

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

FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

22 April 2004

In Brief

Appeal No. 01.74/2003

Target: CHF 1,669,766 (USD 1,304,317/ EUR 1,078,082)

Coverage: 112.4% ([Click here to go directly to the Financial Report](#))

Appeal 2004: For 2004, an international appeal for Macedonia was not prepared. However, Macedonia will receive technical support in core programme areas through a regional appeal for Central Europe

This document reports on and analyses achievements within the International Federation's 2003 annual appeal for Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The activities supported by this appeal fell within the Federation's longer-term support strategy for Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

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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. For more information: www.ifrc.org

Overall analysis of the programme

"2003 was the year of security, interethnic, economic and international stabilization and normalization of the country after the conflict and the crisis we went through. That goal is fulfilled to a great extent", said the Macedonian Prime Minister in his evaluation of the first year of this Government's rule in the Parliament in November. Despite changing priorities, there is recognition that continued humanitarian support is needed, while development programmes take hold and macro level reforms bear fruit. Without short-term improvements in daily living conditions, hostilities which have split communities will continue to threaten stability. Focus of the humanitarian community has shifted from relief assistance to activities aimed at strengthening civil society, developing institutional capacity and revitalizing the economy.

While the outlook for the country is clouded, the future of the Macedonian Red Cross is looking brighter. Throughout the last decade, the Macedonian Red Cross served refugees from many different ethnic groups. In the eyes of the donor community, this gave it the highest credibility as a serving leader in the country. The caseload of 3,000 Refugees from

Kosovo crisis and 9,300 IDP's at the beginning of the 2003, has dropped down to 2,500 refugees and 2,000 IDP's at the end of the year.

The Federation Delegation has worked together with numerous partner National Societies to assist the Macedonian Red Cross in meeting the relief needs of the vulnerable population. In the period of 2001-2003, several bilateral programmes came to an end and an exit-strategy was devised to gradually hand-over responsibility of programmes to the national Society. In order to ensure the timely hand-over of activities, the main objective during 2003 was capacity building of the National Society.

Objectives, Achievements, and Constraints

Health and Care

Goal: Reduce the vulnerability of refugees, social cases and internally displaced persons through an effective social welfare programme.

Objective: To use the Information Centre to strengthen the capacity of the National Society to increase the well being of vulnerable groups and to respond effectively to their basic needs.

Achievements:

All activities concerning the health and social welfare of the refugees from Kosovo crisis and the other vulnerable groups in the country are mainly led by the Federation funded Information Centre. This Centre continues to assist refugees and vulnerable internally displaced persons (IDP's) in referrals and direct assistance. The centre refers these persons and deals with educational issues, arranges for people to receive daily necessities, buy their monthly bus tickets, relief items or medical care items. The main asset of the programmes run by the Information Centre is the high level of commitment of the staff, relevance and the cost-effectiveness of the programme.

The assistance in numbers is as follows:

	Number of activities in 2003
Interviews	5,893
Telephone calls	5,949
Psychosocial support	114
Medical support	2,280
Education	799
Other	1,615

The sub-project Provision of Primary Health Assistance to refugees in Macedonia is implemented by the Federation Delegation, with financial support from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) office in Skopje. Three doctors and three nurses were providing the primary health care for refugees. Transport of the patients from the collective centres (CC) to the public health institutions was also provided. In the first three months, the Federation was providing primary health care, medicines and private accommodation for refugees in collective centers Suto Orizari and Katlanovo. The CC Suto Orizari was closed and the refugees were staying at the Macedonian- Greek border at Medzitlija- Bitola.

The medical centre at Bitola was providing Primary Health Care for those refugees. Medical care included several types of assistance: technical issues, primary health care, health education, secondary and tertiary health care, transport of patients from collective centers to hospitals when necessary. The project was supplemented by the Federation Social Welfare programme for refugees. (provision of medicines and baby formula for refugees in host families, assistance in provision of higher levels of health care- in hospitals, dental care, orthopaedic need and psycho social support.)



Staff from Macedonian RC in the Information Centre "info" and one lady from UNHCR.

Other forms of assistance included preventive health education in collective accommodations. Several lectures on disease prevention were held. Two brochures on Family Planning and Contraception, and First Aid and HIV/AIDS were printed in Macedonian, Roma and Albanian languages and distributed through the Information Centre. The Information Centre provides an excellent service, guiding refugees and local people through “the system”. Where beneficiary’s needs are not being met this way, a flexible budget covers some needs. Generally, the Information Centre is seen as the place to seek help and support for refugees - serving an average of 500 people a month.

