

Appeal 2003-2004



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

LESOTHO

Appeal no. 01.16/2003

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	2003 (In CHF)	2004 ² (In CHF)
1. Health and Care	248,021	260,000
2. Disaster Management	135,947	145,000
3. Organizational Development	122,896	130,000
Total	506,864¹	535,000

National Context

Lesotho is one of the smallest countries in Southern Africa and has a population of just under 2.2 million. It is surrounded by South Africa and has close links to the South African economy. Lesotho's economy is mostly based on agriculture, light manufacturing and remittances from miners employed in South Africa. 43.1% of the population lives below the income poverty line of USD 1 per day and consequently have income levels that are inadequate for basic food and non-food consumption. 65.7% survive on less than USD 2 per day.

Human Development Indicators at a Glance

	Lesotho	Sub-Saharan Africa	World
Life expectancy at birth (years)	45.7	48.7	66.9
Adult literacy rate (% age 15 and above), 2000	83.4	61.5	~
Adult literacy rate (female as % of male), 2000	129	77	~
Combined primary, secondary and tertiary gross enrolment ratio (%), 1999	61	42	65
GDP per capita (PPP\$), 2000	2,031	1,690	7,446
People living with HIV/AIDS, adults (% age 15-49), 2001	31	9	1.2
Refugees (thousands), in/out, 2000	~	~	~

Source: UNDP HDR 2002

The country has very little arable land. This has led to population pressure and forced settlements in marginal areas. Consequently, overgrazing, soil erosion and soil exhaustion are problems that the country struggles with as two-thirds of the population live in the rural areas and rely on agriculture for

¹ USD 347,795 or EUR 344,264.

² These are preliminary budget figures for 2004, and are subject to revision.

their livelihoods. In addition, the country is prone to natural disasters such as droughts, heavy snow fall, severe frosts, hailstorms, tornados and localised floods. These are hazards that all impact negatively on agricultural production and the country suffers from a regular food-deficit and high malnutrition rates. The country is currently in the midst of a food insecurity operation, after the Lesotho government appealed to the international community for assistance to avoid the development of a major humanitarian catastrophe. The International Federation launched a revised food security appeal in July 2002 in which Lesotho was included.

Lesotho also struggles with a high HIV/AIDS prevalence rate. To people living with HIV/AIDS, food shortages and malnutrition are devastating to their health. The HIV/AIDS pandemic also negatively affects agricultural production and socio-economic development, as the work force being the adult population, are the ones who are infected. At the same time the number of orphans and dependents continues to grow.

The rural communities have poor water and sanitation coverage which leads to an increase of common health diseases. The country also has low immunisation coverage for the common childhood diseases, which has resulted in an increase in morbidity and high infant mortality rates.

National Society Priorities

The Lesotho Red Cross Society (LRCS) responds to the humanitarian needs in the country to the extent that its resources and capacity allows. The National Society is well-known throughout the country for its first aid activities and as a humanitarian player in disaster situations. The National Society is recognised by the government as an independent voluntary organisation which complements national efforts in the areas of health, first aid and disaster preparedness and disaster response. In recent years, the government has demonstrated the recognition of the National Society by providing direct financial support to the LRCS in the running of its health clinics.

At a Glance

	Year	Comments
Recognition	1971	Recognised by ICRC and joined the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent in 1971.
Strategic Development	2002	Ten year draft strategic development plan is in place focusing mainly on programme development and implementation of NS recovery plan.
Appeal	yearly	Linked to Federation appeals.
CAS	N/A	The CAS process will start in 2003
Self Assessment	2002	Finalised
Elections	2003	The general elections will be held next year, mean while the NS is undertaking some preparation and the date for elections will be announced later.
Audit	2001	External Audit carried out by Ernst and young.

