

# 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

## ALBANIA

*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](http://www.ifrc.org)*

**Appeal No. 01.43/2002; Appeal target: CHF 1,561,569; Budget revised to CHF 4,100,065.  
Appeal coverage: 84%**

### Overall analysis of the programme w

The four core areas of the Federation Strategy 2010 represent the backbone of the Albanian RC Strategy 2000-2004. Disaster preparedness, Disaster response, Health and Care in the community and the Humanitarian Values are set as different goals to be fulfilled during this five period. In addition to these, the NS sees Organisational Development (including fund raising and volunteer management) and Training as important for its development. The Appeal budget was dramatically revised early in the year to include activities that had been planned in 2001, but were not carried out before the end of that year.

The Albanian Red Cross has gone through the process of structural changes, including the creation of twelve large branches instead of the previous thirty six local committees, in line with the new administrative divisions of the country approved in 2000 that strengthen the capacity of the National Society at the local level. The establishment of a new structure at governance and management at HQ's and local level were finally approved by the VI General Assembly of the NS that was held in October 2002.

During the first half of 2002, thirty nine sub branches were set up throughout the whole territory of the country Elections were held regularly at this level and from these structures were constituted the branch councils with representatives from the sub branch levels. Governance members of the sub branch council will take responsibility of implementing the various activities and projects in their area. The councils consists of nine governance members at the branch level and there is predicted a branch secretary (staff) and one or two co-ordinators, who will cover the activities to be implemented in all sub branches constituting the branch.

During this year, Albanian RC has also been very active in responding to the needs of vulnerable people caused by a heavy snowfall during January-February in the North part of the country, a flooding situation at the end of September in the lowland area of the country, by some slight earthquakes that happened during July and August in Elbasan area (middle of Albania) and a difficult situation on the border with Greece in the third week of August, when Albanian emigrants were going back to Greece from their summer holidays.



Special emphasis was given to the drafting of the NS Disaster Management Plan. With the expertise of the Finish RC the plan is already completed and copy of it shall be distributed to the relevant stakeholders early early in 2003.

The activities of the health area went according to the plan of activities. Health dissemination activities were held in a lot of remote communes and the NS enlarged that activity with the support of the French RC delegation in Albania. First Aid activities were implemented. Albanian RC was recognized with the First Aid European Certificate by the European Reference Centre for First Aid Education. Further steps were made in contacts held with Transport Ministry for the FA courses at driving schools. The number of assisted vulnerable people of the social area was increased as the NS changed its strategy of helping this category of vulnerable people.

## **Objectives, Achievements and Constraints w**

### **Disaster Preparedness w**

The National Society Disaster Preparedness & Response plan, clarifying the role and responsibility of the Albanian RC in the national framework was completed. This plan will be presented to the respective governmental structures, which are dealing with the drafting work of the national plan of the country.

The NS has continued the training of its disaster teams using all the Federation modules, recommended to the NS. An earthquake simulation exercise was organized during this period and it showed the good level of knowledge and preparedness the DP teams at branch level have reached.

The NS responded to four emergency situations during the year. Heavy snow at the beginning of the year in the north of the country; a slight earthquake situations in one prefecture (Elbasan) during July; long queues with returning back of Albanian emigrants at the two cross border points with Greece during August; and flooding during September. In all these emergencies the NS played an important role responding to the needs of the vulnerable, assisting 75,000 beneficiaries.

### **Objective 1 To disseminate and distribute the Albanian RC disaster preparedness plan to all branches, governmental structures, and interested institutions.**

Through direct contacts with responsible authorities for the disaster issues and through participation to various workshops inside and outside the country, the role and responsibility of the Albanian RC during a disaster situation has been made known. The DP plan that will be distributed to them early next year will create a complete picture of the Albanian RC role in the event of disaster and will help them to better incorporate it in the national plan. The same procedure will be applied at local level where Albanian RC local branches will distribute their DP plans to the concerned local authorities and coordinate with them preparedness activities.

In October, a Letter of Understanding on a Strategic Partnership between UNDP office in Albania, the Ministry of Local Government & Decentralisation (MOLGD) and the Albanian Red Cross was signed. A report on "Vulnerabilities and capacities from a local perspective" was also produced to show disaster planning and preparedness activities involving local communities, institutions and authorities. Public awareness and education campaigns were also reviewed. A detailed plan of action will be drafted early next year incorporating all the aspects of this agreement in co-operation with UNDP and MOLGD.

