

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

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

26 December, 2002

This Programme Update is intended for reporting on Annual Appeals.

Appeal No. 01.44/2002

Appeal Target CHF 3,143,966

Programme Update No. 3 Period covered: 1 August - 30 November 2002

“At a Glance”

Appeal coverage: 40.8%

Related Appeals: N/A

Outstanding needs: While this appeal received limited support in 2002, donors are encouraged to focus their attention on the needs outlined in the 2003 Annual Appeal for Bosnia and Herzegovina (no. 01.44/2003)

Operational Developments:

After six years of direct management by the International Community of all election activities, the national authorities completely took over the direct administration of the election process. On October 5 general elections were successfully organized, and observers noted them as fully free and fair. Although nationalist parties won a majority of votes, there is no doubt that the process of further democratization of the society (strengthened by the Constitutional Amendments which finally abolished discrimination) and radical economic reforms is irreversible. The three main priorities for the country leadership include the reform of the BiH Council of Ministers, introduction of Value Added Tax at the state level and the reform of the customs system.

An improving security situation combined with increased overall implementation rate of Property Laws in BiH (62% in September) enabled significant returns of refugees and Displaced Persons (DPs) to their places of origin. In the first nine months of the year 2002, UNHCR recorded a total of 80,711 minority returns in BiH. September was the month with the second highest number (11,162) of recorded returns this year, showing that the return is in full swing. Unfortunately, such increases in the number of returns has not been accompanied by the provision of adequate levels of assistance. As many of the returnees are elderly people, the caseload of vulnerable elderly people calling on the Home Care Programme (HCP) for support has increased and the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina (RCSBiH) decided to establish closer links between the HCP and Population Movement Programme (PPM) in order to address the needs of the elderly returnees. The re-establishment of the mobile teams within the PM programme will further improve that co-operation.

The RCSBiH General Assembly session held in November can be seen as a step forward in consolidation of the internal structure. During the session a new Co-Chair was elected, and the adopted Statute amendments will enable the election of the Societies' Secretary General.

Despite of the efforts made by the RCSBiH leadership and the Federation's support, the Law on the RCS BiH hasn't been adopted by the Parliament yet. It can not be expected to happen this year, given the current extremely complex situation related to the implementation of the election results when two months after the general elections only the newly elected Presidency took over its duties, while other joint bodies, including the National Assembly are still to be formed.

According to the “Assessment of the potential fund raising for the RCSBiH” conducted by the Prism Research company, the Red Cross has a good image within the community as most respondents answered that “the Red Cross was in advantage compared to other organizations because of its long-lasting presence in the community and its image”.

The International Federation’s ties with the ICRC have been strengthened and both organizations are working hard to consolidate their approach on all important issues in their work in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Disaster Response

Following the hailstorm in July which hit two municipalities in the western part of Republika Srpska (Novi Grad and Srpski Sanski Most), the municipal assessment team visited the affected area and found that the crops were partially destroyed, 83.5 % of roofs and windows on 1,347 private houses and 34 municipal buildings were damaged, as well as electric and water networks. Due to the fact that Red Cross branches in those two municipalities had no emergency stock in their warehouses, they asked for urgent help for 1,950 families (mainly living from agriculture) in food and hygiene items and plastic sheeting. The request was sent to the Republika Srpska Government, RCSBiH and International Federation. The Regional Delegation contacted American Red Cross in Bulgaria and Bulgarian Red Cross for possible assistance in food parcels. They responded positively sending 2,500 food parcels in September, but the Custom’s control and RS sanitary inspection decided to send the shipment back to Bulgaria, as it was discovered that the use by date for some items had expired.

Disaster Preparedness

Objective 1 To define the RCSBiH’s role and responsibility in disaster preparedness with the various stakeholders.

Two Entity Red Cross (ERC) DP Co-ordinators participated in an UNDP/OCHA Disaster Management Training Programme Workshop held in Sarajevo between 5 and 8 November. The Red Cross Co-ordinators were included in the BiH delegation on the initiative of the Ministry of European Integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Participation in the workshop gave an opportunity to the Red Cross representatives to become more familiar with UN system in Disaster Management, to establish closer contacts with the government representatives, to present the Red Cross role in the case of disaster and to share their knowledge about Disaster Management.

