

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

HORN OF AFRICA SUB-REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

15 June 2005

[Djibouti, Ethiopia and Horn of Africa Sub-regional office]

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. 05AA005; Programme Update no. 1; Period covered: January to June 2005; Appeal coverage: 150.5%; Outstanding needs: See below.

[Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List](#), also available on the website.

Appeal target: CHF 658,535 (USD 523,100 or EUR 424,200); This programme update revised the budget from CHF 658,535 to CHF 1,000,982 to include a food security project that was not in the Appeal. ([Click here to go directly to the revised budget](#)). Adjusted Appeal coverage: 99%; Adjusted outstanding needs: CHF 9,614 (USD 7,511 or EUR 6,211).

Related Emergency Appeal: Ethiopia; Floods; Appeal no. 05EA013; Available on the Federation's web site http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA013.pdf

Programme summary: The sub-regional office for the Horn of Africa was established in Addis Ababa on 1 November 2004. It was initially responsible for Federation support to the National Societies of Djibouti and Ethiopia and is guided by the goals of the Federation, focusing on strengthening the National Societies. The office has provided tailored and mutually agreed support to the Ethiopian Red Cross Society and the Djibouti Red Crescent Society.

As food shortages remain a major humanitarian problem for the two countries, a sub-regional food security officer will be recruited and will be based at the Federation's regional delegation in Nairobi, for easier logistics and communications with all five National Societies in the sub-region.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- *In Djibouti: Abdi Kaireh Bouh, Secretary General, Red Crescent Society of Djibouti, Djibouti; Email: crd@intnet.dj; Phone +253.352.270; Fax +253.352.451*
- *In Ethiopia: Takele Jemberu, Acting Secretary General, Ethiopian Red Cross Society, Addis Ababa; Email: ercs@ethionet.et; Phone +251.1.159.074; Fax +251.1.512.642*
- *In Ethiopia: Pirkko Tolvanen, Federation Head of Sub-regional Office for the Horn of Africa, Addis Ababa; Email: ifrcet04@ifrc.org; Phone +251.1.514.571; Fax +251.1.512.888*
- *In Geneva: Amna Al Ahmar, Federation Regional Officer for East Africa, Africa Dept.; Email Amna.AlAhmar@ifrc.org; Phone +41.22.730.44.27; Fax +41.22.733.03.95*

Horn of Africa Sub-regional programmes; Appeal no. 05AA005; Programme Update no. 1 (includes Djibouti, Ethiopia and sub-regional office)

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>

Operational developments

Following an April 2004 review of the East Africa sub-regional office; covering Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda, the Red Cross Red Crescent Network for East Africa (RC-Net) endorsed the review report and proposed that a Horn of Africa sub-region be established. Five National Societies of the proposed sub-region: Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti and Sudan, agreed that the establishment of the office be done at the end of contracts for heads of delegations/Federation representatives in place. They agreed that the process takes a gradual and pragmatic approach and considers specific situations of each country. Subsequently, the Horn of Africa sub-regional office was established in Addis Ababa on 1 November 2004, to initially cover the National Societies of Djibouti and Ethiopia. It was planned to include the Eritrean National Society, later in 2005, followed by Sudan and Somalia.

Food security remains a major humanitarian problem in the sub-region. Food shortages have resulted in major appeals for Eritrea and Ethiopia in the recent years, but are imminent problems in Sudan and Somalia. In 2005 Djibouti has faced a severe drought as rains have failed during three consecutive years. The Federation had planned to have a sub-regional food security programme in order to improve the capacity of the National Societies to respond to some of the problems resulting from food insecurity in 2005. The border dilemma between Eritrea and Ethiopia has caused delays in the establishment of the sub-regional food security project. It was not possible to recruit a local person for the sub-regional office in Addis Ababa as planned to coordinate the project as there are travelling restrictions and technical communication problems between Eritrea and Ethiopia. However, the project is now being established but the food security officer will be based at the Federation regional delegation in Nairobi.

