

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

NEPAL

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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.

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In Brief

Appeal No. 05AA048; Programme Update no. 1, Period covered: 01 January to 31 March, 2005; Appeal coverage: 64.9%; Outstanding needs: CHF 406,792 (USD 319,339 or EUR 264,204).
([click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List \(also available on the website\)](#)).

Appeal target: CHF 1,157,818 (USD 964,446 or EUR 756,991).

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: [Nepal Floods Emergency Appeal 17/2004](#)

Programme summary:

The disaster management, health and care, humanitarian values and organizational development programmes are all a continuation of interventions started in earlier years. Most of these programmes focus on capacity building at community level. New funding has been received for the volunteer management programme, which is crucial for the overall capacity building of the national society. The HIV/AIDS and the women development/gender projects did not get confirmation of funding until after this reporting period and funding is still sought for the school-based water and sanitation, reproductive health and population movement programmes, as well as for the humanitarian values pilot project.



The Nepal Red Cross Society is active in developing the HIV/AIDS and women development/gender projects in the country.

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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>

Operational developments

On 1 February, the king of Nepal declared a state of emergency in the country. He dissolved the council of ministers and formed a new one under his chairmanship. Most civil rights have been suspended, including the rights of public meetings, freedom of speech and press, the only exception being *habeas corpus* (petition questioning the lawfulness of one's imprisonment). Political party leaders, journalists and other activists were detained, and domestic and international telephone lines cut off for one week.

As a reaction to the 1 February announcement, the Maoists declared a series of blockades and strikes, some country-wide and some in specific districts. The security situation in the Kathmandu valley has improved; however, in smaller towns and rural areas it has deteriorated. The number of clashes between the security forces and the Maoists has increased, especially in the west of the country.

The government of Nepal and the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) signed a memorandum of understanding on the presence of international human rights personnel in the country to monitor human rights violations. The international community has been critical of the recent political developments in Nepal, especially concerning violations of human rights and humanitarian law.

In February 2005 the government increased the value-added tax rate by three per cent to a total of 13 per cent. This increment affected the programme budgets.

Strikes and blockades have made it more difficult and costly to travel in the country and monitor programme implementation. It became increasingly difficult to organize meetings, workshops and training courses with community groups. Prior approval of the district administration was needed for some of the meetings arranged. The operational schedules of some programmes have been slightly changed. The national society made an effort to adjust its plans and carry out workshops and courses during the weeks free of strikes and blockades; still, some activities had to be postponed and will be carried out later in the year.

Despite difficult working conditions in the country, the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) central executive committee meeting was held in February. The 2004 annual progress report and expenditure report have been approved, and the new programmes and budget for 2005 proposed for submission to the general assembly, which was held in April.

NRCS and the Swiss Red Cross signed an agreement to implement a community eye care and health promotion programme, over a period of two years until December 2007. Also, the national society signed an agreement with the British embassy in Nepal to carry out blanket tests for arsenic and other substances in tube wells of 50 villages in Bara district. This programme will run for 11 months. There have been indications of the British Department For International Development/British Red Cross interest in supporting the disaster risk reduction programme – phase II, for a period of two years.

Health and care

Background

As part of the health and care core area, NRCS is implementing a number of projects: health education, safe blood supply, ambulance services, primary health care, community development, first aid, HIV/AIDS prevention and reproductive health. So far, the Federation has managed to support two projects out of five presented in its annual appeal for 2005: the community development programme, implemented in three districts, and community-based first aid (CBFA) in four districts. The HIV/AIDS project has secured funding as of May. The appeal is seeking further support for the water and sanitation project in schools, as well as a reproductive health project.

Despite the conflict situation in the country, all funded projects are being implemented according to the schedule. Moreover, the national society has been highly relevant by reaching out to the grass-roots level and increasing community acceptance and participation.

The Nepal Red Cross has undertaken a review of its health programme with the aim to strengthen the area of health and care. During the review, the government and donors have underlined NRCS' important role in reaching vulnerable groups in the current conflict situation. The review recommends that the national society health programme become more responsive to specific health needs in the country and to integrate, strengthen and professionalize its health department. During a participatory workshop, NRCS agreed to the overall recommendations and is now developing action plans for their implementation.

Goal: Communities are empowered to cope with health problems and practise positive health behaviours through strengthened institutional capacities.

