through the more challenging times, and for looking towards a hopeful future with us.

Most important of all, thank you to our volunteers, members, and staff, for being at the heart of everything we do.

As we welcome more opportunities to serve humanity, to create positive impact, and to take on meaningful challenges, we are immensely grateful and proud to be part of the stories of the communities we serve.

MISSION

to volunteer, participate, and partner in delivering humanitarian service to the most vulnerable.

VISION

to be a model National Society contributing to overcome humanitarian challenges.

PRIMARY OBJECTIVE

to prevent and alleviate suffering with complete impartiality, making no discrimination.

WHO WE ARE

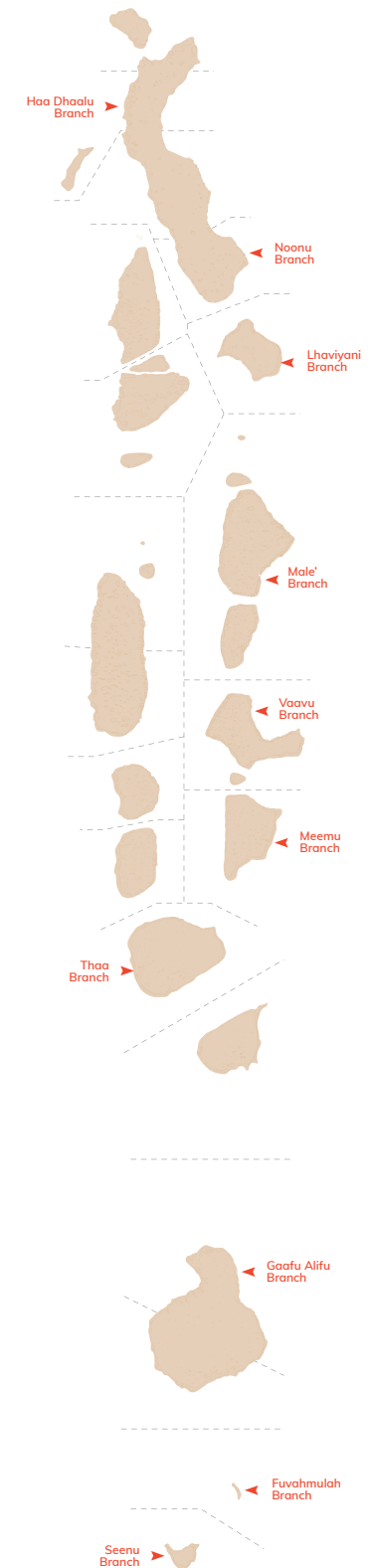
The Maldivian Red Crescent (MRC) is an independent, voluntary, humanitarian organization, established on the basis of the Maldivian Red Crescent Law [Law 7/2009]. Our primary objective is to provide humanitarian aid and to prevent and alleviate human suffering in close cooperation with government and local partners working towards the same goal.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) recognized the MRC as a full-fledged member of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) on 9 November 2011. Subsequently, MRC became the 187th member of the IFRC on 23 November 2011.

Since its formation, MRC has been involved in an intensive development process of establishing systems and structures that will enable effective delivery of humanitarian services to those who need it most, across the entire nation.

Our main strategic areas are Disaster Management, Health and Wellbeing, Social Inclusion and Youth Empowerment through volunteerism and inclusive programming.

To date we have established 10 Branches across the country and have successfully rolled out service delivery initiatives in these Branches. Our Branches are our direct links with the Maldivian community.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2017



1500

Total number of **Volunteers** in 2017



293

Total number of **Members** in 2017



13

Total number of **Staff** in 2017

Our People

Last year, we worked with volunteers across the nation to help communities and people in need by responding to emergencies and by helping in being prepared for emergencies and health epidemics.

Efforts were made to expand on our emergency response, epidemic preparedness, and first aid expertise, by building the capacity of our volunteers and stakeholders.

We also successfully facilitated fundraising towards the IFRC Emergency Appeal – Bangladesh Population Movement.

Disaster Management

MRC's Emergency Response Teams across the country facilitated 25 responses ranging from flooding in islands, fires, civil unrests, and accidents on the sea.

Our emergency response capacity has strengthened and we now have 472 Emergency Response Team Members and 46 National Emergency Response Team Members.

Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (VCA) were completed in 4 Branches. 120 (65 female, 55 male) volunteers involved in collecting data and developing the VCAs. 20,000 individuals were reached.

We partnered in the first ever tsunami drill in Gaafu Alif Villingili where 26 (16 female, 10 male) volunteers were mobilized to conduct a full-scale tsunami drill in a school involving 600 students, 80 staff, and reaching out to more than 4,000 individuals.

Health and Social Care

H1N1 outbreak: by creating public awareness on the prevention of influenza that benefited over 19,000 people.

Supported the National Measles Elimination Campaign.

The Training of Trainers for Psychosocial Support was held with 24 participants from 4 Branches. This will expand the existing pool of volunteers who are able to deliver PSS interventions.

First Aid Trainings: Total number of first aid trainings: 28. Total number of trainees: 567.

Epidemic Control for Volunteers Training – 81 volunteers from 5 Branches were trained to respond to epidemics and disease outbreaks.

Emergency Appeal by the IFRC for Population Movement in Bangladesh

A tremendous donation of MVR 7 million was donated by the people of Maldives to the Emergency Appeal towards helping affected people in Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh. This donation which is the highest per-capita from a country, will go towards food, water and sanitation, shelter, and medical supplies to the settlements in Cox's Bazaar.

MRC's 9th General Assembly

On 29th April 2017 the 9th General Assembly of MRC was held. A significant outcome of the General Assembly was the adoption of key revisions to the Statutes and the Rules of Procedure.

Inauguration of the MRC Building in Hulhumale'

On 10th September 2017, MRC's National Headquarters was inaugurated by the Regional Director of the Asia Pacific for the IFRC.

Resource Mobilisation

In 2017, we raised MVR 1,687,133 through our resource mobilisation interventions such as Commercial First Aid, individual giving, sponsorships, etc.

