



**Malteser
International**
Order of Malta Worldwide Relief



Malteser International Activity Report 2010

Editorial



Nicolas de Cock de Rameyen

Imagine we are in 2020 and you are asked about your memories of 2010. I am sure that we will all think of Haiti, the Caribbean country shaken by an enormous earthquake that killed so many people and destroyed so many belongings, infrastructure and also personal dreams. Hopefully, we will also think of the chance Haiti took out of this earthquake and the country's development in the following years. Perhaps we will also think of the floods in Pakistan that affected an unimaginable number of people. For some of them, it was the fourth natural disaster they underwent in their life. Just imagine losing almost everything you have for the fourth time, just saving your life! Let's hope that the next decade will be a peaceful one for Pakistan.

So many other major and minor disasters have occurred in 2010 or just continued as chronic emergencies where people never find a peaceful living. Malteser International has also reacted after the severe earthquake in Chile and to numerous other emergencies while at the same time preparing people for future disasters and alleviating their daily suffering in line with the Millennium Development Goals (<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals>).

This Activity Report gives you exemplary spotlights on Malteser International's work in 2010 with information about the disasters we responded to, new projects we started and - of course - about the impact of our work. Our Annual Report which will contain more of 2010 and also serve the financial accountability and transparency will be released by summer 2011.

In 2011, we will continue our humanitarian work in Haiti and Pakistan with the aim of linking the emergency relief phase and the efforts in early recovery to a development perspective. In Africa, we will consolidate our programmes in East and Central Africa with a focus on health care, nutrition and infrastructure; the tasks are as diverse as the people's needs. In Asia, we will enhance the number of projects on disasters risk reduction and consequently integrate this issue into other projects. It is our aim to respond quickly to emerging needs, to further develop our approaches and thus always better fulfil our mission to alleviate human suffering.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to everybody who supports our work and contributes to its success. So many of you have a share in our humanitarian mission and we are sure that it won't be forgotten but rewarded some time. Together, let us continue to work for the well-being of the vulnerable and marginalised to live a healthy life with dignity!

Cologne, December 2010

Nicolas de Cock de Rameyen
President

Contents

Relief, Reconstruction and Rehabilitation

Spotlights on Pakistan, Haiti, Chile, Myanmar, China, DR Congo, Mexico, Thailand, Vietnam

Health and Nutrition

Spotlights on South Sudan, DR Congo, Cambodia, Kenya, Mexico, Pakistan

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Spotlights on Sri Lanka, Haiti, Vietnam

Livelihood and Social Programmes

Spotlights on Peru, India, Philippines

Disaster Risk Reduction

Spotlights on India, Myanmar, Indonesia, Pakistan, Vietnam

Networks of support

Miscellaneous

Pictures

Imprint

Responsible for Content: Ingo Radtke
Editorial Team: Petra Ipp-Zavazal, Julia Kost, Christine Prokopf, Lisa Schönmeier
Layout: Christine Prokopf

Malteser International Headquarters
Kalker Hauptstraße 22-24, 51103 Köln
Phone: +49 221 98 22 151
Fax: +49 221 98 22 179
E-Mail: info@malteser-international.org
Internet: www.malteser-international.org

Résumé 2010

In 2010, Malteser International has supported and implemented projects in 20 countries in Africa, Asia and the Americas. About 40 employees at the headquarters in Cologne/Germany and around 80 expatriates as well as over 900 local staff work in more than 100 projects and programmes. Malteser International's mission is to alleviate human suffering. It supports the vulnerable and marginalised to live a healthy life with dignity.



Relief, Reconstruction and Rehabilitation



In the aftermath of war, natural disaster or following a particular crisis, Malteser International responds to the fundamental needs of the affected population. In these early stages, the focus is upon helping people with basic survival. After the basic needs have been met, our aim is to further reduce vulnerability and to support the affected communities with sustainable reconstruction and rehabilitation programmes promoting development perspectives.

The year 2010 was marked by two major emergencies, the earthquake in Haiti and the monsoon floods in Pakistan. Malteser International also supported the emergency relief of the Chilean Association of the Order of Malta and its relief service after the earthquake, got active after the cyclones and floods in Vietnam and Myanmar and the hurricane in Mexico and reacted to emergencies in India and DR Congo within the framework of its existing projects.

Pakistan: Relief for a disaster prone population

It was the heaviest flooding since recordkeeping began: The monsoon floods that started in late July have affected 20 million people from north to south along the Indus river system. Meanwhile, the waters have receded from most parts of the country; however, several million people are still in need of humanitarian aid.

Malteser International is working in two provinces. In Khyber Paktunkhwa in the districts of Swat and Kohistan, drinking water, food and other relief items were distributed to the most affected people. Furthermore, mobile and stationary medical teams are treating mainly diarrhoea, respiratory infections and skin diseases. They continue to support the public health system. In Punjab, in the south of Pakistan, mo-

bile medical teams are providing treatment as numerous health facilities were damaged by the floods. In addition, water treatment plants were installed and water filters are distributed to people living in temporary shelters.

