

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

PAKISTAN

10 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. 01.59/2004; Programme Update No. 1; Period covered: 1 January to 31 March 2004; Appeal coverage: 67.7%; Outstanding needs: CHF 401,151 (USD 323,935 or EUR 263,400).

[\(click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List - also available on the website\).](#)

Appeal target: CHF 1,242,250 (USD 1,003,049 or EUR 815,692)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: n/a

Programme summary: The draft four-year development plan 2005-2008 is still valid but currently undergoing changes with new priorities added to the four core areas. The 'new vision' aims at making the national society truly 'national' by expanding to remote disaster-prone areas. New branches will be set up focussing on disaster preparedness, first aid and volunteer recruitment.

It is important to note that in areas where basic health units already exist, the extended/new activities should build on the existing ones. By doing that, the recognition and trust already established by the branch can be utilised. A major challenge for the delegation will be to communicate and give support to this development, which has the potential to engender improved donor response.

Emergency response in the major cities, starting with Islamabad, will be achieved through an effective ambulance service, first aid volunteers and a quality blood programme.

Progress on activities outlined in the 2004 Annual Appeal has been very slow. This has resulted in significant under-spending. The major reason for the slowed activity has been due to the process of outlining a new focus and vision for the Pakistan Red Crescent Society.

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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

There has been increased sectarian, tribal and other violence in the border areas with Afghanistan, while there have been a number of violent attacks (including bomb blasts) in cities such as Karachi and Quetta. However no specific threats to the work of the Federation or the national society have occurred.

The political relationship between Pakistan and India has continued to improve with the reopening of air and rail links. The Indian cricket tour, the first to Pakistan in 14 years, was symbolic of the easing of tensions between the two countries. This successful tour has been mirrored by cultural exchanges and high-level political meetings.

The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) chairman has outlined his vision of the national society as a highly visible, leading emergency response organisation in Pakistan, reaching out to every disaster-prone corner of the country, providing disaster relief, first aid and safe blood. Disaster response in the major cities was to focus on a quality, around-the-clock ambulance service.

Activities outlined in the Appeal 2004 have been implemented at the branch level although the progress has slowed considerably. This has resulted in under-spending of programme funds during the first months of the year. National headquarters (NHQ) support and monitoring has not been forthcoming as scheduled, which has added to delays and financial difficulties at branch level. One of the major reasons for the slowdown in activity has been due to the re-visioning process of the PRCS and its potential implications for activities at branch level. Despite a slow start to the year, the momentum of activities is picking up and spending is catching up with planned levels.

At the beginning of 2004, the chairman initiated a major restructuring process of NHQ and the managing board, resulting in a totally new board selected by the chairman. The board is divided into nine committees - all of them with a clear charter of duties. A new secretary general was appointed in mid-March as well as three new directors, while some senior staff left, leaving vacancies which have not yet been filled.

The new vision and direction of the PRCS has been presented to provincial governors, chief ministers and various authorities to gain support. The Federation was involved in several of these meetings.

Health and Care

Overall Goal: The national society has the capacity to successfully plan, implement and manage programmes which have a positive effect on the health of the community.

Programme Objective: To increase the capacity of the national society's health management and training programmes to deliver health services to vulnerable communities.

Health management project objective: To strengthen overall health management in PRCS.

Expected Result

Overall health management will be further strengthened.

Progress/Achievements

A monthly work plan (Gantt chart) has been developed to keep track of ongoing activities carried out by the NHQ health team.

A short-term consultant has been employed to set up the voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) centre in Lahore. Four provincial branches have a health officer while the Sindh provincial branch is still in the process of employing one.

A four-year strategic plan was developed through a participatory approach. All provincial branch health teams participated in a project development workshop and a five-year health development plan was formulated.