Co-operation between the National Societies of Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Sudan was reinforced when they participated in a sub-regional meeting held in Khartoum to develop country-specific tsunami recovery plans. The meeting focused on disaster preparedness, health emergencies and creation of community-based early warning systems. Since the National Societies share common challenges: climate-related (droughts and floods), environmental degradation, political instability and diseases (malaria, HIV/AIDS and waterborne diseases), the meeting offered an ideal occasion to discuss the possibilities of joint/common approaches to facing the challenges.

Djibouti

Operational developments

The Federation has been supporting the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti¹ in strengthening its programme implementation capacity and organizational capacity. Focus in 2005 is on the strategic planning process, since the National Society needs technical assistance to be able to implement the planning process

Since its re-launch in 2002, the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti has received strong support from Movement members. Coordination and co-operation between Movement partners, resulting in a common approach to Red Crescent Society of Djibouti capacity building and organizational development, is expected to improve following a joint planning meeting held in June, in which the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti, ICRC and the Federation sub-regional office/Addis Ababa participated.

With support from the Federation, the National Society intends to strengthen its contacts with the UN agencies and to build better contacts with Djibouti government authorities.

¹ Red Crescent Society of Djibouti- <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=57>

Health and care

Goal: Red Crescent Society of Djibouti has a sustainable impact upon the general health of targeted communities through its health programming.

Objective: The National Society's capacity in community health and care programming is facilitated through Federation support.

Progress/Achievements

Integrated health project

- An integrated health pilot project has been implemented in the shanty town of Balbala, near the capital city. The Red Crescent Society of Djibouti is working together with communities and women's associations, and has trained community members to implement the project activities.
- Red Crescent Society of Djibouti volunteers have conducted training sessions at meeting points of the four main community associations, with a cluster of volunteers assigned to specific groups for follow-up.
- Two communal cleanup campaigns have been organized by the project and over 500 persons, mainly women and youth drawn from the project area, have participated. They cleared drains and burnt refuse within the neighbourhood.
- The evaluation report recommended expansion of the integrated health project to the other areas of Balbala, in line with the ARCHI strategy of seeking to make a major difference in the lives of vulnerable people through sustainable and improved community based health initiatives.

HIV/AIDS prevention

- The National Society gained important knowledge on HIV/AIDS through co-operation with Save the Children- US (SC-USA). Re-establishment of the HIV/AIDS information centres initiated with the SC-US is being examined.
- Volunteers were trained on HIV/AIDS giving them an increased understanding of the attitudes, including myths, misconceptions and perceptions of HIV/AIDS within the community. They have also acquired skills on how to conduct peer education training.
- The volunteers have actively been involved in the dissemination of health and HIV/AIDS messages and in the distribution of condoms within the neighbourhood.
- The integrated health project has developed strong ties with the Corridor Project which was funded by USAID, through Save the Children-USA, and the scaling up of this project could have direct implications on the further results of the same. The expansion to other districts is recommended by the evaluation team.

Impact

- According to the integrated health pilot project evaluation conducted in April, there is an increased awareness of waterborne diseases (transmission routes and barriers) and improved living conditions among the inhabitants of Balbala Sector 9.
- The evaluation report indicated that the pilot project has demonstrated an ability to address community health needs; in malaria, HIV/AIDS prevention and water and sanitation, using an integrated approach. There is a clear indication of community participation through the involvement of community members in the design and implementation of the project activities, leading to a sense of ownership.
- There has been an adoption of good hygiene practices; in handling food, water and environment e.g. use proper use and covering of latrines; at the household and community levels. This has led to reduction in cases of diarrhoea.
- There is a visible increase of knowledge and understanding about HIV/AIDS and STIs within the communities.
- The integrated health project has increased the visibility of the National Society.

Constraints

- The rehabilitation of the four public water sources was not undertaken due to inadequate support from the National Water Authority (ONED).
- The community is not yet sensitized and convinced about cost sharing for water. To many, water is a free social good although they are currently paying high tariffs to illegal gatekeepers for the same water.

**Horn of Africa Sub-regional programmes; Appeal no. 05AA005; Programme Update no. 1
(includes Djibouti, Ethiopia and sub-regional office)**

- Project coordination challenges. Currently, the budget and plan of action are being revised and a possible geographical expansion is being explored.
- There are no permanent staff members to manage project at the branch level.
- Relatively little has been done to sustain interagency collaborative partnerships. Co-operation with the SC-USA ceased at the beginning of the year.
- The co-operation with strategic partners has not been given sufficient attention due to the National Society's lack of capacity to follow up.