Impact:

The Social Welfare Programme has been operational since 1994, and it is generally perceived as being very successful, both in Macedonia and in the wider world. The programme has gone through three main stages and has proven substantial flexibility to changes in need. A well-established programme made it possible to be where refugees made their first contact in a foreign country. In the Centre, the emphasis is put on assessment of needs and accordingly provides flexibility in services, and further spent resources on building good relationship with beneficiaries. This ensured the continuation of work of his Centre within the programmes of the Macedonian RC, after the Federation closed its office.

Constraints:

There were no constraints in the implementation of this programme. All the issues that the centre could manage to solve were dealt with, and those beneficiaries whose concerns could not, were referred to the relevant institutions and governmental services.

Disaster Management

Goal: Improve the living conditions of vulnerable groups in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) and to reinforce Macedonian RC effectiveness in responding to man-made or natural disasters.

Objective: To continue supporting the vulnerable groups (refugees, IDP's and social cases) through provision of relief items and to prepare Macedonian RC to respond in a timely, effective and focused manner to any disaster in the country and in nearby countries.

Achievements:

There are around 2,800 refugees in Macedonia. With the enforcement of the Law on Asylum and Temporary Protection in August, and in line with changed focus of the humanitarian climate in the country, THAP (Temporarily Humanitarian Assisted Persons) status of the refugees from Kosovo was not re-extended after September 31, and they were advised to apply for asylum. (* Provisional Figure)

	01.01.2003	31.12.2003
THAP in host families	1,357	2,026
THAP in collective centres	1,446	459
Asylum seekers	70	2,300 *
Recognized refugees	26	26
Unclosed cases	16	16
Bosnians	30	30
Total	2,945	2,557

The majority, approximately 2,300 persons, accepted this advice, and still remained under UNHCR protection and RC beneficiaries. Humanitarian help is the only source of basic provisions for these people. They were either housed with host families or in collective centres. In May 2003, the Suto Orizari collective centre was closed, and the Katlanovo collective centre with approximately 450 persons is the only collective centre at present. The Federation's main contribution in assisting vulnerable during 2003 was the provision of hygiene, baby parcels and other non-food items.

Distributed to:	Hygiene parcels	Baby parcels
Refugees in host families	7,121	734
Refugees in collective centres	3,492	484
Host families	871	-

Hygiene parcels were mainly procured from the Finnish Red Cross donation. Finnish Red Cross also donated significant quantity of used clothes, which were distributed to refugees, IDP's and other vulnerable groups.

Federation was the implementing partner of UNHCR in food distributions to refugees in collective centres and host families. Basic food parcels were supplied in kind to refugees in collective centres on a monthly basis, through local procurement. To refugees in host families, the distribution was done through the Macedonian RC Branches. The total quantities of basic food commodities distributed are: 235 MT Wheat Flour, 21,500 Food parcels, 7MT Beans, 8 MT Sugar, 7 MT Oil, 1.2MT Salt, 147,000 loaves of bread.

A total of 8,898 complementary food baskets were distributed in the Community Centres and 4,931 additional food baskets were distributed to the Community Centre Katlanovo central kitchen. Cash was distributed to asylum seekers in Gazi Baba. Refugees in host families received cash through bank payments, implemented through UNHCR directly.

At the end of 2003, the Federation distributed the remaining stock from its warehouse to all Macedonian RC branches for their needs and to several institutions. The main items that were distributed included used clothes (170 bales), kitchen sets (1000), plastic buckets (987), tents (196), water bags (386), blankets (2764), baby parcels (2914), hygiene parcels (511) and mops, heaters, sleeping bags and mattresses. The Red Cross branches were advised to use these items as emergency stock or to distribute it, according to the needs.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDP's)

According to the latest statistics, the number of IDP's in Macedonia is 1,956. They are mainly hosted in families near their places of origin: Skopje, Kumanovo and Tetovo. The European Agency for Reconstruction funded project for deregistration of the IDP's, was finished in August. The Federation continued maintaining the database, which served as an information source for many other institutions. Food support for this category was supported from ECHO until June, and then ICRC, Norwegian Embassy and Red Cross from their own resources enabled distributions for the remaining six months.

Activities in the disaster preparedness area in 2003 were numerous and covered different aspects. Mainly, the Disaster Preparedness Department Team of the Macedonian RC carried out all activities. The Swedish Red Cross donation covered salaries, transportation and communication costs of this team.

Many important Acts of Law, that regulate activities of the Red Cross in case of disasters, were prepared and adopted: plan of action of the Macedonian RC in case of disasters; regulations for work of the Commission for disaster preparedness and response; regulations for role, tasks and function of the Emergency Rescue Units of the Macedonian RC; operational plan for the activities of the programme for disaster preparedness and response.

