



**Malteser
International**
Order of Malta Worldwide Relief



Activity Report 2008

Highlights

“Our motivation is to alleviate human suffering.”

(Code of Conduct: The humanitarian imperative comes first)



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Editorial

We are very glad to present to you our Activity Report for 2008 — Highlights, which is a short pre-release of our Annual Report 2008. It will give you an initial though concise insight into some of the work of Malteser International for the year 2008.

In the Annual Report for 2008, which will be published by the summer of 2009, you will find the usual detailed information as well as our financial facts and figures. The Annual Report will be available for download on the Malteser International website. Printed copies in English can be pre-ordered by email at info@malteser-international.org. Thank you very much for your continued interest and support.

Cologne, December 2008

Nicolas de Cock de Rameyen
President



Malteser
International

Order of Malta Worldwide Relief

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Nicolas de Cock de Rameyen

MALTESER INTERNATIONAL

Malteser International is a non-governmental worldwide relief organisation of the Sovereign Order of Malta for humanitarian aid. The organisation has more than 50 years of experience in humanitarian relief and actually covers around 200 projects in about 20 countries in Africa, Asia and the Americas. Currently, 20 national associations and priorities of the Order of Malta are members of Malteser International.

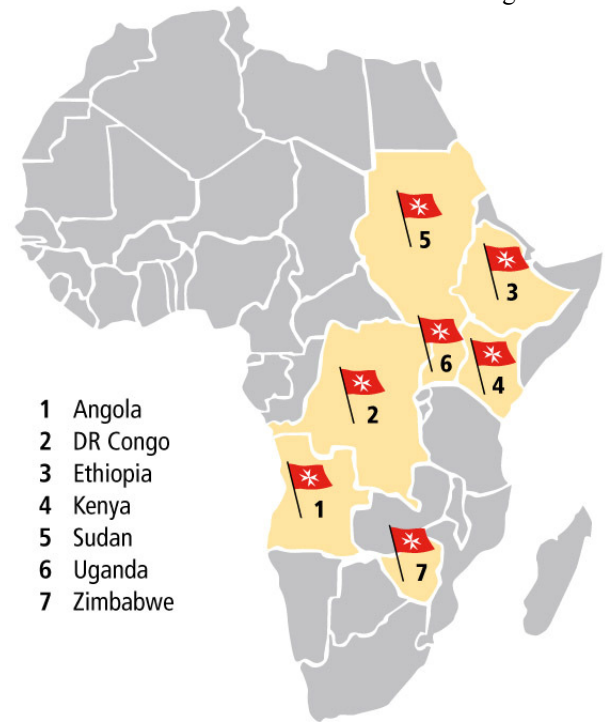
Evolved from Malteser Germany, thus set up in accordance with German Law, and internationalized in 2005, the organisation actually has two operational branches: Malteser International (www.malteser-international.org) in Europe (Cologne/Germany) and “Order of Malta Worldwide Relief — Malteser International Americas” (www.maltarelief.org) in the USA (Washington DC). It provides aid in all parts of the world without distinction of religion, race or political persuasion. Christian values and the humanitarian principles of impartiality and independence are the foundation of its work. Its mission is not only to provide emergency relief, but also to implement rehabilitation measures and to facilitate the link between emergency relief and sustainable development. Malteser International establishes and promotes primary health care services and seeks to reduce vulnerability and poverty. It is committed to ensure high quality standards. Accountability and transparency are priorities of its agenda.

AFRICA

In 2008 Malteser International has put into action a new strategy cycle for Africa which lasts up until 2012. According to these strategic goals, the challenge has been to build on what has already been achieved, and to expand the work particularly within the health sector.

During 2008 Malteser International continued its work in the same six African countries Angola, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. During the course of the year the projects in Ethiopia and Angola were closed according to plan, and the focus now turns to DR Congo, Kenya and Sudan, while the organisation also remain active in Uganda.

In many cases Malteser International continues its work in Africa amid deteriorating security and living conditions, but the priority is to closely follow every aspect of the strategic goal for 2012: with the people, for the people.