Humanitarian values

Goal: Movement principles and humanitarian values are known and respected throughout the region; discrimination against vulnerable groups is reduced.

Objective: The information unit of the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti is an active member of the regional communications forum, has developed its potential to respond to humanitarian emergencies, and has increased the capacity of the National Society to promote Movement principles and humanitarian values in the Eastern Africa region.

Progress/Achievements

- The National Society recruited an information/dissemination officer in 2004.
- The officer has produced a brochure on the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti and the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement. The publication of "La Gazette", a quarterly newsletter, started in 2005. The newsletter is widely distributed to different national and international organizations and agencies in the country.

Impact

- The recruitment of an information/dissemination officer will improve the flow of information to the government authorities who need to be sensitized about the role of the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti.
- The quarterly newsletter has increased the visibility of the National Society.

Organizational development

Goal: Implementation of the characteristics of a well functioning National Society has improved in the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti in the three areas: foundation, capacity and performance.

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

Progress/Achievements

- The National Society conducted two regional elections, in Obock and in Dikhil, during the first quarter of 2005. The plan was to continue with the other four regions in the second half of the year.
- The National Society has increased the number of its volunteers, with all of them getting training in specific fields: first aid, HIV/AIDS, information/dissemination, disaster preparedness. The plan is to design a volunteer management policy in 2006.

Impact

- The elected committees are able to represent the National Society within their regions.
- The National Society has a visible presence throughout the country, with a team of highly motivated volunteers carrying out first-aid and health information activities on a regular basis.
- There are now three programme officers; information, disaster management and finance. The recruitment of the fourth, a health programme officer is ongoing.

Constraints

- The presidential elections, held in April, prevented the National Society from continuing with the regional committees elections during the second quarter. It is uncertain whether the assembly will be held before the end of 2005.

**Horn of Africa Sub-regional programmes; Appeal no. 05AA005; Programme Update no. 1
(includes Djibouti, Ethiopia and sub-regional office)**

- During the first half of the year, the Secretary General of the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti was not available to provide leadership due to illness.
- Though the preparation of the strategic plan is in the programme for 2005, the National Society needs external technical support in order to be able to conduct the planning process.
- The branches lack permanent staff and materials for volunteers.
- The National Society has a management structure which is not adapted to the increasing number of employees.
- Lack of a clear organizational structure with clear job descriptions, roles and responsibilities has caused problems in project implementation.

Ethiopia

Operational developments

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society², with support from the Federation, continued implementing its humanitarian, development, health and disaster preparedness activities. Towards the end of April and in May, heavy rains pounded the eastern and southern parts of the country, causing severe flooding. With ICRC assisting in the Somali region, where it is the lead agency, The Ethiopian Red Cross Society responded by distributing non-food relief items to 545 households within Ethiopia. After an assessment in the southern region a relief operation was started with support from the Federation.

The other priorities this year are the preparation of the new strategic plan and the finalisation of the organizational reform review. The new plan is to be projected from 2006 to 2010. Consequently, a process of revising the cooperation agreement strategies (CAS) in 2005 will encourage a comprehensive approach to partner support, aiming at securing long-term funding commitments. A partnership meeting with this goal will be held at the end of 2005. The National Society embarked on the task of restructuring its headquarters and branches in 2004; implementation of the reform programme has taken much of the National Society's attention during the first half of the year 2005. It is expected that the National Society's programme management capacities will be significantly enhanced at all levels and a greater degree of self-reliance developed once a new organizational structure, more adequate staffing and revised policies and systems for human resource management, financial reporting and administration are established. Workshops to discuss both the draft strategic plan and the report of the human resource review with the headquarters, branch management and governance are scheduled for July.

The national parliamentary elections, which took place on 15 May, have caused some delays in programme implementation as governmental offices were involved in the election preparations. The workshops on strategic planning and organizational review were also postponed until July after final results of the elections are announced. The Federation delegation was advised by the National Society governance to start negotiating the status agreement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs only after the parliamentary elections.

