

# 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

## **HEALTH AND CARE IN THE COMMUNITY**

15 July, 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](http://www.ifrc.org)*

**Appeal No. 01.65/2002**

**Appeal Target: CHF 4,442,993 (USD 3.01m/EUR 3.02m)**

**Beneficiaries/target groups (if available): N/A**

**Programme Update No. 1; Period covered: January - June, 2002**

### **IN BRIEF**

**Appeal coverage: 61.6%**

**Related Appeals: N/A**

**Outstanding needs: CHF 1,704,461 (USD 1.15m/EUR 1.16m)**

**Update/Summary: Much has been achieved in this six month period. Access to new sources of funding from private sources for health projects has produced some exciting opportunities and the global health profile of the Federation continues to expand. Increasing demands from other international organizations to play an active role in partnerships and joint activities puts added pressure on the secretariat to perform. Adequate coverage of the Global Appeal funding requirements remains vital for the Secretariat to fulfill its role in serving National Societies.**

### **Operational Developments**

**Goal** The goal of this global programme is to improve health and care in the community and the Federation's response to public health crises, building on the achievements of 2001.

Three strategic pillars frame the support provided to National Society interventions through this global programme:

1. Advocacy (priorities for 2002 being fighting HIV related stigma and advocating for community support to elderly people, orphans and other children affected by HIV/AIDS);
2. Building capacity to bridge the gap between vulnerable households and the formal health and social welfare system;
3. Developing tools to better respond to public health crises. Relief health and water and sanitation programmes are central to the overall disaster response of the Red Cross / Red Crescent.

### **Achievements in Advocacy for Health and Care**

- The health and care retreat in March 2002 brought together PNS health advisers, all health and care regional delegates and the secretariat team - 65 people in all. The retreat proved invaluable in terms of advancing towards shared answers to some of the challenges in health and care, particularly in terms of striking the right balance between verticalization and programme integration and agreeing on a common advocacy agenda.
- The European Red Cross and Red Crescent Regional Conference in Berlin, 14-19 April, had significant implications, particularly in terms of advancing the Federation's position on harm reduction for injecting drug users and validating the operational guidelines for tuberculosis control.
- A unique meeting took place in Guatemala, bringing together the National Society president and health director, the PAHO/WHO country representative and senior ministry of health official from each Central American country. The meeting, convened by PAHO and the International Federation, identified four critical areas for collaboration and identified relevant action points in each area (HIV/AIDS, integrated management of childhood illnesses (IMCI), the promotion of voluntary non-remunerated blood donation, and disaster preparedness and mitigation.. The success of the meeting created the conditions for the signing of an agreement with PAHO/WHO in Geneva in May, in the presence of ministers of health from the region.
- Measles is the main vaccine preventable cause of death world-wide. The Federation continues to add value to the Measles Initiative, where the American Red Cross is a leading partner - having helped many African national societies gain access to the USD 20 million a year inter-agency partnership which aims at reducing measles mortality in Africa. The Federation is looking to expand its role next year.

Other advocacy initiatives which fall clearly under one of the stated objectives are included below. Constraints have been consolidated under one paragraph at the end of the report.

### **Objective 1 Assert Red Cross and Red Crescent leadership in first aid, and develop mechanisms/tools to ensure that these efforts result in profile, opportunities and resource mobilization for National Societies through innovative ways of knowledge sharing.**

#### **Achievements within the Global First Aid Project**

- **Knowledge and practices sharing:** A partnership with two corporations established in 2001 has resulted in the development of a first aid Intranet website. The prototype testing by selected national societies users is underway and will be released for use by First Aid Managers of national societies by 1 July 2002.
- **Enabling environment:** In recognition of previous achievements, the Federation has been requested to contribute guidelines on first aid training and kit specifications to the UN road safety working group on implementation of the resolution on "Assistance to victims of road accidents" - preparation has begun in collaboration with national societies through a consultation process. These initiatives open up new opportunities for first aid training to be provided by national societies for vehicle drivers.
- **Resource mobilization:** A MOU was signed in May with a company to explore the joint development and distribution of Safe Travel Packs through selected international airports. The initiative proposal has received support from participating national societies where a distribution trial will take place. Funds from a share of product revenues will help finance First Aid development activities at the national and international levels.

### **Objective 2 Psychological Support**

- Development of a comprehensive training manual in psychological support capturing previous experience and lessons learnt as well as new technical developments. The manual is co-authored with a consultant from the Disaster Mental Health Institute at the South Dakota University. The manual consists of a 30 hour training programme with six different modules. The manual will be field tested in three workshops on psychological support in Budapest, Seoul and Fiji during 2002.
- Support given to the re-establishment of the Reference Center for Psychological Support in Copenhagen in terms of participation in Steering Committee meeting in Copenhagen, preparation of an action plan for the

Reference Center for the coming two years, taking part in the recruitment process for the Head of the Reference Center (advertisement, interview, briefing) and on-going policy issues.