Community development project objective: The level of awareness increased and the basic health conditions of the most vulnerable improved ensuring the capacities of NRCS and communities at all levels.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Participation in social activities and enrolment and regularity of school-going children increased.

Six adult literacy classes in Dhankuta district have been completed. A total of 103 adults have successfully graduated, of which 79 are women. Three child literacy classes are currently ongoing, with 81 children attending. The literacy management committees held regular meetings for the smooth running of classes.

Activities planned for the next reporting period include: establishment of community library for the literacy graduates, a legal literacy class, post-literacy classes, facilitators training and a meeting of literacy management committees.



HIV/AIDS prevention targeting school-going children is one of the numbers of health and care projects the Nepal Red Cross Society is implementing in the country.

Expected Result 2: Waterborne diseases reduced by provision of safe drinking water in project area.

The main activities carried out in order to contribute to this expected result include water source protection, imparting knowledge on better water-handling practices, services of trained health volunteers, sanitation campaigns and preparation for toilet construction. Some 42 community women were targeted by traditional birth attendants regarding immunization and nutrition advice, during pregnancy and childbirths. CBFA volunteers assisted 73 persons, treating fever, bleeding, fractures, and referred people to the nearest hospitals, while traditional healers treated 76 persons in the districts. The volunteers are meeting regularly to exchange experience and improve their skills.

In the next reporting period, the construction work will start on the drinking water scheme in Dhankuta, wells in Dang, family toilets and a washing platform. A wide range of training activities will continue, including CBFA, courses for traditional birth attendants and healers, users' committee seminars etc.

Expected Result 3: The vulnerable communities' empowerment and self-reliance ensured due to the development and expansion of sustainable social and economic activities.

Major activities undertaken in the first quarter include facilitating the establishment and meetings of saving credit groups, helping the participants of skill development training to find market for their products, and building their links with concerned government offices. The self-help groups are functional and specific skill-building training will continue. Collection of monthly savings, investment and repayment are taking place on a regular basis.

Expected Result 4: The quality of services provided by Red Cross units and number of beneficiaries ensured and increased through strengthened capacities of all Red Cross units.

The sub-chapter building in Dhankuta has become operational. The contribution of community labour to constructing this building was equivalent to NRs 50,000 (CHF 870). All active district chapters and sub-chapters have held their respective annual assemblies in this quarter, as well as executive and project committee meetings. Thirteen new life members were recruited in Rasuwa and Dhankuta districts.

A project-steering committee and a staff meeting were also held, to review the progress so far and future plans. Activities planned for next reporting period are: leadership development training, Red Cross dissemination workshop, quarterly review meeting, district chapter and sub-chapter workshops, mid-term evaluation of the Dang development project, and the membership drive.

Community-based first aid (CBFA) project objective: To build the capacity of communities to promote health and manage injuries and illness as well as prepare for and deal with disasters.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: First aid service established through volunteers in the community.

A 10-day refresher training of trainers was conducted. Nineteen out of 21 CBFA trainers from six districts, including three female trainers, participated. Some 71 CBFA volunteers of three programme districts were equipped with first aid kits. Volunteers' incentives including T-shirts, caps were distributed to 48 volunteers of Arghakhanchi and Kapilbastu. CBFA volunteers and trainers have provided first aid services to 463 persons from the community.

The following activities are planned for the next reporting period: establishment of resource centres in programme areas, purchase of first aid kits and promotional material for volunteers, selection of participants for training of trainers and CBFA training, first aid training for junior Red Cross circle, volunteers' elementary training, as well as refresher training in three districts.

Expected Result 2: An enabling environment to practise positive health behaviour is established.

Two model toilets have been constructed in two districts, bringing the total to 59 toilets, 24 utensil stands, three washing platforms and one garbage pit, constructed by community members. Model sanitary units have provided a sample at community level used for information purposes. Replication of such activity is expected in coming months, and some households have already started to construct the units.

Nineteen persons from eight districts participated in the five-day street drama training of trainers' course, conducted from 29 March to 2 April. The dramas will be used to disseminate information on the Red Cross Principles and first aid, and to generate awareness of health and sanitation issues and disasters.

Volunteers have conducted two meetings on HIV/AIDS in which 98 community members participated. A door-to-door sanitation campaign to 27 houses was organized, and health counselling was given to 1,218 persons. First aid, health and sanitation message boards have been displayed in 40 places of the programme areas as an awareness generating activity.