The heavy flooding which hit Albania in September 2002 showed the need for establishing an Inter Ministerial Emergency Committee in Tirana and Local Level Emergency Committees in the prefectures in full accordance with the "Law on Emergencies". The Albanian RC was recognised as a serious and important partner in this situation and was invited to participate in all meetings of these structures.

The participation of Albanian RC in the coordination and decision making process and structures constitutes a relevant step for a more effective disaster response at national level. The distribution of tasks, the exchange of information, the familiarization of governmental structures with the role Albanian RC plays in disaster response has reduced the chance for overlapping of activities and efforts.

Some of the governmental structures are in the process of reorganization and some of them, like the Inter Ministerial Committee, are brand new structures that will need time to settle into place and become established.

**Objective 2 To maintain the logistics and relief capacities at the central and local levels, to meet the relief and shelter needs of 8,000 beneficiaries according to international standards.**

During December two warehouses of the NS, the central one in Tirana, (2 200 sq.) and the regional one in Korça (300 sq.m) which also has a training centre that can be used for the training of disaster volunteers were completed. The NS already has one central warehouse and three regional ones which can store all the disaster stock needed for emergency situations. Now the NS will no longer have to pay the rent on the warehouse which has been a heavy burden for the NS budget over recent years.

A number of slight earthquakes hit the Elbasan prefecture, located in the central part of the country, during the end of July and beginning of August 2002. These created panic among the population and at the same time some damage occurred to some 150 houses. There were no victims among the population but the tension which was created required Albanian RC intervention. The Albanian RC distributed food and non food items for 50 families and gave 50 tents to these family.

The Albanian RC intervened when around 80,000 Albanian emigrants living in Greece were not allowed to cross the border back into Greece. The capacities of two police control border checks on the Greek side could not handle the numbers of people wishing to cross and there were an average of 8,000 emigrants with their cars waiting in queues for a 10 day period at two cross border points. The situation created some health problems, due to a lack of proper facilities in the area, so the First Aid teams of Korça and Gjirokastra branch came to their aid and also provided biscuits, water, juice and canned meat. Physiological support was also offered to them.



The NS responded to the flooding situation which hit the country at the end of September 2002. A managing group for the emergency was set up at the HQ which carefully planned its work. A damage and needs assessment team set off immediately to the field in cooperation with representatives of the PNS operating in the country. An emergency appeal was launched via Federation and at the same time the NS reacted to the situation, making use of its stock. The relief operation for affected families was planned to be implemented in two phases. During the first phase DP stock items were distributed to 3,820 families (around 20,000 individuals). During the second phase, planned to be completed in January 2003, food and non food items for the same beneficiaries will be done for a two months period. The table below shows the distribution according the areas affected, the number of people assisted and the quantity of items distributed.

Affected Areas	Distributed items										Beneficiaries	
Place	Blanket (pcs)	Wheat flour (Kg)	Sugar (Kg)	Oil (Liter)	Beans (Kg)	Food parcels (pcs)	Hygienic parcels (Kit)	Canned meat (pcs)	Deter. (Kg)	Soap (pcs)	Nr. families	Nr. per
Lezha	11 500	168 000	12 860	12 860	72 40	1000	8430	14 050	14 050	44 960	2810	14 565
Berat	2 100	29 400	2 940	2 940	1960		1470	2 450	2 450	7 840	490	2 690
Durrës	1 400	21 000	2 100	2 100	1400		1050	1750	1750	5 600	350	1 674
Fier	480	7 200	720	720	480		360	600	600	1 920	120	722
Shkodra	200	1 100	200	200	200	150	150	250	250	800	50	375
<b>Total</b>	<b>15 680</b>	<b>226 700</b>	<b>18 820</b>	<b>18 820</b>	<b>11 280</b>	<b>1 150</b>	<b>11 460</b>	<b>19 100</b>	<b>19 100</b>	<b>61 120</b>	<b>3820</b>	<b>20 026</b>

At the end, the replenishing of the distributed stock had to be made. These food items are being procured in accordance with the tendering procedures where all interested companies were invited to put in their offer through a newspaper announcement.

