

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

CAMBODIA

14 May 2004

In Brief

Appeal No. 01.59/03; Appeal target: CHF 1,931,270 (USD 1,322,329 or EUR 1,312,376); Appeal coverage: 126.7%.

[\(click here to go directly to the Financial Report\).](#)

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Overall analysis of the programme

In a year when Cambodia celebrated 50 years of independence from France, national level elections – hailed largely as free and fair – led to a political stalemate where by late December 2003 a new government had yet to be formed. The ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) won 73 of the 123 seats, but failed to gain the two-thirds majority needed to rule outright, forcing it to seek a coalition partner. The opposition Sam Rainsy Party and royalist FUNCINPEC party have so far refused to join forces with it, and have instead formed an alliance aimed at establishing a tripartite government without the current prime minister as leader. The CPP has rejected the idea.

Following the June 2003 signing of the UN-Cambodia agreement on the Khmer Rouge tribunal, there is some concern that the delay in establishing a new government could slow the process. The tribunal remains the country's most pressing issue and its proponents had hoped that the government would ratify the UN agreement. However, the outgoing government did not ratify the bill and left the task to the new assembly, which has been prevented from getting down to work by the political wrangling.

Despite reports in late 2003 of gradual improvements in human rights¹, a number of issues remain a concern. In February the NGO, Adhoc, released its 2002 human rights report that identifies violence against women and children and the curtailing of the freedom of expression as two major problems facing Cambodia. Meanwhile, the Cambodian Committee of Women continued to urge the National Assembly to pass the draft law on domestic violence and the UN Human Rights envoy called for Cambodia to uphold its international commitments to refugees and not to forcibly repatriate Montagnard asylum seekers who have fled from Vietnam. Cambodia also

¹ Peter Lueprecht (United Nations, December 2003)

remains a source and destination country for person trafficked for sexual exploitation and forced labour. While much needs to be done, for instance in developing a comprehensive anti-trafficking law, in 2003 the government has put in place some measures – particularly in prosecution and law enforcement – to address the challenge.

In September 2003 Cambodia took further important steps to join the World Trade Organisation (WTO); however, the current political stalemate has meant an extension in the ratification process. Nevertheless, joining the WTO is likely to have an impact on Cambodia's continued economic growth (five per cent in 2003 and 5.5 per cent projected for 2004²) as GDP growth continues to be led by the garment industry and under WTO rules current quotas must be eliminated by 2005. Meanwhile the precarious economic situation has been highlighted by a number of institutions, including the World Bank: 'It is important that Cambodia broaden the base for its growth by improving the investment climate and by investing in agriculture and other labour intensive manufacturing besides the garment industry and tourism, which are both vulnerable to external shocks' (World Bank, Cambodia, October 2003).

Concerns that Cambodia is far from achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals, specifically in reducing by two-thirds the infant mortality rate, have been highlighted both in statement by WHO in September and through the 2003 Human Development Report. Figures released through the report indicate that the rate has increased with an estimated one in seven children dying before its first birthday (WHO). Inefficient and inadequate health spending as well as a lack of donor funding to address diarrhoea, post-natal complications and malnutrition are seen by many observers are significant factors in this worsening situation.

During 2003 the Federation continued to prioritise the capacity building of the Cambodian Red Cross (CRC) as well as enhancing the coordination with Red Cross partners. Supporting the CRC to draft a new strategy (2003-2010) through a lengthy and consultative process that included stakeholder analysis and a week-long workshop with management and governance was a significant achievement. The new strategy highlights both the challenges faced by CRC at the beginning of a new millennium and charts the strategic directions that the organisation needs to take in order for it to meet the demands of a changing and more competitive environment. However, while reform – such as those clearly documented in the new CRC strategy – can offer considerable benefit to any developing organisation, achieving a state where the leadership is comfortable with, and hence will drive, change, is no easy task. The priority for the Federation in 2004 will be, therefore, to support the CRC leadership in driving home the necessary change that they themselves have identified as a pre-requisite for their continued growth and development.

