

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

YEMEN

27 September 2002

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 178 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

Appeal No. 01.59/02

Appeal Target CHF 354,072 (USD 237,000/ EUR 242,000)

Beneficiaries/target groups (if available):

Programme Update No. 1 ;

Period covered: January-June 2002;

IN BRIEF

Appeal coverage: Covered

Related Appeals: MENA regional programmes (01.54/2002)

Outstanding needs: None

Summary: Donor response to the Yemen appeal has been excellent. Implementation of programmes began slower than expected but significant progress has been made in supporting vulnerable people as well as building the capacity of the Yemen Red Crescent.

Background

Although the Yemen appeal was issued at the end of 2001, actual implementation of activities did not start until April 2002 when the Federation OD Delegate was assigned to work closely with the NS and expedite the capacity building process. The following review would therefore need to be seen from the realization of the fact that as the Federation in-country presence is at its establishment stage, a lot more remains to be accomplished in terms of implementation of appeal 2002 for Yemen

1. Disaster Preparedness

Goal: The programme seeks to strengthen the Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS) and its volunteers to improve the lives of the most vulnerable people through community-based disaster preparedness and response which will consolidate relationships with key partners such as civil defense and ministry of health.

I. Major achievements in relation to objectives

Objective 1 *To strengthen the YRCS to play a more active role in disaster preparedness and response*

- 1.1. Evaluation started to get feedback on the benefit of the of the VCA studies done in Hajeh and Hoidedah governorates
- 1.2. Agreement made with YRCS to conduct additional VCA studies in other governorates based on the specific local needs and the feedback from the earlier studies in Haijeh and Hoidedah
- 1.3. One of the volunteers of the YRCS is selected to participate in the VCA Training of Trainers to be conducted in July 2002 by the DP Department of the Secretariat

Objective 2 *To assist communities in overcoming expected disasters through effective response, including community-based first aid.*

2.1. A volunteer and a staff member from the YRCS participated in the integrated training in Syria (February 2002) facilitated by the Regional Delegation. This helped to raise their knowledge about CBFA, DP, OD and the Humanitarian Values/Principles as a result of which both of them are now providing multipurpose services within the Society

Objective 3 *To carry out disaster preparedness awareness campaigns in the most vulnerable locations and communities in order to increase community participation and awareness in preparedness, mitigation and utilization of community resources.*

- 3.1. In cooperation with Federation, the YRCS managed to purchase 100 tents in order to replenish its emergency preparedness stocks
- 3.2. A plan of action is being prepared to further strengthen the DP/DR capacity of the Society especially in terms of building up its DP/DR capacity in the disaster prone parts of the country

II. Major constraints

- lack of coordination and collaboration between the branches and the headquarters.
- lack of active cooperation between the NS and the other governmental authorities.

III. Lessons learnt in relation to objectives

Main lessons learnt refer to

- the importance of having a National DP/DR plan in which the role of the NS can be clearly defined
- the importance of effectively utilizing the knowledge and the experience of all YRCS staff/volunteers already trained in DP/DR and related activities
- the necessity of sharing VCA results with national and international organizations in DP/DR to encourage them to participate in the implementation of the recommendations

2. Health and Care in the Community

Goal: The programme seeks to assist the National Society in its effort to increase capacity for the effective implementation of health and care in the community in order to reduce vulnerability to diseases and disasters. This will be carried out through integrated capacity building to bridge the gaps in the areas of health promotion, disease prevention and first aid together with disaster preparedness and response, organizational development and advocacy.

I. Major achievements in relation to objectives

Objective 1 *To help the YRCS increase capacity in the provision of community-based first aid.*

- 1.1. First aid courses have been conducted in the different branches
- 1.2. Further training being planned in a more integrated fashion to enable participants to have all round knowledge including aspects of CBFA and disaster preparedness

Objective 2 *To support the YRCS in its effort to reduce vulnerability caused by infectious disease such as tuberculosis, malaria, parasites and HIV/AIDS in affected communities.*

2.1. A plan of action being developed to maximize the use of the existing primary health care centers of the YRCS so they can be used for multi purpose functions including health promotion (treatment/ prevention) and dissemination of Red Cross/Red Crescent knowledge

II. Major constraints

- lack of training equipment and materials in all branches and the Headquarters.
- lack of trainers that can follow up on the training of volunteers and staff in the field of health including CBFA .
- lack of regular medical supplies which seriously affects the smooth operation in the medical facilities (clinics run by the NS)

III. Lessons learnt in relation to objectives

Lessons learned include :-

- the importance of rehabilitating the present primary health centers and medical units in order to provide better services based on effective participation of local communities in the definition of needs and services
- the importance of motivating and retaining all the trained volunteers and staff to stay committed to the training of other volunteers and staff

3. Organizational Development

Goal: to assist the YRCS in its effort to work as a well-functioning National Society, implementing its strategic plan to improve capacities and ensure effective service delivery.