The main achievements in the past year were the continued maintenance of the central warehouse in Tirana and the two regional warehouses in Fier and Shkodra and the fact that the NS responded in a timely and efficient manner to four emergency situations, assisting about 28,050 people. This was in spite of difficulties in the preparation of lists for the beneficiaries as a result of the flexible criteria for the identification of the beneficiaries. Contacts have been held with the local authorities to specify the criteria in order to reach the most vulnerable sections of the population.

### **Objective 3 To increase the knowledge and skills of the headquarters and branch staff in disaster response and disaster preparedness.**

The four emergency situations experienced during this year were a real test of the performance of volunteers who were included in the disaster teams of the sub branches. There were ten RCA sub branches which have been involved in these “real” tests. The volunteers have further increased their knowledge and skills on how to respond to any emergency situation. The experience gained during this year has also enhanced the role of Albanian RC volunteers to respond to the emergency situations.

The DP coordinator at the HQ has monitored the training process of DP team leaders at sub branch level, where the Albanian RC emergency response will be based. The new management structure is easing the DP work in the field for the disaster teams at the sub branch level as the secretaries of 12 branches are working with their sub branches.

Four training workshops were organized in Tirana with the participation of disaster leader volunteers who are working in their community for disaster teams from RC branches. The main topics during these workshops were the needs assessment, the awareness for disaster in community, risk reduction, psychological support. The second phase of the workshop was for the branches themselves to organize some local training with their DP volunteers.

An earthquake simulation exercise took place in Shkodra branch in July. In this simulation 60 DP team volunteers took part, role playing practical actions in four fields of RC interventions during disaster time: needs assessments, information and reporting, first aid, health promotion and relief distribution. This activity showed the good level of knowledge and preparedness the DP teams at branch level have reached. Two other planned “simulations” were conducted during real emergency situations (earthquake and flood) which hit the country during the second half of the year.

### **Objective 4 To raise public awareness about disaster preparedness.**

Promotion materials were prepared and distributed, leading to an increased level of awareness amongst volunteers, the general public, governmental structures and agencies involved. About 45,000 participants attended the meetings organized on the dissemination of information regarding the

consequences of disasters. During the year, 25,000 leaflets and 2,800 copies of the brochure “Be prepared, not scared” were distributed, giving short messages in the event of various disasters.

A number of meetings have been organized in the high risk areas with the participation of the community (students, workers and farmers) where they were told the main consequences of a disaster and how to reduce their impact in the community, so increasing public awareness. Four Albanian RC branches have been involved in organizing contacts with communities likely to be affected by disaster and also with the construction businesses in order to increase their awareness of potential disasters (earthquakes)

## **Humanitarian Values w**

The promotion of humanitarian values forms a critical part of the Albania RC 2000-2004 strategy, and is intended to raise the society’s profile in the community. It also aims at contributing to the strengthening of the civil society in the country by conveying to it the humanitarian values of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The programme has been closely linked with the other operational programmes and areas of activities of the national society, thus providing larger and more accurate information on the humanitarian action of the Albanian Red Cross in respective areas. All activities organized by the national society were carefully prepared in order to reflect the main features and give adequate importance to implementation.

Much of the work with local branches was undertaken to achieve an efficient co-ordination with the local media. The local branches are becoming increasingly aware that the dissemination of their activities is an indispensable pre-condition to winning the respect of the public at large and to increasing the support of the donors and the authorities.

### **Objective 1 To promote IHL, the fundamental principles and humanitarian values among target groups (government, academic and university circles and youth, in particular)**

Two seminars were organized during November and December with Red Cross subbranches responsible for Dissemination. The profile of the participants for the seminars on IHL and Principles was prepared in advance and helped to identify and train people responsible for information and dissemination at each sub branch. Forty volunteers and twelve branch secretaries were trained. The local electronic and written media have helped in providing visibility to Red Cross programmes and activities, accessible to the government and the general public.

### **Objective 2: To raise the profile of the Movement in general, and that of the Albanian Red Cross in particular, among the general public of Albania.**

A number of information materials, posters and leaflets were distributed during the response operation for the isolated population in the north part of the country in January-February. The food relief packages that were distributed were accompanied with information materials and this helped increase the RC image in the public eye. This activity was largely made public through electronic and written media, reaching a wide cross section of the population

A monthly information sheet was prepared and distributed to relevant institutions such as the Ministry of Local Authorities, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Defence, Ministry Social Work, Media. Press releases were drafted and distributed during the first month of the flooding emergency response and VI General Assembly of Albanian RC.

