

Appeal 2003-2004



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Appeal no. 01.74/2003

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



	2003 (In CHF)	2004 (In CHF)
1. Health and Care	450,933	200,000
2. Disaster Management	1,047,551	700,000
3. Organizational Development	171,283	100,000
Total	1,669,766	1,000,000

Introduction

In moving towards a stable political and economic environment since proclaiming its independence from the Former Yugoslav Federation in the early 1990s, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) continues to face numerous difficulties and humanitarian crises affecting its population of two million.

Bold actions by the government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to avert the downward trend facing the economy have come too late for a growing number of people who have lost their jobs, leaving them and their families below the poverty line and forcing them into social assistance programmes. While the success of these new political and economic strategies may reap rewards in the long term, for those who have been hit hardest by the political and economic instability the more pressing need is for adequate food, shelter and health care.

Refugees and internally displaced persons also add to an already burdened infrastructure prompting the implementation of various humanitarian aid operations by several aid agencies. Playing an active role in the relief of suffering, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement through the Macedonian Red Cross and in conjunction with other aid organisations, is concentrating on key areas of need utilising its reputation and countrywide respect in the delivery of its programmes to vulnerable populations.

USD 1,145,184 or EUR 1,134,795.

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

National Context

After declaring independence in September 1991, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia began making a transition to a free-market system while also facing the challenges arising from instability in the region. In 1998 an armed conflict erupted in Kosovo provoking a massive flow of over 300,000 refugees into FYROM, testing the country's capability in managing large population movements.

At the beginning of 2001 an internal conflict brought the country to the edge of civil war. Fuelled by continued social tensions, high unemployment and large numbers of striking workers, the internal conflict led to more than 50,000 persons being internally displaced with another 50,000 fleeing to neighbouring countries.

Currently the caseload of internally displaced persons (IDPs) is 9,300 with some 3,000 refugees still present from previous conflicts in nearby areas. The forecasted figures for 2003, according to UNHCR, suggest that the capital, Skopje, will host 2,800 Kosovo refugees, with the number of internally displaced persons expected to drop from 9,300 in the first quarter to 5,000 by August, and by December the number of IDPs is anticipated to be 2,500.

Compounding any problems that arise through political and economic instability, FYROM is also at risk from natural disasters such as earthquakes, landslides, floods and forest fires, any of which would have devastating effects on a population struggling to rebuild its society after more than a decade of conflict in the region.

Development Indicators

(Source: World Development Indicators database, www.devdata.worldbank.org)

Indicators	2000	2001
Life expectancy at birth (years)	73	-
Illiteracy rate, adult female (% at age 15 and above)	-	-
Illiteracy rate, adult male (% at age 15 and above)	-	-
GNI per capita (US\$)	1820	1690
Population total	2,031,000	2,043,698
Population growth (annual %)	-	-
Urban population (% of total)	59	59

NB: GNI - Gross National Income

National Society Priorities

In 1991 the Macedonian Red Cross was established as an independent and fully functioning Red Cross society. Despite massive challenges, the Macedonian Red Cross has shown great resolve and has played an active role in dealing with conflict situations, social upheaval and refugee crises. The range of humanitarian disasters facing the FYROM has repeatedly tested the capacity of the Macedonian Red Cross to serve all sections of the displaced population in a environment of highly charged ethnic conflict.

Working according to the fundamental principles of the Movement, the Macedonian RC activities have led to an increased awareness of the Red Cross among the population and built a greater capacity at the national headquarters to implement programmes and work strategically and efficiently with its 34 branches and various partners. Importantly, the Macedonian RC and its major role in the delivery of humanitarian aid, has been recognized by the government which now regularly invites the Macedonian RC to take part in government meetings.

To meet the challenges of planning and financing the activities of the National Society a formal cooperation between the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the Macedonian Red Cross was established. This cooperation has led to the development of a number of strategies to, firstly, overcome the planning and funding challenges and secondly, to create organizational and programme development structures within the Macedonian RC to facilitate a more

inclusive National Society. This cooperation between the Federation and the National Society will continue through 2003.

