

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

ERITREA

1 July 2003

Appeal no. 01.04/2003; Appeal target: CHF 228,182 (USD 154,859 or EUR 154,930)

Programme Update No. 1; Period covered: January to June, 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 over 180 countries.

For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal coverage: 46.3 %; An updated Contributions Lists can be found at:
http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual03/1-2-3%20-%20ap010403.pdf

Outstanding needs: CHF 122,625

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Improving Food Security (Emergency Appeal 33/02)

Programme Summary: The focus of Federation support to the National Society has temporarily shifted from providing advice to the organisational development programme towards the joint relief intervention due to the current ongoing drought situation in Eritrea. However, positive developments have taken place in the HIV/AIDS and water and sanitation programmes, and in the National Society's community based reorientation of activities. The reduced Appeal 01.04/2003 budget is not yet covered, although the programme is spending far below the planned budget, with some expenses taken over by funds from Emergency Appeal 33/02. Significant financial support has been received so far from the Danish and the Netherlands Red Cross Societies.

Operational developments

The demarcation of the 1,000 km Eritrea-Ethiopian border is expected to begin in July, starting in the less sensitive eastern sector of the border, and should be finished by November 2003. Both governments have not held face-to-face talks since the Algiers peace deal of December 2000. The successful conclusion is of critical importance not only to restore sustainable peace and security but also to bolster the economy as well as longer-term solutions to humanitarian challenges. The delayed demobilisation programme for over 200,000 soldiers would free up much needed human resources in the country, which severe shortage is furthermore affected by the national service requirement for men and women between 18 and 40 years, as well as enhance the reintegration and rehabilitation of affected communities.

The short Azmera rains in 2003 have failed. Projections of weather patterns for the coming months are unfavourable. These deteriorating drought conditions plus the delayed and limited resources, made available by donors to respond, have created enormous challenges for the government and the humanitarian community. Of particular concern are acute food and water shortages and the increasing high level of malnutrition and drought related diseases (CAP 2003, mid-term review). The Red Cross Society of Eritrea and the Federation are jointly

providing food relief assistance for 45,000 beneficiaries in Hagaz sub-zoba and emergency water trucking for over 6,000 persons in the most remote areas. Furthermore, longer-term water and sanitation interventions were undertaken.

Health and Care

Assistance to the Red Cross society of Eritrea in the Health and Care programme is integrated within the Organisational Development support.

Disaster Management

Assistance to the Red Cross society of Eritrea in the Disaster management programme is integrated within the Organisational Development support.

Humanitarian Values

Assistance to the Red Cross society of Eritrea in the Humanitarian Values programme is integrated within the Organisational Development support.

Organisational Development

Goal: Significant and sustainable improvements in the general well being of vulnerable people in Eritrea.

Objective: The capacity of the Red Cross Society of Eritrea (RCSE) to deliver relevant and high quality services for the most vulnerable people in Eritrea is increased.

Progress/Achievements

The Red Cross Society of Eritrea's institutional capacity and its progress towards operating as a well-functioning National Society is enhanced through the Secretariat support provided. As a result;

- The HIV/AIDS coordinator of the RCSE has been recruited and briefing is ongoing.
- The HIV/AIDS strategy of the RCSE and their 4-year programme has been finalised, is partly financed and is being implemented.
- The Water & Sanitation unit of the RCSE has been established with the recruitment of a national coordinator. On the job support is being received from the Federation WatSan delegate working in the drought relief operation.
- Twelve RCSE coaches, coming from all six branches in Eritrea, have been recruited. Their induction and skill training has started end of June supported by all RCSE departments. This signals the beginning of a new operational approach of the RCSE: local coaches work with and through volunteers at the community level to deliver essential services. The roles and responsibilities of branch and headquarters staff are being adjusted to fit the new working structures.
- The community development coordinator position has been created and suitable candidates are being selected.

Therefore, the RCSE structure and working methodology is increasingly becoming more focused, relevant, well coordinated and better integrated to address the needs of the most vulnerable people in Eritrea.

Impact

No impact can yet be seen at this stage of development.

Constraints

The lack of progress in the process of improving recognition of the National Society by the Government of the State of Eritrea has limited the opportunities for development of governance structures and fundraising at national and branch levels.

The involvement of the National Society and the Federation in the joint Drought Relief Operation has severely limited the opportunities to focus on the organisational development aspects.

Federation Coordination

Goal: To build capacity and empower the Red Cross Society of Eritrea to achieve its mandate through better partnerships.

Objective: The Red Cross Society of Eritrea's integrated capacity building planning and implementation skills are ensured by the Federation through participatory facilitation.

Progress/Achievements

The Federation coordination and support mechanisms have increased the impact made by the National Society through:

- The co-development, translation and printing of the booklet profiling the RCSE in English and Tigrinya languages. This process has been well supported by the ICRC delegation. The booklet is being distributed to stakeholders and the general public in Eritrea.
- The initiation of and participation in regular consultation meetings with local and international government and non-government partners to avoid overlapping and duplication, and to coordinate and reinforce RCSE interventions. The meetings, among others the Technical Working Groups on HIV/AIDS, Water, Food Relief and Food Security, were attended jointly with National Society representatives.
- The reception of, briefing and consultations with PNS missions to Eritrea.
- The dialogue of technical delegates from the regional and country delegation with their National Society's counterparts, especially in the area of water and sanitation, HIV/AIDS, logistics, disaster relief, finance and branch development.
- The advocacy for longer-term financial and capacity building support for the National Society. Among others, this has led to the commitment of the Netherlands Red Cross and the Danish Red Cross to invest in the construction of three different Branch buildings (in Zoba Gash Barka, Debub and Southern Red Sea). Furthermore, they support the initial costs of the coaching system and the HIV/AIDS programme.

Impact

The impact of the Federation coordination upon the lives of the target beneficiaries is indirect. The support provided is enhancing the capacity of the RCSE to deliver meaningful services of better quality and larger volume.

Constraints

The involvement of the RCSE and the Federation in the joint Drought Relief Operation has limited the coordination role in other Federation supported programme areas.

International Representation

No Secretariat supported programme for 2003.

For further information please contact:

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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 (SPHERE Project) 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 website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

APPEAL No. 01.04/2003

PLEDGES RECEIVED

04.07.2003

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				228'182		TOTAL COVERAGE 46.3%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				54'732		
SWEDISH - GOVT		100'000	SEK	16'000	07.04.03	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				70'732	CHF	31.0%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
NETHERLANDS	DELEGATE(S)			34'825		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				34'825	CHF	15.3%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	