Preparations for the winter

To prepare the most affected people in Kohistan for the winter, 3,500 people living in the Himalayas on up to 3,000 meters altitude receive emergency shelters that are designed especially for the high mountains. 20 villages receive motor-driven flour mills to grind the autumn harvest that they were still able to crop. In spring, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities will start with a focus on the north: Canals, irrigation systems and fields will be rehabilitated mainly by people from the affected areas (cash for work), seeds will be distributed and damaged or destroyed health facilities and schools will be renovated or reconstructed. In Punjab, new wells, hand pumps and latrines shall be provided.

Outlook

The reconstruction in Pakistan



Clean drinking water and sanitation facilities are crucial to avoid diseases like cholera. In Pakistan, an epidemic had been prevented also thanks to Malteser International's preventive measures.

will take several years. As Pakistan is prone to natural disasters like earthquakes and floods, it will also be an important part of Malteser International's future efforts to prepare communities for disasters - for example by first aid and search and rescue trainings - and to minimise the risks they face by early warning systems. The relief service will also focus on improvements in the primary health care system since the health indicators in particular for women and children are getting worse.



Grateful for the treatment: girl in the Swat Valley. Photo: Stefan Trappe/ADH

Haiti: Joining hands for the earthquake affected

The earthquake that hit Haiti on 12 January 2010 measured 7.0 on the Richter scale and lasted 60 seconds - 60 seconds which cost innumerable lives and destroyed buildings, streets, and dreams. 230,000 people died, about 300,000 were injured, leaving more than one million homeless, and millions of cubic meters of debris – the shocking results of one of the severest natural disasters of the 21st century.

Even before the catastrophic earthquake, Haiti was struggling with massive problems. It quickly became clear that immediate disaster relief could not be the only response. Long-term support for the country is needed – a fundamental precondition for effective aid. Rehabilitation is not restricted to re-establishing conditions before the earthquake struck, but aims at improving living standards in general.

„My strongest impression during the whole stay was the attitude of dignity and gratitude among the majority of the population.“

François Blin (Ordre de Malte France), member of Malteser International's Haiti assessment team



Sanitation is dignity

Like many children, Lisette and her younger brother Kevin have duties in the family household: They have to fetch the water from the supply site and bring it to their family's tent nearby. But what a wonderful opportunity to use the public showers that Malteser International and Arche noVa have constructed in Petit Goâve!



A sign of hope in the middle of destruction: Sulottea Valcin Amilcar, nurse from the Cuban association of the Order of Malta, with a newborn in January 2010.

Emergency relief

Within days of the disaster, the first Malteser volunteers were on the ground to provide immediate emergency relief. Medical treatment of the injured was the highest priority for them working in Port-au-Prince and in cooperation with the intact hospital in Milot, in the north which the Order of Malta had been supporting for over 15 years. In the district of Léogâne, epicentre of the earthquake, Malteser International set up two healthcare facilities for medical treatment. To reach out to the people in the surrounding villages as well, mobile teams were deployed.

Distributions

In cooperation with local partners, Malteser International distributed goods necessary for survival, inter alia hygiene kits, water containers, water purification tabs, tarpaulins, blankets, mosquito nets and food rations. Malteser International and its partners also provided people with clean water in Léogâne and Petit Goâve.

Long-term relief for Haiti

Constructing schools and sanitation facilities, training communities for future disasters, conducting hygiene awareness campaigns — currently, Malteser International's work in Haiti is manifold. It is covering all main ar-

reas of activity the relief service of the Order of Malta focuses on: reconstruction and rehabilitation, health and nutrition, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) as well as disaster risk reduction. To learn more about our current and future projects in Haiti, please read the brochure „Haiti – one year after the earthquake“ that can be ordered at Malteser International Headquarters via info@malteser-international.org or downloaded from January 2010 via www.malteser-international.org.

„Many of the patients were also given psychological support sessions by trained counsellors. I will never forget overhearing a beautiful young woman who had lost her leg and who was being asked whether she felt ugly. Her answer was a very clear and proud 'no'.“

Marina Moll, head of the volunteer team of the Italian relief service of the Order of Malta (CISOM)

Health in progress

Linking relief, early recovery, rehabilitation and development is a core objective for Malteser International. It is – for example - illustrated by our work in the health sector in Haiti: Whereas the first months were characterised by emergency medical aid by volunteers, the health care now concentrates on Darbonne region where the needs can not yet be covered by the re-emerging health system. Local staff is working for Malteser International, thereby getting qualified. In the future, the work will concentrate on the disaster preparedness of the health system also drawing on community participation for example by community health workers.



David Navarro, representative of the fishermen in Tubul, shows the destructions.