The exemplary conduct of the Macedonian RC during the humanitarian crises in its support of all vulnerable people in the country on the basis of need alone has left an important impression on the local population, who now regard the Macedonian RC as the premiere local humanitarian organization. A public survey conducted in 2001, initiated by the American Red Cross, showed both high awareness of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and trust by the local population.

To ensure that current levels of support from the local population and scope of activity are maintained the priorities for 2003-2004 have been identified as follows:

- Disaster Preparedness: Reinforce the capacities of the national staff and volunteers in the local branches to effectively respond in case of natural or man-made disasters.
- Organizational Development: Build up Macedonian RC staff skills (management, information and reporting skills) and the improvement of Macedonian RC financial reporting through the purchase of finance software and providing training of national staff, as well as supporting fundraising activities with local resources, including training sessions for the national staff in the headquarters and the local branches.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Priorities

The National Society is currently partnered with several international agencies to meet the needs of vulnerable people:

- With an internal conflict exploding in the country in spring 2001 the lead Red Cross agency became the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) providing direct assistance to the displaced persons in the country.
- UNHCR (United Nations High Commission for Refugees) is providing food support for the remaining Kosovo refugees (explained in the National Context section) and funding primary medical care (including medical check-ups, medicines, referrals to the state hospital, health education) through the Social Welfare Programme for the remaining Kosovo refugees in collective centres and private accommodation. This operation is in line with the Federation Health and Care activities.
- EAR (European Agency for Reconstruction) is providing financial support to the host families of internally displaced persons through the Macedonian Red Cross branches. This activity is co-ordinated by the Social Welfare Programme.

The following partner National Societies are providing support to Macedonian RC programmes:

- Swedish RC and Finnish RC are continuing to support Macedonian RC multilaterally through the Federation appeals.
- American RC have been supporting disaster management, organizational development and health programmes, and is operating bilaterally in Macedonia.
- German Red Cross is assisting the Demir Kapija institution for disabled persons by funding two physiotherapists as additional staff; it has also supported the disaster preparedness programme, and has been operating bilaterally in Macedonia.
- Spanish RC has been supporting disaster preparedness and health, working bilaterally with Macedonian RC.
- French Red Cross is supporting six micro projects in different counties - three reconstruction and three social projects, and has a trilateral project agreement with Macedonian RC and the Federation.
- Norwegian Red Cross is sponsoring the regional Participatory Community Development (PCD) project which is ongoing in three counties of Macedonia and several youth projects (educational seminars).

Priority Programmes for Secretariat Assistance

Due to the various crises within the region and the country, the Federation reopened its delegation in the FYROM in 1998. The Federation worked together with numerous partner National Societies to assist the Macedonian RC in meeting the relief needs of the remaining refugees from Kosovo and southern Serbia, as well as vulnerable local populations.

As “serving leader”, the role of the Federation is:

- to facilitate the development process of the National Society by building its capacities and providing technical support in the programme areas.
- to continue to provide services, coordination and management support, as needed, to partner National Societies supporting the Macedonian RC. American RC, however, will be probably be the only partner National Society operating in Macedonia in 2003.

In 2001-02 several bilateral programmes came to an end and an exit strategy was devised to gradually hand over responsibility of programmes to the National Society. During 2002, Federation assistance to the National Society switched from direct support to consulting activities creating opportunities for a smooth take-over of all activities by the Macedonian RC. The Federation delegation in the FYROM has already been successful in reassigning ownership of several ongoing programmes in the country and will continue to implement and monitor the exit strategy for the end of 2003, as discussed and agreed with the Macedonia RC. To ensure the timely hand-over of activities the main objective during 2003 will be capacity building of the National Society as highlighted in the National Society priorities section.

Therefore based on the priorities outlined by the National Society, this appeal is required to ensure the continuity of programmes and activities launched under the previous appeal. It is important that the expertise and resources which exist within the Movement are utilised to support Macedonian RC as it attempts to raise its profile and build its partnership with the government.

