

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

ETHIOPIA

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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 181 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal no. 01.04/2004 Programme Update no. 01; Period covered: January to June 2004; Appeal coverage: 41.3%; Outstanding needs: CHF 374,206 (USD 295,931 or EUR 244,739).
[\(Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List \(also available on the website\).](#)

Appeal target: CHF 637,924 (USD 479,102 or EUR 410,637)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:

Programme summary: The drought operation that had taken up a significant amount of the national society's time in 2003 has been completed. This will allow the [Ethiopian Red Cross Society](#) more time to focus on internal organizational development and the ongoing disaster preparedness and community development work. Continuous strengthening of systems and structures will have a strong impact on future programme management.

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This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning (refer below to access the detailed logframe documents).

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Operational developments

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society continued its humanitarian and development activities through their health, water and sanitation (WatSan) and disaster preparedness activities with the support of the Federation. The 12th General Assembly of the Ethiopian Red Cross was conducted in May 2004. The 12th General Assembly discussed and passed decisions regarding volunteer management and membership development, capacity building, and the change process to bring about efficient and effective performance. Nine national board members were elected; four of the members were elected for the first time.

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The total number members reached 1.8 million by May 2004 representing an increase of 600, 000 members in one year. The General Assembly agreed to raise the membership by 10% at all levels.

The Federation continued to provide technical support and advice to the national society in its programme development and implementation through its country and regional delegations. An internal organizational development process commenced in the second half of 2003 is still ongoing; this will result in a re-organization of the programme department and the introduction of new systems and structures for financial reporting and lead to significant improvements in the efficiency and effectiveness of programme management.

Health and care

Goal: The health of and care for vulnerable households and communities - including those affected by conflict, epidemics (including HIV), and disasters - is improved and the vulnerability of the community decreased.

Objective: The Federation, throughout the coming four years, facilitates the development of national society capacity in community based health and care programming, including HIV/AIDS and water and sanitation activities by strengthening the capacity of staff and volunteers to reach the most vulnerable communities and build their capacity and awareness on disease transmission and control.

Expected result 1: The capacity of the national society's health programme enables the community to participate in preventive health services so that households and communities are able to reduce their vulnerability to communicable diseases, epidemics, accidents, injuries and to care for their people.

Progress

With support from the Federation, the Ethiopian Red Cross participated in the measles campaign in four districts using 350 volunteers selected from within these communities: Jima Zone in Agaro, Wolega zone in Haru of Oromia region, Assosa in Benshangul Gumuz Region, and Bech Maji in the Southern Nations Nationalities Peoples Region. The volunteers were trained on community-based first aid (CBFA) with emphasis on vaccine preventable diseases. Through the active social mobilization of Red Cross volunteers, 100% vaccination coverage was achieved in the four districts where Red Cross was active. Convenience surveys, performed by the Ministry of Health and WHO, confirmed this coverage as generally in the range of 98-100%. This represents significantly improvements from other similar surveys in the past.

The training of volunteers in other programs was not conducted during the period as most of the programmes and projects were in the planning phase.

Impact

The training and deployment of volunteers in the community has resulted into better immunization coverage. The impact of having volunteers at grassroots' level has been confirmed not only by better immunization coverage but also by reaching the most marginalized segments of the community. The fact that the volunteers are selected from the respective peasant associations was also helpful as these volunteers have the local knowledge and easily identify the most neglected and those who did not show up for vaccination. The registration and mobilization before the campaign was helpful for proper planning based on caseloads. It also facilitated tracing of children who did not come for the vaccination.

The training and deployment of these volunteers will strengthen the volunteer base in the branches and play a vital role in the empowerment of the target communities through their day-to-day interaction. The continuous support of the volunteers to the routine immunization is also expected to contribute towards improved participation of the community in the preventive health services.

Constraints

Lack of adequate resources within the national society has remained the major constraint in service delivery to the community. The support to and coaching of the volunteers is still not satisfactory and the branches are still not in a position to assign a budget for follow up after the deployment of volunteers. There is a need to persuade the

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branches to pay the necessary attention to this community-based service by volunteers. Branches should be able to allocate resources from their own budget for follow up of community mobilization by volunteers.

Poor coordination of the measles campaigns in some of the districts was observed; Ethiopian Red Cross is working with the line ministries and WHO to improve coordination.

Expected result 2: The Ethiopian Red Cross home -based care project for people living with HIV/AIDS has been expanded and gradually increased to reach at least 3,000 people by 2004 and continue thereafter with a similar pace.

To date, the HIV/AIDS programme has supported more than 430 persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) through the home based care (HBC) activity implemented in ten of the 22 branches included in the programme. A total of 270 Red Cross volunteers and family members of PLWHA have been trained as home care providers through the programme. Red Cross volunteers provide nursing care through home visits, offer psychosocial support, make referrals to health facilities, train family members as care providers and make monthly payments for nutritional supplements. The HBC programme has also assisted more than 70 orphaned children whose parents had been beneficiaries of the programme.