HEALTHCARE

Mother and Child, Nutrition

In February 2008, Malteser International completed a project in **Darfur, Sudan** which saw 22,000 women and children benefit from nutrition campaign. The campaign targeted the most vulnerable people in society and in particular young children, pregnant and breastfeeding mothers, and women of a child bearing age. Vitamins, mineral and de-worming tablets were widely distributed and to ensure a maximum and ongoing effect Malteser International organised special training for supervisors and distributors among the local population. The campaign targeted the areas of Shangil Tobayi, Abu Zerega, Tabit, Galab and Wada.

Later in the year two further projects in **Darfur** saw Malteser International continue its nutrition and healthcare projects for the benefit of vulnerable social groups. In October, Malteser International ran outreach projects to isolated villages which included polio immunisation for babies under the age of 12 months, and the monitoring of the growth of children under the age of 5 as well as ante-natal care for pregnant women. Many of these villages had

been inaccessible during the rainy season of August and September, and some remained so on account of the security situation.

Training courses for health workers and midwives about maternal and neonatal mortality formed an important part of this work. The percentage of maternal and neonatal deaths is assumed to be very high in rural areas of Darfur, and by improving the skills of health workers it is hoped that the causes of such mortality can be successfully addressed. Hardly any data exists about mother and child mortality rates, and birth attendants in Darfur are being encouraged to report any such cases to Malteser International.

In north **Darfur**, supplementary feeding programmes for severely malnourished children were intensified this year. Since March 2008, Malteser International has already weighed 5,875 children and integrated them — where necessary — into the supplementary feeding programme, while their mothers are offered lessons about child nutrition.



Sudan has a climate ranging from very arid in the north to equatorial in the south. The central part is savannah land.

The population of the country is approximately 33m, and is still predominantly rural.

More than 90% of the population suffer from poverty and food insecurity.

HEALTHCARE

Tuberculosis

In December 2007, the **Kenyan** health authorities awarded the Malteser International supported treatment centre at Rinata, an award as the best managed tuberculosis facility for 2006 and 2007. Since August 2001, Malteser International has been fighting TB in eight slums of Nairobi with a combined population of 600,000 people.

This work has involved the diagnosis and treatment of TB, the set-up and equipping of laboratories as well as the training of local staff and education of the slum's residents. The employment and further training of local staff is considered the key to the success of the work in Nairobi. In March World Tuberculosis Day saw the launch of the STOP TB campaign. Malteser International used this day as a chance to create awareness of how to stop TB in five counties in **South Sudan**. "I am stopping TB" was the theme of the day and at various gatherings around the five counties, hundreds of people were enter-

tained by plays, puppetry, music concerts and football tournaments that helped convey the message about how to stop TB. Empowering the communities through awareness campaigns will enable them to get medical treatment at the earliest chance possible to reduce the burden caused by TB. In April, Malteser International assisted in the extension of the Jomo Kenyatta National Hospital in **Kenya** by providing a tent large enough to provide treatment facilities for patients suffering from multi-drug resistant (MDR) tuberculosis. At present, there are a total of 289 patients suffering from MDR tuberculosis in Kenya. The tent is of great importance as it offers the possibility of treating the MDR tuberculosis patients in a separated room without the risk of infecting other patients in the hospital. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has donated drugs for the treatment of the first 40 patients. The two years long treatment of one patient normally costs 16.000 Euros.



People living with HIV/AIDS have a high chance of developing TB.

Both TB and HIV/AIDS aggravate each other resulting in early death.

There are drugs to completely cure TB even if one has HIV/AIDS.



Tuberculosis is spread through the air when a person sneezes, coughs, or breathes. It can become resistant to treatment if a patient is not treated early enough or long enough.

MDR tuberculosis is resistant to at least two of the main drugs that are used to treat tuberculosis and is not only more difficult to treat but also more dangerous for the population, since the patients remain infectious longer, increasing the risk of transmission to the public and healthcare workers.

HEALTHCARE

Leprosy

In June, Malteser International organised the first training on home-based care in tuberculosis (TB), HIV and leprosy control in Mundri District, **Sudan**. Invited were health workers, teachers, staff members of local

NGOs and local health authorities. The purpose of the training was to enable participants to become voluntary care workers in their communities.

