

# 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

## EAST TIMOR

14 May 2004

### In Brief

Appeal No. 01.60/03; Appeal target: CHF 626,738 (USD 428,885 or EUR 425,695); Appeal coverage: 47%

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

*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 East Timor Appeal for 2003 had six programmes: health and care, disaster management, humanitarian values, organisational development, federation coordination and international representation.

Cruz Vermelha Timor Leste (CVTL) made clear progress in health, although facing difficult challenges. Some progress was also made in organisational development, whereas the other programme activities were seriously hampered by lack of funding.

CVTL was without the support of a Federation representative from early June to mid October. A fledgling national society, CVTL is dependant on active Federation support, and parts of the programme's work, particularly in organisational development (OD), were negatively affected during this period.

The CVTL leadership has, however, kept its spirit and optimism. Huge amounts of after office hours are spent on introduction and training for volunteers, whose numbers keep increasing. One tangible illustration of the CVTL



spirit is a very active and progressive health programme; another, the fact that two new branch offices were established in 2004.

An important issue was the development of a Plan of Action for recognition in 2005. A two-member team from ICRC and the Federation did an assessment of CVTL's current situation and the action required to reach the goal. The team's findings resulted in a Plan of Action, passed by CVTL's provisional board after a participatory process with staff and volunteers. The Plan of Action also revealed a need for strengthened Federation support, and the regional delegation found that the East Timor delegation should be strengthened with an OD delegate early in 2004.

CVTL's relationship with its partners saw a positive development in 2003 and towards the end of the year there was increasing interest in the East Timor Appeal as well as bilateral cooperation.

There is, however, still a need for appeal programme funding for 2004.

The East Timorese government, represented by the Minister of Health, appreciates CVTL's progress in the fields of first aid and HIV/AIDS and sees an important role for CVTL as health educators in communities. During 2003, CVTL has grown to more than 1,000 volunteers, and aims at developing a strong community-based first aid programme.

The process of developing laws of recognition and emblem protection has progressed but the laws were not passed in 2003 and the dialogue with the government will continue in 2004.

CVTL received no funding for its disaster management programme for 2002, but decided to include a programme in the 2003 Appeal as frequent disasters - floods, storms and drought - remain a humanitarian challenge.

## **Objectives, Achievements and Constraints**

### **Health and Care**

**Overall Goal: To improve the general health condition of the East Timorese population, particularly vulnerable groups.**

**Programme Objective: To enhance the capacity of CVTL to deliver quality health services to the most vulnerable in the communities through the establishment of a professional and effective health department.**

#### **Expected result 1**

The health condition of the rural population in three districts is improved through the provision of clean water, sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion.

#### **Achievements**

The water and sanitation programme (wat/san), supported by the Australian Red Cross Society and CWSSP, an Australian agency mandated to coordinate watsan projects for the government, continued in Bobonaro Suai, Ermera and Liquisa. Hygiene information/training was given to the communities in Suai and Bobonaro by two trained volunteers.

A three-day first aid session was organised for 22 community members in July in Tibar village, Liquisa. CVTL received additional requests for water supply from more than 50 communities but decided that, apart from a community-based first aid (CBFA)/watsan pilot project to be launched in Edy in 2004, more focus will be given to rehabilitation of old water supply systems, combined with CBFA.

#### **Constraints**

While two teams were engaged throughout the year, the third team was hampered for several months by lack of funding, a problem that was solved at the end of the year.

In the longer term, CVTL wish to scale down from three teams to one, given the financial responsibility. It was therefore decided, in conjunction with CWSSP, to start a process to help two teams become either an NGO or a company, or to join existing ones.

### **Impact**

A total of 734 families - approximately 5,000 people - were provided with access to pure water. Hygiene training was provided to 60 families, and CBFA/hygiene training to 395.

### **Expected result 2**

A fully-fledged first aid curriculum is developed, including community services.

### **Achievements**

The first aid manual was reviewed and recommended for revision. It was decided that, for the time being, Indonesian material will be used, as the Tetun language is missing sufficient medical/technical terms. First aid curricula have been developed/adapted for various groups, subject to qualifications.

Two headquarters health staff were trained in programme design, planning and development.

CVTL regularly publicised articles on health issues in East Timor's only magazine for children, Lafaek (also read by adults).