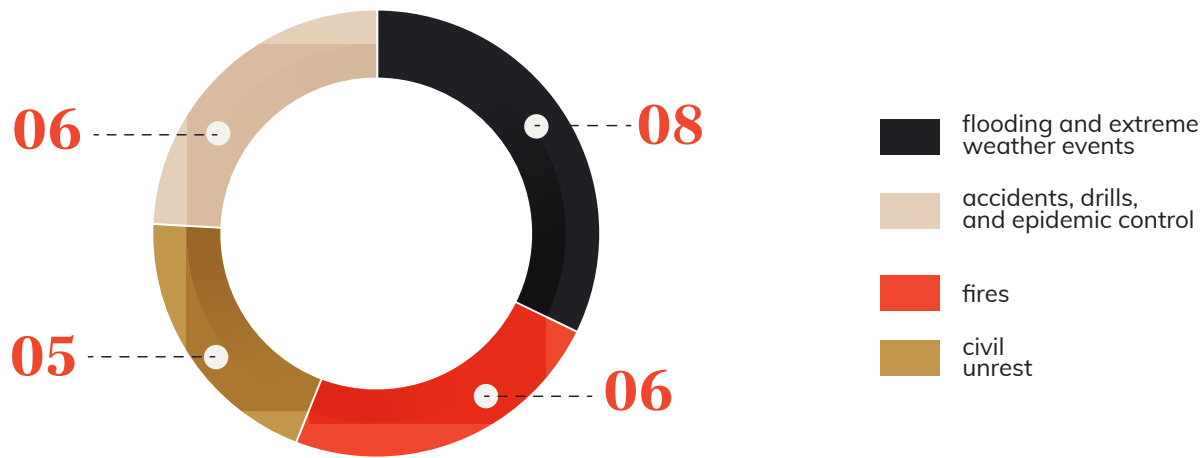
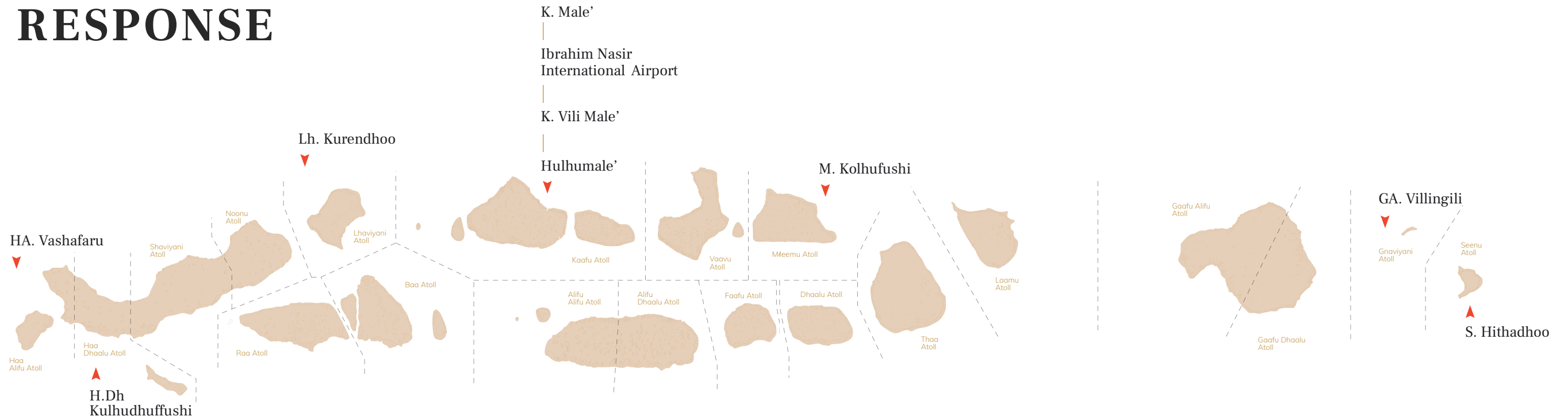


DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Through efforts towards ensuring preparedness and risk mitigation, MRC's disaster management work focuses on creating resilience within communities.

In 2017, MRC conducted various trainings on emergency response, facilitated drills for School Emergency Operation Plans and fire safety, and conducted Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments to work towards understanding the needs of communities and to build local capacities.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE



EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS

Emergency Response Teams (ERT) are trained to provide and carry out an efficient, effective, and smooth response and recovery operation in any emergency.

During responses, the Teams provide support ranging from

facilitating Psycho-Social Support interventions, distributing relief aid, and providing support to IDPs who have lost homes and belongings. In Kulhudhuffushi last year, 23 volunteers were trained in ERT out of which 8 were female and 15 male.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

A TIMELINE OF OUR WORK

<h3>2009</h3> <p>Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) was initiated <p>One of the first ever programmes started by the MRC</p> <p>Disaster Management Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRC positioned in Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP) on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) 	<h3>2010</h3> <p>Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programmes on child protection and violence prevention <p>Branch Establishment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of 2 Branches - Noonu and Gnaviyani <p>Emergency Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First ever Emergency First Response Team (EFRT) trainings <p>Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CBDRR was launched. Work done in Haa Hoarafushi, Gaafu Dhaalu Gahdhoo, Lhaviyani Hinnavaru, Kaafu Kaashidhoo, Seenu Feydhoo, and Alif Alif Thohdo 	<h3>2011</h3> <p>Major Events & Incidents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dengue outbreak <p>Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dengue control work <p>Branch Establishment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of 4 Branches - Lhaviyani, Meemu, Gaafu Alif, and Gaafu Dhaalu <p>Emergency Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 48 EFRT First time providing PSS in an emergency situation, to students of Hiriya School First PFA training for responders <p>Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CBDRR DRR and CCA Strategy was adopted 	<h3>2012</h3> <p>Emergency Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of MRC's Emergency Response Mechanism 64 EFRT Pilot Emergency Response Team (ERT) training First Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) training <p>Emergency Response Team (ERT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 33 (20 male, 30 female) <p>Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments Guideline and Toolkit 	<h3>2013</h3> <p>Emergency Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched MRC's Emergency Response Fund First international deployment as part of IFRC RDRT to Philippines <p>Emergency Response Team (ERT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 105 (65 male, 41 female) 	<h3>2014</h3> <p>Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First ever Psycho-Social Support (PSS) Training of Trainers (ToT) 23 Trainers ECV trainings began. 67 people trained <p>Emergency Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 800 volunteers mobilised for Male' Water Crisis Patient Transport Services was launched Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) training - 3 women <p>Emergency Response Team (ERT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 84 (50 male, 34 female) <p>National Emergency Response Team (NERT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 22 (17 male, 5 female) <p>Major Events & Incidents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Male' Water Crisis 	<h3>2015</h3> <p>Branch Establishment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CBDRR Project closure <p>Emergency Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raised MVR2.5 million for the Nepal Relief Fund 2 RDRT deployments to Nepal RDRT deployment to Malawi. First ever South Asian deployment outside region. <p>Emergency Response Team (ERT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 99 (57 male, 42 female) <p>Major Events & Incidents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nepal earthquake 	<h3>2016</h3> <p>Emergency Response Team (ERT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 127 (62 male, 65 female) <p>National Emergency Response Team (NERT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 (14 male, 10 female) <p>Major Events & Incidents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kafidhooge' Fire Provision of shelter to IDP Coastline Fire G.Dh. Thinadhoo power shortage. Provision of relief items. <p>Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psychological First Aid Training. 26 Participants 	<h3>2017</h3> <p>Emergency Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raised MVR7 million for refugees fleeing Rakhine State. <p>Emergency Response Team (ERT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23 (15 male, 8 female) <p>Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRC led PSS ToT. 24 trainers. ECV trainings for 69 people
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472

Emergency Responders

4268

People trained in First Aid

73

People trained in PFA and PSS

136

People trained in ECV

PFA: Psychological First Aid

PSS: Psycho-Social Support

ECV: Epidemic Control for Volunteers



“It has been 2 years since I started volunteering and it has been a great ride since! I see my achievements as the knowledge and skills I’ve learned through trainings offered by MRC which include Emergency Response Training, Standard First Aid Training, Basic First Aid Training, National Emergency Response Training, First Aid Training of Trainers, and Epidemic Control for Volunteers.

Helping people in emergency situations is very humbling. I want to go further ahead in these areas, first aid, emergency response and hope I can get more trainings from another country if possible. I also really want to do the Regional Disaster Response Team Training!”

Milna, Hdh Branch

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

School Emergency Operation Plan and Fire Prevention Week

The Fire Prevention Week and Volunteer Fire Fighting Course, facilitated by the Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF) Fire and Rescue Services, were aimed towards raising awareness on fire hazards and trained MRC’s ERT members and people from the community to put out fires. In Meemu Kolhufushi, 20 volunteers (8 female and 12 male) participated in the Fire Prevention Week. In Gaafu Alif Gemanafushi 13 male volunteers participated in the Volunteer Fire Fighting Course.

These were followed by School Emergency Operation Plan (SEOP) trainings with a desktop drill and a full-scale school fire drill where students, teachers, and staff were evacuated to a designated safe area in the community within minutes. SEOPs test the capacity of school staff during emergencies by training them in first aid, emergency evacuation, search and rescue, and firefighting.

MRC also works closely with the MNDF Fire and Rescue Services to develop Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials to raise awareness within communities on fire prevention and to make communities better able to respond to any fire incidents, and to increase resilience. The leaflets, billboards, videos aired on local media, and social media based advocacy are expected to reach nearly 200,000 across the country.



SEOP

The purpose of School Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) is to strengthen the capacity of schools to respond to emergency situations. School staff, teachers and students are trained in First Aid, Emergency Evacuation, Search and Rescue and Fire Fighting.

When drills are in effect, MRC volunteers participate in the performance and actions of the trainees and provide technical feedback upon completion.

