

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

UKRAINE

4 November 2003

Appeal No. 01.85/2003

Appeal Target: CHF 930,961 (USD 684,000 / EUR 599,000)

Budget revised to: CHF 312,064 (USD 230,000/ EUR 200,000)

Programme Update No. 2

Period covered: June – September 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.

For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Update: This update provides details of an appeal budget revision. Because of financial constraints, the Ukrainian Red Cross has decided to focus on currently funded programmes until the end of 2003. Unfunded initiatives, such as the youth Red Cross project, can still be activated to address needs if donor support is secured. In For a live picture of the appeal coverage, click on weblink below

http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual03/1-2-3%20-%20ap018503.pdf

Operational developments

The number of people living with HIV/ AIDS has continued to increase dramatically. Nowadays the incidence rate in Ukraine is one of the highest in Europe. The Ukrainian Centre fighting AIDS confirms that there are over 52,000 people testing HIV-positive and about 4,000 people living with AIDS in the country. At the beginning of 2003 the Ukrainian Red Cross Society met with the Ukrainian Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and other ministers and State committees to discuss the development of the four year (2004-2008) National Programme on HIV prevention, assistance and treatment of HIV-infected people. The programme presupposes participation of the Ukrainian Red Cross Society to implement the following HIV/AIDS related activities: information and education; prevention; reduction of risk behavior; rehabilitation and social support to people living with HIV/AIDS; and providing vulnerable people with access to these programmes.

According to Ukraine Interfax agency and the Deputy State Secretary of Ministry of Emergencies, the accident rate in Ukraine is increasing. There were over 400 technological accidents registered during 2000 resulting in 440 deaths. On average the same number of technological accidents and at least 20 natural disasters occur every year. During the last four years these disasters have caused more than 2000 deaths and material losses estimated at over USD 600 million. The Ukrainian Red Cross continues to work towards reducing the impact of these disasters on vulnerable people through its Disaster Management programme.

On 2 October 2003, a law was passed providing assistance to disabled children from their childhood. This law will facilitate cooperation between the Ukrainian government, different institutions and NGOs, including the Red Cross, who are dealing with this category of vulnerable people.

In June 2003 the International Federation granted 30,000 CHF Disaster Response Emergency Funds (DREF) in response to support an irregular influx of migrants in Western Ukraine. During the reporting period Ukrainian Red Cross implemented this programme, purchasing and distributing humanitarian aid and providing medical and social service to migrants in detention camps in Zakarpattya oblast. Ukrainian Red Cross continues to strengthen and develop its disaster management base via experience gained from this programme implementation. For further information on these activities, please see the information bulletins on the International Federation website: <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/cn6.asp?countryid=1>

Health and care

Overall Goal:

Health status of the population is strengthened through an increased awareness of HIV/AIDS, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and TB, particularly among the elderly, the disabled, groups at risk of HIV and people living with HIV/AIDS.

Programme Objective: The operational capacity of Visiting Nurses Service and Youth of the Ukrainian Red Cross to deliver primary and preventative health care as well as social services in target areas of Ukraine is strengthened.

Progress/Achievements

Visiting Nurses Service

The project was not implemented due to lack of funds. Currently the service employs 3,200 visiting nurses (VNs). The government subsidises the salaries for VNs and local authorities support the Visiting Nurses Service by providing premises for medico-social centres/rooms.

TB/HIV/STDs programme

The project was not implemented due to lack of funds. However, during the reporting period, Ukrainian Red Cross developed the 'Social support of TB-patients under the DOTS treatment regime' programme. Ukraine Ministry of Healthcare included this programme in an application to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM). The Red Cross application for funding from successful Global Fund applicants remains under consideration.

Red Cross youth against HIV/AIDS

In 2002, the Ukrainian Red Cross Society (URCS) implemented the project 'Youth Red Cross against HIV/AIDS' funded by the British Government/DFID (Department for International Development). Red Cross staff and

volunteers learned how to work effectively with at-risk groups, and carried out educational activities on HIV/AIDS prevention among youth. The Ukrainian Red Cross has continued these activities in 2003 under DFID funding.

