

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

INDIA

9 June 2004

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilising the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organisation and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.

For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal No. 01.57/2004; Programme Update No. 01; Period covered: January to April 2004; Appeal coverage: 128% (as against the amended appeal figure); Outstanding needs: nil

(Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List - also available on the website. Please note, the Contributions List reflects the original appeal budget – not the revised budget).

Appeal target: CHF 7,040,399 (USD 5,515,802 or EUR 4,541,294). Note this is an increase from the originally appealed amount of CHF 5,779,854.

(Click here to go directly to the attached revised appeal budget).

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: N/A

Programme summary: The Indian Red Cross Society, with support from the Federation and partner national societies has delivered core programmes in disaster management (including reconstruction), health and HIV/AIDS, organisational and branch development with integrated humanitarian values initiatives. While programme and assistance quality have improved significantly, there are remaining challenges, particularly in expenditure to budget variances, but it is envisaged that in the coming months expenditure can reach higher levels to minimise these variances.

NB. The increase in the appeal budget is due to activities under the Gujarat Rehabilitation Health project (PIN 515) not being completed as scheduled in 2003 and rolled over into 2004.

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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. 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

On the political front, the country started the year preparing for elections, scheduled for completion by mid-May. Elections were divided into phases in the various states and there was active political campaigning during the months of March and April in many states of the country.

Key outcomes from the governing board meeting (March) included endorsement of the Indian Red Cross Society Strategic Development Plan (2004-2007) and the adoption of Uniform Branch Rules for the national society as a whole. Both of these achievements were the product of intensive consultation with the various branches of the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) during 2003. They also represent major milestones in broad organisational development together with improved trust and confidence between governance and management.

The concept of an IRCS led HIV/AIDS consortium approach with partner national societies (PNS) and the Federation as stakeholders was also approved by the governing board. The fact that India has the highest reported HIV/AIDS pandemic in the Asia and Pacific region, particularly in the south of the country, led to the creation of the concept of a consortium approach, in conjunction with the scaling up of the pilot project already in place. A HIV/AIDS consortium meeting was held in Nepal in March, immediately preceding the South Asia regional partnership meeting. Nine PNS attended the consortium meeting with a majority eventually expressing interest. There was also a strong initiative to significantly streamline and integrate Federation and American Red Cross Society assistance to the IRCS on current interventions in HIV/AIDS. A taskforce consisting of representatives from IRCS, the Federation and the American and German Red Cross Societies was established in April and has started preliminary meetings towards the formation of the consortium in conjunction with scaling up of the pilot programme. The two will eventually merge towards the latter part of the year.

The major reconstruction programme in Gujarat, one of the largest programmes of its kind in the world in terms of Federation assistance, was successfully concluded. It involved the reconstruction/rehabilitation of 152 health facilities and all these were handed over to the local authorities in April. The Federation Gujarat office was closed at the end of April. The IRCS branches in Gujarat are continuing activities.

The IRCS, with support from the Federation, began a process of forming a National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) towards the end of 2003. The aim of the NDRT is to enable the national society to respond much faster to disasters in this large country. Sixteen NDRT members from various state branches were selected and, after rigorous training in March, they can be deployed all over India to work with branches in times of disaster.

Some savings from the Gujarat reconstruction programme have been diverted to the purchase of disaster management buffer stocks with consent from the respective partners (Singapore, Netherlands and Hong Kong Red Cross Societies.) The IRCS currently has a stock of 30,000 family kits, stored mainly in two of its warehouses - one in central India and the other in the east. Other savings from the reconstruction projects were used for improving the disaster management infrastructure. This included the renovation proposals for the central warehouse (Bahadurgarh) and eastern warehouse (Kolkata) financed by the Hong Kong and Singapore Red Cross Societies respectively. Disaster preparedness coordinators for the states of Orissa, Gujarat and Maharashtra are all in place. The recruitment process for the other five targeted disaster-prone states began in April 2004.

The IRCS has been actively pursuing the process of sourcing several key positions at national headquarters level. The Federation supported human resources for the Gujarat state branch is beginning to pay dividends, especially with the Federation closing its Gujarat Office. The Federation will continue to provide support for Gujarat through the IRCS national headquarters and its branches. This methodology conforms to the mandate of the Federation and will give assurance of sustainability to the IRCS in years to come.

Planning for an organisational development review scheduled for the middle of the year progressed in consultation with the various stakeholders, which include the IRCS and the Swedish Red Cross Society as the main supporting partners in this field.

Health and Care

Overall Goal: To improve the health of vulnerable populations in targeted states of India through prevention and health promotion in communities, with a particular focus on HIV/AIDS and also through effective response in emergencies.

HIV/AIDS project objective: The capacity of the IRCS to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS prevention and advocate for the dignity of people living with HIV/AIDS is increased in targeted states and at the national level.

Expected Results

- IRCS capacity to address HIV/AIDS prevention nationwide strengthened through developing policy, confidentiality guidelines for volunteers and a five-year strategic plan;
- Peer education among youth and children through youth/junior Red Cross implemented in five selected states;
- HIV/AIDS prevention programme in communities is implemented in two selected states through Red Cross volunteers (RCVs); and
- Impact of HIV/AIDS amongst people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), particularly children and their HIV infected mothers, reduced in three selected states through six care/counselling and social support centres, community awareness raising and advocating for their dignity

Progress/Achievements

The IRCS has given the HIV/AIDS programme high priority. The HIV/AIDS consortium meeting in Nepal in March presented the results from the examination of the numerous possibilities and constraints of working in partnership with other organisations (especially PNS). Further clarification, opinions and suggestions following the consortium meeting in Nepal with various PNS related to working in partnership in the consortium are to be synthesized.

