

PROGRAMME UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

NATIONAL SOCIETY SELF-ASSESSMENT

30 December, 2004

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.

For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal No. 01.101/2004; Programme Update no. 2, Period covered: October - December, 2004; Appeal target: CHF 636,363; Appeal coverage: 50.5%; Outstanding needs: CHF 315,214.

(click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List (also available on the website)).

Programme Summary: this global programme is facilitating a significant development of evaluation activities within the International Federation. During the reporting period the Evaluation Department carried out the activities listed below, and has ensured the proper dissemination of the findings and the recommendations of the different exercises.

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This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning (refer below to access the detailed logframe documents). All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Introduction

The evaluation function is first and foremost an important management tool, enabling the International Federation to review its performance, take decisions, learn from experience and account for its actions, thereby improving the organization's ability to deliver results. Monitoring and evaluation at the Federation has two dimensions: independent evaluations that measure impact in relations to policies, strategies and the goals set for major operations; and National Society Self Assessment. The Department's aim is to deliver monitoring and evaluation products and services of the highest quality that reinforce accountability, transparency, and organizational learning of both member Societies and the Federation's Secretariat.

Evaluation of Programmes, Projects and Processes

Systematic evaluation of policies, programs, projects, and processes are vital for improving performance accountability, lesson learning, policy refinement, and ability to deliver results. The evaluation function in the International Federation is thus an important management tool and an essential aspect of good governance. The

evaluation function is, first and foremost, enabling the International Federation to measure the impact of its programmes and operations, learn from experience, take informed decisions, and account for its actions, thereby improving its capacity to fulfil the mission to improve the lives of vulnerable people. In general, evaluations at the International Federation contain two elements: a) examining past performance to determine the *degree* of success or failure; and b) improving future performance by determining the *reasons* for success or failure.

The evaluation function aims to enhance the capacity of the Federation to improve lives of vulnerable people through excellence and independence in evaluations. The objectives of the evaluation function are to:

- provide an objective basis for assessing impact;
- improve policies, programs, projects, and processes by identifying and disseminating the lessons learned from experience and by making recommendations drawn from evaluation findings; and
- help provide shared accountability for the achievement of the Federation's objectives.

Activities implemented:

In response to changing development landscape and increasing pressures to demonstrate transparency, accountability, and effectiveness, the evaluation activity in the International Federation has intensified throughout the past year. The reporting period saw the following activities:

- PADRU evaluation completed and disseminated.
- Monitoring plan for African national societies developed as a by-product of the 6th Pan-African Conference.
- Strategy 2010 Mid-Term Review – aim of this review is to assess the success of the International Federation in managing towards a) improving the power of humanity and b) mobilizing the power of humanity through unity of purpose provided by the four core areas of Strategy 2010. The four core areas being; health and care in the community, principles and values, disaster response and disaster preparedness.
- Strategy 2010 Thematic Review on Health - which feeds into the main Strategy 2010 mid-term review - is currently underway. The review is assessing progress in the area of health and care in community against the three strategic directions of the Strategy 2010 at local, regional and global level.
- A Monitoring & Evaluation plan developed for the Bulgarian Red Cross with a focus on impact assessment.
- Addendum to the Monitoring and Evaluation handbook – chapter on impact assessment - is currently underway.

Please note that all evaluation reports can be made available upon request.

National Society Self-Assessment

Strategy 2010 outlined the need to have a Federation-wide monitoring system to support national societies in achieving the 'Characteristics of a Well-Functioning National Society'. Since its inception in 2000, National Society Self-Assessment has achieved global coverage and become institutionalized and universally accepted. The overall goal of the self-assessment process is to assess and measure progress in building a Federation composed of well functioning National Societies with capacity to improve the lives of vulnerable people.

The Self Assessment process was designed as a monitoring system that:

- a) identifies strengths and weaknesses of members and of the Federation as a whole;
- b) documents best practice;
- c) feeds into policy discussions
- d) encourages discussions within and across organizations;
- e) builds a culture of transparency and accountability; and
- f) provides baseline information for better programming;
- g) provides the means to measure the work of the International Federation and national societies.

The first round of the Self-Assessment process was completed between 2000 and 2004, and all 181 national societies were invited to participate. It thus created, for the first time, a comprehensive global picture of the state of the member Societies in relation to agreed upon performance criteria. The new Self-Assessment round, launched in September 2004, will enable the Secretariat to monitor changes and measure progress made in achieving the characteristics of a Well-Functioning National Society.

A FedNet platform for the Self-Assessment, expected to be launched in 2005, will lead to significant improvements in the knowledge sharing, organizational learning, and problem-identification and response speed capacities of the system. It will, in addition, allow national societies to perform online comparison with the rest of the Federation members globally or regionally in relations to key criteria. The FedNet platform is currently in the process of development with an information technology company.

The Monitoring and Evaluation Department has provided Self-Assessment Findings to all national societies which participated in the first round and will continue the process for the national societies taking part in the second cycle. The preliminary findings, prepared individually for each national society, are based on the Self-Assessment questionnaire response and additional documentation sent in by the society, and contains indicators on the nature and adequacy of national society functioning in various areas. The purpose of the individual findings is to acknowledge the information received from the national societies, ask for clarifications if needed and recommend action following Federation policies.

[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page](#)

National Society Self Assessment

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 01.101/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

16/02/2005

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				636,364	TOTAL COVERAGE	
					50.5%	
BRITISH - GOVT/DIFD GRANT 2004				200,000	29.01.04	
ICELANDIC- RC		1,000	ISK	17,400	18.11.04	NS SELF ASSESSMENT
ICRC				20,000	25.11.04	STRATEGY EVALUATION
SWEDISH - RC		500,000	SEK	83,750	30.09.04	IMPACT ASSESSMENT CHAPTER M&E HANDBOOK
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				321,150	CHF	50.5%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	