

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

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

22 April 2004

In Brief

Appeal No. 01.84/2003

Original Target: CHF 8,131,011 (USD / EUR)

Revised Target: CHF 5,837,438 (USD 4.96 million/ EUR 4.3 million)

Coverage: 87.3% ([Click here to go directly to the Financial Report](#))

Appeal 2004: Russian Federation No. 01.82/2004 (click below)

http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual04/018204.pdf

This document reports on and analyses achievements within the International Federation's 2003 annual appeal for the Russian Federation. The activities supported by this appeal fell within the Federation's longer-term support strategy for the Russian Federation. This is continuing in 2004 and is being supported by Appeal 01.82/2004 (see above).

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Overall analysis

Federation planning for 2003 was clearly over-ambitious in all core areas while the international funding trend continues to decrease. The high level of RRC staff turn-over also had a significant impact on the effectiveness of cooperation with the National Society. The objectives for year 2004 have been revised to better reflect the available financial resources and the capacity of the recently restructured Russian Red Cross (RRC).

The original appeal budget was revised in August 2003, due to low donor response. At the end of 2003, within the revised budget, appeal coverage stood at 87.2%. Health programmes accounted for approximately 60% of total funding received, in particular the USAID-funded TB programme which raised appeal coverage from an otherwise rather low 50.38%. Organisation Development activities were largely funded by the British Red Cross/ DFID and carried out in Western Siberia. Disaster

Management, which remains a priority for the International Federation and RRC, was poorly funded throughout the year – the population movement component continued to receive substantial contributions but in 2003 other disaster response and preparedness attracted minimal financial support.

The budget revision and funding situation in 2003 has prompted a modified approach to the 2004 appeal. The Federation has included into the appeal only programmes with substantially secure funding commitments.

Health and Care

Programme Objective: The Russian Red Cross is able to provide support to the most vulnerable in the area of basic health and care through activity aimed at strengthening the capacity of the regional committees and volunteer networks of the RRC.

Health and care is integral to the Strategic Development Plan of the Russian Red Cross. During 2003, the Federation delegation continued to support Russian Red Cross in the following spheres: implementation of TB programmes in seven regions of the Russian Federation; support to visiting nurses; youth and AIDS: peer education.

Russian Red Cross focus against Tuberculosis

Table 1. Donor support and implementation timeframe of TB activities

Regions	Donor Support	Implementing timeframe
Oryol	WHO	September 2001 - April 2003
Tomsk, Buryatia, Kemerovo	British Red Cross/ DFID	May 2001 - ongoing
Pskov, Belgorod, Khakassia	USAID	October 2001 – ongoing
Murmansk, Archangelsk	Norwegian Red Cross/ Norwegian Government	May 2001 - January 2003

Achievements:

The TB programme complements regional TB services, particularly in health education and promotion. It involves the Visiting Nurses Services of the RRC in monitoring the WHO-recommended Directly Observed Treatment Strategy (DOTS), and using social and nutritional support as a treatment incentive for the most vulnerable patients. The programme continues to strengthen diagnostic capacities by supporting trained staff, new laboratory equipment and procedures. There is also a strong focus on raising public awareness of TB and HIV.

During programme implementation, RRC visiting nurses, local authorities and State TB dispensaries and TB patients themselves continued to express thanks to the RRC and Federation for ongoing programme implementation and support in the fight against TB. The programme as a provider of incentives to potential defaulters from TB treatment regimes has been recognised by the Russian Federation High level Working Group on TB issues. Ministry of Health recognition is indicated by the RRC contribution to the preparation of a federal programme proposal to the Global Fund against AIDS, TB and Malaria. For the forthcoming round of applications in 2004, RRC has been included as an implementing partner for 10 sites in Russia. RRC specialists are also preparing recommendations within the Ministry of Health /WHO thematic working group, and the Federation Delegation continues to advocate for the RRC to become a member of High Level Thematic Working Group (HLWG) in Russian Federation. Programme implementation also increased capacity and skills base of the RRC and Federation through training sessions, and experience sharing.

Indicators of the ongoing RRC/ Federation commitment and progress to implementing an effective, comprehensive, sustainable and replicable model of TB control are as follows:

- a comprehensive training and education plan was developed for the staff of all the health services involved in modern approaches to TB control. In USAID funded regions, the Federation Delegation facilitated training seminars for various staff from State institutions and RRC branches, as follows: Organization of TB control on district level (106 participants, from TB dispensaries, penitentiary system, Russian Red Cross branches and Regional TB institutes); Chemotherapy (90 medical doctors); Sputum smear microscopy examination (44 laboratory staff); Diagnostics & treatment of MDR (10 medical doctors); Infection control Course (3 persons); International TB Course in Tartu (8 doctors).
- A new recording and reporting system was introduced making Russian surveillance data comparable with international statistics and facilitating easy evaluation of the impact of RRC incentives on default rates via concrete results and indicators. Programme statistics indicate that the default rate among patients receiving social incentive (in the form of protein kits, food parcels and hygienic kits) is not more than 2%, while among patients not receiving incentive stands at around 15%. *For full statistical data please refer to the programme updates.*
- In order to strengthen the laboratory network, necessary equipment, supplies and reagents were provided to all USAID-supported projects.
- Quarterly supervision of programme implementation in the USAID funded regions was organized in collaboration with CTRI, Research Institute of Phthisiopulmonology in St. Petersburg; Department of the Research Institute of Phthisiopulmonology of Sechenov Moscow Medical Academy; TB Research Institute in Novosibirsk.
- New forms of collaboration and integration of health services were established between civil and penitentiary TB health services and the general health care system. The Federation/Russian Red Cross focussed on developing understanding among penitentiary health and civil health authorities that the health status of the TB patient remains the same wherever he or she resides. To improve links between the two services, all trainings were carried out jointly for civil TB doctors as well as for doctors working in the penitentiary system; each monitoring trip was conducted jointly by doctors representing both sectors; the recording/reporting system for TB patients is kept at one place (at TB dispensary); communications between penitentiary and civil sector were improved (especially with regards to ensuring treatment completion of TB prisoners released from prison); hardware as well as laboratory equipment was provided for penitentiary system;