Tsunami Drills

The tsunami drills, led by the UNDP in Maldives, with the collaboration of national stakeholders, is part of UNDP and Japan’s regional project “Strengthening School Preparedness for Tsunamis in the Asia Pacific Region” in 18 countries, including Maldives.

The project will contribute to the achievement of Sendai Framework targets and the UNDP’s goal to help vulnerable regions adapt to climate change.

MRC provides consultative technical support to execute the drills and facilitate community engagement through volunteers established across the country for UNDP in Maldives to conduct five tsunami drills in five schools across the Maldives. The drills are carried out in partnership with the Maldives National Defence Force, Maldives Police Service, National Disaster Management Center, and the Ministry of Education.

By building volunteer capacity to carry out similar drills and enhance preparedness and response skills, communities are empowered to respond effectively to tsunami warnings and alerts.

The first drill was carried out in September 2017 in Gaafu Alif Villingili. Prior to the drill, a scoping visit was completed to understand the context of the island. Following this, community, stakeholder, and student awareness programmes with specific team related trainings in first aid, Psycho-Social Support, fire and safety, security, were carried out. Through MRC’s support, the evacuation process of more than 600 students and 80 staff to the designated safe spaces was facilitated.

26 volunteers from MRC (16 female, 10 male) were involved in the exercise.

The experiences from these drills will be critical to formulating guidelines to conduct emergency drills of the same nature. This will also feed into the revision of existing SEOPs based on the lessons learnt.



My Tsunami Drill Experience - An Interview with Sonath Abdul Sattar, Disaster Management Officer

How was the tsunami drill experience for you as the Disaster Management Officer?

This drill was a completely new addition to the existing DM work of MRC, since we have never done a school tsunami drill in MRC before. So, this was a whole new learning experience for me too. I learnt so many things in terms of how communities have changed in the way approach tsunami warnings or alerts.

For an instance, it was interesting to hear how the people acted during the 2016 alert, based on their 2004 tsunami experience. (for eg: in 2004 Gaafu Alifu. Kooddoo was not at all affected by the tsunami, so in 2016 when the yellow alert came all Gaafu Alifu. Villingili people wanted to get on boats and go to Kooddoo.)

Did you feel like people took back lessons and a critical experience that would help them in the future?

The school staff who underwent the various trainings (first aid, fire safety, SEOP, tsunami etc) would definitely be much more confident in dealing with such emergencies, based on their actions of the evacuation drill.

As for the community, with the knowledge received, it is expected they would perform their individual responsibility in such a case. They did mention that in 2004 they didn't have any prior warning and didn't know what a tsunami was and what to do. But now, with the knowledge of alert colors and what they could do before, during and after a tsunami, it is expected they would be quick to take action and even provide a united support to each other.

The best asset are the students! I'm sure that students (grade 6 to grade 12) who received the tsunami awareness, would be able to support and guide the elders and youngsters in such a case.

What do you think are 3 key things communities must work together on when it comes to preparedness?

Individual responsibility/farudhee zinmaa – seek, ask and get the information on what you are expected to do before, during and after an emergency. There is a lot even one person can do and a change can start from just this one person

Talking about these things (prioritizing this) to everyone (elders, friends, family, relatives, kids, neighbors). Better to be safe and to be prepared than sorry. One cannot afford to wait for a particular stakeholder to come and save them in such a case.

Learning from past experiences and taking actions for future. While doing so, we must consider why our elders had taken decisions as such, and why it might and might not work now – this is where the indigenous knowledge and scientific findings need to find a middle ground.



Lessons Learnt Workshop for Local Council Elections Emergency Response with ICRC

A lessons-learnt workshop from the LCE emergency response was held with the technical help of ICRC in July from 12-13. It was attended by staff, members, and volunteers of the Male' Branch, Haa Dhaalu Branch and Seenu Branch.

The workshop highlighted many key areas such as challenges and recommendations based on the previous round of elections, context analyses, key messages, and preparedness activities.

Vulnerability and Capability Assessments

The aims of VCA are to:

- Assess risks and hazards facing communities and the capacities they have for dealing with them;
- Draw up action plans to prepare for and respond to the identified risks;
- Involve communities, local authorities and humanitarian and development organizations in the assessment from the outset;
- Identify risk-reduction activities to prevent or lessen the effects of expected hazards, risks and vulnerabilities.



The VCA process in Seenu Feydhoo, Maradhoo, and Maradhoo-Feydhoo was undertaken through a collaborative approach between the Seenu Branch and Addu City Council. As a result, this paved the way towards the integration of the VCA process into the Island Development Plans in partnership with the Local Government Authority and UNICEF.

The VCA reports will be made available to the public in Dhivehi and English in addition to sharing it with all local stakeholders.



120
volunteers
65 female | 55 male

Haa Dhaalu
Kulhudhuffushi

Lhaviyani
Naifaru

Seenu
Hithadhoo
Hulhumeedhoo

Meemu
Kolhufushi

VCA process and surveys were finalized in below 4 branches through the mobilization of 120 volunteers.

Emergency Appeal by the IFRC for Population Movement in Bangladesh



A tremendous donation of **MVR 7 million** was donated by the people of Maldives to the Emergency Appeal towards helping affected person in **Cox's Bazaar**.

This donation which is the highest per-capita from a country, will go towards food, water and sanitation, shelter, and medical supplies to the settlements in Cox's Bazaar.

In December, a team from the Maldivian Red Crescent (Secretary General Aishath Noora Mohamed & Disaster Management Officer Sonath Abdul Sattar) traveled to Cox's Bazaar on a monitoring mission to observe and participate in the ongoing humanitarian relief efforts.

Towards Resilience & Hope: A testimony from Cox's Bazar by Aishath Noora, Secretary General

Within a span of 3 months, over 650,000 individuals had arrived to Bangladesh from Myanmar's Rakhine State to flee from violence, triggering an unprecedented and complex humanitarian crisis for this region. In response, the people of the Maldives, through Maldivian Red Crescent supported the IFRC appeal of 33 million Swiss francs by raising about 500,000 Swiss francs to support the Population Movement operations.

This support has so far reached more than 433,000 people through Bangladesh Red Cross Society and other Partner National Societies. In December 2017, I made a visit to Cox's Bazaar to observe the operations, and witnessed some of the amazing work that included efforts on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), health, Psycho-Social Support, and relief distribution.

I saw exceptional levels of coordination between the Partner National Societies and

the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement movement in general, with a shared vision to alleviate the suffering, save lives, and ensure dignity and safety of the people of Rakhine State in Bangladesh. It is with appreciation that I note the trust and recognition of the Red Cross services such as the operations of the Field Hospital by other agencies responding to the situation.



In parallel to the life-saving work in this complex and fluid situation (which includes responses to outbreaks of diseases like diphtheria and measles and severe malnourishment), there are also a lot of important work being undertaken around Psycho-Social Support, support groups, safe spaces, and provision of dignity kits, to name just a few initiatives.

These are imperative to ensure safety, protection, and

dignity of the people at all stages of the operations.

I took back so much more than I had gone with, but there are three things I would like to highlight. First, at the time of my visit, only half of the IFRC appeal had been met. More concerted efforts are needed to meet the appeal target to ensure that timely help reaches those who need it most.

Second, the huge number of human resources required to run the operations cannot be sustained without a larger number of National Societies reaching out. The future still remains uncertain and there is a need to be prepared for all possible scenarios.

And last, the few interactions I had with the people reinforced me of their tremendous resilience despite their unimaginable challenges and losses. The people I was able to talk to was clear on one thing; that living a life that ensures their safety and dignity is what they want the most.

Disaster Risk Reduction Mansa 2017



The first national platform on DRR was held in Bandos Maldives from 29-30 October 2017. The platform was a national level mechanism put forward by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction to discuss DRR related issues and to strengthen coordination of stakeholders at the national level. The platform brought together government ministries, local councils, national organizations, civil society, academic institutions, and the private sector to a two day conference that had five major plenary sessions that discussed disaster risk reduction, preparedness and response related best practices, and issues and challenges.