- Participation in the National Society working group in preparation for the “Psychological Support and First Aid” theme at the European Conference in Berlin, April 2002. The conference addressed psychological support as a cross-cutting issue, defining the area for collaboration between psychological support and first aid, and put forward ideas for a strategy to approach and support people combining psychological support and first aid. A concept paper “First Aid and Psychological Support: The Value of Human Support When Life is Painful” was developed and circulated as input to the debate.

### **Objective 3 Scaling up of household and community interventions that reduce vulnerability to HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases.**

#### **Achievements:**

- The Federation successfully launched the global anti stigma campaign with the active participation of national societies, governments and international organizations. Over 80 national societies have reported on their launch activities on the Red Cross website.
- Operational research and a participatory process led to the European Red Cross Regional Conference adopting a clear position in support of harm reduction interventions to prevent HIV/AIDS epidemics amongst injecting drug users.
- The first phase of an in-depth evaluation of the HIV/AIDS programmes of 8 national societies selected from Africa, the Americas, Caribbean, South-East Asia and Europe has been completed. The objective of the in-depth evaluation is to identify lessons learnt in terms of project successes and major problems encountered and then share the experience with all national societies.
- The Secretariat supported national societies working towards membership of the Country Coordinating Mechanisms submitting proposals to the Global Fund against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFA™). At present 15 national societies are part of the country proposals submitted by their respective governments, whilst another 8 national societies are in discussion with their governments on possible collaboration in the implementation of projects submitted
- A publication *Reducing household vulnerability to HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases* - a global programme covering 2002-2005, was produced in the four official languages and widely distributed.

#### **Retain international leadership in the promotion of voluntary, non-remunerated blood donation**

- printing, publication and distribution of the English version of new tool kit “*Making a difference...recruiting voluntary, non-remunerated blood donors*”(MaD). Its primary objective is to serve the needs of those tasked with recruitment of blood donors,. An agreement has been reached with PAHO for Spanish version of MaD printed at their expense; a first workshop using new tool kit conducted in Zagreb for blood donor recruiters from Central Europe and three regional “task forces” are helping with implementation of MaD in Europe, Asia and Pacific, SE Asia
- quarterly newsletter (*Donor Recruitment International*) published March 2002 and readership survey prepared for July 2002

### **Objective 4 Explore, compile and promote best practice (from within and outside the Red Cross and Red Crescent) regarding social welfare approaches and community services that provide support to vulnerable groups.**

#### **Advocate for community support to elderly people, orphans and other children affected by HIV/AIDS.**

- The World Assembly on Aging which took place in Madrid in April, gave the Federation the opportunity to focus on the issues around older people and HIV/AIDS. For example - the need for recognition of the role of older people as a vital community resource in the fight against HIV/AIDS, the need for community support for their role as caregivers for huge numbers of orphaned children, and the need to provide appropriate peer education on prevention for older people. The Federation delegation included representatives from Mongolia, Hong Kong, South Africa and El Salvador National Societies. The WAA also enabled us to strengthen partnerships with WHO and HelpAge International regarding older people

and HIV/AIDS

- The UN Special Session on Children which took place in New York in May was an ideal opportunity to advocate for community support for orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS and the International Federation held a joint side event with UNICEF on this subject. The Federation was represented on the panel discussion by a young HIV/AIDS activist from Zimbabwe. This was also a good opportunity to strengthen links between the Federation and UNICEF.
- Collaboration and links have continued to be made with a variety of organizations and individuals regarding families affected by HIV/AIDS. These include WHO, HelpAge International, UNICEF, the Salvation Army, Save the Children, national organizations for Positive Women in Uganda and Zimbabwe, USAID, Catholic Relief Services, Capetown University Memory Box Project and many others.

#### **Develop operational strategy for home based care and support HIV/AIDS orphans and other vulnerable children.**

- The working group on orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS continued their work on drafting operational guidelines with, and for, national societies that are working with, or plan to work, with OVC. The group met in March and will meet again in early July. After this meeting it is hoped that the draft will be at a stage where it can be sent to “critical readers” and can be “field tested” with selected national societies before it is finalized before the end of the year.
- Since children become vulnerable long before their parents die and the need for families to plan for the future of the children, plans have started for a memory project which will be piloted through Zimbabwe Red Cross’s integrated HIV/AIDS programme. HIV positive parents and their children will work together on the creation of memory books. The books aim to help children to understand the past and feel more secure about the future so that when the parents finally die, the children have a sense of identity and belonging and they can plan for the future. Meetings will take place in Zimbabwe in mid-June to plan the pilot project. The Federation is collaborating with Cape Town University’s Memory Box Project which is already working with a South African Red Cross support group of PLWHA on memory boxes.