Informational and educational activities are a particularly important component of the Health and Care programme. In 2003 the following activities took place to improve general public awareness and prevent stigmatisation regarding TB and HIV/AIDS:

- Lectures were carried out on a regular basis in all regional RRC branches for the general public. Red Cross professionals use pre- and post-lecture testing in order to evaluate the level of the audience awareness and the effectiveness of educational activities. On the whole, participants demonstrated an interest in Red Cross work and TB awareness among participants was raised from 50% (recorded before seminars) to 90%.
- TB-themed drawing and poster competitions and other activities were organised to celebrate World TB day and draw attention to Red Cross activities and TB related issues. (TB-themed competitions include: 'Best lecturer', 'Best poster', 'Best health bulletin').
- Pamphlets, posters, and educational materials developed during the previous projects were reprinted and distributed.
- New material was developed (for general practitioners, doctors dealing with TB patients and for the TB patients themselves)
- Two video clips were produced - on stigma related to children born from HIV-infected mothers; and on stigma related to young people living with HIV/AIDS. The video clips were broadcast free of charge on the Moscow and regional TV channels, in particular to promote World AIDS Day.
- Russian Red Cross and the Federation broadcast information about programme activities via press conferences and local mass media.
- Audio information on TB awareness was developed and put in rotation free of charge at 126 Metro stations in Moscow.

It is important to note that although external funding for the TB programme in Oryol oblast ceased in April 2003, the programme continues to support TB patients in the region due to local authority financial support. RRC has successfully transferred responsibility of TB treatment control to Russian Federation State organisations, as was originally intended. The three remaining RRC visiting nurses concentrate on tracing DOTS defaulters and distributing social support to TB patients meeting the beneficiary criteria. RRC hope to reflect this result in all regions where the TB programme is operating and eventually allow RRC visiting nurses to concentrate solely on social support, providing care at home to traditional patients and disseminating information on healthy lifestyles.

For full statistical data on TB programme implementation please refer to the quarterly programme updates at <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/cn6.asp?iYear=1&xFlag=2&countryid=142&view=1>

Constraints:

RRC and the Federation experienced difficulties in locating appropriate facilitators (native Russian speaking professionals) for various courses. Human resources already familiar with WHO recommended strategy in Russia are rather limited. The solution was to train more trainers.

A second expected constraint was the speed of acceptance by RRC and State TB dispensary staff of the WHO recommended strategy. Red Cross staff accepted the strategy much faster than the doctors who have been tackling TB for years according to existing treatment strategies. This different rate of acceptance created basic misunderstandings and difficulties in cooperation between the two organisations which the Federation continues to mitigate.

The lack of clear evidence of the impact of the incentive provided to the most vulnerable patients by Russian Red Cross and the link between incentives and treatment results has been resolved by introduction of the new recording/reporting system.

Due to lack of human resources, new materials on healthy lifestyle, sexually transmitted infections and alcoholism were not produced during 2003.

Health strategy and Visiting Nurses Service development

Achievements:

RRC nurses play an integral role in the TB programme. The visiting nurses administer DOTS treatment, distribute social support as incentives for treatment adherence at home and at RRC medico-social centres, and track down patients who have defaulted. While their main task is decreasing the number of defaulters within the programme, the nurses also provide traditional home based care and are responsible for carrying out lectures within the educational section of the project. RRC nurses in the TB programme also participate in all relevant courses and have been trained on the "Basics of Home Care" as well as "Care of TB patients". Visiting nurses will remain a focal point of the programme particularly as it expands to include work with HIV/AIDS, people living with HIV/AIDS and co-infection.

Outside the TB programme, strengthening Visiting Nurses Service remains one of the core tasks of the health and care programme, contributing to the establishment of a locally-rooted community-based primary health care system capable of fulfilling public health tasks. The programme serves to improve the image of the Red Cross among the public and to increase patients' satisfaction with the quality and access to assistance provided, as demonstrated by the public response to programme activities.

In 2003, strengthening of the visiting nurse service was funded by the Swedish Red Cross (until March and again from June – October 2003).

The main goal was to develop certain methodological guidelines to increase the role of visiting nurses in society and make their provision of social, medical, psychological and educational support more efficient, including during emergencies. To meet this goal, the draft of the visiting nurses service

development concept was finalized and published. This concept was shared with the Ministry of Social Welfare and designed to encourage further cooperation and inclusion into the State budget of Visiting Nurses Service as a provider of social services. In addition, journals for keeping patient and visit records and certificates for Visiting Nurses on completion of training courses were published and distributed. A number of meetings were carried out during which visiting nurses and senior visiting nurses shared experience and reviewed documents regulating Russian Red Cross medical and social activities. All existing documents were collected in one booklet that was issued in November 2003 (300 copies) that will be used as methodological tool for the regional committees where the Visiting nurses service already exists or is in the development process. Bilaterally funded (Norwegian Red Cross) visiting nurses service programmes also operated in Russian Federation in 2003.

Constraints:

Other activities outlined in the health and care Visiting nurses section of the appeal 2003 were not implemented due to lack of funding. These include establishment of new medical social rooms, equipment rental for invalids, nursery rooms, provision of nursing kits, establishment of a new training centre.

Youth and AIDS: peer education

Over 257,120 people (including 7,591 children) were registered as living with HIV/AIDS in Russia in 2003, according to statistics of the Federal Scientific and Methodological Centre for AIDS Prevention. Young people aged 15-29 comprise 75 -80% of that figure and 75% of all HIV cases were contracted via intravenous drug use. There is now a trend towards sexual and mother- to- child transmission of HIV/AIDS and a related increase in the number of women registered as infected. A number of NGOs are already addressing this issue throughout Russia. The Federation and Russian Red Cross continued to expand their work in the field of HIV/AIDS prevention and harm reduction in 2003 thanks to donations from Swedish Red Cross Within the British Red Cross/ DFID funded Western Siberia project, RRC branches also participated in youth peer education activities.

Following a contribution from the Swedish Red Cross received in May 2003 project activities were implemented through the programme “Youth and AIDS: peer education”, covering three regions – Kaliningrad, Kras nodar and Tver for the period October 2003 - January 2004.