MRC participated in the platform and was part of two plenary sessions. We were also part of the National Steering Committee that gave technical inputs and guidance to NDMC during the preparatory stage before the national platform.

International Coastal Cleanup Day 2017



The International Coastal Cleanup Day was marked on September 16th 2017.

This initiative by Ocean Conservancy highlights the urgent need to address the trash that ends up in oceans and on shores.

IDDR 2017 Panel Discussion “Home Safe Home”



The theme for 2017’s International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction on October 13 was Target B of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, achieving a reduction in the numbers of people affected by disasters.

To mark the day, MRC’s Male’ Branch held a panel discussion with stakeholders in the field on improving national resilience to disaster risks.

It was an open event and interested individuals attended and exchanged ideas on the many challenges Maldives faces in DRR work.

Unity Day 2017 Run



Photo Credit: Snapsmv

To commemorate Unity Day (26 December), Haa Dhaalu Branch organized a run for the community of Kulhudhuffushi. This event was aimed at raising awareness on the importance of being prepared for disasters and to invest in capacity building to build resilience, while at the same time promoting messages of living a healthy lifestyle.

179 individuals from different organizations and groups participated in the run. It is noteworthy that all the expenses of the event were sponsored by Dhiraagu while MRC’s Haa Dhaal Branch was able to raise funds for the branch community programmes, through registration fees for the event.



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

We work in the areas of Non-Communicable Diseases and Communicable Diseases prevention, epidemic preparedness, promoting healthy living, and support initiatives that ensure access to healthcare for vulnerable populations – PWDs, migrants, and the elderly.

Response to Increase in Respiratory Infections and Influenza

In March 2017, Maldives experienced an increase in respiratory infections and influenza virus. Following a national alert and heightened public concern, MRC worked to create public awareness during the outbreak in close coordination with the Health Protection Agency and other related stakeholders.

In MRC's work to ensure that the most vulnerable are reached during emergencies, communications materials ranging from flyers and videos were developed in Dhivehi, Bengali, Tamil, Malayalam, Nepali, Sinhala, Telugu, Filipino, and Mandarin, with the help of migrant volunteers, and were distributed to the public through outreach efforts in Branches. Volunteers across the country worked tirelessly to identify ways in which MRC could support, to disseminate essential information around prevention and to help with access to healthcare, especially for migrant populations

Five Branches of MRC – Haa Dhaalu, Male', Meemu, Gaafu Alif, and Seenu – actively responded during the outbreak by conducting door to door awareness activities, disseminating awareness information in shared public spaces, and visiting the homes and workplaces of migrants. A total of 161 volunteers, of which 17 were migrants, were mobilized in 5 branches, with an outreach of over 19,000 individuals, of which 5152 were migrants.

Through the mobilization of a diverse group of numerous volunteers, mrc was able to work across the nation by engaging directly with key health service providers such as ADK Hospital, Indira Gandhi Memorial Hospital, Kulhudhuffushi Regional Hospital, and the Ministry of Health.

OUTREACH OPERATION - MALE' BRANCH

The operation by Male' Branch during the influenza outbreak from 15th – 24th March, reached target groups by calling companies and institutions with migrant workers and the island councils to provide information in different languages through email or disseminating information over phone following the setting up of a call centre, and by recruiting migrant volunteers who provided key information to migrant workers through outreach activities.

A total of 68 volunteers, of which 12 were migrant volunteers, actively participated during the operation. The Outreach Centre was able to reach 98 companies, 61 islands, 92 resorts, and 51 island health facilities. Multi language IEC materials were emailed to 444 companies, 1 institution, 12 islands, 13 island health facilities, and 60 resorts.

A total number of 189 posters and 6796 flyers in multiple languages were distributed. The volunteers on the field provided information to 4573 migrant workers during the direct outreach.

The Prevention and Control of Influenza and Dengue in Maldives with WHO

Through MRC's ongoing efforts in epidemic preparedness, outreach activities were conducted to create awareness on dengue prevention with a focus on migrant population. As part of the Prevention and Control of Influenza and Dengue in Maldives Project, in partnership with the World Health Organisation in Maldives, Health Protection Agency, IFRC, and MRC's Branches conducted door to door awareness activities, dissemination of awareness information at public places, and awareness sessions to school students as well.

In addition, Branches also focused on elimination of mosquito breeding sites in communities to reduce the spread of vector borne diseases like dengue, and had conducted island level clean-up activities in partnership with local level stakeholders. The 5 month-long project was initiated following the H1N1 outbreak in March 2017 and ran from May-September 2017, with the goal of working towards contributing to the reduction of impacts of disease outbreaks and epidemics in communities in the Maldives.

Activities were implemented in 5 Branches including Haa Dhaalu, Male', Meemu, Gaafu Alif, and Seenu. A total of 278 volunteers were mobilized in 5 Branches reaching a total of 9192 direct individuals out of which 1050 were expatriates.

Dengue Awareness

"The work of the mrc volunteers during the dengue outbreak was exemplary. I saw volunteers all around the city, distributing leaflets or busy with door to door visits or even cleaning up programs. I am sure this might have to some extent given our community the knowledge to prevent dengue"

Haneefa



Epidemic Control for Volunteers Training

Epidemic Control for Volunteers trainings help prepare for epidemic outbreaks at local levels and builds the capacity of volunteers to rapidly and efficiently prevent and respond to epidemics and outbreaks.

Epidemic Control for Volunteers trainings were conducted in 5 Branches this year in Haa Dhaalu, Male', Meemu, Gaafu Alif, and Seenu Branches. The purpose of this training is to prepare volunteers for their roles in preparation and response to epidemics and disease outbreaks.

A total of 6 trainings were conducted in which total 81 volunteers completed the training.

First Aid Training for School Teachers

MRC with the Ministry of Education for the past two years has been working towards training teachers across the country.

In 2017, MRC trained 203 school teachers in 9 different islands, of which 37 were foreign teachers.



"I have been volunteering for MRC since 2015, on and off. I am so glad MRC offers informative trainings such as the ECV. This training gave me so much information which I hadn't been aware of before and now I can share this with my friends and family too.

I believe that I have gained a lot of knowledge through the ECV Training. The training surely did help me to know what epidemic is and how to be vigilant to health hazards. It helped me realize that there are actions that can be taken before an outbreak of epidemic. In other words, it's going to be a training which I can use where ever I am"

ECV trainee
Inasa Umar, HDh.branch

Psycho-Social Support Training of Trainers



MRC's Male' Branch's Psycho-Social Support Centre (PSS Centre) works towards developing knowledge, capacity, and resources in the line of PSS in order to provide sustainable services.

It also works towards establishing standards and guidelines, designing programmes, capacity development, crisis response and interventions, advocacy, and collaborating with relevant partners. A PSS Board acts as an oversight body with the support of mental health professionals, and community based PSS experts.

A Training of Trainers for Psychosocial Support for 24 volunteers from 4 Branches was held in 2017. The training aims to enhance the capacity of PSS Trainers and to design and deliver better interventions and programmatic activities.

Measles and Rubella Elimination Campaign



With the government's target for the Maldives to become one of the first countries in the region to achieve the World Health Organisation's goal of eliminating Measles by 2020, Ministry of Health with the support from who, started a mass vaccination campaign across the nation.

MRC mobilized its youth volunteers to conduct a nationwide vaccination campaign to reach out to children and youth under 25, especially those hard to reach. Mobile vaccination activities were carried out in various islands including Male' and Hulhumale'.

Maldives was recognized for eliminating Measles and Rubella in 2017, well ahead of the regional target of 2020.

Road Safety Week



Under the theme "Save lives - Slowdown" MRC participated in the national walk lead by the Ministry of Health and World Health Organisation in Maldives, to celebrate Road Safety Week.

MRC took part and presented a theatrical display on how to provide first aid to casualties with various types of injuries that may occur in road accidents.

