

# 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

## NEPAL

24 December 2004

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### In Brief

Appeal No. 01.58/2004; Programme Update no. 2, Period covered: 1 May to 31 October, 2004; Appeal coverage: 49.3%; Outstanding needs: CHF 853,922 (USD 743,837 or EUR 557,275).  
*(Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List (also available on the website).*

**Appeal target:** CHF 1,684,870 (USD 1,466,712 or EUR 1,099,672); As outlined in Programme Update 1, this is a reduced appeal amount, down from the original figure of CHF 1,908,898.

#### Related Emergency Appeal: [Nepal Floods 17/2004](#)

**Programme summary:** The Nepal Red Cross continues to successfully deliver humanitarian services across the country, despite the suffering and disruption caused by the long and still ongoing conflict. The five-year Development Plan and new inclusive cooperation agreement strategy (CAS) ([www.nrcs.org](http://www.nrcs.org)) provide a solid foundation for the national society and its partners in delivering support to vulnerable communities in Nepal. Nepal Red Cross programme strategies always involve communities in all steps of planning, implementation, monitoring, integrated learning and evaluation; including community contribution to resource mobilisation.

The impact of the community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP) programme has been clearly seen during the monsoon floods which commenced in July. Communities affected by the floods that are involved in the programme responded effectively. They used pre-warning systems, evacuated community members as necessary and used their revolving funds to provide basic food to the community during the initial days of the disaster. Similarly, flood-affected communities that had participated in the community-based first aid (CBFA) programme also responded very well. Non-affected communities supported their neighbors hit by the floods with relief materials and health services. Detailed information about the flood operation can be obtained from the Operational Updates on the Federation website. The flood operation has again confirmed the Nepal Red Cross reaches communities in conflict affected areas and the society's image as a neutral and credibility organisation has been enhanced.

In villages where the community development programme is implemented health awareness has increased. Newly constructed latrines and water taps ensure better sanitation when combined with health promotion. The availability of trained community health volunteers has enhanced the general health situation as well as the use of health posts and hospitals. The HIV/AIDS programme has successfully promoted condom use and advocated against stigma through grassroots activities and by celebrating the Red Cross and Condom days.

A Nepal Red Cross bi-monthly radio programme promoting humanitarian values (HV) and Red Cross activities is well received by audiences throughout Nepal with numerous listeners giving positive feedback.

Many of the appeal programmes have integrated branch capacity building components consisting of income generating activities and training of staff and volunteers. In programme implementing districts this approach has

proved successful in building sustainable districts and sub-branches.

The lack of funding for the organisational development programme has affected the national initiatives that would support all districts in volunteer development, management and similar activities. The programme assisting the Bhutanese refugees has received exceptionally low funding support and has operated at a very low level under this appeal. It has been able to proceed with the provision of food and non-food items with the generous bilateral assistance of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the World Food Programme (WFP).

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## Operational developments

During the reporting period, the flood operation has been a major activity for the national society. Heavy rains from early July resulted in extensive flooding and landslides, with 25 of Nepal's 75 districts affected and a total of 800,000 people affected by the disaster. The Nepal Red Cross has assisted 30,000 families (180,000 people) with food and non-food items during the relief phase while local and districts chapters have mobilised volunteers in clean-up and sanitation activities. The operation is now going into the rehabilitation phase where families will be assisted to rebuild damaged houses and provided with seeds for replanting crops which will generate food supply and cash income. The society has been able to raise a significant amount of material resources within the country. Other international non-government organisations (INGO)/ non-government organisations (NGOs) have chosen to deliver their assistance through the Red Cross since this is one of the few organisations that has good access to areas outside of towns. The flood situation has confirmed the importance of the community-based programmes that strengthen the capacity and build on the resources of local people. Local sub-chapters and junior/youth circles have played an important role in the operation. The first response was ensured by the communities and from Red Cross networks in close-by district towns.



*Relief distribution during 2004 flood emergency*

The conflict between the government's security forces and the Communist Party of Nepal Maoists continues. Government services are not accessible to the public in many areas and there are signs that the number of internally displaced people (IDP) is increasing. The government appointed in June has put peace talks high on the agenda; however no significant progress has occurred so far. The conflict is slowing the Nepal Red Cross programme implementation with some activities having to be postponed or locations changed. However, there are no major delays in carrying out programmes.

Most of the health programmes are long-term interventions with activities over several years to ensure impact. Therefore, the results are seen gradually. However, the impacts are clear when comparing baseline studies and final evaluations at the end of the programme period. Programmes are being adapted to the conflict situation and there is also recognition of the importance to continue development programmes in conflict affected areas as well as those not affected. The CBFA programme is on a pilot basis, integrating more activities targeting conflict-affected women

and children. In the conflict-affected western part of the country, the society has been requested to take a lead in a water and sanitation programme funded by the World Bank. This is in recognition of the Nepal Red Cross experience in this area as well as the ability to work in conflict areas. The conflict preparedness and response workshops for district leaders supported by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) are continuing.

In the HV programme, the society has initiated activities addressing discrimination. Awareness-raising sessions have taken place for national headquarters (NHQ) staff and districts leaders. In the community-based and HIV/AIDS programmes, there are already several examples on how the issue is addressed. However, a more systematic approach of integrating HV into service programmes is being discussed.

During this reporting period the 2005 appeal programme has been planned. All departments have evaluated earlier achievements, taken international and local bilateral cooperation into account when identifying and planning the programmes of next year's appeal. Close coordination has also taken place with ICRC to ensure the activities of the respective elements of the Movement are complementary.

## Health and care

**Overall Goal: The health status of vulnerable communities is improved.**

**Programme Objective: Communities are empowered to cope with health problems and practice positive health behaviours through strengthened institutional capacity.**

**1. Community development project objective: To increase the level of awareness and improve basic health conditions of the most vulnerable targeted communities while enhancing the public health capacity of the Nepal Red Cross Society and communities.**

### Expected Results:

- Level of awareness increased and positive behaviours enhanced;
- General health in targeted communities improved;
- Vulnerable community in project area empowered through sustainable economic and social development activities;
- Capacity of community further enhanced (especially among women) in identifying and solving their problems locally; and
- Institutional capacity of Red Cross at all levels developed and their services expanded.