HEALTHCARE

HIV/AIDS

In August and September, Malteser International held a training course for DTC and VCT counsellors in Rumbek, **South Sudan**. DTC stands for diagnostic counselling and testing, and VCT stands for voluntary counselling and testing. The objective of these training courses is to equip trainees with knowledge on HIV counselling and testing. Another element of the training served

to inform trainees about the prevention of transmission of illness from mother to child. Since the training took place, Malteser International have been able to improve the TB and HIV/AIDS collaborative activities at primary health care centres and increase community awareness on HIV and VCT services thus developing a good link between TB and HIV/AIDS.

HEALTHCARE

Cholera

Given the deteriorating situation caused by the cholera epidemic in **Zimbabwe**, Malteser International continues to support an emergency relief programme together with the German-based relief organisation HELP by helping provide essential intravenous fluids, as well as needles and tubes for more than 5,000 cholera patients.

RECENT NEWS

DR Congo came back into headline news in October 2008 following an escalation in the armed struggles in the east of the country. The crisis has forced thousands to flee. The situation of these internally displaced people is being monitored and supported by Malteser International staff from Bukavu.

Of particular concern is the number of women and children who have been affected in a country where rape is often used as an instrument of war.

In the most recent report from the region Malteser International announced the extension of its activities including medical and psychological support for victims of sexual violence.

Additionally, Malteser International is distributing food supplies to 6,000 families in 2008, with further distributions planned early next year.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO



On International Women's Day (8 March), Malteser International organised a parade in the stadium of Mabagi with hundreds of participants proclaiming solidarity with victims of sexual aggression.



DR CONGO 2008

In DR Congo Malteser International has been providing an integrative programme including medical, nutritional, psycho-social and food security projects since 1996 in the provinces of South Kivu and Ituri. A crucial aspect of the programme is the rehabilitation of the public health system in numerous health zones. Undernourished and malnourished children receive regular treatment in nutrition centres.

In February 2008 Malteser International extended its health and nutrition programme in South Kivu, and continued its involvement in the rehabilitation of two referral hospitals in the District of Haut Uélé. The aim of this project is to assist the local health authorities to function effectively and improve access to quality health care. Health conditions in these areas are still precarious — with very poor standards of buildings, services and sanitary installations.

In July 2008 a one year project was completed which successfully treated and prevented cases of the plague in Mahagi in the northeast of the country. 2,332 cases of the plague were treated, more than 10,000 homes were disinfected and 9,607 people who had had contact with infected people received precautionary treatment.

Finally, in November a new project was announced to combat the plague in Ituri province, northeast Congo. The aim of this project is to lessen the mortality rate of the plague, and treat infected people, disinfect dwellings, and increase preventative measure aimed at 4,500 people who have come into contact with it.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Recently the United Nations identified 16,869 cases of sexual aggression against women which had been treated by NGOs in South Kivu over the previous year. Over that same year, Malteser International treated 6,927 or 41% of these cases, making it one of the leading agencies offering support to victims of sexual violence in DR Congo.

Malteser International's programme in South Kivu and Ituri provides psycho-social care and medical assistance to victims of sexual violence, as well as financial support for a local trauma clinic. This programme has been in operation since 2003. Malteser International works in cooperation with local NGOs to offer training, to help sensitise staff on the difficult issues surrounding this subject. Other than the work in health

centres and trauma clinics Malteser International also organises for skilled counsellors to go and see patients in the villages, who then advise and encourage them to seek treatment. Many of the counsellors have been victims themselves and use their own experience to help others.