1 First Aider per House Initiative



The training is very organized and I believe each and every one should know first aid. This training taught me how to give CPR, which is something I never heard of before. MRC is the right place to go if you want to learn first aid”

Rushdhan, Adh.Mahibadhoo

MRC, upon the request of the Alif Dhaalu Atoll Council, worked with the Island Council and the Atoll Hospital to train the community of Mahibadhoo in first aid. The objective was to have at least one person in every household who has first aid skills and knowledge. Over 100 participants successfully completed the trainings.

Should the activities under this project continue as planned, this will be a one-of-a-kind flagship project by having at least one person trained in first aid in each house across the Maldives, creating a more educated and better prepared society.

Our First Aid Outreach In 2017

320	Participants	Kaafu Atoll
75	Participants	Addu Atoll
46	Participants	Laamu Atoll
20	Participants	Faafu Atoll
77	Participants	Male'
12	Participants	Gnaviyani Atoll
16	Participants	Haa Dhaal Atoll
26	Participants	Gaafu Alifu Atoll

World Health Day – Let’s Talk



Dr.Mohamed Arif and our volunteer Sobira facilitating a Facebook Live event

The theme for 2017’s World Health Day was ‘Depression - Let’s Talk’.

In alignment with the theme and MRC’s role as advocates of good health and wellbeing, Male’ Branch organized flash mobs in 3 areas of Male’ targeted at raising awareness about mental health disorders, specifically depression. The event was organized and executed by a group of 17 volunteers.

Furthermore, a Facebook live event was organized in line with the theme of Depression. Dr. Arif Mohamed, renowned psychiatrist and the Chair of Psycho-Social Support Centre Board of Male Branch, conducted an informative Q&A session on mental health where Facebook users were able to interact and gain information in real time.

World Mental Health Day – Start the Conversation

World Mental Health Day was marked on October 10th with the theme ‘Mental Health in the Workplace’.

The Psycho-Social Center in coordination with MRC Male’ Branch conducted a number of activities. A notable activity was a second episode of the Facebook live series with Dr. Arif Mohamed focused on the theme. It was well received by the public and Dr.Arif was able to address key questions that were sent by the public.

Additionally, awareness sessions were held at the Maldives Police Service, National Social Protection Agency, and other departments of the Health Ministry on the topic of Mental Health in the Workplace.

Patient Transport Services

In 2014 MRC partnered with Universal Enterprises for a pilot programme of patient transport service in Malé. This pilot programme included transferring patients in emergencies (e.g.: heart attack, stroke) and for regular healthcare needs (e.g. for elderly, or patients needing dialysis treatment).

A unique feature of our service is that patients we assist are transferred from the bed-to-bed. This makes us stand out from other patient transfer services available, which assists patients from doorstep-to-doorstep. It is also noteworthy that all our staff and volunteers who aid this service are trained in first aid.

In 2017, the Patient Transport Service was further enhanced due to the utilization of a special patient transport Evac Chair that was donated to MRC.

Total 130 trips were completed by the Patient Transport Service last year.

One of our regular clients is Mr. Ahmed Hassan, who a few years back had a stroke which unfortunately left him paralyzed and in need of regular treatment. This meant a lot of hospital visits and reliance on the ambulance system. Fairooza, his daughter spoke to us about how they came to know about the Patient Transport Service.

“In 2015, when my father had completed his transplant surgery and came back, we were in need of a wheelchair and transportation which we could not find in male at the time needed. When asked for help from my brother, he said that Maldivian Red Crescent provides the service and gave us the contact. I think he had a friend who either worked or volunteered in Maldivian Red Crescent as I remember.”

Fairooza said she recommends the MRC Patient Transport Service to everyone who is in need to timely and quality service while suggesting that we expand our services by means of more ambulances and proper equipment to help.

“They are very patient and compassionate with my father always offering help and helping without tire not only for moving but with other simple tasks just to keep him happy and comfortable”

Fairooza



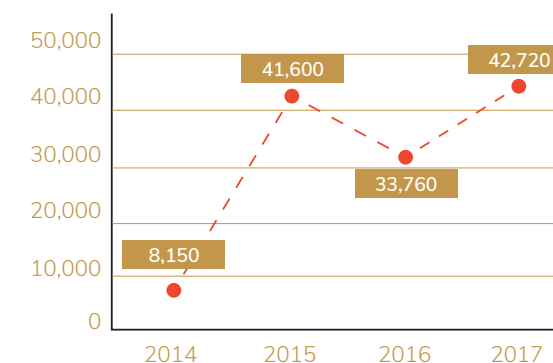
Numbers Speak

from 2014 till date

500+
patient transport trips

30+
emergency response trips

MVR
126,000+
in revenue





**SOCIAL
INCLUSION**

“Madhadhu”



The main objective of “Madhadhu” is to increase practices contributing to better social well-being and providing an avenue for the community to give back to those in need.

Under the pilot phase of project, 15 volunteers from Maldivian Red Crescent- Male’ Branch reached out to hospitalized elderly and senior citizens admitted in IGMH.

Through this hospital visit, volunteers spent time with the elderly and guided those who sought assistance in the hospital. 1050 individuals were assisted in accessing hospital services.

“On 10th December I was volunteering for Maldivian Red Crescent (Madhadhu Programme) at Indira Gandhi Memorial Hospital. Madhadhu Programme is basically about helping and directing the public who go to IGMH for treatment. I had lots of situations people ask for help, but the most significant incident was with a disabled person with his very old father. His father could barely walk and was holding his shoulder. They went to X-ray room and was waiting at the door. They thought that the door was automatic. When the door did not open the disabled boy knocked the door several times.

However, no one responded to him. I quickly, went and opened the door for them. I felt amazing when there thank me for this small gesture. It felt so amazing.”

Rifshaan Ali, **Volunteer**



“Villijoali”



Villijoali is a community engagement tool of the Villimale’ Unit of MRC Male’ Branch; toward an inclusive, resilient and caring community in Villimale’.

The activities of Villijoali were launched on August 19, 2016. Since then volunteers of Villijoali have engaged with the community of Villimale’ every Friday afternoon.

The activities which started as a conversation with the elderly, the socially and physically challenged, youth, and expatriates have branched into various segments including Haalukihiney, Villijoali Career Support, KulhiSamaa, Magey Veshi with Save the Beach Maldives, Furathama Ehee, and Maruhabaa. Each segment has a specific social

objective such as Kulhi Samaa being aimed at encouraging inclusion through fun and sports and Magey Veshi aimed at promoting environmental awareness and individual responsibility.

Villijoali also organized sign language classes for 26 individuals including volunteers and members from the Villimale community. One of the remarkable results of Villijoali initiative is that it has empowered vulnerable groups such as PWDs, elderly and youth to become agents of change and actively volunteer in the branch to further propel the initiatives.

Senior Citizen's Day 2017



MRC's Seenu Branch partnered in an event organized by the Maldives Pension Office to mark Senior Citizen's Day in Addu.

Volunteers spent time engaging with the elderly population through various activities held throughout the day in addition to providing assistance in escorting the elderly to the venue and back home after the event.

Humanitarian Festival 2017



To celebrate World Humanitarian Day, Male' Branch organized a Humanitarian Festival with the objectives of promoting MRC's values, programs, encouraging more people to participate in and contribute to humanitarian work, building partnerships and promoting the 7 Fundamental Principles.

The event was also an opportunity to recruit new volunteers and mobilize volunteers to engage in the event. Partners such as UNDP in Maldives, Society for Health Education, Diabetes Association of Maldives, Hulhumale' Hospital, Rotaract Club of Male', Little Gems Preschool, and Family Protection Authority had many activities in the respective lines of work.



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND VOLUNTEERISM

Youth Camp 2017



MRC Seenu Branch held a Youth Camp for 18 young people from Addu City, between the ages of 15-20.

The aim of the camp was to promote awareness among youth about social issues and promoting leadership and life skills among young people.