The following activities are planned for the next reporting period: construction of model sanitary units, development of information, education and communication material, participatory rural appraisal (PRA) survey at community level, awareness generation activities, competitions, coordination meeting with different stakeholders, street drama performance.

Expected Result 3: Communities are organized and prepared for probable disaster.

The amount of NRS 3,225 (CHF 56) was collected by volunteers of three districts for the purpose of providing minimum relief support to local disaster response, and to replenish first aid material. CBFA volunteers reached 319 families with disaster preparedness messages and advice. As an indicator of community involvement and mobilization, three communities have made their community action plans on first aid, health and sanitation.

The following activities are planned for the next three months: community action plan to be developed in one community, account and management training, sharing meeting at community level, support for the community disaster fund.

Expected Result 4: Red Cross district chapters, sub-branches at local level are capable in promoting and managing CBFA activities towards communities.

Tanahu district chapter was selected as a new district of the CBFA programme, which will be implemented in one village. During this reporting period CBFA volunteers of three districts have disseminated information about Red Cross principles and activities to 2,229 people.

Red Cross volunteers' networks are organizing regular coordination and planning meetings and monitoring visits. NRCS conducted an orientation meeting for 28 participants from the new district. The first quarterly staff meeting was organized in Bhaktapur in April, where review of activities and planning for the next quarter were discussed.

The following activities are planned for the next reporting period: income-generation support for sub-branches, provision of equipment, internal and external coordination meetings, and human resource development activities.

HIV/AIDS project objective: To increase access to home and community-based care and support as well as to inform on HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases and reproductive health by the end of 2009.

Progress/Achievements

No funding has been received through the Federation appeal in the first three months; therefore no activities have taken place to support the stated expected results.

NRCS has been implementing a HIV/AIDS and a reproductive health programme in 22 districts with support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Norwegian and Swiss Red Cross societies. The programme focuses on peer education on HIV/AIDS prevention and life-saving skills. Young people and women aged between 10 and 39 are primary target groups.

Reproductive health project objective: At the end of the one-year project, access to information and services for reproductive health increased.

Progress/Achievements

No funding has been received to this programme through the Federation appeal, and no activities have been implemented in the first quarter of the year.

School-based drinking water and sanitation project objective: Ensure access to child-friendly water and sanitation facilities and promote safe hygiene practices through an empowerment process.

Progress/Achievements

No funding has been received for this programme initiative.

Outputs of the health and care programme

Since the projects are at different stages of the project cycle, the level of impacts varies. Graduates of adult literacy classes have acquired basic reading and writing skills, whereas graduates of child literacy classes are joining schools and have adopted better personal sanitation behaviours. There is a considerable decrease in the incidence of waterborne diseases in communities, resulting from proper sanitation and availability of safe drinking water. Better waste management and periodic sanitation campaigns have resulted in an improved social and environmental sanitation. There has been evidence of better follow-up of immunization schedules for children, increased use of contraceptives and better nutritional habits, which can be attributed to a large extent to the NRCS

public health education efforts. Participants of skill development training have started earning for their families, especially in Dhankuta district.

The activeness and motivation of CBFA volunteers is a very good asset for the sustainability of the first aid service, health awareness and referral service at community level. Community action plans, meetings of local committees, coordination, linkages with other partners and mobilization of trained human resource at community are good practices, which are gradually building capacity of the communities to deal with primary health problems and prepare for disasters.

Constraints of the health and care programme

Some of the planned activities for the first quarter could not be completed, mainly due to continuous strikes and blockades at district level. These are planned for the next quarter. Due to a three per cent increase in value added tax and fuel prices, the overall costs of certain programme activities have also increased.

Disaster management

Background

Disaster management is a high priority area of NRCS, in view of the need to reach all communities, some of which are isolated due to the political and security situation, and help them prepare for, and respond to, natural disaster and conflicts.

The main projects implemented under this core area are community-based disaster preparedness, disaster response and population movement. They all focus on strengthening capacities at local level, while improving overall policies and procedures to facilitate and speed up response activities.

Goal: Livelihood of people affected by disasters and conflicts sustained to assisting them promptly through effective preparedness and response system.

Programme objective: Strengthen the disaster management capacity of Nepal Red Cross in order to provide effective response to disasters as well as enhance capacities of vulnerable communities.

Community-based disaster preparedness project objective: Disaster management capacity of Nepal Red Cross as well as the most vulnerable communities further strengthened in order to provide effective response to save lives and properties.

