

# 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

## **BELARUS, MOLDOVA AND UKRAINE**

21 January, 2003

*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. 01.51/2002**

**Appeal Target CHF 3,060,393; the original budget has been revised CHF 2,118,653  
(USD 1,424,242/EUR 1,457,967)**

**Programme Update No. 2; Period covered: 1 June - 30 November 2002.**

### **IN BRIEF**

**Appeal coverage: 27.3%**

**Related Appeals: N/A**

**Outstanding needs: While this appeal was covered at only 27.3%, donors are encouraged to focus their support on the Federation's 2003 Annual Appeal for Belarus (01.83/2003), Moldova (01.83/2003), and Ukraine (no. 01.85/2003).**

## **Operational Developments w**

### **BELARUS**

In Belarus the humanitarian situation has become even more critical during the last months. Due to the severe lack of funding the Government of Belarus reduced its spending for social welfare activities. In the search for additional income the Belarusian Government is reducing its support to humanitarian organisations, including the Belarus Red Cross (BRC). In addition, the Government is planning to reduce the privileges given to humanitarian organisations. This development triggered a crisis of the BRC Visiting Nurses Service (VNS) - a development which threatened to paralyse BRC or even force it into bankruptcy. The Federation launched an Information Bulletin in this regard asking Sister National Societies to support BRC. Up to now Societies from Liechtenstein, Sweden, Switzerland and Iceland have pledged their support. This support will allow BRC to cope with the crisis and to avoid the severe consequences. It provides BRC as well with an opportunity to develop a sustainability concept for the VNS in the future. Other organisations are as well affected by the present situation in Belarus. TACIS suspended all its funding due to a dispute with the Belarusian Government over taxes imposed on technical assistance programmes.

### **UKRAINE**

In Ukraine the situation is mainly unchanged. The country is moving towards market economy, with all the challenges of the transition period. On 28 November, President of Ukraine signed the Red Cross Law, which was passed by the Ukrainian Supreme Council. The Red Cross Law stipulates that payment of the Federation's statutory fees shall be covered by the Government, that commercial and income-generating activities run by the Ukraine Red Cross (URC) shall be tax exempt, while the tracing service will be exempt of postage fees, and

the visiting nurses shall be entitled to a longer annual leave. However, another new law regarding the taxation of donations (previously tax exempt) to charity and humanitarian organisations may affect the URC and its capacity to raise local funds.

## **MOLDOVA**

Moldova's humanitarian situation remains critical. The closing of the office in Moldova and staff reductions in Minsk and Kiev resulted in a relatively low level of support to the Moldovan Red Cross. This was accompanied by a very low funding level. Reorganisation of the Delegation in view of the new change strategy will allow to explore more effective support mechanisms with the National Society.

## **DELEGATION IN MINSK**

In general, funding situation remained critical in the second half of 2002. Within these constraints, the Federation, in accordance with the appeal objectives, continued to support the Red Cross Societies of Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova in the field of disaster response, disaster preparedness, health and care, organisational development and promotion of humanitarian values.

The critical funding situation placed additional importance to the annual appeal process. Therefore, besides management of the ongoing programmes the Delegation together with the National Societies focused its work on the planning for the next year appeal.

The funding situation forced the Delegation to reduce considerably its international staff and to close its presence in Moldova. In the second half of the year the Delegation received funds directly from the European department in order to keep the Delegation operational. This support reflects the strong commitment of the Federation to maintain its services to the National Societies of Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus.

A new Head of Delegation was appointed in November and the position for a OD delegate has been advertised. Presently Minsk delegation consists of a Head of Delegation, a finance officer, two programme managers and a driver based in Minsk, and an acting head of office (and CHARP co-ordinator) and a finance officer based in Kiev.

Because most of the Delegation's core costs for the next year will be allocated by the Europe Department as part of their Regional Support, the Delegation will be able to place more emphasis on the National Societies priority programmes as well as on maintaining and increasing its co-ordination and representation functions.

The Delegation is presently restructuring its management and reviewing its approaches in the light of the Federation change strategy for Europe region. In line with this process, Minsk Delegation is developing a new model of support to the National Societies in the region. This model includes a more comprehensive approach towards capacity building, redefining of the roles and a more effective placement of national staff and a full introduction of the budget holder concept, as well as better interfacing between Minsk and Moscow regions. This will allow for a more effective utilisation of shared available human and financial resources and technical expertise between the delegations in Minsk and Moscow. This new model of support to the National Societies in the region will be implemented and tested in 2003.

## **Disaster Response w**

### **BELARUS**

Disaster Response in Belarus is mainly organised through the network of medico-social centres (MSC). The country is in great need for humanitarian support and BRC is the only organisation with national coverage. The existing structure allows BRC to deliver food aid to the most needed population. In the last years this structure was used very efficiently. Through the Federation organised assistance (supported by the Swiss Government and Swiss Red Cross), as well as through in-kind contributions from Swedish and Finnish Red Cross, BRC were able to mitigate the impact of the harsh socio-economic situations on the most vulnerable population groups.

### ***Emergency relief***

**Objective 1** To provide short-term assistance to approximately 8,000 elderly people with no family, disabled, homeless, TB patients, ex-prisoners and children from single-parent and socially disadvantaged families during six months of the most unfavourable winter weather conditions in 2002 and 2003.

This humanitarian programme was supported by a contribution from the Swiss Government and the Swiss Red Cross. The CHF 150,000 pledge was announced on 6 March 2002. Due to logistical constraints and delays in the early stages of the operation the program was extended until 31 August 2002. Despite these delays, BRC provided vital assistance to the most underprivileged people hardest hit by poor living conditions and substandard nutritional status.

To ensure that the programme addresses the needs of the most vulnerable people and duplication of aid is avoided, BRC co-ordinated its humanitarian effort with the authorities. Beneficiary lists were prepared following a long selection procedure that was co-ordinated between local Red Cross branches and local authorities. The project targeted the direct beneficiaries only on the basis of social and medical data recorded by local authorities and social services. These data formed an integral part of the beneficiary lists to confirm that the most vulnerable people are selected.

Distributions commenced in July and ended in early August. A total of 9,050 food parcels were distributed to the beneficiaries three times over the six weeks period. Recipients of food parcels were divided on the target regions as follows: Gomel region - 2,400 food parcels; Mogilev Region - 2,400 food parcels; Brest Region - 2,440 food parcels; Minsk City - 1,850 food parcels.

Transportation of food parcels to Brest, Gomel and Mogilev regions was carried out by the supplier. Local Red Cross branches used their own vehicles or locally available vehicles for transporting the parcels further to the districts or directly to those beneficiaries who were unable to pick up the parcels from the distribution points. Field distributions took place at the Red Cross medico-social centres. For the disabled people, home visits were organised by the Red Cross visiting nurses, volunteers and temporarily hired personnel.

