

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

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Date 4 July 2003

Appeal No. 01.67/2003: Appeal Target: CHF 13,370,909 (USD 9.2 million or EUR 9.1 million.)

Programme Update No. 1/2003; Period covered: January – May, 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.

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In Brief

Appeal coverage: 33.4%; See attached Contributions List for details or the Federation's website at: http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual03/1-2-3%20-%20ap016703.pdf

Outstanding needs: CHF 8,905,184

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: N/A

Programme Summary: The Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK Red Cross) continuing distribution of basic essential medications to 1,759 institutions in the Society's operational area led to a 50% reduction in patient recovery time, and the need for patient referrals by as much as 70%. By the end of the reporting period, SARS prevention had become a primary concern, and Federation delegates were involved in joint initiatives with the WHO and the DPRK Ministry of Public Health to develop in country barrier care expertise.

The Water and Sanitation Programme was delayed, and has certain activities have been extended by five months to be able to implement the wastewater collection and sanitation components of the programme.

In March 2003, the main objectives for the 2001 - 2002 Disaster Preparedness/Disaster Response Programme were met, when most of the disaster preparedness stock was replenished following the 2002 floods operation. The programme's impact was clearly demonstrated by the Society's short response time, and efficient distribution of relief items in response to the 2002 floods.

The Organizational Development Programme continued during the first months of the year using unspent funds from 2002. When funds became available, lack of human resources and travel restrictions due to the SARS epidemic imposed serious constraints on programme implementation.

The DPRK Red Cross is regarded as an important organisation in DPRK by most of the international organisations. The Society is benefitting from the continued support from the European Union embassies in Pyongyang. This support has been of special value in relation to the SARS situation, and to assess the humanitarian situation on the Korean Peninsula.

Operational developments

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK) political and economic situation, deriving from the events at the end of 2002, has not had any direct impact on the Red Cross Society of the DPRK's (DPRK Red Cross) operations so far. The provision of government backing to the health sector remains the same, although a 13%

increase in the annual budget signals the intent to intensify support. International aid remains the primary source of health sector support to maintain the progress that has been seen to date. The report from the October 2002 Nutrition Survey by UNICEF, WHO and the DPRK Ministry of Public Health, released in February shows an improvement in the nutritional status from 1998 but the risk remains high.

A review of the Red Cross Health and Care Programme was conducted in March, as a follow-up to the October 2001 Health Review, to assess the progress of the programme against the initial recommendations, and suggest future directions. The final report has just been received, but initial findings include the ongoing need for drug distribution, with potential expansion at a more community based level, and further impact oriented involvement in the community based health promotion.

Further cooperation with international agencies was fostered with the subcontracting of the DPRK Red Cross training staff to deliver the waterborne disease workshops, as developed by the Red Cross for the Concern Worldwide project. Regional initiatives were furthered with the lending of two Federation DPRK delegates to the Mongolian Red Cross Society for First Aid Master Training and programme development/capacity enhancement during the last two weeks of April.

The Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) epidemic in China poses a real threat of spreading to the DPRK. Without disposable medical supplies for barrier protection, and given the deteriorated infrastructure of health care facilities, control of any infectious disease will be difficult. Joint cooperation among the international agencies and the DPRK Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) to primarily prevent, and secondarily prepare to care for SARS patients has been lead by the WHO. Federation health delegates have been involved in assessing facility capacity and have undertaken the training of DPRK health staff in barrier care techniques, utilizing WHO disposable supplies which have been made available. The launch of an emergency appeal for SARS preparedness is anticipated to be a major undertaking in the first months of the next period. By end of May there were no reported case of SARS in DPRK.

The impact of the SARS epidemic on operations in DPRK, as of the end of May delayed the implementation of the Health and Care programmes by approximately six weeks. Prevention training is expected to increase the health promotion workload, at a time when the number of delegates in country is reduced. Mass quarantine of persons arriving from abroad has created a medical situation that is still not resolved. Human resources for both regular operations and the expanded role for SARS prevention has been seriously lacking throughout May, and even if signals of a somewhat easier situation to be established from beginning of June, full operational capacity can not be restored until at earliest mid June. The greatest impact is on the water and sanitation programme, which is heavily dependent on implementation in relatively short seasons when human resources in the communities are available.

Health and care

The continued distribution of basic essential medications to 1,759 out of 1,762 institutions in the DPRK Red Cross's operational area provided at least 81% of the Western medications available for patient care, reducing patient recovery time by 50%, and the need for referrals by up to 70%. The three provincial hospitals comprising the last of the 1,762 supported institutions do not have Household Doctor departments, and do not receive basic kits.