A HIV/AIDS strategy has been drafted following discussions with IRCS senior management. This is in line with the IRCS strategic development plan. Follow-up activities at the state/district branches will now ensue.

HIV/AIDS awareness programmes through peer education amongst youth in schools and colleges are being carried out in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra in two districts each. The training-of-trainers (ToT) for counsellors and peer educators has been completed. An infrastructure to implement the programme has been established and appropriate tools such as manuals for counsellors have been developed. It is still planned for the awareness programme to be carried out in three other states this year.



A child plays at a Red Cross centre for HIV+ mothers

Under the HIV/AIDS prevention programme, the RCV network capacity is being strengthened to provide consistency in programme implementation.

A community care centre was established last year in the Nammakal district of Tamil Nadu in order to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS amongst PLWHA. The centre also caters for children of HIV affected families aged between two and six, providing them with educational and recreational activities. The HIV positive women utilising the centre are involved in income generation activities. Awareness of HIV/AIDS among the community has also been part of the prevention programme. This pilot continues to be monitored and assessed and the resulting analysis will be used for the replication of the programme in other states.

An awareness raising activity by a photojournalist was documenting the women and children who use the centre. This was part of the South Asia regional delegation's "health images" project. These photos will be utilised nationally and internationally to raise awareness. They have already been exhibited at the South Asia regional partnership meeting in Nepal.

Impact

The impact of the HIV project will not be readily apparent for some time. The IRCS is undergoing a process of significant scaling up of its HIV/AIDS prevention activities. The results of these activities will be reflected in future reports.

The pilot project in Nammakal is having a direct impact on women and children utilising it. The income generation activities give the women greater independence. It also helps maintain dignity and self-worth.

Constraints

Programme and financial management structures are being reviewed and some necessary changes have yet to be implemented.

Community-based health project objective: To enhance preventive health in communities, focussing on communicable diseases, common health problems, reproductive and child health, and response in emergencies, through RCVs and traditional birth attendants, in coordination with community outreach workers.

Expected Results

- RCV network capacity is strengthened to provide community-based first aid (CBFA) services and outreach preventive health activities in selected five states;
- Awareness of common health problems in communities increased along with reproductive health issues among women of reproductive age promoted in selected three states;
- Health of women and their children improved through community-based reproductive and child health programme, by equipping 15 Red Cross centres to provide antenatal and post-natal care, and immunisation activities in collaboration with local primary health centres;
- Polio immunisation campaign is effectively conducted in targeted six states in coordination with the Ministry of Health, WHO, UNICEF and other partners;
- The impact of TB reduced through raising awareness, reducing stigma and discrimination in communities and through increasing patient compliance to treatment in one district each of three states;
- IRCS capacity enhanced through training of branch staff and RCVs in emergency health, CBFA, disaster response (DR), disaster mental health and psychological care in coordination with disaster management (DM) and the disaster health response unit;
- Emergency stock procurement agreement established and tools developed; and
- Coordination with other sectors.

Progress/Achievements

With regards to strengthening RCV network capacity to provide CBFA services and outreach preventive health activities, the IRCS network building concept and plan have been developed and district coordinators have been trained in RCV network building in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan, involving 8-10 districts per state. The Bihar state coordinator has also been trained with a view to implementing the network in West Bengal and Bihar. The RCV training curriculum and modules have been redesigned and further developed focussing on volunteer management, training, community mobilisation and specific health needs in emergencies.

The proposal and concept of both reproductive and child health along with TB programmes have been developed following discussions with IRCS. A detailed activity plan needs to be worked out to implement these programmes.

The Red Cross branches in the states of West Bengal, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh have been actively involved in the Pulse Polio Immunisation campaign. Following on from a planning decision in 2003, RCVs have been

coordinating with the Ministry of Health during the planning phase. Volunteers participated in the community mobilisation before and during the immunisation days and the follow-up activities through door-to-door campaigns. Immunisation activities with the involvement of thousands of RCVs have assisted the immunisation of over 800,000 children this year.

There has been no progress on training branch staff and volunteers in emergency health, CBFA, disaster preparedness, etc. in coordination with DM. However a five-day training/workshop on emergency health is scheduled for June 2004. It will be conducted in coordination with the DM department so that the training complements the IRCS “disaster response team plan” at national and state levels.

Better coordination within sections is being pursued. Health, DM and organisational development have held discussions looking into areas where effective integration can be developed and maintained. Common areas have been identified and this process is ongoing.

Discussions between the Federation and the IRCS have been initiated to finalise an emergency stock procurement agreement for emergency medical supplies and equipment.

Impact

A sustainable volunteer network building programme has evolved. This is now developing a network of RCVs who are capable as managers, mobilisers and trainers, able to respond to needs when they arise.

Constraints

The structure for programme and finance management is being reviewed and changes have yet to be implemented.

Health reconstruction in Gujarat project objective: Reconstruction of health facilities under the Gujarat earthquake rehabilitation appeal completed.

