

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

PAKISTAN

8 January 2002

This Programme Update is intended for reporting on Annual Appeals.

Appeal No. 01.38/2001

Appeal Target CHF 1,066,181

Programme Update No. 2 Period covered: 1 July - 31 December 2001 (last Programme Update issued 30 June 2001)

"At a Glance"

Appeal coverage: 41.8%

Related Appeals: South Asia regional programmes 01.33/01

Outstanding needs: CHF 620,717

Update: Donor support for the Pakistan Red Crescent Society's programmes to assist vulnerable people has improved dramatically, translating into more support on the ground. There is, however, still a need for increased donor engagement. National Society development and capacity building has continued amid the additional strains created by the ongoing humanitarian crisis in border areas and neighbouring Afghanistan.

Operational Developments:

This period saw considerable change on the political front, although the Government remained unchanged. The obvious changes related primarily to the situation in Afghanistan following the terrorist attacks in New York in September. The anticipated subsequent influx of a possible two million Afghan refugees into Pakistan did not materialise. Nevertheless, the situation did cause a humanitarian crisis on the Pakistan side of the border, especially at the Chaman border crossing in Baluchistan, the main exit route from Kandahar. The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) and Federation response to this is the subject of separate reporting, through the Humanitarian Crisis Appeal. Tension remains in the region because of uncertainty in Afghanistan and also because of recent dangerous deterioration of relations between India and Pakistan.

Disaster Response

The disaster response programme as defined in Appeal 2001 was merged with the disaster preparedness programme (refer Programme Update Number One for more information).

Disaster Preparedness

The objectives mentioned below are the revised ones and have replaced the objectives of both the disaster response and disaster preparedness programmes as they first appeared in Appeal 2001 for Pakistan. (refer Programme Update Number One for more information).

Objective 1 : *Undertake a comprehensive assessment of PRCS disaster preparedness/ disaster response (DP/DR) capacities and resources to provide a baseline for the development of PRCS DP/DR policy*

The terms of reference for a DP capacity assessment by an external consultant were developed in August and final selection among interested consultants will be made by December 2001. Work on the capacity assessment will start in January 2002 and finish by June 2002. In the meantime PRCS Provinces have identified and communicated to PRCS national headquarters the hazard prone districts along with their vulnerabilities. The identified districts are:

Punjab	Sindh	Balochistan	NWFP
Mianwali	Larkana	Pishin	Chitral
Rahim Yar Khan	Hyderabad	Chagai	Kohistan
Rajan Pur/ Sialkot	Sukkur	Zhob	Mansehra
Jhang	Khairpur	Qilla Abdullah	Buner
Muzzaffargarh	Badin	Qilla Saifullah	D.I. Khan
Multan	-----	Mastung	Nowshera

The Provincial Branches have also identified staff members who would be trained in capacity assessment and work closely with the consultant to facilitate his/her work.

Constraints: The events of September 11th and the subsequent humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and Pakistan have delayed the appointment of the capacity assessment consultant. There were also delays in receiving the project proposals from the relevant Branches.

Objective 2 : *Strengthen the capacity of one urban and four rural communities to reduce the impact of recurrent disasters*

In the third quarter of the year, disaster management capacity (infrastructure and human resources) was strengthened at all levels in the National Society, with disaster management cells established at NHQ and in the three provinces involved in this programme. The following staff were recruited :

	NHQ	Punjab	Sindh	Balochistan
National DP Coordinator	1			
Provincial DP Officer		1	2	2
Assistant DP Officer	2	2	2	2
Storekeeper			1	1
Total	3	3	5	5

Computers, office furniture and fax machines were purchased for the disaster management cells. In addition, the NHQ disaster management cell started to develop its Emergency Response Kit, following discussions with the Regional Delegation.

A three-day national level CBDP Orientation Workshop was held in Lahore in November for all District DP Officers, Assistant DP Officers, Provincial Project Officers and relevant Branch Secretaries. The objective of the workshop was to learn from the experience of each Branch and develop a common approach to VCA and subsequent DP activities (including mitigation activities).

Project Update Punjab Province (one rural):

The site for the rural project was selected after a feasibility study carried out by Punjab Branch. The selected area comprises of six villages inhabited by 4000-5000 people, in a subdivision of Jhelum District and 100-120 kilometres northwest of Lahore. The disaster management staff are currently collecting baseline information of the area. The area is prone to small scale seasonal and flash floods as the villages selected are located in between Salt Range and Jhelum river and there are no embankments on either side of the river. Over the years the area has developed huge ditches, which remain filled with water through out the year posing serious health hazards.

Around 70 volunteers/life members have been recruited so far, and they will be utilised during future mitigation activities carried out in the communities.