### Progress/Achievements

Three community development projects in the districts of Rasuwa, Dang and Dhankuta are being implemented within the community development programme through the Federation appeal.

In order to increase health awareness and promote positive health behaviours, various activities were carried out. The traditional birth attendants (TBAs), CBFA volunteers and the traditional healers are providing services to the local population. During this period a total of 301 persons were provided with services by health volunteers. Monthly meetings of these volunteers are taking place with the purpose of assessing, reviewing and improving the service quality. A first aid training course was conducted for 16 teachers and junior Red Cross members in Dhankuta district.

The construction of sanitary units is ongoing. Sixteen family toilets, 26 washing plates and 41 improved cooking stoves were constructed during this reporting period in the three districts, making this year's total of 83 toilets, 68 washing plates and 62 improved stoves. A week-long toilet construction course for skilled workers was conducted in Dhankuta district. Various activities were implemented to provide the communities with safe drinking water facilities as well as reducing waterborne diseases. In Rasuwa district, a water tank of 5m<sup>3</sup>, a collection chamber and a tap stand have been constructed. In Dang district, more emphasis was given on creating the safer use of water from source to mouth.

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Four separate trainings on kitchen gardening were conducted in Dhankuta district for 60 persons in the project area. The purpose of the training was to help increase nutritional status by making green vegetables available for families as well as promote vegetable production for sale.

To create sustainable economic and social development in the communities, the programme has formed self help groups to promote savings and credit. The existing groups in Dang districts are functioning well while bamboo production training was given to 10 people in Dhankuta district. After learning how to produce different products from bamboo the participants will be able to sell these for cash income.

Eight adult literacy classes are ongoing in Dang and Rasuwa districts with a total of 162 participants, out of which 116 are female adults. The classes run daily in the evening for at least two hours. Likewise, there are six child literacy classes running in the same districts with a total of 129 children, including 64 girls. One adult literacy facilitator's refresher training was conducted in Rasuwa to run the classes more effectively.

To strengthen the capacity of the Red Cross and to ensure sustainability of the project, income generating activities are included in each project. During this period, Rasuwa district has raised an accumulated NRs 48,392 from income generating activities. In the year to date, the district has raised NRs 68,952.

Under the institutional/organisational development component of the programme, regular meetings of district chapters, sub-chapters and staff, including quarterly project progress reviews, took place in all three districts. Two district level junior Red Cross seminars were organised separately in Dhankuta and Rasuwa districts while seven new life members were recruited in Dhankuta district during this period.

### Impact

The level of impact varies as the projects are at different stages of the project cycle. The impact is more visible in Rasuwa district as the project is in its fifth year as opposed to in Dang which is in the third year and Dhankuta in its first year.

The use of safe drinking water has decreased the incidences of waterborne diseases in the targeted districts. People are more aware of keeping water sources, taps and water pots clean. The cases of faecal diseases are decreasing resulting from the increased use of toilets. Household garbage is managed properly which has contributed to social sanitation, while the problem of acute respiratory infections caused by cooking on open fires is being addressed by the use of improved cooking facilities which vent the pollution. The quality of health volunteers is increasing and communities are increasingly using locally available health facilities. Women are more actively taking part in the process of decision making both at family and social level. Children and infants are being given timely and appropriate vaccinations, whilst the incidences of pregnancy complications have been less. The nutritional status is improving as a result of greater consumption of green vegetables grown in kitchen gardens.

Participants of adult literacy classes are achieving levels where they can read simple texts/materials and complete simple mathematical calculations. The texts utilised are relevant to their everyday lives while the mathematical training is made relevant through relating to household budgeting etc. The graduates of child literacy classes are joining schools and have adopted better sanitation habits. The participants of skill development training have started earning cash income by using skills acquired during the training.

The participation of local people in Red Cross activities and the numbers of Red Cross members and junior Red Cross circles are increasing. An improved coordinator has led to greater interaction and cooperation with INGOs/NGOs at the local level.

### Constraints

Some participants of adult literacy classes were initially reluctant to join classes at night due to the unstable security situation, mainly in Dhankuta district. Equally, some resource persons felt uncomfortable about conducting outreach activities due to the conflict. However after discussions, home visits and various practical adjustments these problems have been overcome.

**2. Community-based first aid project objective: To build the capacity of communities to promote health and improve their ability to manage injuries and illness, and prepare for and deal with disaster.**

**Expected Results:**

- CBFA committees function at community level;
- Regular first aid services and awareness activities are conducted at community level;
- Communities are prepared for probable disaster and accident; and
- Red Cross district chapters and sub-branches at local level are capable of monitoring activities.

**Progress/Achievements**

At the local level the CBFA programme is implemented by CBFA committees. There are 13 of these committees functioning at the community level within the five programme districts. During the reporting period, they met regularly to review community health problems and implementation of their respective community action plans. In addition, CBFA volunteers have also met to discuss progress, problems and plans. With the guidance of local Red Cross and by mobilising local resources, the CBFA committees and volunteers have conducted many community awareness activities such as Nepal Red Cross Day, World Red Cross Day, First Aid Day and competitions, school sanitation campaigns, sensitisation workshops on health and sanitation, disaster preparedness workshops, and workshops on the importance of breastfeeding.

Five districts have conducted district and community level CBFA orientation and coordination meetings with the purpose of ensuring local participation and coordination essential for programme sustainability. Four hundred persons from different organisations and institutions participated in these meetings. These CBFA communities have been benefiting from five first aid reading and practice centres. Here volunteers and community members can regularly practice, read and discuss first aid skills and health messages assisted by reference materials kept in centres. These districts have trained 201 young people through eight first aid training courses conducted at junior/youth Red Cross circles. Two districts have conducted additional CBFA trainings for 63 persons at the request of the communities by mobilising their own resources.