Expected Result

- 113 permanent health care facilities are rehabilitated in Kutch, Banaskantha, Surendranagar and Rajkot.

Progress/Achievements

This has been an ongoing project which has been wrapped up in the first quarter of 2004. Overall, the construction of 155 health facilities has been finalised and these have been handed over to the state government of Gujarat.

The construction was completed in less than two years, involving 10 contractors. A total of 30 contract agreements were signed between the contractors and IRCS.

Impact

The completion of 122 anganwadi (pre-school centres), 14 sub-health centres, 6 dispensaries and 13 primary health centres will serve about 788,000 people, according to government criteria.

Approximately 122,000 children below the age of five years will now have access to the kindergarten facilities, where they will be able to play and learn and receive one healthy meal every day. Health workers providing care for pregnant and lactating mothers also use these anganwadis. These facilities can also be used for IRCS activities after school hours.

The construction work also provided employment opportunities for skilled and unskilled people for two years. It also provided opportunities for local small-scale businesses. In total, it is estimated half a million man-days were employed to complete the entire project, injecting an estimated INR 50 million (CHF 1.5 million) back into the community.

Constraints

Nil.

Disaster Management

Overall Goal: IRCS has become the leading DM agency in India through improved disaster preparedness and DR capacity, leading to reduced vulnerability of communities to disasters.

Programme Objective: To improve and strengthen the capacity of the IRCS in disaster preparedness and DR to enable efficient response to disasters and to empower communities to reduce their vulnerability in eight targeted states by the end of 2004.

Expected Result 1 (NB. This is an amended expected result. *Additions have been highlighted in italics*).

- Clearly laid out DM policies and plans, *procedures and protocols established in line with the Movement's strategy, Strategy 2010 and SPHERE, and based on the IRCS strategic development plan*; and
- Participation in inter-agency initiatives is continued, linkages with key DM agencies strengthened *and nationwide dissemination of policies and plans is done*.

Progress/Achievements

The period up until April saw hectic levels of planning activity for the year. Efforts were made towards cross-sectoral integration between DM, health and organisational development (OD). A DM programme chart was developed to be utilised as a planning and monitoring tool for programme activities.

As part of the cross-sectoral integration efforts within the Federation, three meetings were held, contributing towards identification of overlapping areas among the different sectors of DM, health and OD. DM sectoral meetings were held, chaired by the IRCS. These brought together DM experts within the national society, PNS and the Federation. The meetings served as an important coordination and information sharing forum. Furthermore, needs-based meetings of the Emergency Preparedness Task Force are held with the participation of the IRCS, the Federation delegation and PNS at short notice as and when required.

Clear roles and responsibilities and reporting lines for the IRCS DM team were maintained despite human resource constraints.

While finalising the disaster preparedness (DP) plan, an alternative "contingency plan" for floods, earthquakes and cyclones was considered, taking into account the seasonal nature of floods and cyclones and the high degree of earthquake vulnerability in certain areas of the country.

A coordination and planning meeting on the emergency appeal process was held between the Indian Federation delegation and the South Asia regional delegation (SARD). The meeting was attended by the delegation's DM team and head of delegation, the regional programme coordinator and delegation and regional reporting staff. The route of an emergency appeal and response from the initial steps taken by the national society, supported by the Federation through the country delegation, SARD and the Secretariat in Geneva, was examined. The meeting was an important part of enhancing the level of preparedness for the upcoming monsoon season in India.

The IRCS, with the support of the Federation, continues to expand its network with other stakeholders in the field of DM in India. A fruitful introductory meeting was held with the UNDP DM focal point in India, who was briefed about the national society DM programme and activities. The meeting explored the possibilities of exchanging experiences and how to improve cooperation and further promote IRCS efforts in DM. Through such coordination with other stakeholders, duplication can be avoided. It is interesting to note that IRCS trainers have been requested to facilitate UNDP supported DP training at community level in Gujarat and Orissa.

The IRCS continues to be seen as a leading player in DM by the SPHERE India member agencies comprising of government representatives and leading in-country humanitarian organisations. The Federation DP manager was nominated by the Federation/IRCS and supported by the SPHERE agencies for the Global SPHERE ToT course held in January 2004 in Geneva. This was an acknowledgement of the active role that the IRCS/Federation have

played in the SPHERE India initiative development and progress. The IRCS Orissa state branch hosted a local consultation on the future of SPHERE while the national society national headquarters/Federation participated in the national level consultation.

Impact

The cross-sectoral integration is contributing to programme quality improvement and helping achieve optimum utilisation of resources within both the Federation and the IRCS. Continued recognition of IRCS as a leading humanitarian organisation by various DM organisations is the result of the quality output by the DM programme.

The IRCS, with its knowledge and experience in DM, is becoming a focal point for many organisations for cooperation and coordination. SPHERE India is providing the opportunity for the IRCS to be recognised as a potential partner for national and international humanitarian organisations. This ongoing process contributes positively towards an effective and efficient disaster preparedness and response mechanism in India.

Expected Result 2 (NB. This is an amended expected result. *Additions have been highlighted in italics*).

- IRCS national DR system is improved *at all levels*; and
- *Mechanisms for disaster coordination and information management further developed.*

Progress/Achievements

The 16-strong NDRT was selected and standardised operating procedures are being developed. As a follow-up to the disaster assessment and response training in December 2003, additional training with a team building focus is being planned for NDRT members for the second half of the year. This will include technical and fieldwork sessions relating to assessment and response operation planning components.