About this Appeal:

This appeal is a logical continuation of the 2002-2003 appeal. This 2003 appeal has been reviewed on the basis of the achievements of the past year and lessons learned. The fulfilment of the goals and objectives of this appeal will increase the Macedonian RC operational capacities, including improved assistance to targeted vulnerable groups and the promotion of its role in society.

Health and Care	Reduce the vulnerability of the refugees, social cases and internally displaced persons through an effective social welfare programme.
Disaster Management	Improve the living conditions of vulnerable groups in Macedonia and to reinforce Macedonian RC effectiveness in responding to any man-made or natural disaster.
Organizational Development	Further improve the overall capacity of the Macedonian RC to develop and deliver sustainable programmes to meet the needs of the vulnerable groups in FYROM.

1. Health and Care W [<Click here to return to the title page>](#)

Background and achievements/lessons to date

The Social Welfare Programme has been a prime example of how a Red Cross Society, supported by the Federation, can develop and run a dynamic operation assisting a wide range of people.

Health care in FYROM has deteriorated considerably since independence. In the 1980s the state provided a guaranteed health care service, however an acute lack of funds and a shortage of some

medical supplies have prevented it from being entirely successful. Cuts to health and social benefits in FYROM have taken their toll on the population. Compounding the problem, internal conflict in the north has resulted in a large number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the main cities and even to the south of the country. Both the war and the IDPs have placed the economy and political scene of the FYROM under intense pressure.

The Red Cross social welfare programme operates from an information centre located in Skopje. Providing means for re-socialisation, education, social and recreational activities for beneficiaries, the centre is staffed by a social worker, a counselor and a lawyer. The social welfare programme, active since 1992 following the Bosnian refugee crisis, assists all vulnerable populations in FYROM including refugees from previous conflicts. The programme is highly respected among the international community in the country, with the information centre acting as a primary counterpart for ICRC, various government ministries and international organizations. The information centre is also regularly consulted for data collection.

Overall Goal

Reduce the vulnerability of the refugees, social cases and internally displaced persons through an effective social welfare programme.

Programme Objective and Expected Result(s)

Programme Objective

To use the information centre to strengthen the capacity of the National Society to increase the well-being of vulnerable groups and to respond effectively to their basic needs.

Expected Result(s)

- The information centre will be fully operational in 2003, beneficiary needs will have been registered for follow-up at a later date and when necessary referred to relevant aid agencies and institutions.
- Access to medical assistance activities by beneficiaries will have been easy and satisfactory, especially for those with no previous access to medical services.
- Psycho-social support will have been provided to those in need by trained local staff resulting in decreased stress among beneficiaries. Support will have been available in collective centres, local Red Cross branches and collective or private accommodation. Activities for re-socialisation of the beneficiaries through library opportunities and social clubs will have been organized.
- Counseling of beneficiaries regarding their legal status will have been provided.
- Coordination with other aid agencies will have been effective to avoid duplication of activities. Contacts will have been established with relevant ministries to increase cooperation and assist integration of beneficiaries in the local community.
- Hand-over of full responsibility for the running of this programme to Macedonian RC will have been accomplished by the end of 2003.

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

Background and achievements/lessons to date

The relief programme has been operational since the summer of 1998, when the Federation reopened its delegation in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Working with the Macedonian RC, humanitarian relief was provided to the refugees from Kosovo and southern Serbia, as well as vulnerable local populations.

Following internal conflict in March 2001, ICRC took the lead role in addressing the needs of thousands of internally displaced persons. The International Federation and the American RC were able to support the overall operation with supplies and logistical support.

Once assessments were completed, the Macedonian RC distributed hygiene parcels and food supplies provided by the ICRC. All 34 branches responded effectively, with the main burden placed on the Tetovo, Kumanovo and Skopje branches. The year 2002 started with 15,000 IDPs and this is expected to decrease to 9,300 by the beginning of 2003.