Impact

Though it is early to measure impact, the programme has led to an increase in the involvement of PLWHA in the prevention, advocacy, and care activities. Four new local self support groups have been established in Somali, Bale, East Gojjam, and Wollega is also as a result of the intervention.

Constraints

A focus making monthly financial handouts has limited the number of beneficiaries, created dependency by most of the beneficiaries who could have otherwise engaged in productive activities for a considerably longer period of time, and raised doubt on sustainability because community involvement in direct financial payments is very low. The project should instead have adapted an integrated approach that includes psychosocial support, nursing care, referral, treatment of opportunistic infections, and nutritional supplement

Expected result 3: A national society HIV/AIDS workplace policy and educational programme for staff and volunteers has been implemented.

A workplace HIV/AIDS prevention policy has been finalized. Training of 16 peer educators, development of a toolkit for workplace peer education, and distribution of condoms and IEC¹ materials have been undertaken.

Impact

There is more inclination towards openly discussing HIV/AIDS issues among staff. A lot of requests are being received from staff for peer education training and support in conducting peer learning sessions. The administration department has requested for assistance to set up a system for continuous access to HIV/AIDS information for staff through different media like television shows, reading materials, indoor games etc.

Constraints

There is some resistance to the workplace prevention campaigns by some staff for religious reasons. Some people have also not appreciated the need for a concerted effort from everyone in the organization in the HIV/AIDS campaign and consider it the responsibility of the HIV/AIDS unit.

The withdrawal of support to some branches by Pathfinder and UNICEF will require the national society look other relatively long term partners.

Overall the primary challenge facing the programme is the difficulty to keep the momentum of the scaling up process due to three major reasons:

¹ IEC – Information, Education and Communication

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1. Fragmentation of the programme due to different requirements from donors for financial management, reporting, funding release procedure, etc. As a result the headquarters coordination unit spends most of their time handling administrative issues instead of providing technical assistance to branches
2. Erratic, unpredictable, and unreliable flow of funds from the government's HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Office (HAPCO) which is second major partner of the national society in the programme. As a result, project activity in the HAPCO supported branches have had to stop for several months due to lack of funds.
3. Lack of capacity in many branch offices to efficiently discharge their duties and report in time resulting in incomplete reporting to partners and hence delay in fund transfers.

Expected result 4: The long-term water and sanitation strategy of the national society has been established and endorsed and is promoting the role of the national society with regard to provision and coverage of sustainable safe water and sanitation services in the communities through coordinated interventions and as a result of increased resource mobilization and project expansion.

Twenty three water points have been established in Gursum through the support from American Red Cross. another ten water points and four public latrines constructed in North Shoa, East Wollega, Sidama, and Somali regions was completed with support from other partners including the Swedish Red Cross and British Red Cross.

A review workshop conducted during the period with the support of the regional WatSan team assessed the strategies and approaches in the implementation of the Ethiopian Red Cross WatSan programmes and discussed the draft Ethiopian Red Cross water and sanitation strategy. Subsequently a revision of the policy has been initiated to include comments from the workshop.

Impact

The Ethiopian Red Cross WatSan programme has contributed to the provision of safe water to the rural community. A review of the WatSan intervention in Gursum woreda highlighted the effectiveness of health education campaigns of Red Cross volunteers trained in the PHAST² methodology.

Constraints

The transition by the national society from contractor based to self managed WatSan interventions is still not fully completed due to lack of resources to support the implementing branches. Additional human resource capacity as well as the procurement of basic technical material would enhance the ability of the national society to carry out the WatSan projects on its own.

The current planning frame of one year does not allow the national society to plan and implement the software components (PHAST training) of the WatSan programme that requires intensive intervention to achieve impact on the knowledge, attitude and practice of the population. The rainy season also reduces the actual implementation time for hardware components and often results in under spending of funds.

Disaster Management

Goal: Risk to disasters is reduced and response is more effective when disasters occur.

Objective 1: Through Movement support, the preparedness and response capacity of the national society at headquarters and branches located in high-risk areas is strengthened .

Progress

Expected Result 1: The national society carries out vulnerability and capacity analyses in a minimum of two selected areas per year.

Owing to heavy workload in the Ethiopian Red Cross disaster management unit, a planned vulnerability capacity analysis (VCA) training did not take off. Ethiopian Red Cross disaster management unit was fully occupied in conducting VCA and preparing food security proposals to partners and in making preparations for branch disaster response team training for South Wollo and West Hararghe branches

² PHAST – Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation

Constraints

The disaster management unit lacks adequate personnel. Recruitment for a Disaster Preparedness Officer announced in 2003 has not been filed due to high salary demands from the selected candidates. The delay in filling this position has exerted a lot of pressure on the existing staff of the unit. Unplanned donor demands on the national society have delayed the implementation of the 2004 plan.