In addition to the five districts already operating under the CBFA programme, three further districts have introduced the programme this year. In these districts, community surveys have been conducted with the purpose of assessing local capacities as well as health and disaster hazards in three selected communities. An orientation workshop for the districts has been organised to clarify roles and responsibilities when implementing this programme. NHQ organised a 10-day training of trainers on CBFA with 21 participants from the three districts. Nineteen of the participants successfully completed this training as certified first aid trainers. They are now conducting district level first aid training programmes. Seventy CBFA volunteers (33 women and 37 men) have been trained in these districts. They have gone through an elementary training and are now an asset for communities in the health sector.

Volunteers at community level have been regularly providing first aid services in their respective communities. They have also conducted health information sessions, training courses, home visits and competitions, etc, in the areas of HIV/AIDS, health and sanitation, hygiene, toilets, and safe motherhood, as well as providing immunisation to 4,531 people. Five street theatre events have been staged, reaching an audience of more than 2,500 people in various communities. Street drama is an established, effective method of raising awareness and promoting behavioural change relating to health and social issues. The dramas also contained elements relating to social discrimination issues and contributed to positive social changes.

CBFA volunteers, trainers, junior Red Cross and communities celebrated First Aid Day in September and conducted first aid competitions, with 12 districts participating in the first aid competitions and 57 out of 75 districts observing First Aid Day. Around 75,000 people participated in these two occasions. Activities included the distribution of bandages with first aid messages, street dramas, song rallies, first aid performances and simulations, quiz contests, speeches, articles in newspapers, and distribution of leaflets. Through these activities, the Nepal Red Cross advocated the importance of first aid to various target groups.

CBFA communities have been active during the flood and landslide emergency, collecting food, cloth and raising cash to provide relief support to affected people. Communities also plan and organise their own disaster preparedness activities to be able to better provide quick support to community members. The CBFA committees

have collected 135 kilograms of food, 33 sets of clothes and raised NRs. 40,202 as community funds for disaster relief and first aid. CBFA volunteers have shared their knowledge on disaster preparedness to over 1,200 people in five districts.

At the national level, the CBFA programme has provided information to the Ministry of Health's management information system. However, to further strengthen the networking at the district level it has now been agreed that information about the programme impact and capacities should be shared and fed into the information system at the district level. To start this process a workshop was organised by Panchthar districts with representatives from the Red Cross, the district health office, hospital, health post as well as local health volunteers. This provided a good opportunity to link the first aid programme with the local health authorities and to ensure good contact and coordination. Similar workshops will be organised in all CBFA programme districts.

Sixty-three members of local Red Cross chapters and community committee have been trained in project management, monitoring, supervision and simple accounting systems. Districts and sub-branches have conducted various monitoring and supervision visits to communities implementing the programme.

### Impact

CBFA volunteers are regularly providing first aid services, spreading health messages and initiating disaster preparedness activities. They have provided first aid service to 2,929 people and health counselling to 1,345 people. As a result of awareness and training activities of CBFA volunteers, 89 toilets, 72 washing platforms, 124 garbage pits and eight utensil stands have been constructed by community members. During the flood and landslide operation CBFA communities assisted flood-affected communities while CBFA volunteers provided first aid service and took part in local relief teams.

### Constraints

Strikes, blockades and the flood disaster have meant that some activities have had to be postponed. As a result of these delays there will be a tight timeframe to implement activities as planned in the remainder of the year, especially in the three new programme districts.

**3. Health care project objective: To improve the reproductive health situation, with an emphasis on HIV/AIDS, of vulnerable communities through increased access to information and services by strengthening institutional and community capacity.**

### Expected Results:

- Increased information on *HIV/AIDS* and reproductive health to the community;
- Increased access to reproductive health services;
- Enhance practice of positive health behaviors *regarding HIV/AIDS through life skill development*, and
- Strengthened institutional and community capacity.

### Progress/Achievements

As outlined in Programme Update 1, two expected results were amended (reflected in italicised text above) to more accurately the focus on HIV/AIDS prevention and life skills development. The HIV/AIDS programme is supported both through the Federation appeal and by bilateral donors. The appeal is supporting activities targeted towards migrant communities, women's groups and part of the youth peer education. This report covers all activities implemented since it is an integrated programme where all activities support the above mentioned expected results.



Red Cross HIV peer education

World Red Cross Day was observed on 8 May with various activities such as rallies, street dramas, public lectures, blood donation, health talk programmes, and the distribution of IEC materials. The theme of the day was 'Stop Discrimination' with a focus on people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). Activities were carried out at NHQ and district chapters as well as in schools and the community in general. People living with HIV/AIDS, journalists, NGO/NGOs representatives and staff and governance members

participated in the programme. The sessions were mainly facilitated by PLWHA.

At the end of October, the Red Cross organised the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Condom Day. This large event is aimed at promoting condom use, making communities more comfortable about their use and the benefits relating to family planning and disease prevention. The Nepal Red Cross coordinated the event involving approximately 60 other local organisations. About 100,000 people observed rallies, street dramas etc.

Various activities were undertaken to increase access to information relating to HIV/AIDS and reproductive health. These include interaction with women's groups, advocacy sessions, and information, education and communication activities such as street dramas, showing videos and leaflet distribution. These activities were conducted in schools and in the community. Five thousand copies of advocacy related materials were produced and distributed to specific target groups. Those kind of activities are aimed at creating a supportive environment to reduce stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS. District chapters, community people, volunteers, and junior/youth circle members are working closely with PLWHA..

Some 340 women action group meetings were held with over 5,000 women participating. Many of these were spouses of migrants who are a high-risk HIV/AIDS group. Group leaders, roving educators and health personnel from sub-health post facilitated these meetings. The gatherings helped participants initiate open discussion with their partners about sexual reproductive health issues which are considered social taboos in the community.