The establishment of the DP Management team at RCSBiH level was done during the meeting which was held on 29 November in RCSBiH premises in Sarajevo. The team comprised of one RCSBiH Presidency member, two members from each entity, while one representative from ICRC and the Federation respectively were observers. Functioning of the team was regulated by an Agreement which was signed by the RCSBiH Presidency, RCFBiH and RCRS. The chair of the team will be one of DP co-ordinators with a mandate for one year. All decisions will be made by consensus and the responsibilities of the team are:

- ✓ to co-ordinate DP activities between RCSBiH, RCFBiH, RCRS, ICRC and the Federation
- ✓ to establish co-ordination with governmental and non-governmental organizations which have a mandate in Disaster Preparedness and Response
- ✓ to have good co-operation with the national societies of the neighboring countries, southeastern European and other countries
- ✓ to organize training of the teams, education of the co-ordinators at Regional/Cantonal/Municipal level
- ✓ to have a leading role in Disaster Preparedness and Response

The team also agreed to meet regularly and write reports at given intervals. A request will be sent to ERCs HQs and RCSBiH to include DP and Management team work in their budgets. For the forthcoming year of 2003, the RCRS Entity co-ordinator will be chair.

The Co-operation Agreement between the Office for Civil Protection of Republika Srpska and the Red Cross of RS was signed on 29 November at the premises of the RCRS in Pale. According to the agreement the Civil Protection structure on all levels will include the Red Cross DP plans in their own plans.

Objective 2 To create twenty trained and equipped RCSBiH emergency response teams at the regional/cantonal and state levels.

Four Emergency Response teams (Tuzla, Grude, Gradiska and Trebinje) were created in October. ICRC financially supported the creation of these four teams while the Federation will financially support the creation, training and purchase of equipment for two additional teams. These two additional teams will be created in Sarajevo-Romanija region (training will be held in the period 6-11 December) and Sarajevo Canton (16 -20 December). The uniforms and equipment will be the same for all teams and should be compatible with the equipment of the national societies in the region. The supplier of the uniforms was a local textile company from Vitez.

Objective 3 To rehabilitate selected RCSBiH warehouses and reconstitute its basic DP equipment and emergency stocks as part of a DP network.

German Red Cross donated 35,000 EUR to RCSBiH in September, in order to support the reconstruction of the two DP warehouses in Sarajevo and Gradiska. The received amount was equally shared between the two Red Cross organizations. A Saudi Arabian donation of 14,000 blankets and 60 tents has been equally distributed to the Entity Red Cross organizations. The goods are stored in branches with established Emergency Response Teams (i.e. In Tuzla, Grude, Gradiska and Trebinje), while the OSCE donation of 200 blankets, 141 sleeping bags and 42 tents is stored in the RCFBiH warehouse in Hadzici.

Objective 4 To contribute to community DP initiatives by supporting the RCSBiH/ERCs in public awareness campaigns on possible disasters and hazard areas in BiH throughout 2002-2003.

No major achievements.

Humanitarian Values

Objective 1 To support the RCSBiH in promoting humanitarian values.

This objective was partially achieved during the previous reporting period. The annual Red Cross public awareness campaign was organized during the Red Cross Week, thus joining the major global campaign aimed at reducing HIV/AIDs related stigma entitled “The truth about AIDS - Pass it on...”

Objective 2 To assist the RCSBiH to improve the communication network by strengthening its human and material resources.

The International Federation took the opportunity during the 10 cross-entity Red Cross Culture seminars to present “Mystery Course” as a new approach to the promotion of the Movement’s Fundamental principles and Humanitarian Values to 180 staff and volunteers. It was a huge success and many of the secretaries already used it in their branches during the Red Cross Youth competitions and training.

The RCRS has created its web site (www.crvenikrstrs.org) with joint Federation/ICRC support, while the web sites of the RCSBiH and the entity organization of the RCFBiH are under construction and can be expected very soon.

Objective 3 To support the RCSBiH in developing and implementing a communications policy.

The Federation has provided support to the RCSBiH during the production of promotional material (HCP leaflets) which will be used in the forthcoming Home Care programme fundraising campaign in December and January.

Health and Care

Home care

Objective 1 To support the RCSBiH in providing home care services to the targeted 10,000 beneficiaries throughout the BiH.

The RCSBiH continued to provide services for 10,000 HCP beneficiaries owing to the outstanding dedication of 1,000 HCP volunteers. Apart from the basic services (such as home visits, cleaning, shopping) the volunteers distributed a certain quantity of food and hygiene items and firewood which were collected during October. The special focus was on October 1 International Day for Older Persons, a central day for raising awareness among the population of the position of vulnerable elderly people in the society.

With the support of the Regional Delegation Fund-raising expert, the RCSBiH developed a campaign targeted at the local donor environment which will be launched in December due to the numerous religious holidays of all three nations.