The Macedonian RC has been a major participant in the meetings in Ministry of Defence on civil-military cooperation in case of disasters, once more emphasizing the role of the RC in national disaster preparedness. The CD database with disaster prone areas in Macedonia and disaster prone capacities was presented to institutions and organizations

including: Ministry of Defence, Army Headquarters, Red Cross Branch Secretaries, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). They acknowledged the usefulness of the information on the CD.

The Disaster Preparedness Team responded to minor disasters that hit the country. These were landslides in Veles, floods in Kumanovo and Vinica. Blankets, mattresses, hygiene and baby parcels were distributed from the Macedonian Red Cross/Federation Emergency Stock.

The top activity in disaster preparedness was the Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) workshop in Struga, at the beginning of November. The participants of the seminar were from 15 countries in Central Europe. For this workshop, the Macedonian Red Cross Disaster Preparedness Team made a scenario "earthquake" where participants from Ministry of Defence, Internal Affairs, five Red Cross branches and local municipality representatives were engaged and presented their roles.

Impact:

Continuing support of the Macedonian RC in its relief programmes, assisting refugees with hygiene and other non-food items that complemented UNHCR food support has been one of the main responsibilities of the Federation for the last five years. This ensured provision of adequate food and non-food assistance in a timely manner to all refugees; especially women, children, the elderly and other vulnerable groups. The programme also ensured that management and distribution of food and non-food items to refugees in host families and in the collective centers was in a timely manner, adequate, transparent and impartial.

Establishing Disaster Preparedness Department of the Macedonian Red Cross that has the human and material resources has been one of the major Federation successes during its presence in the country. The activities undertaken during 2003 proved the relevance of the Macedonian RC at the National and Regional level.

Constraints:

The main constraint is the fragile DP structure at the national society's headquarters and branches. It remains to be seen whether the transfer of basic preparedness and response management knowledge to the grassroots level in branches and local communities will be enough to help mitigate the effects of any manmade or natural disaster.

Organizational Development

Goal: Further improve of the overall capacity of the Macedonian Red Cross to develop and deliver responsive and sustainable programmes to meet the needs of vulnerable people in FYROM.

Objective: To increase the ability of the Macedonian Red Cross to manage programmes and obtain funding both for headquarters and branches.

Achievements:

The Federation facilitated the development process of the National Society by building its capacities and providing technical support in programme areas. In line with the Federation's exit-strategy, organizational development was mainly concentrated on providing National Society personnel with analytical and decision making skills, which will improve their capacity for providing services with international standards. Capacity Building Fund grant was used for building up the Macedonian RC management, communication, information, reporting and financial reporting skills.

Organizational Development process included several aspects:

- To improve planning and reporting skills of the leadership personnel, a Project Planning Process workshop was held for Macedonian RC headquarters and Branches staff
- To assist Macedonian RC in securing sufficient resources for the programme implementation, marketing and fundraising, cooperation with the Bulgarian RC was established. The result of this cooperation was an exchange of mutual experience and organisation of a joint workshop for the Macedonian RC.

- To improve Macedonian RC financial management in order to fulfil with the donor requirements, the crucial priority was the development of transparent and accountable financial management. This resulted in computerized accounting at the end of 2003, which included whole year data and was completely compatible with the previously used accounting system.
- To raise the public and internal profile of the Macedonian RC, support for Macedonian RC web site development, constant internet access and publishing support for the Macedonian RC newspaper was necessary.

The second round of the implementation of the Participatory Community Development (PCD) started to be implemented in Macedonia, but this time by the Macedonian RC. Six branches have the opportunity to apply for PCD seed budget to carry out micro projects.

Impact:

This year, the Federation and Macedonian RC have been working concretely to strengthen the overall capacity of the National Society. The process has taken good steps. There is visible added value in Financial Management, Reporting and Planning, and Programme management.

Constraints:

There are a few constraints that the Federation is anticipating in the long-term impact of the organizational development programmes: the General Assembly elections and rotation of Macedonian RC Governance; impossibility of Macedonian RC obtaining full implementation of the strong RC law; transferring these messages to Branch level. Failure to secure a continuation of the Capacity Building Fund grant would be another constraint on Macedonian RC providing funds to continue the organizational development process.

Coordination and Management

Federation has had a strong presence in Macedonia since 1992, with different setup reflecting the needs of the different categories of beneficiaries. Due to security and the political situation, the National Society Leadership and Management entrusted the Federation Delegation with handling donor networking and fundraising.