Planning is now underway for the creation of four state disaster response teams to further improve the state/national level DR mechanism of the IRCS.

Following the Gujarat operation, three water sanitation emergency response units (ERUs) were handed over to the IRCS by PNS. These ERUs require rehabilitation and the process is underway to repair equipment and procure additional supplies.

Impact

The impact of the newly formed NDRT will be borne out in future reports. However, the creation of a high calibre in-country disaster assessment and response team with standardised procedures will improve the timeliness and quality of DR within India.

The pre-positioning of rehabilitated water and sanitation ERUs in the various regional warehouses will further enhance the organisational preparedness of the IRCS. The units will be able to serve the immediate needs of 22,000 affected people for clean drinking water in case of an emergency.

Expected Result 3 (NB. This is an amended expected result. *Additions have been highlighted in italics*).

- Strategic logistics systems (*including the renovation of the two warehouses at Bahadurgarh and Kolkata*), policies and procedures planned and maintained;
- Relief items specifications are standardised *with respect to gender, environmental and cultural considerations* to complete the existing DP stock for 20,000 families *and to increase this stock to cover 50,000 families.*

Progress/Achievements

The first phase of the renovation of the regional warehouse at Viramgam (Gujarat), with funding support from the British Red Cross Society, was completed in February 2004. The IRCS will carry out the second phase using its own resources.

The renovation of the state branch warehouse at Ahmedabad (Gujarat) was completed at the end of 2003 with support from the Hong Kong Red Cross Society. The renovation has provided around 5,000 square feet of additional functional warehouse space, over two levels, for the state branch DP capacity. The state branch complemented the renovation efforts with the development of standardised warehousing procedures, initiated by the state branch DP coordinator. Technical support was provided by the Federation/IRCS DM team.

In a new activity from those stated in the annual appeal, it is intended that an additional warehouse be constructed at the district branch level during 2004. This will be an important step in improving the national society's DR capacity. This is also linked to the new activity of increasing the DM stock to cover 50,000 families. The baseline goal of stock sufficient for 20,000 families has actually been exceeded with sufficient supplies for 30,000 families currently in place. However it is considered, in light of the likely needs in relation to the annual monsoon season, that this stock should be increased to 50,000.

Planning has commenced for the renovation of IRCS national and regional warehouses. Contracts with consultants are being finalised for the renovation of the warehouses at Bahadurgarh and Kolkata. This process has been slow due to the closure and handing over of the construction project in Bhuj. The Federation construction team will supervise and provide technical support for the renovation of both warehouses. Confirmation of funding and transfers for these renovation activities was a lengthy process.

The warehouse manual is currently undergoing a technical review by the Federation/IRCS DM logistics team.

Impact

The renovation of warehouses both at the regional and state level, along with adequate levels of pre-positioned DP stocks, has boosted the capacity of the IRCS to meet the needs of disaster victims. This continued improvement of capacity will reduce the likelihood of having to seek external assistance. This was borne out in 2003 where DP stocks were adequate to respond to various disasters and there was no need to launch any international appeals. The renovated warehouses and the current DP stock can serve approximately 30,000 families (150,000 persons).

Expected Result 4 (NB. This is an amended expected result. *Additions have been highlighted in italics*).

- DP capacity of the Gujarat branch, along with seven targeted states, is strengthened. [Based on the proposal received from the Gujarat state branch, the following activity is being added towards the fulfilment of the expected result in Gujarat: community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP) follow-up in Gujarat, in addition to the planned expansion into three more districts];
- Disaster and hazard awareness increased at the community level *to improve DR mechanism*; and
- National headquarters/state branch networking, *and intra and interstate coordination is strengthened*.

Progress/Achievements

The renovation of the Gujarat state branch warehouse was finalised last year. However, in consultation with the Hong Kong Red Cross Society, savings from the renovation of the warehouse enabled the procurement of storage shelves and this project was extended through to the end of May 2004.

The results of the community level vulnerability capacity assessments undertaken in 2003 in four earthquake-prone districts in Gujarat have been shared with the state branch. This data is assisting with the creation of a database at the state branch level.

The almost 2000 volunteers trained late in 2003 by the DM team are now actively involved in various DM activities in their respective villages and communities. The programme maintains DM awareness and training at the village/community level. It also provides technical support through the state branch to the 1,400 established DP committees in the four earthquake-prone districts in Gujarat. Follow-up activities are being planned for these districts by the state branch. Thirty DP field trainers have been requested by the UNDP (with the agreement of the state branch) to provide community training and DP committee members training. They will also be utilised by the state branch for to provide training in various parts of Gujarat.

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The contract for the construction of the control room at the Gujarat state branch has been finalised. There have been some administrative delays due to local government regulations but these are expected to be overcome.

There has been significant improvement in communication between the district branches and the state branch in Gujarat. There has been good and consistent communication between the state branch and national headquarters. There has been continued participation by the state branch in state level DM related inter-agency activities.

The proposed DM programme budget from the state branch has undergone the approval process with national headquarters.