**Volunteers practicing first aid**

A six-day CBFA training course for 16 volunteers was held in August. An intensive two-week first aid training course for 25 volunteers was held November, and a five-day first aid training-of-trainers (ToT) in December. The national headquarters health department had identified beforehand key health volunteers with sufficient potential and/or qualifications at branch level, with a view to later implementation of first aid and CBFA programmes in the field. Six volunteers qualified as first aid trainers and seven as assistant trainers. All participants were helped to develop plans of action for use of their skills in the community. CVTL developed a plan to follow up on the volunteers' training and community activities with coaching and repeated training.

Headquarters health staff visited branches several times for monitoring and preparation of training.

CVTL volunteers provided basic first aid training to a number of schools, communities and international organisations, as well as other volunteers in various districts.

CVTL volunteers in Dili, Same, Ainaro, Manatutu and Maliana organised first aid and health education sessions in the communities.

On the East Timor Defense Force celebration (five days) in Waimori in August, 27 CVTL volunteers provided support to government doctors. First aid and basic health care for 3,000 people were provided at a community health centre and at two mobile units, while emergency patients were referred to the Baucau Hospital. More than 60 volunteers offered first aid services at public/sports events. The number of requests from the government exceeded the capacity.

### **Constraints**

Selecting qualified participants for CBFA training appeared difficult due to the level of qualifications among the volunteers. Basic knowledge on primary health care is in general very limited in East Timor, and the volunteers reflect this situation. This necessitates adjustments of curricula. The originally planned CBFA ToT course in August was changed to a CBFA introductory course. Only the three best participants from this training were found to be qualified for later ToT.

Knowledge of English among volunteers is limited. Inviting Palang Merah Indonesia (PMI) trainers to conduct training in Bahasa proved successful, as all participants understand Bahasa Indonesia.

CVTL needs more support/training on programme development and general health programme management.

### **Impact**

- CVTL's health programme was strengthened, with enhanced capacity to plan, organise and follow up on health activities.
- The national headquarters health department has developed and shown the capacity to identify key health volunteers at branch level for training, and to support/follow up on implementation of first aid and CBFA activities in the field.
- A high level of health training activities have been established in CVTL and the volunteers are highly motivated to learn.
- The volunteers have also shown initiative and capability in using their skills in the field.
- A core group of volunteers who received ToT (16) now have experience in planning and implementing their own activities.
- 700 people in the districts and some 300 members of NGOs received basic information on first aid.
- An unknown number of people received first aid assistance at various public events.
- 125,000 youth received information on first aid and the Red Cross Movement through "Lafaek".

### **Expected result 3**

HIV/AIDS awareness activities reach out to all sectors of the community and particularly young people.

### **Achievements**

CVTL held four workshops (2-3 days each) on HIV/AIDS for volunteers in the branches.

In October, 22 volunteers (13 male and 9 female) from eight districts were trained in a three-day HIV/AIDS Youth Peer Education workshop by experienced trainers from PMI. Training material and manuals were partly a gift from PMI.

On World Red Cross/Red Crescent Day a big number of volunteers distributed HIV/AIDS brochures.

The government appointed CVTL as coordinating agency for World AIDS Day in December. CVTL staged a big arrangement at a stadium in Dili with the Prime Minister and Minister of Health as guests, offering entertainment/theatre play on HIV, etc. Countrywide, all the volunteers (1,000 plus) were involved in a seven-day programme, including games, presentations and distribution of brochures and umbrellas with AIDS slogans, all supported by Family Health International, ICRC and local communities.

Two headquarters health staff attended the 15<sup>th</sup> ART (Asian Red Cross and Red Crescent Task Force on HIV/AIDS) Network Meeting and Strategic Planning Workshop as observers in Bali, gaining experience in presentation as well as strategic planning.

CVTL's health coordinator participated regularly in national HIV/AIDS coordination meetings, facilitated by Family Health International

### **Constraints**

- Logistics is a dissemination constraint, as many habitations are scattered/inaccessible, the road network is poor, and the volunteers have no means of transportation.
- People's understanding of HIV/AIDS is generally low in East Timor.
- Use of contraceptives is a sensitive issue.
- Communication/publications related to World AIDS Day showed room for improvement. Better internal communication in the planning process is needed, as well as a better use of media to spread information to the public.