Expected result 2: The capacity of the national society to analyze needs and implement food security programmes has been improved

Ethiopian Red Cross branches are in the process of identifying candidates for food security training for 25 national society staff and 50 volunteers will commence in July.

Implementation of two food security project proposals developed for South Wollo and Gursum in 2002 has not commenced due to lack of funds due to priority given to the drought emergency (2002/2003). However, a proposal for a long-term development intervention has been submitted to Spanish Red Cross based on the results of a VCA conducted in 2003 VCA in Kutaber and Ambassel regions.

In collaboration with Spanish Red Cross two VCA were carried out in South Wollo, Legambo and Tehuledere woredas. Using the data obtained from the VCA exercise, project proposals for food security interventions were developed and submitted to the Spanish Red Cross.

As a member of the Early Warning Working Group, the Ethiopian Red Cross continuously strengthens its relationship with the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC) of the Ethiopian government through participation at monthly and bi-weekly meetings. Partnership with other agencies involved in food security has been strengthened and the Ethiopian Red Cross takes part in regular meetings, information sharing with EU, USAID, Save the Children-UK, OCHA³, and WFP etc. The Ethiopian Red Cross participated in the multi-agency crop assessment mission for the pre harvest following the Belg and Meher rainy seasons conducted from 14 April to 1 May.

Impact

The skill and expertise of the national society staff in developing proposals has been significantly enhanced. Through the participation in the assessment with the multi-agency team, the Ethiopian Red Cross staff have gained experience in data collection and analysis, and been familiarized with early warning data collection methodology as well as report writing.

Constraints

The lack of funding has severely constrained the implementation of food security projects.

Expected result 3: The capacity of the national society to respond to disasters at national and local level has been strengthened

Branch exchange visits for experience sharing and learning has not started due to the heavy workload on the disaster management unit.

However, trained Ethiopian Red Cross staff have been deployed for successful VCA activities and have demonstrated their capacity to develop food security proposals. National society staff have also participated in various workshops and assessment to further enhance their disaster response capacities. These include participation of four Ethiopian Red Cross staff trained in food security in the multi-agency crop assessment mission mentioned under expected result 2, and two Ethiopian Red Cross disaster management unit staff

³ OCHA – (UN) Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

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participating in a Horn of Africa food security strategy workshop organized by the Regional Disaster Management Coordination unit in Djibouti.

National disaster response team training for staff and volunteers planned in the second half of the year will serve to further enhance the capacity of the national society in disaster response.

Impact

The national society has made good achievements in building the capacity of staff in disaster response and in implementing complex emergency relief operations. This was confirmed during VCA activities coordinated jointly with Spanish Red Cross and by the evaluation of the 2003 emergency response operation in Ethiopia (a full report on the evaluation is available separately from both the regional and Ethiopia country delegations of the Federation)

Constraints

Refer to expected result 1 on the lack of adequate human resources in the disaster management unit.

Expected result 4: The capacity of the national society to mitigate and respond to conflict related humanitarian issues has been improved

The allocation process for contingency stock in ten branches has been completed and delivery made to two branches in Gambella and Bench Maji. The delivery of stocks to Asossa is in process.

The national society has been closely monitoring the conflict situation in Gambella and provided timely response through provision of relief items using its contingency stocks donated by ICRC. The conflict preparedness and response team has not yet been established due to the heavy workload and understaffing in the Ethiopian Red Cross disaster management unit.

The Ethiopian Red Cross is coordinating and monitoring the implementation of a number of conflict preparedness and response related interventions (a street children project, land mine awareness dissemination, HIV/AIDS, tree planting and branch capacity building) in Tigray, Gurusum, Afar, Bale, Borena, Somali, Wolayita, Gambella, Benshangule and Bench Maji in collaboration with ICRC.

Impact

The intervention in Gambella has saved the life of people affected by internal conflict. The landmine awareness helps the displaced people in Tigray to take care of landmines and unexploded ordinances. About 27 people have disclosed themselves as HIV positive through the HIV/AIDS project for the demobilized soldiers in Tigray, and now being assisted by the branch office through its home care support programme

The street children project has benefited 38 former street children who have demonstrated behaviour change, are attending school regularly and have become a good example to the others. Another 200 street children living with their families are also encouraged to attend school regularly.

Most families that took microfinance credit for income generating activities have paid back and are eligible for a second round disbursement to improve their businesses. The regional government has expressed appreciation for the involvement of the Ethiopian Red Cross in these activities that is enabling displaced persons to become self-supporting.

Constraints

Despite intensive peer education activities by the Tigray branch, very few of the demobilized soldiers have come forward to be involved in the programme that aims to break silence and stigma surrounding HIV/AIDS.