To create awareness and promote voluntary blood donation, a workshop was conducted on safe blood donation. It has created awareness among blood donors and also promoted voluntary blood donation.

To assess knowledge and attitudes about sexually transmitted infections (STIs), HIV/AIDS and sex education among central staff, a brief study was carried out through a questionnaire. Among 110 staff that received a questionnaire, 34 staff members responded. The finding of the study indicates that the level of knowledge is low while attitudes towards PLWHA and sex education were mostly negative. As a result, an orientation session will be conducted for staff on the occasion of World AIDS Day.

Various activities in pursuit of providing increased access to reproductive health services were carried out. Over 5,000 condoms were distributed by community mobilisers and women's group leaders in the project districts.

The junior/youth department has introduced condom distribution in seven restrooms at NHQ.

In order to promote informed decisions among young people, 790 peer educators were trained in the project communities. To support the peer educators, about 2,000 copies of life skill guidelines have been distributed. The life skills guideline covers areas such as relationships, decision making, goal setting, problem solving, creative thinking and managing peer pressure. Similarly, 250 flip-charts on reproductive health issues were developed and distributed to women in the community. Approximately 60,000 copies of *Yuba Chutari* (a youth magazine) were published and distributed among young people and women's groups. A counseling guidebook (developed by the United Mission in Nepal) was distributed to trained counselors. Trainers' interaction workshops were held in five locations and 21 women from the community were trained on reproductive health, STIs, and HIV/AIDS issues.

To strengthen institutional capacity for programme management, various activities, including monitoring, orientation and training, were carried out. A total of 111 volunteers and staff participated in a review and capacity building workshop from 36 programme districts. A monitoring framework and uniform reporting format has been revised and used. Eight staff members have been given training/guidance in areas such as providing youth friendly service, basic computer skills, English language and professional report writing.



*About 100,000 people participated in this year's Condom Day*

Ten sessions of the training of trainers on HIV/AIDS were held, producing 211 trainers at school and community level. They are now involved in facilitating training for peer educators. These trainers affiliated to district chapters to work for the organisation.

### **Impact**

Information and social mobilisation activities, such as Condom Day and Red Cross Day have become a tradition of Nepal Red Cross and they are incorporated in the plan of action in most of the district chapters. From modest beginnings a decade ago, events such as Condom Day have now become high-profile events with a significant impact, evidenced by the estimated 100,000 people witnessing this year's event. The fact that large numbers of people participate in Condom Day or are comfortable as spectators, show a more relaxed and open attitude to issues such as reproductive health and HIV/AIDS in a society noted for its conservatism.

Women are being empowered to openly discuss sex-related issues and make more informed decisions on reproductive health. The decision-making role of women has increased in the sector of health and education. Open discussion on condom usage has been initiated and it has started to be accepted in the community.

At the district level, demand for voluntary counselling and testing services along with the blood safety has increased.

The national society has endorsed the HIV/AIDS strategy, and priority areas and target groups are clearly defined. As a result, the HIV/AIDS programme has become uniform and focused. HIV/AIDS awareness activities have been incorporated in the junior/youth Red Cross activities at schools. The junior/youth Red Cross policy document has made a clear provision to address health related issues focusing significantly on HIV/AIDS.

Coordination with different INGOs/NGOs and government organisations has been strengthened. Nepal Red Cross district chapters have raised local resources to continue some activities such as street drama and competitions.

### **Constraints**

General strikes have caused difficulties in running programmes according to plan. Schools were closed due to these strikes which slowed implementation.

### **4. Junior Red Cross/Red Cross youth, school health, sanitation and environment: To improve the health situation of school students.**

#### **Expected Results:**

- School children develop the habit of washing their hands with soap or ash after toileting and before eating;
- Child-to-child learning environment about hygiene and sanitary behaviour developed;
- Sanitary units (toilet, drainage, soak-pit, garbage pit , etc.) installed, improved, maintained and properly used at school and nearby communities; and
- Institutional capacity of junior Red Cross/Red Cross youth circles enhanced.

#### **Progress/Achievements**

This programme is not part of the revised appeal for 2004.

### **Disaster Management**

**Overall Goal: To strengthen the disaster management capacity of the Nepal Red Cross in order to provide effective response to disasters as well as enhance capacities of vulnerable communities.**

**Programme Objectives: The disaster management programme comprises three projects, as follows:**

**1. Disaster preparedness project objective: To strengthen the disaster preparedness capacity of the society to enhance the capacity of the most vulnerable communities.**

**Expected Results:**

- Capacity to respond to 15,000 affected families can be sustained by strengthened capacity of Nepal Red Cross warehouses;
- Increased skilled human resources in basic disaster management (DM) (90 to 100) and warehouse management (20 to 25) will be inducted into NRCS DM;
- Capacity of vulnerable communities enhanced, reducing loss of life and property due to disaster;
- Disaster capacity response mechanisms at 20 schools and in their neighboring communities increased. (NB. This was a new expected result as noted in Programme Update 1; see 'progress/achievements' section below);
- Capacity of vulnerable communities in the Kathmandu valley will be enhanced, reducing loss of life and property caused by earthquakes. (NB. this expected result has been removed in the revised appeal; see 'progress/achievements' section below); and
- Experienced human resources recruited for effective management of all activities related to the disaster preparedness (DP) project.

**Progress/Achievements**

To provide immediate relief service to disaster victims, Nepal Red Cross is operating strategically located warehouses with pre-positioned relief goods. These were utilised as part of the Nepal Red Cross response to this year's extensive monsoon floods which affected 25 of Nepal's 75 districts. Relief materials were able to be mobilised quickly from warehouses as soon as situation reports were received. More than 16,000 family packages were sent to districts and an additional 30,000 family packages were procured. Each family package consists of a tarpaulin, cloth, sari, dhoti, blanket, and kitchen utensils.

The national society continues to upgrade the skills of its human resources through various trainings. In this reporting period a basic DM training was held for 22 participants (male and female) while inventory control and warehousing management training for warehouse and depot managers was conducted with 28 participants.