Two monitoring visits to the supplier's warehousing facilities were made by members of the Task Force and Head of Delegation in order to check warehousing, packaging and quality of the food items. In July, August and September monitoring was carried out in the regions and districts to follow up the shipments of food parcels to the final destination, check beneficiary lists and distribution sheets, as well as to interview the selected beneficiaries. Monitoring confirmed that intended beneficiaries received high quality food parcels and that distributions were well organised.

**Objective 2** To strengthen local capacities as a development element of the relief programme.

This objective was partly achieved through training activities within the OD programme supported by the Capacity Building Fund which facilitates the overall change process in BRC (for details please refer to the "Organizational Development" section of this report). The training delivered to the BRC leadership under the CBF-supported project has contributed towards better governance/management and more efficient fundraising. Furthermore, in May 2002 vulnerability assessment methods were disseminated among the BRC HQ and regional staff through a one-day VCA workshop in Minsk. In July a representative of the BRC received further VCA training in Italy. The participant will be utilised as a resource person for Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine.

**Objective 3** To promote local community resources (human resources, goods and services).

The Delegation supported the National Society in seeking for local fundraising opportunities and advocacy through the coaching/consultancy and training component of the OD programme. In the last year the image of the BRC has largely improved and enabled its branches to mobilise local material and human resources. Volunteer activities launched in autumn have helped lonely elderly and disabled people with their preparations for winter. Through this programme the National Society built up a closer relationship with the media, local authorities and social sector. In addition the BRC could secure funding for 150 Visiting nurses through local government contributions, private enterprises and other sources.

#### Analysis and outlook

Late donor response and adherence to the Federation procurement procedures caused a considerable delay of the assistance which was planned for winter and delivered in summer. These were also the reasons why the originally planned six-month operation turned into a five-month implementation plan, with food distributions (in agreement with the donor) eventually done in six weeks.

For the next year it is planned to link the assistance to the winter/spring period and to allow for a more timely tendering process. This operation's experience and a regional logistics training in December in Kiev have strengthened the logistics capacity of the BRC and Delegation staff. In addition the beneficiary selection criteria will be reviewed in 2003. Different regional committees (oblasts) will be asked to submit short proposals in which they specify beneficiaries groups, logistic arrangements and connections with other RC programmes to maximise the impact of the assistance.

### ***Population movement***

The State Migration Committee estimates that there are 100,000-150,000 illegal migrants in Belarus, mainly from Afghanistan. The Belarus-Russian border especially aggravates the migration flow. Other most intensive migration flows reportedly originate from Ukraine, Kazakhstan and the Caucasus countries. Since 1991, more than 2,500 migrants have applied for refugee status in Belarus, and 650 of them have been granted it.

In October, the Belarusian Parliament passed changes that would bring the country's Refugee Law in line with the 1951 Geneva Convention and the 1967 Protocol to the Convention.

BRC has been working in population movement programme since 1998 in order to meet the needs of the most vulnerable among refugees, asylum seekers and other migrants. The main target groups include single parent families, children, the elderly and large families.

**Objective 1** To develop a small-scale emergency assistance project which can quickly respond to the unforeseen needs (such as for temporary shelter, medical and nutritional assistance) among the target group.

A total of 100 refugee families received 204 food parcels through the Humanitarian Assistance programme supported by Swiss RC. Some 200 soft toys, 39 bed linen sets and 10 mattresses for refugee families were supplied by the Austrian RC. In addition, the most needed families received some 900 sets of second-hand clothing delivered by the Danish RC.

**Objective 2** To develop, in co-operation with the UNHCR office Minsk, two medical-social centres for refugees and asylum seekers in Minsk city and Pinsk Charity House (Brest region).

To provide assistance to some 200 refugees and asylum seekers a Red Cross MSC became operational in March 2002 in Minsk city. The centre is equipped with a special room for medical-social activities. A therapist and a cleaning lady (both from the Afghan refugee community) were employed for the centre. Over 9 months of 2002, some 150 refugees received permanent medico-social assistance including physiotherapy, massage, remedial gymnastics, heart- and ultrasound examination. Within the project, 146 refugees were provided with sets of basic medicines. In addition, 230 hygienic kits (toothpaste, soap, powdered detergent and other cleansing agents) were procured and distributed to the target group.

### ***Analysis and outlook***

Part of the activities in the MSC in Minsk had to be suspended due to a sudden collapse of a mirror-wall in the treatment room in March. Modification of the budget as well as purchasing and mounting process led to a considerable delay in running therapeutic activities in the centre.

Lack of funds did not allow to extend assistance to refugees through the Pinsk Charity House. In 2003, BRC intends to provide assistance to some 2,000 refugees at a medico-social centre in Minsk city. Co-operation with the UNHCR is planned in the area of dissemination.

## **UKRAINE**

URC has a strong organisational infrastructure with a well trained disaster response staff. This was demonstrated during the National Society's efficient assistance to persons affected by the Air Show Accident in Lviv in July, when the plane explosion killed 83 people and injured 199 people.

Immediately after the accident, the URC Lviv branch was on the scene to provide first aid to the injured and dying. The victims were then visited in hospitals and provided with dressing materials, syringes, intravenous sets, hygiene supplies, bed linen and other emergency equipment where required. Red Cross volunteers donated blood and also provided psychological support to the families of the injured and dead.

A total of UAH 41,585 (USD 7,800) was raised locally by URC organisations to assist the air crash victims. The Netherlands RC provided assistance with antibiotics for EUR 36,970. US citizens donated USD 800. The relief items were distributed through the hospitals where the injured were placed. The Federation also responded with CHF 6,596 from DREF to reimburse the expenses of Lviv RC branch.

### ***Population movement***

Since the collapse of the former Soviet Union, the population movements and various conflicts that gave rise to a large-scale population displacement in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) have had a significant impact on Ukraine. As a result, Ukraine has become an asylum country for refugees and a transit country for other migrants. New social problems related to migrants and refugees appeared.

**Objective 1** To provide social assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers in a social centre for refugees and asylum seekers in Odessa.

To meet this objective the following activities were undertaken: regular courses focusing on computer training, Russian language instruction, first aid and vocational training (e.g. waiter) were conducted for refugees and asylum seekers.

For the refugees and families educational activities were organised to provide basic information on family hygiene, drug and alcohol abuse, general health issues, prevention of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases. In addition medical consultations were organised.

URC also organised legal advice in order to provide the refugees with information on their refugee rights and obligations, and to provide counselling on civil and criminal law issues. In addition URC organised social activities at the centre on the occasion of national holidays celebrations in order to allow the refugees to maintain their cultural and ethnic identities as well as to foster social adaptation and integration of refugees and asylum seekers in the Ukrainian society.

**Objective 2** To improve living conditions at detention centres for illegal migrants in Mukachevo, Chop and Lviv and to enlarge the Red Cross input in carrying out the joint task of stabilising of epidemiological situation in the region.