Peer education instructors were trained in the regions. Seminars for youth on HIV/AIDS prevention were arranged and conducted to increase HIV/AIDS awareness among the younger population. The total number of seminars held, participants attending and information materials distributed was as follows:

Table 2 Information data on peer education programme Oct. – Dec. 2003

	No. of seminars	No. of volunteers trained during the programme	No. of youth participants	No. of informational materials distributed
Krasnodar	12	18	259	1799
Kaliningrad	28	3	610	1370
Tver	8	3	97	750

Volunteers also coordinated activities to celebrate World AIDS Day. The programme helped to increase adolescents’ HIV/AIDS awareness, attracted new volunteers and raised the image of the Red Cross through broadcasting of activities in local mass media and establishing better links with the relevant institutional bodies (local authorities, AIDS centres, narcological dispensaries).

World AIDS Day

Activities were supported in 16 regions of the Russian Federation. Overall, 15,518 people participated in 40 public activities, with further audiences targeted via radio and television broadcasts and newspaper articles. 34,414 information materials were distributed within these regions, with an

additional 5,200 copies issued, and 3060 people attended 101 workshops organised within the frames of the project.

In Moscow in celebration of World AIDS Day, flycards, billboards and posters were distributed in cooperation with UNAIDS and People Living with HIV/AIDS. Representatives of the Federation and Russian Red Cross also attended a press conference. Flycards were also distributed in Minsk, Kiev, and ten regions in Russia.

Informational materials on HIV/AIDS were also printed and sent to 20 regions of the Russia Federation, also all Russian speaking National Societies within the former Soviet Union:

Address books illustrated with a famous Russian cartoon character, Masyanya – 45,000

Bookmarks illustrated with Masyanya – 75,000

“You cannot get AIDS by....” stickers – 53,000

“You cannot get AIDS by....” posters – 30,000

HIV/AIDS prejudice tests – 75,000 (of which 18,750 were distributed in both Belarus and Ukraine)

International Federation logo calendars – 30,000

“You cannot get AIDS by....” calendars – 25,000

The majority of these activities aimed to raise public awareness of HIV/AIDS. RRC branches targeted the young population in particular : informing about HIV/AIDS related issues and prevention; finding out young people’s attitude towards people living with HIV/AIDS; and promoting healthy lifestyles and attracting volunteers through disseminating information about RRC activities. All activities were widely broadcast in local and regional mass media in the form of advertisements, radio and television spots and interviews. As a result, the image of the RRC was improved and capacity increased through recruitment of new volunteers.

Also in 2003, the Federation Health Officer and RRC Care and Support programme coordinator from Irkutsk RRC branch actively participated in the 14th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm 6-10 April 2003 Chiang Mai, Thailand. RRC and Federation representatives also took part in HIV/AIDS related interagency meetings and press conferences, leading to increased organizational knowledge and experience exchange of HIV prevention and harm reduction among respective organizations. RRC and Federation representatives also became members of the extended thematic working group on HIV/AIDS.

Constraints

It is clear that the need for information dissemination on HIV/AIDS remains high, at the general and official level. For example, in Irkutsk RRC conducted a seminar for representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Sentence Executive department on “how to decrease the risk of infection” – the seminar facilitator commented on the lack of know ledge and information on HIV/AIDS prevention at a professional level. The local RRC branch has proposed to the local Department of Internal Affairs to organise a number of seminars for the staff there on HIV/AIDS prevention. Elsewhere, the Federation/RRC continues to seek funds to combat the rapidly increasing rate of HIV/AIDS in Russia through peer education, harm reduction, anti stigma and care and support.

Harm reduction

Achievements:

Within the Swedish Red Cross funded programme “Youth and AIDS: peer education”, Russian Red Cross and the Federation conducted activities to determine whether the selected regions were prepared to accept harm reduction programmes; to evaluate the potential readiness of the Russian Red Cross regional committees to implement such a programme; and to find out whether the local authorities support such kind of activities.

Monitoring trips were conducted to the three regions and results collaborated and discussed at a round table meeting attended by representatives of Russian Red Cross, the Federation and the Russian Open Health Institute. Participants analysed the capacity of Red Cross branches to implement such a

programme and potential support from the local authorities. In general, it was agreed that such investigation work into the possibility of introducing harm reduction projects in Russia will be a useful basis and tool for future project implementation. Russian Red Cross has created a draft proposal for project implementation, however this is still to be finalized.

Constraints:

The local authorities' reaction to RRC harm reduction proposals was more negative than positive. However, at present within the Russian Federation there are 43 operational harm reduction programmes run by NGOs, including on RRC project in Irkutsk. Representatives of the institutions mentioned above prefer prevention activities rather than Harm Reduction programmes.

First Aid training

Please refer to the **disaster management** section of this appeal

Support to People living with HIV/AIDS

Due to financial constraints activities were not implemented. However, the American Red Cross funded bilateral programme in Irkutsk continues to seek the following:

- improved community support to children affected by HIV/AIDS
- improved access by HIV + mothers to interventions to reduce mother to child transmission
- improved sustainability of community based care for people living with HIV/AIDS
- increased access of people living with HIV/AIDS to appropriate care and support

Disaster Management

Overall goal

The capacity of the Russian Red Cross is strengthened with respect to disaster management and RRC activity is complementing governmental activities in these regards.

Programme Objective:

The organisational and management capacity of the Russian Red Cross is strengthened in all disaster management areas and at all levels, through closer integration of the Federation logistics, disaster preparedness and response experience with the RRC, the transfer of Federation experience to the RRC in these regards, and via the realisation of projects entailing hands-on service delivery by RRC regional committees and co-ordination by RRC Headquarters.

There are four major components within the disaster management programme: food security; playrooms in Ingushetia; population movement; and disaster preparedness (including first aid training)

In accordance with the Federation Strategy 2010, which prioritises disaster preparedness and response activities, in 2003 the Moscow Delegation gave RRC full support in strengthening its disaster response system capacity. Although disaster response and preparedness capacity remain minimal, RRC in cooperation with the Federation Delegation continued to manage and coordinate disaster response operations and assist vulnerable people affected by natural and manmade disasters throughout the Russian Federation. RRC headquarters officially appointed an experienced head of disaster management indicating a proactive move towards strengthening RRC capacity in this field. Ongoing activities in the regions build upon existing capacities, through training of staff and the development of closer cooperation with RRC Headquarters and Federation Delegation Relief, disaster preparedness and Logistics experts.