The main goal of the programme is to reduce the HIV/AIDS morbidity rate by disseminating information about HIV/AIDS among the public via mass media, conducting educational programmes for youth in education institutions, holding seminars for youth leaders and peer to peer training seminars in schools, youth clubs, universities etc. and publishing information materials. The regions chosen for programme implementation are those with the highest incidence rate of HIV/AIDS within Ukraine: Mykolaiv, Odessa and Kherzon Oblasts.

The following activities took place during the reporting period:

- URCS staff agreed on layout of educational leaflets on HIV/AIDS for youth
- Plans and budgets of peer to peer sessions were developed
- Information about the programme was broadcast in the mass media
- 65 youth leaders were trained to conduct peer education sessions
- 370 peer to peer sessions were conducted involving 5155 young people

Table 1. Peer to peer sessions conducted in Mykolaiv, Odessa and Kherzon

	Mykolaiv	Odessa	Kherzon
Number of peer to peer sessions	170	40	160
Number of attendees	2550	605	3000
Age groups	12-14 and 15-18 year olds	12-14 and 15-18 year olds	12-14 and 15-18 year olds
Location of meetings	City orphanages, children's sanatoriums, adolescent clubs, recreation complexes for children, training and automobile colleges, gymnasium, technical school on electrification of agricultural sector, public schools	Schools, secondary and higher level education institutes	Naval, economic and law colleges, regional professional lyceums and technical colleges, public schools, other educational institutes and youth centres

Peer-to-peer training sessions in Odessa, Mykolaiv and Kherzon were held by youth leaders trained on seminars for leaders according to the project realization plan. In accordance with this plan, 60 youth leaders were trained on three 3-day seminars for youth leaders conducted in the participating regions, one in each region. The sessions were held among students, school children and Red Cross volunteers expressing a wish to take part in youth work, as follows:

- in Kherzon city, 11-13 June; 22 leaders trained
- in Mykolaiv city, 17-19 June; 23 leaders trained
- in Odessa city, 9-11 July; 20 leaders trained

Project coordinators organized and participated in the youth leader training sessions with the help of physiologists and physicians. Physicians-epidemiologists, physicians from regional centres for AIDS control, training specialists from regional centres for AIDS control and social workers conducted the training seminars. Participants received “leadership” certificates. Information about the training sessions was broadcast in mass media – TV, radio, newspapers. In addition, Ukrainian Red Cross regional and National Committee project coordinators participated in a seminar for project coordinators and psychologists organized 21-23 May in Poltava. Participants discussed realization of “Red Cross Youth against HIV/AIDS” programme and matters concerning implementation of peer-to-peer sessions, and all coordinators received guidelines and other information materials.

In order to ensure school youth involvement in peer-to-peer sessions, the Ukrainian Red Cross held preliminary meetings with youth administrations and directors of educational institutions. The support of these organizations/directors is fundamental to implementation of sessions among school and student youth. Youths in groups aged 12-14 and 15-18 were selected for participation in the sessions, according to recommendations of specialists. The project coordinator and programme psychologist attended trainings. The National Committee of Ukrainian Red Cross plans to monitor programme activities in October and November 2003.

Impact

During the reporting period Ukrainian Red Cross focused on organization of activities. Project implementation will continue to provide opportunities to increase experience of Ukrainian Red Cross staff in HIV/AIDS prevention work and to develop a contact network amongst State and other organisations operating within the same field. By developing skills and sharing knowledge, Red Cross staff, members and volunteers are able to carry out programme activities more effectively.

Furthermore, training of 65 youth leaders on 3 seminars and conducting 370 peer-to-peer sessions involving 5,155 persons will undoubtedly have had a positive influence on many participants. Each youth leader and session participant receives informational materials promoting healthy lifestyle and raising awareness about HIV/AIDS and drugs, information which contributes to achieving the programme goal to reduce the HIV/AIDS morbidity rate by changing behaviour through informational and educational programmes.

Constraints

No major constraints were encountered during the implementation of this project. However, Ukrainian Red Cross continues to seek funding for the Visiting Nurses Service and TB/HIV/STDs projects.