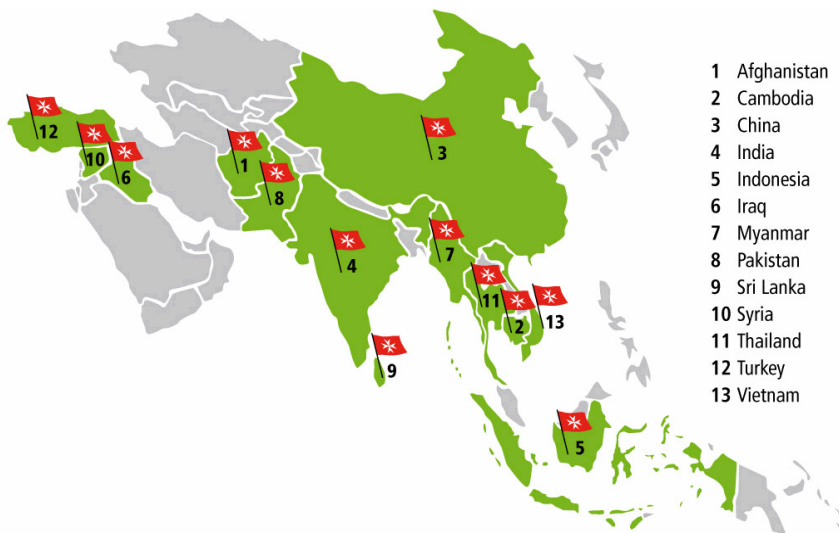
On the 27-28th May, Malteser International hosted the sixth Plateforme conference. Plateforme is an association of local authorities and local NGOs who support victims of sexual violence in the Health District of Aru. Malteser International has been working in Aru district since 2005 and provides treatment for the victims of sexual violence in order to prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases. Through the programmes, every victim of sexual aggression has free access to treatment, including post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) which can prevent HIV infection up to 72 hours after violation.

ASIA

In 2008 Malteser International's work in Asia has come to focus particularly in the fields of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), on account of the 2008 International Year of Sanitation Initiative. This has been particularly reflected in the work in Sri Lanka.

Disaster preparedness projects have been initiated in India, Pakistan, Myanmar and Indonesia. In Myanmar Malteser International has been occupied with one of its largest ever relief operations as a result of Cyclone Nargis which severely affected the delta regions of the country in May.

Meanwhile the projects in Cambodia have been highlighted through the Martin Aid fundraising campaign, which goes towards supporting the worldwide relief programmes of Malteser International.



- 1 Afghanistan
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- 4 India
- 5 Indonesia
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- 7 Myanmar
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THE 2008 WASH CAMPAIGN



Malteser International has been implementing a comprehensive Water, Sanitation and Hygiene programme in Sri Lanka since 2005, however, with 2008 being the International Year of Sanitation, Malteser International highlighted its projects in this sector, and not only in Sri Lanka.

WASH projects in **Sri Lanka** provided 53 schools, and thus 16,000 school children with access to clean water and hygienic sanitation facilities. A series of lessons were also taught to the children about hygiene. Outreach work to remote rural areas also benefited over 3,000 families who were provided with rain water harvesting tanks.

Post-tsunami relief work has continued in **Indonesia**, in locations such as Aceh Utara where two villages — Lancok and Jambu Timu have benefited from reconstruction measures, as well as a new water pipe system to provide drinking water and safe sanitation to over 550 households. Malteser International also implemented community based training sessions about hygiene and ecological waste water management. The object of

the training has been to inform villagers about the connection between disease and bad water management. This training has also been targeted at local trainers—thus encouraging a proliferation of the message of the WASH campaign.

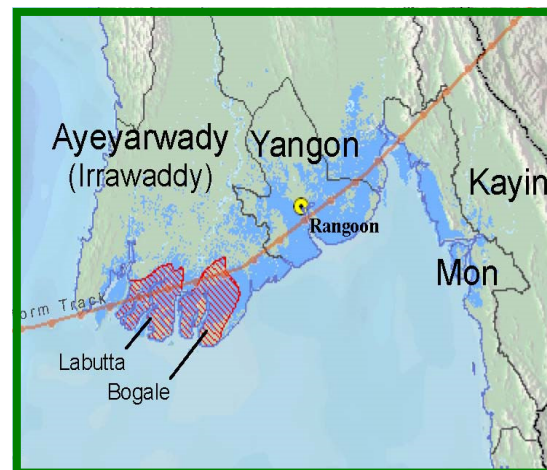
In October Malteser International reported on the introduction of bio sand filters to a coastal community in Galle District, **Sri Lanka**. Many villagers now have access to clean water. The follow up to this work has included visits to the community, providing lessons on the correct maintenance of the filters. Diseases such as diarrhoea have been successfully combated.

