

# Appeal 2002-2003

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## ERITREA

(Appeal 01.09/2002)

*Click on programme title or figures to go to the text or budget*

	2002	2003 <sup>1</sup>
	In CHF	In CHF
Organizational Development	182,727	182,727
Total	182,727	182,727



## Introduction

### National context

Eritrea gained its independence in 1991 after a liberation war that lasted for 30 years. The country became one of the poorest in the world with both its infrastructure and economy in ruins. A decade later, Eritrea still ranks amongst the poorest countries in the world, although a number of health indicators point towards a slow improvement of the overall human development.

The economy of Eritrea is dominated by traditional agriculture. Industry is still at an infant stage. The country's over 1,200 km coastline with the Red Sea gives the country a high potential in fisheries, sea trade, tourism and salt extraction.

Eritrea has a resident population estimated at about 4.1 million people (Economist Intelligence Unit), there are 9 ethnic groups and two main religions, Islam and Christianity. Eritreans have a strong sense of nationhood shared by both sexes and all ethnic groups.

In May 1998, a border conflict with Ethiopia degenerated into a full-scale war between the two countries and provoked a massive displacement of people - a total of 1.1 million people (official figures) are estimated to have been displaced. Following the signing of the Algiers peace agreement in

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<sup>1</sup> These are preliminary figures for 2003, and are subject to revision in the course of 2002.

December 2000, the deployment of the UN mission for Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) and the establishment of a 25 km deep temporary security zone along the entire 1,000 km border between Eritrea and Ethiopia, many internally displaced people (IDPs) and refugees in Sudan have returned to their villages of origin in spite of the threat of land mines.

An agreement was reached on voluntary repatriation of 174,000 Eritrean refugees from Sudan. The programme will go on until the end of 2002. A total of 62,000 people were repatriated by December 2001. Over 200,000 IDPs remain in camps in Gash-Barka and Debub regions requiring both food and non-food humanitarian assistance. Another 500,000 people have been affected directly or indirectly by three years of poor rains in the regions of Anseba, Northern and Southern Red Sea.

Since its independence, Eritrea has been in the process of reconstruction and rehabilitation, based on the policy of self-reliance. Due to enormous problems following the war with Ethiopia and recurrent droughts, however, the government of Eritrea had to appeal to the outside world for humanitarian and development assistance.

In 2000, the real GDP growth was -1% (the only country in Eastern Africa with a negative growth) and consumer price inflation was 14% (the second highest percentage in Eastern Africa). Eritrea's dependence on income from its two ports which were extensively used by Ethiopia before the conflict and its small agricultural base further weakened by drought and soil erosion, resulted in the current weak food security situation. The WFP launched an appeal in April 2001 for USD 33 million to fund over 90,000 MT of aid to feed 738,000 drought victims until February 2002.

Economic growth in 2001-2002, already tempered by the lack of functional infrastructure and the mobilization of more than 300,000 citizens, is expected to continue to be heavily dependent on the weather, the demobilization of the armed forces and on donor assistance which will be aimed at post-war reconstruction and resettlement of displaced people.

## **National society priorities**

The establishment of the Red Cross Society of Eritrea (RCSE) is in its initial stages. The formal recognition from the government is still pending. The RCSE operates under a written agreement with the ministry of health and with the Eritrean refugee and rehabilitation committee (ERREC), which is the responsible body in Eritrea for registration and co-ordination of voluntary organizations.

The national society carries out its activities according to the Fundamental Principles. The RCSE has its headquarters in Asmara, the capital, and operational branch offices in each of the six zobas (provinces). The RCSE has over 100 employees, over 1,000 actively involved volunteers and over 5,000 standby volunteers deployable if need arises.

The escalation of the conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia and the drought in the country have diverted the national society's efforts towards relief. In the second half of 2000, the development activities and the change process regained importance. However, the national society supported by the Federation will launch a separate rehabilitation appeal to assist the most vulnerable returnees depending on the outcome of discussions with local partners and the available operational capacity.