Disaster preparedness

Activities conducted within the frames of the Western Siberia project, funded by British Red Cross Society/ DfID, and bilateral projects funded by Finnish, Swedish, and Norwegian Red Cross societies contributed significantly to fulfilling the overall goal.

Though all the above-mentioned programmes are long-term, the Russian Red Cross unfortunately initiated a systematic special purpose disaster preparedness (DP) programme within the disaster

management (DM) programme only in February 2003. Prior to this implementation there was no unified approach or centralized control of RRC disaster preparedness activities throughout the Russian Federation.

Achievements:

During 2003, RRC and the International Federation implemented the following projects and activities to strengthen the national society disaster preparedness base and increase capacity and institutional experience of RRC:

- RRC and Federation worked together in preparing the drafts of the RRC DP/disaster response (DR) Concept and DP/DR National Plan, and legal and standard procedure documents were developed and approved by the RRC Presidium. RRC and the Federation also collected data on proneness of territories to various types of natural and man-made disasters and in order to develop a systematised approach towards implementation of activities a DP/DR capacity self-assessment questionnaire consisting of 7 sections with 70 qualitative and quantitative indicators was designed in accordance with the indicators of a Well-prepared National Society and the elements of Disaster Preparedness.
- 25 RRC regional branches (26% of total) carried out 62 disaster response operations with the total number of affected people fluctuating from 10 to 300 families. RRC applied for Federation DREF funding to assist children affected by the school fire in Yakutia; American Red Cross supported response to fires in Dagestan; a floods response operation in Altai krai was launched within the British Red Cross/DFID funded West-Siberian project. In September 2003, within the Western Siberia project, RRC supported victims of earthquakes in Altai Republic through provision of psychological support and hot food. RRC also successfully raised funds to support victims of the earthquake from the American Church of Latter Day Saints. Agreements of cooperation in disaster preparedness with State, regional and local authorities were newly signed or prolonged, and South Federal district disaster stocks have been set up in accordance with standard logistic requirements.
- In recent years, following the collapse of the Soviet Union, some RRC branches set up voluntary structures engaged in search and rescue activities. These structures mainly work in cooperation with state authorities and are self-financing. Some of the branches also use these structures to attract youth volunteers into the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement. In 2003 the RRC registered these voluntary structures and initiated a capacity assessment on the existence and effectiveness of such structures. In Omsk, a competition was conducted within the Youth Division of the RRC branch to select candidates for training as rescuers/volunteers in the Ministry of Emergencies Civil Defence/ Educational centre.
- Within the frames of the Western Siberia project, RRC and Federation conducted a basic four day DM workshop for RRC regional chairpersons and RRC staff responsible for DM where participants were introduced to primary Federation DM documents.
- The RRC Disaster Management Unit and Federation Delegation DP officer also designed and prepared DM workshop curriculum for North Caucasus region.
- During the reporting period, first aid training of trainers course for West-Siberia region was organized in Tomsk for 18 First Aid instructors from 3 RRC regional branches. Six RRC branches in West-Siberia region were provided with training materials (10 training manuals, 16 Training of Trainers manuals, 1,200 manuals for community-based training) and mannequins (a total of 36 pieces) to conduct first aid training. RRC continues to conduct First Aid training for staff and volunteers throughout the Russian Federation on a regular basis.

Outside the appeal

The RRC with Federation support continued to run programmes in accordance with the objectives of the Emergency Appeal "Floods in the Northern Caucasus and South of Russia". Distributions of relief items to people affected by the floods were completed. The emergency programme strengthened the RRC in the regions in accordance with the Appeal objective, by providing logistical and relief experience to local staff with technical support from the Moscow delegation and the RRC Headquarters. *For further information please see the operation updates for appeal 20/2002 at <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/cn6.asp?iYear=1&xFlag=2&countryid=142&view=1>*

Constraints:

The Federation delegation experienced many constraints in Disaster Preparedness, largely due to the general lack of appreciation of the importance of the programme components (disaster response and preparedness), and minimal understanding of the RRC auxiliary role in disaster response vis-à-vis well-developed governmental structures of Russian Federation. Resistance to reforms and new approaches towards disaster response and preparedness and RRC capacity building promoted by the International Federation Strategy also prevented progress.

The DP/DR National Plan is still not clear nor completed. Results achieved leave much to be desired and it may take a further 12 months to accomplish the task. Furthermore, the planned processing of RRC DP/DR capacity self-assessment data is still not complete and does not represent the current situation due to incomplete data received.

While disaster response operations increased the skills and experience of participating Red Cross branches, only 25 branches (26% of total) assisted people affected by small-scale emergencies. Furthermore, not all response activities were effective in meeting needs. E.g. RRC intervention in floods response operation in Altai krai within Western Siberia project did not affect the priority needs of the population and the speed of the RRC reaction to Altai Republic earthquake was not as timely as it could have been.

In 2004, the Federation delegation hopes to: increase awareness and promote application of standard Federation DM documents; strengthen training component of the Programme; intensify knowledge sharing and exchange of experience with other National Societies that have prominent experience and achievements in this programme area (exchange visits, participation in joint workshops, cross-border cooperation); and employ young people and use voluntary assistance within the disaster management programme

Food security:

The RRC is providing assistance to communities towards the achievement of greater food security in specific target regions for the most vulnerable population.

The food security project only received minimal funding during 2003. Project implementation began only in October 2003 in one region (Magadan oblast) and concrete results of its impact on the targeted community are not yet available. However, through procurement and distribution of 20 fishermen sets, and 4000 seed sets for distribution to approximately 20,000 beneficiaries, Russian Red Cross and the International Federation hope to promote self sufficiency among beneficiaries. Beneficiaries of fishermen sets are fishermen teams and reindeer breeders living in small villages and are selected by the local administration and fishermen department. Each set should last at least three years, and in return for receipt of these sets, fishermen will be required to contribute a number of fish to the neediest population in their home village, including pensioners and disabled. Seed sets – containing seeds to enable food security during summer - will be distributed to the most vulnerable population in Magadan oblast. Beneficiaries include families with several children and a total income below minimum level.

