

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

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

16 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 179 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

Appeal No. 01.102/2003: Appeal Target: CHF 798,000

Programme Update No. 1; Period covered: January - June, 2003

IN BRIEF

Appeal coverage: 43.7%

Related Appeals: N/A

Outstanding needs: CHF 448,985

Programme Summary: This global programme is facilitating a significant development of evaluation activities within the International Federation, more specifically within the Evaluation Department, Monitoring and Evaluation Division. Both branches of the Department, Programme Evaluations and Self-Assessment of National Societies, have been further developed in recent months.

Evaluation of the Programme

Overall Goal: The evaluation function primarily exists to make a significant contribution to the achievement of the Federation's goals and objectives through organisational shared learning. There are many different lessons and recommendations emerging from the evaluations. Consistent among these is the need for more responsive and focused interventions and an improved management of interventions particularly in the area of planning, monitoring, gathering of baseline data and reporting.

Activities

The appeal document articulated the agreed approach in relation to the execution of strategic evaluations and capacity building. Following broad consultation throughout November, and within the agreed budgets, the annual work plan for 2003 was approved in December 2002. This work plan set out the evaluation activities currently being implemented. At the present, individual components of this work plan are at different stages of completion, namely ten exercises to be managed to varying degrees by the evaluation department, and implemented using independent consultants.

In addition to the agreed annual work plan of Evaluation activity, the Evaluation department has also continued to provide active input into work throughout the organisation and has to date undertaken an key role into the following initiatives: Drafting of Evaluation Policy document, HIV/AIDS task force, Review of Federation's Processes and Procedures, Information Systems Steering Team (ISST), Development of Risk Management models, World Disaster Report, Briefing and Debriefing of (34) delegates, updating of website enabling a Consultant register and report site, PRD evolution report, Plan of Action for Latin America and Caribbean.

The following exercises are finished, or at different stages of execution (Planning, Implementation, Follow-up):

- Evaluation of the Federation's Hosted Arrangements for Inter-Agency Initiatives December 2002;
- Evaluation of Federation's response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, a seven country case study in Latvia, Jamaica, Chile, China, Togo, Zimbabwe and Mozambique continues throughout 2003;
- Evaluation of the LISN 3 programme in Southern Africa, February 2003;
- Evaluation of Cause Related Marketing in Polish Red Cross, May 2003;
- Evaluation of management and co-ordination to Iraq response, July 2003;
- Evaluation of Distance Learning Programme in Central America June 2003;
- Evaluation of Federation's response to the China Floods, April 2003;
- Evaluation of Amazonica programme in Americas, September 2003;
- Review of National Society self assessment, August 2003;
- Evaluation of implementation of recommendations from 2000 Pan-African conference;
- Translation and dissemination of Monitoring and Evaluation Handbook for National Societies and Delegations, July 2003.
- Consultation process on 2004 mid-term evaluation of Strategy 2010.

The evaluation department has *inter-alia* continued to align and integrate adherence to SPHERE standards into Terms of Reference for evaluation activity. In addition, all evaluation reports must be accompanied by a management report prior to completion and publication of the report. This encourages utilisation and uptake of recommendations and will facilitate follow-up review by the evaluation department. The department is satisfied that of the four risks and assumptions signalled in the appeal document, lack of resources singularly continues to be a constraint.

National Society Self-Assessment

Seventy-one National Societies were invited to participate in the Self-Assessment process in 2003. The Self-Assessment questionnaire together with the supporting documents: operational framework, list of reference documents and list of countries invited to participate were sent out to the National Societies in the beginning of January 2003. The deadline for responses was 31 March. To date, the Evaluation Department received responses from 47 Societies. The Evaluation Department, in cooperation with the Regional and Country Delegations, is continuing its efforts to support the remaining 24 National Societies in going through the Self-Assessment process.

Based on the analysis of the responses by the National Societies that completed the Self-Assessment Questionnaire in 2001, 2002 and 2003 a global report will be prepared and presented to the Federation Governing Board and the General Assembly in November 2003. Its objective is to inform the Governing Board and Federation members about the status of the member Societies, to provide means to review the members' performance against the Characteristics of a Well Functioning National Society, and to identify strengths and weaknesses through a synthesis of findings of Self-Assessment. This year's report will also include regional profiles for all five regions, Africa, Americas, Asia & Pacific, Europe and MENA, in addition to the analysis of the global trends.