There has been a change in one of the targeted eight disaster-prone states under the DM programme. Uttaranchal has been replaced by Maharashtra based on the selection criteria relating to vulnerability. The other seven states remain the same, namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

The majority of funding for the DM programme in these eight states is being provided by the British Red Cross Society. However, other PNS such as the German, American, Spanish, Hong Kong, Singapore and Finnish Red Cross Societies, as well as many other partners, are contributing to the overall DM programme with a view to long-term partnerships.

State branches have been requested by national headquarters to confirm their willingness to implement DM programme activities to address the needs and priorities of the targeted states. They have also been requested to initiate recruitment of DM focal points. Three states have already recruited DP coordinators while another four have initiated the process.

A list of control room equipment was drawn up with inputs from the Orissa state branch to improve communication on disasters from the state branches to the IRCS national headquarters and vice versa.

The Finnish Red Cross Society expressed their interest in working with the national society in DM. The IRCS has agreed to this support which will be directed to the state of West Bengal for the next three years. The DM activities under the support of the Finnish Red Cross Society, through the International Federation and West Bengal state, is among the eight states targeted by the DM programme for 2004.

Impact

The DM programme is being expanded among the eight targeted states. Preparedness capacity in Gujarat has been strengthened. The lines of communication between the Gujarat district branches, state branch and national headquarters have improved significantly.

With three of the eight targeted states already having DP coordinators and another four in the process of recruiting coordinators, the potential for the DM programme to expand is increasing. As coordinators are appointed, the IRCS DR mechanism is enhanced. This is all leading to the national society's objective of providing more timely and effective assistance to the most vulnerable during times of disaster.

Branch-to-branch networking is increasing and further improving the degree of organisational preparedness of the IRCS.

As outlined above, the funding resources for DM are diversifying. This is providing the IRCS with the necessary long-term support for developing organisational DM structures at all levels.

Expected Result 5 (NB. This is an amended expected result. *Additions have been highlighted in italics*).

- Disaster and conflict preparedness, *along with* response capabilities of communities in multi-hazard-prone districts *in 2 to 4 disaster-prone states* is strengthened *in cooperation with the ICRC*; and
- *community material developed, supported by the cross-sectoral health, OD and disaster mental health components.*

Progress/Achievements

DP trainer's material has been developed with inputs from health, OD, disaster mental health and humanitarian values. The draft material has been shared with the regional delegation and other technical people for further input. The aim is to produce a basic, simple and practical curriculum for volunteers and community member's training and awareness.

A proposal by the Gujarat state branch to expand CBDP training to three more districts while continuing with training in the four earthquake affected districts is being considered. Proposals for training from other state branches are expected in due course once the DP focal points are recruited.

Measures to improve regional coordination and exchange of information are being undertaken.

Impact

Standardised training material is being finalised and developed.

Knowledge sharing in DM at branch and country level is set to expand.

Constraints

There are human resource constraints within the national society DM department which are still to be addressed.

Some targeted state branches have taken longer than expected to approve the DM programme and to put a DM focal point in place.

Humanitarian Values

Overall Goal: Enhance the capacity of the IRCS to deliver its humanitarian message both within and outside the national society, and to advocate tolerance and coexistence in communities.

Programme Objective: To increase the capacity of the IRCS to deliver its humanitarian message both within and outside the society, leading to tolerance and coexistence in the communities.

Expected Results

- Awareness of the Movement's principles and international humanitarian law will have increased within and outside the IRCS through training and knowledge sharing;
- Raise awareness and strengthen the knowledge, understanding and respect of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement among public authorities;
- Red Cross principles will have been disseminated through health, DM and organisational programmes; and
- IRCS leadership promotes Red Cross principles among counterpart agencies.

Progress/Achievements

A comprehensive series of consultations and meetings have produced two major conclusions: Red Cross youth are the best mode of dissemination of the Movement's principles and values; and the methodology adopted by the Red Cross youth volunteers would be that of 'youth befriending'. This strategy enables youth to interact in a less formal environment, enhancing the reach of the humanitarian values messages being conveyed.

The 'youth befriending' programme was originally initiated by the British Red Cross Society five years ago. The India delegation's humanitarian values coordinator has sought technical assistance to customise the programme according to local needs. A course for ToT will be developed from May to June. This will be rolled out in July for the first round of national level ToT exercises. The ToT will involve all humanitarian values state representatives, who will in turn be responsible for training 10 volunteers in each of their own states.

The IRCS organised forums which incorporated international humanitarian law, Fundamental Principles and values of the Movement through various sectoral events and with the ICRC in Nagaland and Karnataka.

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Several junior and youth Red Cross camps were held in Orissa, Punjab and Maharashtra for disseminating the Movement's principles and values. The junior Red Cross wing in Maharashtra has been particularly active, staging a cultural competition involving 18 schools and also a 'Juniors Day' involving 530 students from 32 schools.

A zonal study/training camp on DM was organised by the Orissa Red Cross youth wing involving 80 volunteers from 13 colleges. The integrated approach helped the students to have a clear understanding of the history and development of the Red Cross Movement, Fundamental Principles, the Red Cross emblem, etc.

One hundred youth and programme officers attended a zonal Red Cross youth training camp in Tamilnadu involving students from 35 colleges. The junior Red Cross held a camp for 100 students in Tamilnadu while over 300 teachers participated in a counsellors training course in the same state.

Impact

The 'youth befriending' project is a new initiative and is still in the development phase. Its impact will be reflected in future reports once it is up and running.