In addition to the work in capacity building and organisational development, the Federation has sought to strengthen the cooperation between national societies supporting CRC. While there have been monthly meetings, a mid-year partnership meeting and generally a renewed willingness to coordinate respective efforts, the lack of a clear commitment by CRC for significant reform, has not contributed to an environment conducive for coordination and ultimately for the development of a cooperation agreement strategy (CAS). In the meantime the Federation has continued to harness funds, and to provide technical support both through the regional delegation and in-country Red Cross partners, for CRC programmes – including in HIV/AIDS, dengue fever, water and sanitation, disaster management and communication. Throughout 2003 the Federation has also sought to highlight a number of key policy issues within Cambodia that have included: advocating for a greater commitment to building national capacity in disaster management; engaging in the process to develop a national poverty reduction strategy; taking initial steps to hold a workshop on refugee protection (to be held in early 2004) and joining with other organisations to promote greater respect for, and understanding of, the role of women in Cambodia.

Funded to a level of approximately 65%, the Federation Appeal for 2003 was supported by long-term Red Cross Movement partners as well as by inter-governmental organisations and by some bilateral governments. The Federation was also able to establish new trilateral partnerships in Cambodia as well as to harness funds internationally that were managed by its members for the benefit of Cambodian RC. The end of year financial statement shows that expenditure was close to income and while some activities were delayed – such as the dengue fever operation and some organisational development activities – due to the political situation in the

² Asian Development Bank, 2003

country as well as to the varying absorptive capacities within Cambodian RC as it embarked on a complex process of change, variance between the budget and the expenditure basically reflect the revised activity level. In 2004 the Appeal targets have been adjusted to include activities carried forward.

Health and Care

The ongoing Cambodian Red Cross HIV/AIDS project – established in 1994 – and the newly developed dengue fever prevention project formed the basis for Federation support in 2003. While the Appeal 2003 had identified the capacity building of the health and social welfare sub-department as an expected result, the development of the CRC Strategy 2003-2010 allowed a mainstreaming of this capacity building process into the broader organisational development programme. Overall the HIV/AIDS programme has been scaled up – with technical support provided by the Australian Red Cross – to a level that can be sustained by the current team and by the management of CRC. It has benefited from additional funds from the OPEC Fund as well as from Swedish Red Cross and has been expanded into further provinces. The dengue fever project that was developed on the basis of dialogue with the National Malaria Centre (CNM) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) and attempts to fill an institutional gap in prevention activities in Cambodia, established a national coordination structure and delivered health promotion services to five provinces. The project benefited from both Canadian CIDA (Health and Nutrition Initiatives Fund) and New Zealand Red Cross support in 2003. The dengue fever project was not included in the Federation 2003 Appeal but will be for 2004.

Objective

The Cambodian Red Cross is an efficient national society, competent to deliver quality services in health care.

Achievements

The HIV/AIDS project in 2003 had the following four components:

- The prevention of HIV transmission through the implementation of community-based peer education and life skill development;
- The mobilisation of Red Cross volunteers to support people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in the communities;
- Addressing HIV/AIDS related stigma and discrimination against PLWHA and their families;
- The building of CRC capacity to effectively implement the HIV/AIDS project and to contribute to organisational development.

Through a range of workshops – including a gender awareness workshop for CRC staff – training programmes and other activities in up to nine provinces, the HIV/AIDS project was able to reach, and to bring about behavioural change in, key stakeholders (5,556 people) including the police, university students and staff, Red Cross youth, PLWHA and orphans. In addition 65,472 people such as classmates, friends, family members, wives/husbands and community members benefited indirectly from the activities. The HIV/AIDS project also supported the 8 May Red Cross Red Crescent Day as well as international HIV/AIDS Day. In coordination with partners and donors, the focus of activities was on anti-stigma and discrimination against people and/or families infected/affected by HIV/AIDS.

The impact of one key component of the project was highlighted in a 2003 evaluation that showed positive behaviour change among police. The evaluation found that police peer educators now discuss HIV/AIDS, safe sex behaviour and condom use with their peers. Furthermore, they express compassion towards colleagues and those living with HIV/AIDS. The report highlighted a 95 per cent increase in condom use among police, that the number of police officers visiting sex workers has decreased and that there are fewer reports of sexual violence from the sex workers. The wives of police officers reported that their husbands adopted a more responsible attitude towards the family and home, including taking more time with children and domestic responsibility.