Progress/Achievements:

Expected Result 1: Local level disaster management capacity of vulnerable communities strengthened gradually and threats/effects of disasters in the community reduced through mobilization of community disaster action groups by further expanding community-based disaster preparedness in coordination/collaboration with movement partners and others.

Community-level disaster preparedness committees (disaster preparedness units) have been formed in 72 disaster-prone communities. A third of their members are women. The community-based disaster preparedness programme orientation was conducted in all of them. The communities conducted vulnerability and capacity assessment in their own areas and developed hazard maps. Based on this they are currently preparing local disaster preparedness plans.

A community-based disaster preparedness training-of-trainers was conducted in March for 33 volunteers, of which 15 were women while a community-based disaster preparedness refresher training was held for 24 participants (20 volunteers and four field staff). In addition, 16 field staff participated in an account keeping and report writing training in March.

In this period, NRS 1,595,768 (CHF 28,000) has been collected in all 140 community-based disaster preparedness-implementing communities in 19 districts. The communities will use these funds for relief and mitigation projects. The use of revolving disaster funds for cash and grain is being expanded to new communities.

Some 1,000 copies of the community-based disaster preparedness newsletter and 5,000 copies of the disaster preparedness pictorial poster, both in Nepali, were printed and distributed to all active communities. Eight monitoring and supervision visits to programme implementing districts were conducted.

In the following quarter, a series of disaster preparedness, disaster management and community-based first aid training activities will be carried out, as well as a mid-year review of the programme.

Expected Result 2: Capacity of vulnerable population living in flood prone area strengthened to minimize the impact of flood.

During this reporting period, several follow-up visits were paid to the eight communities implementing the programme. The planning and managerial capacity of disaster preparedness units was strengthened, through training for community volunteers and field staff, as well as community management training.

Expected Result 3: Vulnerable groups including school going children gained skills and knowledge on disaster management through information, education and communication materials, exposure visits and trainings and their understanding level have been increased in comparison to the past.

Since the beginning of the year, NRCS has doubled its target for school-based disaster preparedness programme to a total of 40 schools. Programme orientation meetings were conducted in 20 new schools, and 20 junior Red Cross circle and core groups were formed in three districts (Bhaktapur, Syangja and Chitwan). District-level orientation has already been completed in the targeted districts and information, education and communication materials distributed to school children.

The following activities are planned for next quarter: training-of-trainers in disaster management for teacher sponsors, refresher training, disaster management standardization course, and disaster management training for core group members.

Expected Result 4: The disaster management capacity of the national society and vulnerable communities enhanced through generating awareness on earthquake preparedness of vulnerable population living in KTM valley.

Activities to achieve this expected result have not attracted any funding through the annual appeal. They have been supported bilaterally by the American Red Cross, as part of the *Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Preparedness Initiative* (KVEPI). The project implementation is on course, and 140 community members in three municipalities of the Kathmandu Valley have received basic search and rescue training. The training will continue in the next quarter, together with the earthquake simulation exercise, and development of a ward-level disaster plan.

Disaster response project objective: Effective response service rendered to victims of disasters in order to save lives and assist the victim of disasters through strengthening disaster management capacities of the society.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Basic needs of those affected by disasters are fulfilled through effective timely relief from NRCS.

Fires are a common disaster in areas where roofs on houses are made of straw. During this reporting period 1,039 families were affected by fires, four people died and 27 were injured. Between January and March, NRCS distributed 958 family parcels of relief material to the victims.

The rehabilitation phase of the floods emergency appeal, launched in 2004, is in its last phase. For more details, refer to the operations updates on the appeal [17/2004](#).

Activities planned for the next quarter will focus on preparedness for the monsoon period. Relief material will be pre-positioned in strategic locations, preparations for possible tendering and procurement will be made, and coordination meetings held with key stakeholders.

Expected Result 2: Disaster preparedness and logistic capacity of the society has been further strengthened.

Five members of NRCS have been trained in the use of the geographic information system information management system, and the computer network was enhanced within the disaster management department. The training course to expand the national disaster response teams will be held in the last quarter of the year.

The flood emergency appeal includes a disaster management capacity building component, i.e. strengthening logistical capacity of the regional warehouses, revision of the NRCS disaster management plan, and improving procurement management policy and procedures.

Population movement project objective: Livelihood of displaced population sustained and vocational skills developed of a mixed group of refugees and local population.