The Health promotion curriculum revision was largely (80%) completed, nine community-based first aid masters and eight trainers trained to initiate the first aid instruction for 220 volunteers, and community health training commenced with the seasonal issues of waterborne diseases and malaria prevention. By the end of the period, SARS prevention had become a primary concern and the Federation delegates were involved in the joint initiatives of WHO and the DPRK MoPH to develop in country barrier care expertise. Funding of the total Health and Care budget stands at 90% with all quarters of both basic and supplementary essential medicine kits secured for 2003.

While a health review recommended that drug distribution monitoring might be diminished, ECHO has made it clear that less monitoring for their projects is not an option and would prefer to suspend projects rather than support that move. This will have a major impact on the upcoming distributions of supplementary kits (expected in June)

and potentially the third quarter basic kits (expected in July), unless the travel and transport restrictions are changed in June.

Overall Goal: Improve the health and well being of vulnerable women, men and children in three provinces and one municipality (North Pyongan, South Pyongan, Jagang, and Kaesong).

Objective: Strengthened capacity of at least 1,762 institutions (provincial, county, city, industrial, Ri hospitals and clinics, poly-clinics) in three provinces and one municipality with provision of medical relief items so that the vulnerable have access to basic health care services.

Expected Result: By the end of 2004, all supported health institutions are able to provide basic medical services to their catchment populations, including provision of essential drugs and improved diagnostic and monitoring capacity.

Progress:

1,515 safe delivery kits and 1,750 household doctor kits, including stethoscopes and sphygmomanometers, were distributed in the operational area in January, strengthening the diagnostic and care capacity of the staff at the supported institutions. First and second quarter basic drugs were distributed to 1,759 institutions in both January/February, and again in April/May. Primarily antipyretics and drugs targeted for the treatment of infectious diseases, these drugs represent at least 81 % of the Western medications prescribed, and contribute to decreasing the recovery time of patients from an average of 7.6 to 4.1 days, a 46 % improvement as compared to 2001.

Continuance of this support has been planned and secured for the remainder of 2003 with Japanese and New Zealand Red Cross funding, completing the Danish Red Cross/ECHO third quarter supply. These distributions, and an additional distribution of Supplementary hospital kits expected to arrive by end of May, are funded by the 2002 Annual Appeal.

The fourth quarter basic kits will be provided by the Norwegian Red Cross. A Danish Red Cross/ECHO contract for the first, second and third quarter kits for 2004 was signed in the beginning of June. While more funding must be realised, this forward planning positions the Federation/DPRK RC well on the way to achieve the goal of assisting the institutions render basic medical services to the vulnerable to the end of 2004.

Impact:

Covered under progress section.

Constraints:

Assuring that the medicines meet basic Federation standards takes time and has resulted in a slow down of drug distribution activities. Problems continue regarding the low potency Aluminum Hydroxide tablets. The drugs were removed from the basic kits in-country for the first quarter, and by the manufacturer for the second quarter kits. Culminating in a total of four quarters in which no Aluminum Hydroxide has been available as specified. Replacement tablets (5,000 tins) for the third quarter of 2002 arrived in April and were distributed together with the second quarter kits, but since the quantity was not enough, some counties did not receive any replacement yet.

A further problem arose with the delivery of malformed ferrous sulphate tablets in the second quarter kits. The supplier was notified and following pharmaceutical Good Manufacturing Procedures (GMP), the tablets were removed from the kits prior to distribution. Replacements are awaited. The process of removal consumed both time and resources and delayed the finalisation of the distribution by about two weeks. With repeated withdrawals of drugs from kits, and failure to deliver specified drugs, the credibility of the Red Cross essential medicines distribution is becoming an issue in country, which must be considered when choosing future suppliers.

Objective: Improved capacity of the National Society to increase the knowledge of its health workers and volunteers in prevention and care related to community primary health care priorities.

Expected Result: By the end of 2004, 2,180 trained health professionals, community health workers and volunteers of the Red Cross are conducting health promotion in their communities for prevention and care of water-borne diseases, acute respiratory infections and TB, malaria, HIV/AIDS control, aseptic and rational drug use, and safe delivery/breast feeding.

Progress:

The expected result for this objective is currently under review and will be revised shortly. 1,000 health professionals are planned to be trained in 2003, 180 will be trained in the Community Based First Aid (CBFA) programme in 2003, covered by the expected result described below.

The curricula for the workshops have been re-evaluated and where necessary, updated, so that 80 % of revisions are complete in this period. The delivery of ten workshops for malaria has been completed (the last one beginning of June). Waterborne disease workshops have also started, but can only be finalized after the new ECHO Water and Sanitation (WatSan) contract is approved. The 2003 Health Review had a number of recommendations pertaining to the revision of the health promotion activities that will need to be considered over the next period.

Impact:

The impact of training activities in DPRK was extensively discussed during the 2003 Health review. The main conclusion is that the present operational conditions in the country make it extremely difficult to assess the training's impact on the community level.