One of the main DM programmes is the CBDP programme, which is being implemented in 25 districts through multilateral and bilateral support this year.

A training-of-trainers' course within the CBDP programme was organised for 24 community trainers and community workers. Following the course they were sent to concerned districts and conducted basic level DM training. Community level disaster preparedness units (DP-units) selected 1,545 members of the community (including 689 women) as participants. Districts have also organised management courses for 47 communities to enhance project management skills of community members involved in the programme.

All programme communities have been continuously collecting revolving funds to be used in disasters or disaster mitigation. In the year to date, NRs 654,174 has been collected in 113 communities in 19 districts. The DP-units are collecting NRs. 5-20 from each household on a monthly basis as per local capacity. Similarly, programme communities have also been collecting food grains. The grain is stored in drums provided by the programme. During this period some CBDP communities faced flooding and landslides. DP-units warned people about the coming flood, arranged for evacuation if needed and provided food grains or cooked food to those affected by the disaster. District chapters report 354 kg of food grains and NRs. 1350 have been provided to people affected by the floods from 10 community level DP-units in Rautahat, Bara and Udayapur districts.

The programme provided hand-held microphones to 54 communities. DP-units have been using these to raise awareness on DM in times of non-emergency while using them for pre-warning in rescue and relief situations. First aid kits and stretchers have also been provided to 44 communities. These materials are used to provide first aid services as well as carry the injured to the nearest health post and persons trained in CBFA are responsible for these activities.

During the reporting period, 75 communities conducted mitigation works. Most communities constructed dry walls or sand-bag embankments along rivers and planted plants in flood and landslide prone areas. Community members raised resources from the community as well as other organisations and they contributed with their own labour.

The Nepal Red Cross held a training course for community workers/trainers on how to prepare local preparedness plans. Following this, participants have facilitated sessions in which members of the community prepare DP-plans for future implementation. This was done in 81 communities in 13 districts. Strengthening the socio-economic situation is also an important part of the programme. The programme has given 20 DP-units NRs. 15,000 each and these units provide small loans to community members for income generating activities such as goat/pig keeping, sewing and cutting, kitchen gardening etc. In order to further enhance capacity of district chapters in DM, NHQ provided computers to eight districts as well as NRs. 12,000 to each of 12 sub-chapters. The district chapters plan to use computers for training courses for income generation purposes.

The national society organised conflict management training in four districts where CBDP is being implemented. Staff from the Nepal Red Cross working in the tracing unit and DM department facilitated the training sessions.

In order to review the progress and impact of the programme as well as discuss problems encountered, a yearly and half-yearly review meeting was organised, with staff and volunteers along with members of DP-units from 24 districts participating. In general the CBDP programme is proving to be effective and useful at the community level, which was also seen during the recent floods. The meeting recommended that the project cycle should not be shorter than two years.

This year the Nepal Red Cross has started a CBDP programme integrating school awareness activities in 20 schools in three districts. Under this programme the following activities have been carried out;

- A nine-day DM training for 26 participants was organised for staff and volunteers from the programme districts. The training was focused on DM at school and community levels.
- Hazard and vulnerability mapping has been done in the 20 schools and neighbouring communities.
- All programme communities and schools organised basic level DM training.

To generate public awareness the national society published 5,000 copies of a comic strip on two disaster scenarios – earthquake and floods/landslides. Two and a half thousand copies of a music cassette have also been produced with songs promoting disaster preparedness messages. One community in Syangja district composed the songs and used a local singer to raise money for their revolving fund. These songs have been distributed to all districts and programme communities.

Twenty thousand copies of a fire safety leaflet were produced and distributed. This is an important message to disseminate with people living in the plain areas vulnerable to fire due to housing being made of highly combustible materials, situated close to each other. Awareness of fire risks in these communities is generally low.

NHQ published 1,000 copies of a newsletter, planned to be published on a quarterly basis, covering information on CBDP for all programme communities, districts and various organisations. Two thousand copies of a CBDP manual is being reprinted to be distributed to programme districts and communities.

### **Impact**

During the floods and landslides, some key highways that link Kathmandu to other districts were blocked. However the strategically located regional warehouses were able to supply relief materials to affected districts and ultimately assisting those affected by the disaster.

The training courses organised by NHQ have produced trained human resources at district level. This has enhanced district capacity. District chapters are better positioned to mobilise these trained personnel in emergency situations.

CBDP communities have started to work collectively in disaster preparedness and mitigation. Local resources are utilised by collecting cash and goods-in-kind. Communities responded well during the recent flooding with people being warned faster, able to be evacuated more efficiently and quickly and able to rely on relief funds and grain stores until further assistance could reach them. It was clear that in CBDP communities lives were saved due to the knowledge and preparedness the programme had engendered.

The Nepal Red Cross and South Asia Regional Delegation (SARD) initiated a participatory action learning (PAL) study, with the work focussing primarily on learning how previous investment in disaster preparedness has

increased Red Cross and community capacity to respond to and cope with disasters using the opportunity of real time learning during the floods operation 2004.

The study centred on lessons learned in four key areas: response performance, community mitigation and preparedness, integrated programming and capacity building and coordination with others and their perception of the Nepal Red Cross Society.

The team visited the worst flood-affected districts of Mahottari, Sarlahi and Dhanusa. The selected communities in these districts were from areas where the CBDP programme had earlier been implemented and areas where CBDP had not been applied. Preliminary findings (the final report is due out early 2005) show a marked difference between communities which have been involved in the CBDP programme and those that have not. Further details will be available in the report when it is published.

### Constraints

The present conflict situation has caused minor problems that resulted in delays of some programme activities. In addition, the floods and landslides occurred in this period and this caused all programme-related personnel to be involved in relief operation rather than programme activities. However, this was only temporary and all activities for this year are planned to be finalised before the end of December.

### 2. Disaster response project objective: To enhance the disaster response capacity of the society at all levels by forming disaster response teams at NHQ, regional and district levels.