Chile: Earthquake and tsunami

On 27 February, an earthquake with a magnitude of 8.8 on the Richter scale struck off the Chilean coast with the epicentre 115 km north-east of Concepción and 325 km south-west of Santiago. The earthquake as well as the following tsunami claimed almost 500 lives and left about 500,000 people homeless. Only a few days after the quake Malteser International together with the Chilean Association of the Order of

Malta and the Chilean relief service Auxilio Maltés started to distribute clothes, blankets, food and water treatment tablets to about 1,000 severely affected people.

Rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes are now inter alia implemented in Chépica with a Mercado Maltés for small-scale entrepreneurs, and in Tubul, where fishermen and sea shell divers had lost their boats and almost their whole equipment.

Myanmar: Floods and a cyclone

This year, Myanmar had to face two major natural disasters. In June, heavy rainfalls resulted in severe flooding and landslides in Northern Rakhine State and led to the destruction of homes, roads, bridges, schools and significant areas of farmland, affecting 29,000 families with 68 confirmed deaths. On 22 October, cyclone Giri hit Rakhine State with up to 177 km/h wind speed and caused waves of up to four meters height. 70,000 people lost

their homes.

Malteser International provided emergency relief with food and relief items and rehabilitates destroyed water and sanitation facilities. Giri also proved the value of Malteser International's community based disaster risk reduction project in Rakhine State: After a radio cyclone warning, the trained village committees evacuated their fellow citizens to the recently rehabilitated cyclone-proof evacuation centres.



Emergency relief activities target especially the most vulnerable people in the community.

What's more....

DR Congo

In July, a tanker truck hauling fuel overturned in Sange, a small town in the province of South Kivu and later exploded into a fireball. 232 people were killed, another 212 people were seriously burned and had to be evacuated by helicopters and ambulances to Bukavu and Uvira. Many of the injured did not survive their blessings whilst many others now have to fight traumata as they got injured, lost family members or friends or saw the bulk of death and suffering. Malteser International could – with financial support of ECHO - quickly start to care for the traumatised in collaboration with the referral psychiatric clinic in South Kivu already supported by Malteser International as the relief service of the Order of Malta is already running a programme for psychosocial care for several years in the region.

Mexico

In mid-September hurricane Karl struck the southern Mexican state of Veracruz and destroyed wide stretches of land. More than 150,000 people had to be evacuated. The Mexican association of the Order of Malta provided medical emergency relief in the areas that had been hit hardest. The association thereby

cooperated with the regional Caritas and is financially supported by Malteser International. The relief measures taken include the distribution of medicines and other medical supplies to health care centres and the deployment of mobile medical teams that also provide treatment for people living in remote areas of the country.

Thailand



Water is a source of conflict in the north of Thailand.

On the boarder between Thailand and Myanmar, unrecognised refugees have been facing a life under difficult conditions for many years. Malteser International is active in this forgotten crisis with the provision of basic health care services as well as water and sanitation facilities. To enhance the selfhelp potential and water management capacities of

the refugees from Myanmar and the surrounding Thai villages, Malteser International has enlarged its WASH projects to these communities and encourages a common governance of the water sources.

Vietnam

In the first half of 2010, Malteser International provided humanitarian aid to people in five districts in Quang Nam province affected by typhoon Ketsana. Malteser International distributed 20 kg of rice to 7,000 families each, 7,400 hygiene kits and 7,400 80 litre water containers, 60 m² corrugated iron sheet to 660 households each and rice and peanut seeds as well as banana saplings to 5,000 farmer households. Additionally, the relief service of the Order of Malta organised trainings in roof strengthening for 48 technically skilled persons and 548 families as well as trainings in hygiene and water treatment for 100 community health workers.

China

A home for elderly that had been built in cooperation with Caritas Germany was handed over in November. The future inhabitants had been affected by the earthquake in 2008.

Health and Nutrition



Traditionally the sector of health is a core competence of Malteser International. In close cooperation with local authorities and partner organisations, the Order of Malta's worldwide relief service establishes and promotes primary health care services covering curative care, communicable disease control, health management, medical emergencies and the rational use of medicines. Special attention is given to reproductive health and health education as well as to the fight against HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis. As the nutritional status of a population is closely related to its general health, Malteser International integrates programme components to prevent and to treat malnutrition and to improve food security.

Malteser International runs programmes related to health and nutrition in Cambodia, DR Congo, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sudan, Thailand, Uganda and Vietnam.

South Sudan: Positive evaluation of TB control

"I was already considered to be dead, but the TB programme brought me back to life again!"

This statement of a farmer in Yei County demonstrates the gratefulness of the patients for the tuberculosis (TB) treatment provided by Malteser International in South Sudan since 1998. In June 2010, Malteser International carried out an internal evaluation of its community-based TB and HIV/AIDS control programmes in order to identify and publish "best practices"

"TB children day"

In South Sudan, children are on high risk of diseases like TB or sleeping sickness. In Yei, the Malteser International team has been teaching around 100 pupils for a whole day. Through role plays, dancing and singing, they learnt how to recognise these diseases as well as how to prevent them. In addition, every child received a t-shirt and a backpack with school material.

and recommendations for TB and HIV/AIDS related programmes.

