

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 January, 2004

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. 2; Period covered: June 2003 - January 2004

In Brief

Appeal coverage: 45.1%; See attached Contributions List for details.

Outstanding needs: 448,985; donors are encouraged to focus their provide support on the 2004 National Society Self Assessment annual appeal.

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: N/A

Programme Summary: This global programme has facilitated 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 organizational 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 undertaken

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 in the second 6 months has continued to provide active input into work throughout the organization and has to date undertaken an key role into the following initiatives: HIV/AIDS task force, World Disaster Report, Briefing and Debriefing of (51) delegates, Implementation of FedNet, updating of website enabling a Consultant register and report site, Gender Action Group, consolidation of plan of Action for Latin America and Caribbean.

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

- Evaluation of the Cause Marketing Programme, Polish Red Cross, Completed;
- Evaluation of Federation's response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, a seven country case study in Latvia, Jamaica, Chile, China, Togo, Zimbabwe and Mozambique Completed;
- Evaluation of the LISN 3 programme in Southern Africa, Completed;
- Evaluation of management and co-ordination to Iraq response, Completed;
- Evaluation of Distance Learning Programme in Central America, Completed;
- Evaluation of Federation's response to the China Floods, Completed;
- Evaluation of Amazonica programme in Americas, Completed;
- Review of National Society self assessment, Planning phase;
- Evaluation of implementation of recommendations from 2000 Pan-African conference, Implementation phase;
- Translation and dissemination of Monitoring and Evaluation Handbook for National Societies and Delegations, Completed;
- Consultation process on 2004 mid-term evaluation of Strategy 2010, completed and now in Implementation phase;
- Evaluation of Pan American Regional Disaster Unit, inception report completed, now under implementation;
- Evaluation of Southern Africa Food Security Programme, Implementation.

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. In that regard the department has intensified its oversight on evaluation reports to ensure targeting of recommendations facilitating ease and accountability in management response. The department is satisfied that of the four risks and assumptions signalled in the appeal document, lack of resources continues to be the primary 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 January 2003. 186 National Societies were invited to participate in the Self-Assessment process since the beginning of the project in 2000 and 159 National Societies sent their responses by the end of 2003.

Based on the analysis of the responses by the National Societies that completed the Self-Assessment Questionnaire since 2000, a global report was prepared and presented to the Federation Governing Board and the General Assembly in November 2003. Its objective was 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 also included regional profiles for all five regions, Africa, Americas, Asia & Pacific, Europe and MENA, in addition to the analysis of the global trends.

The conclusions of the Self-Assessment Global Report state that it is of the utmost importance to ensure the alignment of capacity building and resource allocation to follow up on the findings of the Self-Assessment. The operational value of the findings will depend on the ability of the Federation network to provide support to the member requiring assistance. The findings in the report reiterate the evidence with regard to the diversity of National Societies; however, it also confirms that many of the challenges facing National Societies seem to be similar regardless of social, political and economical situation. Completion of the first cycle sets the baseline for beginning of the historical analysis in the next cycle. This would enable the Federation to monitor the changes within the network.

The Evaluation Department is in the process of preparing Self-Assessment country reports called Findings for the individual National Societies, which participated in the Self-Assessment process. 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 following the valid Federation policies. Based on the 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 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.

In 2004 the Evaluation Department will focus on following up on the individual National Society Plan of Actions. A new cycle of the Self-Assessment will commence later in the year.

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.

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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>**.*

Monitoring & Evaluation

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 01.102/2003

PLEDGES RECEIVED

19.01.2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

					TOTAL COVERAGE	
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				798'000		45.1%
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
BRITISH - RC		5'000	GBP	11'143	03.12.03	MONITORING & EVALUATION
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				360'158	CHF	45.1%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

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