Constraints:

The SARS situation has already, as of the end of May resulted in a loss of three delegate-months work inside DPRK. If the current quarantine rules continue to be effective throughout June, an additional month will be lost. The current "SARS protection" training project will divert some additional delegate resources from the planned workshop timetable. If a SARS outbreak happens in or close to Pyongyang, an extremely serious situation will occur.

Donor requirements are prohibitive to replacing these international staff by increased number of national staff, and a delayed implementation of the 2003 programme is inevitable, unless compensatory new delegates are allowed to work in DPRK later in the year. A meeting with the donor national societies is planned in June to discuss alternative implementation schedules.

There is no clear programme for HIV/AIDS at this time, and it will not be a priority while SARS remains the immediate threat.

Expected Result: By the end of 2004, 80 per cent of the targeted CBFA posts (510) are functional (basic supplies and manual available and at least two staff) and conducting at least three health education activities per month.

Progress:

The current number of First Aid posts planned to be functional at the end of the current CBFA project, will be revised during the next quarter. The number to bring in during 2004 is not yet determined. Master training for additional instructors and facilitators of CBFA was conducted from 21-24 April. Ten volunteer workshops have been planned over the next four months to bring the total of supported first aid posts to 510 by the end of 2003. Supplies for these posts have been received and are being distributed according to plan.

Monitoring of the health promotion activities of the First Aid posts is currently not reported, but is under consideration.

Impact:

Discussed above.

Constraints:

A CBFA Review, recommended by the 2001 Health Review was to be conducted in August 2003, but with resource constraints arising from acting on the preliminary recommendations of the 2003 Health & Care Review, may now be delayed if the SARS situation in DPRK is continuing to restrict travel to DPRK.

Objective 3: Contribute to sustainable improvements in the health and well being of men, women and children in 80 Ri and Dong communities through the provision of clean water, locally appropriate sanitation facilities and hygiene education by the end of 2003-2004.

Expected Results: A total of 80 per cent of installed water supplies and sanitation systems are operational, utilized and maintained by the community by end of 2004.

Progress:

The Wat/San project is planned to cover 100 villages in the period 2002 – 2004. The 2002 project consists of five villages funded by Swedish Red Cross, and 15 villages funded by ECHO. The ECHO contract has been extended until 15 June 2003, due to a delayed startup of the programme last year.

Installation of all 20 water supply systems for the 2002 project is finished, apart from a few taps still to be delivered and installed. Projects have been handed over to 11 out of the 20 villages up to the end of May 2003. Additional data on water quality has been received between the period of February and December 2002 for the 20 villages (Phase 1) that will be included as an indicator for the impact of the program after analysis. Other activities to meet this objective conducted over the reporting period include:

- Some minor work still has to be finalized for wastewater collecting systems in ten of the villages.
- The Construction of 180 household and 20 triple latrines for health centres was planned, materials ordered and distributed to all locations. Final construction should be finalized by June 15 with the exception of the installation of the stool component that is still pending from China.
- Workshops were done on ecosan latrines and on maintenance of water supply systems in both North and South Pyongan provinces. In the first one, participants were from local branches of the DPRK Red Cross, health staff and volunteers, in the second one branch water technicians, pump house keepers and volunteers.
- Swedish Red Cross/SIDA have approved a 2003 project for ten additional villages to receive water supply systems (10), waste water systems (5) and latrines (at clinics in all villages and for households in five villages). The ten villages were selected according to the new selection criteria agreed on with the DPRK Red Cross. The tendering process for the procurement of materials was initiated and also finalized for the water supply and waster water collecting systems component of the project. Materials for the Swedish Red Cross sanitation component were procured and distributed together with those villages funded by ECHO by the end of May 2003.
- In May, the process was started for the selection of 30 villages for Phase 2 of the project given the predefined selection criteria. Progress has included data supplied by the MoPH on health statistics related to cases of patients admitted to health institutions as a direct result of water borne diseases. A total number of 46 villages exist in the list from which 9 have been visited to check the proposal/request designs.
- The human resource capacity of the DPRK RC Watsan team was increased with the employment of a further two technicians (total of 4) who are based permanently in the field to aid in supervision of the projects as was suggested by the Watsan review.
- Equipment for 8 water quality monitors has been received.

Impact:

People in 20 villages have improved access to safe water supply. We have received health data on water borne disease occurrence in two of the villages included in the program, which showed a significant decrease in waterborne diseases January this year compared to January last year.

It is difficult to assess the impact on the local population on not needing to spend much time carrying water, as the international staff has limited access to interview the beneficiaries. However, it is obvious that the installation of the water supply and sanitation systems has been very much appreciated.