Objective 2 To continue to support the RCSBiH in developing and repositioning the programme towards a self-sustained countrywide community based programme.

Based on the lessons learnt from the Sarajevo Canton experience, this pilot model has been applied in other areas in BiH. The Red Cross organizations in Pale, Tuzla, Foca/Srbinje, Gradiska, Prnjavor, Bihac, Posavina and Central Bosnia Cantons have successfully started the implementation of the HCP in line with that model.

Objective 3 To continue to support the RCS BiH to promote and lobby the home care programme in its efforts to generate increased governmental recognition and support (including financial support).

Upon the invitation of the Entity Ministries for Social Welfare, some of the RCSBiH branches applied for the Innovative Fund in Social Protection. The main objective is to support innovative collaborations between local NGOs and Centres for Social Work, specifically focusing on contracting out of service provision for particular services which have not been sufficiently covered in previous period by Centres of Social Work, or that may be more effectively supported through third sector interventions.

The promotional material which will be sent together with the RCSBiH letter to more than 10,000 companies throughout the country, different Embassies and international agencies operating in BiH is in the process of production, and it is expected to be finished in the beginning of December, before the official start of the HCP fundraising campaign.

Objective 4 To continue to strengthen the liaison between the programme and its constituent community base.

The activities undertaken in the period from 15 September till 15 October, when the RCSBiH organized a countrywide campaign aimed at assisting the vulnerable elderly within the HCP, showed a high level of community ownership of the programme. A significant quantity of relief items (firewood, food and hygiene items and clothes) was collected from the individuals and companies. In some areas the Red Cross Youth initiated campaigns in schools, bringing the items packed into small parcels for their elderly neighbours, while local authorities promised to provide firewood for the HCP beneficiaries or to subsidize electricity bills for those with low or no income.

Health Programme

Objective 1 To assist the RCSBiH in their public health education promotional campaigns including the blood donor recruitment programme and the prevention of tuberculosis.

The RCS BiH organized a week long TB prevention campaign (14- 21 September) marking in that way the "Week against TB". The Red Cross volunteers and staff organized various activities, such as visits to TB patients, presentations for school children and the general public, selling Red Cross stamps designed especially for that occasion (the price was 0.5 KM per item), placing posters in schools, hospitals and other relevant institutions.

Objective 2 To support the RCSBiH to expand its first aid training service portfolio to include a basic life support course and a safety at work course.

According to the RCSBiH agreement with NorCross and the Laerdal Company, The Norwegian First Aid manual for the Basic Life Support training was translated into the local language, but its printing has not yet been completed.

All 60 members of the newly established Emergency Response Teams within Disaster Preparedness Programme were trained in First Aid skills.

The RCSBiH started preparations for the first national First Aid Competition which is to be held in December, with the support of the Federation and the ICRC.

Objective 3 To support implementation of the reproductive health peer education programme.

Owing to the fact that each canton and region of the RCSBiH has trained peer educators, this programme continued in September, with the official start of the school year. Peer education for their peers in secondary schools in their respective communities will be running throughout the school year.

Organizational Development

Objective 1 To improve the legal basis of the RCSBiH and its constitutive components - the Entity Red Cross organizations including mechanisms for its implementation.

During the RCSBiH General Assembly session the current President of the RCFBiH was elected new Co-chair, replacing the former who resigned earlier this year. A very important amendment to the Statute was adopted in relation to provision for the position of Secretary General (SG). It is expected that the new SG will be elected in April next year, which will definitely improve the efficiency of the RCSBiH in its co-ordination of countrywide programmes.

Financial and technical support to the RCSBiH General Assembly was provided in November, as well as to the RCSBiH and Entity Red Cross Headquarters and the Presidency.

A draft of Code of Conduct was presented and discussed with the leadership of the Red Cross local branches during the remaining four cross-entity seminars held in September and October and most of the participants underlined the necessity of its adoption by the RCSBiH.

Objective 2 To support the RCSBiH and its entity components in developing a five-year joint strategy.

One of the results achieved through the cross-entity leadership seminars was that all presentations which were in the initial phase facilitated by the Federation/ICRC staff was gradually handed over to the national society staff and in that way the RCSBiH obtained a resource group which can be used in the work of the Red Cross Training Centre, upon its establishment.

The RCRS organized a two-day meeting of all local secretaries and board members in October. It was an opportunity for local management and governance to clarify some issues with the entity Red Cross leadership and to exchange information with the colleagues from different branches. The Federation Representative attended the meeting together with the Regional Fund-raising expert who took the opportunity to give a presentation on Fund raising, traditionally a weak point for the Red Cross staff in BiH.