#### Expected Results:

- Response section at headquarters established and disaster response (DR) teams at different levels formed to ensure immediate, effective DR in times of emergencies; and
- Strengthen existing response mechanisms, including a headquarters earthquake response plan and further response training. (As noted in Programme Update 1, this is a new expected result; see 'progress/achievements' section below.)

#### Progress/Achievements

NHQ had planned to form response teams at national and regional levels, with a national DR training planned for December. Participants have been selected, and training content etc, are being prepared. Some Nepal Red Cross members have already been trained by SARD, who will act as resource persons.

The society has prepared a DM plan and is in the process of adopting it. Given the earthquake hazard in the Kathmandu valley, the Nepal Red Cross has held search and rescue training for its staff and local level volunteers. Rescue kits have been positioned at NHQ as well as at different strategic points within the valley.

As outlined earlier in this report, Nepal was struck by severe flooding and landslides in July. Approximately 800,000 people were affected with 185 killed. Almost 70,000 houses were partially or completely destroyed while at the height of the emergency, there were more than 37,000 displaced families. The details of the response by the Nepal Red Cross are outlined in the Operations Updates posted on the Federation website [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org).



*Distribution of shelter materials were a vital element of meeting the needs of those affected by the floods.*

The Nepal Red Cross responded promptly to the disaster, with district chapters and sub-chapters mobilising trained personnel, carrying out field surveys and making assessments. They also collected food and non-food items to distribute to those affected. Nepal Red Cross warehouses supplied relief materials from existing stocks. NHQ collected and compiled information from disaster-hit areas, and forwarded this to various stakeholders. An international appeal was launched at the end of July through the Federation, which received good responses from donor agencies and sister societies. Many organisations based in Nepal channelled their assistance through the Nepal Red Cross. Under the appeal the society has provided 1,000 targeted families with a one-month food ration (in addition to the over 8,000 families receiving food assistance via Red Cross district chapters etc), 15,000 with

water purification liquid and over 30,000 families with packs of non-food items. The operation is now entering the rehabilitation phase.

### Impact

Fast, effective assistance was provided to approximately 180,000 people affected by the floods by the Nepal Red Cross. The national society's extensive branch network and trained human resources enabled it to provide assistance to many remote and hard-to-access communities. Many of those affected had lost everything and lacked even the basic necessities, while the Nepal Red Cross's response enabled those reached to start their lives again. The emergency relief phase of the floods operation met or nearly met designated timeframes for provision of assistance. A preliminary assessment of the operation shows a good level of coordination, planning and response.

### 3. Population movement project objective: To improve the lives of Bhutanese refugees in refugee camps through the provision of food and non-food items.

#### Expected Results:

- Bhutanese refugee children attending schools will have benefited from provision of uniforms; and
- Skills for income generating activities enhanced among refugees and local population. (NB. As noted in Programme Update 1, this is a new expected result while the previous expected result relating to provision of food and non-food support has been removed. See 'progress/achievements' section below.)

#### Progress/Achievements

The Nepal Red Cross has been organising skill development training courses for Bhutanese refugees and some members from the local population with the purpose of providing job skills to contribute to long-term sustainable solutions. An important element of the approach is to provide these skills to both the refugees and local people and for them to participate together on the courses. This will build up relations and understanding between the two groups and help prevent conflict. The training offered is wood carving, carpentry, sewing, computer skills, beautician training and electronics. During this period the society trained 60 people as outlined below:

Type of training	Refugee people		Local people		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Computer	6	4	9	1	20
Electronics	10		10		20
Cosmetics		10		10	20
Total	16	14	19	11	60

The Nepal Red Cross is providing relief services to over 104,000 refugees by providing food and non-food items in seven camps located in Jhapa and Morang districts. This activity is not funded under this appeal and is supported by UNHCR and WFP bilaterally.

The first expected result of the appeal has not been funded, so school uniforms were not provided as planned.

With ICRC's support, the Nepal Red Cross provided tracing services to conflict-affected districts. During this period, one tracing workshop was organised in the mid-western region, with representatives from 19 districts participating. The Nepal Red Cross also held 'safer access' workshops in Kavre, Dhading, Mahottari and Ilam districts. Relief materials (food and non-food items) were distributed to 96 families affected by the conflict situation.

### Impact

Direct impact of the life skills training has yet to be seen as it is in its early stages. It is hoped that following the training, refugees and local people who participated will find it easier to get work or set up their own business. The refugee populations are receiving food, non-food and other basic support from the society.

### Constraints

There are inadequate funds to meet needs of the refugees.

## Humanitarian Values

**Overall Goal: Bring about changes in people's behaviour, increasing mutual understanding and respect for human dignity through a wider dissemination of humanitarian values.**

**Programme Objective: To train Red Cross staff, volunteers and the general public on humanitarian values and to publicise the fight against discrimination in communities.**

### Expected Results:

- By the end of 2004, 350 staff and volunteers of Nepal Red Cross will have a better understanding of HV, tolerance and the issues around discrimination; and
- Dissemination of Nepal Red Cross activities focusing on its humanitarian services.

### Progress/Achievements

The programme has been scaled up this year and promoted the anti-discrimination agenda. As planned, an orientation workshop on HV was held for 40 headquarters staff and nearby district volunteers in June. The workshop was successful in orientating the department and programme heads of the society on HV resulting in increased integration of the values component in service programmes. As a result, other programmes like organisational development, women development, community development and junior/youth integrated HV sessions into their regular workshops/seminars.

The radio programme focusing on HV is ongoing and the response from the public and Red Cross members is very encouraging. About 400 letters have been received from the listeners showing their appreciation and support. The Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement activities, Principles, Nepal Red Cross activities and issues on humanitarian works are highlighted in the broadcasts. The programme has both highlighted the role of the Red Cross Movement in the conflict situation as well as taken up issues linked to HV and discrimination.