Health and care

Goal: The health and care for vulnerable households and communities - including those affected by conflict, epidemics (including HIV), and disasters - is improved while the vulnerability of the community is decreased.

Objective: The Federation facilitates the development of the National Society's capacity in community based health and care programming including HIV/AIDS and water and sanitation activities by strengthening the capacity of staff and volunteers to reach the most vulnerable communities and building their capacity and awareness on disease transmission and control.

Progress/Achievements

- The Ethiopian Red Cross Society continued playing a complementary role to the government and other partners by: providing ambulance services, community-based first aid services, participating in immunization campaigns, conducting a national WatSan programme and providing participatory hygiene

² Ethiopian Red Cross Society- <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=65>

**Horn of Africa Sub-regional programmes; Appeal no. 05AA005; Programme Update no. 1
(includes Djibouti, Ethiopia and sub-regional office)**

and sanitation transformation (PHAST) training. Through bilateral partners, it also initiated region-specific community-based primary health care projects (North Wollo, Hadya).

- 240 community-based first aiders, in Tigray, Addis Ababa, DireDawa, Gojam and Gonder, were trained during the reporting period.
- The National Society participated in the national emergency polio campaign in April and May. The campaign was funded by the Federation and involved over 1,000 volunteers in 15 zones.
- The Ethiopian Red Cross Society conducts a national water and sanitation programme which covers seven zones: North Shoa, Wollega, Sidama, Somalia, Gambella, Omo and Illubabor. The programme, funded through the Swedish and British Red Cross Societies, covers construction of water points and public latrines and training of PHAST agents. The food security programme also has a strong WatSan component.
- The National Society is undertaking HIV/AIDS preventive activities in 16 branches at the moment. The prevention programme focuses on three components: peer education, advocacy and care and support.
- A workplace HIV/AIDS prevention policy was finalized last year. Training of 16 peer educators and the development of a toolkit for workplace peer education was also undertaken. Distribution of condoms and information materials continues.
- 204 volunteers and family members of persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) attended specially tailored training sessions on the provision of care and support. 355 adult PLWHA and 214 orphans also got nutritional and psychosocial support. Technical and material assistance were likewise given to self-support groups of PLWHA.
- 5,416 youth were trained as peer facilitators/educators, during the first half of 2005. A total of 31,970 youth were reached through the peer education programme.
- A number of advocacy forums were organized for targeted community members. 3,625 participants comprising of leaders and members of community and faith based organizations, government officials and commercial sex workers took part in the forums.

Impact

- Apart from strengthening the volunteer base in the branches, the training and deployment of volunteers in the community has resulted in better immunization coverage and reaching of even the most marginalized segments of the community.
- The HIV/AIDS preventive advocacy forums have helped in promoting behaviour change, building capacities of communities to provide care and support for PLWHA, advocating against stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS, and promoting voluntary counselling and testing services.
- The programme has led to an increase in the involvement of PLWHA in the prevention, advocacy, and care activities. It is also an important activity for the youth at school as it has been able to distribute information on the disease.
- The National Society is contemplating to extend its care and support programme in line with the government's recent strategy of the provision of anti-retroviral treatment (ART).
- The workplace HIV/AIDS prevention programme has led to open discussion of HIV/AIDS issues among staff.
- The Ethiopian Red Cross WatSan programme has contributed to the provision of safe water to the rural community.

Constraints:

- Though the Ethiopian Red Cross Society developed a WatSan policy in 2002, the same has not been endorsed yet.
- The national elections paralysed several activities.
- The transition by the National Society from contractor-based to self-managed WatSan interventions is still not fully completed due to lack of resources to support the implementing branches. The rainy season also reduced the actual implementation time for hardware components and often resulted in under-spending of funds.
- A focus on monthly financial handouts has limited the number of beneficiaries of the PLWHA Support activity and reduced the focus on care and support. The activity has been limited to making condoms available in the Ethiopian Red Cross Society building in 2005.
- Volunteers drop-out has been high in some branches. Support and guidelines for the volunteers need to be

**Horn of Africa Sub-regional programmes; Appeal no. 05AA005; Programme Update no. 1
(includes Djibouti, Ethiopia and sub-regional office)**

strengthened.