Despite long and frequent discussions with the Presidency on the importance of the RCSBiH strategy, it has not yet been developed. The Assessment of the potential for Fund-raising for the RCSBiH will be an integral source document for the ongoing strategic development process of the RCSBiH.

Objective 3 To develop a long term marketing and fund-raising strategy based on the agreed RCS BiH five year strategic and development plans.

The assessment of the potential for fund raising for the RCSBiH, conducted by the local company Prism Research was finalised in August. The results of that opinion poll indicate that sufficient funds are available, but the donors' attention must be drawn.

The role and responsibility of Red Cross leadership in relation to fund-raising and fund-raising tools were presented during the 4 cross -entity seminars held in September and October, based on a training module prepared by local staff from the RCSBiH.

The Regional Delegation provided the expert in fund raising for 2 months (September-October) to the RCSBiH and that decision was extremely important for development of the RCSBiH fund-raising strategy. During his stay he had numerous meetings with the RCSBiH leadership, organized field trips and assisted the RCSBiH in preparation of the fund raising campaign for the HCP.

Objective 4 To support the RCSBiH in establishing operational and procedural standards to enhance performance at all levels of the organization.

As a part of ongoing twinning project between Tuzla/Banja Luka Red Cross with their counterparts from Norwegian Red Cross in Telemark/Vest Agder Red Cross districts, the second part of the course entitled "Ideal Leadership- a Leadership Development Programme" was held in October in Banovici in Tuzla Canton for 25 RCSBiH staff from those two regions/cantons. The facilitators were their colleagues from NorCross, and the main goal was to supply the Red Cross staff with a practical knowledge and set in motion an effective and productive programme in how to co-operate on, plan and carry out the Red Cross work in an ever-changing society.

The first Red Cross Directory containing basic information about all RCSBiH offices, Federation, ICRC and PNSs was distributed in October throughout the country. It was welcomed by the Red Cross staff and definitely its existence will improve the internal communication of the Society, as well as its communication with the various components of the Movement operating in the country.

One of the most important discussions during the joint RCSBiH/Federation/ICRC seminars on Red Cross Movement Culture was focusing on the necessity to clearly define the roles of management and governance on all levels of the RCSBiH, as the non-existence of a clear division between the governance and management in the RCSBiH seriously affects its performance.

Objective 5 To strengthen Red Cross youth governance structures and assist in placing Red Cross youth within RCSBiH structures.

Due to absence of the youth programme coordinator in the RCSBiH, one of its Presidency members has been designated to be a liaison between the youth and the governance and to support the youth leadership in its work. The Red Cross Youth President in the RCFBiH organization is a member of the ERC Presidency, while her colleague from the RCRS Youth is a member of the RCSBiH General Assembly.

The Red Cross Youth organized several x-entity summer camps (Sarajevo, Balkana, Bihac, Doboj) and one held in Balkana near Banja Luka was of international character, with the Red Cross Youth from FRY and two NorCross districts (part of the twinning project between BanjaLuka/Tuzla in BiH and Telemark/Vest Agder in Norway) attending the camp. The whole range of activities was carried: training in First Aid, Home Care, Information/Communication, water rescuing, as well as presentations on HIV/AIDS prevention, Strategy 2010, IHL and Mine Awareness. On the other hand, the RCSBiH Youth participated in the international summer camps held in Croatia, Yugoslavia and Switzerland. The RCSBiH Youth representatives took part in the preparatory meeting for the forthcoming Mediterranean Conference, held in Novi Vinodolski, Croatia.

Coordination and Management

In this programme area the goal is to manage and co-ordinate the Federation's response to the development of the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina and implementation of the Federation's assistance programmes

Objective 1 To manage the Federation's assistance programmes in building the capacity of the RCS BiH.

It is to be stressed that in spite of the down-sizing of the in-country delegation and change of its status, the staff of the Federation Office is doing its best to keep the level of support to the RCSBiH which will lead to further improvement of communication between the RCSBiH HQ and the field and increased image of the Society within the community. It has been achieved through regular meetings with the Chair and Co-chairs, attendance of the Presidency meetings and joint RCSBiH/Federation field visits, which are helpful for better understanding of the situation and problem solving. The Federation initiated contacts of the RCSBiH with OHR, IOM and UNHCR, which will eventually lead to the future co-operation of the RCSBiH with some of those agencies (IOM has already offered co-operation on x-border return between Croatia and BiH).

Objective 2 To provide continued co-ordination, advice and support to the Movement's response to the RCSBiH development process.