There has been a good response to the essay competition – ‘The role of youth in promoting a non-discriminatory society’, which runs through to November with the winners to be announced in December. Young people up to 25 years old have been invited to participate in the competition announced through the radio programme on HV.

A youth camp on discrimination was conducted in October. It was set up as a pilot for possible future programmes, based on a participatory approach and result oriented. A group of 40 young people representing diverse sectors of the society participated, expressing their views on discrimination and discussions on possible local actions.

The administrative work for the production of a short documentary on the Nepal Red Cross activities has been finalised. Script writing has commenced and the final production should be completed in early 2005.

The Movement Communicators' Guide, which has helped the Nepal Red Cross communicators/disseminators communicate in a better way, has been published in Nepali. NHQ staff and the district communicators, particularly in the targeted 22 districts, have been using the guide in day-to-day practice.

### Impact

The activities have successfully imparted the knowledge on HV, particularly at NHQ level. The agenda of non-discrimination has been accepted by the programme heads as an issue that needs to be addressed through national society programmes. Programme interventions such as the radio programmes, the essay competition and other dissemination activities have been effective in raising awareness and promoting behaviour/attitudinal changes and promotion of Fundamental Principles and dissemination of humanitarian activities of the Nepal Red Cross.

### Constraints

Late funding has delayed the completion of the documentary film until early 2005.

## Organisational Development

**Overall Goal: Vulnerable people will receive increased, sustainable community-based support to reduce their vulnerability through increased capacities of Nepal Red Cross Society, and their needs will be assessed at all levels, and development of relevant and focused programmes will occur to meet them.**

**Programme Objective: Nepal Red Cross Society moves towards being a well functioning national society offering high quality assistance with greater impact and relevance to the most vulnerable people in each of the communities it serves.**

**1. *Organisational development project objective: Governance and management potential of the national society are strengthened, leading to stronger capacity in its more diversified human resource base (gender, junior and youth, volunteers, handicapped) to deliver humanitarian services to the most vulnerable communities who are impacted by disasters.***

### Expected Results:

- Strengthened capacity of governance and management of regional branches and sub-branches to effectively and efficiently deliver services to the most vulnerable communities;
- Increased managerial competence of volunteers and staff for developing effective and relevant activities;
- Optimum involvement and contribution of volunteers to the promotion of HV and service work at all levels in all circumstances;
- Increased participation of women at all levels of the structure and institutional development sectors (planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluation); and
- Institutional capacity of the junior Red Cross/Red Cross youth enhanced.

### Progress/Achievements

The organisational development (OD) project has not attracted any funding from this appeal. The activities implemented and presented here are therefore financed from the Nepal Red Cross' own resources.

The society has developed a draft volunteer management manual that will be printed and distributed next year. As a pilot project to explore new ways of working with volunteers ten professional volunteers have been recruited. The concept has been developed by the community development programme (CDP) and the OD department. The volunteers will work with local communities in remote villages within CDP project areas.

One important aspect in strengthening the organisation is to establish sub-branches to reach out to community level. To promote this, a two-day national seminar was organised with more than 100 participants from different parts of the country. A priority for the society is to increase the participation of women in programme activities and decision making. Representatives from the central women's development committee and 14 women development committees met to discuss ways to achieve a higher involvement of women. In both these events a special session on non-discrimination and HV was included with facilitation from the Nepal Red Cross NHQ and SARD.

The OD section has conducted a two-day regional seminar for the western region with 37 participants on the theme of strengthening the capacity of district chapters. Issues discussed were resource mobilisation, involvement of women and integration of organisational development in programme activities. A special session on HV and discrimination was included in the programme. A concept of twinning, where stronger branches supports weaker branches, was also promoted.

The National Red Cross Training Centre in Budol has been expanded with the addition of a building with financial support from ICRC and the Norwegian Red Cross. At present the centre consists of two buildings; however additional work is still needed on one and the Nepal Red Cross is welcoming donors to support its completion. After completion residential training programmes could be held in this centre.

Two staff from the Nepal Red Cross took part in an OD integrated workshop facilitated by SARD, while the head of the women's development section participated in a gender training run by INTRAC in London. Both opportunities have given good knowledge and skills for further strengthening the capacity of the national society.

### **Impact**

A measure of the impact of the OD activities is provided by annual report provided by branches on their status and development according to a standardised questionnaire building on 'a well functioning branch'. Once this is received it will be also be possible to gauge the levels of participation of volunteers, women etc.

### **Constraints**

Due to lack of funds all activities planned under this project has not been implemented.

**2. Financial capacity development project objective: Diversify and increase financial resources to meet organisational and programme development needs through the improved resource mobilisation system and enhance the financial management capacity through modern technology and new techniques in financial management.**

### **Expected Results:**

- Resource mobilisation policy, strategy, procedures and approaches developed and implemented; and
- Maintenance of account/data management system at the National Blood Bank, computerised account/inventory management system at six warehouses, and account/warehouse management training are developed, implemented and recorded. (NB. As noted in Programme Update 1, this expected result has been removed.)

### **Progress/Achievements**

The resource mobilisation programme started in May through a grant from the Federation Capacity Building Fund. The programme builds on the assistance provided in 2003-2004 by SARD. At that time draft policy, strategy and procedures were formulated, activity plans drawn up and a donor database set up. The purpose of the phase that started this year is to make the programme operational. During this reporting period, the programme has been established, staff have been recruited and some activities have been implemented.

The policy, procedure and strategy has now been finalised and translated into Nepali. The documents are currently on the agenda of the governing board for feedback and adoption at their next meeting. After that the documents will be printed and distributed.

In October 2004 the fundraising manager participated in the Red Cross/Red Crescent skillshare programme in the Netherlands. Through this meeting the Nepal Red Cross benefited from the experience of other national societies, especially in areas such as the use of media in fundraising, cause-related marketing and corporate sector mobilisation. Issues of image and the need for transparency and accountability were also discussed. The learning from the skillshare will be integrated and used in the programme.