In its draft strategy, the vision of the LRCS reads: “to become a widely recognised and unique leading voluntary organisation in meeting the needs of the most vulnerable”. Underlying the vision, is a mission statement that aims to “alleviate human suffering and improve the quality of life and communities affected by both natural and manmade disasters and guided by the seven Fundamental Principles of the Movement”. The Society’s priorities are in line with Federation strategic documents and the National Society strives to uphold agreed minimum standards contained in the Humanitarian Charter and the SPHERE project.

At national level, the LRCS is a member of the national executive of the disaster management authority, the Lesotho council of NGOs, and attends government- and donor-led meetings. The National Society is widely recognised as the only organisation that provides first aid training in the

country. Up until now, the LRCS has been involved in the areas of health, disaster preparedness and response, youth programmes, branch/institutional development as well as environmental protection.

The National Society has experienced some internal governance and management issues as well as severe financial difficulties. In 2001, a financial analysis was carried out on the LRCS with financial support from the regional OD programme. This resulted in the development of a rescue and recovery plan. The plan was presented to donors and sufficient interest was raised to pay for retrenchment costs and other capacity building activities.

In line with ARCHI 2010, Strategy 2010 and the Ouagadougou declaration, the LRCS is committed to address the needs of the most vulnerable in the following identified main core areas:

- Health and care in the community
- First Aid
- Disaster preparedness and disaster response
- Organisational development
- Promotion of Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values.

In order to achieve the above commitments, the National Society recognises the need to strengthen its institutional capacities in the following areas:

- Restructuring of the National Society's organisational structure
- Resource mobilisation to make the National Society increasingly self-reliable
- Review Management Information System
- Increase numbers of volunteers and members.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Priorities

The LRCS has not yet developed a Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) but has a draft strategic plan ready that will be finalised by the end of 2002.

Apart from the Federation and ICRC, the National Society does not have any major active partnerships. In the past, the Icelandic Red Cross has funded the running of three health clinics. The LRCS has a good relationship with the government, however, and some funds are received for the running of the clinics, staff salaries and for the purchasing of drugs.

The National Society is currently involved in the food security operation with the International Federation and will participate in the distribution of food to the targeted beneficiaries. The Secretariat's Southern Africa Delegation in Harare provides technical support to the Lesotho Red Cross in the areas of HIV/AIDS, health, water and sanitation, organisational development and disaster management with the aim of strengthening the National Society's capacity to respond to the humanitarian needs in the country and the most vulnerable communities.

Primary Support from the Movement in 2002

Partner	Health	Relief	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Other
ICRC	xx			xx		
Federation*	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	
German RC			xx			
Icelandic RC					xx	
American RC	xx					
Spanish RC					xx	
Norwegian RC			xx		xx	

*Federation support comes from multilateral RC

Priority Programmes for Secretariat Assistance

In 2003-4, the Secretariat will continue its focus on building the institutional capacity of the National Society for it to respond to the large humanitarian needs in the country. Main priorities will be the food security operation and to reduce HIV infection rates and mitigate the impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

1. Health and Care W *<Click here to return to the title page>*

Background and achievements/lessons to date

CBHC

The LRCS has a long experience with running of health clinics. The National Society runs four clinics in the rural areas of the country, three in the lowlands and one in the mountains. The clinics provide basic health care to vulnerable communities in the following areas; ante-natal services, immunisation of under-fives, family planning, consultation of patients, dispensing of drugs and follow-up visits to patients in the community.

The LRCS is aware of its bias towards curative services and is committed to extend into preventive health in vulnerable communities. The National Society is also known countrywide for rendering first aid services and there is potential for expansion of these services to vulnerable communities. Currently, the GAP Foundation are supporting first aid activities.