**Red Cross volunteers helping the family of a person
living with HIV/AIDS (Kampot province)**

With the steady improvement in CRC capacity to manage the HIV/AIDS project – currently funded by UNICEF/UNESCO, Japanese Bank International Cooperation (JBIC), Australian RC, OPEC/Federation, Family Health International, the Global Fund for AIDS, malaria and TB (GFATM) and the Swedish Red Cross – in 2003 Australian Red Cross (ARC) commissioned a consultant to review the level of future technical assistance. While the report will not be finalised until early 2004, it is expected that a recommendations to scale down the expatriate technical support will be made. However, it is recognised that the withdrawal altogether of technical assistance will not be possible until the overall CRC management capacity has increased.

Dengue fever control measures that include prevention as well as surveillance are, according to WHO and the CNM, thought in 2003 to have contributed to a reduction in cases³ than in 2002. Moreover, predictions are for this trend to continue into 2004.

The Cambodian Red Cross project that was established in early 2003 with the full participation of the main stakeholders was implemented in four provinces. The project aims to reduce the incidence of dengue fever/dengue haemorrhagic fever (DHF) in target high-risk areas through raising awareness in communities and through taking preventive measures by the communities themselves. The project has three components: strengthening capacity of the implementing partners such as CRC and MoH (CNM) at different levels; regular health promotion among different target groups (women, community leaders, monks, school teachers and children) in target high risk areas using various innovative methods; enhancing coordination between the CRC and MoH (CNM) in order to respond effectively in outbreak seasons.

Though somewhat delayed due to the national elections, CRC have through 2003 established both the necessary organisational structure to oversee the programme – a multi-tiered network is in place with joint management by CRC and CNM – and have been able to roll-out training and promotion activities. Training has been provided to 118 people from the provincial dengue control committee as well to 683 people from the community dengue control committee. Activities have included training of Red Cross volunteers and village health support group members as well as health promotion through the mobile public address systems – more than 18,000 were reached in 12 districts – distribution of information/education/communications (IEC) materials and household level awareness sessions in 433 villages.

Constraints

There were no major constraints in the HIV/AIDS project. However, due to the arrival of new donor partners and some change in current funding, the CRC staff had to make some limited changes to the activities. The dengue fever project was somewhat delayed both due to the national elections and to the time spent recruiting CRC staff and establishing a modus operandi with CNM. It is expected that the project will be implemented according to schedule in 2004.

Disaster Management

The growing realisation of the scale of impact that disasters in Cambodia have on achieving the Millennium Development Goals as well as on reaching the objectives outlined in the National Poverty Reduction Strategy, has not only led to an increase of NGO activity in risk reduction and preparedness but by late 2003, there were renewed calls to mainstream disaster management into the Cambodian development agenda. Meanwhile, on the basis of two external evaluations carried out in 2003, CRC has taken to steps not only to consolidate its community based disaster preparedness (CBDP) programme but also to broaden its activities to look more

³ According to the data from CNM there were 12,081 cases in 2003 and 12,441 cases in 2002

specifically at risk reduction measures. With strong support from a number of donor partners as well as the Federation regional office in Bangkok, capacity building of the CRC disaster management department (DMD) has continued and CRC has continued to play a role in the regional disaster management network. Given the lack of disastrous floods or drought in 2002 and 2003 – a food (rice) surplus is expected in 2003 – and global trends of climate variation, in readiness for 2004, CRC and the Federation continued to advocate for an effective national capacity in disaster management.

Objective

CRC is, in coordination with national authorities and other bodies, and working through a network of volunteers and community structures, recognised as a leading organisation in disaster management.

Achievements

The development of the CRC disaster management programme in 2003 focused on three crucial areas: the consolidation of the CBDP programme, further strengthening the capacity of the disaster management department and the promotion of the CRC sub-regional role. In addition other partners, namely Action Against Hunger and American Red Cross, have continued to work with CRC to establish an innovative flood early warning system.