### **Impact**

- CVTL has contributed to making HIV/AIDS a subject of interest and discussion while the country still has a low prevalence of HIV/AIDS.
- CVTL has gained importance as a partner in HIV/AIDS work, in relation to both government and civilian organisations.
- Basic knowledge on HIV/AIDS has begun reaching people in the districts.

## **Disaster Management**

**Overall Goal:** To reduce the impact of natural and man-made disasters on the most vulnerable people in East Timor.

**Programme Objective:** To identify a role and a basic foundation, and develop capacity for CVTL to respond to disasters accordingly.

### **Expected result 1**

CVTL develops a strategic plan for disaster management

#### **Achievements**

- No strategic plan was developed.
- Three staff members attended a disaster management (DM) planning workshop in June/July, and the CVTL DM officer participated in regional disaster response training in Bangkok in May and Jawa in July. Two staff members participated in the Regional Disaster Management Committee meeting in Bangkok in July.
- A disaster manual, as well as laws relating to international disaster response, were translated from English to Tetun.
- Training was held by CVTL staff for 20 volunteers in Maliana and Same.
- Monthly meetings were held with NDMO, the government's national disaster response unit.
- Despite the lack of support in 2003, CVTL decided to plan a small but constructive DM programme for 2004.

#### **Constraints**

To develop a DM strategy, CVTL needs more Federation support than what has been available in East Timor. A DM strategy must also be seen in the context of an overall long-term strategy, which CVTL aims at developing in 2004.

Total lack of Appeal funding prevented a proper CVTL disaster programme.

CVTL's disaster stock is very small.

#### **Impact**

There was an increase of DM capacity at headquarters level, and moderate capacity increases at two branches.

### **Expected result 2**

CVTL has initiated community-based pilot projects.

#### **Achievements**

No community-based pilot projects were initiated.

#### **Constraints**

No funding.

#### **Impact**

No impact.

## **Humanitarian Values**

**Overall Goal: To heighten awareness of, and support for, the promotion of humanitarian values in East Timor.**

**Programme Objective: To develop a sound and effective communications function, based on the plans prepared in June 2002, for CVTL.**

### **Expected result 1**

Internal and external communication systems and structures are enhanced in CVTL.

### **Achievements**

A simple website was established with ICRC's assistance.

A number of headquarters staff and branch coordinators were provided with mobile phones.

An internal CVTL meeting structure was established for exchange of information/coordination.

### **Constraints**

Lack of funding was a constraint.

Lack of IT knowledge prevented further development/update of the website.

### **Impact**

Communication internally in CVTL and between headquarters and branches was improved. Some information became available on the internet.

### **Expected result 2**

CVTL develops solid relations with local media, communities, external partners and stakeholders.

### **Achievements**

Progress was made in the development of relations with partners within the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement, international organisations and the government.

Negotiations started with local radio on broadcast of health subjects.

### **Constraints**

As with the DM programme, the lack of funds and absence of a Federation representative have prevented progress.

CVTL has no communications officer.

### **Impact**

Due to lack of funding, this programme has been removed from the Appeal for 2004. However, humanitarian values activities will be part of OD.

## **Organisational Development**

**Overall Goal: To ensure CVTL makes measurable progress towards establishment and recognition as a fully-fledged national society within three years and undertakes a visible role in the humanitarian sector in East Timor.**

**Programme Objective: To ensure the basic foundation, adequately resourced, has been laid to enable the creation of a sound National Red Cross Society in East Timor.**

### **Expected result 1**


There is clear and significant progress towards the development of CVTL as a well functioning national society.

#### **Achievements**

A new branch office was established in Oecusse in August, bringing the total number of branches outside Dili up to four.

A branch building in sub-branch Ailieu, funded by the Singapore Red Cross Society, was completed in July.

A joint ICRC/Federation team did an assessment of CVTL's current situation and capacity in December, and helped CVTL develop a Plan of Action towards possible recognition as a member of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in 2005. The plan includes:

- A national meeting including representatives from the board, headquarters and branches.
  - Establishment of an implementation working group that will help establish membership and later assist with local elections.
  - Establishment of a statutory working group, which will draft statutes in a participatory process with the branches.
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- Establishment of a strategic planning working group that will draft a four-year strategy, also based on a participatory process.

**Branch building in Ailieu**

The plan covers a period of two years, specifying all measures required to reach the level of recognition in 2005.