The evaluation proves the programme's impact: The TB case detection rate in 2010 has been even higher than the target set for South Sudan and that in 2009. 2010 positive impact is due to the fact that testing is not only limited to the health centres as medical outreach teams are also conducting TB screenings and education activities in the villages to detect new cases.

The TB treatment success rate was also very high and defaulter rates low, as the health staff seek patients in their villages if they do not come to the health centres to get their monthly TB drugs. As TB and HIV/AIDS often occur jointly, it is an important task for the medical teams to motivate TB patients to go for voluntary HIV tests. In the near future, the TB control pro-



Malteser International evaluator Dr. Sibylle Gerstl together with patients.

gramme will be integrated in the South Sudanese health system. The evaluation suggests that Malteser International should play a technical advisory role in supporting the health system in the TB programme to keep it on an acceptable level of quality.

DR Congo: Improving medical care in the east



In Mulungu, women are sensibilised for the possibilities of safe delivery at the hospital.

In 2010, Malteser International constructed three hospitals with maternity wards in the geographically isolated and

still by the armed conflict most affected areas of health zones Mulungu and Kalole in the province of South Kivu that suffer from a completely run down infrastructure. So furthermore, the only main road giving access to this area has been rehabilitated to improve the access to the health services. Malteser International is the only operational humanitarian organisation active in this area.

Further to the east, in Nzibira, Malteser International, in close cooperation with his local partner AEO/CAN, has extended the already existing and sup-

ported health centre to a referral clinic serving a target population of more than 60.000 people. An operation bloc and a maternity ward were added to improve maternal health and health in general and to treat also victims of sexual violence.

In the health zone of Kaniola, Malteser International supports a system of active case finding for acute malnourished children on community and health centre level. Their healing process is followed up by Malteser International's teams in collaboration with the local health authorities.

DR Congo: Fleeing violence, finding support

They come in the night and attack the villages: The soldiers of the Lord Resistance Army (LRA), an Ugandan rebel group, loot and burn down houses, violate women and kidnap children to become soldiers. From December 2008 to September 2009, the attacks force 30,000 people to flee their homes in Faradje town. They hide in the bush or seek help in other towns such as Aba near the Ugandan border, forming tracks of internally displaced persons (IDPs) on their way to a safer place.

As one of the consequences of these attacks, access to health care and the supply of essential drugs and medical consumables collapsed completely in Faradje and Aba health zones whilst health centres in regions where IDPs had arrived were unable to cope with the large number of people in urgent need of health services but without money to pay for them.

Free health care for IDPs

To support the displaced, Malteser International distributed free essential medical drug kits to the health centres in and around the towns of Faradje and Aba. Additionally, a monthly financial contribution for the health centres was paid in order to keep them running and to assure free treatment. Besides, Malteser International organised free



Waiting place: In the shadow of a mango tree, people wait for treatment or cook for their relatives that have to stay at the hospital.

health care for the registered IDPs in the areas where they had taken refuge. So far more than 60,000 persons benefited from this programme of free access to medical care.

Since September 2009 the security situation in and around the health zones of Faradje and Aba has improved slowly. The IDPs are preparing to return to their homes. However,

Malteser International will continue to take care of the population in need until the situation has improved noticeably. The main interventions will now be the training of health staff to improve diagnosis and treatment, the reconstruction and rehabilitation of health facilities and the medical care for victims of sexual aggression whilst the free health care for IDPs in local health centres is continued.

What's more....

Cambodia

In cooperation with two Cambodian partners, Malteser International started to establish a health insurance system in Oddar Meanchey, one of the poorest provinces, in 2005. The insurances have a target area of about 201,500 people of whom 30,000 are currently insured. The health insurance membership, which includes all family members, costs 2.50 Euro per person and year; 2 Euro per person are paid by the families and the remaining money is contributed by Malteser International. Volunteers within the communities play an important role to promote and disseminate the concept of this community-based health insurance and support initiatives to achieve a healthier lifestyle.

Kenya

In Kenya, Malteser International is one of the founding members of the new National Stop TB Programme. The pri-

mary purpose is to join forces in the fight against TB. "The fight against TB must be everybody's business" was the message of Malteser International's Programme Coordinator Paul Ochieng on the occasion of the pre-launch ceremony in August 2010. Already since August 2001, Malteser International has been fighting against TB and HIV/AIDS in the slums of Nairobi.

Mexico

In the federal district of Tabasco and the Distrito Federal Malteser International supports the project „Salva a un niño del Sida“ (Defend a children from HIV/AIDS) run by the Mexican Association of the Order of Malta. The transmission of the HI virus from young mothers to their babies can be prevented by medical therapy. At present, 54 pregnant women are provided with medical and social care. In total, 355 mothers and babies have received support up to now.