Established in 1998, CRC defines the objective of the CBDP programme as “the initiation of a process of community participation, empowerment and problem solving undertaken by a community to prepare for and respond to the natural disasters that may affect them”. It involves reducing vulnerabilities (for instance damaged infrastructure, livelihood and shelter needs) and increasing capacities (knowledge and skills) to deal with potential natural disasters that often occur. As a community-based grass roots programme it has been established through village level Red Cross volunteers (RCV) and the provincial Red Cross branches; it is now operational in eight provinces, with a total of 525 RCV in 306 villages (in 2003 the programme was rolled out to 77 villages across the eight provinces). The programme in 2003 was funded by DIPECHO, the British government’s Department for International Development (DFID), British Red Cross and the Red Cross of China (Hong Kong branch).

The CBDP activities in 2003 focused on consolidating the programme in 77 villages across the eight provinces. It provided skills and resources – including hazard maps, action plans as well as bicycles and life jackets – to the RCV and communities, identified risk reduction micro-projects such as community boats, safe areas, drainage and culvert repair and helped to develop the governments national disaster management capacity at the commune and village level. The programme also provided technical services to a number of NGOs.



Distribution of bicycles to Red Cross Volunteers

As part of the continued development of the CBDP programme, two evaluations were commissioned during 2003. The first, a study funded by British Red Cross, identified nine recommendations that included the need for further consolidation and greater focus on high-risk areas, the tailoring of the existing disaster management training materials for specific user groups, an increase in the numbers of RCVs at the commune and village levels (one RCV for every 15 families), a greater priority for non-structural risk reduction measures, such as developing early warning networks, and the strengthening of coordination with other disaster management stakeholders, such as the NGOs. The second study – a review of the CRC micro-projects commissioned by DIPECHO – endorsed a

more rigorous approach to hazards identification, selection and maintenance of the small-scale livelihood based risk reduction interventions.

While the above recommendations will be institutionalised more fully in 2004, the CRC has also continued to strengthen its own operational capacity. This has involved a significant number of national and regional training opportunities for the department staff. This included: a 'participatory methodology' workshop; a monitoring and evaluation workshop; training on the Federation's Better Programming Initiative (BPI); and a UN supported workshop on disaster related needs assessment. The CRC was also able to attend a meeting of the Federation's regional disaster management committee (RDMT) as well as a global forum on water supported by ECHO and the Mekong River Commissions annual flood forum.

Constraints

While some delays to activities were experienced due to the holding of national elections, the major constraints are associated with organisational and individual capacities. As CRC move ahead with the implementation of their new strategic plan (2003-2010), CRC recognise the importance of building capacity - not only to follow through on the specific recommendations of the two reviews - but in order for CRC to remain competitive in the disaster management sector. Given that human resource capacity is challenge for all organisations in Cambodia, the Federation will continue to facilitate training as well as to provide external advisors to assist the DMD.

Humanitarian Values

Given the increasing incidence of domestic violence and crime in 2003 as well as the instability related to the political situation in the country, there has continued to be a need for effective promotion of humanitarian values and the dissemination of the principles of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement. Moreover, following the development of the CRC strategic plan (2003-2010), there has been a renewed impetus to better communicate the work of the Cambodian Red Cross. As a result, therefore, in 2003 the Federation provided considerable support – largely in the form of training, workshops and the provision of funds – to the CRC communication department. The department has, through a range of activities been successful in broadening its skill base in dissemination and has continued to reach a range of audiences through the effective use of media. Given the context of Cambodia, however, the work of the communications department is not without its challenges.

Objective

The awareness of humanitarian values in Cambodia is increased.

Achievements

The CRC humanitarian values programme – supported up until end of 2003 by Finnish Red Cross – looks at the dissemination of values but more significantly at the promotion of CRC and its work in the national and international context.

Publications, the use of the Cambodian media – including round table discussions with students and academics – dissemination and the training of Red Cross volunteers formed the basis for raising national awareness of humanitarian values as well as the role of the CRC in 2003.