Objective 2: The Ethiopian Red Cross has a training manual on 'Introduction to Disaster Management' as an operational tool and the DP/R policy, food security strategy and operations manual translated into Amharic and in use for training and guidance for DP/R interventions .

A consultant contracted in April has commenced work on the process that is expected to be completed by mid-August 2004.

Constraints

Consultancy costs were unexpectedly high in the initial tenders and hence delayed commencement of implementation. The cost was however significantly reduced after negotiation.

Objective 3: Production of drought affected people in Ambassel, Kutaber and Doba woredas through provision of agricultural inputs is improved

Based on the request made by authorities in Ambassel and Kutaber Woredas, South Wollo and in Doba Woreda in West Hararghe, the Ethiopian Red Cross and the Federation purchased seeds and fertilizers in support of the chronically food insecure people; a large part this population also qualified for last years' emergency intervention. The provision of agricultural inputs is being implemented in collaboration with the woreda line departments. The type and amount of seeds purchased and being delivered are indicated in the table below:

No	Woreda	Type and amount of Fertilizer (MT)		Type and amount of seeds (MT)						House holds covered
		DAP	UREA	Maize BH140	Maize Katumani	Potato Tolcha	HAR 1685 Wheat	Barley	Teff	
1	Doba	333.2	332.2	8.625	6.225	-	-	-	-	1,188
2	Ambassel	30.0	15.0	-	-	30.000	345.00	-	-	1,522
3	Kutaber	45.0	22.5	-	-	-	197.43	32.600	43.037	2,980
	Total	408.2	369.2	8.625	6.225	30.000	542.43	32.600	43.037	5,690

The targeting of beneficiaries and distribution of inputs in Doba was completed in April; the same process was completed in June in South Wollo. Planting of the long cycle crop maize is done in April and May in Doba while planting of short cycle crops will begin in the first week of July in South Wollo. Monitoring of the distribution of agricultural inputs and their utilization will continue until end of December 2004.

Impact

The impact will be evaluated after harvesting in November and December

Constraints

About 17 MT of barley was not purchased due to poor quality. One variety of maize was not procured and distributed to farmers because suppliers did not submit quotations. Procurement of sorghum was not done due to a last minute revision of the needs. The procurement, approval and tendering processes for transport have taken more time than expected.

Objective 4: Food security of the populations in Ambassel and Kutaber woredas, South Wollo is improved through horticultural practices introducing micro irrigation schemes and the access to safe water.

Site selection and implementation is planned to start as soon as the budget is approved. The introduction of small scale irrigation schemes will be implemented in collaboration with the woreda line departments. The criteria for selection of target areas will be developed in consultation with the woreda rural development office.

Impact

The impact can only be seen a year or two after implementation

Objective 5: Availability of safe water in Doba is improved through the drilling of a borehole .

Site selection and hydrological survey for one borehole was completed in 2003 within the framework of the drought emergency operation. Drilling is ongoing.

Impact

The impact will be seen after work is completed

Constraints

Several contractors withdrew at the last minute when they realized they could not undertake the work, hence delaying the process somewhat.

Objective 6: Peoples access to safe water through construction of ponds in Merti woreda of Arsi Zone is improved.

This activity is presently in the planning stage. Site selection will be done in collaboration with the line departments as soon as the budget is approved. WatSan activities will be implemented with the support of the Ethiopian Red Cross WatSan unit.

Organizational Development

Goal: Implementation of characteristics of a well-functioning national society has improved Ethiopian Red Cross in the three key areas: foundation, capacity and performance.

Objective: With secretariat support, Ethiopian Red Cross has strengthened its capacity at headquarters and branches to respond to humanitarian emergencies and development needs of the communities.

Progress

Expected result 1: Adequate organizational and staffing structures are in place which respond to the needs of the national society's programmes and projects, promoting effective and efficient communication and coordination within headquarters' departments as well as between headquarters and branches, encouraging a proactive planning, implementation, evaluation and reporting of programs.

A consultant to undertake the human resources study of the national society was identified following a thorough selection process during the first four months. The consultant has developed a plan of action after briefing on the strategic plan, structure and systems of the Ethiopian Red Cross. A large number of headquarter and branch staff answered questionnaires and personal interviews in May. The consultancy team is in the process of conducting further interviews as well as assessing the branches. Funding for the first step in the human resource study was secured through the carry over of funds from the organizational development budget of 2003.

Although not formally part of the Annual Appeal of this year it should be mentioned here that the review on the reporting capacities of the national society has led to a report which was presented to branches in January and shared with partner national societies (PNS). A plan of action developed is under implementation. Part of the recommendations was to centralize programme coordination to the programme department; the handover period that started in May was completed on 1 July and the new program coordinators are now fully in charge. A number of technical changes will also be undertaken as a result of the reporting review. Both branch and headquarter staff will receive training on a new reporting procedures and formats, new communication lines and coordination roles. The internal audit department will no longer carry out pre-audit of purchasing vouchers but focus on monitoring and support of accounting capacities particularly at branches and also at headquarters.