The new web site page of Albanian RC is already available to all those who would like to get information on Albanian RC activities. The address of Albanian RC web site is: [www.kksh.org](http://www.kksh.org) .

Tip of the day is a project with Red Cross short messages for the general public. In the past year, messages were transmitted every day through two national radio stations, Radio Tirana and Radio +2.

Events held in the country and the response to them has also created possibilities to increase the national society’s overall capacities. Further dissemination of fundamental principles and

humanitarian values, however, requires even stronger commitment, especially from the youth. At the same time, the misuse of the emblem remains one of the challenges for the national society in the period to come.

## Health and Care w

The work has been focused on increasing the level of health knowledge among the population related to infectious diseases, personal and environmental hygiene and all RC local sub branches were involved in these activities.

There is a lack of legal provision to support first aid services in Albania. The Albanian RC is aiming to achieve an official agreement with the Ministry of Transport on a "First Aid in driving schools" project. The issue is being followed and discussions with experts of this Ministry are in process.

### **Objective 1 To continue to provide health education information and support to the most vulnerable groups of the society.**

RC local sub branches have been involved in the implementation of health education projects in reproductive health, personal hygiene activities and, in cooperation with the American RC, a National Awareness Campaign for the vaccination of 240,000 women aged 16-35 years against Measles and Rubella. A TV spot giving information to the public on these diseases continued and from monitoring, it came out that the percentage of public awareness about the vaccination is high. The percentage of vaccinations registered, 98% of the predicted figure nation wide, reflects the impact of the campaigns for Measles and Rubella.



The *Mother and Child Care*, with the French Red Cross, saw projects in four districts: Shkoder, Fier, Malesi e Madhe and Lezhe with the involvement of 72 volunteers and the number of beneficiaries around 7,000. Information and messages on reproductive health, mother and baby care and prevention of infectious diseases were given. Another project with the French RC, *Education and Prevention from HIV/AIDS* was implemented in six main districts of the country where 178 young volunteers from high schools and universities were involved and 30,000 individuals, mainly students, have benefited.

In collaboration with the Icelandic RC, a Health Education project has been implemented with the involvement of 78 volunteers in four districts of South of Albania. Sixteen communes, and approximately sixty villages, which were affected by Brucellosis disease, are included in this project. Up to December 2002, 6,000 individuals have benefited, so this positive impact means that the project will be extended until July 2003.

A number of activities were carried out in the frame of the awareness campaign against AIDS. Notably, poetry competitions and drawing exhibitions at schools in six sub branches, meetings and distribution of leaflets to schools and in the community at large. Ten sub branches were involved on December 1st International AIDS Day, with big candle marches, where thousands of people joined RC volunteers. These activities were widely broadcast by the national and local media. Contacts are being made with agencies working on the issue in order to define a national strategy on AIDS.

Concerning environmental hygiene, massive awareness campaigns were organized throughout the entire country, involving twenty Albanian RC local sub-branches and more than 220 volunteers. The number of volunteers participating in health activities in general saw an increase, in part due to the new methodology of approaching potential volunteers and the wide variety of materials printed and disseminated on health issues.

However, there is still a lack of legislation regarding health issues and an immediate need for strengthening the existing ones. This lack of legislation is often the cause of overlapping. Another constraint is the deep rooted mentality of the people regarding conception, breast feeding and family planning. Taking into account these cultural factors, along with new trends in life style, which include more liberal sexual norms and high rates of cigarette consumption, is a challenge when deciding on the dissemination of health information. In addition, serious social problems have in part led to criminal activities such as trafficking of women and children, therefore, the activities on health issues focused both on the change of attitudes and the pressing problems in the country.

**Objective 2 To further promote First Aid in general public as well as in other targeted groups.**

The aim of the programme has been the dissemination of first aid to the public and targeted groups, as well as the recruitment and training of instructors and volunteers for each sub-branch. The instructors of the sub-branches have in turn organized first aid courses for volunteers and other interested groups. In addition, the presence of trained first aid volunteers at public events and sport competitions raised the image of the Albanian RC for the public.