Constraints:

The 2002 WatSan review strongly recommended an increase of the WatSan staff to three delegates and 6 DPRK RC WatSan technicians if the planned 40 village project of 2003 was to be implemented. The approval for this increased number of staff delayed the recruitment process of new WatSan delegates. The programme was thereafter severely affected by SARS prevention travel regulations. The previous Programme Coordinator had just left the country, and only one of the three new WatSan delegates had arrived in-country when the regulations became effective by end of April. The total in country loss of delegate-months is 7; with SARS travel restrictions accounting for more than 3. As these incidents hit one of the two very active seasons for field implementation of the programme, the final conclusions drawn by the donors still remains to be seen. An increased workload by the remaining team has to a certain extent compensated for the delays in staffing of the program.

Two additional Wat/San technicians recruited by the DPRK RC started their work at the end of April. A planned study visit concerning construction and experiences with ecosan latrines, to China of DPRK RC WatSan staff has not been conducted due to SARS travel restrictions.

Coordination:

Has been described in the previous paragraph on operational developments.

Disaster Management

The main objectives for the 2001 - 2002 Disaster Preparedness/Disaster Response Programme was reached by March 2003, when most of the disaster preparedness (DP) stock was replenished following the conclusion of the 2002 floods operation. The Community Based Disaster Preparedness (CBDP) component of the next phase of the programme is ongoing, in this period utilizing unspent funds from 2002. For the next period of the programme, the British Red Cross has pledged a delegate, and funding from DFID for GBP 400,000 for the period 1 June 2003 – 31May 2005 was approved by end of May.

The impact of the programme was clearly demonstrated with the short response time and efficient distribution of relief items in the 2002 floods. Non-food relief items covering the needs for 15,000 families are now stocked in one central and five regional DP warehouses throughout the country. The impact of the risk mapping and mitigation activities in the nine Ris can be assessed only when the next flood hits the area.

Goal: The impact of disasters on the vulnerable population of the DPRK is reduced.

Objective: The Red Cross Society of the DPRK has reinforced its status as a leading organisation in disaster management in the country by strengthening its management capacity in disaster preparedness and response activities and by helping to reduce the vulnerability of communities. It has done this by improving communities' coping mechanisms through a coherent and coordinated disaster preparedness programme in coordination with governmental authorities and other international organisations in the country.

Expected result: The national society strengthened its capacity to effectively prepare for and efficiently respond to natural disasters.

Progress/Achievements

- The national society has drafted a five year (2003-2007) strategic work plan for disaster management, as well as its disaster preparedness and response policies, which are expected to be discussed and approved by a General Assembly scheduled for June 2003.
- DP working groups were formed in North and South Phyongan, Jagang and Kangwon provinces and Kaesong municipality but substantial work remains to be done to make them effective and functional. The DPRK Red Cross arranged a field trip for members of the national and provincial DP working groups to visit CBDP pilot project areas in Dokchon on 30 April. Having looked round the communities, they expressed their satisfaction with the first step taken and, in particular, with the close cooperation between all parties concerned in the community, and agreed to continue supporting this process in the future.

- The Society organised a DM workshop in the South Hwanghae Province in an effort to contribute to reduced risk of loss of human life among people living in flash flood prone areas. Similar workshops are planned to take place in other flood-prone areas.
- Three persons continue to work in the DP/DR department of the DPRK Red Cross to manage Federation-supported and its own DM activities.
- A delegation composed of representatives of the British and Netherlands Red Cross Societies visited the DPRK on 5-12 April to see how the projects funded by them are progressing. Among the issues discussed between the National Society and the delegation was establishing a systematic follow-up and monitoring plan, and indicators to assess the progress and impact of the training and capacity building components at the provincial, city/county and Ri levels. Whilst working for improvement in this area, the DPRK Red Cross officially asked the Federation and PNSs for their support to this end.

In addition, 77 DPRK Red Cross staff and volunteers were trained in disaster management at the following workshops:

- DP master trainers' workshop on 22-23 January in Pyongsong, South Pyongan Province, with the participation of 25 DP master trainers from 4 operational areas.
- DP workshop of the North Pyongan Province on 12-13 March in Kusong City with the participation of 25 DP officers from cities and counties of the province.
- DP workshop of the South Hwanghae Province on 13-14 May in Haeju City with the participation of 27 DP officers from cities and counties of the province.

The contents of the current DP manual were discussed at the above workshops and participants' comments of were collected to revise it during the second half of 2003.

Expected result: The national society ensured adequate and well-managed DPRK Red Cross/Federation's pre-positioning emergency relief stocks appropriate to the immediate emergency needs of vulnerable families.