Expected Result 1: Life of refugees and affected host population further improved in comparison to past years.

With funds carried over from the 2004 annual appeal, NRCS is implementing a skills training programme for refugees in the Bhutanese refugee camps and for the local population in the area. The training is bringing these two groups together to build contacts and prevent tensions. The aim is to provide them with skills for immediate income generation in communities and camps, as well as for future sustainability in case of repatriation. Since the beginning of the year, 140 people received vocational training in a variety of skills, such as cosmetic treatment, maintenance and repair of electrical appliances, stitching and sewing.

NRCS is also distributing food and non-food items to 104,513 refugees in seven different camps, with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and World Food Programme's support. The tables below provide the breakdown of food and non-food items distributed since the beginning of the year :

Item	Unit	Quantity
Rice	Kg	3,161,829
Pulse	Kg	308,469
Vegetable oil	Kg	194,537
Sugar	Kg	152,474
Salt	Kg	57,051
Uniloto	Kg	56,891
Whole gram	Kg	154,237
Vegetables	NRS	1,201,950.42

Item	Units	Quantity
Washing soap	Pcs	207,572
Bathing soap	Pcs	77566
Plastic bucket	Pcs	17
Kerosene	Ltr	2,190,554.4
Can for collection of water (10 litres)	Pcs	23
Stove	Pcs	13

The funds from 2004 will be sufficient to continue the skill training programme until the end of June 2005. Additional funding is sought to be able to continue these needed activities.

Expected Result 2: Advocate and inform about internally displaced persons situation and other population movement issues.

So far, no funding has been received for the implementation of this expected result. However, with ICRC's support, NRCS provides non-food items and tracing services to people affected by conflict. Over 2,000 families have so far benefited from these provisions. One workshop on tracing was conducted by the national society in cooperation with ICRC.

Outcomes of the disaster management programme

Despite the worsening conflict situation in the country, most planned activities have been carried out. The community-based disaster preparedness programme has been extended to cover a total of 23 districts. Some partner agencies, including the British Department For International Development, have expressed commitment to continue working with NRCS in disaster management sectors.

The national society's disaster management plan has been finalized and procurement policy revised. The warehouse network has been strengthened and the essential goods stockpiled in different strategic locations.

In this period, NRCS has also shown solidarity with the tsunami-affected countries, through fundraising and deployment of its trained human resources as members of regional disaster response teams.

Constraints

Insufficient funding for certain project components, mainly the population movement project, has had more of a negative impact on the programme implementation than the overall security situation in the country.

Humanitarian Values

Background

The humanitarian values programme started in 2004, with specific emphasis on anti-discrimination activities. It has been accepted by NRCS programme managers and incorporated in their own programming. The programme continues this year with most activities starting in the second quarter.

Overall Goal: Bring about changes in people's behaviour, increasing mutual understanding and respect for human dignity through promotion of humanitarian values and Nepal Red Cross activities

Overall Objective: To train Red Cross members and the general public on the Movement's Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values and by promoting these, bring positive changes to selected communities.

Promotion of Red Cross Principles and humanitarian values project objectives: To train Red Cross members and the general public in humanitarian values and encourage the fight against discrimination to bring changes in behaviour.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: NRCS project managers and volunteers will have a better understanding of humanitarian values as well as issues of discrimination and tolerance. They will have started to integrate humanitarian values into their programmes.

No major activities were planned for this period. Bilateral discussions with other departments and programme managers continued regarding how the issue of humanitarian values can be better integrated into other programmes.

In the coming six months, a number of activities will be held: a workshop for programme managers and volunteers, separate training session for managers and staff of the community development programme, youth camps, and the launch of the national essay competition.

Expected Result 2: Examples of better social harmony will be seen in selected communities of the end-discrimination pilot project.

Although the proposed pilot project could not start due to insufficient funding, the preparatory work has been completed. A total of 12 villages from two districts, Sindhuli and Saptari, have been selected for the project. The project proposal was prepared with support of the South Asia regional humanitarian values programme and funding request submitted to the European Commission through the Spanish Red Cross. The project will start once the funding is confirmed.

Communications project objective: To strengthen communication work of NRCS, increasing support to its activities and raising awareness of humanitarian issues.

Expected Result 1: To strengthen communication work of Nepal Red Cross increasing support to its activities and raising awareness of humanitarian issues.