A working group was set up in order to collect ideas about FA information that should be provided to groups at risk. Different kinds of leaflets, posters and a brochure were published. Eight FA training courses for 80 individuals from at risk groups were organized in the course of the year. These courses were organized in the capital of the country where the biggest private companies have their offices. FA instructors from the Tirana RC branch ran these training sessions, which have also served as a means of fund raising. The training of the newly licensed drivers, which started some years ago, continued and was a source of income too.

Talks were conducted and a demonstration of FA skills was organized in public with leaflets and posters distributed. All these activities were broadcast on the local TV, although the TV awareness campaign organized during the year, which was aiming to increase the number of FA courses, did not produce the expected outcome. The Albanian RC remains convinced, however, that through better and concerted efforts, results can be achieved.

Several training courses took place to increase the FA skills at the disposal of the Albanian RC. A ten day FA training session for trainers was held for twenty new instructors from ten branches. An expert from the Austrian RC attended the course to ensure the necessary changes in this course were of a high standard. At the end of the course, all participants were awarded the FA instructor certificate. A four day refreshing course took place, again with an expert from the Austrian RC, to introduce some new techniques. Twenty seven sub branches organised FA training sessions with 400 FA volunteers.

Three regional FA competitions were organized and the national FA competition took place on 14 September. RC sub branches participated in all these meetings along with around 270 FA volunteers. As the day was also International Day, these sub branches carried out some awareness activities, where FA information was disseminated and posters and leaflets distributed. In addition, a number of FA volunteers were demonstrating FA skills in public places to increase public awareness towards FA. The national FA team also entered the European FA competition, held in Brussels and performed creditably.

Following contacts with European Reference Centre for FA Education the Albanian RC was awarded the European FA certificate. This is a very important achievement for the Albanian RC, particularly with regard to the negotiations with authorities about FA courses for newly licensed drivers, in progress.

**Objective 3: To continue assisting the vulnerable social groups.**

A social project targeting the children at risk, with the main objective to prevent the school drop out phenomena started in January in Durres and Shkoder and in February was extended to four more branches. Direct beneficiaries of the project were the 370 children participating in the formal education and non formal education activities organized and nutritional support. The indirect beneficiaries were the 7,300 pupils of the schools involved, families and volunteers of the branches

and staff of the schools that participated in the training sessions organised. Agreements were signed with Ministry of Education and Science at ministerial and local level. Partial didactic, hygiene and equipment support was given to fourteen schools involved in the project. Of the children supported with extra lessons, 98% successfully finished the school year. This project is currently being implemented in seven branches with the support of Spanish Red Cross. This project started in Lezha in September, with 50 children being identified and incorporated in extra support groups.

Four hundred and twenty children at risk participated in the formal education activities organized on regular bases of three times per week in order to cope with the gaps they have in their knowledge and to increase their interest and motivation towards education. These children and other school peers participated in the non-formal education activities organized by more than 110 volunteers of the branches. The activities vary from artistic and sport activities and excursions, to hygiene campaigns, creation of magazines etc. A minimum of one visit per month was made by teachers and/or area coordinators. The monthly follow up of the children is done during the visits and also the support of the family is sought. Mother groups are created in four districts in order to involve the families more in the process and increase the awareness of the community of education issues.

The hygiene situation was assessed in each family, leaflets regarding hygiene and hygiene kits were distributed. At the beginning of the school year training sessions were organized with the staff of the schools regarding the registration process and the adaptation of the curricula. At the beginning of the school year school kits were distributed to the children. In order to better address the needs of the children, and to respond to the lack of recreative resources in the schools and in the town, libraries for children were created inside the premises of the local branches of: Fier, Vlora, Elbasan and Berat. A manual of non-formal education activities has been elaborated and will be distributed to all the branches and sub branches that are currently implementing social activities targeting children. The Education project for orphan children began in July in seven RC sub branches.

The third and fourth *Learn a new profession-trust in yourself* courses were successfully completed and in total, during the whole year, 683 disadvantaged women received certificates. A social worker has been providing psychological support to those women experiencing problems. Only the RC sub branches of Tirana and Elbasan are receiving financial support from the Spanish RC delegation in Albania. The rest are developing the project with their own resources and using the money raised from selling the goods produced in the courses. As well as the self sustainability of this in financial terms, the satisfaction that the women get is immense.