- The National Society has limited human and financial resources for the programme implementation.

Disaster management

Goal: The disaster preparedness and response capacity of Ethiopian Red Cross at headquarters and branches is strengthened and coherent responses provided to the vulnerability of communities.

Objective 1: The preparedness and response capacity of the National Society is strengthened through Federation support.

Objective 2: Food security of the populations in Ambassel and Kutaber woredas, South Wollo, in Doba woreda, West Hararge and Merti woreda, and Arsi is improved introducing micro irrigation schemes and the access to safe water.

Progress/Achievements

Disaster preparedness and capacity

- The training manual on introduction to disaster management, handouts and translation works that commenced in September 2004 has been finalised and submitted. The manual was developed by an external consultant, and presents concepts of disaster management, guidelines on the implementation of national policy on disaster prevention and management, food security strategy, Ethiopian Red Cross Society emergency operation manual and disaster preparedness and response strategy. The work has already been translated into Amharic and translation into Somali, Oromiyana and Tigrayana is ongoing.
- A total of 26 volunteers, out of which 10 were female, were trained on disaster preparedness and response was conducted in Dessie, between 31 January and 5 February. The volunteers were from Kutaber, Ambassel and Merti woreda, where food security activities are carried out.
- Activities have started to develop a communication strategy for the smooth flow of information from the grass root to the headquarters level, both vertically and horizontally. The task is planned to be handled by consultants, and the terms of reference have been developed with inputs from the regional telecom manager. Based on the progress of the strategy, the situation monitoring system will be developed.
- The Ethiopian Red Cross Society national and branch disaster response teams are available as a resource for different disaster preparedness and response programmes. Trained members of these teams were involved in needs assessments, together with the headquarters employees.
- The branches provided first-aid assistance and ambulance services during the violence related to the national election process.

Food security

- As a member of the early warning working group, the Ethiopian Red Cross Society continuously strengthens its relationship with the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC) of the Ethiopian government through participation in monthly and bi-weekly meetings. Ethiopian Red Cross Society has also taken part in regular meetings and information sharing led by OCHA and WFP thus strengthening partnership with other agencies involved in food security.
- The National Society has involved its staff and volunteers in multi-agency early warning assessments, data collection during nutrition assessments and VCA. It also attends food aid and logistics meetings of WFP.

Disaster response

- Three need assessments have been conducted. The first was an emergency needs assessment related to the drought situation in the Afar region, in January. Based on the assessment report, non-food items were provided to the affected community.
- The second assessment took place in Somali region, in May, and was related to the floods in. The Ethiopian Red Cross Society mobilised national and branch disaster response teams and volunteers, and distributed non food items to 545 floods affected households in Jijiga. The response was coordinated with the ICRC, which is the Movement's lead agency in this region.
- The third emergency assessment was done for floods-affected communities in the Sidama, Wolayita and GamoGofa zones in the southern region by a Regional Disaster Response Team consisting of a team leader, WatSan engineer and a health expert. An assessment report was produced and submitted to the Federation resulting in the launching of an emergency appeal on the Federations web site. Two allocations from the

**Horn of Africa Sub-regional programmes; Appeal no. 05AA005; Programme Update no. 1
(includes Djibouti, Ethiopia and sub-regional office)**

disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) have been received to purchase non-food relief items. More details available in the Emergency Appeal on http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA013.pdf

Response to conflict-related humanitarian issues

- In collaboration with ICRC, which is supporting capacity building of the branches, the Ethiopian Red Cross Society is coordinating and monitoring the implementation of a number of conflict preparedness and response related interventions in Tigray, Gursum, Afar, Bale, Borena, Somali, Wolayita, Gambella, Benshangule and Bench Maji. The street children and mine action projects have continued in Tigray alongside first-aid training and distribution of first-aid kits in the conflict-affected branches.

Integration of the Federation's Internet system

- The plan to upgrade the Internet connection from the current 64kbps wireless broad band to 256kbps has been designed. Procurement of necessary equipment will be done during the third quarter of the year.