Pakistan

In Pakistan, Malteser International's health activities are ongoing. In Azad Jammu/Kashmir, for example, six basic health facilities were finalised in 2010.

South Sudan

Since 1998, Malteser International has been offering health services in Southern Sudan, focusing on TB and HIV/AIDS as well as "forgotten" diseases like leprosy. As of 1 July 2010, the team in Maridi has started a new project extending its services to 22 basic health care facilities. Malteser International helps to increase the access to quality health care for the population living in this remote area under post-war conditions. Having the activities fully integrated into the governmental health system, Malteser International will offer intense capacity building for medical staff and infrastructure support.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



Foto: Jürgen Peperhowe/WN

Water is life, sanitation is dignity. The most serious health problems in disaster situations are caused by poor hygiene due to insufficient water and by the consumption of contaminated water. 40% of the world's population lack adequate sanitation. This accounts for an estimated 2.5 billion people. Recognising the strong link between health, water, sanitation and hygiene, demonstrated by numerous waterborne diseases, Malteser International's specific work within this sector covers water supply, sanitation and hygiene promotion.

Malteser International runs projects related to water, sanitation and hygiene in Cambodia, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

Sri Lanka: Sanitation in return for active participation

For several years, the Eastern and Northern Province in Sri Lanka were areas of conflict as the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) were fighting the government. In 2006, the government launched an offensive to end the internal conflict. Many people had to flee the fighting and were sheltered in camps or host families.

Meanwhile, most of the displaced have returned to their villages of origin. During the conflict, however, the infrastructure was destroyed on a big scale. The returnees now especially suffer from the destruction or deterioration of their water and



Nithiyathan Mallika, the RDS chairwoman at Karadiyanaru

sanitation facilities - if they ever had them before. In spring 2010, Malteser International launched a project that aims at ensuring access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities in the severely affected districts of Batticaloa and Trincomalee. The approach also includes education on good hygiene behaviour as this is essential for the proper use and maintenance of the water supply sites and sanitation facilities. Malteser International is also working in the resettlement areas of Jaffna, Killinochchi and Mullaitivu Districts in cooperation with Caritas International to support the resettling displaced with the construction of shelters, latrines and the reconstruction of basic health centres.

Child-friendly sanitation

Special attention is paid to the needs of the youngest: In 22 schools, child-friendly water and sanitation facilities are constructed. The communities themselves are closely involved: In so-

called "Rural Development Societies" (RDS) villagers are volunteering to support all measures and to make sure that the communities' needs are adequately addressed. To give an example: In the village of Karadiyanaru with 270 households, 20 villagers – among them many women - are working for their community on a voluntary basis up to four hours a day.



Much needs to be done: a well at Karadiyanaru

What's more....

Haiti

In 2010, Malteser International provided drinking water to 4,000 people in Petit Goâve, built latrines for two orphanages and a dispensary and raised awareness for hygiene, especially among the children. Due to the severity of the cholera crisis Malteser International reinforced its comprehensive information and prevention measures. With its partner organizations arche noVa, Cotedo and the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief, activities target 100.000 people in four regions including 15 Camps for earthquake affected. 33.650 Water containers, more than three million water purifica-

tion tabs and 688.800 soaps were distributed, along with large scale awareness campaigns, early detection of cases and safe referral of patients. In the future, more household latrines will be built in southern Haiti and ten schools that will be rebuilt in the hinterland of Darbonne will be equipped with child-friendly sanitation facilities.

Vietnam

In Arc village in the mountainous Tay Giang District in Central Vietnam, Malteser International runs a pilot project on participatory latrine construction. In this rural region, many villages lack basic

sanitation. The approach: villagers plan, implement and monitor the construction of the latrines. In February, a workshop was organised to share the acquired experience with representatives of other villages. The village's "latrine construction board" gave a presentation and some "lessons learnt" could be shared regarding material and waste water. In March 2010, 19 further villages in Tay Giang District also started participatory latrine construction.

"If we want to know what the villagers really need, we have to create the chances for them to show their ideas and to raise their voice."
Mrs. Nga, Malteser International project coordinator Vietnam

Livelihood and Social Programmes



Poverty reduction is a particular area of attention in Malteser International's overall programme setting. The dimensions of poverty are complex and its realities vary between regions, countries, communities and individuals. Invariably, the basis of a life free from poverty is access and entitlement to a range of assets and livelihood strategies that can sustain households and individuals through the stresses and shocks of life. Livelihood and social programmes of Malteser International intend to provide, through a participatory approach, increased well-being, reduced vulnerability, more income and improved food security for a life with dignity.

Malteser International runs livelihood projects and social programmes in Afghanistan, Cambodia, DR Congo, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Myanmar, Peru, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

Peru: Supporting all in need — across all generations

In 2010, Malteser Perú, the relief service of the Peruvian Association of the Order of Malta, started two further social projects.