Project Update Sindh Province (one rural, one urban):

The rural project site is located at the seashore (village Golomandoro) and is vulnerable to small-scale cyclones (affected by cyclone in 1999). The site comprises of four villages, which are administratively under District Badin. The Branch Secretary visited the area in late September and had a meeting with the staff and volunteers, after which a structured vulnerability capacity analysis (VCA) was undertaken by staff and volunteers. A three-day basic community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP) course was held for staff and volunteers in October and 42 community volunteers from the four villages attended

The urban project is located in the Lyari district of Karachi. Lyari is prone to seasonal floods during the monsoon due to the overflowing of the water drainage channels. A local project office was established in space provided by another NGO working the area. This NGO has also offered additional help to the branch through its volunteers. Again a detailed VCA was completed and a CBDP orientation workshop for staff and volunteers was conducted in early November. The initial response from the community to the programme was very encouraging. While the District DP Officer and storekeeper will be physically located in the Branch headquarters, the Assistant DP Officer will be field-based in the project office.

Project Update Balochistan Province (one rural, one urban):

The rural project area is in Chagai district near to the Afghanistan border. Although the project staff were in place before September 11th, the planned activities have not been implemented as the staff are currently engaged in disaster response activities for the humanitarian crisis.

The urban project which aims to integrate mobile health units with community based disaster mitigation is targeting 10 villages. A trainer has been added to the existing mobile health units (MHU), who will be responsible for DP activities in the communities with support from provincial disaster management cell. The MHU teams have enlisted over 200 volunteers to date and they will be trained to undertake VCAs in the selected communities. After completion of the CBDP training/workshops, mitigation plans will be developed and implemented. As indicated above, the disaster management cell members are currently engaged in Branch support for the relief operation for Afghan refugees.

Constraints: There was a considerable delay in recruiting the staff at all levels. Some of the recruited staff also left the programme after a few months resulting in further delays in implementation. The planned CBDP orientation workshop for all new staff was postponed in August, because of slow recruitment and further delayed in September/October due to the humanitarian crisis. This resulted in different branches taking different approaches to implement the programme at their level. However, the national workshop in November re-established an agreed common approach. As a result, the programme's focus in Balochistan will focus more on meeting the present humanitarian crisis in the province.

Objective 3 : *Establish and maintain a PRCS information resource centre to compile and share information, and to advocate PRCS position on disaster management issues*

A national DP Coordinator (Information Resource Centre) was recruited in September. Since then progress has been made on the development of the computer networking and website, and this should be completed by the end of the year. Some work was also commenced with regard to publications and information sharing. A selection of Federation DP materials will be translated into Urdu or local languages for distribution to Branches for

information sharing. These materials include the Federation's Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Policies, the Code of Conduct and the Sphere Standards.

Constraints: The two main constraints were administration procedures and the delayed recruitment of the DP Coordinator. The procurement procedures took longer than anticipated and therefore contracts could not be awarded until November. Personnel changes at NHQ also caused some delay.

Humanitarian Values

There is no specific Humanitarian Values component in the current appeal. However, this has been added for 2002.

Health and Care

The Health and Care programme of the National Society is sub-divided into two elements - Health Management and Promotion (through Community Based First Aid) and Reproductive Health Services.

The overall long-term goal of the Health Management and Promotion programme is to ensure a trained First Aider in every home. There are three more immediate objectives.

Objective One : Reorganise the health management capacity at National Headquarters, including the establishment of an integrated approach to the National Society's health programmes

A Deputy Director for Health was recruited in the third quarter of this year. This position was created within the Development and Cooperation Unit, which was itself established at the beginning of 2000 both to provide strategic programme planning and direction for the National Society and to assist the Branches with programme implementation. The Deputy Director for Health visited all four Provincial Branches to gain an overview of the National Society's activities, which are quite extensive. This will form the basis for a more integrated approach to the health programmes of the National Society, but as with most of the National Society's planned activities for the second half of the year, progress has been hampered by the Afghan humanitarian crisis . The Deputy Director of Health was particularly involved with the proposed support to the Chaman Hospital, on the border with Afghanistan.

Objective Two : Develop and further strengthen the National Training and Resource Centre.

Two additional trainers were recruited during this reporting period and six First Aid training courses will have been completed by the end of the year. The total numbers of people trained to the end of November is 1076, compared with just 400 in the previous year. The National Training and Resource Centre was refurbished to improve the facilities and to increase the capacity of the centre, and further training materials were purchased. Long and short First Aid courses were conducted and trainees included well over 100 police, as well as students, office workers and personnel from the business sector. The income generated from this training will be put back into the programme, so while the Centre cannot yet be completely self-sufficient for its needs, at least some costs will be covered by the programme itself.

There are already plans to train at least 100 police personnel very early in the New Year and another 100 or more from a large company in Pakistan.