A new WASH documentary and brochure produced by Malteser International was launched at World Water Day on 23rd March. It aims to highlight the issue of the 5,000 children under the age of 5 who die every day due to lack of hygiene. The film's author and director, Martin Hilbert, has used the film to show that there is no need for expensive technology to provide clean drinking water and sanitation.





SPOTLIGHT ON MYANMAR (Burma) CYCLONE NARGIS



Source: US Department of State

HISTORY

Malteser International has been operational in Myanmar since 2001, and was one of the first NGOs to be able to respond to the effects of Cyclone Nargis.

BENEFIT

Malteser International has spent over 2 million euros in its relief efforts in Myanmar so far this year.

The final estimated death toll in Myanmar as a result of Cyclone Nargis in May 2008 was estimated to be 78,000 dead and 56,000 missing, making Nargis one of the deadliest cyclones ever recorded. Millions more were left homeless or otherwise affected.

Yangon & Labutta Town

Malteser International's initial relief efforts came in two divisions, Yangon and the Irrawaddy Delta. The first interventions concentrated on the population around Yangon and the internally displaced persons (IDP) camps in and around Labutta town. Family kits, soap, drugs, clean water, blankets, plastic sheeting as well as mosquito-nets and fly screens were distributed, and the teams set about supporting the local hospitals. Training in rain water collection and mother and child care formed part of the initial response.

After the early phases in Labutta, aid measures continued and Malteser International cared for 16,000 internally displaced persons and 24,000 other inhabitants, providing safe drinking water for 100,000 people in total, and 15,000 mosquito nets and fly screens and 2,700 family kits which included — cooking materials, hygiene articles and water cans.

From June onwards work continued in 164 villages in Labutta County with a combined population of 74,800 where the work came to focus more on the health sector and WASH projects (Water, Sanitation, Hygiene).

Middle Island

Malteser International was invited to extend its relief and WASH work into Middle Island — some 40 kilometres from Labutta. Drinking water and medical assistance was provided to 62,000 of the islands inhabitants. Fly proof latrines, rain water harvesting, and the establishment of safe water sources (ponds and wells) were among the measures taken to prevent the spread of infectious diseases.

Meanwhile Malteser International took over the construction and equipping of four health centres on the island, through which basic health care will continue to be channelled by Malteser International. Other aspects of the response on Middle Island included the provision of cooking materials, soap, sheeting and rain coats for those who had lost everything as well as 36 volunteers providing psychosocial care for trauma affected patients.



EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

In Gu Cheng/Sichuan, **China**, Malteser International supports the reconstruction of a home for elderly together with Caritas International and a Chinese partner. When the earthquake struck in May 2008 many social facilities have been destroyed including homes for the elderly. The new constructions will see 79 old people receive new accommodation. Because of decades of practiced one-child family policy in China, many old people on their own and need assistance.



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS



Disaster preparedness is another field of work, which is of growing importance for Malteser International. In the north **Indian** regions of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar flood preparation programmes have been put into action. With a particular focus on the society's most vulnerable, 60 homes and many hand water pumps were raised above flood water levels. Furthermore, five disaster preparedness task forces were formed, trained and had vital equipment provided for them. Including boats which have already been used during flooding this year to enable people to escape.

Elsewhere in **India**, residents in the tsunami affected areas of Kerala state benefited from swimming lessons. 30 young girls and boys participated in the classes, which will eventually develop their capacity to that of a life-guard. In the final step of this project, the newly trained lifeguards will be taught how to pass on their training to future volunteers, thus creating a self-sustaining cycle.

Further disaster preparedness projects have been started in the northern regions of **Pakistan**, which are prone to earthquakes and other natural disasters.

In **Myanmar** the first disaster preparedness projects were started in 2005 in the wake of the tsunami. Further emergency action plans have been developed in 2008, and continue to be developed in the aftermath of Cyclone Nargis.