Federation facilitated regular meetings between Movement's Representatives, with the main topics being how to phase out and the exit plan, and integrating international Red Cross support directly to the National Society.

As planned, the Federation's country office in Macedonia closed in December 2003. For 2004, an international appeal for Macedonia was not prepared. However, Macedonia will receive technical support in core programme areas through a regional appeal for Central Europe. Partner National Societies are requested to contribute directly to the Macedonian RC in support of programmes.

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>

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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES

Interim report	
Annual report	X
Final report	

Appeal No & title: 01.74/2003 FYR Macedonia
Period: year 2003
Project(s): PMK003, 160, 511, 515, 517
Currency: CHF

I - CONSOLIDATED RESPONSE TO APPEAL

FUNDING	CASH		KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL INCOME
	Contributions	Comments	Goods/Services	Personnel	
Appeal budget	1,669,766				
less					
Cash brought forward	52,506				
TOTAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT	1,617,260				
<u>Contributions from Donors</u>					
Donor - Capacity Building Fund (DCBF)	73,480				73,480
Donor - Unidentified (D000)	43,073				43,073
European Commission (DH17)	34,597				34,597
Finnish Red Cross #01 (DNFI01)	62,264				62,264
Finnish Red Cross (DNFI)	76,915				76,915
German Red Cross (DNDE)	2,026				2,026
Netherlands Red Cross (DNNL)	8,899				8,899
Norwegian Government (DGNO)	8,084				8,084
Norwegian Govt.via Norcross Grant No (DGNNO1)	92,112				92,112
Norwegian Red Cross # 1 (DNNO01)	10,235				10,235
Swedish Govt.via Swedish Red Cross (DGNSE)	66,350				66,350
Swedish Red Cross (DNSE)	34,963				34,963
UNHCR Contract No.2 (DH0202)	(822)				(822)
UNHCR Contract No.3 (DH0203)	739,921				739,921
UNHCR Contract No.4 (DH0204)	135,077				135,077
FINLAND				73,000	73,000
FINNISH - RC			88,259		88,259
SWEDISH - RC			28,890		28,890
SWEDISH - RC			14,400		14,400
TOTAL	1,387,173		131,549	73,000	1,591,722

II - Balance of funds

OPENING	52,506
CASH INCOME Rcv'd	1,387,173
CASH EXPENDITURE	(1,819,853)

CASH BALANCE	(380,173)

Appeal No & title: 01.74/2003 FYR Macedonia

Period: year 2003

Project(s): PMK003, 160, 511, 515, 517

Currency: CHF

III - Budget analysis / Breakdown of expenditures

Description	APPEAL Budget	CASH Expenditures	KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL Expenditures	Variance
			Goods/services	Personnel		
SUPPLIES						
Shelter & Construction						
Clothing & Textiles			131,549		131,549	(131,549)
Food & Seeds	405,520	533,246			533,246	(127,726)
Water & sanitation		786			786	(786)
Medical & First Aid	250,800	251,063			251,063	(263)
Teaching materials	10,800	10,273			10,273	527
Utensils & Tools		1,394			1,394	(1,394)
Other relief supplies	252,400	207,044			207,044	45,356
Sub-Total	919,520	1,003,806	131,549		1,135,355	(215,835)
CAPITAL EXPENSES						
Land & Buildings						
Vehicles						
Computers & Telecom equip.	2,300	2,828			2,828	(528)
Medical equipment						
Other capital expenditures						
Sub-Total	2,300	2,828			2,828	(528)
TRANSPORT & STORAGE						
Warehouse & distribution	176,480	104,824			104,824	71,656
Transport & vehicles	41,872	92,795			92,795	(50,923)
Sub-Total	218,352	197,619			197,619	20,733
PERSONNEL & TRAINING						
Personnel (delegates)	144,000	35,787		73,000	108,787	35,213
Personnel (regional, national staff)	138,000	358,627			358,627	(220,627)
Consultants		28			28	(28)
Workshops & training	8,600	7,609			7,609	991
Sub-Total	290,600	402,051		73,000	475,051	(184,451)
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION						
Travel & related expenses	8,920	24,778			24,778	(15,858)
Information expenses	18,080	8,878			8,878	9,202
Admin./general expenses	103,460	104,507			104,507	(1,047)
Sub-Total	130,460	138,163			138,163	(7,703)
PROGRAMME SUPPORT						
	108,534	52,816			52,816	55,718
Operational provisions		22,570			22,570	(22,570)
Transfers & contributions						
TOTAL BUDGET	1,669,766	1,819,853	131,549	73,000	2,024,402	(354,636)