

# ANNUAL REPORT



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## DJIBOUTI

1 March 2004

### In Brief

**Appeal No.:** 01.03/2003 ([Click here to access the 2003 Appeal](#))

**Appeal target:** CHF 183,271 (USD 124,703 or EUR 124,748)

**Appeal coverage:** 116.6% ([Click here to access the Final Financial Report](#))

**Appeal 2004:** Indian Ocean sub-regional programmes no. 01.09/2004 (this includes Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles) ([Click here to access the 2004 Appeal](#))

*This Annual Report reflects activities implemented over a one-year period; they form part of, and are based on, longer-term, multi-year planning.*

*All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>*

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### Overall analysis of the programme

[The Red Crescent Society of Djibouti](#) annual Appeal 2003 focused on rebuilding the national society's projects in health and care and organizational development after a dormant period of almost ten years. There are no on-going bilateral programmes. Implementation of the health and care projects was almost on schedule and had an impact at community level. However, limited human resources capacity at the headquarters resulted in insufficient and unsystematic follow-up and monitoring. The organization of the local and general assemblies was a key project within the organizational development component of the national society. Preparations for these components ran behind schedule due to differing views of members of the national committee regarding the number of participants to be invited and the required budget. Assemblies are now scheduled to commence in 2004.

## Objectives, achievements/impact, and constraints

### Health and care

**Goal: The Djibouti Red Crescent has a sustainable impact upon the general health of targeted communities through its health programming**

**Objective: The Federation facilitates the development of the National Society's capacity in community-based health and care programming, including through HIV/AIDS and sanitation activities.**

#### Achievements

The community health information programme had been extended to all districts in the country, including the new administrative district of Arta by November 2003. More than 20 volunteers were recruited, trained and equipped with information, education and communication (IEC) materials, T-shirts and caps in all districts. These volunteers regularly carried out health information activities.

The part-time Sudanese Red Crescent facilitator supported the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti in designing and implementing training and community prevention programmes in malaria and HIV/AIDS for six months. The national society prepared a detailed project proposal, work plan and budget in May 2003 for an integrated health project in the Belbala area of the capital with support from the regional WatSan<sup>1</sup> unit. No progress has been made in the implementation in the second half of the year due to the national society's failure to appoint a health coordinator.

#### Impact

Djibouti Red Crescent continued to recruit male and female volunteers to assist in the implementation of health information activities. Malaria and HIV/AIDS prevention information was passed on to women who would normally have very little access to it; women reported fewer incidences of illnesses amongst their children in some districts. The visibility of the national society increased due to close contact with communities. The skills and experience of the Sudanese Red Crescent facilitator in community health activities provided useful guidance to the national society, resulting in the production of a number of user friendly training and information materials.

#### Constraints

The national society's failure to appoint a health coordinator in the second half of the year left no one at central level who could devote sufficient time to monitor and support branch activities. As part of the Movement's joint approach to supporting the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti, discussions were initiated between the International Federation and the ICRC in November 2003 to determine the best ways of strengthening human resource capacity in 2004.

## Organizational Development

**Goal: Implementation of the characteristics of a well-functioning national society has improved in Djibouti Red Crescent in the three key areas: foundation, capacity and performance.**

**Objective: The national society's institutional capacity and its progress towards operating as a well functioning national society is enhanced through Secretariat support**

#### Progress

The implementation of the community health information activities attracted new members to the national society; branch steering committees were set up in all six districts to include Arta. The committees have begun preparations for the local assemblies which will take place in 2004.

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<sup>1</sup> WatSan – Water and sanitation

## **Djibouti; Appeal no. 01.03/2003; Annual Report**

The national society moved to new and more spacious headquarters in October 2003. An adjustment to the budget allowed the programme to provide essential furniture to render the office functional. The national society was allocated offices for five district committees because of good relations with the local government. The programme funded minor repairs on these buildings and equipped them with basic furniture. However, delays in getting some of the formal documentation relating to these buildings slowed down the repair work.

The DFID funded the acquisition of a new vehicle by the Red Crescent Society of Djibouti in December. There is reliable means of transport for follow up and implementation of programmes and support to district committees in 2004; this has reduced dependence on an erratic and expensive vehicle rental market.

### **Impact**

The establishment of branch offices and steering committees has given a visible presence of the national society outside the capital city. This highlights the commitment of communities to build a strong and active Red Crescent. Branch offices are an important resource for information sharing and discussion amongst communities.

### **Constraints**

The departure of a senior lawyer appointed to prepare a revised draft of the national society's statutes slowed down the revision process; the responsibility was passed on to a board member in October 2003. This delay forced the postponement of the Programme Facilitator's plans to prepare the steering committees to take up their responsibilities. Revision of the statutes is a necessary pre-requisite to the satisfactory running of assemblies as key amendments need to be made to articles relating to governance and management roles and responsibilities and the number of mandates a board member is entitled to. There is resistance from longer serving board members to make these changes. In addition, the Secretary General who was committed to the process slowed down in the second semester due to illness. The ICRC and the Federation provided regular advice to the national society board regarding the amendments necessary to bring the statutes into conformity with Federation guidelines. A final draft had not been prepared by the end of the year.

## **Federation Coordination**

**Goal: To build capacity and empower the Djibouti Red Crescent to achieve its mandate through better partnerships**

**Objective: Djibouti Red Crescent's integrated capacity building planning and implementation skills are ensured by the Federation through participatory facilitation**

### **Achievements**

The ICRC and the Federation continued to adopt a coordinated approach in supporting the national society. Two joint missions were carried out in 2003. Both parties have made it clear to the national society that funding for 2004 will be contingent on a commitment to speed up the revision of statutes and the assembly process.

### **Constraints**

The capacity of the national society to design and implement programmes, although improving, is limited. The national society is not in a position to enter into potential new partnerships. Contacts made with a number of UN agencies in the first half of the year were not followed up because there was no progress in the implementation of the integrated health project.