The production of more than 15,000 copies of publications including the new CRC strategic plan, an information kit, a monthly newsletter, a desk calendar and abbreviated versions of the World Disasters Report, have helped stakeholders to receive key messages. This has been complimented by the design of a CRC website that will be launched in 2004.

Training in 2003 focused at two levels - training and development of CRC headquarters staff and activities in for example advocacy (a one day workshop was facilitated by the Federation and Australian Red Cross) and in communication, as well as training of 250 CRC volunteers and branch staff in dissemination. In addition 750 university students from four universities, 500 government officials, and 200 factory workers joined training sessions on the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

Following the drafting of a communication policy in May 2003, the Federation supported a workshop to help develop communication activities. While the production of regular stories for the Federation website and the

development of a CRC website resulted from the workshop, due to wider internal challenges, the working group to follow up the workshop has not yet become fully effective.

Constraints

Measuring the impact of the programme remains a challenge for CRC. The need to develop measurable indicators that demonstrate behaviour change, adoption of values and wider understanding will require greater focus in 2004. Further challenges link directly with issues raised through the strategic planning process: the need for effective management to follow-up important initiatives (such as the training in advocacy) and the development of a strategy, with buy-in from the full management team, to address any negative perceptions of CRC in what is a highly charged political context.

Organisational Development

Following the drafting of the new CRC Strategy 2003-2010 in June 2003 there has been a renewed interest in organisational development (OD) from the CRC management and governance. Despite the demands of the national elections, a number of activities – such as the regional study tours and human resource study – have been successfully implemented. Having been adopted by the CRC leadership, the strategy now forms the basis for the future development of CRC as a key civil society organisation in Cambodia. Through a series of regional workshops the strategy has been shared and discussed with all branches and was used as the framework for a planning workshop in December to develop the CRC 2004 operational plan and budget. In the meantime, following the commitment in December by the CRC leadership to establish a human resource department, in early 2004 the CRC leadership is expected to provide the mandate for a change management team. The team in-turn will draft a timeframe to effect the necessary change. After-all it is now widely acknowledged that the ability of the leadership to lead the organisation towards its stated strategic goals will have a significant impact on capacity and profile of CRC in the coming years.

Objective

The capacity of CRC to implement sustainable programmes through headquarters and branch level structures has significantly increased.

Achievements

The drafting of the new CRC strategy was undoubtedly the key achievement in 2003. The future of the programmes described in this report will certainly depend on the ability of the CRC leadership to follow up on their commitment identified in the document. However, since this landmark event, the Federation and partner national societies (PNS) have supported CRC in the following areas:

- **Youth** – the new youth policy and guidelines were adopted and disseminated to all 24 branches. This was followed by a training of trainers' course for 212 youth advisors in 18 branches. The CRC also hosted a youth delegation from Korea and Hong Kong, attended the regional youth meeting in Manila and visited Vietnam to study the youth activities. However, youth activities continue to be somewhat ad hoc and linked to one or two programmes such as HIV/AIDS and landmine awareness; moreover, there continues to be a requirement to recruit a more appropriate staff member (the position of CRC on this is somewhat ambiguous). However, efforts to develop a relevant and coherent national programme will be intensified in 2004 as findings of the Swedish Red Cross/Federation regional study of youth are published (expected first quarter 2004).
- **Volunteer Management** – Following a tour to Vietnam where a CRC team studied the situation of Red Cross volunteers, a volunteer needs assessment has been conducted in ten provinces in Cambodia. This study is expected to cast some light on the future of volunteers in Cambodia and is expected to lead to the development of a policy and the associated guidelines.
- **Governance and Management** – the CRC OD focal person (1st vice-president) having participated in a Federation OD training workshop in Spain presented his experience to the governing board (central committee) as well as to directors and staff. In addition a team from the CRC management and governance travelled to the Philippines to learn from the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) and one staff attended the regional OD forum in Bangkok and the subsequent forum in Siem Reap, Cambodia. Moreover, there is a

growing need to orientate the members of the central committee as to the role and functions of a governing body.