The project *Assistance for lonely elderly people* was conceived as a new type of project, aiming at changing the previous social presence of the Albanian RC in the community. During the three past years the NS efforts towards lonely, elderly people was focused on the soup kitchen project. That project proved not to be as effective as the Albanian RC had wished, so the NS developed this new project. All 450 of the existing beneficiaries were included in the new project, which had a major impact in number of new beneficiaries (2,150) and involvement of more RC sub branches and social volunteers. This project was supposed to include food items being distributed five times during the year, combined with the presence of the social volunteers. However, due to two unpredictable major emergencies in the country, and a less than full response from the donors, the NS could not organize five food distributions.

### **Organizational Development w**

For 2002, the Albanian RC focused on different topics, such as a higher involvement of Albanian RC members and beneficiaries in the identification phase of projects, a better understanding of the participatory approach and community based interventions. A cycle of training sessions took place in the second half of 2002 for the newly recruited secretaries in order for them to get greater knowledge and develop skills in tools, design, sampling and sources.

Different activities were held in order to increase the sustainability of Albanian RC projects. SWOT analysis, conducted at HQ and Branches made it possible to identify weaknesses in a 'problem- and objective tree'. After finalising the "sustainability objectives' tree", different activities were

developed. Main activities included an improved survey of branch capacities and the organisation of four training sessions with the collaboration of Spanish RC delegation in Tirana, with the main aim to conclude operative activities with higher sustainability.

**Objective 1 To further develop the Albanian Red Cross structure and strengthen the role of governance.**

The General Assembly (GA) of Albanian RC was held from 25-27 October 2002 in Tirana. The Assembly was a special event for the Albanian RC as it was restructured on the basis of the Revised Statutes, approved in October 2000. The agenda of the General Assembly also included the election for the positions of: President, Vice President, Finance Commission Representative and ten other members of the Steering Council. For the first time a Prime Minister of Albania participated and welcomed the GA of Albanian RC.

Six meetings of the General Council took place during 2002. In these meetings all the planned documents to be submitted to the GA were approved. The year saw the whole governance structure from the grass root to the top level of the NS change and this process needed frequent meetings of the GC. The reporting activities of the NS, the financial report, the policies presented by the Policy Commission were approved, as were the profiles of the key governance positions at the central level, including the profile of the President and vice President of the NS, the profile for the position of the head of Finance commission and the profile for the member of the Steering Council. The GC also appointed the central Nomination Commission for the elections to be held during General Assembly of the NS.

At the end of the electoral process a lot of governance members at Branch level were new and had little knowledge about the Red Cross in general. For that reason, six governance training sessions were held to fill that gap. Basic RC knowledge was included in the programme, such as relationship between governance and management; parliamentary rules during a council meeting; roles and responsibilities of a governance member; relationship between branch council and sub branch council; job descriptions for branch council members, for sub branch council members and branch secretaries; and financial issues between branch and sub branch level. The participants expressed their satisfaction about the knowledge they got during these training sessions.

**Objective 2 To increase the level of professionalism in designing, implementing and evaluating programmes/projects.**

Of the Albanian RC local branches project proposals for 2002, 90% were prepared using VCA methodology and with the log-frame approach. The Project Planning Process (PPP) training sessions were organized during November-December with participation of all twelve branch secretaries and 39 volunteers from the sub branches. All these people will work next year with designing of projects.

The training session organized for mixed teams of RC volunteers and community representatives was organized in October in Shkodra Branch. At the end, a plan of action was drafted and planned to be implemented in November and December 2002 by the teams, but due to a heavy schedule it was postponed until January-February 2003. A training session was organized in October with secretaries and administrators of the new branches. Standardization of the material resources administration, creating and storing of documents, human resources and financial reporting were discussed during the training.

**Objective 3 To increase the national society's income generation base.**

The mapping of the donor NS was completed in the second half of the year, so facilitating the NS to approach potential local donors in order to raise local fund raising. Two projects, one in the health area and the next in the social area, received a negative response from donors as Albanian RC projects were not among the priority areas outlined by the donor.

A national public campaign to raise public awareness of the NS and to help the Albanian RC generate funds was organized during May-June with 36 sub branches involved. More than 120 volunteers

participated, leaflets and posters were distributed and more than 20 000 pins sold, raising around US\$ 3,000.

A charity concert with support of the American RC delegation was organized for the first time in Tirana in October. The RC branch of Tirana was largely involved and the collected money was spent on poor children in a poor area in the outskirts of Tirana. This initiative, as a pilot, was considered a positive experience.