The Federation organized a workshop in February focussing on communication, collaboration and coordination as part of the evaluation of the drought emergency operation 28/2002. The workshop which was carried out as a participatory scenario exercise strongly promoted learning with regard to integration of programme activities and lateral communication between stakeholders. Further exercises of this kind are planned in the future.

Impact

A first draft report of the human resources study will be presented after 20 weeks (September/October 2004). In the interim, regular progress reports will be given to the Ethiopian Red Cross senior management at least once every six weeks. News of the commencement of the study was well received by both the board and staff during the 12th General Assembly of the national society held in May 2004.

it is still too early to measure impact of the reporting review. However, attitude and expectations towards the suggested changes are very positive both at headquarter and at branches. PNS are also strongly supportive of the process.

Communication between headquarter departments has improved in the daily work; attention is given to an integrated approach in planning for new projects.

Constraints

Although funding has been secured for the first phase of the human resources review through carry over of 2003 funds, the response from donors has been very low which in turn delayed the start of the assessment. Securing funds for the implementation phase is likely to be a challenge. Most activities under the reporting review are going according to plan although minor delays were occasioned by the preparations for the General Assembly.

Expected result 2: Vvolunteer involvement in activities are based on a clearly defined policy for volunteer management, training and development; an adequate number of volunteers have been recruited and maintained

A youth policy approved by the General Assembly in 2002 has been in use at branches. The policy was a complement to the volunteers' guideline that had been in use since 1996. Further, a local review on volunteers' roles and needs was carried out in 2002, resulting in an assessment report whose recommendations was distributed to the branches in 2003 to help improve volunteer management.

Red cross youth volunteers provided services in relief operations, ambulances services, first aid service in hospitals, membership recruitment, and dissemination and branch resource mobilization activities under the existing policy and guidelines. Management of adult volunteers has until today been limited to governance and minor professional interventions. First aid trainings were provided to almost all volunteers organized in Red Cross youth clubs in schools and other organizations.

The implementation of the HIV/AIDS programme in the communities has lead to the strong participation of volunteers in the 22 implementing branches. About 75% of the programme implementation duties are being carried out through the direct and indirect involvement of volunteers.

Impact

All branches have and actively apply the youth policy and volunteers guideline in their daily volunteer management. Although the actual number of volunteers has decreased in the last two years, volunteers have achieved a strong commitment, awareness and knowledge about the role of volunteering. Owing to the dedication, discipline and high level of training if Red Cross volunteers, other NGO and government organizations often request volunteers on loan for technical support and advice in their programmes.

According to the study carried out in 2002, misunderstandings between youth volunteers and branch management on the role and activities of the volunteers were a major problem. This problem has now been overcome and the volunteers are closely networking with the branch offices to keep themselves informed about Red Cross activities in their home areas which in turn improve their work in the communities.

Apart from the regular HIV/AIDS programme activities, some ten branches have initiated HIV/AIDS dissemination activities within the workplace as an initiative taken by the volunteers. Gradually more people are aware of the role of Red Cross in HIV/AIDS programme and the overall role of volunteers.

Constraints

The number of Red Cross youth members declined from 100,000 in 2002 to 73,000 at the end of the first quarter of 2004.

The incentives provided by other NGO to volunteers are often significantly higher than those provided by the Red Cross and hence some opt to joint these other NGO. To avoid loss of volunteers it is essential to achieve a common approach to volunteering within as well as outside of the Movement⁴.

Coordination with other departments of the national society is rather weak and needs consolidated efforts to ensure an integrated approach to volunteer management. There is limited support to volunteer management from PNS as well as funding for youth leaders and first aid training. A shortage of funds for the overall development of volunteer management and coaching, including the enrolment of adult volunteers into regular activities, are major constraints. This is partly due to a weak consolidated planning by the Ethiopian Red Cross. A coordinated approach to recruitment and coaching would ensure sustainability with regard to volunteering.

The role and importance of volunteers in Red Cross activities was not given due attention under the decentralization process which started in 1999; however, the Ethiopian Red Cross management is today fully aware of this gap and has refocused its efforts in this respect through the overall branch development activities.

Expected result 3: Reliable and sustainable financial resource base has been established at all levels, reinforcing the funding base of the national society for core as well as program expenses

The position of an income generation officer was finally filled at the end of 2003. This has resulted in a more consolidated support to branches and headquarters in this area. The Ethiopian Red Cross general investment policy serves as the income generation policy for the branches; a new guideline is under development. More than 75% of Ethiopian Red Cross branches are generating their own income to cover their annual administrative expenses. As part of the decentralization process, the national society developed an income distribution guideline and procedure during the first quarter of 2004. Accordingly, the Red Cross committees at grassroots level, as well as in woredas, zones, regions and headquarters will get a fixed proportion of the income generated from membership, income generation programmes and other sources.