To meet this objective, URC procured and distributed hygienic and medical kits, food parcels, bed linen and blankets, cutlery and disinfectants. Furthermore, information desks were set in the detention centres to explain how to receive refugee status and where to apply, and Red Cross volunteers conducted educational sessions on healthy lifestyles and prevention of TB, HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases.

**Objective 3** To improve assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers

**Objective 4** To improve the effectiveness of the MTTs and the living conditions of the most vulnerable IDPs.

**Objective 5** To improve psychological conditions and nutritional status of the most vulnerable IDP children.

Unfortunately, it was not possible to mobilise resources for the activities planned under objectives 3-5.

**Objective 6** To promote the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values and improve the image of the Red Cross in the public as well as in beneficiary groups.

Due to a lack of funding and lack of food distributions, the visibility activities could not have been performed at the distribution sites. However, this objective was partly achieved through the Humanitarian Values programme supported by ICRC.

### *Analysis and outlook*

Although being a priority programme of URC, the PM is not included in the 2003 Annual Appeal. In the planning phase URC assumed that the financial support from UNHCR will also continue next year. Unfortunately, URC has recently been informed by UNHCR that they would not be able to extend the support for 2003. The Federation and URC are currently exploring possibilities to secure funding for PM activities.

## **MOLDOVA**

Moldova Red Cross (MRC) is the only nation-wide operating humanitarian organisation which is providing relief support to the needy. In the past Moldova was suffering repeatedly from natural disasters. This, in addition to the high poverty level, makes the population extremely vulnerable. The MRC had in the past provided assistance through its nation-wide network of branches. The capacity of the MRC to assist the vulnerable was demonstrated during the severe flooding which occurred in May and July.

Heavy rainfalls between 30 May and 5 June 2002, led to serious flooding in the central part of Moldova. The districts of Tighina and Lapushna, and the administrative territorial unit of Gagauzia were the worst affected areas, with damage to property estimated at USD 832,000. The flooding affected more than 800 people, and one person was reported dead. Nineteen homeless families were evacuated. On 17-19 July 2002, heavy rains again pounded Tighina district causing severe flooding of some 300 houses and gardens. The disaster ruined 5 bridges and destroyed agricultural products on the area of 81 ha. The total damage was estimated at USD 328,000. Some 900 people were affected by these floods.

MRC in co-operation with local authorities carried out an assessment of needs of the flood victims. Federation's Delegation staff also visited the sites affected by the disaster for assessing and monitoring. A plan of action was elaborated by MRC and Federation Delegation in Minsk.

The MRC branches collected food and relief items for the victims of the disaster, however the disaster exceeded the Society capacity and therefore requested international assistance through the Federation. The Federation immediately allocated CHF 34,723.82 from the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) for the victims of the disaster. The operation started on 1st July 2002 and was carried out within two months. A total of 864 beneficiaries from the affected areas received 590 food parcels, 590 hygiene kits, 500 bed linen sets and 631 blankets. Unfortunately due to a late submission of a proposal to DREF following the second wave of flooding in July, no funds were allocated to assist the victims of the disaster.

## **Disaster Preparedness w**

### **BELARUS**

Taking into account all technical disasters and natural emergencies (storms and floods) in Belarus during the last several years, BRC considers that further development of its DP/DR activities is the priority. The National Society plays a complementary role to the government in disaster preparedness. Close contacts are established with the relevant authorities. BRC regularly takes part in meetings of governmental bodies dealing with emergency situations and civil defence. The BRC DP unit consists of a small warehouse, parking lots, a truck and a mobile kitchen, as well as tents and other facilities to set up a camp for 300 persons.

**Objective 1** To increase the role of the Belarusian Red Cross in nation-wide and local disaster preparedness in its role as a partner in the governmental disaster preparedness plan.

As part of the plan to train staff and volunteers in conducting risk, vulnerability and capacity assessment, in May 2002 vulnerability assessment methods were disseminated among the BRC HQ and regional staff through a one-day VCA workshop in Minsk. In July a representative of the BRC received further VCA training in Italy. It is anticipated that vulnerability and capacity assessments in Belarus will be carried out in 2003.

**Objective 2** To establish regional volunteer disaster response teams.

**Objective 3** To improve the existing disaster preparedness material and technical base.

No progress has been made on objectives 2 and 3, due to the lack of funding.

**Objective 4** To further develop the community-based first aid programme.

Since the collapse of Soviet Union, the FA program in Belarus has been supported externally only in 1998. This programme was revitalised in September 2002, with a DFID allocation of CHF 50,000. A Task Force was established to ensure smooth implementation of the planned activities. Grodno and Brest regions were selected as the program target areas. The Task Force also selected three main target groups which have an increased need in first aid training - schoolchildren, rescue workers and road militia. Grodno and Brest RC regional committees were offered to select additional target groups, which included NGO personnel working with disabled children and single parents.

The program activities during September-November included the purchase of five sets of mannequins, two ToT seminars, production of calendars and posters, public events. To date, the BRC has re-established a working team of 20 FA instructors: five instructors are delivering FA training to rescue workers, ten trained schoolteachers are providing FA education to students, two instructors are Red Cross staff and three represent NGOs working with disabled children and their parents. The programme's timeframe is until 28 February. It is anticipated that all the planned activities will be accomplished by that time.

#### Analysis and outlook

BRC views FA education as an important tool for fundraising and volunteer mobilisation. The NS has already made substantial efforts towards achieving self-reliance of FA activities and is currently working with the government on a legal base for training industry workers and employees in FA and emergency care.

Although no specific funds were received by the Federation for activities under objectives 1-3, the need for work in this area remains considerable. At the moment BRC has a limited capacity to strengthen their DP services by themselves and seeks for international support.

## **MOLDOVA**

Nearly all of Moldova's territory is prone to disasters such as earthquakes, landslides, floods, hailstorms, droughts, heavy snowfall, various epidemics and radioactive and chemical contamination. In this context, disaster preparedness has so far been one of the most important responsibilities of MRC.

**Objective 1** To obtain a recognised role in nation-wide and local disaster preparedness efforts as a partner of the national disaster preparedness authorities.

Close contacts are established and maintained with the relevant authorities. Playing a complementary role to the government in the area of disaster preparedness and response, MRC regularly takes part in meetings of the state bodies dealing with emergency situations and civil defence. However these relations with the authorities have not yet resulted in written agreements with MRC. Formal partnerships with donor national societies in the area of DP have not been developed either.

**Objective 2** To improve disaster preparedness capacities of the national society and to ensure a community-based approach to disaster preparedness with wide participation of volunteers.

Although voluntary disaster response teams are set up in large localities and at some private enterprises, funding is still needed to further develop the capacity of MRC at local level. A total of 864 flood victims were provided with 590 food parcels, 590 hygiene kits, 500 bed linen sets and 631 blankets (*see section Disaster Response above*).