During this time, some smaller initiatives were introduced in larger districts. Amongst the most important were small donations made by local donors and over the past few years, the National Society organised several pin campaigns by placing boxes with Red Cross pins in different public places (big hotels, airport etc.). Local committees also made efforts to seek funds from large local enterprises. Total funds from this initiative, however, did not surpass US\$ 10,000. Another modest source of income has been the membership fees which in the last two to three years provided income of between US\$ 12,000-15,000. A lot of the activities reported could be implemented thanks to the allocation granted by the Capacity Building Fund (CHF 73,500). The funds were earmarked to support:

- ✓ the training in governance for twelve branches,
- ✓ the implementation of the new electoral process
- ✓ programme design and implementation
- ✓ volunteer Management

An Internet Club in Vlora and some computer courses in Tirana, Fier and Kukes represented another source of income for the National Society. In co-operation with the American Red Cross, a marketing plan is being prepared and donor outreach training organised for the local branch staff in 2002. The car workshop managed to survive despite (sometimes unscrupulous) competition from other companies. However, the income from this activity remains very low; the maximum annual income not surpassing US\$ 30,000.

#### **Objective 4: To increase the volunteer management capacities.**

The volunteer management commission which is responsible for designing the Albanian RC structure and policies for the Albanian RC volunteers organized regularly monthly meetings. The financial treatment of Albanian RC volunteers, the role of the volunteers in emergency situations, the training system of Albanian RC were clarified and the commission hopes that 2003 will be devoted to the implementation of these guidelines. The volunteer manual was designed with the cooperation of the German RC and distributed to the RC sub-branches by the end of the year.

#### **Coordination and Management w**

#### **To improve the coordination and compatibility of PNS programmes working in Albania with the Albanian RC's strategy and provide administrative support to them**

The Federation closed their delegation at the end of 2001. For 2002, the Federation had a Country Representative (CR) visiting Tirana from Skopje, Macedonia one week every month. On these visits the main topics were the meetings with NS leadership and the programme coordinators, monthly PNS meetings and supervising the Albanian RC warehouse construction. The CR is the budget holder for the Albanian RC projects in the appeal so the monthly visits were needed to clarify and consult with the finance management and budget matters together with RFU when it was based in Budapest.

This was a transition year to handover the responsibilities of coordination from the Federation to hosting NS. American RC, Spanish RC, French RC and German RC together hired one half a day administration officer for the Federation to use in order to provide all the administrative support for PNS's with the help of the Status of the Federation in the country. These were mainly the registration of delegates, local staff contract issues, rent agreements and mobile phone services and light vehicle needs together with Budapest RLU. The Federation was also responsible for the warehouse construction for the NS. The total budget was CHF 1,003.337, with the main donor societies being the

Hellenic, Norwegian, Danish, Finnish and Belgian RCs. The inauguration of the large warehouse took place late in the year.

The involvement of some PNS's in projects of Albanian RC Strategy has been a good factor for the development of Albanian RC. It has certainly improved the coordination mechanisms and the compatibility of PNS supported programmes in the country, in line with the Albanian RC strategy.

The French RC is involved in the implementation of a health education project in four RC branches and initiated the AIDS project in six RC sub branches. The German Red Cross had their office in Tirana till the end of 2002, when they were involved in Water rescue projects, elderly care projects, assisting the Volunteer Management programme and the Albanian RC Korcha Branch DP Centre construction. The centre was handed over to Korcha Branch in December. The American RC continued to work mainly in the areas of Information, Fund-raising and Governance development. Spanish RC is supporting "Children at risk" projects in six sub branches of Albanian RC. Also, they have been involved in various activities to increase the sustainability of the projects of Albanian RC.

The United Arab Emirates Red Crescent delegation is doing a lot of different social activities, and also helped during the flood. The main expertise and consultancy for the Albanian Red Cross was provided by the Regional Delegation in Budapest, which was involved almost in all main activities of Albanian RC. The ICRC Delegation has now become an office and their main collaboration is in a Mine awareness project and Training. Also, they have been supporting a lot of disseminating activities and publications of Albanian RC.