Progress/Achievements

- The following items were received within the framework of the Appeal 01.38/2002 and the Emergency Appeal 22/02:

| No | Items | January | February | March |
|----|--------------------|---------|----------|-------|
| 1 | WPT | 1008000 | 736000 | |
| 2 | Water containers | 12000 | | |
| 3 | Cooking sets | 3000 | | |
| 4 | FA kits | 390 | | |
| 5 | Blankets | | 44000 | |
| 6 | Dressing materials | | | 300 |

Of these, the following items were distributed:

- 6,037 water containers to victims of the 2002 floods in January
- 1,735 plastic sheeting to victims of the 2002 floods in January
- 3,897 blankets to flood victims in Anju City in February
- 300 boxes of dressing materials to hospitals in flood-affected areas in North and South Phyongan, South Hwanghae Provinces and Kaesong Municipality in March.

With the support of the Federation and PNSs, the Society has managed to preposition the following items at the central and regional DP warehouses as DP stocks:

* Table 1. Relief items prepositioned at warehouses

| No | Warehouse/Item | Blankets | WPT | Plastic sheeting | Cooking sets | Water containers |
|-------|----------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|
| | | 5 pc/family | 300 tabl/fam | 1/family | 1/family | 2/family |
| 1 | Pyongyang | 47321 | 5373290 | 2505 | 5044 | 11960 |
| 2 | Sinuiju | 6474 | 600000 | 2000 | 2000 | 1272 |
| 3 | Wonsan | 4595 | 600000 | 2000 | 2000 | 783 |
| 4 | Kaesong | 5100 | 600000 | 2000 | 2000 | 989 |
| 5 | Huichon | 4959 | 600000 | 2000 | 2000 | 1368 |
| 6 | Chongjin | 5664 | 600000 | 1969 | 1969 | 1438 |
| Total | | 74113 | 8373290 | 12474 | 15013 | 17810 |

The DPRK Red Cross has maintained the current capacity of the central and regional DP warehouses, and held discussions with local authorities to explore the possibility of setting up a new warehouse in Haeju City in order to cover a south-western region. In January and February the Society arranged for the reallocation of relief items from Pyongyang to regional warehouses to increase the warehousing capacity in the capital and provide speedy response to future disasters. The maintenance and running of warehouses has been monitored by the DM and Logistics Departments of the DPRK Red Cross and the Federation Delegation.

The Society has approached the British, Netherlands and other PNSs for support with stockpiling small quantities of relief goods which will allow the DPRK Red Cross to respond to up to four small-scale emergencies per year.

With the pre-positioned relief items in DP warehouses, the Society, in consultation with, and after the approval of, the Federation Delegation, made two small-scale disaster responses in Chongjin, North Hamgyong Province. The local chapter of the Society distributed 200 blankets to an orphanage in Chongjin damaged by a fire, and 136 blankets, 31 cooking sets, 62 water containers and 31 plastic sheeting to 31 families whose houses had been burned down by a fire.

Expected result: The existing nine Ri-level communities in South Phyongan Province has built up their coping mechanism to reduce the impact and mitigate the effects of natural disasters.

Progress/Achievements

- All nine Ri's formed the Community Based Disaster Preparedness (CBDP) committees, which have been actively involved in community disaster preparedness. They have identified their vulnerability, hazards and capacities and worked out a DP action plan with clearly-defined roles and responsibilities of the people concerned.
- The CBDP communities have done a great deal of public awareness campaign and training by making effective use of training materials provided. A total of 350 people were trained at 18 community workshops. The communities identified floods as a main hazard in their respective areas and did the first phase of mitigation work by using construction materials supplied within the framework of the project to strengthen water channels and river embankment. The sites of flood damage mitigation work were visited by Federation delegates and a desk officer of the British Red Cross.
- A CBDP review workshop was held in Sunchon on 29-30 April. Present there were DPRK Red Cross headquarters staff and members of 9 CBDP committees and the Society's city/county branches. The participants reviewed the progress made in the first phase of the project and shared experience and lessons learned. They also looked round the sites of mitigation work in Sunchon and Dokchon to learn from the experience of other communities. The workshop provided an opportunity to review the work done so far and expand the project on the basis of the successes already made.

- CBDP offices were established in 9 Ri's and equipped with basic furniture and means to promote and direct CBDP activities.
- Some progress has been made in combining CBFA with CBDP. The Society had in-depth discussions with relevant departments and took measures to this end. Now CBFA has been included in the agenda of all CBDP workshops and vice versa. The Head of the National Society's DM Department made a presentation on integration of CBFA with CBDP at a CBFA Master Trainers' Course, which took place in Huichon on 22 April. A Federation First Aid delegate and National Society staff visited the target communities several times to get First Aid posts to be run properly within the framework of CBDP.
- The CBDP review workshop and Ri-level workshops provided community members with an opportunity to enhance their knowledge and skills in DP and DR, humanitarian values and first aid, as well as the Red Cross profile.
- DP posters and flipcharts printed by the DPRK Red Cross were distributed and widely used in communities.
- Federation delegates and the Society's DM staff made regular visits to the CBDP areas to ensure that the work progresses as planned and to encourage the active community participation in the project.