Zonal and regional branches are securing subsidy support from their local governments. In the beginning of 2004 six zonal branches got an average of 40,000 Birr of annual support from their local zonal government councils, while the SNNRS and Amhara regional branches have obtained subsidy of 250,000 and 400,000 birr respectively for the present fiscal year.

Impact

The support provided to the three regional branches by the headquarters is expected to stop as from the third quarter of 2004, thanks to the decentralized income distribution and local government support schemes. This should result in about 90% of the branches being self sufficient by the end of 2004.

With the support of headquarters, the branches are encouraged to ensure that their income generation projects are profitable and sustainable. Through thorough analysis it has been shown that self-management of some projects was not sustainable and alternative approaches have been encouraged. It is expected that at least 60% of the income generation projects will be profitable by the end of 2004. Further screening and analysis of the remaining 40% of ongoing projects is required.

Constraints

There is low capacity of branch staff in designing and managing income generating projects which has often lead to inaccurate feasibility studies and improper management of projects. The prevailing unstable market and investment opportunity in the country has hampered the effectiveness of the income generation projects; a project proved to be feasible could turn to deficit a year later due to unforeseen economic changes.

⁴ 'Movement' refers to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

Humanitarian Values

Goal: Movement Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values are known and respected throughout Ethiopia and, as a result, discrimination against vulnerable groups is reduced.

Objective: The Federation secretariat supports Ethiopian Red Cross by increasing its capacity to promote Movement Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values and promote its image throughout the country.

Progress

Expected result 1: The national society is positively advocating, assisting and protecting the most vulnerable - i.e. persons living with HIV/AIDS, people affected by disaster, people lacking access to basic health and water and sanitation services - through influencing behaviour in the community (governments, donors, private sector and other members of the civil society).

The information and public relations service has continued to disseminate the principles of the Red Cross Red Crescent through organizing press conferences where the leaders of the national society speak on behalf of the vulnerable to influence decision makers at all levels. The President of the Ethiopia who is the patron of the national society made a speech during the 8 May World Red Cross Day celebration as well as at the opening of the 12th General Assembly of the Ethiopian Red Cross at which he emphasized the importance of mobilizing an overall support to the work of the Red Cross from all stakeholders in the community.

The national society also carries out continuous advocacy work through its community HIV/AIDS, health, WatSan and disaster management programmes. These have further encouraged the active participation of Red Cross youth and volunteers at branch level.

The Norwegian Red Cross has offered technical support to the Ethiopian Red Cross Information Unit in which a Norwegian Red Cross Press Officer was deployed to Ethiopia to coach the Ethiopian Red Cross information Officer over three weeks.

Impact

The Red Cross is considered a relevant and respected partner in providing services to the most vulnerable people in the country.

Constraints

The capacity of the Ethiopian Red Cross public relations and information services still need to be strengthened through the procurement of equipment and recruitment of staff. An additional Press Officer will be recruited in 2004.

Expected result 2: The image of the national society has been promoted through regular dissemination and information activities.

Three newsletters, two press conferences and several news paper articles on the national society were produced during the period. A new dissemination brochure in Amharic and English is being prepared with the support of ICRC and will also to be translated into other local languages. Posters carrying different Red Cross themes have been produced and distributed to the branches over the period.

A radio programme is transmitted twice a week in Amharic and introduces the principles of the Movement and the activities of the national society. A similar promotional program is transmitted once a week on television. 10,000 copies of leaflets on the Red Cross principles and International Humanitarian Law were reprinted and distributed to branches for use as educational material in membership recruitment. The newly-developed Ethiopian Red Cross website has yet to be fully operational, even though information about the national society and its activities is regularly updated.

Impact

The active information dissemination campaign has created awareness and understanding of the role and mandate of the Red Cross within the general public.

Constraints

The capacity of the Ethiopian Red Cross information department still requires strengthening. Cooperation and exchange of information among the Ethiopian Red Cross departments and branches is weak and needs to be improved. The annual budget for dissemination and promotion of humanitarian values is insufficient. Further, dissemination and promotion of humanitarian values is presently carried out by two different departments; this will be address through the ongoing human resources review.

Expected result 3: The role and importance of the public relations and information department has been fully recognized internally and externally.

A system of networking is under development. Relationships and cooperation with many of the stakeholders at national and international level in the field is improving. The information department still needs to improve the understanding of its role and responsibilities internally in order to receive full support from within the organization.

Constraints

Trainings for the staff on promotional activities and internal networking have not taken place partly due to delays in recruiting additional staff at the department. The preparations for the General Assembly also affected the planned schedule of these training.