Food security

- The micro irrigation project in Ambassel woreda was awarded to a contractor and the agreement signed in March. Implementation of the spring protection has been started by the branch, using its own resources, and is planned to be completed before the rainy season.
- The drilling of the second site at Bedassa PA started at the end of February. It was successfully completed and water found at 135 meters. Survey on pipeline, reservoir and water points' construction has been completed and tenders are under preparation.
- Assessments were conducted and feasible sites selected in Hella Kiya, Abasa Gorba and WateruDino, for construction of three ponds. Design and detailed specifications were sent to the branch for the tendering process. The branch forwarded the bid documents of the contractors to the headquarters for bid evaluation and analysis. Site handover to the contractor was made at the end of February, and the actual construction work started in mid-March.
- Training for water committees has been conducted by the woreda water desk and the branch. The target population is about 12,000 people.

Impact

- The National Society has built the capacity of staff in disaster response and has a pool of 44 national disaster response members available for assessments. It also supports other National Societies within the sub-region by providing technical assistance in VCAs. In three occasions, the head of programmes has been a resource-person on disaster management.
- The National Society is recognised by the government, national and international agencies, and its reports and assessments are appreciated.
- Through participation in assessments with the multi-agency team, the Ethiopian Red Cross Society staff gained experience in data collection and analysis, early warning data collection methodology and report writing.
- The National Society has responded to the needs of vulnerable communities through relief interventions. The Ethiopian Red Cross Society assistance has enabled the flood-affected people in Somali region to improve their living conditions.
- The change of the system will make the Internet connection faster and safer, both at the Federation office and at the National Society headquarters. The Internet improvement will improve efficiency.

Constraints:

- Lack of adequate funding.
- The branches' capacity to inform the headquarters and other agencies is weak.
- The Ethiopian Red Cross Society's capacity to promptly respond to emergencies is limited by lack of disaster response materials/equipment, including ambulances.
- The second micro irrigation project has not yet started due to feasibility issues and over-budgeted cost of the project selected by the communities. Agreement with the beneficiaries for the site selection in Kutaber woreda has not yet been reached.
- Drilling at the first site did not yield water, resulting in additional expenditure as an alternative site was sought.
- Short rains have delayed the completion of the water projects.

Humanitarian values

Goal: Movement Principles and Humanitarian Values are known and respected throughout Ethiopia; discrimination against vulnerable groups is reduced.

Objective: The Information Unit of the Ethiopian Red Cross is an active member of the Regional Communications Forum; has developed its potential to respond to humanitarian emergencies; and increased its capacity to promote Movement Principles and Humanitarian Values in the East African region.

- The information unit of the National Society continued to disseminate the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement through press releases and press conferences.
- Ethiopian Red Cross Society held World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day celebrations by organizing several fund-raising and image-building events.
- The National Society organised Blood Donors Day celebrations, in June. Over 50 regular blood donors receiving certificates.

Impact:

- The dissemination conducted by the information unit has increased the cognizance of the Movement among the populations.

Constraints

- The annual budget for the information department is very limited; publication of the quarterly newsletter is faces financial constraints.
- The information department still needs to internally improve the understanding of its role, in order to receive full support from the country-wide organization.
- Cooperation with the Norwegian Red Cross, in providing technical assistance to the information unit, has not continued in 2005. The capacity of the Ethiopian Red Cross Society information unit still requires further strengthening.

Organizational development

Goal: Implementation of the characteristics of a well-functioning National Society has improved Ethiopian Red Cross in the three key areas of foundation, capacity and performance.

Objective: Ethiopian Red Cross has strengthened its capacity at headquarters and branches to respond to humanitarian emergencies and development needs of the communities.

Progress/Achievements

Organizational and staffing structure

- The National Society embarked on the task of restructuring its headquarters and branches in 2004. Implementation of the reform programme took much of the National Society attention during the first half of 2005. The Human resources review technical committee, in which the Federation and ICRC are represented, has reviewed the documents of the study produced by the consultants. The study consists of six volumes: organizational structure and staffing plan manual; job description and specification manual; job evaluation, salary scale and benefits scheme manual; performance evaluation and management manual; human resource management manual, and training plan. ICRC and the Federation delegation will cover costs in order to get the review finalized.