- **Resource development** – during the year the CRC fundraising team successfully mobilised contributions in cash and kind to the value of US\$ 67,000 (US\$ 20,000 through membership fees). A study team travelled to Thailand and the Philippines to look into fundraising and resource generation; this is a move that has further encouraged CRC to promote further fundraising through its most dynamic branches. In addition a feasibility study for revenue generation and fundraising in nine provinces recommended to maximise fundraising opportunities as well as membership and to approach business based revenue generation with some caution. Moreover, the study proposed that CRC hire a suitably qualified revenue generation manager. In the meantime, funding limitations have forced CRC headquarters to end salary support to the branches; however, CRC intends to offer further technical advice – such as training in planning, reporting and income generation – to provide the branches with the necessary skills to sustain the current administration and services.
- **Branch Development** - In 2002 CRC drafted a branch development strategy; however, it has not been adopted by the organisation. Following the drafting of the overall CRC strategy in 2003, a renewed commitment to branch development has led to a comprehensive assessment of branch capacities. This information will be consolidated – by the newly appointed branch development focal point – in early 2004. In turn and given the capacity, a new branch development strategy will be developed. It is expected that the strategy will be based on a model used by the PNRC. The model encourages branches to compete in their development and categorises them on the basis of their ability to raise funds, deliver services, mobilise youth and volunteers as well as on their leadership and performance. Support is then given to the branches on basis of the gaps in capacities.
- **Human Resource Development** – a staff development assessment of the CRC staff – in terms of their knowledge, abilities and practices – was conducted during September. Following the presentation of the report to the senior management and to the central committee in late December, it is expected that this report will lead to a human resource development strategy. HR challenges remain one of the biggest facing CRC.
- **Planning Process** - the project planning process has been introduced at the branch level to initiate a bottom-up planning process that will lead to a consolidated annual plan. Assuming an appropriate allocation of resources, then plan should be developed in early 2004.

Constraints

While being part of, and then committing to, the strategic planning process, the degree of reform identified in the strategic plan has presented new challenges to the senior leadership. As can be expected in any such change process where human resources (HR) are a key consideration (many staff have been loyal to CRC since being appointed in 1979), change needs to be managed in a considered, transparent and professional way. The CRC change management team will therefore continue to require the support of the Federation and its partners in, for instance, setting in place strategies to deal with re-structuring and HR reform.

Federation Coordination

Since the activities of this programme were developed in late 2002, CRC has developed a new strategic plan (2003-2010). While the five-year plan has, therefore, become superfluous, the expected results identified in the Appeal 2003 remain relevant. Overall coordination and cooperation have improved in 2003 and this is largely due to the widespread support by CRCs partners for the strategic planning process. However, further progress to articulate a CAS between the partners is likely to be largely determined by the degree of commitment of the leadership to the CRC strategic plan.

Objective

CRC has the sustained and coordinated support of Red Cross Red Crescent partners in implementing its five-year development plan.

Achievements

Following the development of the CRC strategic plan, a collective sense of ownership of the development process has emerged. However, while this remains fragile and the continued alignment will depend very much on CRCs leadership towards its stated goals, partners value the frankness and openness of the change process. A further factor that has contributed to this improved sense of ‘joint strategy’ is the renewed assurance by a number of PNS to align their activities with those of CRC.

In addition to the monthly coordination meetings held between CRC, the Federation and PNS partners established in 2002, steering committees for projects supported by specific donors such as HIV/AIDS (OPEC Fund grant) and primary health care (Danish Red Cross) have catalysed enhanced cooperation. In addition to these forums the Federation meets CRC on a weekly basis and joins the CRC monthly management meetings.

Other initiatives in 2003 that have contributed to enhanced coordination have included:

- The extension of service agreements with all Cambodia based PNS;
- The contribution of funding for the OD programme by locally based PNS (Australian and Danish Red Cross);
- An agreement by the Red Cross partners to make more effective use of common resources (American Red Cross has scaled down their staff and will instead use the services offered by the Federation);
- A partnership meeting with all key Red Cross partners held in October 2003;
- The inclusion of PNS activities through articles placed on the Federation website;
- PNS support for one-off initiatives (for instance the British Red Cross support for the CBDP evaluation);
- The agreement by Danish Red Cross to post a fully funded OD delegate in the Federation delegation in 2004;
- A tripartite agreement between Federation, CRC and Korean National Red Cross;
- The brokering of funding relationships jointly by the Federation and PNS to support CRC.