Additionally, four Training of Trainer courses have been provided to 64 participants, as opposed to 42 participants in the previous year. One of these courses was for the personnel of the PRCS mobile health programme in Baluchistan Province, so that all 16 personnel plus the Provincial Branch Health Officer are now trained trainers.

Objective Three : Strengthen strategic health promotion, using the community-based first aid (CBFA) approach

The National Society has worked hard to increase health promotion activities in all the Branches and all its health facilities using the CBFA model as the underlying approach. Some of this overlaps with the First Aid activities reported above, but it is important to note that elements of CBFA have been included in all First Aid training, as have messages about HIV/AIDS.

Of particular note is the work of the mobile health teams in Baluchistan Province (please also see below in Reproductive Health Services section). This project has recruited over 300 new volunteers in village communities and is reaching around 8500 beneficiaries each month with preventive health education and basic curative care. Relevant topics within the CBFA volunteers manual are now being taught in the 40 target villages for the programme.

As planned for this year, two of the four Provincial Branches (Baluchistan and Punjab) have now trained Branch Health and Training Officers. The other two positions (Sindh and Northwest Frontier Province) will be established in early 2002.

The overall goal for the Reproductive Health Services component of the health programme is to improve the health of the target population through a strengthened and coordinated approach to reproductive health services.

It is a credit to the National Society that most of its health facilities are funded by its own income generation and are thus less dependent on external support, although this is still very much needed for further strengthening of the programme. The Federation has provided financial assistance through the Appeal for two particular elements of this programme - mobile health in Baluchistan and Polio eradication activities.

The mobile health project originated as part of the drought appeal which was launched during 2000. In the second half of this year, additional funding was secured to continue with the activities and this project has since been integrated into the ongoing work of the National Society. Indeed it is now forming the basis for an expansion of the activities through the Afghan Humanitarian Crisis Appeal. The existing four teams are headed by a woman doctor, which is in itself a major achievement in what is a very traditional part of the country. Each team also has a male and female health motivator, and a male dispenser. The Provincial Branch Health and Training Officer is responsible for the monitoring of and support to the programme. Each team covers ten villages on a regular fortnightly basis, thus 40 villages and over 8500 beneficiaries are being reached each month, well above the planned target of 5000. The main focus of the work is on preventive health since most of the health problems in rural Baluchistan are preventable, including diarrhoea, respiratory, skin and eye infections. Additionally, the teams undertake ongoing nutritional surveillance. While the teams have seen a clear improvement in the health status of the target villages, confirmed by the community members themselves and with a concomitant reduction in drug consumption, chronic malnutrition in the under-fives has remained fairly constant, reflecting the ongoing chronic drought situation in the Province and the poor overall socioeconomic status of the population.

As indicated above, all team members are trained trainers for CBFA and are now incorporating CBFA messages into their health education sessions in all the villages.

The National Society has greatly increased its polio eradication activities during the second half of the year, and is now an active partner with WHO and UNICEF. A National Polio Coordinator was appointed and has worked closely with partners and the Provincial Branches. As a direct result of Pakistan Red Crescent action, over 200,000 children were mobilised for polio vaccination. More than 25% of these were Afghan children, who had either come across the border in recent times due to the current humanitarian crisis or who have been living in Pakistan for some time but who tend not to have access to Government health services. In particular, the National Society was seen to have a comparative advantage in the areas of creating awareness and social mobilisation, as well as the actual administration of vaccine in its numerous health facilities.

The National Society will hold a workshop in early January with programme partners, to review the activities of 2001 and to develop a detailed plan of action for 2002. It is hoped to reach an even greater number of Afghan children next year as, with Pakistan, Afghanistan remains a major reservoir for the polio virus and thus a key priority for polio eradication.

Institutional and Resource Development

Institutional Development Project

Objective One : Review and strengthen the role and activities of the Development and Cooperation Unit (DCU) within PRCS

As with all other National Society activities, planned progress was hampered and the workload of the Development and Cooperation Unit was inevitably greatly increased during the latter part of the year with the response to the Afghan humanitarian crisis. However, prior to this, and as indicated above in the section on Disaster Preparedness, the Unit had been further strengthened to implement the expanded DP/DR programme. This enabled the National Society to better respond to the emergency situation. The evaluation planned for the end of this year will be undertaken in the first quarter of 2002. It is hoped that the evaluation will lead on to a process of further development of National Headquarters management capacity with the establishment of appropriate departments to support the various PRCS programmes and operations.

DCU personnel have attended several national and regional workshops, sponsored by both the Federation and ICRC.

The Development and Cooperation Unit is jointly supported by the Federation and ICRC, with a Tripartite Agreement being signed annually. Work is currently under way for the 2002 Agreement. There has been a close and cooperative working relationship between all three partners, over and above the programme support which is given to the National Society separately by the Federation and ICRC.