**Objective 3** To continue training on first aid and response in disaster areas.

At present, first aid volunteer training is performed together with the State Department for Emergencies. The skills of the volunteers are tested at regional competitions.

*Analysis and outlook*

Since 1996, MRC has not received any external funding for implementation of activities in the DP area, with the exception of support to the community-based first aid programme in 1998. Since Moldova is situated in a disaster prone area (earthquakes, landslides, draughts, floods, etc.), an appropriate DP service is essential for the National Society. Recognising the needs in Moldova, the Federation is currently looking at different solutions for support to MRC in this area and included DP/DR activities in the 2003 Annual Appeal.

**UKRAINE**

To assist the victims of natural and technological disasters is one of the essential activities of URC. In the last few years, the National Society was involved in assisting the population affected by hurricanes and floods in Zakarpattia, Volyn, Rivne, Zhytomir, Khmelnytsk, Ternopil, Lviv and Ivano-Frankivsk regions; landslides in Dnepropetrovsk and Chernovtsy regions, hoar frosts in Vynytsa, Odessa, Kirovograd, Khmelnytsk and Cherkasy regions; accidents in mines in Donetsk, Lugansk and Dnipropetrovsk regions; and air show accident in Lviv. More than 500 permanent staff members, 3,200 Red Cross nurses and 1,500 Red Cross volunteers are ready to assist victims of possible disasters. Rescue units are organised in 8 regions and in Kiev.

**Objective 1** To improve theoretical, practical and material capacity of the Red Cross voluntary rescue units in order to provide more efficient assistance to the victims of disasters.

In July, the second workshop for members of the voluntary rescue units was organised with participation of youth alliance "Club "Compass" and the URC tracing service. The workshop included both theory and practice. This training was delivered for 30 RC rescuers from Ivano-Frankivsk, Chernigiv, Lviv, Zakarpattia, Lugansk and URC HQ staff. The event was widely covered by the mass media.

To better equip voluntary rescuers, procurement of overalls (for 30 persons), sleeping bags (30 units) and footwear (30 units) was completed. In addition, works were continued to set up a fire protection system at the URC DP centre.

**Objective 2** To improve communication and co-ordination of the rescue units with other parties involved in disaster response.

Four sets of portable radio transmitters were purchased and distributed to the Red Cross rescue unit in Kiev.

**Objective 3** To improve the response capacity of disaster preparedness.

For emergency stocks, URC purchase 100 water filters and food items (200 kg of rice, 200 kg of buckwheat 200, 150 kg of macaroni, 150 cans of meat, 400 cans of fish, 200 cans of meat pate, 150 kg of sugar, 30 kg of tea and 200 cans of condensed milk).

Activities under objectives 1 and 3 were supported by a DFID allocation.

*Analysis and outlook*

Further enhancing of the DP capacities of the National Society is a high priority for 2003. Therefore, building of disaster preparedness stocks will be considered as an essential step in that direction, and will include water supply equipment, hygiene items, food and medicines. Additional funding is also required to retrain members of the Red Cross rescue teams and to increase the dissemination of the first aid training to all Red Cross staff and volunteers. The Federation plans to support these activities through the 2003 Annual Appeal.

**Humanitarian Values w****BELARUS**

BRC has a well-functioning dissemination department, established with considerable support and in close co-operation with ICRC. Promotion of the Movement's Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values has a great impact on changing behaviour in the community, and contributing to building a civil society. Since 1998, a number of training workshops for all regional Red Cross organisations have been held and many youth

volunteers have been involved in the activities related to dissemination of humanitarian values and regulations of IHL.

**Objective 1** To provide methodical assistance and training for young volunteers and to spread knowledge about the Movement and IHL among high school students.

**Objective 2** To promote understanding and importance of humanitarian values in the Belarusian Red Cross and to train instructors at regional level on dissemination.

**Objective 3** To strengthen the identity and image of the Belarusian Red Cross Society.

Although no funding was received in response to this appeal, the activities were undertaken with human and material support from ICRC. In addition, the issues of BRC identity and image were addressed through the OD training by the international consultant and further discussions with HoD.

#### *Analysis and outlook*

Being an agent of change in the civil society as well as in the National Society, the youth represents the capacity building potential of BRC. Although Humanitarian Values component is not included in the 2003, it is intended to support BRC in its dissemination and advocacy roles through other programmes, Organisational Development in particular.

### **MOLDOVA**

MRC is undertaking efforts to disseminate the humanitarian values guiding the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement with the aim of having greater impact in changing behaviour in the community, and contributing to building a civil society. These activities create understanding of the role of the Red Cross and international humanitarian standards. They also serve as a tool to facilitate humanitarian work and seek support from public and various state bodies for the benefit of vulnerable people in Moldova. Dissemination activities help MRC not only to raise its profile but also to attract the youth as a capacity building factor.

**Objective 1** To promote the humanitarian values and IHL in the national society (staff and volunteers) and to ensure their implementation in their work with the vulnerable people in the community.

**Objective 2** To promote the Movement's principles, historical background, structures and activities in various population groups.

**Objective 3** To intensify co-operation with the public authorities and private sector to ensure understanding and respect for the international humanitarian law and humanitarian values.

**Objective 4** To strengthen the identity and image of the national society and the Movement in Moldova.

The activities under these four objectives were undertaken with ICRC support.

#### *Analysis and outlook*

In absence of an office in Chisinau as well as international funding, the Federation is developing new approaches to help the country and the National Society. Based on the known donor trends, the Federation has not included Humanitarian Values in the 2003 Appeal however it is intended to support MRC in its dissemination and advocacy roles through other programmes.

### **Health and Care w**

Dramatic increases in poverty, homelessness and illnesses including TB, HIV/AIDS and other Sexually Transmitted Infections are creating larger numbers of vulnerable populations in Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova. Their health systems are unable to meet the arising needs. In addition an increasing number of the elderly need constant special care at home or in social institutions. More and more people are facing unbearable hardship and address the National Societies for assistance.

### **BELARUS**

The Visiting Nurses Service (VNS) is a priority service of BRC to respond to the health and social consequences of poverty, challenges faced by a lack of social-welfare services for the elderly, negative effects of Chernobyl disaster, as well as an increase in HIV and TB incidence. The VNS also represents a significant part of the identity of BRC. Throughout all the years of economic dislocation, the BRC visiting nurses have

been providing vital assistance to the most vulnerable, thus filling the gaps in state health and social services. For many of the beneficiaries, survival would be impossible without the daily visits of a RC nurse who is the only link with the outside world. Visiting nurses provide medical care and company to the lone elderly, handicapped and bedridden patients, but also assist with daily chores such as cooking, cleaning and shopping.