In Talara, in the north-west of Peru, a family centre was inaugurated. As an initiative of the Peruvian Association of



Giving him space to play: at the kindergarten

the Order of Malta, this “Casa de la Familia” has been established as part of an programme for victims of domestic violence. “The services offered for the women include information and awareness trainings as well as psychological and emotional assistance,” Marcela Yacila, Malteser Perú's coordinator in Talara, explains. “And next to this, we must not forget the children that grow up in homes where they either become target of the violence themselves or have to witness it.”

Thus, the kindergarten, which belongs to the “Casa de la Familia”, does not only provide a place where the children can play in a neutral emotional environment but also offers them the opportunity to talk about their experiences. “The consulting is covered by volunteers of Malteser Talara,” Yacila reports. “The low fees for the kindergarten will provide self-sustainability for the project after three months.”



A sports unit in Querecotillo

In June, a centre for elderly persons in Querecotillo could be inaugurated. With financial support of Malteser International, the Peruvian volunteers organise leisure time for 45 men and women at the average age of 70 three times a week. The activities also include educational lectures on psychology and self-care given by professionals of the local health centre.

What's more....

India

In theory, caste-based discrimination is forbidden in India. In reality, Dalits in Rajasthan in the north of India in public places like schools, village meetings or government offices have to sit separated from the rest of the community and face violence in their daily lives. Furthermore, they are threatened by droughts. That is why Malteser International and its local partner Unnati take action for Dalits and tribal communities in 50 villages. The approach is manifold and aims at

enhancing access not only to drinking water in times of drought but also to government schemes regarding health care, employment and social security. In addition, the Dalits' self-help efforts are strengthened and their livelihood ensured. The empowerment of women is given special importance as a cross-cutting issue.

Philippines

In the northern province of Benguet, Malteser International in cooperation

with the Philippine Association of the Order of Malta supports the 2,400 inhabitants of the two communities of Pasdong and Coroz in restoring their livelihoods and building safer and healthier communities. Additionally, existing cooperatives are strengthened and awareness on disaster risk management is raised via seminars and trainings. Both villages had been heavily affected by 2009's typhoons Ketsana and Parma.

Disaster Risk Reduction



Disaster risk reduction is an integral part of humanitarian assistance, both in relief and recovery, as well as in long term development initiatives. Be it by the reinforcement of houses against earthquakes and cyclones, by constructing flood safe emergency shelters or training village emergency teams and volunteers in the establishment of early warning systems, Malteser International includes disaster risk reduction and mitigation components in many projects for people at risk. The focus is clearly on community-based disaster risk management (CBDRM) and risk reduction aiming to support and to strengthen local coping capacities and to reduce vulnerabilities of people at risk.

Malteser International in 2010 is implementing disaster risk reduction projects in India, Indonesia, Mexico, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines and Vietnam.

India: Investments in disaster preparedness pay off

In Uttar Pradesh, close to the Nepal border, communities along the Ghagra river in Bahraich District during monsoon season are regularly affected by high flooding due to upstream discharge from tributary streams and dams. Each time the flooding causes people to flee the area and lose income opportunities as well as tools, belongings and livestock. The availability of pure drinking water is observed as the most severe problem of the region at times of flood.

Malteser International has been realising a comprehensive disaster risk reduction programme in Uttar Pradesh since May 2009 with financial support of the European Commission (DIPECHO) and in cooperation with its local partner Sahbhagi Shikshan Kendra (SSK). Communities are enabled to analyse the specific risks and develop plans to reduce them and increase their resilience. They learn how to implement disaster preparedness and mitigation activities like flood safe hand pumps, grain banks, raised roads, solar lamps and boats. People are furthermore trained how to tap existing government schemes on health, social security and employment to increase their resilience.

Test on the reality

The flood in August 2010 provided a clear evidence of the efficiency of the project, when heavy rainfall in the Himalayan foothills and subsequent release of water from barrages to the

river Ghagra inundated 87 villages with approximately 163,000 people. The early warning system informed the task forces regarding the release of water from the dams. Their members immediately disseminated the message through sirens and megaphones. Thanks to this speedy information, the communities were able to prepare in advance for early response and evacuation.

Evacuation to safe places

Once the flood waters entered the villages and evacuation became inevitable, the search and rescue teams assisted the villagers in evacuation to

safe places with the help of wooden and mechanised boats and in making temporary arrangements at the embankment. The most vulnerable families were provided with tarpaulin sheets and jerry cans to store safe drinking water. First aid task force members provided first aid to the families on the embankment and in their hamlets and distributed 60,000 chlorine tablets and 50,000 ORS (oral rehydration solution) sachets procured from the district administration. Furthermore, task force members supported the work of the community kitchens by helping to prepare the meals and taking prepared food on their boats to the people.