It was also an excellent platform to introduce the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement to the youth and to encourage them to actively volunteer and take part in activities of the MRC.

The Camp was carried out in partnership with Equator Village.

Nomination of Member to South Asia Youth Network

The South Asia Youth Network, a part of the Asia Pacific Youth Network is a platform that allows for youth volunteers across the South Asian National Societies to work together foster youth action in the Movement.

Ahmed Milsan from Seenu Branch is the nominated member from Maldives.



“The Youth camp was a life changing event indeed. This Camp taught me many things in a happy and pleasant environment. I was impressed with the way so many activities were packed into four days in a way which was never tiring. Both the theory classes and practical ones forced my brain to work to its maximum potential and I fell in love with MRC and the Movement with every related class.

The camp improved my set of interpersonal and personal skills, but it also opened my eyes to a lot of things such as the actual act of volunteerism and the opportunities I have. I would strongly recommend this camp to anyone who is looking out for learning how to be a better person, a better citizen while having lots of fun.”

Akmal

Meet Our Volunteers



Aishath Haulath, Seenu Branch

“I started volunteering with MRC in September 2016. To date I have participated in Emergency Reponse Team, Standard First Aid, and Epidemic Control for Volunteers trainings. After joining MRC, I have been contributing my knowledge and expertise that I have gained, in other trainings. I always try to be available for MRC.

My hope is that the community will become more aware and have less stigmas about the vulnerable groups in the community. And for the youth to be active citizens concerned about the society and driven to bring a change.”



Ruweysha Nashyd, Male’ Branch

“Serving humanity has always been my dream. Helping out in anyway has its sense of fulfillment and satisfaction that keeps my mind and soul healthy. Hence, by volunteering at MRC, I help out and give my part to the society, in hopes of making it a better place for all of us.”



Ibrahim Mohamed, Hdh.Branch

“I started volunteering for MRC on 12th December 2015, to pass time after completing O’levels. It has become so much more meaningful since.

I have been volunteering continuously ever since and it has been 2 years now.

I have achieved the Platinum Volunteer Award and I aim for more!”

Hear From Our Interns Of 2017



“I consider Maldives as my home as I came here when I was 5 years old and loved the beauty of the country. One of my very first experiences here that remains vivid in my memory even today is the post Tsunami scenario. Seeing the scale of damage caused affecting houses and families, I felt helpless and distraught. Even at the young age of 6, I wished that there was more I could do to help in that situation and the aftermath caused.

Interning with the Maldivian Red Crescent gave me the opportunity to understand and get involved with something entirely different from a corporate workplace. Beyond learning, I have been able to meet and work alongside some really great people and I am so thankful to everyone that has been a part of my journey here. I am grateful that I had this opportunity to be with Maldivian Red Crescent. Having completed my internship here, I know one thing for sure; I most definitely wish to be back here, be it as a volunteer, a member, or as an employee”

Vidhushi Faujdar, Intern

“When I finalized I was coming back to Maldives for my internship, my heart was set on interning in MRC. Here I am today, almost at the end of my 7 months short internship. I am glad I reached out, and MRC decided to give me this opportunity to join their wonderful team.

I reflect on the reasons why I wanted to become part of this team. I wanted to work closely with the communities, put the theories I have learnt in disaster management to test and grow as an individual. I strongly believe I have gotten more than I bargained for from MRC”

Izdhiha Rushdhy,
Disaster Management Intern





RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Commercial First Aid



The Commercial First Aid Programme, which aims to increase the sustainability of the National Society through strengthening its internal resource generation capacities conducted a total of 45 trainings earning an income of MVR 623 355.

A total of 680 participants were trained in first aid achieving a total of 422 hours of trainings. In addition, by the end of 2017, a total of 15 new clients have joined the Commercial First Aid client pool.

Additionally, 56 volunteers from Male' Branch were mobilized for first aid service provision in 48 instances in 2017.



PARTNERSHIPS



Ali Fulhu Thuthu Foundation

With the support of The Ali Fulhu Thuthu Foundation, MRC was able to provide 2 water pump systems for flood drainage in Haa Dhaalu Kulhudhuffushi and Haa Dhaalu Nolhivaram. The grant was obtained following a successful submission to a call for proposals by AFTF.

The MNDF Fire and Rescue Services will train MRC's Emergency Response Team members and other interested people in the communities to use the pumps and it is expected that these water pumps would benefit a total of 8000 people from both communities.

Additionally, the AFTF also provided support towards the MRC's response activities during the H1N1 outbreak.

Partnership with WAMCO

Male' Branch – Villimale initiated a partnership with WAMCO on 18 January 2017 to collaborate and raise awareness on better waste management practices in the Villingili community under Villijoali Programme.

Partnership with Ministry of Islamic Affairs

Upon request by the Ministry of Islamic Affairs to arrange funeral transportation service, MRC operated a 24-hour service between Hulhumale' jetty to the Hulhumale' Cemetery with the support of two paid staff and a wider volunteer pool that included drivers and assistants.

Although the initiative ended within 3 months, we built the capacity of MRC to operate a dead body transport service that would put forward dignity of the deceased and wellbeing of the grieving family members. MRC is looking to build upon this and start working with hospitals to start a dignified transportation of deceased service.

Partnership with Universal Foundation

We continued our partnership with Universal Enterprises on Patient Transport Service by Male' Branch. The service includes transferring patients in emergencies (e.g.: heart attack, stroke) and for regular healthcare needs (e.g. for elderly, or patients needing dialysis treatment).

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Partners

Key programmes were carried out with the support and partnerships within the Red Cross Movement. This includes the Partnership Agreement with the ICRC towards organizational and ICRC related programmatic support, partnership with IFRC on programmatic areas such as Health and Disaster Risk Reduction and with the Canadian Red Cross on Organizational and Branch Development.

Partnership with UN Agencies

Last year we continued important partnerships with UN country offices in Maldives such as WHO, UNICEF, and UNDP.

With WHO, we were implementing partners of a 5 month-long project on Prevention of Dengue and Influenza in the Maldives. The goal of this project was to contribute to the reduction of impacts of disease outbreaks and epidemics in communities in the Maldives.

With UNDP, MRC was involved as a technical consulting partner in the process of conducting Tsunami Drills and selected communities across Maldives.



GOVERNANCE AND SPECIAL EVENTS

9th General Assembly



The 9th General Assembly was held on 29th April 2017 and a total of 45 members attended from nine Branches.

For the first time since its formation MRC adopted revisions to the Statutes and Rules of Procedure. IFRC's Head of Country Cluster Support Team Mr Leon Prop, Mr Jeremy Blaise Ronald England, Head of Regional Delegation, Mr. Alex Atetwe Munai, Cooperation Coordinator, Mr. Sebastien Bole Besancon, Protection Coordinator, from ICRC attended the General Assembly as observers.

Statutory Meeting 2017



MRC President and Mr. Ali Nashid, Mrs. Aishath Noora Mohamed and President of the IFRC Mr Francesco Rocco

The Statutory Meetings 2017 of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement was held in Antalya, Turkey from 5 to 11 November 2017. A total of 188 National Societies participated in the Statutory Meetings with a total of 923 delegates representing the National Societies.

The President, Mr. Ali Nashid, Secretary General, Mrs. Aishath Noora Mohamed and Manager – Office & Governance Affairs Mrs. Fathimath Himya attended the meeting on behalf of Maldivian Red Crescent.

The delegation also attended the South Asia Leaders Meeting at which the leadership discussed on further corporation and collaboration between national societies of the region. During the Statutory Meeting of 2017 Mr Francesco Rocco was elected as the new President of the IFRC, and the delegation of MRC met with the newly elected President prior to departure.

In addition, to the Statutory Meeting the Secretary General was one of the panelists in the panel discussion held to kick off the World Disaster Report 2017 – 2018 consultation. In the RC2 Forum, Maldivian Red Crescent co-facilitated a session with Australian Red Cross on migration, with the title 'Are We Reaching Our Potential?'