OD training/dissemination sessions were held for staff and volunteers.

The draft Red Cross Recognition Law and Emblem Law were submitted to the government.

#### **Constraints**

CVTL is not yet formally established in accordance with the Federation's statutes which is a handicap in terms of decision making and planning and renders great importance to the Plan of Action.

A Federation representative was missing from June to October. This absence hampered OD progress.

CVTL's financial base is a serious problem, in that the organisation has a relatively high number of staff since an early transfer of ICRC employees in 2002, but without adequate sources of income. Income generation showed decline as the training room and mechanic's workshop brought in less income for the national society.

#### **Impact**

There was progress towards laying the foundation for a well functioning national society, but much remains to be done.

### **Expected result 2**

CVTL has in place appropriate management structures and skills.

#### **Achievements**

The health department and the tracing unit are established and functioning.

The secretary general participated in a programme planning and management workshop in Jakarta in August.

The structure of headquarters is still under development.

### **Constraints**

CVTL's financial problems pose a serious constraint, as the continued employment of key personnel is threatened.

### **Impact**

The skills of CVTL management have been enhanced, as is the capacity to develop and adjust structures. Federation support is still important.

### **Expected result 3**

Financial and resource development systems are introduced to underpin sustainability.

### **Achievements**

CVTL's financial management system is in place. A national fundraising/income generation workshop, funded by the Swedish Red Cross Society, was planned for 2003 but deferred to March 2004.

### **Constraints**

CVTL did not have the support required to address resource development challenges.

### **Impact**

CVTL's financial management functions well technically. Overall long-term finance planning is needed.

### **Expected result 4**

Red Cross youth and volunteer groups are established in Dili and the branches.

### **Achievements**

Volunteer groups were established in Viqueque, Los Palos, Manatuto, Aileu and Oecusse. The total number of volunteers passed 1,000.

Most branches and sub-branches have more than 100 volunteers, but the organisation of groups is still to take place. A decision of the organisation, including volunteers, will be part of the Plan of Action.

### **Constraints**

The branches do not have staff/volunteers that can follow up on volunteer activities.

### **Impact**

The increased number of volunteers has increased CVTL's geographical coverage. The activity level is increasing in the branches, even if more support to the branches is needed.

## **Federation Coordination**

**Overall Goal: To enhance cooperation and communication between CVTL and partners.**

**Programme Objective: CVTL and its partners share common goals and objectives.**

### **Expected results**

A cooperation agreement strategy (CAS) for CVTL is developed with buy-in from all partners.

### **Achievements**

No strategy was developed.

Both the PMI and the Federation delegation in Jakarta continued to support CVTL, as did the Bangkok regional delegation.

### **Constraints**

Development of a CAS depends on the development of a CVTL long-term strategy. The Board, which today consists of only 3-5 committed members, needs expansion and a strengthened mandate for this process to start. The national meeting mentioned earlier aims to meet this need.

### **Impact**

No impact achieved.

## **International Representation**

**Overall Goal:** CVTL and its partners have leading roles in national and international fora respectively.

**Programme Objective:** To increase international and governmental support for Red Cross/Red Crescent activities in the country, especially for CVTL programmes.

### **Expected result 1**

CVTL and its partners have strengthened their position to work in support of the most vulnerable in East Timor.

### **Achievements**

One CVTL staff member participated in the Youth Directors' Meeting in Manila in September.

The draft Red Cross Recognition Law and Emblem Law process did not proceed further during the period.

Agreement was reached with the Minister of Health on regular contact and exchange of information. It was also agreed that the Ministry would arrange regular coordination meetings for organisations working in health; something that has been missing in East Timor for two years.

International organisations showed increasing interest in cooperating with CVTL, particularly within health.

### **Constraints**

The absence of a Federation representative from June to October constrained activities.

### **Impacts**

Increased appeal funding expected in 2004.

### **Expected result 2**

CVTL's attendance at international events and meetings increases during the period.

### **Achievements**

CVTL participated in a number of international meetings and training sessions.

### **Constraints**

Not many constraints. Active support received from the regional delegation facilitated CVTL's attendance at meetings.

### **Impact**

Progress in adoption of the Red Cross Recognition and Emblem Law by the East Timor government, and development of national society statutes, will bring CVTL closer to its establishment and recognition.