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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: 01.43/2002 Albania**  
**Period: year 2002**  
**Project(s): PAL001, 002, 005, 006, 007, 008, 015, 110, 160, 161**  
**Currency: CHF**

**I - CONSOLIDATED RESPONSE TO APPEAL**

FUNDING	CASH		KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL INCOME
	Contributions	Comments	Goods/Services	Personnel	
Appeal budget	4,100,065				
less					
Cash brought forward	2,414,241				
<b>TOTAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT</b>	<b>1,685,824</b>				
<u>Contributions from Donors</u>					
British Red Cross (DNGB)	117,904				117,904
Canadian Red Cross (DNCA)	970				970
Danish Red Cross # 3 (DNDK03)	73,034				73,034
Donor - Capacity Building Fund (DCBF)	73,500				73,500
Donor - Unidentified (D000)	38,757				38,757
ECHO/BALKANS 1999/DE6084 (DE6084)	52,355				52,355
Finnish Govt.via Fin.RC 1 (DGNF11)	120,299				120,299
Finnish Red Cross #01 (DNFI01)	34,376				34,376
ICRC-IFRC Kosovo (DM0409)	118,458				118,458
Norwegian Govt.via Norcross Grant No (DGNN01)	182,845				182,845
Norwegian Govt.via Norwegian Red Cro (DGNN03)	294,903				294,903
Norwegian Govt.via Norwegian Red Cro (DGNN0)	-182,845				-182,845
Norwegian Red Cross # 3 (DNNO03)	32,767				32,767
Norwegian Red Cross (DNNO1)	20,316				20,316
Norwegian Red Cross (DNNO)	-20,316				-20,316
Swedish Govt.via Swedish Red Cross # (DGNSE1)	47,820				47,820
Swedish Govt.via Swedish Red Cross (DGNSE)	10,127				10,127
Swedish Govt/RC-PMN 0207035 (DGNSE01)	5,152				5,152
Swedish Red Cross (DNSE)	48,600				48,600
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,069,022</b>				<b>1,069,022</b>

**II - Balance of funds**

OPENING	2,414,241
CASH INCOME Rcv'd	1,069,022
CASH EXPENDITURE	-2,941,289
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CASH BALANCE	541,974

**Appeal No & title: 01.43/2002 Albania**

Period: year 2002

Project(s): PAL001, 002, 005, 006, 007, 008, 015, 110, 160, 161

Currency: CHF

**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	52,510	-201			-201	52,711
Food & Seeds	148,625	91,279			91,279	57,346
Water & sanitation						
Medical & First Aid						
Teaching materials		7,440			7,440	-7,440
Utensils & Tools						
Other relief supplies	35,180	142			142	35,038
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>236,315</b>	<b>98,660</b>			<b>98,660</b>	<b>137,655</b>
<u>CAPITAL EXPENSES</u>						
Land & Buildings	2,274,906	1,489,448			1,489,448	785,458
Vehicles						
Computers & Telecom equip.	39,382	6,276			6,276	33,106
Medical equipment						
Other capital expenditures		98			98	-98
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>2,314,288</b>	<b>1,495,823</b>			<b>1,495,823</b>	<b>818,465</b>
<u>TRANSPORT &amp; STORAGE</u>						
	131,380	109,669			109,669	21,711
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>131,380</b>	<b>109,669</b>			<b>109,669</b>	<b>21,711</b>
<u>PERSONNEL</u>						
Personnel (delegates)		6,017			6,017	-6,017
Personnel (national staff)	396,533	301,831			301,831	94,702
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>396,533</b>	<b>307,847</b>			<b>307,847</b>	<b>88,686</b>
<u>GENERAL &amp; ADMINISTRATION</u>						
Assessment/Monitoring/experts	67,436	19,180			19,180	48,256
Travel & related expenses	9,108	11,796			11,796	-2,688
Information expenses	156,901	13,815			13,815	143,086
Admin./general expenses	180,478	255,497			255,497	-75,019
External workshops & Seminars	156,620	43,562			43,562	113,058
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>570,543</b>	<b>343,850</b>			<b>343,850</b>	<b>226,693</b>
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>						
Programme management	276,468	198,307			198,307	78,161
Technical services	82,759	59,374			59,374	23,385
Professional services	91,779	65,864			65,864	25,915
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>451,006</b>	<b>323,545</b>			<b>323,545</b>	<b>127,461</b>
Operational provisions		261,895			261,895	-261,895
Transfers to National Societies						
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>4,100,065</b>	<b>2,941,289</b>			<b>2,941,289</b>	<b>1,158,776</b>