Analysis and outlook

In the coming years Ukrainian Red Cross will continue to focus on prevention of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis. In 2002, the GFATM pledged a total of USD 92,152,744 to help the Ukrainian government in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Ukrainian Red Cross has submitted a request to the Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) - the coordinating body established in Ukraine according to GFATM requirements - requesting USD 3,271,000 over five years. The result of this application is pending. If successful, the funds will be used to carry out informational/educational activities and provide medical-psychosocial support to youth in rural areas and to street children with an aim of HIV/AIDS prevention. Meanwhile, the Ukrainian Red Cross plans to submit applications to the main recipients of GFATM funding - UNDP and Ukraine anti-AIDS Foundation - for launching a project for sanitary-educational work among outreach population (jobless, homeless people etc.).

The Ukrainian Red Cross is also strengthening its activities on HIV/AIDS harm reduction. In particular the National Committee has submitted an application for participation in the project “Care and Support” announced recently by the Ukrainian Government. This project includes establishment of hospices providing home care and psychosocial support to HIV- positive people. The project application is still under consideration. However, Kiev City Red Cross

Committee also submitted an application and has received a grant from the UNDP for providing care and support to people living with AIDS.

The Ukrainian Red Cross is also considering development of needle exchange points for drug users. Zaporozhye Regional Red Cross branch currently runs a needle exchange programme and the National Society is studying possibilities to extend this programme to other regions in the future.

Disaster management

Overall Goal

The vulnerability level amongst the population most affected by socio-economic difficulties is reduced and their quality of life improved, while at the same time the negative effects of natural and technological disasters are reduced through an increased capacity in disaster preparedness.

Programme Objective:

The organizational and management capacity of the Ukrainian Red Cross is strengthened in disaster management, through closer integration of First Aid activities, as well as disaster preparedness material and technical capacity.

Progress/Achievements

In June 2003 the International Federation granted 30,000 CHF Disaster Response Emergency Funds (DREF) in response to the irregular influx of migrants in Western Ukraine. During the reporting period Ukrainian Red Cross implemented this programme, purchasing and distributing humanitarian aid and providing medical and social service to migrants in detention camps in Zakarpattya oblast. These activities have helped strengthen URCS disaster management department by providing an opportunity to gain experience in disaster situations. For further information on these activities, please see the information bulletins on the International Federation website: <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/cn6.asp?countryid=1>

Disaster preparedness

Increasing Red Cross capacity to assist the population affected by natural and manmade disasters is a priority of Ukrainian Red Cross Society. The national society owns the following Red Cross disaster response services:

1. Disaster service base of National Red Cross Committee in Martusovka in Kiev oblast, situated in a prime location next to the international airport and highway.
2. Voluntary rescue teams (in 8 regional organizations and at the National Committee)
3. Emergency store warehouses in 26 Red Cross regional organizations.

In addition, with help of partner National Societies, the National Committee now has the capacity to run an emergency support camp for 100 people affected by disasters.

The **Disaster preparedness** programme has been financed by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies for two years. In 2002, seminars for members of voluntary rescue teams were conducted, equipment for the electrification of the disaster preparedness base was purchased, and project documentation on the electrification project prepared. For further modernization of the disaster preparedness base the following activities were deemed necessary:

1. To continue electrification to enable use of storage rooms and facilities and space for disaster response training sessions.
2. To purchase equipment for the emergency support camp.
3. To conduct regular theoretical and practical training sessions for members of voluntary rescue teams.

During the reporting period, the following activities took place to meet the programme objective:

1. To continue electrification to enable use of storage rooms and facilities and space for disaster response training sessions

The Ukrainian Red Cross National Committee has conducted tender and procurement procedures for electrification contracts according to International Federation standards. The construction company completed all work according to the agreement made with Ukrainian Red Cross. Due to limited funding, some work plans were not implemented.

2. To purchase equipment for the emergency support camp.

The Ukrainian Red Cross National Committee analysed the potential purchase of bio-toilets for the camp. Results of this analysis showed that so-called “sanitary cabins” were more suitable. The Ukrainian Red Cross submitted an appeal to the International Federation for funds to purchase sanitary cabins in place of the original purchase plan of 5 bio-toilets. Tender and procurement procedures were followed according to Federation standards and two sanitary cabins were purchased. Remaining funds were used to purchase 5 litres of bio-concentrate for servicing toilets.