I. Major achievements in relation to objectives

Objective 1 *Assist the National Society in finalizing the strategic plan, leading to a comprehensive country assistance strategy.*

- 1.1. Further modification/improvement on YRCS strategic plan was performed based on the findings of assessments in the various areas of DP (VCA), OD , and Health as well as on the comments made on the draft strategic plan of the NS during the partnership meeting held in Damascus in 2001.
- 1.2. A follow up meeting was held in May, 2002 between the Federation and the Executive Board of the NS during which the strategic plan for YRCS 2001-2005 was finalized and adopted
- 1.3. A sub-committee (including the Federation OD delegate in Yemen) was established to develop specific plan of actions based on the appeal for 2002 and the priorities identified in the strategic plan
- 1.4. The CAS for Yemen is foreseen to be developed in order to ensure effective implementation of the strategic plan through collaborative efforts

Objective 2 *Assist the National Society in its effort to upgrade the skills of volunteers and staff at headquarters and the branches.*

- 2.1. Basic awareness training was conducted for the senior leadership of the Society (May 2002) focusing on the following among others :-
 - Characteristics of a Well-Functioning NS
 - Cooperation Agreement Strategy
 - Project development and management
- 2.2. About 150 volunteers/staff from Sanaa and Hejja branches have been trained in planning, monitoring and reporting

Objective 3 *Review and amend National Society statutes*

- 3.1. The revision/amendment of the NS statutes has been finalized and approved by the Federation and the ICRC, and is now submitted to the Ministry of Justice for endorsement
- 3.2. The presence of the Federation OD delegate in the country has helped to reactivate the YRCS leadership as a result of which the different organs including the Executive Board have started to meet on a more regular basis to follow up on the implementation of the NS activities

Objective 4 *Review and amendment of the National Society policies and regulations*

- 4.1. The Executive Board are now discussing the need for reviewing the NS internal regulations which are not valid anymore according to the present circumstances

II. Major constraints

- slow progress as regards the follow up on the endorsement of the NS statutes
- insufficient understanding of roles and responsibilities that tends to confuse the role between management and leadership
- insufficient compliance to the rules and regulations of the NS as stipulated in its statutes
- lack of awareness (especially at branch level) as regards what the Movement is all about and how it works

III. Lessons learnt in relation to objectives

Lessons learnt include:-

- the need to develop revised rules and regulations based on the revised statutes of the NS and to distribute the same among the branches
- the need to raise awareness through subsequent capacity building efforts at HQ and branch levels
- the need to ensure that activities are implemented within the time frame established in the plan of action
- the importance of having a designated committee and a coordinator to look after each core area of focus

4. Coordination and Management

Goal: *Qualitatively enhance the programme implementation capacities of the YRCS with more concentrated Federation support based on in-country level presence.*

I. Major achievements in relation to objectives

Main Objective *The objective is to establish a country level presence of the Federation, consisting of a delegate and a local support staff, to expedite the capacity building process of the YRCS. The purpose is to enable the NS to improve the quality and quantity of the service delivery and advocacy as per the priorities identified in its strategic plan and strategy 2010 of the Federation. The delegate will also work as part of the regional team to ensure a more efficient and flexible use of human resources within the region.*

- 1.1. A Federation OD Delegate has been assigned to work with the NS and has started his duties as of 31st March 2002. The in-country assignment of the Delegate has
 - facilitated the finalization of the strategic plan of the NS and the development of the plan of action for 2002
 - contributed to improve relations with local authorities and other agencies including, ICRC, UNICEF, WHO etc
 - facilitated the completion of questionnaires sent to YRCS from Federation (Geneva and Amman)
 - helped to build capacities in terms of basic facilities at the HQ including photocopying machine and communication facilities

II. Major constraints

- the restricted nature of the training given to the NS staff and volunteers limited mainly to first aid and IHL with very little covered in other areas such as DP/DR, CBFA, Project Planning, etc.
- lack of enthusiasm of the trained volunteers and staff to continue their service with the NS and lack of appropriate systems of motivation to improve the situation

III. Lessons learnt in relation to objectives

Lessons learnt include :-

- the importance to actively involving all trained staff and volunteers in programme planning and implementation.
- the importance continued training for both staff and volunteers to improve efficiency and quality of services to the people in need.
- The importance of maintaining working links with national and international humanitarian organizations to avoid duplication and competition .

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

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

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Yemen						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 01.59/2002		PLEDGES RECEIVED			20.09.2002	
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				354'072		TOTAL COVERAGE 136.1%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				267'896		
SAUDI ARABIAN - RC				144'241	31.05.2002	HEALTH & CARE, OD
SWEDISH - RC		55'000	SEK	8'866	15.04.2002	IDRD
SWEDISH - RC/GVT		375'000	SEK	60'750	28.05.2002	DP
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				481'753	CHF	136.1%