The various youth and junior Red Cross camps continue to reinforce and disseminate the Movement's principles and values. These events are also important in motivating young volunteers.

Constraints

There are human resource constraints in humanitarian values in the national society. However the IRCS is giving consideration to boosting this in the near future.

Organisational Development

Overall Goal: To raise the capacity of the national headquarters and the branches in mobilising, organising and managing local resources in order to improve the situation of the vulnerable.

Programme Objective: The IRCS structure, systems, resources and image are enhanced in order to increase the capacity of the national headquarters and branches to deliver effective volunteer-based programmes in the community.

Expected Results

- A national branch development policy and strategy developed and capacity of the national headquarters and state branches to provide development support to the branches increased;
- Integrity of IRCS promoted, ensuring respect and compliance with the Fundamental Principles by reviewing, amending and establishing the constitution, organisational structure, rules, policies and procedures in accordance with the needs of the organisation and in coherence with the policies of the Movement;
- A national resource development strategy and policy integrating financial, material as well as member development, mobilisation and maintenance is developed and established;
- Capacity for information and communication at the branch level and at national headquarters improved and upgraded;
- Capacity for financial planning, management and reporting at headquarters improved and upgraded and a finance development project for the branches designed and established;
- A community-based volunteer management system, including relief and emergency volunteers, developed and established and youth/junior Red Cross developed; and
- Human resources development system and training programme for governance, volunteers and staff developed and established.

Progress/Achievements (Branch Development)

The focus on branch development has been expanded to seven more disaster-prone states in addition to the continuing development activities in Gujarat. Branch development in these states is being planned in consultation with the health and disaster management programmes. Many states have expressed the need for a branch development framework and guidelines from national headquarters.

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The German Red Cross Society has agreed to assist the Andhra Pradesh state branch organise a state branch development workshop with the support of the IRCS national headquarters and the Federation. The German Red Cross Society will assist with a similar exercise in Orissa.

Gujarat state branch development activities have been gaining momentum. There is increased support from the state branch to the district branches. For example, junior/youth Red Cross have been established in 43 schools in four districts with the support of the state branch. The visibility of the district branches and their activities is increasing.

The state branch held its first annual general meeting after a gap of over 10 years in February. A document consolidating branch activities in the three years since the Bhuj earthquake was released.

The Gujarat state branch has also initiated accident/medical insurance and provident fund cover for its employees.

Impact

The growing interest from states in branch development means it will be easier for national headquarters to develop a national branch development strategy. However, with the increasing demands as greater assistance is provided to branches, it is likely national headquarters will require greater resources. It is notable that there is greater interest in branch development in states where PNS are present.

The Gujarat state branch capacity to support the district branches has improved considerably. District branches in Rajkot, Surendranagar and Jamnagar regularly organise health activities and dissemination programmes for junior Red Cross with active support from the state branch. The decision to introduce provident fund, accident and medical insurance cover for project staff will provide security to employees. A human resources policy for Gujarat state branch employees is also in the process of development.

Progress/Achievements (Organisational Development)

Two important documents – the IRCS Strategic Development Plan (2004-2007) and the Uniform Branch Rules and Procedures for state/union territories branches - were approved by the national governing board of the IRCS.

A meeting of the state branch representatives will be convened in June/July to discuss branch development, the implementation of the rules approved by the governing board, and various strategies currently under development.

A review of the IRCS OD programme is planned for May to June 2004. The review will seek to identify ways of strengthening the implementation of the OD programme and review the current strategies and cross-sectoral integration.

Impact

The endorsement by the governing board of the IRCS strategic development plan and the uniform branch rules will provide the framework and guidelines for branches and national headquarters within which they need to function.

Progress/Achievements (Communication Development)

A three-day meeting on information development was held by the IRCS with 19 states participating. The draft of the communication strategy was discussed and feedback received from the participants. The communication strategy committee, incorporating the participant's feedback, is now finalising the strategy. The meeting is a follow-up to the previous meet held in Kolkata in December 2003. The next stage will be the final draft and strategy implementation aspect being discussed in a state representative's meeting planned for July.

A document for use in induction training is near completion with the text having been approved and printing to be completed in the near future.

Impact

No impact as yet with the communication strategy still to be finalised. It will lead to better programme implementation through smooth and fast communication across the country while enhancing the image of the IRCS.

Progress/Achievement (Finance Development)

The customisation of the Navision Attain software package is nearing completion. The IRCS finance department will run the Navision parallel to the existing system, effective from April 2004.

It has been agreed with the IRCS finance department that an external consultant will be hired on a short-term contract to develop the national society finance handbook.

Finance management training for programme managers and branches is planned for the coming months.

Impact

Once the Navision Attain customisation process is completed, the IRCS should be better equipped to submit timely and accurate financial reports. The finance handbook will update the rules and procedures of the IRCS finance management system as well as identify gaps and areas that require to be addressed.

Progress/Achievements (Volunteer Development)

The Gujarat state branch is currently working on developing a volunteer management system, integrating the already trained volunteers with the district branches in the four districts of Kutch, Rajkot, Jamnagar and Surendranagar. Training for over 100 volunteer managers from four districts has been conducted in Gujarat.

Training materials on volunteer management developed in 2003 are currently being used by the IRCS in conducting trainings for volunteers in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Impact

There has been better understanding of the concept of volunteering and volunteer development among the core programme areas in the country.