Unfortunately, 250 nurse positions had to be terminated in November 2002 when the funding from the Belarus government was discontinued despite the excellent reputation of this traditional RC service. Throughout the year, BRC provided support to the most vulnerable through its network of nurses, on the assumption that the pledged government funding would materialise. The salaries were not paid as a result, expecting that the nurses would be fully compensated for their services, once the funds were received by the National Society. An obligation to pay a three-month compensation (severance pay), as well as outstanding wages of up to six months (on average) has created liabilities amounting to USD 60,000. This by far exceeds the BRC's available financial resources.

In response to the VNS crisis the Federation launched an Information Bulletin appealing for the assistance to BRC. A contribution of CHF 10,000 from Liechtenstein Red Cross was received in Minsk in December, while the pledges for further support have been confirmed by Swedish, Swiss and Icelandic Red Cross societies. In addition, a Task Force has been created by BRC and Federation to ensure that there will be no repetition of such a crisis. This Task Force is currently developing a sustainable concept to secure the nurses and their medico-social centres in 2003.

At the end of November the French RC delivered a total of 110 second-hand bicycles to help equip the visiting nurses in rural areas. This donation will be accompanied with a contribution of EUR 5,000 for distribution and maintenance, which will be needed to repair and refit about 50% of these bicycles.

**Objective 1** To strengthen the capacity and sustainability of the VNS.

Considerable progress has been made by the National Society towards the achievement of this objective. Throughout the year BRC has taken persistent action to obtain alternative funding for the nurses programme. The BRC's fundraising efforts resulted in the ability to independently fund 150 nurses, with support from private enterprises, local authorities, donations from local communities, support from PNSs and other sources. The total amount which was raised through such initiatives came to about USD 150,000. However, a full self-reliance of the VNS is not yet achievable in the context of deteriorating social-economic conditions in Belarus.

**Objective 2** To improve the treatment of and care for TB patients.

Even though significant efforts were made to seek for partners to support the TB program, continuity of funding was not secured and all the activities have been suspended since May 2002.

**Objective 3** To increase community awareness about the TB/HIV/AIDS prevention and control and to improve human rights and dignity in order to prevent stigmatisation and discrimination against persons with TB, HIV/AIDS and their families.

The youth RC of BRC plays an increasing role in combating HIV/AIDS and TB epidemics in Belarus. The knowledge and competence BRC has gained from the TB/VNS program is currently being used in a peer education project, supported by the Danish RC and Empress Shoken Fund. The training module on HIV/AIDS prevention has been further developed to include a TB prevention component. This project covers the period from 1 June 2002 to 30 August 2003. The period of implementation was originally estimated at 12 months and later extended to 15 months, following the agreement from the Danish RC and Empress Shoken Fund.

During the reporting period, the activities were focused on producing and disseminating a number of information materials on HIV/AIDS and TB prevention, including leaflets (15,000), posters (5,000), wall calendars (3,000), and trainer manuals (200), T-shirts and pullovers for volunteers (450) and other visible material, such as badges. Apart from visibility materials, awareness was raised through the youth camp activities (five-day event for 36 participants), training-of-trainers sessions (for 74 volunteer trainers) and educational sessions for the target groups at schools.

Further efforts and funding are needed to replicate these youth activities on a countrywide scale.

**Objective 4** To support diagnostic facilities.

No progress has been made on this objective, due to the lack of donor funding.

*Analysis and outlook*

BRC is also identified as a key partner in the implementation of the social and psychological support within the state programme on HIV prevention. The state programme is however severely underfunded. Belarus government has submitted an application to the Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria. If the application is successful, subject to a functioning County Co-ordination Mechanism, BRC will be considered as a serious partner in implementing HIV/AIDS prevention activities.

While the TB epidemic remains one of the major public health problems in the country, BRC has unfortunately not been able to secure support from the Government. In the meantime, negotiations between the Government and the World Bank on a loan for the TB/AIDS project have continued throughout the year and the WB officials now hope that the project would get off the ground in 2003. It is anticipated that a future WB loan will also support the diagnostic facilities.

Through the 2003 Annual Appeal, BRC aims to continue its HIV/TB prevention work in Minsk City but considers it especially important to replicate the activities at regional and district level.

**MOLDOVA**

MRC has a history of active involvement in health programmes. In order to perform tasks in the welfare services and to take over responsibilities in the areas such as TB/AIDS campaign, an improved VNS structure becomes increasingly important.

**Objective 1** To build the capacity of the visiting nurses service.

**Objective 2** To assist the Ministry of Health in adjusting the TB diagnostics and treatment to DOTS in the municipality of Chisinau and in the regions of Lapusna and Orhei.

**Objective 3** To provide social assistance through nutritional and hygiene support to the most vulnerable TB-patients in the selected target areas and to large families at risk of developing TB.

**Objective 4** To increase awareness of the population regarding the prevention and control of TB, HIV/AIDS and STDs and to promote human rights and dignity in order to prevent stigmatisation and discrimination against persons with TB and their families.

Some of these objectives were achieved through a bilateral programme supported by the Austrian Red Cross. This one-year programme is ongoing since May 2002. The programme targets 350 TB-patients, who receive directly observed treatment in compliance with the WHO recommended strategy for TB control, and 650 vulnerable families at risk of developing TB. By the end of the program the target beneficiaries will have been supplied with 10,000 food parcels and 5,984 hygienic kits. In addition, MRC will produce and distribute 25,000 booklets on TB prevention and 25,000 booklets on HIV/AIDS. Through this program, MRC was also able to secure a total of 43 nurse positions and 7 headquarters staff for 12 months.

To improve health conditions in the Lipcani prison, with ICRC support MRC purchased and distributed 125 parcels for 125 juvenile prisoners. This action was carried out in September.

During the reporting period, the MRC' network of nurses and volunteers has also been utilised for the national campaign of immunisation of the population against measles and rubella. The activities are taking place from 1 October 2002 to 31 January 2003. Playing a social mobilisation role, MRC will distribute a total of 650,000 bookmarks containing information about the campaign and about the Fundamental Principles of Red Cross/Red Crescent. In addition, soup kitchens are organised for street children. This is also a bilateral program supported by the American Red Cross.

*Analysis and outlook*

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria awarded Moldova a total of USD 11.7 million for five years. MRC submitted their proposal to the Government for USD 400,000 for 5 years to take care of 6,000 TB patients. These activities are complementary to the current Austrian RC project. However, the National Society's involvement with the GFATM funds is subject to re-endorsement by the County Co-ordinating Mechanism (CCM) and MRC may not receive the level of funds indicated in the proposal or any funds at all. Although the Federation is not actively seeking funds to support this important priority of the MRC, it continues to provide technical support to the National Society in realising the funding potential from the CCM of the GFATM, so that the TB and HIV/AIDS activities could successfully continue.

In 2003 the Federation will continue to build up the capacity of the NS in primary health care. The community-based structure of the Red Cross VNSs and MSCs is yet too small to make a significant change in the health situation in the country. The capacity of the VNS will be further strengthened and the NS volunteers network will be developed as a part of its identity.