The NRCS communication department has been active in disseminating information about the national society's humanitarian work and the efforts of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. A proposal has been elaborated

on the development and promotion of the new letter in Nepali, but due to lack of funding this has not yet been implemented

Expected Result 2: NRCS communications and publicity works will result in increased support, enabling the society to carry out more humanitarian activities, and bring behavioural changes in the society.

The bi-monthly radio programme that started in May 2004 has continued throughout this period. Since the beginning of the year it has been broadcast weekly, since additional financial support has been provided by ICRC. The bulletins are issued monthly in the Nepali language, and quarterly in English, with help of ICRC. News and information on NRCS activities is regularly posted on the NRCS website. This has helped disseminate the Red Cross humanitarian message, build the organization's image, acceptance of the national society and its accessibility to each and every part of the country in times of present conflict.

Production of a documentary on NRCS activities, which started last year, is ongoing and the film will be completed in the coming three months.

The same activities will continue in the coming period, with additional mobilization of media and organization of field visits for journalists.

Outputs of the programme

Although main activities will only start in the second quarter of the year, the ones carried out so far have already helped raise awareness of programme managers and senior volunteers about the importance of humanitarian values and their integration in other programme areas.

The radio programme has gained popularity throughout the country. The letters received from the audience show that the programme has significantly raised NRCS' profile. In the future, it will focus on advocating non-discrimination, which is one of the national society's major priorities in the field of advocacy.

Organizational Development

Background

In the 2005 appeal, NRCS's focus in the sector of organizational development is on four projects: volunteer management, women and gender development, youth development, and resource mobilization. The national society has been continuously working to improve the ability and capacity of branches and sub-branches to make the best use of available human resources. The major achievement in this respect is national twinning approach between branches and sub-branches, where they support each other by exchanging material and human resources.

Volunteering has always been an essential element of NRCS. Volunteers are mobilized for a wide range of activities; however, the concept of volunteering needs to be further clarified and the management of volunteers systematized.

The women development project aims at increasing women membership in the Red Cross and encouraging them to actively participate in governance and programme implementation. The project has not received funding during this reporting period, but the national society has invested its own resources to ensure implementation of some basic activities.

Junior youth Red Cross circle has been playing a significant role in serving communities through its diverse activities: dissemination of Red Cross Principles at grass-roots level, HIV/AIDS prevention, school water and sanitation projects, etc.

NRCS has traditionally collected funds from donations, rented property, affiliation and membership fees, recovery activities, interest and dividend from investments. Under the resource mobilization programme, NRCS has established a fundraising section at national headquarters with the aim to strengthen existing fundraising activities, train volunteers and pilot new projects.

Overall Goal: Nepal Red Cross makes an effective difference in the lives of vulnerable people in their respective communities. The communities will receive sustainable community-based support to reduce their vulnerability through increased capacities of the national society.

Overall Objective: Strengthen the volunteer capacity of NRCS at all levels by enhancing the managerial and resource mobilization capacity towards self-reliance to be able to better serve vulnerable communities.

Volunteer management and service project objective: The Nepal Red Cross develops a volunteer framework and increases the managerial capacities of volunteers at all levels.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Increased managerial competence of volunteers for developing and implementing effective and relevant services/activities in armed conflict-affected areas.

The activities to reach this expected result will be implemented as a pilot project in two districts. A one-day orientation workshop was organized in Palpa to work out the implementation plan of the project. Discussions included volunteer recruitment, retention and activities, and the NRCS draft volunteer management policy. The district formed a steering committee for the project, selected a project area and formed a sub-chapter in this area. The second district where the pilot project will be carried out is yet to be selected. It will be the same district which will carry out a water and sanitation project funded bilaterally by the Red Cross Society of the Republic of Korea.

Expected Result 2: The volunteer framework use by all branches for better utilization of volunteers.

A NRCS draft volunteer management handbook was approved by the management of Nepal Red Cross. It was prepared using existing material from various national societies and the Federation Secretariat. Curriculum, session plan and other related preparation tasks for the volunteer management workshop are underway. Two national society headquarter officers have been recruited to coordinate project activities.

Women and gender-development project objective: Increased participation of women in all levels of the structure and development programmes.

Progress/Achievements

So far, no funding has been received for this project through the Federation's appeal. The Nepal Red Cross is using its own resources to implement some activities of the programme, such as gender sensitization training on district level. The department has also started to work closely with other programmes to integrate gender issues in their plans of action.