The Federation has continued to advocate for greater involvement of the PNS in the regional networks as well as with the regional delegation; it is expected that in 2004 greater progress will be made with this initiative. The delegation is also coordinating with the ICRC regional office for, inter alia, to harmonise planning for 2004.

In line with Federation commitment to advocate on behalf of the wider Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, the following is a brief summary of the activities of the PNS and ICRC in 2003:

Red Cross Partners	Activities
American	In the four northeast provinces AmCross supported CRC in a safe drinking water project to distribute up to 6,000 household water filters. AmCross is also partnering with Mekong River Commission to support the CRC in a pilot flood early warning programme. Beginning in limited areas south of the capital, this project is planned to expand through Cambodia in 2004 and to neighboring countries. Due to difficulties in obtaining funding needed to support its 12-year-old programme in assistance to landmine and other disabled persons in Cambodia, Amcross ended its support to the physical rehabilitation center in Kompong Speu province. In late 2003, Amcross secured funds from the World Bank (development marketplace) to extend the project of water filter production.
Australian	The long term Australian Red Cross (ARC) supported HIV/AIDS work continued through 2003; however it is likely that the level of ARC technical support will be scaled back in 2004. The HIV/AIDS work was complemented by support provided by ARC to the CRC OD process.
Belgium	In 2003 Belgium Red Cross (BRC) assisted CRC in the procurement of non-food relief items to the value of EUR 350,000.
British	British Red Cross (BRCS) drafted a five-year agreement with CRC during late 2003. BRCS have continued to work directly with CRC to support a health care project in two provinces as well to support disaster management and organisational development through the Federation delegation.
Danish	The implementation of the Danish Red Cross (DRC) supported CRC health care project in Kampot and Siem Reap provinces (eight villages) began in 2003. The project will be initially for a five-year period. Key milestones during the year have included base line surveys, the selection of nine volunteers in each of eight villages, the equipping of the health centers, CRC building renovation and the provision of water supply. DRC also continued to support the OD process (through the Federation).
Finnish	After years of substantial support, Finnish Red Cross announced that it would end its current support to CRC OD and humanitarian values in 2004. FRC will continue to support landmine awareness.

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French	In line with their long-term agreement, French Red Cross (FRC) continued to support the CRC ambulance programme in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap up to 31 December 2003. However, due to a lack funds CRC were not able to continue the Phnom Penh operation (budgeted at an estimated US\$ 60,000 per year). The Siem Reap ambulance was handed over the MoH. In June 2003, the FRC two-year health and care project in Kampong Cham came to an end. In 2004 FRC will focus on a water sanitation project in Oddar Meanchey, an HIV/AIDS project funded through the GFATM and will consider opportunities to strengthen the capacity of CRC.
Hong Kong	During early 2003 the Hong Kong branch of the Red Cross of China began the first year of support to the CRC CDBP programme. The Hong Kong team, who has been actively engaged with CRC and the Federation in supporting the programme, sent a team of RCV to visit the programme in mid 2003.
Korea	The Korean Red Cross (KNRC) has been supporting the CRC blood donor recruitment (BDR) project since July 2002. The project, to be implemented in two phases, will continue to July 2005 and has in 2003 brought about a 61.20% increase in external donors compared to the same period of the previous year.
New Zealand	In 2003 New Zealand Red Cross (NZRC) supported the CRC dengue fever project. Making a commitment of funds for 2-3 years (and complemented by CIDA funds) this support has help lay the foundation of this important national initiative. Discussions are underway for NZRC to expand its support to water and sanitation in 2004.
Swedish	Swedish Red Cross (SRC) has supported the OD programme for many years. As part of a longer-term commitment, in 2003 SRC extended their support to the HIV/AIDS project.
Swiss	In early 2003 Swiss Red Cross, in cooperation with CRC municipal branch, provided health care services to internally displaced people at the re-settlement site of Anlong Korng (outside Phnom Penh). SRC are currently considering a further expansion of their work in healthcare in 2004.
ICRC	With a reduction of about 12% in mine/UXO casualties ICRC has continued its joint programme with the Ministry of Social Affairs to produce 5,314 prosthetic kits, 1,846 orthotic uprights and 4,460 walking aids. The orthopedic team conducted 21 outreach visits during which 1,790 patients were assessed and more than 1,000 prostheses repaired. People arrested in relation with previous conflict or with current security issues have been followed-up by ICRC. Some 18 visits were conducted in 11 provincial prisons or correctional centers. Ad-hoc distributions of hygiene items were organised in most places. ICRC support to the CRC tracing service continued. More than 9,400 family messages were collected in 2003 (4,900 from detainees). ICRC also provided technical and financial support to the CRC communications department in order to expand its capacity in dissemination and the promotion of international humanitarian law.