With the Federation's support the RCSBiH has established regular operational co-ordinating forum for all components of the Movement working in BiH - the International Federation, ICRC, PNSs (Danish, Spanish and Swiss Red Cross, as the Belgium Red Cross pulled out this summer) and the entity Red Cross Secretary Generals. Such type of work has already proved to be extremely successful in tackling the existing problems and helpful tool for removing some obstacles from the past. In the reporting period the Federation Office facilitated the visits of the following PNSs to the country:

- ♦ AmCross representative based in Skopje visited RCSBiH and presented the AmCross regional strategic priorities- Elderly; Emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases; Reproductive and Child Health; Complex and natural disaster preparedness and response.
- ♦ German Red Cross had meetings with the RCSBiH leadership related to the "Poverty eradication" project, and it was agreed that the GRC applies for the EU funds available for such activities
- ♦ Norwegian Red Cross had a meeting with national society and Federation staff, in particular with the two Youth co-ordinators of the ERCs on the Youth Seed Fund.

- ◆ Swedish Red Cross visited with the aim getting an update on the situation in the Red Cross programmes and to discuss the future direction and possible support.

Objective 3 To facilitate, in co-ordination with the Regional Delegation, the integration of RCS BiH into regional co-operation initiatives.

The RCSBiH Chair and Co-ordinator for International Co-operation attended the Regional Partnership Meeting held in Warsaw in October, 4-5. The RCSBiH has initiated co-operation of the National Societies formed on the territory of the former Yugoslavia (i.e. Macedonian Yugoslav, Croatian and Slovenian Red Cross's). The RCSBiH leadership visited Macedonian Red Cross and signed agreement on co-operation with MRC on 24 October in Skopje.

PNS’s Operating Bilaterally in BiH

Programme	PNS	Activities
Disaster preparedness		
Disaster response	Swiss Red Cross	Rehabilitation and management of the refugee camp Mihatovici in Tuzla Canton
Health and Care	Danish Red Cross	CABAC (work with children and parents’ groups) - Banja Luka and Bosanska Krupa
	Spanish Red Cross	CABAC; PHE programme; rehabilitation of the Old People’s Home in Nevesinje and relief assistance for 52 HCP beneficiaries in Nevesinje and Trebinje (Eastern Herzegovina Region)
	Swiss Red Cross	“Auxiliary Nurses Programme” - countrywide
Organizational Development	Swiss Red Cross	Small scale projects aimed to support the traditional Red Cross activities - countrywide
	Danish Red Cross	Rehabilitation of branch premises in Bosanska Krupa (Una-Sana Canton)
	Spanish Red Cross	Rehabilitation of branch premises in Trebinje

For further details please contact: **Penny Elghady**, Phone: 41 22 730 43 19; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; email: Elghady@ifrc.org

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>.

John Horekens
 Director
 Division of External Relations

Lynette Lowndes
 Head
 Europe Department

Bosnia and Herzegovina						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 01.44/2002		PLEDGES RECEIVED			27.12.2002	
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				3'143'966		TOTAL COVERAGE 40.8%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				0		
AUSTRIAN - RC		140'000	EUR	207'508	13.03.2002	HEMOCARE PROGRAMME
BRITISH - RC		263	GBP	646	31.01.2002	DELEGATE COSTS
DANISH - RC		200'000	DKK	39'540	15.08.2002	BRANCH DEVELOPMENT, HOME CARE
ITALY GVT		104'920	EUR	153'855	10.10.2002	HOME CARE
PRIVATE DONORS				122	24.04.2002	
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		2'272'016	NOK	453'301	30.08.2002	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
NORWEGIAN - RC				72'400	06.12.2002	
NORWEGIAN - GOVT		249'831	NOK	50'084	06.12.2002	
NORWEGIAN - RC		27'759	NOK	5'565	06.12.2002	
SWEDISH - RC		250'000	SEK	40'300	15.04.2002	HOME CARE, INSTITUTIONAL & RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, CO-ORDINATION & MANAGEMENT
SWEDISH - RC		100'000	SEK	16'140	11.12.2002	HOME CARE
SWEDISH - GOVT		1'000'000	SEK	161'000	04.07.2002	HOME CARE, INSTITUT. & RESOURCE DEV., COORDINATION & MGT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				1'200'461	CHF	38.2%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
GREAT BRITAIN	DELEGATE(S)			20'000		IM
NETHERLANDS	DELEGATE(S)			21'684		
USA	DELEGATE(S)			40'082		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				81'766	CHF	2.6%
ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	