Progress/Achievements (Human Resource Development)

The recruitment process for filling six Federation supported positions was initiated. This process should have been completed by April; however it has been delayed for a variety of reasons including a planned, and then postponed annual general meeting and governing board meeting.

Progress was made on the second phase of the rehabilitation of the Central Training Institute in Bahadurgarh. The process for hiring consultants to conduct a detailed feasibility study for the entire institute complex is underway. The study is supported by the Norwegian Red Cross Society and is now planned to be initiated in May 2004. Furnishing of the institute (phase I) has been temporarily postponed in order to ensure that the quality of furniture and the planned hostel complex are in line with each other.

Impact

Filling of crucial staff positions currently vacant is recognised as an important aspect of increasing the capacity of the IRCS.

Constraints

The IRCS annual general meeting scheduled for April (though subsequently postponed) consumed much of the time and energies of key officers, delaying certain OD activities.

Navision implementation continues to be slow due to lack of adequately trained staff in the finance department in the area of computers.

Japanese Red Cross Society funds for OD programmes outside of Gujarat are currently frozen, pending an assessment of the Gujarat programmes. This is impacting on branch development and humanitarian values activities outside Gujarat.

Branch Development in the Kutch district of Gujarat is delayed due to the non-existence of infrastructure for the Kutch district branch.

Although the process to fill staff positions internally was initiated and candidates interviewed, the process has been very slow for a variety of reasons.

Representation, Management and Implementation

Coordination, Cooperation and Strategic Partnerships

Overall Goal: The role of the Federation at global, regional and country levels is widely seen to be adding value to the IRCS, partner national societies, both globally and currently operating in India, and the international community.

Programme Objective : Strong, well coordinated, diversified and long-term partnerships that lead to efficient, effective and sustainable IRCS action in support of vulnerable people.

Expected Results

- IRCS becomes the lead humanitarian organisation in India ;
- Strong partnerships within the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement;
- Further alignment in areas of security coordination, information and knowledge sharing, relationship management and planning, and management coordination;
- Concluding the second generation cooperation agreement strategy (CAS) process;
- Secure multi-year funding for the IRCS on the basis of the IRCS strategic development plan and subsequent CAS;
- Increased effective participation of IRCS governance in workshops and meetings;
- Regular coordination and meetings with the IRCS senior managers, sectoral managers, PNS and other key stakeholders;
- Periodic sectoral review exercises using expertise external to the Federation delegation;
- Close coordination with NGOs and UN agencies;
- In close coordination with the IRCS, PNS and SARD, target diplomatic missions to market annual appeals, emergency appeals and provide operational and policy updates; and
- Key stakeholders such as PNS, ICRC, etc. receive regular and appropriate Federation information/publicity materials.

Progress/Achievements

There has been active cooperation between the Federation delegation and the American Red Cross Society delegation for a more integrated approach in certain areas of DM, focussing on buffer stocking and warehousing and HIV/AIDS assistance through the consortium concept.

There has also been a concerted effort to look at the further needs of Gujarat and the development of terms of reference for a potential needs assessment. A status report on the savings and surplus arising out of the Gujarat reconstruction programme was prepared and sent to the Federation Secretariat for sharing with the main supporting partner in this field, the Japanese Red Cross Society. This report summarised the situation of health facilities in Gujarat and mapped the facilities built with partners external to the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement.

At the beginning of the year, the IRCS was extremely preoccupied with their forthcoming annual general meeting which did not materialise though the governing board meeting took place towards the end of March. During this period, there was one sectoral meeting held in the areas of health, HIV/AIDS and OD which was attended by the IRCS and various PNS in-country, including the American, Canadian, German, Finnish and Spanish Red Cross Societies.

Two main regional meetings were held where the head of delegation attended; the first was the South Asia region heads of delegation meeting; and the other was the South Asia regional partnership meeting in Nepal. A HIV/AIDS consortium meeting for India was also held with nine PNS attending.

Cooperation with external agencies during this period included SPHERE (inter-agency), WHO, UNICEF and UNDP.

Delegation Management

Overall Goal: Support the IRCS to ensure quality, effective and efficient service delivery to vulnerable communities; build the capacity of the IRCS in coordination and cooperation with key stakeholders.

Programme Objective: To manage Federation financial, human and programme resources in a highly effective and efficient manner.

Expected Results

- Further streamline the expatriate delegation team to a total of six to cover the core areas, with support and leadership functions in 2004;
- With Federation human resources support, ensure full transfer of Gujarat operational responsibilities within the IRCS employment contracts by early 2004;
- Efficient and effective programme monitoring and implementation with quality reporting to partners;
- Continue to support SARD on regional deployment of human resources;
- Sound programme leadership and management, counterpart facilitation and support and financial management to ensure expenditure with minimal variances on budgets;
- Training development based on performance development reviews and staff evaluations as well as sectoral priorities; and
- Teamwork and integrated working with the delegation and the Movement.

Progress/Achievements

With the completion of the major reconstruction programme in Gujarat in April, the Federation Gujarat office was closed. There was a reduction in support staff which had been funded by the Federation. Delegates and staff from the delegation and the IRCS national headquarters will continue monitoring Gujarat programmes.