Governing Board

A total of 6 Governing Board meetings were held during the year 2017.

During the 9th General Assembly of MRC Mr Ali Nashid was re-elected as President along with Mr Arif Rasheed and Mr Abdul Raheem Abdul Nashid who were re-elected to the posts of Governing Board Member Male' Region and North Region.

Mr Moosa Aboobakuru was elected as a new member to the Governing Board – North Region as well.

In addition the Governing Board includes First Vice President Mr. Ahmed Nijah, Second Vice President Mr. Shaheeb Abdul Azeez, Treasurer Mr. Abdul Haleem Abdul Latheef, Youth Member Mr. Moosa Shifaz, South Region Members Mr. Mohamed Shiyam and Mr. Ibrahim Jameel, and Government Member Ms. Mariyam Jenifa.

Throughout the year the Governing Board formed three subcommittees which overlooked the work in migrant health, Statutes Revision and usage of land of MRC in Hulhumale'.



Ali Nashid
President

Ahmed Nijah
First Vice President



Shaheeb Abdul Azeez
Second Vice President



Abdul Haleem Abdul Latheef
Treasurer



Abdul Raheem Abdul Nashid
Governing Board Member
(North Region)



Moosa Aboobakuru
Governing Board Member
(North Region)



Arif Rasheed
Governing Board Member
(Male')



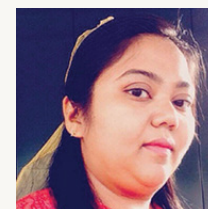
Ibrahim Jameel
Governing Board Member
(South Region)



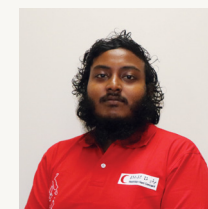
Mohamed Shiyam
Governing Board Member
(South Region)



Mariyam Jenifa
Government Member



Moosa Shifaz
Youth Member



Regional Meeting on Health and Migration by IFRC in Tandem with Asia Pacific Migration Network’s General Assembly



The 2017 Regional Migration Meeting was attended by Secretary General Aishath Noora Mohamed and Arif Rasheed, Governing Board Member and member of the Sub-committee on Migrant Health. It was focused on Health and Social Care for Migrants, and was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 6-7 June 2017. The event aimed to highlight the work of National Societies in this area, including providing basic and emergency health care, referral pathways, first aid, and Psycho-Social Support.

The Regional Meeting brought together 71 participants, from 26 National Societies, including 18 National Societies from the Asia Pacific region. At the meeting, IFRC confirmed that migration and health is a key priority for the Asia Pacific, and the APMN agreed to establish a migration and health working group to follow up with this work.

MRC (represented by the Secretary General) was elected as co-chair of the APMN, along with Australian Red Cross, in the Annual General Meeting that followed.

Restoring Family Links Regional Meeting Held in Bangkok, Thailand

In November, Communications and Resource Mobilization Manager participated in the Restoring Family Links Regional Meeting held in Bangkok, Thailand.

The meeting reiterated the specific responsibility of National Societies and the ICRC in RFL, underlining the unique position of the Movement to carry out this work and recalling the importance for the Movement of relying on a sound international Red Cross and Red Crescent network in order to take effective RFL action.

Bhutan Red Cross Visit to Maldivian Red Crescent

A delegation from Bhutan Red Cross visited the Maldivian Red Crescent from 7 to 10 February 2017. Bhutan Red Cross is currently the youngest national society working towards formal recognition.

The main purpose of the trip was to discuss the achievements and challenges faced by MRC starting from the formation process through its eight years of existence.

In addition, MRC shared its expertise in the areas of governance and programs and services with the delegation. The delegation also visited Male’ Branch to discuss the programs and activities being implemented by the Branch.



CAPACITY BUILDING

International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law



The ICRC supports the teaching of humanitarian law and principles, promoting respect for the life and dignity of people affected by conflict and violence, and also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles. As such, trainings on International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law were conducted for 45 officers of the MNDF and MPS in November 2017.

Public Health in Emergency Level B Training

Mariyam Ifshan, Health Officer, represented MRC at the Public Health in Emergency – Level B Training workshop organized by IFRC.

This 6 day workshop was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, focused on developing and accessing competencies indicate the knowledge, skills and behaviors that a Red Cross Red Crescent delegate must demonstrate in an emergency health response.

Cash Transfer Programming (CTP) Training

Manager – Admin & Finance, Azlifa Abdul Azeez and Admin & Finance Officer Aishath Nasra participated in the Cash Transfer Programming (CTP) training held in Sri Lanka conducted by IFRC in collaboration with Sri Lankan Red Cross from 17 – 21 July 2017.

LEAP Training

Manager – Office & Governance Affairs, Fathimath Himya and Manager - Programmes and Services, Khadeeja Naseem attended the Leaders Emerging from the Asia Pacific, which was held from 6 to 17 March 2017 in Melbourne, Australia.

The primary purpose of the LEAP training programme was to equip programme staff and management from National Societies with a range of skills so they can more effectively lead and manage programmes and service delivery.

The secondary focus was to foster a culture of learning and knowledge exchange throughout the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement through peer to peer experience sharing.

Asia Pacific Regional Training for Psycho-Social Support in National Emergencies, Hong Kong



Ms. Afaa Mohamed, Male' Branch - Psychosocial Support Center volunteer took part and represented Maldivian Red Crescent in Asia Pacific Regional Training - Psychosocial Support in National Emergencies, and Psychosocial Support Exchange Workshop, Hong Kong.

South Asia Teaching Sessions on International Humanitarian Law

First Aid Officer Masha Miduhath and First Aid and Logistics Officer Mohamed Adeel participated in the South Asia Teaching Session (SATS) on International Humanitarian Law organized by ICRC.

Youth as Agents of Behavioral Change Training, New Zealand

MRC Volunteer, Maaha Madeeh participated as a facilitator in the YABC Training held in New Zealand. YABC or Youth as Agents of Behavioral Change is the IFRCs flagship initiative on the promotion of a culture of non-violence and peace; seeking to empower individuals to take up an ethical leadership role in their community.

At the training, Maaha was able to familiarize participants with the YABC initiative; in particular, the peer-to-peer learning approach and materials in the toolkit to enable them to use it to promote a culture of non-violence and peace among diverse target audiences in their daily life and work.

Healthy Ageing Training of Trainers, India

Shafna Ahmed and Shirda Ali from Seenu Branch attended the Healthy Ageing Training of Trainers in India last year. It was organized by Indian Red Cross Society supported by IFRC. Maldives, India, and Srilanka were the National Societies who took part in the training which was conducted from 27th to 29th April 2017, in Ahmedabad, India.

The training was focused on nine areas, which can be adapted by the National Societies to teach about a life course approach to community members of all ages. The main areas covered are Non-Communicable Diseases, risk factors such as falls, and social isolation as well as tools which provide guidance and activities to help pursue healthier lives and enable active ageing with dignity and better quality of life.

Women's Leadership Training, Japan

Disaster Management Officer, Sonath Abdul Sattar participated in the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Women's Leadership in Tsunami-based Disaster Risk Reduction Training Programme held in Japan in November. It was attended by 26 senior female participants, selected from 14 Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The participants also included the Director General of National Disaster Management Center of Maldives, Sofeenaz Hassan.

One of the highlights of the programme were the study tours, which did an excellent job connecting the content of the training with practical examples in Japan. In Sendai, participants visited Ishinomaki City, a town that had been devastated by the 2011 tsunami.

While in Wakayama Prefecture, study tours included observing disaster drills at Fujitodai Elementary School, Hirokawa Nakayoshi Kindergarten, and a Tonen General Oil refinery plant, allowing participants to see how various community groups approach disaster preparation.



MRC President Mr. Ali Nashid and IFRC's Asia Pacific Regional Director Mr. Xavier Castellanos



New MRC National Headquarters

The MRC's new National Headquarters was inaugurated in Hulhumale' in September 2017.