Youth development project objective: Junior/youth volunteers trained and mobilized in organizational development for service activities.

Expected Result 1: Junior/youth Red Cross programme strengthened and increased Junior/youth members' involvement in humanitarian activities.

Planning of activities for 2005 has been finalized and district selected based on their interest, capacity and the overall situation in the district. The following work plan for districts has been developed:

Programmes/Activities	No. of Districts	Districts
Junior camps	5	Sankhuwasabha, Arghakhanchi, Mahotari, Kabhre, Achham
First aid trainers training	1	Dang
Youth leadership training	1	Parsa
Out of school support (child literacy)	10	Chitwan, Arghakhanchi, Kaski, Sunsari, Kabhre, Morang, Kathmandu, Lamjung, Salyan, Darchula
School support (book bank)	20	Sankhuwasabha, Chitwan, Kaski, Mahotari, Khotang, Sunsari, Dolpa, Kanchanpur, Panchathar, Gulmi,

		Morang, Tehrathum, Tanhun, Banke, Dhading, Mustang, Doti, Udaypur, Lalitpur, Nuwakot
Forestation	10	Rukum, Bhojpur, Okhaldhunga, Myagdi, Achham, Dolakha, Jhapa, Rupendehi, Jajarkot, Udaypur
Establishment of first aid training unit	5	Dolpa, Kanchanpur, Bhaktapur, Sindhuli, Doti

The junior/youth Red Cross policy has been developed and distributed to districts. The planned national junior/youth seminar has not been held as planned, due to the security situation and related problems of access to certain areas. It is now planned to be held in mid-June in a district close to Kathmandu valley.

An annual institutional performance evaluation of the junior and youth circles was done, and the best three junior circles and one youth circle were awarded during the NRCS general assembly.

Expected Result 2: Service provided to and through junior/youth Red Cross.

During this quarter the districts have been involved in preparatory activities. Selection of participants and purchase of textbooks for the child literacy class has been completed. The next quarter will see the following activities take place: preparation for youth instructor training, establishment of first aid training units, set up of the book bank, forestation and preparations for junior camps.

Finance resource mobilization project objective: To ensure dependable and regular financial resources through the implementation of improved systems and by developing fundraising skills at all levels.

Expected Result 1: Diversified fundraising activities have been implemented and more resources are generated.

As part of new fundraising initiatives, the so-called 'direct mailing' project has been initiated, with 500 fundraising letters sent in the first three months of the year. The project targets individuals rather than organizations. As a next step, follow-up letters and leaflets will be sent to responders of the direct mailing. For this purpose an additional 10,000 brochures have been printed. Department stores and cafes will be approached for placement of donation boxes.

NRCS has collected NRS 2,000,000 (CHF 34,000) as a response to the tsunami appeal. The support came from NRCS staff at headquarters and district chapters, and the general public.

Expected Result 2: The presence and operation of a national resource mobilization policy, strategy and procedure.

The Nepali version of the resource mobilization policy, strategy and procedure has been circulated to different levels of the organization for feedback and knowledge sharing. As a result, many districts have initiated new activities in the area of fundraising.

Two district chapters – Parsa and Rupandehi – informed the national society headquarters that they are ready to support remote districts of Mugu and Dolpa with of NRS 25,000 (CHF 440) each, in accordance with the commitment made during a fundraising workshop in 2004. Parsa chapter will also support the national headquarters with NRS 10,000 (CHF 175) every year. These small contributions are significant as a sign of strengthened commitment and mutual cooperation among the district chapters.

Further follow-up on other district chapters' commitment to provide assistance to the remote and weak district chapters will be done in the coming months.

Expected result 3: Learning from resource mobilization activities has been systematized and is continuously shared at all levels of NRCS to enhance community level and programme sustainability.

The department has conducted four meetings with concerned district chapters about proper utilization of assets for maximum income generation. Recently, the executive committee formed a fixed assets management committee headed by the national society treasurer. The committee's role is to maximize and diversify the utilization of fixed assets.

Expected Result 4: The level of understanding of general public and specific target groups increased through the publicity of NRCS programs and support to NRCS activities and services increased.

As part of the direct mailing initiative, a special ‘appeal’ was produced in a letter format, addressing the individuals. Similarly, the new donation boxes have a pocket attached containing brochures and pamphlets. The brochure contains information about NRCS and its activities in more detail. Persons that have replied to pamphlets inserted in a popular magazine are receiving more information about the national society. Most responders have promised to support the Red Cross after getting more information while some have already donated funds.