The Federation has continued to support the Macedonian RC in its relief programmes serving the remaining 2,800 Kosovo refugees, also IDPs and social cases (vulnerable families identified by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare) by providing hygiene parcels that complement the food support provided every month by other donors.

The disaster response and training programme set up several years ago continues to serve the needs of the FYROM, for example, managing the influx of refugees that entered the country in 1999 and during the ethnically charged internal conflict that raged for most of 2001. In 2002, a vast range of activities were directly carried out by Macedonian RC such as setting up reception posts for displaced people, registration of the beneficiaries, distribution of relief items in remote areas and provision of water by a special system.

Disaster preparedness activities continued at branch level in cooperation with the German and American RC, focusing on emergency response, improvement of communications, and in coordination with the National Society headquarters and ICRC.

In March 2000 the Stability Pact for South East Europe launched the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative (DPPI) which offers a framework for regional cooperation, bringing together ongoing activities and identifying unmet needs. Several Disaster Preparedness (DP) and Disaster Management (DM) workshops were conducted in the region, reinforcing the network of Red Cross DP coordinators and addressing cross border issues.

Overall Goal

Improve the living conditions of vulnerable groups in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and to reinforce Macedonian RC effectiveness in responding to any man-made or natural disaster.

Programme Objective and Expected Result(s)

Programme Objectives

To continue supporting the vulnerable groups (refugees, IDPs and social cases) through provision of relief items and to prepare the Macedonian RC to respond in a timely, effective and focused manner to any disaster in the country and in nearby countries.

Expected Result(s)

- The supply and distribution of hygiene and baby parcels to refugees, also IDPs and social cases, as needed, will have been carried out, in coordination with ICRC, Red Cross partners, and other agencies (UNHCR, WFP, Intersos, ECHO).
- Basic emergency stock will have been established as a back-up for natural or man-made disasters in Macedonia or neighbouring countries, and staff will have been trained accordingly; training curriculum will have been developed and facilities created to regularly train volunteers throughout the country and mobilise them in time of disasters; increased knowledge and understanding of disaster preparedness by volunteers; and DP policies and related public information will have been disseminated.
- Macedonian RC staff, both at local and central level will have been trained; interaction and partnerships with other National Society DP co-ordinators in the region will have been increased.

3. Organizational Development w [<Click here to return to the title page>](#)

Background and achievements/lessons to date

The OD programme began in the summer of 1998, and since the start of 2000 has been supported by the American RC, which, in coordination with both the Federation's country delegation and regional delegation, started full scale research of the National Society and its institutional development (ID) potential. As one of the few partner National Societies currently working in the FYROM, the American Red Cross has built a strong working relationship with the Macedonian RC. The OD programme was based on an assessment of the performance of organizational systems, constituency satisfaction, resource acquisition, internal processes and goal attainment. The concept was introduced to various departments of the National Society. An ID/OD board was formed as the body responsible to discuss and develop OD issues.

Delays resulting from the conflict situation, combined with a large turnover of delegates, lack of ownership of the project by the National Society, and poor financial response to the appeal, have hampered the implementation of planned activities. OD priorities have now been re-addressed and redefined. More emphasis is being directed at the ability to generate income to support Macedonian RC programmes.

The OD programme in 2003-2004 will be mainly concentrated on providing National Society personnel with analytical and decision-making skills, which will improve their capacity for providing services with international standards. Developing a new financial system is one of the main objectives. Computer software for the finance department will be purchased, and national staff trained, not only for computerized handling of the data, but to improve the financial reporting of the society's expenditure. Resources in the region will be used to provide consultancy services to Macedonian RC for this work.

Overall Goal

Further improve the overall capacity of the Macedonian RC to develop and deliver responsive and sustainable programmes to meet the needs of the vulnerable groups in FYROM.

Programme Objective and Expected Result(s)

Programme Objective

To increase the ability of Macedonian RC to manage programmes and obtain funding both for headquarters and branches.