The project is a good example of mutual cooperation between RRC and the local authorities (responsible for registering local fishermen) in assisting locally vulnerable population. So far, Russian Red Cross staff have carried out tender and procurement procedures for purchase and delivery of branch office equipment and fishermen sets. Office equipment has since been delivered and installed at the branch and the first consignment of fisherman sets has been delivered. The project is expected to be completed in March 2004.

Constraints

Due to lack of funding the programme was only implemented in one region. Furthermore, the cost of fishermen and seed sets was higher than budget estimation, and as a result the number of fishermen sets for distribution was reduced from 25 to 20, and number of seed sets from 6000 to 4000. Due to

lack of suitable professional services in the region, Red Cross staff will assemble seed sets and coordinate distribution.

The International Federation appealed for funds to support other food security projects in 2003. Due to lack of support received, projects to establish canteens, mini bakeries and micro financing of community based development projects were not implemented.

Population Movement

The Russian Red Cross is providing relief to the most vulnerable group of refugees, persons in need of shelter, forced migrants and IDPs by providing legal, social and psychological support to promote their adaptation and integration into civil society.

Population Movement is the most successful component within the disaster management section of the annual appeal. Russian Red Cross first initiated population movement projects in 1998 - 1999, and as a result has established an effective network to support the flow of migrants within the Russian Federation. Programme implementation continues to have a positive impact on the organisational development of RRC regional branches, improving RRC material and technical bases through new staff and training, and the establishment of a legal database and monthly reporting mechanisms. The Russian Red Cross image and authority in the sphere of assisting forced migrants has been increased through widespread dissemination of information on RRC activities and establishing contacts with State organisations. Strengthened links with State organisations have resulted in an improved professional level of services provided to migrants. In particular, local authorities have expressed appreciation of RRC presence at railway reception points. In addition, all field trips were conducted by RRC and Ministry of Interior representatives and RRC branches have established relations with the regional departments of State services.

In 2003, population movement programmes were funded by Swedish Red Cross and British Red Cross as shown in table 3 below:

Table 3. Donor support to population movement programmes in 2003

Regions	Activity			Donor support	Implementing timeframe
Regional reception points	Legal counselling points	Emergency legal counselling points at Railway stations	Summer camps for children		
Belgorod, Novgorod, Kaliningrad, Kursk, Orenburg, Kirov, Voronezh, Oryol	Nizhny Novgorod, Vologda	Orenburg, Saratov		Swedish Red Cross	September 2002 - April 2003;
Nizhny Novgorod, Voronezh		Orenburg	Orenburg, Belgorod, Ivanovo	Swedish Red Cross	July – December 2003
Omsk, Novosibirsk, Altai Krai		Novosibirsk	Omsk	British Red Cross	April 2003 – ongoing

During 2003 RRC provided support to 12,519 people in 14 regions (please refer to table 4 below). Regions for programme implementation were selected due to the high number of migrants arriving via large scale transport networks. Beneficiaries of the programme were: forced migrants; refugees; asylum seekers; internally displaced persons; labour and economic migrants; ecological migrants; and migrants without documents. Legal, psychological and social assistance was provided to beneficiaries at RRC regional branches and during regular field trips conducted together with representatives of the Russian Federation migration departments. Services provided at railway stations were conducted on premises provided free of charge by railway committees. RRC activities in the region were covered by local media, regional radio and television, raising awareness of the local population and promoting RRC work.

Table 4. total number of people and visits to RRC reception and emergency reception points in 2003

	No. visits	Migrant visits	No. people	No. migrants
Total	16,650	11,300	12,519	8,468

Table 5. Legal, Psychological, Social and Humanitarian assistance provided in 2003

Assistance									
Legal		Psychological				Social		Sessions	Humanitarian aid
visits	people	visits	people	Tolerance trainings no./ people		visits	people		(in kind)
6,211	5,968	4,661	3,885	58	510	6,725	6,120	133	5,349

Throughout programme implementation improvements were made in conducting psychological, social and legal counselling for forced migrants and alleviating pressures experienced by these groups, in particular during the first months after arrival in the Russian Federation. Analysis of the programme and beneficiary reports recorded by programme counsellors indicate success in meeting the programme objectives. Forced migrants themselves comment that their adaptation to new surroundings was speeded up due to support of RRC services, and the increasing numbers of visitors to reception points throughout the year indicates a heightened awareness of the RRC support network among the beneficiary community and RRC success in convincing forced migrants of the benefits of assistance offered. In addition, the attitude of the local population towards migrants has been positively influenced by information dissemination and RRC seminars and lectures on the problem of forced migration and associated discrimination and tolerance. This attitude change will improve forced migrants feeling of wellbeing and acceptance in their new communities.

Furthermore, well publicised work of the Red Cross has led to increased recognition and the opportunity to develop working relations with non-government institutions dealing with social issues.

Constraints:

The level and training of RRC specialists is an important factor in providing the best service possible. More extensive training is required to cover all staff working on the programme. RRC staff have also noted the insufficient number of legal and psychological materials for migrants, and inadequate supplies of humanitarian aid, in particular availability of food and hygiene kits.

Analysis of RRC programme implementation during the reporting period reveals an effective network established to support the flow of migrants entering the Russian Federation and the increasing numbers of internal migrants. RRC and the Federation require further funding in 2004 to increase capacity and number of regional reception points.

A total of 700 migrant children are integrated through organisation of summer camps in six regions

Within the programme, 4 summer camps for migrant children were organised for 561 children (of whom 120 were migrants' children) in four regions. Participation in the camps was aimed towards social and psychological adaptation and improved health of migrants' children. Red Cross staff and volunteers - among them social workers, psychologists, first aid trainers, medical workers - provided psychological assistance and rehabilitation through a variety of methods: psychological counselling; tolerance training; medical assistance to children suffering from chronic diseases; conducting educational and play activities; providing additional nutrition and vitamins; raising awareness of the

Red Cross movement and preparing children for voluntary work with Russian Red Cross. All children in the camps were also examined by the medical workers, who measured their weight and height every week. The majority of children had gained weight by the end of their stay in the camps. Psychologists also worked individually with migrants' children to discuss and resolve any issues or problems they were experiencing in their personal or school life.