Thanks to the raised platforms and additional staircases, these hand pumps remain visible and accessible during the flooding.

Myanmar: Mangroves to counter cyclones

The mangrove forests along many riverside communities in the townships of Sittwe and Rathidaung have faced significant degradation over recent years – mainly due to the pressures of human settlement. Households collect wood from these areas and use it for cooking and housing materials. In addition, with regard to the successful shrimp farming industry in Rakhine State mangroves have been cleared to make way for the ponds in which the shrimps are grown.

The clearing of these mangroves has become a serious problem: Large areas of riverside land are lost to bank erosion every year. With less vegetation, the villagers experience higher air temperatures, stronger winds, scarcity of fuel wood, housing materials and lower fishing yield. The serious consequences became especially obvious after cyclone



Working in the mangrove nursery

Nargis in May 2008: the decline of the mangrove forests in the Ayeyawaddy Delta denied many exposed riverside communities any protection from the tidal surge.

Sustainability by new stoves

Malteser International in partnership with the Mangrove Services Network (MSN), a local NGO, rehabilitated some of these former mangrove forest areas within its community-based disaster risk reduction programme in Rakhine State. During village risk analysis the communities recognised the importance of mangroves to mitigate the

impact of disaster. Mangrove preservation committees were formed and two nurseries of fresh water plants and mangroves were established jointly with the communities. Until today, almost 9.000 mangrove seedlings were planted in Rathidaung and Sittwe.

Malteser International and MSN conducted trainings not only on how to rehabilitate the mangrove plantations, but also introduce new cooking stoves using rice husk to promote an alternative fuel within the communities, and therefore ensure the sustainability of the new mangrove plantations.



A woman manufacturing stoves that consume less firewood

What's more....

Indonesia

A big part of Indonesia is located in the so-called Pacific Ring of Fire and thus regularly hit by natural disasters. Their impact can be enormous as it became obvious after the severe seaquake and tsunami in 2004. Since July, Malteser International has been working in Manokwari district of West Papua. To enhance the self-help capacities of the people, the relief service of the Order of Malta supports the set-up and training of local disaster management committees and prepares local emergency plans with the communities. By awareness and education campaigns, they are informed about the risks following a natural disaster. Besides, a public earthquake warning system will be set up. Finally, evacuation centres are adequately equipped and evacuation trainings are held for the population. All measures are imple-

mented in cooperation with a local partner, the Yakkum Emergency Unit.

Pakistan

The floodwaters have receded, but Pakistan remains a country prone to natural disasters. Simple means can have enormous effects: For example by mobile phones, manual sirens and by word-of-mouth, people can inform each other from the north to the south about the water levels and the speed of the river. Community-based disaster risk management and early warning projects will be implemented by Malteser International in the near future.

Vietnam

In January, a training cycle on disaster preparedness started in Central Vietnam. 26 stakeholders from 13 typhoon and flood prone communities learned how to

care for hurt persons until they can be attended by a doctor. They will share their knowledge with their communities. Additionally, 26 villages conducted a community based hazard and vulnerability assessment followed by the preparation of a preparedness plan to develop appropriate response strategies.

Regional Learning Forum Asia

In December, the Workshop on “Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in health and WASH” was held in Thailand with staff from all Asia and from Headquarters to intensify the integration of disaster risk reduction components in Malteser International’s programmes. For the first time, members of the Philippine Association of the Order of Malta, staff members of local partner NGOs and guests from Malteser International’s Africa programme also participated.

Networks of Relief



Malteser International thanks all individual, corporate and public donors that make its work in Africa, Asia and the Americas possible. The international network of the Order of Malta also gives most valuable support. We furthermore would like to express our sincere gratitude to all national and international partners that cooperate with Malteser International in the field as well as in terms of campaigning and lobbying.

Grand Master of the Order of Malta visits DR Congo and Kenya

“I wanted to make this journey to Africa to emphasize the importance of this continent for the Order of Malta, where we are active in 35 countries with a wide range of medical and humanitarian services,” the Grand Master said on his arrival in Africa.

From 8 to 18 February, H.M.E.H. Fra’ Robert Matthew Festing, Prince and Grand Master of the Sovereign Order



The people welcomed the Grand Master with dancing and singing. (Photo: Eugenio Ajroldi)

of Malta, visited projects implemented by the Order in DR Congo and Kenya and met numerous representatives and ambassadors of both countries.

DR Congo: “We are grateful and proud of you.”

Amongst others, Fra’ Matthew visited the social health activities run by Malteser International in Bukavu (DR Congo) since 1996 and met international and local staff of the Order’s relief corps. “The entire Order of Malta thanks you for your work and admires what you do every day,” the Grand Master said. “We are profoundly grateful and proud of you”.

Crowds of people welcomed the Grand Master at every stage of his visit. They offered words of heartfelt gratitude for the Order’s work in a region, where peace and security are threatened every day.