## **UKRAINE**

Since 1961 URC has been providing medical and social assistance to the most vulnerable through its Visiting Nurses Service (VNS). The VNS is a priority Red Cross activity in Ukraine. This traditional service provides strong operational structure for URC, increasing its effectiveness in responding to civic needs, and enhancing its image within the communities, as well as its standing towards the authorities. The VNS is a vehicle that the Red Cross is using to advance towards the realisation of the social goal of 'Health for All' through primary health care. The VNS is also instrumental in implementing the TB and HIV/AIDS prevention programmes. In the field of HIV/AIDS and TB prevention, URC has accumulated a great deal of experience and is a close partner to the Ministry of Health, Ukrainian Centre for AIDS Prevention and Control, scientific research institutes and other state institutions.

### ***Red Cross youth against HIV/AIDS***

**Objective 1** To mobilise the Ukraine Youth Red Cross resources and organise training for those involved in HIV/AIDS project activities in both information and dissemination among children and youth.

During the period under review, URC continued to put knowledge and tools in the hands of young people in the field of prevention and control of HIV/AIDS. To this end, URC organised two seminars for a total of 65 Red Cross youth leaders and volunteers and one training seminar for 30 VNs on informational work on HIV/AIDS among youth. A total of three seminars for 60 youth leaders and volunteers were conducted in Zaporizhzhya region.

**Objective 2** To increase awareness of the risk groups among the youth regarding prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and to promote human rights and dignity in order to reduce the stigmatisation, discrimination and intolerance against people with HIV/AIDS.

A total of ten "Self-awareness" trainings were conducted for schoolchildren and students. A total of 155 trained volunteers and representatives of risks groups (HIV-infected and drug users) were actively involved in peer education activities. In Dnipropetrovsk region a mobile informational station was set up jointly with a youth social center. The main activities are: youth smoking and drug prevention, promotion of healthy lifestyles, HIV/AIDS prevention. The activities related to objective 3 also contributed to the achievement of objective 2.

**Objective 3** To make the target groups aware of their primary responsibilities in maintaining and developing their own health through such means as healthy lifestyle and behavioural changes and to organise active face-to-face advocacy or public campaigns among youth and children.

URC organised a country-wide youth action under the motto "Choose Life" to prevent HIV/AIDS and promote healthy lifestyle among youth. Charity actions were held on the International AIDS Memorial Day, Children's protection Day, World AIDS Day and other. In addition, all three pilot regions organised nine seminars for a total of 150 schoolchildren and student volunteers. In Zaporizhzhya region a final competition on healthy life style among teenagers was conducted. A total 187 teams from all districts took part in this event.

To attract public attention and promote the youth Red Cross, the National Society actively co-operated with local mass media and provided them with materials on HIV/AIDS prevention. A total of 8,000 leaflets were in July and distributed in August all over the country with focus on Zaporozhje, Cherkassy and Dnepropetrovsk regions. The leaflets targeted youth, especially in rural areas.

### *Visiting Nurses Service*

**Objective 1** To do sociological research in Nikolayev, Zaporozhie, Chernovtsy oblasts and the city of Kiev

**Objective 2** To inform the heads of VNS about the research and its results and to propose further directions.

**Objective 3** To improve the material and technical base and professional skills of the visiting nurses.

Unfortunately, funding was not available for objectives 1-3.

### *TB/visiting nurses service programme*

**Objective 1** To strengthen the capacity and sustainability of the VNS.

**Objective 2** To scale up training of VNs, VN-instructors and Red Cross staff.

**Objective 3** To promote nursing as a profession and as a service.

**Objective 4** To increase awareness of the population regarding the prevention and control of TB/HIV/AIDS and STDs, and to promote human rights and dignity of patients and their families.

With an abrupt termination of donor support to the TB programme in Ukraine, the four objectives which were planned, had to be abandoned.

**Objective 5** To provide an increasingly wide range of services to the most vulnerable.

During the reporting period, the VNS continued to provide social and medical assistance to the disabled and lonely elderly, multi-children families, as well as orphans in their homes and at local centres. In addition to the nursing care, the services included prevention of contagious diseases, informing the population of safe health practices, cultivating the needs for personal hygiene and healthy lifestyle. To date, more than 420,000 pensioners and disabled persons are registered with the service, of whom nearly 24,000 are bedridden. To address their needs the service employs 3,200 VNs. The Government subsidises the salaries for VNs and local authorities support the VNS by providing premises for MSC/R. In addition to home-based services, the VNs run 473 MSC/R and 569 clothing banks (mainly located in remote areas where no other medical assistance is possible). There are also four Red Cross hospitals, five indoor hostels (based at MSC), two hospices and two hospice departments operating under the joint patronage of the VNs and health authorities.

### *Blood donor recruitment*

**Objective 1** To develop a strategy of non-remunerated blood donor recruitment, especially among youth.

In October representatives from URC carried out a study visit to the Belgian RC blood service. Upon return to Kiev, a board meeting of URC proposed a strategy of non-remunerated blood donor recruitment, which was reflected in a resolution and distributed to the branches. Furthermore, recent negotiations with the Government have resulted in that URC is now included in the national blood programme.

**Objective 2** To upgrade the capacities and knowledge of the national society staff in recruiting and retaining non-remunerated blood donors.

The team which visited Belgian RC is preparing a summary of the experiences and methodologies learned for use by the RC branches as recommendations for development of their blood donor activities. The appropriate promotion, information and education materials were not produced due to absence of funds.

**Objective 3** To promote non-remunerated blood donations in general population and the youth in particular.

URC planned to organise a meeting of honourable donors and blood recipients and broadcast it on the national television; arrange blood donor recruitment activities at regional level and to broadcast the Red Cross video materials on TV. These activities were not carried out due to absence of funds.

#### Analysis and outlook

In 2002 the HIV/AIDS project was supported by a DFID allocation. In addition, the Global Fund against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) has recently pledged a total of USD 92,152,744 to help the Ukrainian government to fight HIV. In 2003 URC will continue to focus on prevention of HIV/AIDS and TB. Funds will be sought through the GFATM, with the pending request to the Country Co-ordinating Mechanism (CCM) in Ukraine. The request of the URC for funding is USD 3,271,000 for five years. The funds are planned to be used for the information/education and medical-psychosocial support to the youth in rural areas and to street children with a purpose of HIV/AIDS prevention. However, the CCM has not yet started the distribution of the allocated grant funds to NGOs and URC may have difficulties to access this funding. This will be an area for Federation's support next year. TB also remains a priority program for URC. In 2003, Ukraine will receive a loan from the World Bank of 60 million USD for anti-TB/AIDS activities and URC works towards participating in this programme as well.

In 2003, URC will seek funding to evaluate its VNS in order to assess the appropriateness of the service in its auxiliary role to governmental activities in health and social work. It is expected that the evaluation will help redefine the role and activities of the VNs and will bring about further improvements of the service. Furthermore, the capacity of the VNS will be further strengthened through supplying of 250 medical nursing kits and seven units of medical equipment, as well as through training aimed at enhancing the professional skills of the nurses. In addition 3,200 copies of training manuals will be produced and distributed to the VNs.