Impact

The 5-year DM strategic work plan and DP/DR policies, once approved, will serve as a guideline for all of the Society's DM activities for the vulnerable people. With the formation of DM working groups in provinces, it has been possible to coordinate the DM activities of local authorities and different organisations in the respective areas, thus contributing to mitigating the effects of disasters on the vulnerable. The National Society's capacity increased through training has enabled itself to more effectively prepare for and respond to disasters. The increased capacity will pay off when the country is hit again by disasters. Pre-positioned relief goods have been very instrumental in relieving the disaster-affected people of their suffering by meeting their emergency needs. The first phase of CBDP has laid a foundation of strengthening disaster preparedness at community level, paving a way to improving community coping mechanism to reduce the impact and mitigate the effects of disasters.

Constraints

DM activities have so far been carried out without an approved budget for 2003. Delays in the arrival of relief items have again delayed reporting of last year's project. The major donor requests these reports before releasing funds for a new period. Delays and confusion in planning this year's DM activities has been the result. Funding of the 2003 programme was not secured before the last days of May, and made it difficult to plan the implementation of ongoing activities. The recruitment of a new DM delegate took longer than expected. A new delegate is now expected in last half of June. However, the HR capacity in the DPRK Red Cross has ensured a proper running of the program within the limitations of available funding in the reporting period.

Coordination in DM

- DM staff of the National Society and the Federation Logistics Delegate attended a Meeting on Natural Disaster Preparedness in the DPRK sponsored by OCHA on 21 April. They briefed representatives of UN agencies on the DPRK RCS/Federation DP/DR system and structure.
- The DP/DR department of DPRK Red Cross and the Federation delegation are maintaining good coordination and cooperation with the Flood Damage Rehabilitation Committee (FDRC) and the DP working group.

Organisational Development

The Organisational Development (OD) programme continued in the first months of the year using unspent funds from 2002. When funds became available, lack of human resources and travel restrictions due to the SARS epidemic was seriously restraining the implementation of the programme. Branch refurbishing of two branches has been delayed more than seven months due to the onset of winter and lack of manpower in the critical construction period. (The use of the volunteer manpower is to be negotiated with the authorities in DPRK.) Training of headquarters staff and branch leadership has been completed covering topics such as the Change process and the National Society's five year development plan. Project Planning Process workshops have been conducted for 5 national staff and 7 delegates (5 days) and National society project managers and delegation local staff (2 days). Refurbishing of remaining 4 branches from last year's programme started in April, when new funding became

available. Financial training of the Society's staff funded by the Capacity Building Fund has been delayed due to lack of human resources in the National Society and planning of the DPRK Red Cross's General Assembly in late April. The latter had to be postponed due to the SARS situation.

Goal: The Red Cross Society of the DPRK made measurable progress towards becoming a strong, relevant and well functioning national society.

Objective: The national society increased its capacities to provide relevant and effective services to the most vulnerable people in the DPRK.

Expected result: A three-year development plan is reviewed and finalized in 2003 and a revised CAS is used as a basis for ongoing cooperation activities.

Progress/Achievements

The National Society Development Plan (NSDP 2010) was drafted in the first quarter of the year. The National Society is preparing its Congress in the first half of the year and strategic planning and policy making is under process. Main policies that form the National Society's Policy Framework have been revised or drafted in the same period of time. These include Disaster Preparedness Policy, Disaster Management Policy, Health and Care Policy, Volunteering Policy, Gender Policy and Youth Policy. The Co-operation Agreement Strategy (CAS) will be revised after final approval of the NSDP 2010.

Expected result: The financial staff is trained and the Federation's standard financial manual is used in headquarters by the end of 2003 and in the budgeting process for 2004.

Progress/Achievements

The application to the Capacity Building Fund (CBF) was approved by the Geneva Secretariat in March, and this means the fund for the Financial Management Project is secured. The other activities are behind the schedule since the recruitment of competent finance staff is still a pending issue.

Expected result: Human resource development is integrated in DM, health and care and other local programmes and human resource management skills are improved by the end of 2003.

Progress/Achievements

- The CBF will also fund the implementation of the Human Resources project.
- A three day workshop for provincial branch leadership was conducted in the later half of January. SWOT analysis for NSDP 2010 and brainstorming for the further orientation of the Change process were the main topics.
- Four National Society staff, 1 delegation national staff member, and 6 delegates participated in the regional Project Planning Process (PPP) workshop in February. In the middle of May about 20 National Society and Delegation staff attended an in country PPP workshop facilitated by the participants of the regional PPP workshop.
- The Secretary General and one Deputy Secretary General attended BTC hosted by Australian Red Cross.