Expected result 4: The national society funding base has been increased

The overall membership of the national society increased from 1.2 million to 1.8 million in the last 12 months, thanks primarily to efforts from the branches, volunteers' activities within communities and active dissemination of information. The national society's activities in West-Hararghe have resulted in an increase of 30,000 new members from almost none.

Impact

The increased membership base contributes significantly to the economy of the branches. A voluntary financial contribution was received from a private donor within Ethiopia which was a clear result of media coverage and dissemination activities of the information department.

Coordination, Cooperation, and Strategic Partnership

Goal: Ethiopian Red Cross is empowered to achieve its mandate through strong partnerships .

Objective: Ethiopian Red Cross' integrated capacity building, planning and implementation skills are ensured by the Federation through participatory facilitation.

Expected result 1: Knowledge sharing and analysis of situations with partners has been ensured leading to more effective coordination and cooperation between partners.

The Federation Representative for Ethiopia promotes the sharing of experiences within the national society and between the national society and its partners through daily support to programme and policy implementation and development. Programme planning, information sharing and coordination of external assistance have minimized duplication and maximized resources and support from partners. PNS supporting the Ethiopian Red Cross pay regular visits to Ethiopia for consultations on programme support while the American Red Cross and Danish Red Cross have in-country Programme Coordinators which simplifies the coordination role of the Federation

Ethiopia; Appeal no. 01.04/2004; Programme Update no. 1

Impact

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society is actively developing its partner relationships trying to diversify the funding sources for program support. The role of the Federation in coordinating the support as well as supporting the daily program management through policy discussions with key staff has led to a more consolidated approach to program management.

Constraints

The 2003 emergency relief operation took up a substantial amount of the Federation's time and decreased the coordination role. More effort will be dedicated to this area in 2004 with the completion of the operation in at the end of 2003.

Expected result 2: Regional cooperation has been promoted.

The exposure of Ethiopian Red Cross within the regions was increased during the period: the Federation facilitated an exchange visits between the Ethiopian Red Cross and Uganda Red Cross and Kenya Red Cross; a member of the information department attended the regional communications forum in Nairobi organized by Federation and ICRC; and an Ethiopian Red Cross Health Officer took part in the Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) training in Rwanda.

Two representatives of the Rwandan Red Cross undertook an exchange visit to learn from the Ethiopian Red Cross decentralization process while two Ethiopian Red Cross staff from the disaster management unit attended the Horn of Africa contingency planning workshop in Djibouti organized by the Federation Regional Delegation.

Ethiopian Red Cross has shared experiences on the HIV/AIDS HBC programme of the Mombasa branch of the Kenya Red Cross.

Impact

Regular exchange either through workshops or individual visits have greatly enhanced the capacity of and exposing Ethiopian Red Cross staff to experiences from other national societies.

Constraints

More often than not it is usually headquarter staff who get opportunity to participate in workshops and exchange visits; branch staff and volunteers should also be given opportunities. Funding constraints has been the main reason for this; ways of securing funding through bilateral programmes could be explored.

Expected result 3: The Cooperation Assistance Strategy process has been facilitated and coordinated.

Plans for a review of the strategic development plan 2001 - 2005 are under discussion. A Cooperation Assistance Strategy (CAS) for 2003-2005 exists and will be projected to 2006-2008 as soon as the strategic development plan for 2006-2010 is finalized.

Expected result 4: Partners have been encouraged to provide assistance in line with national society's priorities and needs.

Through continuous dialogue, partners are encouraged to respect the needs and priorities of the national society identified in their plans. The national society is also encouraged to make thorough plans which can be presented to partners for funding rather than waiting for initiatives from partners based on potential funding.

Impact

It is difficult to measure impact from these interventions although the national society seems to be strengthening its negotiation capacity with partners.

Constraints

Availability of funding sometimes plays a decisive role on the choice of areas of intervention. Funding pledges are often presented within short notice with the result that time the preparation of proposals is often limited hence impacting on quality. It also makes the possibility of a participatory approach difficult.

Expected result 5: The organization of partnership meetings has been facilitated

A partnership meeting will be held either in the last quarter of 2004 or in 2005.

Expected result 6: The organization of regular meetings with the ICRC and partners has been facilitated

Regular meetings are held between the Ethiopian Red Cross, ICRC and Federation for information sharing and coordination. Plans are underway to incorporate the two in country coordinators of the American Red Cross and Danish Red Cross to regularize meetings with all components of the Movement.

Impact

A relaxed and good relationship between Movement's partners exists which promotes information exchange and coordination of activities.

Constraints

Time limitations have not allowed for as many such meetings as would have been desired.

Effective Representation and Advocacy

Goal: The Federation has a high profile as a key humanitarian actor and advocate in the region with the added advantage of a network of national societies able to deliver services at community level.

Objective: The Federation is an effective and reliable partner supporting Ethiopian Red Cross in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable.

Expected result 1: The Federation is recognized as a competent partner among international and national NGO operating in Ethiopia, the African Union, the national government, diplomatic missions and domestic donors .