Financial and narrative reporting

- A common reporting format resulting from the reporting reform initiated in 2004 has, in 2005, been adopted for all projects. Many partners have appreciated that there is a significant reduction in the delays previously experienced in reporting. It will be possible to send to the partners a quarterly report that will cover all the Ethiopian Red Cross Society activities.

Strategic plan development

- An evaluation of the present strategic development plan was carried out during the first half of the year.
- A technical planning team, in which the Federation and ICRC are represented, for the new (2006-2010)

**Horn of Africa Sub-regional programmes; Appeal no. 05AA005; Programme Update no. 1
(includes Djibouti, Ethiopia and sub-regional office)**

strategic planning process was created in early 2005 to follow up the planning schedule. The process for preparing the new strategic plan has progressed well during the first half of the year. The technical planning team had a two-day planning workshop in April to discuss the external analysis, mission, vision and strategic directions of the plan. The departments prepared their long-term plans in May and in early June the draft strategic plan was sent to the regions for comments. The first strategic plan was evaluated by an external consultant during the first half of the year. The observations of the consultants, such as participation of the branches, have already been taken into consideration during the drafting of the second strategic plan.

Co-ordination of cooperation agreement strategies (CAS)

- In March, the Federation representative and the head of the planning department of the Ethiopian Red Cross Society participated in the cooperation agreement strategies (CAS) workshop in Nairobi. The CAS and the MoU document will be drafted only after the adoption of the strategic plan by the National Society.

Volunteer involvement

- A volunteer policy was drafted by the organizational development OD of the Ethiopian Red Cross Society in March and sent for the comments. It is supposed to be finalised during the second half of the year.

Sustainable financial resource base

- The acting head of the OD of the Ethiopian Red Cross Society participated in the annual forum on local capacity building held in Tanzania. As a result, branch development is among the Ethiopian Red Cross Society's core concerns at the moment and will be addressed more during the second half of the year.
- More than 75% of Ethiopian Red Cross Society branches are currently generating their own income to cover for annual administrative expenses.
- The National Society organised fundraising events during the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day celebrations. The "Walk for Red Cross", in the capital, meant to serve as a model; its organization and effects will be shared with the branches in order to guide/encourage them to undertake similar activities.
- The construction of a multi-purpose building in Woliso (built with financial support from the Netherlands Red Cross) was completed. The building has been officially opened.

Impact

- Once a new organizational structure, adequate staffing and revised policies and systems for human resource management, financial reporting and administration are established, it is expected that the National Society's programme management capacities will be significantly enhanced at all levels and a greater degree of self reliance developed.
- Reporting has improved and partners are happier. Co-operation between the National Society and the partners has become smoother.
- The new five-year strategic plan will have a participatory approach involving branches in the planning phase. This will increase the ownership of the National Society plan.
- The Ethiopian Red Cross Society's volunteer policy will help in running the programmes and projects which depend on volunteers' services as it will provide for a coordinated recruitment, training, and deployment and retaining of volunteers.
- With the support of headquarters, the branches are encouraged to organise fundraising events. The awareness of the low financial independence has led to a firm decision to include a strong resource development component in the next strategic plan 2006-2010.
- The multi-purpose buildings have proved to provide a sustainable funding base for branches, if properly managed.

Constraints

- The implementation of the review recommendations will require support from partners. There is thus an uncertainty of funding for the implementation of the recommendations of the human resources study.
- The training planned for newly elected board members, in Woldia, Arba Minch and Gimbi branches, could not take place due to lack of funding.
- The national election process delayed the original plan of action. While the draft plan is complete, at the headquarters level, it will take an additional month to get comments from the regions.
- There is low capacity of branch staff in designing and managing income generating projects. This has led to inaccurate feasibility studies and improper management of the projects.

Horn of Africa sub-regional office

Food security programme

Goal: To support National Societies from the Horn of Africa to predict and prevent food security crises, to mitigate their impact and to respond and cope with their consequences at sub-regional, country and local levels.

Objective: To provide appropriate technical support to National Societies to develop human resource capacities, policy and strategy frameworks, assessment and planning skills, food security programmes, contingency plans, a database of technical resources and partnerships with key stakeholders in the region.