Alongside poverty and food insecurity, the country struggles with a high HIV/AIDS prevalence estimated at 31% and an alarming increase of TB which accounts for 50% of hospital beds. Other challenges include, diarrhoea diseases, respiratory tract infections and increasing malnutrition which is more prevalent in under-fives and people living with HIV/AIDS. With the enormous needs for health care services in the country, particularly in the remote mountainous areas, the LRCS has an important role to play to assist the most vulnerable communities. With the right capacity and resources, the National Society will be able to extend its programmes and become a main provider of health care services in the country. The regional health programme will focus its efforts on assisting the National Society to scale up its activities by training personnel, encourage the drafting of project proposals for fund-raising, as well as to encourage the National Society to work in partnership with other relevant stakeholders.

HIV/AIDS

With support from the Secretariat's Southern Africa Delegation, the LRCS drew up a five-year plan for HIV/AIDS activities in 2001 based upon a baseline survey. The National Society has since then established two orphan projects and a youth peer education project. The National Society intends to establish home-based care projects in 2003-4 while scaling up existing initiatives. The National Society is committed to the scaling-up of HIV/AIDS activities in the fight against the pandemic to the extent that the National Society has the necessary resources and capacity available.

Lesotho has one of the highest HIV/AIDS incidence rates in the Southern Africa region and the number of orphans and dependents is growing steadily. The National Society needs all the support it can get to make a difference in the lives of people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.

Overall Goal

A sustainable improvement in the general health and reduction in HIV/AIDS transmission of the targeted vulnerable communities through the provision of community-based health and care interventions.

Programme Objective

The Federation facilitates the development of the National Society's capacity in CBHC and HIV/AIDS programming, including through the sharing of lessons learned from other Southern Africa National Societies.

Expected Results

1. The capacity of the LRCS to design and implement health projects that contribute to the reduction of morbidity and mortality from common health problems is strengthened.
 - Six LRCS health staff trained and able to design, implement, monitor and evaluate CBHC projects.
 - Six first aid teams with 200 volunteers trained and able to provide first aid services in four districts.
 - 5000 families in target areas have received CBFA and are able to respond to common health conditions.
 - LRCS are members of National Immunisation Committee and County coordination body.
 - Improved immunisation coverage in targeted areas up to 100%.
 - Proposal for malaria and TB developed by LRCS and submitted to GFATM.
 - LRCS have partnerships with other organisations.

2. By the end of 2004, the prevalence of HIV infection and impact is reduced among the target group.
 - 500 PLWHA provided with quality care and support.
 - 80,000 youths reached with safer sex skills.
 - 1,000 orphans supported materially and psychologically.
 - The capacity of the National Society is strengthened.
 - The LRCS is recognised both nationally and internationally as a key actor in the fight against HIV/AIDS, through advocacy and communications strategies directed at media and authorities.

2. Disaster Management W [<Click here to return to the title page>](#)

Background and achievements/lessons to date

Over the past ten years, LRCS has been involved in various disaster interventions and gained valuable experience and capacity through them, particularly at branch level. The National Society has responded to droughts, blizzards and tornadoes.

Unfortunately, over recent years, communication with large parts of the branch network has been weakened. This has consequently hampered response efforts and there is an urgent need to re-establish these links as soon as possible to ensure an adequate response capacity of the National Society throughout the country.

With the support of the Secretariat's Southern Africa Delegation, the LRCS is committed to develop a disaster management policy and plan and increase its capacity in the areas of coordination, assessment, distribution, warehousing and reporting to further strengthen and improve the National Society's overall ability to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable people.

As part of the food insecurity operation, two Federation delegates (relief and logistics) have been placed in the country to support the National Society in the food security operation and increase the response capacity of the National Society.

Overall Goal

Implementation of characteristics of a well-prepared national society has improved the LRCS in three key areas, namely; know-how, capacity and performance.

Programme Objective

Secretariat assistance to the LRCS has increased the National Society's disaster response capacity to meet the humanitarian needs in the country.

Expected Result

The capacity of the LRCS to provide appropriate and timely support to the people threatened or affected by disasters is increased.