Federation is represented at general meetings organized for the NGO and the UN. The Ethiopian Red Cross is a well known partner in humanitarian and development activities in Ethiopia and maintains a close relationship with government line ministries and the disaster prevention and preparedness commission. Contacts are maintained with diplomatic missions, through which the Federation Representative promotes the work of the Federation and the Ethiopian Red Cross in particular. The Federation Representative also attends regular security meetings at international level.

Impact

The role of the Federation is well known in Ethiopia.

Constraints

The lack of an official status for the Federation in Ethiopia has denied it invitations to meetings where the presence of the federation could be relevant. Intensive networking has however improved this situation. A closer relationship with the African Union has not been developed due to lack of directives from the Secretariat.

Expected result 2: Policies and strategies of the Federation are well recognized amongst all stakeholders in the humanitarian field in Ethiopia.

The Federation policies and strategies with regard to humanitarian assistance were promoted mainly through the relief intervention in 2003. With the support of the Federation, the Ethiopian Red Cross is a major player in long term disaster preparedness and development activities. Information about the Federation as a whole is usually advocated through informal contacts while media features on the work of the Ethiopian Red Cross have greatly promoted knowledge of the Red Cross among the public.

Impact

Knowledge of the role of the Federation as a partner in humanitarian assistance in Ethiopia is widespread. However, more advocacy work is required for development activities.

Constraints

The continued lack of legal status agreement with the government has limited the participation of the Federation in some fora.

Expected result 3: the Federation Representative maintains an active information exchange on humanitarian and security issues with diplomatic missions in Ethiopia.

The Federation Representative attends monthly security meetings at the Swedish Embassy where information on major events is shared. Further sharing of information on security takes place with ICRC, consultation with the international and national community and through monitoring of event via the media.

Impact

Federation Representative is well informed of the security situation in the country and can brief partners and colleagues that are undertaking missions in the country.

Constraints

Most of the information especially in the media is frequently disseminated in Amharic.

Expected result 4: The secretariat's regional delegation promotes and supports an active participation of Ethiopian Red Cross in regional and international fora of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The Ethiopian Red Cross is regularly invited at regional and international workshops and meetings through facilitation by the Regional Delegation as well as Secretariat in Geneva. During the period these have included the communications forum in Nairobi, the disaster management workshop in Djibouti, HIV/AIDS conferences, WatSan trainings, and RDRT training etc.

Impact

The exposure and lessons learnt through exchange programmes with operating national societies has promoted the development of new ideas and initiatives from the knowledge gained. This has had positive impact on the programme planning, management and implementation as a whole.

Constraints

Besides funding constraints especially for exchange programmes, knowledge sharing within the organization is often neglected.

Delegation Management

Goal: Ensure Federation support to the national society for the coming four years .

Objective: Ensure efficient and effective support is extended to the Ethiopian Red Cross Society through a well functioning Federation presence in the country during 2004 and through the Federation sub-office for the coming years .

Expected result 1: Efficient and effective management of the Federation presence in Ethiopia has been put in place.

A well functioning Federation country office is in place, integrated into the national society structure and staffed by one finance and administration officer and one driver/assistant both locally recruited.

Ethiopia; Appeal no. 01.04/2004; Programme Update no. 1

Impact

The Federation office provides full support to the national society in coordination and programme management as well as guidance for the change processes in the national society initiated during 2003 (e.g. the human resources and the reporting reviews). The office also provides due support to partners.

Constraints

Poor internet connectivity in the whole country often inhibits swift communication with partners.

Expected result 2: Close linkages to Federation regional and sub-regional offices have been ensured

Good collaboration exists with the Federation Regional Delegation in Nairobi which provides sufficient technical support in health including HIV/AIDS, WatSan, disaster management and other areas as required. Support for organizational development is being strengthened.

Impact

Close coordination with the Federation Regional Delegation for technical support has ensured good support for the Ethiopian Red Cross in programme planning, implementation and monitoring. Several policy and strategy documents have been developed as a result e.g. the Ethiopian Red Cross WatSan strategy, HIV/AIDS strategy, etc.

Constraints

The establishment of the sub-regional office for the Horn of Africa has not occurred due to funding constraints. (This sub-regional office is envisaged to eventually comprise Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia , Somalia and Sudan.) Funding for the general organizational development budget of the 2004 appeal has also not been secured.

[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)

APPEAL No. 01.04/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

02/07/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

					TOTAL COVERAGE	
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				637,924		41.3%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				134,120		
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID GRANT 2004				68,000	29.01.04	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
NEW ZEALAND RC		2,600	NZD	2,067	30.06.04	
SINGAPORE RC		14,208	SGD	10,731	21.06.04	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				214,918	CHF	33.7%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SWEDEN	DELEGATES			48,800		
Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				48,800	CHF	7.6%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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