Progress/Achievements

- A decision was made to recruit a sub-regional food security officer, to be based at the disaster management unit of the regional delegation Nairobi. The position was advertised in May and the recruitment of a suitable candidate is in its final stage.

Impact

- It was considered feasible for the food security officer, who will be recruited, to operate from the regional delegation in Nairobi, because of the political issues between the states of Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Constraints

- The sub-regional food security unit could not be established as planned, in the beginning of the year, due to logistics and communication problems caused by the unsettled political issues between the states of Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

The sub-regional office, guided by the goals of the Federation and focus on strengthening the national societies, has continued to provide tailored and mutually agreed support to the Ethiopian Red Cross Society and the Djibouti Red Crescent Society.

Food security, which remains a major humanitarian challenge in the sub-region, will be extensively addressed once the food security officer takes office within the second half of the year. In the first half of the year though, the sub-regional office was involved in co-ordination of the sub-regional tsunami recovery planning. The result of the process was 18-months country-specific plans of action covering the fields of emergency health, disaster management, organizational development and communication. The plans were finalised in May during a sub-regional meeting held in Khartoum, Sudan.

With the purpose of strengthening/establishing partnerships, the sub-regional office maintained contacts with partner national societies (PNS), locally represented UN organizations, other international organizations and embassies during the reporting period. Pledges for technical assistance have been received from the UNECA (UN Economic Commission for Africa). Contacts with the African Union (AU) were explored and a high level meeting between the AU and the Federation is planned for September 2005.

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

Horn of Africa Sub-Regional

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 05AA005

PLEDGES RECEIVED

21/07/2005

CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->	658,535					TOTAL COVERAGE 150.5%
OPENING BALANCE			386,868			
BRITISH - RC	40,000	GBP	87,240	02.02.05		REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY
BRITISH - GOVT/DIFD GRANT			68,000	01.01.05		DISASTER MANAGEMENT
BRITISH - GOVT/DIFD GRANT			64,000	01.01.05		ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH
FINNISH - GOVT/RC	40,000	EUR	61,960	29.03.05		HEALTH, ORGANISATIONAL DEV.
SWEDISH - RC	1,300,000	SEK	222,300	12.04.05		
SWEDISH - GOVT	200,000	SEK	34,200	26.04.05		ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH			924,568	CHF		140.4%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
FINLAND	DELEGATE(S)			66,800		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				66,800	CHF	10.1%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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

BUDGET 2005

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.: 05AA005

Name: HORN OF AFRICA

PROGRAMME:

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	Emergency	Total
	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Shelter & construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clothing & textiles	7,000	0	0	0	0	0	7,000
Food	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seeds & plants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water & Sanitation	7,000	212,736	0	0	0	0	219,736
Medical & first aid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teaching materials	1,500	0	0	0	0	0	1,500
Utensils & tools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other relief supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	15,500	212,736	0	0	0	0	228,236
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers & telecom	0	6,000	0	0	0	0	6,000
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other capital exp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL EXPENSES	0	6,000	0	0	0	0	6,000
Warehouse & Distribution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transport & Vehicules	3,000	12,727	0	1,000	4,400	0	21,127
TRANSPORT & STORAGE	3,000	12,727	0	1,000	4,400	0	21,127
Programme Support	5,026	33,005	0	16,490	10,543	0	65,063
PROGRAMME SUPPORT	5,026	33,005	0	16,490	10,543	0	65,063
Personnel-delegates	0	37,792	0	87,000	87,000	0	211,792
Personnel-national staff	33,600	65,346	0	18,408	21,600	0	138,954
Consultants	0	0	0	47,148	0	0	47,148
PERSONNEL	33,600	103,138	0	152,556	108,600	0	397,894
W/shops & Training	7,700	49,849	0	27,729	0	0	85,278
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING	7,700	49,849	0	27,729	0	0	85,278
Travel & related expenses	12,500	29,036	0	33,128	8,650	0	83,314
Information	0	2,623	0	16,193	0	0	18,816
Other General costs	0	58,652	0	6,600	30,000	0	95,251
GENERAL EXPENSES	12,500	90,311	0	55,921	38,650	0	197,382
TOTAL BUDGET:	77,326	507,766	0	253,696	162,193	0	1,000,982