Expected result: At least one income generation project is breaking by the end of 2003.

Progress/Achievements

The Netherlands Red Cross has expressed its will to assist training activities through a bilateral cooperation project.

Expected result: By the end of 2003, six pilot branches are no longer dependent on support from local authorities providing them with adequate facilities.

Progress/Achievements

Eight computers and four printers were purchased in January for the six pilot branches and the Headquarters. The Kaesong and Anju branch offices construction were nearly completed and these will be models to be duplicated by all the permanent branches at provincial and city level.

Impact

Fundraising for the OD project this year has been smooth as compared with 2002, which recorded 25 per cent coverage of the appeal. This has been encouraging for members of the OD Committee and branch leaders. Strong support from Swedish, British, Canadian and Netherlands Red Cross was received and more partners have expressed their interest in joining the programme in the future. The software part of the programme was successfully implemented in the first five months of the year and many senior branch leaders actively participated in mapping out the vision and plan until 2010. The preparation of the Congress has become a golden opportunity for the OD programme this year, and hopefully the DPRK Red Cross will meet the challenges of the new century with a clear vision and strategy.

Constraints

The SARS related travel restrictions have delayed the Congress, which will adopt important documents for the OD programme. The restrictions also made it impossible for two project managers to attend BTC in Finland in May. Recruitment of the finance staff is one of the obstacles to progress for the financial management project. The money from the Capacity Building Fund was not available before the end of May. The time schedule of the OD project has been delayed accordingly.

Federation Coordination

Federation coordination is a concept that still needs to be developed in DPRK. The ICRC administrator or Head of operation participates regularly in delegation weekly meetings, and there is an exchange of services and manpower on ad hoc basis. The Federation is invited to participate in some of the activities conducted in the bilateral programs, and furthermore provides some logistical support. The DPRK Red Cross has so far been somewhat reluctant to involve all parties in discussions on the overall availability of the Society's human resources and to develop an overall priority plan for all their unilateral, bilateral and multilateral activities. The delegation has given financial support to regional activities. There is no budget for coordination in the country delegation. The planned partnership meeting in April was cancelled, and delayed a much needed input from the donor societies to the CAS process and the development of the National Society 2010 Development Plan.

Overall Goal: All activities of the Red Cross in DPRK are designed, implemented and conducted in a focused and coordinated manner and are supportive to the national society in the achievement of its strategic overall goal.

Programme Objective: All staff members experience the value added by the Federation and the ICRC.

Expected Result: A partnership management conference was conducted and a revised cooperation agreement strategy with a goal consistent with the strategic goal of the Red Cross Society of the DPRK is submitted for final approval before end of June 2003.

Progress/Achievements

The partnership management conference was scheduled in the first week of April 2003, but were postponed first to June and then indefinitely. In the first instance it was done due to lack of participation of some of the National Societies, then the SARS outbreak made it impossible to conduct the meeting in Beijing.

The revision of the cooperation agreement strategy was planned to begin with discussions at the Partnership meeting. There has been very limited feed back on the CAS proposal submitted to the PNSs at the end of 2001.

Expected Result: The Federation is recognized as an important tool to add value to all Movement activities aiming at providing focused and high quality assistance to vulnerable people in Korea by facilitating focused programme design and implementation even in a changing political environment on the Korean peninsula.

Progress/Achievements

Limited progress in this period as focus has been on reporting and budgeting for the agreed 2003 projects. Preparatory steps in PPP training were described under OD programme.

The Federation has given some logistical support to both ICRC and Norwegian Red Cross projects, and the WatSan delegates has assisted in the construction of Water Supply system at the Orthopedic Workshop in Songrim.

Expected Result: A revised memorandum of understanding between the Federation and the DPRK Red Cross is finalized and put into effect by January 2003.

Progress/Achievements

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been agreed upon between the delegation and the DPRK Red Cross. Final approval from Geneva is expected in short time. New rates for financial operational support to the National Society have been effective since January 2003.

Impact

Limited impact has been seen this year, as the DPRK Red Cross has chosen to give more resources to the bilateral programmes in spite of Federation advice on give more attention to prioritise the different programmes. The result seems to have been delays and a heavy workload on key persons in the Society's Headquarters. Sick leave has worsened the situation.

Constraints

The SARS related travel restrictions have delayed the Congress, which again has delayed decisions. Lack of availability of key decision makers both in the National Society and Federation has also delayed important processes. From the Federation's point of view, sharing of information from the Society's side can be very limited. It is therefore difficult to assess the impact of the Federation operation at this point with areas such as improved capacity of the DPRK Red Cross Society as a whole.