Objective Two : Revise the Society's constitution to achieve uniformity at all levels

The PRCS Chairman and acting Secretary General attended the Regional Constitution Review workshop held in the third quarter of the year. There was a change of President of the Society in midyear, reflecting the change of tenure of the Presidency of the country. However, work has not actively started on the review of the constitution, not least because of the Society's workload with regard to emergency operations throughout the year. It is hoped that this work will be undertaken in 2002.

Objective Three : Strengthen the coordination between Branches and the National Headquarters

There has been improved coordination between the National Headquarters and the Branches throughout the year. The Provincial Branch Secretaries have met as a group on several occasions in the year, in addition to attendance at other workshops and meetings which have been held. Indeed such workshops provided an extra opportunity for coordination and planning between the Branch Secretaries, the Disaster Preparedness workshop in midyear being one such example. Additionally, the emergency operations throughout the year (there were four international appeals affecting all four Provincial Branches at some time or another) have further encouraged an atmosphere of coordination and cooperation. However various aspects of this objective, such as the establishment and implementation of a quarterly reporting mechanism, are still to be addressed.

Objective Four : Strengthen the District Branch network and develop its capacity

Branch development was addressed through the various emergency operations, such as for the drought and earthquake in the first half of the year, and more recently the Afghan humanitarian crisis operation. An active effort was made to include elements of Branch development in all emergency operations planning, especially in Baluchistan, where previously the Branch capacity was minimal. The next step will be to further strengthen the District Branch network, as currently only around half of the districts have a functioning and active Red Crescent Branch. One of the strengths, but at the same time a constraint, is the fact that the structure of the District level government authorities was changed during this year. The National Society fully recognises the need to further address district Branch development during 2002.

Finance Development Project

Following discussions earlier in the year, planning was finalised towards year-end to support the National Society with the installation of durable and user friendly accounting software for its finance department and also to agree on the timetable for the required training on the use of the software. The software will be installed in all four Provincial Branches in order to ensure a coordinated and uniform approach to financial management within the National Society. Two options for the software package are available to the National Society and a final decision should be made before the end of this year. Training for the new software will be provided in February, 2002. It is envisaged that both the manual and electronic bookkeeping will be undertaken together for the first three months, after which it is hoped to discontinue the manual system.

Human Resource Development Project

Five members of the Society attended a Regional Human Resource Development (HRD) workshop in Nepal in December to work with all other NS to develop common minimum norms and practices in HRD across all NS in the Region. The PRCS participants agreed to recommend the following to the governance and management of the Society on their return:

- (i) the adoption of a clear and common HRD Policy at national level in PRCS that would entail common standards in the NHQ and all Branches as well at all levels
- (ii) the appointment of a national HRD manager to bring all the systems and procedures of the Society into conformity
- (iii) training courses at all levels to advise staff and key volunteers of the new HRD systems once adopted
- (iv) the adoption in PRCS of Volunteering and Gender Policies respectively in accordance with the Federation's relevant policies in these areas.

Finance Resource Development Project

The Federation has not been able to support the National Society with finance resource development in this reporting period, due to other operational demands on both the National Society and the Regional Delegation. This will be a priority for 2002.

Information Development Project

The Information Officer has been in post for a full year now and Information capacity was further strengthened during this period with the recruitment of an Information Assistant. This will form the future basis for a separate Communications and Information Unit. Coverage and profile of the National Society as a key humanitarian player was greatly increased during the year, both through the emergency operations and the ongoing planned activities. A database of media contacts was established.

The monthly magazine was produced with support from ICRC, who also supported the National Society with the development and production of calendars and greetings cards, which were on sale in several local retail outlets in Islamabad.

Outstanding needs

The Pakistan Appeal achieved greater coverage for 2001 compared with only the level of 4% for the previous year. This has been greatly helped by full funding for the integrated DP/DR programme as part of the DFID Disaster Preparedness initiative for South Asia, and also with ECHO funds for the mobile health project and Funds from the Federation's Global Appeal for Polio, for the polio eradication activities. Swedish Red Cross also provided support for the health programme.

Outside of this appeal, there have also been international appeals for the drought (ongoing from 2000), earthquake and current humanitarian crisis, as well as disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) assistance for flash floods in midyear.

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All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

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Pakistan						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 01.38/2001		PLEDGES RECEIVED			04.01.2002	
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						TOTAL COVERAGE
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				1'066'181		41.8%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				48'528		
BRITISH - GOVT (DFID GRANT)				75'000	03.02.01	PARTNERSHIP IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2001
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID				237'160	30.04.2001	DPP
SWEDISH - RC		125'000	SEK	21'063	28.02.2001	HEALTH MANAGEMENT & PROMOTION
SWEDISH - GOVT		375'000	SEK	63'713	21.05.2001	HEALTH MANAGEMENT & PROMOTION
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				445'464	CHF	41.8%