

ANNUAL REPORT



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

ERITREA

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 178 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

Appeal No. 01.09/2002; Appeal target: CHF 182,727; Appeal coverage: 79%

Overall Analysis of the programme •

The Red Cross Society of Eritrea (RCSE) continues to operate under a written agreement with the Ministry of Health and with the Eritrean refugee and rehabilitation committee pending its formal recognition by the government. With technical support and assistance from the International Federation and with financial support from its partners within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the RCSE continued to implement community health and water and sanitation activities at the branch level. The National Society embraced the African Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' Health Initiative (ARCHI) concepts and coaching system in 2002, and established the basis for major involvement in HIV/AIDS prevention activities.

The overall goal was to actively support the efforts undertaken by the RCSE in disaster preparedness and response, HIV/AIDS and health related services through a fully recognized and effective National Society supported by coordinated external and locally raised funds. The Federation plays an advisory role, leaving all the implementation of activities to the National Society.

Objectives, Achievements and Constraints

Organizational Development •

All objectives were put under the organizational development part of the appeal to reflect the nature of the Federation's presence in Eritrea: building the capacity of the RCSE.

Objective 1: To assist the RCSE in obtaining formal recognition from the Eritrean government and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The RCSE, in collaboration with the delegation of the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) in Asmara, was advocating for the formal recognition of the National Society with all the relevant governmental bodies. Draft statutes were produced and shared within the Movement, and there is an agreement in principle by the authorities for its implementation. Some technical questions remain to be finalized before the proclamation is made.

Following an invitation in October 2002 by the standing commission's working group on the follow-up to resolution six of the Council of Delegates 2001, the secretary general of the RCSE

presented the National Society's context, views, expectations and needs regarding the expected emblem of the RCSE upon its recognition. The National Society was presented with a list of supporting documents for the building of operational cooperation with the Federation. A planned mission by two representatives of the working group to Eritrea was however postponed to 2003.

A 12-page magazine in English profiling the history of the RCSE, its vision, programmes, activities and some of its active volunteers was produced jointly by the National Society, the ICRC and the Federation. Translation into the local Tigrinya language will be undertaken in 2003.

The RCSE took part in various exchange programmes with other RC/RC partners in the region and is an active participant in the various regional and international seminars and meetings.

Constraints: Supported by the Federation, the RCSE scaled up its networking activities with UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and major embassies during this reporting period. However, partly because the recognition did not materialize, there was no effective follow up which could have given an even better impact and resulted in more support.

Objective 2: To assist the National Society in establishing a clear structure (including governance) and to improve its internal communications.

In the past, the Federation's support to the RCSE was mainly directed to its decentralization and transparency of operations and improving financial management systems, and as such, organizational development was fragmented. In 2002, this was given priority and a coherent approach to strengthen the overall organization, its structures and its performance received ample attention. Frequent discussions with senior management and branch secretaries, coupled with external consultancies, resulted in the acceptance to restructure roles and responsibilities of technical departments, to clarify and to improve the communication and decision-making process, to strengthen the performance of staff members at headquarters and branch levels, to improve the existing performance evaluation system, and to strengthen the human resource capacity.

At the request of the National Society, the regional delegation gave technical support to the RCSE on identifying, preparing, monitoring and evaluating integrated community health programmes.

Constraints: The National Society took much time to follow up on the restructuring process, the hiring and training of staff members and defining clear areas of responsibility. Internal communication at headquarters and between headquarters and branches needs further improvement.

The integrated strategic development plan for 2001-2004 has to be revised to provide a coherent framework for the activities of the RCSE with a focus on more community-based and responsive programmes. Upon completion of the plan, the development of the cooperation agreement strategy (CAS) document must be initiated.

Objective 3: To assist the National Society in improving its disaster preparedness and response capacities.

The concept of community-based disaster preparedness was extensively discussed with the leadership of the National Society. As a result, the RCSE accepted the need to address preparedness for small scale disasters and emergencies at the community level, and to integrate these interventions within the existing or emerging programmes like community-based first aid, water/sanitation, HIV/AIDS and volunteer development. A coaching and volunteer management system, and an integrated health programme will be introduced in 2003.

Two members of the National Society also attended the disaster management course in Nairobi organized by the regional delegation and the Cranfield University, which focused on the major threats in the eastern African region and the appropriate preparedness and response mechanisms.

Constraints: In the absence of a governmental disaster preparedness and response framework, the role of the RCSE at the national level cannot be specified. Despite this, the staff members and volunteers of the National Society and the general public are being sensitized on disaster prevention and mitigation. Red Cross action teams are being established in strategic branches to respond to larger scale disasters. Although the RCSE is well positioned with its first aid training and posts within schools, there is limited guidance from headquarters and limited capacity at branch level to motivate, monitor and provide opportunities for both students and teachers to practice their new skills.

Objective 4: To support the National Society in strengthening its HIV/AIDS and community-based health activities in order to respond to the increasing needs.

The strategic HIV/AIDS plan of the National Society for 2002-2005 was finalized with support from the regional delegation and with active consultation with various partners. The strategy outlines appropriate and action-oriented HIV/AIDS prevention activities which are integrated into existing health-related interventions. The National Society has become a member of the national working group on HIV/AIDS, and developed contacts with the national association of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). The RCSE is an active member in the UN theme group on HIV/AIDS and the focal point for the fight against stigmatization and discrimination.