- The National Society has consolidated and updated data base for human and technical disaster management resources that are accessible when needed; target for 11 emergency first aiders and 5 RDRT members by 2004.
- Disaster management policy and plan in place and disseminated to all stakeholders by end of 2003.
- 200 staff and volunteers countrywide trained in disaster management by end of 2003.
- Integrate long term food security interventions in national society priority programmes.
- Countrywide EWS network based upon DMIS and situation monitoring by RDRT members for established.
- Sustainable and appropriate disaster management infrastructure in place.

3. Organisational Development W [*<Click here to return to the title page>*](#)**Background and achievements/lessons to date**

The LRCS has experienced some internal difficulties, which has made it difficult for the regional OD programme to have much impact. Nevertheless, the National Society has been supported in producing a strategic plan that is currently being finalised.

In 2001, a financial analysis was carried out on LRCS with the financial support of the regional OD programme. This in turn led to the production of a rescue and recovery plan. The plan was presented to donors and sufficient interest was raised to pay for retrenchment costs and other capacity building activities. These include revision of the constitution, production of a volunteer code of conduct, a team building workshop and governance-management training.

The regional OD programme also participated in the programme planning mission in July 2001 designed to identify programmes and partners for LRCS.

In financial management, plans are in place to provide the LRCS with a volunteer through Skillshare International to assist the Finance Director.

The regional OD programme will focus its support for 2003 to build the institutional capacity of the National Society by encouraging the establishment of branches, volunteer management systems and effective financial management systems to ensure that the National Society can respond to the humanitarian needs in the country.

Overall Goal

Implementation of characteristics of a well-functioning national society has improved the LRCS in the three key areas: foundation, capacity and performance.

Programme Objective

The National Society's institutional capacity and its progress towards operating as a well-functioning National Society is enhanced through Secretariat support.

Expected Result

The capacity of LRCS to design and implement their strategic directions is improved.

- LRCS has a legal foundation that supports the effective implementation of programmes.

- LRCS has an effective volunteer management system in place.
- LRCS has increased its financial resource base in both value and diversity.
- LRCS has functional branches in place that are actively participating in project implementation.
- LRCS has in place effective financial management systems.

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BUDGET 2003

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.: 01.16/2003

Name: Lesotho

PROGRAMME:

	Organisational Development	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Federation Coordination	International Representation	Total
	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Shelter & construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clothing & textiles	0	39,000	0	0	0	0	39,000
Food	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seeds & plants	0	0	15,000	0	0	0	15,000
Water & Sanitation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical & first aid	0	15,000	4,000	0	0	0	19,000
Teaching materials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Utensils & tools	0	1,400	0	0	0	0	1,400
Other relief supplies	0	6,600	0	0	0	0	6,600
SUPPLIES	0	62,000	19,000	0	0	0	81,000
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers & telecom	26,167	0	0	0	0	0	26,167
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other capital exp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL EXPENSES	26,167	0	0	0	0	0	26,167
Warehouse & Distribution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transport & Vehicules	2,791	3,600	3,600	0	0	0	9,991
TRANSPORT & STORAGE	2,791	3,600	3,600	0	0	0	9,991
Programme Support	7,988	16,121	8,837	0	0	0	32,946
PROGRAMME SUPPORT	7,988	16,121	8,837	0	0	0	32,946
Personnel-delegates	19,200	0	0	0	0	0	19,200
Personnel-national staff	25,683	123,000	0	0	0	0	148,683
Consultants	19,200	4,000	0	0	0	0	23,200
PERSONNEL	64,083	127,000	0	0	0	0	191,083
W/shops & Training	11,067	6,500	60,540	0	0	0	78,107
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING	11,067	6,500	60,540	0	0	0	78,107
Travel & related expenses	6,000	14,400	8,000	0	0	0	28,400
Information	0	6,400	20,000	0	0	0	26,400
Other General costs	4,800	12,000	15,970	0	0	0	32,770
GENERAL EXPENSES	10,800	32,800	43,970	0	0	0	87,570
TOTAL BUDGET:	122,896	248,021	135,947	0	0	0	506,864