### **Key priorities - Organizational development**

- Formal recognition from the Eritrean government and Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
- Further development of a clear identity and a clear structure (including governance).
- Improvement of internal communication.
- Further improvement of its operating systems and procedures to meet increased demands.
- Further promotion of branch development, volunteer recruitment and decentralization.

**Key priorities - programmes**

- Become a capable partner in emergency response by providing timely and efficient support.
- Develop a realistic level of disaster preparedness in strategic branches, including skills training needed to handle disaster and increased material preparedness.
- Following the ARCHI<sup>2</sup> recommendations, further develop its community-based health services in the areas that have a significant impact on public health or health related problems, cover the aspects of promotion, prevention and first aid and increase the HIV/AIDS activities.
- Maintain and strengthen its ambulance service as it provides a valuable service to the communities, gives a clear identity to the national society and has cost-recovery potential.
- Maintain and strengthen the promotion of humanitarian values, already present in all programmes.

Presently, the main source of financial support to the national society comes through co-operation with the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners. In early February 2000, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Red Cross Society of Eritrea, the Federation, ICRC and partner national societies. The initiatives to base the funding on membership fees, subsidies from the government and some income-generating activities can not be realized until the full recognition of the national society.

**Priority programmes for Federation assistance**

The Federation will support the efforts for recognition of the national society. The Federation will also support the efforts of the national society to be recognized by the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and other organizations as an effective provider of health and disaster preparedness and response services.

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<sup>2</sup> African Red Cross and Red Crescent Health Initiative

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## Organizational development

### Background and achievements/lessons to date

The programme priorities of the national society are based on four core areas identified in the Strategy 2010. The role of the Federation will be to provide technical support and assistance to the national society in order to further develop its capacity and programmes. Assistance will be mainly provided through mobilization of local and international resources as well as through co-ordinated input of the partner national societies, technical assistance and policy development. The Federation will also provide support to the institutional capacity building including the systems and programmes, particularly those related to disaster preparedness and response, HIV/AIDS and health services.

The Federation will play an important role in programming development including the preparation of the programme, monitoring and evaluation while the implementation role will remain with the national society. A Federation representative and the Federation regional delegation in Kenya will co-ordinate the input from partner national societies and other partners.

**Goal** To contribute to the efforts exerted by Eritrea in disaster preparedness and response, HIV/AIDS and health related services through a fully recognized and effective national society supported by co-ordinated external and locally-raised funds.

### Objectives and activities

**Objective 1** To assist the national society in obtaining a formal recognition from the Eritrean government and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Activities to achieve objective 1 are:

- Establish a transitional committee at central level.
- Revitalize committees at provincial levels.
- Establish statutes and elected governance.
- Advocate for the recognition of the national society with relevant government bodies.
- Inform relevant government bodies on procedures for recognition of their national society.
- Promote the new national society and the entire Movement by disseminating information of their goals of activities.

**Objective 2** To assist the national society in establishing a clear national society structure (including governance) and to improve its internal communications.

Activities to achieve objective 2 are:

- Strengthen the overall management (restructuring of departments, duties, roles and responsibilities, recruitment of new professional staff).
- Improve human resource development (revision of positions, increased staff performance through training, coaching and evaluation of staff performance).
- Promote membership recruitment (develop policy guidelines, develop membership activities and training, development of a data bank).
- Promote decentralization (gradual decentralization of authority to branches, opening of sub-branches and establishment of Red Cross committees, further development of administrative systems, branch development and capacity building).

- Promote resource development activities like membership recruitment, income generation schemes.
- Advocate for subsidies from the government for provided services.

**Objective 3** To assist the national society in improving its disaster preparedness and response capacities.

Activities to achieve objective 3 are:

- Define clearly the operational systems and structures at national level and in selected branches.
- Prepare a contingency plan for the national society disaster response.
- Train the national society staff, volunteers and the general public in disaster prevention and mitigation.
- Identify coping mechanisms (training and programmes) to address small scale emergencies and disasters.
- Establish the Red Cross action teams in strategic branches to effectively, professionally and timely respond to larger scale disasters.
- Clarify the role of the national society within the framework of the national disaster preparedness plan.