The MRC purchased a plot of land in Hulhumale' 5,359.03 square feet large, at a highly subsidized rate for the construction of the National Headquarters building. The relocation to an owned building was a step towards lowering budget constraints for core operational costs and would create new income streams through the rent and lease of spaces in the building. Funds for purchasing the plot and the subsequent construction for the first phase were secured through IFRC.

The design work of the 4 storey building was done by a local Architect Mr. Mohamed Shifaau. We finished the construction of the HQ building in 1069.82 sqft of the land plot. The contractor for the construction of the building was Inoca Pvt. Ltd following a successful bidding.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Annual Audit 2017

NOTE: The complete audited consolidated financial statements of the Maldivian Red Crescent for the Fiscal Year 2017 may be obtained online.

The accounts for the year 2017 were audited by Ernst & Young Global Limited. The financial statements of MRC for the period ending 31 December 2017 were prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard.

MRC's activities were mainly funded through both local and international donors. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) fully supported MRC's building construction project. Other donors such as International Committee of Red Cross and Partner National Societies Canadian Red Cross and Australian Red Cross also supported towards the overall organizational capacity building and strengthening of governance support.

Total income for the year 2017 is MVR 15,173,509 and expenses are at MVR 9,581,161 resulting in an income over

expenditure amounting to MVR 5,592,348 for the year-end. MRC holds total assets worth of MVR 17,059,796 of which MVR 12,639,298 is Non – Current Assets. Current Assets stands at MVR 4,420,498 of which 58.85% are unexpended advances received from donors. Thus, because of these unexpended funds MRC's current liabilities stand at MVR 3,172,022. The reserves of Maldivian Red Crescent stand at MVR 13,887,774 at the end of the year 2017.

Sources of Financial Support

Maldivian Red Crescent operating funds comes from three main funding sources; membership fees, revenue from products and services and other sources. Total MRC operating revenues for fiscal year 2017 were MVR 1,262,574. Total operating expenses were MVR 2,103,534. Net assets were MVR 17,059,796.

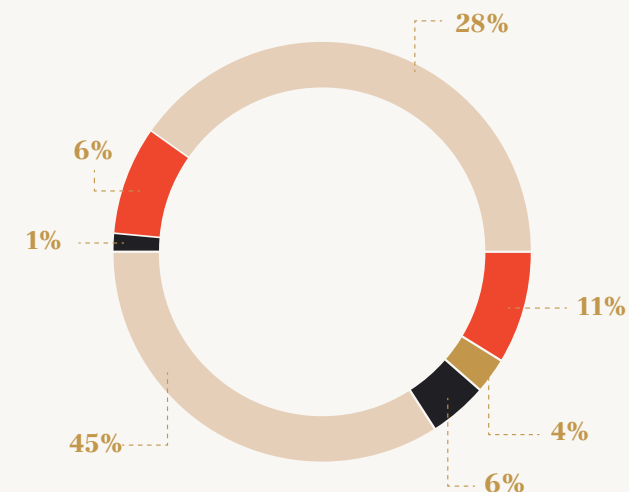
Operating Revenues & Gains

Contributions

MVR 16,456
subscription income

MVR 92,157
individual giving

MVR 445,510
donated materials and services



MVR 722,429
commercial FA

MVR 97,577
project income

MVR 58,320
MRC Patient Transport Service

MVR 183,469
other

Products & Services

Total
MVR 1,615,927 million

Finance Comission

Finance Commission comprises of five to seven independent non – executive members including the Treasurer of Maldivian Red Crescent. The mandate of Finance Commission is to advise on all financial matters concerning the Maldivian Red Crescent and assist the Governing Board in applying and implementing the decisions on the financial management of the Maldivian Red Crescent.

Finance Commission members are appointed by the Governing Board, taking into consideration the members of Finance Commission should have sound knowledge of accounting and financial management.

Annually, the Finance Commission provides advise during the preparation of the annual plan and budget, and the presentation of the financial reports of MRC. The Finance Commission also reviews the Budget and Plan and provides their recommendations

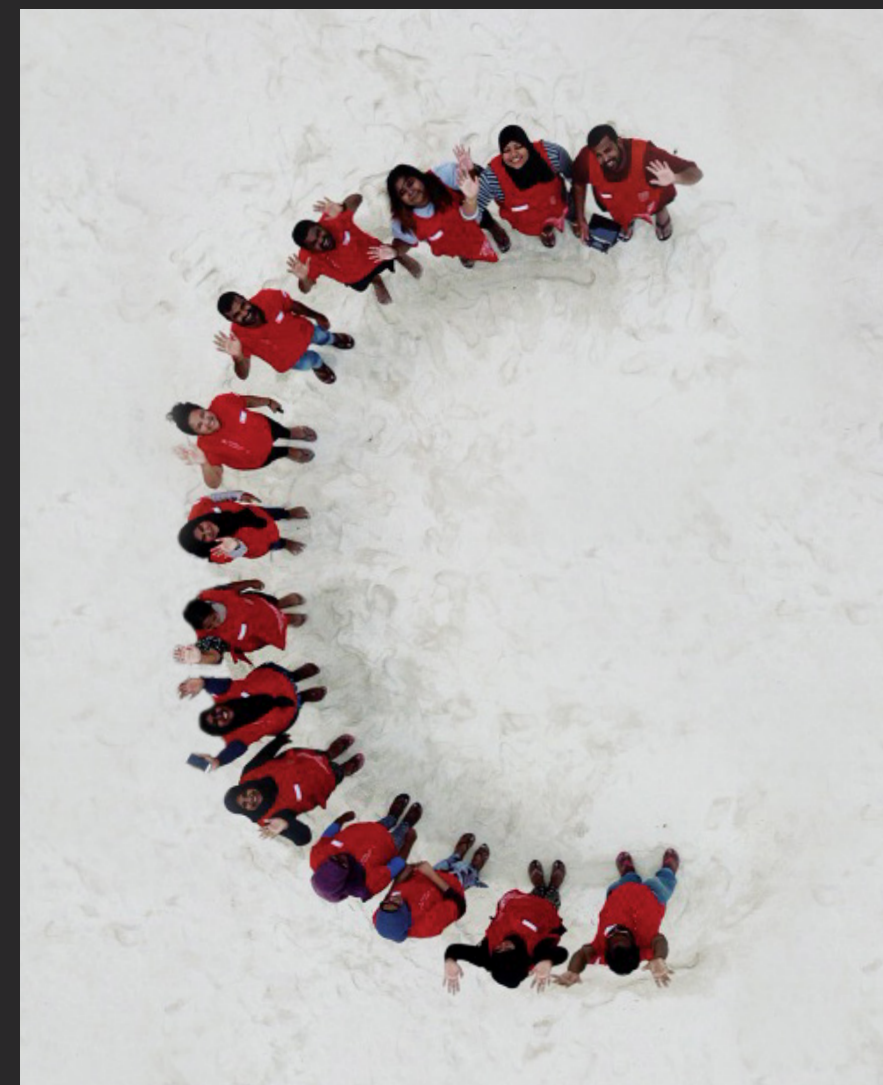
to the Management and the Governing Board before it is finalized by the Governing Board. The Finance Commission also reviews audit reports, and provides their feedback to Management and the Governing Board on areas to improve in strengthening financial accountability.

In 2017 the Finance Commission met four times. The members of the Finance Commission in 2017 were;

1. Abdul Haleem Abdul Latheef
(Treasurer and Chair)
2. Ilyas Haneef
3. Abdulla Nisam
4. Mohamed Mashud
5. Ahmed Aslam
6. Mohamed Shahudh
7. Fareeha Shareef

Our Staff Team

The Maldivian Red Crescent had 13 staff as of December 2017.



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Maldivian Red Crescent

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Impartiality
Neutrality
Independence
Volunteer Service
Unity
Universality