The outlook for the development of blood donor activities in 2003 is rather positive. Being part of the national blood programme URC will receive support from the Government.

## **Organizational Development w**

The 2001 Kiev conference on integration and development brought about a renewed commitment of the National Societies in the region towards organisational development, specially through diversification of funding sources, adoption of contemporary methods of governance and management, and meaningful involvement of youth and volunteers.

### **BELARUS**

An important change process has been triggered within BRC over the last year. This process involves the entire National Society as a complex and interrelated system in order to achieve sustainable behaviour change, cultural change, systems change, structural change and other change. With the assistance from the Capacity Building Fund, the work has started focusing on strengthening of management, governance and human resources of the headquarters and branches, as well as helping the NS to formulate their development plan.

With strong support from the Delegation and an international consultant, notable progress has been made by BRC through two governance, management, fund-raising workshops in June and a follow-up effort in October. Building on the plans and commitments made in June and as a result of the executive coaching in June/October, the President agreed to specific recommendations for changes in the BRC charter to strengthen the board of directors and other changes to strengthen the management of BRC. In October, a special meeting of the Presidium debated and approved steps to change the BRC Charter to separate governance and management, including having different persons serve as the head of the board (volunteer chairperson) and the staff director (paid president) and to strengthen the board by the election of more outside directors who would have skills in health, management and fund-raising. Similar changes would be made at the oblast and district levels. A task force was approved to develop exact wording and to discuss the plans with the government and the Federation. The President and the Presidium have agreed that the functions and membership of the board and management will be separated in 2003. Plans were agreed to have another Presidium meeting in February and a Plenum meeting in late April to approve these changes.

Furthermore, with DFID funding BRC completed a preparatory phase for the establishment of a computer-based communication and information network to connect the headquarters and eight regional committees. Part of the hardware will be installed in the headquarters by the end of 2002. The data communications network will enable BRC to cost-effectively bring together isolated systems, efficiently access and share the real-time information, monitor the use of funds and accounting in the field and, ultimately, to improve operational efficiency. This project is also complementary to the ongoing change process within the BRC.

A "Project Planning Process" training coupled with a logistics component for the participants from the Red Cross Societies of Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine and Russia is scheduled to be held in Kiev on 2-7 December 2002.

**Objective 1** To raise awareness among young people in Belarus and to promote leadership in youth volunteers.

**Objective 2** To give professional profile to youth activities (pilot youth projects in two regional cities in 2003).

These two objectives have been successfully tackled through the youth HIV/TB project (*see section Health and Care above*).

**Objective 3** To build relations of mutual trust, respect and understanding between the National Society leadership and young volunteers and leaders, to find the implementation tools for the youth policy and strategy and to establish the Belarusian Red Cross youth mission by the end 2003.

Youth Red Cross representatives participated in all National Society meetings, including management meetings to discuss the NS development plan and planning for short-term actions in governance, management and fund-raising. The BRC leadership attended all youth Red Cross events. Active participation of youth in projects and programmes carried out by the National Society was also promoted (HIV/TB prevention, first aid, dissemination, visiting nurses).

#### Analysis and outlook

The change process is moving ahead at several levels of BRC. The president and the board are changing and the management and regional structures are also beginning to change. There is a rising awareness at the management level that change is really coming at the president and board levels and that the roles of all managers will be changing, too. The growing commitment by BRC leadership to make the needed changes was evident to participants from the Delegation and Federation Secretariat in June and October 2002.

In 2003, the Annual Appeal seeks to support the next stage of coaching, training and consulting for BRC. In addition to a continuation of governance and management initiative, the Delegation will facilitate the establishment in BRC of the computer network and other systems of communications, data management, financial records, and human resource management.

## **MOLDOVA**

As a national relief organisation, MRC has capacity building among its priorities. The National Society faces many challenges due to difficult social and economic conditions in the country, including the growing number of the vulnerable; its place and role in the community and, the response capacity. Despite the growing needs, current level of Red Cross activities is low, due to limited external funding, as well as low-level of funding opportunities locally.

**Objective 1** To promote local fund-raising.

**Objective 2** To improve the capacity of the selected staff and volunteers.

**Objective 3** To improve the material and technical capacity of the national society, especially at local level.

**Objective 4** To involve more actively youth volunteers in the preparation, implementation and evaluation of the national society's programmes.

No progress was made on these four objectives over the reporting period due to the lack of funding support.

*Analysis and outlook*

Although in 2002 funding was no available for these four objectives, the delegation is currently looking into different options to strengthen its support to Moldova Red Cross Society,

**UKRAINE**

Changes in the political, economic and legal situation have created new challenges for URC, requiring new skills, knowledge and technical know-how. To achieve this, development of resources to improve the overall effectiveness and impact of the NS programmes is essential. In line with this, the improved financial management has been identified by URC as a key area for organisational development.

**Objective 1** To strengthen the capacities of financial services of the Ukrainian Red Cross at branch level

**Objective 2** To set up a training programme for the Ukrainian Red Cross staff.

Further funding for strengthening the NS's financial services was obtained through an application to the Federation's Capacity Building Fund. The CBF allocation enabled the URC to set up a computer network and information system to connect headquarters with 17 regional branch finance departments. A training program has also been established to ensure that the installation of this new system is well supported and the finance staff at all levels are enabled to provide more efficient financial management and reporting. In accordance with the training plan, a five-day workshop for oblast Red Cross financial staff was organised in June. This new system also facilitates better co-ordination and information exchange on program management.

*Analysis and outlook*

The present financial structure of the NS include 26 chief accountants of regional organisations and seven finance officers at the HQ level. With support of the Federation's Capacity Building Fund, the financial departments of the NS received 17 units of computer hardware and book-keeping software, which covered the needs of 13 regional organisations and the HQ. In 2003, the Federation intends to finalise the support to the development of the financial networks, through a provision of 17 computer hardware and financial software to the remaining regional offices of URC.

**Coordination and Management w**

In the last 6 months the situation for Minsk Delegation has to a certain extent eased. The strong commitment of the Europe Department at the Federation Secretariat - which was reflected in resource allocations for the core costs from the department funds - to keep the Delegation operational allowed the Delegation to pay more attention to the National Societies. The Delegation was able to maintain an office in Kiev but could not reopen its presence in Moldova. For the Kiev office an acting Head of office from the local staff was appointed. Kiev office was covering the programmes of Ukraine, Moldova and the CHARP programme while Minsk was covering Belarus and was responsible for overall co-ordination. In November a new Head of Delegation was appointed. Presently the Minsk Delegation consists of a Head of Delegation, a finance officer, two programme managers and a driver based in Minsk, and an acting head of office (and CHARP co-ordinator) and a finance officer based in Kiev.