Constraints

Given the plan to have a CAS developed by end 2004 it will be critical in 2004 to see a comprehensive commitment by CRC to implement its strategic plan. Any delays in this could impact on streamlining coordination in Cambodia.

International Representation

Since the early 1990's the Federation and CRC have enjoyed a high profile in Cambodia. In 2003, however, with the completion of the new strategic plan that identified the need for CRC to better promote its services and to develop its relationship with key stakeholders – especially the international community – the Federation has supported initiatives intended to build CRC capacity in communication and advocacy. In addition by attending regional and national forums as well as be engaging with key donors and organisations, the Federation delegation has sought to influence the humanitarian agenda in the country.

Objective

CRC and Federation have leading roles in national and international fora respectively.

Achievements

The CRC Strategy 2003-2010 identified two important opportunities - to strengthen the relationship between CRC and the 'international community' and to better promote the image and services of the organisation. The Federation has therefore sought to build the capacity of CRC through, for instance, supporting a workshop on advocacy and a 'think-tank' on communication. While it is expected that enhanced skills in advocacy should contribute to more effective lobbying and positioning of the Red Cross in Cambodia, the key output in 2003 was the production of more appropriate publications for widespread distribution. Recognising that this helped to, *inter alia*, raise awareness of the impact of disasters on rural livelihoods through a published pamphlet, further substantial progress by CRC in advocacy will require both further training and the development of a clear advocacy plan.

The 2003 objectives included accessing funds from the Social Fund of Cambodia and participating in the country coordination committee of the GFATM. The former objective was not achieved, as the government did not extend the initiative into 2003; however, CRC and Federation attended the GFATM meeting with both CRC and the French Red Cross accessing funds from the three funding rounds. Additional resources were also mobilised through the Canadian government (CIDA) and from New Zealand Red Cross. The situation of food security in Cambodia was further studied through regular participation at the food security meeting coordinated by the Council for Agricultural Development (CARD) and in 2004, the Federation will, if necessary, commission a study on the relationship between disaster and food security.

Additional achievements in strengthening the profile of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and developing advocacy-based activities in Cambodia included the following:

- Co-supporting events on International Women's Day, World AIDS Day and World Red Cross Red Crescent Day;
- Participating in an international seminar organized by the ECHO on water in emergencies.
- Initiating discussions with UNHCR on the possibility of holding a Reach Out workshop in 2004;
- Lobbying the government and major donors (including Asian Development Bank, Swedish SIDA, AusAID and the World Bank) to strengthen the National Committee for Disaster Management;
- Attending the National Conference of Food Security and advocating for greater research into the linkages between disasters and food security;
- Establishing a national level structure (with WHO and CNM) on dengue fever control;
- Facilitating the Humanitarian Accountability Project (HAP);
- Developing a paper on humanitarian coordination for the UN Inter-Agency Standing Committee;
- Supporting the steps to develop a CRC website.

Constraints

The national level elections, the extended period of time taken to develop the CRC strategic plan as well as the need to strengthen CRC skills in representation, has limited the engagement of CRC in international representation. However, with the expected launching the strategic plan in early 2004, CRC commitment for significant HR reform in 2004 and the Federation committing to a Reach Out workshop (on refugee protection) as well as workshops to engage with key stakeholders on disaster management, 2004 will provide considerable opportunities to profile the Movement and to move advocacy themes forward.