Constraints:

The original target of integrating 700 migrant children through summer camps in 6 regions was not met due to lack of sufficient funding. There is also no standard methodological approach to implementing summer camp projects. As a result, the effectiveness and impact varies from camp to camp. In 2004 the Federation and RRC hope to develop methodologies for better and standardised programme implementation.

Playrooms in Ingushetia Republic

The RRC is promoting the principles of humanity and peacefulness in the face of turbulent changes in the living situation of migrant children, by working with children who have suffered hardships in Chechnya and are now living in migrant camps.

Playrooms in Ingushetia are still working despite the official closure of 2 camps in 2003. This is now the third year during which the Federation has supported playrooms, which were established in tent camps for people displaced by the Chechen conflict to help children with social adaptation, reduction of stress levels, developing children's skills and so on. Russian Red Cross staff continues to assist parents in the ongoing process of children's development and support school teachers in their efforts to prepare children of pre-school age physically and psychologically for school. Schoolchildren sets are to be provided to children attending school. Playrooms are run in cooperation with ICRC, who provide supplementary feeding and other support.

Achievements:

Playrooms funded by British Red Cross functioned through the whole year according to the plan. Schoolchildren sets containing necessary books and stationery were donated to children going for the first time to school. Playrooms facilities underwent necessary maintenance and received toys, books and playing equipment. Children were presented with gifts during state holidays. In addition, trainers taught some children Russian language to facilitate better social integration, and playroom staff and psychologists worked with children and parents providing support to decrease psychological suffering and reduce psychosomatic symptoms caused by harsh living conditions and the experience of living in an armed conflict area.

Overall analysis of activities shows an ongoing improvement in children's behaviour, reduction in stress levels, increased interpersonal skills and achievements in general physical and psychological preparation for school. School teachers in particular comment on camp children's successful adaptation to new school environments, and parents continue to express their support of a project that provides safe surroundings for their children and the reduced pressure on the family to provide an appropriate childhood environment.

Constraints :

Internally Displaced Persons camp "Bella" was closed in September 2003. While the future of other camps remains uncertain, large numbers of camp residents are reluctant to return to their native Chechnya due to ongoing security issues in the Republic, indicating that possible further closures of camps will not solve the IDP situation. Two camps with playrooms run by ICRC have also been closed.

The RRC is providing medical and social support to 1,500 of the most vulnerable forced migrants and refugees in two regions

Due to lack of funding the project was not implemented. However, RRC visiting nurses are supporting migrants in some regions through the population movement programme, by delivering locally financed humanitarian aid and conducting simple medical checks (checking blood pressure etc.)

The organisational and programme management capacity of the RRC Headquarters and regional committees are improved

Achievements: Workshops were organised to train the specialists in local branches and to provide them with the necessary materials and updated information

Constraints: Information campaign and printing of booklets and stickers was not done in time.

Humanitarian Values

Objective: The institutional capacity and public profile of the Russian Red Cross in society and in governmental circles is improved through advocacy in the areas of humanitarian values, and the Movement's fundamental principles, ideals and values are developed in order to assist in the formation of a strong civil society in Russia.

During 2003, the Federation continued to promote and improve the profile of the Russian Red Cross in the area of humanitarian values, and fundamental principles of the Red Cross movement. While funding constraints restricted the implementation of many planned projects, the Federation focused on a successful anti stigma campaign towards the end of 2003.

Reducing HIV/AIDS related stigma

Please refer to “**peer education**” in the health and care section of this report.

Raising the Russian Red Cross's profile

Achievements:

During the reporting period, the information officer actively promoted Russian Red Cross via the following:

- A regional partnership meeting, organised by the International Federation, was held from 7 to 9 April in Minsk for the National Red Cross Societies of Russia, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine and their partner/ donor national societies.
- The information officer conducted various field trips to complete stories promoting Russian Red Cross activities for the Federation website and Red Cross/Red Crescent magazine.

Activities to reduce TB and HIV/AIDS related stigma also directly contributed to raising the Russian Red Cross profile among targeted communities, in particular youth, and attracted new volunteers to the Movement. Please refer to the health and care section of this report for further details.

To improve skills and capacity of the Russian Red Cross, the following took place:

- the Federation's tool for communications within the Red Cross Movement was translated into Russian for use in all Russian language national societies.
- The information officer conducted a seminar on working with mass media for youth volunteers of the Moscow branch of Russian Red Cross.

Constraints

Financial constraints restricted the number of activities designed to increase skills and capacity of the Russian Red Cross in the sphere of communication and advocacy.

Volunteer mobilisation

Due to financial constraints, the activities designed in the appeal were not implemented. However, new volunteers were attracted through implementation of the peer education project.

RRC magazine

Due to financial constraints, the activities designed in the appeal were not implemented. ICRC is reducing financial support to the magazine by 20% per year over 5 years. The RRC and Federation need to address this issue to maintain magazine production.

Reducing TB-related stigma

Please refer to the **health and care** section of this report. Outside of the appeal, RRC visiting nurses continue to conduct anti stigma activities through educational seminars at schools and institutes.

Organisational Development

Programme objective: To assist the RRC in developing its organizational capacity through joint planning, consultation, and coordination in the areas of strategic, legal-normative, financial management, fundraising development, and strengthening of its existing legal network.

Projects designed to meet the objective were: RRC Strategic Development; Legal-Normative documents; Financial Management Improvement; Financial Resource Mobilisation; and Strengthening of the RRC Legal Network.

Achievements: Consistent efforts made by the Federation Delegation and RRC headquarters resulted in the adoption of a Strategic Plan of Development (SPD) 2010, which, however, derived little if any ownership among the regional branches. The process was driven in a top-down manner; the document consistency was broken due to high staff rotation (at the moment of adoption, key persons responsible for the document compilation left the Red Cross). As a result, the final document did not develop into the intended Operational Plan of Development at the regional level. At a later stage, when the newly formed RRC OD department assessed capacity building required by the branches, strategic planning was among the lowest prioritised issues.