3. To conduct regular theoretical and practical training sessions for members of voluntary rescue teams.

The programme of seminars was developed and invitations were sent to regional organizations and heads of voluntary rescue teams to attend a seminar from 1-3 July 2003. The seminar objective was: *Modernization of work of URCS voluntary rescue teams in providing assistance to people affected by disasters*. Representatives from Ivano-Frankivsk, Zakarpattya, Lviv, Lugansk, Odessa, Chernivtsy, Chernigiv oblast and Kiev city rescue teams of Ukrainian Red Cross participated. A total of 38 volunteers and members of the National Committee voluntary rescue team assisted in organizing the seminar, which took place near Kiev. Information on the seminar was broadcast in the local mass media (TV news, magazines and radio).

Seminar participants were familiarized with Ukrainian Red Cross disaster preparedness work, and its function within the State countrywide system of disaster preparedness and response. At the same time, the seminar provided a forum for establishing direct relations between representatives of rescue services and teams. Aspects of cooperation between these services and teams were discussed and plans of common training sessions, meetings with the disaster medicine centre, the military emergency-rescue centre (MERC) and operative and rescue service in Kiev were established. In addition, practical skills to set up emergency support camps were rehearsed and experience on providing assistance during disasters was shared. In addition, seminar participants visited the MERC training field and observed training of practical skills on providing assistance during disasters. All seminar participants demonstrated dedication to continue partnerships established at the seminar.

Impact

This programme provides the opportunity to improve qualifications and skills of members of Red Cross voluntary rescue teams and Red Cross staff. It will also strengthen the material and technical base of the Red Cross disaster service. As a result, staff and members will be able to assist disaster victims more effectively. The impact will be demonstrated when the Red Cross is active in response to disasters in the future.

During the reporting period, the focus was on organization of activities for the coming year. The plan for implementation is running as scheduled, and it is expected that by the end of 2003 Ukrainian Red Cross will have a fully equipped disaster preparedness warehouse ready to react effectively during times of crisis. Further activities required to finalize warehouse construction are as follows:

- Installation of water supply and fire extinguishing system
- Construction of administrative building
- Construction of open parking lot for transport
- Construction of fuel supply station (reservoir for fuel, dispensing column, service personnel)

- Construction of hangars
- Construction of boiler room
- Construction of guard post
- Restoration of fence
- Installation of telephone and radio communication

Constraints

No major constraints have been encountered. However, Ukrainian Red Cross has not implemented the following programmes due to funding constraints: First Aid, Disaster Response and Youth Red Cross.

Analysis and outlook

Although electrification has been completed, due to financial constraints the warehouse does not yet have a water supply system and is therefore not at the moment a suitable location for seminars. Once the warehouse is fully equipped, it will be used as a training centre, thus expanding the National Society's capacity.

First Aid

The project was not implemented due to lack of funds.

Disaster response

The project was not implemented due to lack of funds.

Organisational Development

Overall Goal

The National Society's capacity is strengthened at headquarters and branch level, contributing towards an increased role as a community-based humanitarian organisation in Ukraine, able to assist vulnerable groups in an effective way.

Programme Objective

The Ukrainian Red Cross organisational capacities are strengthened, increasing effectiveness of Ukrainian Red Cross programmes in providing assistance to the most vulnerable.

Progress/Achievements

Enhancing the financial capacities of the National Society

In 2002, Ukrainian Red Cross began creating an information network and modern technical base for its financial services. Last year this programme was funded by the Federation's Capacity Building Fund. 17 units of computer hardware (computers, printers, modems) and software were purchased and installed at National Society headquarters and in 13 of the 26 Oblast Red Cross Committees. In 2003 Ukrainian Red Cross planned to purchase a further 13 units of computer hardware and software for those branch committees not covered by the programme in 2002. This activity is funded by the British Government/ DFID.

Project goal:

To build the financial services and reporting capacity of the URCS.

Progress

At the initial stage of programme implementation in 2003, analysis was conducted of all computer equipment and software, taking into consideration the type of equipment purchased for the programme in 2002. Based on the advice and experience of senior accountants, the software chosen was adapted from that initially purchased in 2002. Following this analysis an installation plan was formulated. Tender and procurement was conducted - equipment and software were chosen that met all the requirements for Red Cross finance services and implementation of computer accounting software. In total, 13 sets of computer equipment and software were purchased. All purchases were sent to the local Red Cross branches, checked and the accounting system installed.