**Objective 1** To promote and represent the Federation in the region.

The Federation continued to take an active role in all areas of international representation. Head of Delegation and national staff participated in meetings with international organisations and authorities of the three countries, using the existing fora to advocate Federation initiatives including TB and HIV/AIDS. Discussions were held with the communication department in GVA to promote further the work of the National Societies and the Delegation. A new approach to serve PNS to a larger extend with small features for their own publication was introduced. In December the Delegation facilitated a visit of a Japanese TV crew (NTV) covering the activities of BRC funded by the Empress Shoken Fund. A visit of the information delegate from Moscow is scheduled for January.

**Objective 2** To ensure the effective management of the delegation.

Despite several constraints the financial management of the delegation was successful in achieving a balanced financial result at the end of the year. Expenses of the delegation were tightly controlled. Only at the end of the reporting period some essential maintenance and security requisitions could be purchased. Despite all the reductions and the tight financial situation the spirit and the commitment of the local staff remained high.

Staff meetings were conducted regularly. In November staff meetings were intensified in the light of a participatory management approach. A joint planning meeting for Minsk and Kiev staff was held in December. Regular staff appraisals were conducted. The Performance Development Review system was introduced to delegates.

**Objective 3** To provide competent support and assistance to the management of the Belarusian, Moldovan and Ukrainian National Societies, especially with regard to the provisions of the Strategy 2010 and development of CAS.

Meetings with the leadership of the three National Societies were held regularly, as well as delegation/National Society senior management meetings. Efforts were made to facilitate a dialogue with the partner National Societies. Technical input was provided to the National Society programmes. This includes assistance in the development of project proposals to various partners and drafting the annual appeal 2003. The Delegation also provided the National Societies with expertise in logistics, finance and reporting. Vulnerability assessment methods were supported through the VCA workshop in Minsk. A representative of the Belarus Red Cross received further VCA training in Italy. In future he will be available as a trainer and resource person for the region.

**Objective 4** To ensure proper co-ordination of partner national societies and other donors support to the three national societies in the region.

The National Societies in the region continued to receive support in their strategic planning and preparation of individual program proposals and budgets. Delegation in Minsk played a key role in helping the NSs to design and negotiate a number of successful project proposals to TACIS, governments and funds. In so doing, the Delegation made the information available to the NSs concerning funding requirements of different partners and donors. Potential partners and donors also received proper information on the strategic priorities of the national societies in the region. This has been achieved through increased number of contacts with the World Bank, TACIS, UN agencies, governmental organisations, ministries and embassies. The system of timely and accurate reporting for the different donors and partners was maintained.

**Objective 5** To provide better financial and budget management support to the National Societies in the region.

The National Societies in the region were supported in their regular reporting on programme activities and expenditure. Support was also provided to the National Societies in procedures related to development of budgets and budget control.

**Objective 6** To provide capacity building support to the three national societies essential to their change process.

#### Analysis and outlook

The down-scaling of the Delegation, the closing of the presence in Moldova and the struggle for resources to cover core and programme costs have severely affected the service to the National Societies. Within these financial and human resource constraints, but with the financial support from the Europe department in Geneva, the Minsk Delegation was able to continue to deliver assistance to the three National Societies in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine in the last 6 months. This assistance included the Chernobyl Humanitarian Assistance and Rehabilitation Programme (CHARP) with the participation of the National Societies from Belarus, Russian Federation and Ukraine. The extent of the service given to the National Societies varied considerably due to the described constraints.

The Delegation is presently restructuring its management and reviewing its approaches in the light of the European change strategy of the Federation. In line with the Federation's change process, Minsk Delegation is developing a new model of support to the National Societies in the region.

Together with the three National Societies and PNSs, a mid-term strategy will be developed bridging the gap between the annual appeal and strategy 2010. This mid-term plan will incorporate a marketing, fundraising and advocacy strategy for the Delegation and for the support of the National Societies.

The Delegation will introduce a quarterly update which will focus on the Delegation services which were provided to the National Societies. In this reports emphasis will be given to the capacity building aspects in the four core areas of strategy 2010.

This model includes a more comprehensive approach towards capacity building, redefining of the roles and a more effective placement of national staff, a full introduction of the budget holder concept, as well as sharing of resources and technical expertise with the Moscow Delegation. This will involve more effective use and sharing of available human and financial resources, both from Minsk and Moscow delegations. This new models of support to the National Societies in the region will be implemented and tested in 2003.

Together with the leadership of Moldova Red Cross and the PNSs, the Delegation will explore different options to support this National Society more effectively in the future.

### **Outstanding needs**

There are no immediate outstanding needs in 2002 apart from the recruitment of an OD delegate. Donors are strongly encouraged to continue their assistance to Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova within the 2003 Annual Appeal.

*For further details please contact: Miro Modrusan, Desk Officer, Phone: 41 22 730 43 24; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; email: modrusan@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  
Head  
Relationship Management Department

Lynette Lowndes  
Head  
Europe Department

Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 01.51/2002		PLEDGES RECEIVED			22.01.2003	
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
<b>CASH</b>						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				<b>2'118'653</b>		<b>TOTAL COVERAGE 42.4%</b>
Programme support Eastern Europe (Minsk)						
				80'000		
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID						
				25'000	19.02.2002	
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID						
				40'000	19.02.2002	MINSK DELEGATION
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID						
				130'000	07.08.2002	UKRAINE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, HIV/AIDS, BELARUS ORGANISATIONAL DEV., DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND						
				68'950		PBY517
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND						
				89'900		PUA526
EMPRESS SHOKEN FUND						
		25'000	USD	37'000		YOUTH EDUCATION - BILATERAL
FINLAND						
		5'000	USD	7'400		FINNISH EMBASSY - BILATERAL
FINNISH - RC						
		5'171	EUR	7'665	15.03.2002	
FINNISH - GOVT						
		5'000	USD	7'450	10.07.2002	BILATERAL
FRENCH - RC						
		5'325	EUR	7'751	18.12.2002	BICYCLES
GERMAN - RC						
		12'670	EUR	18'578	21.02.2002	RUNNING COSTS OFFICE OF HOD
SWEDISH - RC						
		46'000	SEK	7'475	23.04.2002	
SDC						
		10'000	USD	14'900	10.07.2002	BILATERAL
TACIS						
		24'000	EUR	35'520		TB IN MINSK - BILATERAL
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				577'589	CHF	27.3%
<b>KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)</b>						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
FINNISH - RC						
		55'934	EUR	82'906	15.03.2002	16'185 KG USED CLOTHES
SWEDISH - RC						
		920'000	SEK	149'500	23.04.2002	184 MT USED CLOTHES
DENMARK						
	DELEGATE(S)			40'903		
NEW ZEALAND						
	DELEGATE(S)			48'460		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				321'769	CHF	15.2%
<b>ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET</b>						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	