Where continuous monitoring and supervision is required, such as warehouse renovation and the DM control facility at Ahmedabad, satellite offices with a few Federation staff have been accommodated within IRCS state branches (Gujarat/West Bengal) and the Bahadurgarh complex outside Delhi. This provides highly efficient and cost-effective management, together with fostering better working relationships at branch level. The IRCS also intends to employ some of the Federation staff who have become available since the closure of the Gujarat office. This will enable a transfer of organisational skills.

The India delegation currently has five delegates including the head of delegation and 20 national staff. The delegation has recruited a programme coordinator delegate who will have a central role in lateral programme integration, reporting and a certain degree of OD responsibilities. The programme coordinator will commence duties by July.

Working advance clearances with the IRCS and many of its far-flung state and district branches continue to be a challenge and are one of the factors for high expenditure-to-budget variance. The delegation is attempting a two-prong approach to deal with this - a quick solution by visiting the branches and informing the responsible persons of the need for more stringent accounting; and a longer-term approach of specific financial accounting development.

To help improve teamwork within the delegation, a two-hour session is held fortnightly, led by a programme or support manager to present specific areas in an interesting and participative manner. This is to enable better knowledge sharing and promote understanding of each sector.

The administration human resources team has been busy with administrative issues related to the closure of the Gujarat operation offices, and coordinating staff evaluations and contracts renewals. All staff were to have new contracts by May. The terms and conditions take into account harmonisation between the offices of SARD and the India delegation.

India Appeal No. 01.57/2004; Programme Update No. 01

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

APPEAL No. 01.57/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

08/06/2004

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

CASH

| | | | | | | TOTAL COVERAGE |
|--------------------------------|--|---------|-----|-----------|----------|--|
| REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF -----> | | | | 5,779,855 | | 157.5% |
| CASH CARRIED FORWARD | | | | 8,665,701 | | |
| FINNISH - GOVT/RC | | 50,000 | EUR | 76,800 | 31.05.04 | DISASTER MANAGEMENT |
| HONG KONG RC | | 739,984 | HKD | 123,429 | 23.04.04 | DM CONTROL ROOM IRCS ORTHOPAEDIC CENTRE |
| NORWEGIAN - RC | | | | 18,000 | 04.03.04 | FEASIBILITY STUDY OF CTI |
| SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH | | | | 8,883,930 | CHF | 153.7% |

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

| DONOR | CATEGORY | QUANTITY | UNIT | VALUE CHF | DATE | COMMENT |
|---|-----------|----------|------|-----------|------|---------|
| GREAT BRITAIN | DELEGATES | | | 108,000 | | |
| DENMARK | DELEGATES | | | 73,200 | | |
| SWITZERLAND | DELEGATES | | | 36,400 | | |
| Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete. | | | | | | |
| SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES | | | | 217,600 | CHF | 3.8% |

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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

BUDGET SUMMARY

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.(s) selected: 01.57/04

Delegation code(s) selected: IN

| PROGRAMME: | Organisational Development | Health & Care | Disaster Management | Humanitarian Values | Federation Coordination | International Representation | Total |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| | CHF | CHF | CHF | CHF | CHF | CHF | CHF |
| Shelter & construction | 190,000 | 0 | 512,634 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 702,634 |
| Clothing & textiles | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Food | 0 | 54,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 54,000 |
| Seeds & plants | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Water & Sanitation | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Medical & first aid | 0 | 136,400 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 136,400 |
| Teaching materials | 0 | 441,200 | 15,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 456,200 |
| Utensils & tools | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other relief supplies | 0 | 99,140 | 36,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 135,640 |
| SUPPLIES | 190,000 | 730,740 | 564,134 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,484,874 |
| Land & Buildings | 0 | 1,828,530 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,828,530 |
| Vehicles | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Computers & telecom | 3,000 | 61,636 | 1,200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 65,835 |
| Medical equipment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other capital exp. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CAPITAL EXPENSES | 3,000 | 1,890,166 | 1,200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,894,366 |
| Warehouse & Distribution | 0 | 667 | 7,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8,166 |
| Transport & Vehicules | 6,700 | 34,326 | 20,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 61,526 |
| TRANSPORT & STORAGE | 6,700 | 34,993 | 28,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 69,692 |
| Program Support Recharges | 80,862 | 284,821 | 91,944 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 457,625 |
| PSR | 80,862 | 284,821 | 91,944 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 457,625 |
| Personnel-delegates | 165,000 | 242,400 | 208,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 615,900 |
| Personnel-national staff | 60,164 | 340,556 | 185,461 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 586,180 |
| Consultants | 136,088 | 73,739 | 17,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 227,327 |
| PERSONNEL | 361,252 | 656,695 | 411,461 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,429,407 |
| W/shops & Training | 293,439 | 269,406 | 172,466 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 735,310 |
| WORKSHOPS & TRAINING | 293,439 | 269,406 | 172,466 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 735,310 |
| Travel & related expenses | 76,453 | 80,004 | 36,614 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 193,070 |
| Information | 104,675 | 183,556 | 52,200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 340,430 |
| Other General costs | 127,644 | 251,475 | 56,501 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 435,619 |
| GENERAL EXPENSES | 308,772 | 515,035 | 145,315 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 969,121 |
| TOTAL BUDGET: | 1,244,025 | 4,381,856 | 1,414,520 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7,040,398 |