In order to endorse consistent institutional development and capacity building of RRC, the Federation Delegation initiated secondment of the organisational development (OD) officer within the structure of the RRC headquarters. The new OD officer has assisted the RRC in the process of internal capacity assessment and performance evaluation and contributed towards further preparation, implementation, monitoring and review of its policies, strategic and operational plans, in particular with regard to the ongoing review of Russian non-profit organizations. Such support to RRC has so far proved to be an adequate and effective measure in promoting capacity building within the organization.

After rejection of the draft RRC law by the State Duma (the parliament), a new draft was developed during 2003. RRC plans to keep pursuing adoption of the new draft of the law during 2004.

In order to assess possible sustainability of RRC programmes, RRC and the Federation Delegation initiated a fundraising review, addressing best practice and organisational development measures as essential preconditions for resource mobilisation activities and assessing methods fundraising practiced by other NGOs. It is hoped that assessment results will allow increasing effectiveness of resource generation activities at branch level.

Capacity building through RRC staff training on Project Planning Process – the Federation’s standard planning and programming tool - took place for representatives of 25 branches (West Siberia, North Caucasus, part of Central and North-West areas) and headquarters staff. At the same time, the Federation Delegation shall continue building the organisational capacity at headquarters level through involvement in the needs and capacity assessment, project planning and monitoring, human resource management, information exchange and support in practicing international standards. However, the main Federation focus shall be to support programme activities and capacity building at the branch level.

The British Red Cross / DFID funded Western Siberian project included support to financial management, youth activities, income generation activities.

Constraints: In May 2003, RRC headquarters adopted a new structure, dividing programme and regional development departments, which resulted in staff reduction and re-positioning. This process of internal restructuring within respective departments is still in progress, and demands highly disciplined communication between the departments. The unclear and transitional state of RRC headquarters continues to negatively impact its coordinating and support role vis-à-vis regional branches.

The Russian Federation government has committed to adopting international accounting standards (GATT) as of 2005. In order to ensure smooth transition and increase professionalism of accountants at branch level, RRC and the Federation Delegation financial departments are conducting joint efforts to identify the most relevant scope and content of intervention.

Coordination and Management

Programme objective: Support is provided to the Russian Red Cross in its development, particularly with respect to coordinating interaction with partner national societies, other donors and agencies and to providing support to the Russian Red Cross in realization of its objectives in the core areas of the Federation's Strategy 2010.

Achievements:

Federation structure: During 2003, the capacity and structure of the Federation Delegation underwent several structural changes – a finance manager replaced the finance delegate, and a programme coordinator, Disaster preparedness officer, TB programme officer and regional reporting officer joined the team. Currently, Federation Delegation is composed of 20 people, including 3 delegates, 7 programme and 10 support staff. It should be mentioned that due to the continually high workload and reduced staff numbers, Federation Delegation staff faces extensive work pressure.

Development of bi-lateral cooperation: A RRC North-West and project coordination group has assumed responsibilities previously covered by the Norwegian Red Cross delegate. This is reflected in the renewed Russian-Nordic cooperation agreement for 2004-08.

The American Red Cross cooperation agreement stipulating supporting role of the Federation Delegation was signed in 2003.

During 2003 the Federation Delegation continued to strengthen its cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) office in Russia, through regular meetings and information exchange. A joint disaster management workshop was organized in North Caucasus region with inputs by the Federation disaster preparedness and relief officers, and technical support offered by the ICRC and RRC. The Federation has also assisted in implementation of the ICRC-funded youth support project in North Caucasus.

Capacity building: Compilation of the annual appeal for 2004-05, based on the Federation's 2+2 planning (a rolling planning process which shapes near-term activities – over two years – and its longer term vision – over the next two years), was an effective, collective capacity building process. It involved RRC and Delegation staff, who developed sets of projects within respective core areas. Operational sites, the Delegation and RRC headquarters were visited by the Federation Secretariat senior health officer and head of regional reporting unit. The Federation HoD visited the Federation Secretariat to contribute to discussions on future cooperation with RRC. The vice-president of RRC visited Federation Secretariat to be briefed on current organizational developments, systems and priorities. Federation Delegation accounting systems were transferred to an on-line regime, with required support by the Secretariat provided through delivery of CODA and budget holders training.

Finally, to boost knowledge and expertise in international procurement and operation management standards, Federation Delegation staff delivered logistics training in the North Caucasus area.

Assessments: a situation assessment in the Far East, conducted by CIDA, resulted in the design of a comprehensive project proposal, which, however, has so far failed to attract funding; Netherlands Red Cross conducted an assessment of the Chernobyl Humanitarian Assistance and Rehabilitation Programme, also evaluating the needs of affected population. As a result, Netherlands Red Cross has signed an agreement committing to support of the programme over the next three years. Danish Red Cross conducted an assessment on possible intervention in terms of provision of psychological support to children in Ingushetia and support to development of youth initiatives in North-West area of Russia and Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova. The results of this assessment are due to be finalized in early 2004.

Visits: During 2003, the British Red Cross regional officer and the British Red Cross secretary general visited RRC project sites and headquarters. The president of Swedish Red Cross made a courtesy visit; the Danish Red Cross desk officer visited to follow up on conducted assessments and discuss possible cooperation. The American Red Cross desk officer visited to monitor project sites and establish contacts with other NGOs in the region.

Constraints: the scope of Federation Delegation support to RRC programme activities and organizational development has been a subject for discussions over 2003, with a clearly outlined need for more extended support in terms of quality of operations. This is a challenge considering the low budget and stretched human resources of the Delegation. Meanwhile, there are a substantial number of donor-driven initiatives which are not necessarily in line with Federation priorities of support and demand partner national society involvement in terms of quality control. A lack of strategic planning and interest in institutional change by RRC headquarters, which tends to see the funding source rather than a partner, further complicates the situation.

International Representation/Advocacy/Public Information

Programme objective: To increase the position and profile of the RRC by providing a forum for dialogue with the government, non-governmental organizations, international organizations, and the UN with respect to active engagement in volunteer-based services to assist the most vulnerable.