The national society is in process of creating a brochure in English and updating its website, which will help the fundraising efforts and awareness at a more global level.

Outputs

The general public and specific target groups have a better understanding of NRCS than in the past, and financial and other support to national society activities has increased, which was best seen with the tsunami fundraising campaign. Good working relationship among the district chapters has been established, which will reinforce the bond of mutual understanding and cooperation. Different resource mobilization activities have been initiated, in order to improve sustainability of local communities, as well as the capacity of headquarters and district chapters to support them. Efforts have also been made to establish a clear image of the national society among stakeholders.

The programme is gradually making district chapters and its volunteers aware about the knowledge, skills and importance of local fundraising activities, which ensures sustainability. At headquarters level, management has realized the importance of holding regular fundraising activities at national level and of a continuous development of knowledge and skills in this area. The national society is committed to diversifying resource mobilization activities. Efforts are also made to maximize the use of passive fixed assets to meet NRCS’ financial needs.

Constraints

The security situation and disruption of communication means in the country have forced the national society to postpone a number of activities, such as the junior/youth seminar, and the selection of programme host districts. The selection of districts was eventually completed, but few districts have had time to start the activities. Reports from circles and districts have also been delayed for the same reason.

Due to current unstable political situation in Nepal we could not conduct any especial events. Moreover, a current poor business situation in Nepal makes fundraising a difficult task.

Implementation and management

Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

Regular coordination meetings have taken place between NRCS, ICRC and the Federation office to share information and discuss about the situation in the country, programme implementation and coordination of assistance to the national society.

With the Federation’s assistance, NRCS has sent out a follow-up request to all partner national societies involved in the cooperation agreement strategy for Nepal regarding their future commitments. Attempts were also made to initiate a coordinated audit process where all partner national societies requiring an external audit of NRCS programmes would cooperate. This has not yet been achieved, and efforts will continue in the next period.

The Federation country office and the South Asia regional delegation supported NRCS and the Spanish Red Cross in the development of a European Union funding application for a programme that will focus on fighting discrimination against specific ethnic and minority groups. If approved, this project will be implemented as a bilateral project with the Spanish Red Cross.

In following up of the memorandum of understanding between the Federation and World Health Organization, discussions were held with the World Health Organization emergency health unit regarding possible cooperation between the organization and NRCS. The Federation also participated in the disaster preparedness-network, a coordination function for non-government organizations involved in the area of disaster management in Nepal.

During a meeting of the Federation South Asia team, the support of the regional delegation to Nepal was discussed and plans were drawn up for future assistance of technical delegates and staff to NRCS programmes.

Effective representation and advocacy

A marketing leaflet has been produced locally to market the Nepal appeal programmes. It was distributed to all embassies in Nepal and to the main embassies in New Delhi maintaining active relations with Nepal.

The report from the participatory action learning review of the 2004 floods operation was published during this period. It was shared with all embassies, UN agencies, international and local non-government organizations and NRCS in the area of disaster management. There has also been extensive media coverage of the NRCS staff deployed to the tsunami response operation. The national society issued a domestic appeal for the tsunami and raised funds which have been donated to the Federation.

Delegation management

The Federation office in Nepal consists of a Federation representative only. Together with the regional delegation for South Asia, technical and other support continues to be provided to the national society in its core activity areas.

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

APPEAL No. 05AA048

PLEDGES RECEIVED

14/06/2005

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->					1,157,818	TOTAL COVERAGE 64.9%	
OPENING BALANCE				63,801			
BRITISH - GOVT/DIFD GRANT				192,500	01.01.05	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, CB FIRST AID, INFORMATION	
BRITISH - RC				20,000	12.05.05	WOMEN & GENDER DEVELOPMENT	
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND				45,015	17.01.05	RESOURCE MOBILIZATION	
FINNISH - GOVT/RC		50,000	EUR	77,450	22.03.05	DISASTER MANAGEMENT	
SWEDISH - RC		400,000	SEK	68,400	29.03.05	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	
SWEDISH - GOVT		1,000,000	SEK	171,000	29.03.05	HEALTH, ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
SWEDISH - GOVT		660,000	SEK	112,860	29.03.05	HIV/AIDS	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				751,026	CHF		64.9%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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	