The department is in the process of preparing individual Self-Assessment reports called Preliminary Findings for the individual National Societies, which participated in the Self-Assessment process in 2003. All Societies that participated in the Self-Assessment process in 2001 and 2002 received the Findings last year and the Evaluation Department is now following up with the 2003 participants. The purpose of the individual Preliminary Findings is to acknowledge the information received from the National Societies, ask for clarifications if needed and recommend action based on the valid Federation policies. Based on the Preliminary Findings, and after revision and approval of the action points by each National Society, the Regional Department in the Federation Secretariat in Geneva and the corresponding Delegation, a Plan of Action for the follow up of the Self-Assessment should be developed. The Plan of Action should include focal points in the National Society, as well as the deadlines for the planned actions. It is hoped that the Preliminary Findings and

Plans of Actions will assist individual Societies in identifying their strengths/weaknesses, demonstrating their commitment for change and prioritising actions in line with Strategy 2010.

Since January the Evaluation Department has been involved in providing technical support to the South Africa Red Cross Society with regards to the on going Self-Assessment process at national, regional, branch and local committee level. Responses from all levels in the Society have been analyzed. The results were discussed and plans for follow up of the findings were agreed upon during five regional workshops conducted in the period from March to June. The regional workshops were conducted with the financial and facilitation support from the Evaluation Department.

Strategy for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement: Monitoring the Implementation by the National Societies.

The process of monitoring the implementation of the *Strategy* by the National Societies was conducted by the Evaluation Department of the International Federation January till June 2003. Monitoring has been performed in relation to all the action statements concerning the National Societies directly. Following the recommendation by the Expert Group, the priority focus has been given to Action Points which required specific actions to be taken directly by the National Societies.

Objectives of the monitoring report was to determine the level of familiarity of National Societies with the objectives and actions outlined in the *Strategy*; to identify specific actions taken by National Societies with the goal of implementing the Strategy; and to review the implementation progress of National Societies regarding the actions undertaken.

The report that was prepared by the Evaluation Department it concluded with the following: The acceptance and support of the *Strategy* is widespread among the National Societies; however, the process of familiarization with its objectives and actions is still ongoing. The large majority of the Societies have reported taking specific measures with the goal of implementing the *Strategy*. These actions do not appear to be all inclusive; indeed, the monitoring process has revealed a necessity for establishing clear implementation guidelines and set reporting mechanisms with regards to the *Strategy* and to the decisions of the Movement in general. In addition to clarifying the expectations and stating clearly the actions to be taken, such mechanisms could enable the analyses of the reasons for the selective implementations of the Movement decisions reported by the large number of Societies. Given the central role placed on capacity building by the National Societies, there appears to be a need for the clarification of the concept of capacity building, and for the development of indicators to measure its progress.

Protection of National Society Integrity

The National Society Integrity Task Force was established in January 2003. The Task Force is an interdepartmental group with the key purpose of guiding the Secretariat in identifying and dealing with National Society integrity by establishing adequate mechanisms and procedures. The Task Force is guiding individual departments and delegations in handling the integrity issues, takes initiatives to deal with issues Federation-wide and assist in preparation of reporting to Federation Governance on the types of problems, as well as the actions taken. The Task Force has been meeting every month since January. The Head of the Task Force reports regularly to the Federation Governing Board subgroup dealing with integrity issues in the Movement.

For further details please contact: Mathew Varghese, Phone: 41 22 730 4571; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; email: varghese@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>.

Monitoring & Evaluation

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 01.102/2003

PLEDGES RECEIVED

09.07.2003

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->					798'000	TOTAL COVERAGE	
						43.7%	
CASH CARRIED FORWARD							
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID (04)				200'000	24.02.03		
BRITISH - RC		7'017	GBP	15'069	01.04.03	TRANSLATION OF MONITORING & EVALUATION TOOLKIT	
ICELANDIC - RC				16'446	24.06.03	S.AFRICA RCS, NAT. EXECUTIVE WORKSHOP	
SWEDISH - GOVT		500'000	SEK	83'000	23.06.03		
SWISS - GOVT				20'000	26.05.03	IDRL WRITERS	
STANDING COMMISSION				14'500	27.06.03	STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				349'015	CHF		43.7%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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