**Objective 4** To support the national society in strengthening its HIV/AIDS and community-based health activities in order to respond to the increasing needs.

Activities to achieve objective 4 are:

- Identify the role of the national society in the national HIV/AIDS plan.
- Develop partnerships with partners at regional, national and local levels.
- Provide guidance in development of well-defined, appropriate and action-oriented HIV/AIDS interventions.
- Improve health-related services at community level and integrate them with selected HIV/AIDS activities.
- Provide advice on policies and practices to the national society staff living with HIV/AIDS and to those who lost their loved ones.

**Objective 5** To assist the national society in resource development and financial management in order to meet increased demands.

Activities to achieve objective 5 are:

- Develop financial resources through membership drives, income generation schemes, advocating for subsidies from the government.
- Optimize the computerized finance system with accounting and budgeting modules.
- Prepare guidelines for a new finance system at headquarters and branch levels.

### **Expected results by end 2003**

- By mid 2002, the national society will have been formally recognized by its government and by the ICRC and admitted to the Federation as a full member.
- By mid-2003, the national society will have finalized the reorganization process, adequate professional staff will have been trained and/or employed, and clear responsibility lines will have been established.
- By mid-2003, the national society role in the national disaster preparedness plan, the operational systems and structures will have been defined.
- By the end of 2002, the national society's role in the national HIV/AIDS plan will have been identified and key national partnerships developed.

- By the end of 2002, the new computerized financial system will have been fully functional.

**Indicators**

- The first general assembly is organized and a functioning governance structure is in place.
- The society has a minimum of 5,000 members.
- Local financial resources are available to cover the core costs and a part of the national society programme activities.
- Volunteers and staff are organized and trained to act in case of disasters.
- The national society has an efficient financial reporting system in place and fulfils donor requirements.

**Critical assumptions**

- A true commitment from the leadership of the national society towards the change processes at headquarters and branch levels.
- Sufficient qualified staff is available for key management positions at headquarters and branch levels.
- There is no delay in the recognition of the national society by the Eritrean government.
- The drought and/or tensions between Eritrea and Ethiopia do not increase and affect the change process.
- Sufficient funding is available for the programme.

**Monitoring and evaluation arrangements**

Monitoring of this programme will be carried out in the following ways:

- With support from the regional delegation in Kenya, the Federation representative together with the national society key management will undertake monitoring at national level.
- The partner national societies will be visiting Eritrea.
- Annual consultation meetings will be organized for the partner national societies.

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PROGRAMME BUDGETS - 2002								
Eritrea								
PROGRAMME	Disaster Prep	Disaster Resp	Health & Care	Human. Values	IDRD	Reg. Co- operation	Co-ord. & Mgmt	TOTAL
Shelter & Construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clothing & Textiles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food & Seeds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical & 1st Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teaching Materials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ustensils & Tools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Relief Supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Subtotal Supplies</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computer & Telecom	0	0	0	0	4'257	0	0	4'257
Medical Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Capital Equipment	0	0	0	0	1'000	0	0	1'000
<b>Subtotal Capital</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5'257</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5'257</b>
Programme Management	0	0	0	0	12'321	0	0	12'321
Technical Services	0	0	0	0	3'688	0	0	3'688
Professional Services	0	0	0	0	4'090	0	0	4'090
<b>Subtotal Programme Support</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20'100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20'100</b>
Warehousing/Inspection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transport & Vehicles	0	0	0	0	4'400	0	0	4'400
<b>Subtotal Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4'400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4'400</b>
Delegates & Expatriates	0	0	0	0	104'200	0	0	104'200
National Societies and Local Staff	0	0	0	0	1'800	0	0	1'800
<b>Subtotal Personnel</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>106'000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>106'000</b>
Travel & Related Expenses	0	0	0	0	37'130	0	0	37'130
Information	0	0	0	0	4'000	0	0	4'000
Consultants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
General Expenses	0	0	0	0	5'840	0	0	5'840
Training Workshops & Seminars	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Security	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Subtotal Training, Information &amp; General</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>46'970</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>46'970</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>182'727</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>182'727</b>