Following installation of computers and software, a training seminar in financial programming was conducted for local branch Red Cross staff. The seminar was held in Kiev from 30 June-4 July 2003. 28 local branch and headquarters staff members participated. Due to differences in the level of software operational skills from region to region (50% of all regions recently received new software, the remainder have been working with the software since 2002 and have already obtained some experience), the group was divided in two and appropriate experts trained staff accordingly in necessary skills. During the parallel-run seminars, staff shared experiences, raised questions and recommendations regarding accounting and reporting, and upgraded configurations.

In addition, monitoring of the programme took place in a number of branches, in particular in Poltava, Dnipropetrovsk, Kherzon, Lugansk, Zaporizhzhya, Ivano-Frankivsk oblasts. No problems arose concerning delivered computer equipment and software. All computer equipment is marked with logos of Ukrainian Red Cross and International Federation.

Impact

The new computer hardware and software will assist Ukrainian Red Cross to manage its finances effectively and provide an effective information network between most branches. The seminar held has directly improved skills and knowledge of the Red Cross finance staff and provided a forum for information sharing.

Constraints

No major constraints found in the implementation of this project.

Analysis and outlook

Regional committees in all 25 Oblasts and Kiev City now have new computer equipment and software. Ukrainian Red Cross seeks funds to begin the third stage of programme realization, in 2004, to update computer equipment in the Red Cross headquarters finance department (in 2002 three workstations were replaced, and the remaining three were already installed in 1997) and to equip the ten largest URCS district branches with modern facilities. This project has been included into the Federation Annual Appeal for 2004.

Youth Red Cross

The project was not implemented due to lack of funds.

Coordination/ International Representation

On 15 October 2003, the Ukrainian Red Cross Society organised a “round table” conference to discuss the national governmental programme on combating poverty, potential cooperation between the State and community to ensure an increase in health and welfare of the population at large, and how to guarantee such “social insurance”.

Participants included representatives of the government, Ministry of Health and other institutions. The participants agreed that Ukrainian Red Cross will be responsible for preparing an appeal to the Ukrainian Parliament urging the members of parliament to develop appropriate laws which would legally defend the rights of destitute citizens. This

appeal is being prepared now by the National Committee of the Ukrainian Red Cross and will be submitted to the Ukrainian parliament in the near future.

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>

BUDGET SUMMARY

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.(s) selected: 01.UA/03

Delegation code(s) selected: ZZ

PROGRAMME:	Organisational Development	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Federation Coordination	International Representation	Total
	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Shelter & construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clothing & textiles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food	0	0	2,100	0	0	0	2,100
Seeds & plants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water & Sanitation	0	0	4,000	0	0	0	4,000
Medical & first aid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teaching materials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Utensils & tools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other relief supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	6,100	0	0	0	6,100
Land & Buildings	0	0	36,000	0	0	0	36,000
Vehicles	1,425	13,200	9,600	0	0	0	24,225
Computers & telecom	59,723	0	0	0	0	0	59,723
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other capital exp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL EXPENSES	61,148	13,200	45,600	0	0	0	119,948
Warehouse & Distribution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transport & Vehicules	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRANSPORT & STORAGE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Program Support Recharges	7,684	6,900	5,700	0	0	0	20,284
PSR	7,684	6,900	5,700	0	0	0	20,284
Personnel-delegates	11,760	9,240	7,560	0	0	0	28,560
Personnel-national staff	18,387	21,850	10,750	0	0	0	50,987
Consultants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PERSONNEL	30,147	31,090	18,310	0	0	0	79,547
W/shops & Training	8,000	0	1,800	0	0	0	9,800
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING	8,000	0	1,800	0	0	0	9,800
Travel & related expenses	1,700	3,900	1,200	0	0	0	6,800
Information	100	43,938	4,328	0	0	0	48,365
Other General costs	9,440	7,130	4,650	0	0	0	21,220
GENERAL EXPENSES	11,240	54,968	10,178	0	0	0	76,385
TOTAL BUDGET:	118,219	106,158	87,688	0	0	0	312,064