Achievements: During 2003, the Federation Delegation and RRC continued cooperation with WHO and USAID on TB control matters. The Federation-designed TB control scheme is to be replicated by other partners within Global Fund application in 2004; for the first time RRC and Federation Delegation representatives have been included into UN extended thematic group on HIV/AIDS; RRC and the Federation Delegation contributed to organization of events on World TB Day; cooperation with ECHO, Danish Refugee Council, UN OCHA, World Bank, TACIS continued through regular meetings; and contacts with Healthy Russia and Swiss Development and Cooperation agency have been established.

Advocacy: Linked to World Aids Day celebration, RRC, supported by the Federation Delegation, produced and distributed 9 types of HIV/AIDS awareness and anti-stigma materials among 16 regional branches. Anti-stigma posters and bill-boards were displayed around Moscow city. Sets of awareness materials have also been shared with all Russian-speaking national societies.

Support to Russian Red Cross as a component of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement: during 2003, RRC representatives joined bi-annual sittings of the Federation Governing Board as a National Society member; attended the Federation's General Assembly, the Movement's Council of Delegates and the International Conference. During 2004-05, Russian Federation is going to chair the Arctic Council, hosting its annual meetings, and represent the International Federation in the Arctic Council.

Constraints: despite joint participation in partnership initiatives, the Federation needs to further support RRC in diversification of its financial resource base. This requires both readiness to ensure transparency of the operations from the Federation Delegation side and aptness to comply with reporting requirements from the RRC side.

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>

[Please click to go to the top of the document](#)

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES

Interim report	
Annual report	X
Final report	

Appeal No & title: 01.84/2003 Russian Federation

Period: year 2003

Project(s): P67902, RU026, 027, 028, 029, 162, 401, 516, 529, 535, 538, 539, 550, 581,

Currency: CHF

I - CONSOLIDATED RESPONSE TO APPEAL

FUNDING	CASH		KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL INCOME
	Contributions	Comments	Goods/Services	Personnel	
Appeal budget	5,837,438				
less					
Cash brought forward	382,123				
TOTAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT	5,455,315				
<u>Contributions from Donors</u>					
American Government USAID (DGUSAID)	1,546,109				1,546,109
British Govt.via British Red Cross (DGNGB)	265,095				265,095
British Red Cross Private donors (DPNGB)	74,157				74,157
British Red Cross (DNGB)	99,778				99,778
Canadian Red Cross (DNCA)	1,458				1,458
Danish Red Cross (DNDK)	49,825				49,825
DFID - British Government (DFID)	206,871				206,871
DFID 3- British Government (DFID03)	79,732				79,732
Donor - Disaster Relief Emergency Fu (DREF)	15,000				15,000
Donor - Unidentified (D000)	1,039				1,039
ECHO/NLRC Floods in North.Caucasus (DERU07)	1,280				1,280
Finnish Red Cross (DNFI)	17,466				17,466
Icelandic Red Cross (DNIS)	49,000				49,000
Netherlands Red Cross (DNNL)	4,087				4,087
Norwegian Red Cross (DNNO)	26,952				26,952
Private donor Latvia (DPLV)	1,922				1,922
Swedish Govt.via Swedish Red Cross (DGNSE)	21,897				21,897
Swedish Red Cross (DNSE)	120,127				120,127
Switzerland - Private Donors (DPCH)	32,463				32,463
World Health Organisation (DH03)	97,389				97,389
 JAPAN				18,000	18,000
 TOTAL	2,711,644			18,000	2,729,644

II - Balance of funds

OPENING	382,123
CASH INCOME Rcv'd	2,711,644
CASH EXPENDITURE	(2,802,453)

CASH BALANCE	291,315

Appeal No & title: 01.84/2003 Russian Federation

Period: year 2003

Project(s): P67902, RU026, 027, 028, 029, 162, 401, 516, 529, 535, 538, 539, 550, 581,

Currency: CHF

III - Budget analysis / Breakdown of expenditures

Description	APPEAL Budget	CASH Expenditures	KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL Expenditures	Variance
			Goods/services	Personnel		
SUPPLIES						
Shelter & Construction	17,818					17,818
Clothing & Textiles		8,929			8,929	(8,929)
Food & Seeds	532,885	290,975			290,975	241,910
Water & sanitation	2,250	11			11	2,239
Medical & First Aid	590,046	233,165			233,165	356,881
Teaching materials	21,792	39,875			39,875	(18,083)
Utensils & Tools	20,208	6,730			6,730	13,478
Other relief supplies	18,654	34,459			34,459	(15,805)
Sub-Total	1,203,653	614,144			614,144	589,509
CAPITAL EXPENSES						
Land & Buildings						
Vehicles	103,022	70,284			70,284	32,738
Computers & Telecom equip.	88,011	58,705			58,705	29,306
Medical equipment	27,259					27,259
Other capital expenditures	14,146	10,960			10,960	3,186
Sub-Total	232,438	139,949			139,949	92,489
TRANSPORT & STORAGE						
Warehouse & distribution	44,035	18,491			18,491	25,544
Transport & vehicles	123,175	75,919			75,919	47,256
Sub-Total	167,210	94,410			94,410	72,800
PERSONNEL & TRAINING						
Personnel (delegates)	160,992	172,957		18,000	190,957	(29,965)
Personnel (regional, national staff)	1,503,958	808,059			808,059	695,899
Consultants	268,986	51,060			51,060	217,926
Workshops & training	541,220	237,319			237,319	303,901
Sub-Total	2,475,156	1,269,394		18,000	1,287,394	1,187,762
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION						
Travel & related expenses	96,578	104,241			104,241	(7,663)
Information expenses	349,862	85,805			85,805	264,057
Admin./general expenses	933,130	241,045			241,045	692,085
Sub-Total	1,379,570	431,092			431,092	948,478
PROGRAMME SUPPORT						
	379,411	183,253			183,253	196,158
Operational provisions		70,210			70,210	(70,210)
Transfers & contributions						
TOTAL BUDGET	5,837,438	2,802,453		18,000	2,820,453	3,016,985