Expected Result(s)

- Reporting, management and coordination skills of the Macedonian RC staff will have been improved, including financial management with provision of financial software and training, that will contribute to better project management and increased funding.
- The role of the National Society within civil society will have been better defined and the image of the National Society raised.

4. Federation Coordination

In 1998, the Federation reopened its delegation in Macedonia to work together with numerous partner National Societies to assist the Macedonian RC to meet the needs of refugees from Kosovo and southern Serbia, as well as vulnerable local population. During the internal conflict in the FYROM in 2001, which provoked a displacement of over 70,000 people, the international humanitarian community was mobilised. During these crises, the Federation has proved to be a key organization in co-ordinating relief support, together with ICRC, and other organisations such as UNHCR, ECHO, InterSos and MPDL.

The Federation's delegation has become less of an operational unit. With the transformation in 2002 of the Federation Delegation into a Federation Office, the Federation places a greater emphasis on better servicing and coordinating Macedonian RC and its RC partners in the country. The Federation continues to encourage partner National Societies to support Macedonian RC programmes and

priorities. Technical support within the four core areas will continue to be provided to the Macedonian RC through the Regional Delegation programmes and existing regional networks. The Federation is not appealing for special funds for these activities.

5. International Representation

Besides ensuring coordination and liaison between Red Cross partners, the Federation has, during the past years, also maintained good relations with the international community. One of its main roles has been to promote the efforts of the Macedonian RC, raise its profile and seek support for its activities among governmental, local and international organizations.

The past crises have been the main reason for the presence of the Federation and many other international organisations in the FYROM. Attendance at the interagency meetings, as well as facilitating some of them, has enabled productive working relationships. This has been an opportunity to lobby the international humanitarian community for the mobilisation of additional funds.

In line with obtaining and maintaining the good international image of the Movement, the Federation encourages and supports the Macedonian RC to better advocate its mandate and to better promote its activities and increase the National Society's visibility in the country.

The Federation will continue to support the Macedonian RC to build a better understanding of the potential sources of financial, technical and other forms of support for the National Society's activities and capacity building. The Federation is not appealing for special funds for these activities.

<Budget below - [Click here to return to the title page](#)>

BUDGET 2003

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.: 01.74/2003

Name: Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

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	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food	0	5,520	400,000	0	0	0	405,520
Seeds & plants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water & Sanitation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical & first aid	0	250,800	0	0	0	0	250,800
Teaching materials	0	10,800	0	0	0	0	10,800
Utensils & tools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other relief supplies	0	10,800	241,600	0	0	0	252,400
SUPPLIES	0	277,920	641,600	0	0	0	919,520
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers & telecom	2,300	0	0	0	0	0	2,300
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other capital exp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL EXPENSES	2,300	0	0	0	0	0	2,300
Warehouse & Distribution	0	0	176,480	0	0	0	176,480
Transport & Vehicules	6,000	15,792	20,080	0	0	0	41,872
TRANSPORT & STORAGE	6,000	15,792	196,560	0	0	0	218,352
Programme Support	11,133	29,311	68,091	0	0	0	108,534
PROGRAMME SUPPORT	11,133	29,311	68,091	0	0	0	108,534
Personnel-delegates	72,000	0	72,000	0	0	0	144,000
Personnel-national staff	29,250	64,050	44,700	0	0	0	138,000
Consultants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PERSONNEL	101,250	64,050	116,700	0	0	0	282,000
W/shops & Training	8,600	0	0	0	0	0	8,600
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING	8,600	0	0	0	0	0	8,600
Travel & related expenses	6,000	2,920	0	0	0	0	8,920
Information	13,000	5,080	0	0	0	0	18,080
Other General costs	23,000	55,860	24,600	0	0	0	103,460
GENERAL EXPENSES	42,000	63,860	24,600	0	0	0	130,460
TOTAL BUDGET:	171,283	450,933	1,047,551	0	0	0	1,669,766