The position of an HIV/AIDS and a community development coordinator was created and the initial funding secured, while recruitment will be completed in 2003. With support from the regional delegation, the RCSE facilitated the participation of various associations of PLWHA from Eritrea to international meetings in 2002 to build their confidence and capacities in developing partnerships at regional, national and local levels.

Constraints: The limited capacity of the National Society slowed down the identification of its proper role in the national HIV/AIDS plan, its scaling up of HIV/AIDS interventions, and integration with existing health-related services at the community level.

Objective 5: To assist the National Society in resource development and financial management in order to meet increased demands.

With the support from the regional delegation, a new computerized financial system was installed during the year, and led to an improvement in the timeliness and accuracy of financial reporting, although narrative reporting could be improved.

Constraints: Reports from branches are often late and inadequate, and had an impact on the timeliness and accuracy of reports to partners. The National Society also overestimates its implementation capacity which results in underutilization of donor funds. Computer maintenance was neglected.

Planned activities in promoting resource development and membership recruitment are related to (the delay in) the recognition process. Therefore, the RCSE prefers to avoid being exposed and/or being too visible. However, some progress was made in advocating and convincing the local authorities to give financial support for ambulance services provided to them.

Coordination and Management •

The RCSE decided to adjust its outlook and programme implementation to become a real community based organization in service delivery and volunteer management. Relevant strategies and the recruitment of staff members are almost finalized. The biggest challenge now lies in adjusting its working structures and methodologies and to develop the relevant technical tools and guidance.

The presence and continuous support and advice of the Federation remain an important area of the organizational capacity building, including the systems and programmes, particularly those related to disaster preparedness and response, HIV/AIDS, health and the water and sanitation.

The Federation will play an important supporting role in the drought relief operation into early 2003 where the Federation's representative and the relief delegates will coordinate the input from sister national societies and other partners with the support of the regional delegation in Nairobi, while the National Society undertakes full implementation.

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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>.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES

Interim report	
Annual report	X
Final report	

Appeal No & title: 01.09/2002 Eritrea
 Period: year 2002
 Project(s): PER510
 Currency: CHF

I - CONSOLIDATED RESPONSE TO APPEAL

FUNDING	CASH		KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL INCOME
	Contributions	Comments	Goods/Services	Personnel	
Appeal budget	182,727				
less					
Cash brought forward	29,109				
TOTAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT	153,618				
<u>Contributions from Donors</u>					
American Red Cross (DNUS)	4,123				4,123
Danish Govt.via Danish Red Cross (DGNDK)	18,584				18,584
Donor - Unidentified (D000)	335				335
Japanese Red Cross (DNJP)	1,163				1,163
Netherlands Red Cross (DNNL)	2,130				2,130
Norwegian Govt.via Norwegian Red Cro (DGNNO)	17,865				17,865
Norwegian Red Cross (DNNO)	1,985				1,985
Red Cross Society of Eritrea (DNER)	506				506
Republic of Korea Red Cross (DNKR)	-6,206				-6,206
Swedish Govt.via Swedish Red Cross (DGNSE)	15,810				15,810
Netherlands				59,959	59,959
TOTAL	56,295			59,959	116,254

II - Balance of funds

OPENING	29,109
CASH INCOME Rcv'd	56,295
CASH EXPENDITURE	-85,403
CASH BALANCE	-----

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III - Budget analysis / Breakdown of expenditures

Description	APPEAL Budget	CASH Expenditures	KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL Expenditures	Variance
			Goods/services	Personnel		
<u>SUPPLIES</u>						
Shelter & Construction						
Clothing & Textiles						
Food & Seeds						
Water & sanitation						
Medical & First Aid						
Teaching materials						
Utensils & Tools						
Other relief supplies						
Sub-Total						
<u>CAPITAL EXPENSES</u>						
Land & Buildings						
Vehicles						
Computers & Telecom equip.	4,257	5,629			5,629	-1,372
Medical equipment						
Other capital expenditures	1,000					1,000
Sub-Total	5,257	5,629			5,629	-372
<u>TRANSPORT & STORAGE</u>	4,400	5,194			5,194	-794
Sub-Total	4,400	5,194			5,194	-794
<u>PERSONNEL</u>						
Personnel (delegates)	104,200	40,291		59,959	100,250	3,950
Personnel (national staff)	1,800	443			443	1,357
Sub-Total	106,000	40,734		59,959	100,693	5,308
<u>GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION</u>						
Assessment/Monitoring/experts		3,785			3,785	-3,785
Travel & related expenses	37,130	16,386			16,386	20,744
Information expenses	4,000	206			206	3,794
Admin./general expenses	5,840	4,075			4,075	1,765
External workshops & Seminars						
Sub-Total	46,970	24,451			24,451	22,519
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>						
Programme management	12,321	5,758			5,758	6,563
Technical services	3,688	1,724			1,724	1,964
Professional services	4,090	1,912			1,912	2,178
Sub-Total	20,100	9,394			9,394	10,706
Operational provisions						
Transfers to National Societies						
TOTAL BUDGET	182,727	85,403		59,959	145,362	37,365