#### **Objective 5 Strengthen surveillance systems, international preparedness and fast response mechanisms for dealing with epidemic outbreaks**

- The Federation has developed an epidemic/communicable disease control system. It is based on a community involvement / ARCHI approach and is used for controlling meningitis, measles and even TB and polio. National societies have proven themselves excellent partners, contributing with public awareness, community mobilization, identification of cases and treatment defaulters. This works in emergencies such as ebola outbreaks, as well as in more controlled and development circumstances.
- The Health and Care Department assisted the development of *Regional Disaster Response Teams (RDRT)* and about 60 professionals have been trained to ensure more effective response to disasters at regional level. Likewise, intensified participation in *Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT)* training will ensure that public health in emergencies is better managed. Further development of the *Emergency Response Unit (ERU)* concept has taken place as well as introduction of the concept to additional national societies, such as Spain, Japan, Austria, Switzerland, France.
- The development of a web based Disaster Management Information System (DMIS) improves the possibilities to monitor various preparedness and operational phases in emergencies, ensuring that public health is comprehensively covered and that vital information is available to delegations and national societies. The DMIS will also be used to track progress of the funding status of national societies in accessing the Global Fund for HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria. This facility is being launched in late June 2002.
- To further strengthen operational ties, the Federation and UNFPA signed a MOU in June, ensuring that reproductive health needs in emergencies can be addressed more effectively.
- The *Interagency Guidelines for HIV/AIDS in Emergencies* are undergoing revision, with heavy involvement of the Federation.
- Work on the WHO/UNHCR/Federation book on *Environmental Health in Emergencies and Disasters* was completed in June.

**Objective 6 Increase the effectiveness of national society water, sanitation and hygiene promotion projects and provide an effective technical support to them.**

- The process of developing a manual and parts list for the modular wat-san ERU (Emergency Response Unit) has been finalized. Investment in further training and qualification of identified local and regional resources has led to an increase of wat-san staff to be used as wat-san delegates, deployed globally.
- Presentation of papers at international conferences have contributed to international networking efforts and raising the profile of Federation's wat-san activities, namely the International Conference of Assessment and Planning for Emergency Sanitation in Loughborough UK.
- The publication on Sanitation in Emergencies is in preparation for which we have been one of the main contributors.
- A paper and presentation on how to establish and scale up a regional programme has been finalised together with the regional wat-san delegate from Eastern Africa and has been widely distributed.

**Objective 7 Contribute to the implementation of a document management system to facilitate the capture and retrieval of all Federation produced materials**

Due to changes in the Secretariat approach and structure in relation to knowledge management, implementation of the document management system has not yet started. However two "smaller" initiatives have taken place to facilitate the dissemination of health related policies and tools:

- A CD ROM: *Health and Care Mission Assistant* was produced in March containing all relevant health and wat-san related policies, reference documents and other materials which could be of use to delegates. It was distributed to all regional health delegates and heads of delegation, receiving much positive feedback.
- A CD ROM: *Reducing Vulnerability to HIV/AIDS* was produced in June and includes policies, images, videos and technical AIDS related documents which could be of use to health delegates in their daily work, including documents on personal health matters. This CD-ROM will be distributed during the International AIDS Conference to be held in Barcelona, Spain in July 2002.

**Constraints**

- Preparation and willingness of national societies and other partners to build on the opportunities generated by a stronger public health agenda is very encouraging, but the main constraint remains the limited amount of long-term financial resources needs that prevents societies from embarking in large interventions that need to be sustained long-term.
- Managing simultaneous participatory processes to produce policies, guidelines and manuals that are inter-linked (e.g. Home Based Care, work OVC (orphans and children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS) and psychological support has also proved to be a challenge.

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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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Health and care in the community						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 01.65/2002		PLEDGES RECEIVED			15.07.2002	
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
<b>CASH</b>						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				<b>4'442'993</b>		<b>TOTAL COVERAGE 61.6%</b>
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				296'121		
AMERICAN - RC		10'000	USD	16'588	01.02.2002	PSYCHOSOCIAL WORKGROUP
AMERICAN - RC		10'000	USD	17'028	09.02.2002	TRANSFER TO NS
AMERICAN - RC		190'995	USD	316'326	03.04.2002	TRANSFER TO KRCS FOR MEASLES CAMPAIGN
AUSTRIAN - RC				10'000	05.04.2002	BLOOD PROGRAMME
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID				240'000	19.02.2002	
DANISH - RC				7'200	31.05.2002	DELEGATE ALLOWANCE
FINNISH - GOVT/RC		136'000	EUR	199'063	20.03.2002	
LUXEMBOURG - PRIVATE DONOR				168	08.04.2002	HIV-AIDS
ORLES FOUNDATION		8'340	USD	14'201	12.03.2002	SPANISH & PORTUGUESE CHILDREN
PROSJEKT MENTAL HELSE (NORWAY)				100'000	29.05.2002	HEALTH AND CARE
SWEDISH - GOVT/RC		2'730'000	SEK	439'530	24.06.2002	HEALTH & CARE
UNILEVER				1'082'125	17.05.2002	
PRIVATE DONORS				182	04.07.2002	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				2'738'532	CHF	61.6%
<b>KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)</b>						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%