During the floods and landslides, the programme sent out letters requesting donations to major businesses. There have also been various meetings with business leaders and the Chamber of Commerce to discuss cooperation. New donation boxes are being constructed and two staff have been recruited – a fundraising manager and a fundraising officer. Visits to key district chapters to share fundraising skills and discuss utilisation of passive fixed assets for income generation purpose have been done.

### **Impact**

The programme is gradually making district chapters and volunteers aware about the importance of local fundraising activities which will ensure sustainability. Knowledge and skills developed through the project will help the organisation continuously. Moreover, service programmes to the community can be increased by generating more funds at all levels.

### Constraints

The second staff member was only able to be recruited six months after the programme started because of a lengthy but fair recruitment process. This has led to delays in major activities, such as direct mailing. Image building and changing attitudes are not easy or simple tasks and will take some time to achieve.

The deteriorating economic situation due to the present armed conflict is having a detrimental impact on fundraising. However, the programme is empowering the national society to explore new avenues of income generation and to put a strategy in place to enhance fundraising potential.

**3. Junior Red Cross (JRC)/Red Cross Youth (RCY) organisation and service project objective: To strengthen and expand the JRC/RCY organisation and involve young people in the humanitarian services (including health) of the Movement.** (NB. As noted in Programme Update 1, this project has been moved from the health programme.)

### Expected Results:

- Increased number of JRC/RCY circles and members;
- JRC/RCY movement and programme more efficient and better equipped in programme development and management, providing quality services through better management of programmes at district and circle level; and
- Services provided to the community through JRC/RCY.

### Progress/Achievements

The Nepal Red Cross youth policy needed to be revised and made compatible with the Federations' youth policy. Aiming to incorporate previous experience and comments received from various workshops and seminars, a policy review workshop was organised in October. During the workshop an updated policy was elaborated and it will be published later this year.

To motivate junior members to carry out Red Cross activities and to increase their capacity to manage junior circles five junior camps were organised in different districts. Fifty junior members participated in each camp and issues such as developing annual programme calendars, organising Red Cross events and campaigns were on the programme. Headmasters and teacher sponsors are the key persons to increase involvement of juniors and youth, the number of circles and their effective management. Therefore workshops and training courses for headmasters, campus heads and teacher sponsors have conducted in more than five districts during this reporting period.

Aiming to provide services to schools and pupils, junior circles are establishing book banks. During this period 20 book banks in different schools in 20 districts have been set up, which will benefit 800 students and staff. Included in the book banks is a set of essential reference materials, books, charts, a globe and geometrical instrument for teaching as well as textbooks for students. 'Forestation' schemes aimed at promoting environmental issues and school sanitation have been accomplished in each target district.

### Impact

The programme is contributing to the effective involvement of the junior/youth members and the number of teacher sponsors is increasing. Statistics on the number of members, circles are gathered annually and will be reflected in the Annual Report. A clear youth policy compatible with the Federations' youth policy has been produced which will guide future programme development.

### Constraints

The conflict has created some problems in conducting and monitoring activities. Due to strikes, a leadership training course for Red Cross youth in the Gorkha district has been postponed.

## **Representation, Management and Implementation**

### **Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnership**

#### **Progress/Achievements**

Based on the Nepal Red Cross Fourth Development Plan 2003-2007, the CAS partnership meeting of April 2004 laid a solid foundation for future cooperation and coordination. The meeting was followed up with a CAS learning group being established with representatives from the Nepal Red Cross, two sister societies, the Federation and ICRC. It has followed up on issues such as reporting and audit, prepared a Memorandum of Understanding for CAS and discussed monitoring of the CAS process.

During several partner national societies' visits to Nepal, CAS has served as a leading document when discussing programme priorities and cooperation approaches. The mapping of interest and commitments of partners done during the partnership meeting has been an important tool during the planning of next years programmes for the society included in the Federation Appeal.

Regular Movement coordination has continued with the monthly cooperation meeting between Nepal Red Cross, the ICRC country delegation and the Federation office in Nepal. Close coordination of programme planning for 2005 was in place with the ICRC country delegation, especially in the area of capacity building and HV.

Several embassies and donor agencies were presented with the opportunity to assist the Nepal Red Cross during the flood operation. Close coordination took place with and extensive resources were raised from local INGOs and NGOs. The local office of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is negotiating support to the CBFA programme, while the deputy head of the Nepal Red Cross first aid department has visited the Canadian Red Cross and CIDA office in Ottawa.

The Federation office has actively followed-up the results from the Federation audit in coordination with the Regional Finance Unit and the Regional Finance Programme and further strengthened the capacity and management of the Nepal Red Cross finance department.

The Federation office in Nepal consists of a sole and experienced Federation representative and is located together with the secretariat for the South Asia Red Cross/Red Crescent Network on HIV/AIDS (SARNHA). In addition a regionally recruited disaster response manager from SARD is located in the office.

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

APPEAL No. 01.58/2004

## PLEDGES RECEIVED

23/12/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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## CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->					1,684,870	TOTAL COVERAGE 49.3%	
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID GRANT 2004				162,500	29.01.04		
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND				60,000	03.03.04	RESOURCE MOBILISATION	
FINNISH - GOVT/RC		50,000	EUR	78,775	16.03.04	DISASTER MANAGEMENT	
NETHERLANDS - RC		18,000	EUR	27,648	18.05.04	BHUTANESE REFUGEES	
NEW ZEALAND - RC		150,000	NZD	126,300	16.02.04	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, CBDP	
NEW ZEALAND - RC		150,000	NZD	119,175	06.07.04	NEPAL RC DISASTER MANAGEMENT	
SWEDISH - GOVT		900,000	SEK	152,100	16.04.04	HEALTH PROGRAMMES, ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
SWEDISH - RC		400,000	SEK	67,600	16.04.04	HEALTH PROGRAMMES, ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
SWEDISH - RC		220,000	SEK	36,850	08.09.04	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PHASE	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				830,948	CHF		49.3%

## KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%

## ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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