The development of disaster preparedness work comes at a time when experts in the field are noticing worrying new trends, which have made 2008 one of the top-five worst years for weather related disasters.

CAMBODIA AND MARTIN AID



Martin Aid is a fundraising campaign initiated in 2007 by Malteser Germany, which supports the work of Malteser International. The event is named in memory of Saint Martin – the famous Roman soldier who shared his cloak with a freezing beggar in a cold winter night – thousands of celebrations and lantern parades take place in Germany on 11 November every year.

This year, the money collected will especially be used to support the programmes of Malteser International in north-eastern Cambodia. The organisation has been working there for more than ten years. The region is still marked by the fall-out from the former civil war, these include problems such as diseases, malnourishment and an high child and maternal mortality rate. Together with its local partners, staff members of Malteser International support Cambodians in their return to a normal life. The programme includes community-based health insurances, mother and child health care and nutrition projects.

As part of the Martin Aid campaign the German TV channel NRW TV presented a documentary about Malteser International's support of health centres in Cambodia.

All this preparation culminated in a live concert in Weseling, near Cologne, where the famous children's entertainer Rolf Zuckowski performed to over 1,000 children and family members. It is hoped that this event will remain a permanent fixture, and grow in people's consciousness and become a valuable publicity and fundraising event for Malteser International in the future.



- 1 Mexico
- 2 Peru
- 3 USA

AMERICAS

Throughout its history the region that encompasses Latin America and the Caribbean has been among the most disaster prone in the world.

There has been no single catastrophe of the dimension of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami or the 2008 Chinese earthquake, but the disasters affecting the region are relentless, frequent, and locally highly destructive. Also during the years 2007/2008 countries in the region had to deal with the immediate needs of people after natural disasters. Rains left most of Mexico's Tabasco state under water for weeks. The Peruvian coast suffered from a 8.0-magnitude earthquake. The hurricane season of 2008 brought death and destruction to all countries in the Caribbean, especially Haiti and Cuba.

Malteser International in cooperation with national Associations of the Order of Malta contributes to the recovery of disaster hit regions in order to help the affected population to regain a normal life.

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

In Peru, one year after the severe earthquake which hit the provinces of Chíncha and Canete south of Lima, the rehabilitation measures are still in full progress, and Malteser International is conducting trainings for disaster preparedness. After the acute emergency relief in Peru was successfully completed, Malteser International conducted trainings for disaster preparedness, thus supporting capacity building within its partner Malteser Peru.

Another focus of the rehabilitation measures lies in income generating projects. Malteser Peru has therefore opened a community bakery that produces bread, and offers jobs for those who lost their livelihood as a result of the earthquake.



The earthquake that struck south of Lima on 15 August 2007 killed 500, destroyed 60,000 houses and left 300,000 people homeless.



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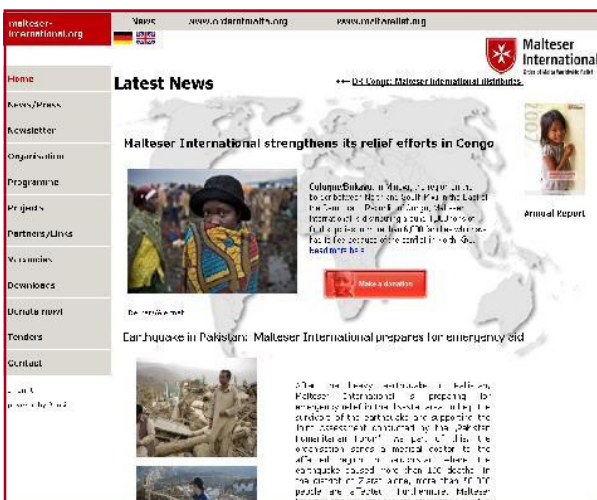
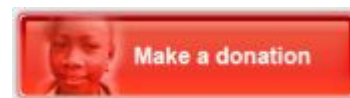
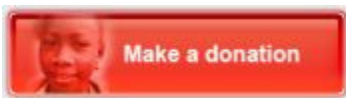
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