International Representation

International representation is not funded in the country annual appeal. Participation in briefings to foreign missions visiting DPRK has been conducted according to requests, but travel restrictions due to SARS implemented in April, when the visitor season usually begins, led to an abrupt discontinuance of such visits.

Overall Goal: The National Society and the country delegation are actively contributing in international fora in the region to advocate for the strategic goals of the Red Cross in the DPRK.

Program Objective: The international community has an increased awareness of the humanitarian situation resulting from the unresolved political issues in the Korean peninsula, the increased risks of epidemic outbreak of infectious diseases and the effects of natural disasters.

Expected Result: The Federation and the Red Cross Society of the DPRK are considered to be active partners in the international humanitarian community and they together make important contributions in the international context where the objective is to improve the lives of vulnerable people.

Progress/Achievements

The Federation delegation is actively participating in the Humanitarian Working Group in DPRK. The DPRK Red Cross is considered to be an important organisation in DPRK by most of the international organisations. Lack of

capacity from DPRK Red Cross side has delayed follow up of some initiatives taken by other organisations. However, successful cooperation with Concern Worldwide, WHO and UNICEF has resulted in cooperation projects described under Health and Care.

Expected Result: Foreign missions to the DPRK, based in Pyongyang or neighbouring countries, are supported by the national society and the Federation's Secretariat in their efforts to assess the humanitarian situation in the DPRK.

Progress/Achievements

Visitors to DPRK requesting field trips to visit Red Cross projects have been well taken care of by the DPRK Red Cross and the delegation. The main season for these kind of visits is March – October, and this year's SARS related travel restrictions resulted in a stoppage of visits.

Expected Result: Foreign missions to the DPRK, based in Pyongyang or neighbouring countries, are supporting the national society and the Federation in their efforts to implement programmes to improve the situation of vulnerable people in the DPRK and the region.

Progress/Achievements

The DPRK Red Cross benefits from the continued support from the EU embassies in Pyongyang. This support has been of special value in relation to the SARS situation, and to assess the impact on the humanitarian situation from the political tension on the Korean peninsula.

Activities in Beijing have so far in 2003 been taken care of by the regional delegation.

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. 01.67/2003

PLEDGES RECEIVED

03.07.2003

| DONOR | CATEGORY | QUANTITY | UNIT | VALUE CHF | DATE | COMMENT |
|-------|----------|----------|------|-----------|------|---------|
|-------|----------|----------|------|-----------|------|---------|

CASH

| REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF -----> | | | | 13'370'909 | TOTAL COVERAGE 33.4% | |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------|-----|------------|-------------------------|---|
| CASH CARRIED FORWARD | | | | 2'066'401 | | |
| AUSTRALIAN - RC | | 43'416 | AUD | 34'668 | 09.01.2003 | HIV/AIDS HEALTH PROMOTION, BRANCH DEVELOPMENT |
| BRITISH - GOVT/DIFD | | 392'157 | GBP | 829'020 | 11.06.03 | DISASTER PREPAREDNESS |
| CANADIAN - GOVT/CIDA/IHA | | 346'500 | CAD | 327'269 | 17.03.03 | |
| CHINESE - PRIVATE DONOR | | 200 | USD | 272 | 28.05.03 | |
| FINNISH - GOVT | | 45'838 | EUR | 69'261 | 25.04.03 | DISTRIBUTION AND LOCAL TRANSPORTATION |
| JAPANESE - RC | | 124'771 | USD | 168'566 | 18.06.03 | HEALTH & CARE |
| NEW ZEALAND - GOVT | | 5'000 | NZD | 3'770 | 16.04.03 | MEDICAL KITS |
| SWEDISH - GOVT | | 2'900'000 | SEK | 465'450 | 31.03.03 | ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT & WATER SANITATION |
| CAPACITY BUILDING FUND ALLOCATION | | | | 97'980 | 07.04.2003 | PKP005 |
| SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH | | | | 4'062'657 | CHF | 30.4% |

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

| DONOR | CATEGORY | QUANTITY | UNIT | VALUE CHF | DATE | COMMENT |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------|------|-----------|----------|---|
| FINNISH - GOVT | | 166'414 | EUR | 191'324 | 25.04.03 | MOSQUITO BEDNETS, SCREENING MATERIALS, MEDICINE |
| CANADA | DELEGATE(S) | | | 17'084 | | |
| DENMARK | DELEGATE(S) | | | 54'866 | | |
| FINLAND | DELEGATE(S) | | | 48'952 | | |
| NETHERLANDS | DELEGATE(S) | | | 28'583 | | |
| NORWAY | DELEGATE(S) | | | 59'959 | | |
| GREAT BRITAIN | DELEGATE(S) | | | 2'300 | | |
| SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES | | | | 403'068 | CHF | 3.0% |

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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