A key feature of the Order of Malta’s humanitarian actions, the Grand Master underlined, “is that of always working with the national health authorities and the local communities to guarantee the long-term sustainability of its projects”.



The Grand Master with the Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki (Photo: Kate Holt)

Impressed by the activities of the Order in the two countries, the Grand Master finally announced: „It is our firm intention to continue and, where possible, to expand this work in the future”.

Start a partnership with Malteser International!

Malteser International is proud of being a part of the worldwide network of the Sovereign Order of Malta and to contribute to its humanitarian mission. But it is only thanks to an international network of steady supporters that its work gets and remains possible. Many individual donors, but also groups and associations within the Order of Malta support Malteser International’s worldwide relief efforts and are therefore regularly informed about what is going on in the projects.

But perhaps you have the impression that it would be much more interesting to get in contact with the beneficiaries on the ground? You would like to raise extra money for a country programme if you just saw its effects for the vulnerable? Then start a partnership with Malteser International!



The Malteser groups of the archdiocese of Cologne (Germany) were the first to start a partnership. They support Malteser International’s programme in South Sudan. On their trip — the first to Africa for all of them —, the volunteers met patients suffering from leprosy or sleeping sickness and talked to the staff about their daily work.

If you are interested in a partnership with Malteser International, please contact Julia Kost at Malteser International Headquarters (phone: +49 221 98 22 151, eMail: julia.kost@malteser-international.org).

New videos about Malteser International's work

In 2010, Malteser International released two documentaries about the work of Malteser International in South Sudan and in Cambodia.

„The forgotten diseases“ presents Malteser International's work to fight leprosy and sleeping sickness in Yei, South Sudan. Join Leprosy Officer Khamis and Sleeping Sickness Nurse Onesta Apai in their daily work! A DVD with versions in English, Spanish

and German can be ordered at the Malteser International Headquarters.

“A healthier tomorrow” documents Malteser International's mission in Cambodia to reduce the vulnerability and poverty of communities through sustainable health initiatives. In the focus of the video is the comprehensive approach to health aiming to improve the quality of life of the poor rural population in Cambodia.



Chapters of both films are available on the Malteser International website and on YouTube.

World Days: Raising awareness

World Children's Day, World Toilet Day, World AIDS Day — almost every day is a world day for a certain cause. World days are set to create awareness and are used by Malteser International to present its work.

But the world days are also used by Malteser International's staff in the field to present their work in its national environment and to take action within the project to focus on a certain aspect. We would like to present three examples of this year's range of activities.



Dandora's new laboratory

On 24 March, **World Tuberculosis Day** was celebrated in

Kenya with the handover of the laboratory in Dandora health centre in the slums of Nairobi to the Kenyan Government. The set-up of laboratories directly in the slums is an essential part of Malteser International's work: it enables the on-site examination of patients and therewith brings the diagnosis of tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS closer to the people.

On 20 June, on the occasion of **World Refugee Day**, Malteser International's team in Thailand in cooperation with ECHO, the Humanitarian Aid department of the European Commission, organised a photo exhibition at a busy shopping mall in Chiang Mai to inform about the refugee camps at the Thai-Myanmar border and the difficult living conditions of their inhabitants. Many Thai do not even now that there are refugee camps in their own country where several thousands of Karen and



Show me how you wash your hands!

Burmese have been living for years.

On 15 October, **Global Handwashing Day** was commemorated around the world and also in Pakistan. Malteser International's medical teams taught 2,800 school children in Pakistan how to wash their hands properly and why this is so important to prevent diseases. The pupils also received soap and other hygiene material to share with their families.

Spreading expert knowledge and lobbying

Malteser International's staff members are experts in their field, be it humanitarian aid in general or regarding their focus on areas of intervention like WASH or health. They are happy to spread their expertise in presentations to experts and to the interested general public.

Sandra Harlass, Public Health Adviser Asia, presented Malteser International's innovative approach regarding the community-based health insurance systems in Cambodia at an experts' conference by Medico International and Gesundheit Berlin-Brandenburg e.V. in Berlin on 17 and 18 September.

Sid Johann Peruvemba, Vice Secretary General, and Dr. Sibylle Gerstl, Senior Desk Officer Health in Africa, participated at the Humanitarian Congress in Berlin on 15 and 16 October 2010. While Peruvemba talked about career perspectives in the humanitarian sector, Gerstl moderated a discussion on medical aid for earthquake survivors. Malteser International was also present with an information desk.

Roland Hansen, Head of the Asia and Haiti Department, gave a keynote speech on Linking Disaster Relief, Rehabilitation, Risk Reduction and Development at the international con-

ference “Linking disaster and development: the next 10 years” in Newcastle on 23 and 24 November.

Besides, Malteser International is member of various **NGO networks and awareness campaigns** like ‘Voluntary Organisations in Cooperation in Emergencies’ or ‘People in Aid’. They are important means for cooperation with one another, but also with the institutional donors.





2

0

1

0