Regular monthly monitoring and evaluation visits were conducted to monitor health programme activities at provincial branches. A visit to the Sindh branch examined operational issues regarding reproductive health

Appeal; Pakistan; Appeal 01.59/2004. ; Programme Update 1.

activities. This resulted in the branch secretary advising that these activities would be expedited by hiring a branch health officer. Monitoring visits to Punjab branch were conducted to evaluate the implementation of the VCT centre project. Interviews were conducted and a highly qualified consultant was hired for three months to assist with the project. The reproductive health training schedule for the healthcare provider was also discussed with the branch health team.

The PRCS continues to be an active member of the National Steering Committee on Polio; the health coordinator attended these meetings. The national society has also participated in deliberations with global and national partners in endeavours to make Pakistan polio free by 2005.

The construction of the training centre at the Balochistan branch has still not been completed and needs to be given priority. The project has been delayed for a variety of reasons including issues over materials and weather. There is also a need to establish a training centre at the AJ&K branch. ICRC support for first aid, which will commence from the next quarter, will help in establishing/maintaining training centres at national and provincial headquarters.

First aid project objective: To run a sustainable first aid programme that increases health awareness in the community.

Expected Result

Sustainable first aid programme which increases health awareness in the community.

Progress/Achievements

The PRCS first aid training centre continues to conduct first aid training courses. It provided training for the Trust for Voluntary Organisations, a major local NGO. First aid training was also conducted for staff of multinational firms and employees of various industrial units. The PRCS trained 147 people in first aid during the first quarter.

The deputy director of health and training attended the training-of-trainers course in Sri Lanka conducted by the Saint John Ambulance Association, with the support of the Federation's Pakistan delegation.

Community-based first aid (CBFA) training was provided to 1,019 people by the health outlets of the Balochistan and North West Frontier Province (NWFP) provincial branches.

Basic and mobile health units project objective: To provide basic curative and preventive health care via the existing three mobile health units (MHUs) and three basic health units (BHUs) in Balochistan, and a MHU and BHU in NWFP.

Expected Result

Provision of basic curative and preventive health in existing MHUs and BHUs.

Progress/Achievements

The Muhammad Khel BHU in Balochistan was closed in January 2004 due to operational and financial constraints.

The BHUs in Chaman, Quetta (Balochistan) and Torkham (NWFP) and MHUs in Quetta, Mastung, Qilla Saifullah (Balochistan) and Peshawar (NWFP) are conducting activities as detailed below:

Balochistan	Beneficiaries	Health Education	NWFP	Beneficiaries
BHUs (Chaman & Quetta)	5659	1,154	BHU (Torkhum)	2,689
MHUs (Qilla Saifullah, Mastung & Quetta)	5,281	8,213	MHU (Tajabad/Sethi Town)	5,253

A total of 13,494 people living in far-flung areas of Balochistan benefited from MHUs. These units continue to provide healthcare to local communities and refugees through health education, CBFA training and general health care.

Appeal; Pakistan; Appeal 01.59/2004. ; Programme Update 1.

The process of purchase of medicine for these MHUs and BHUs, although delayed, is now underway and will be completed by May 2004.

Reproductive health project objective: To provide comprehensive reproductive health services through health units in NWFP (7), Sindh (2), Punjab (1) and Balochistan (7).

Expected Result

Provide reproductive health services through health units in NWFP (7), Sindh (2), Punjab (1) and Balochistan (7).

Progress/Achievements

Equipment for reproductive health service provision was dispatched to Balochistan, NWFP and Punjab provincial branches. Procurement of reproductive health medicines is in progress. The reproductive health training schedule has been finalised and training sessions will start at provincial branches in the second quarter.

HIV/AIDS project objective: For PRCS to be recognised as a key player in the prevention of the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Expected Result

PRCS recognised as a key player in the prevention of the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Progress/Achievements

A consultant has been employed to assist the Punjab provincial branch to establish a VCT centre in Lahore with financial assistance from the Japanese Red Cross Society. The project will be operational in the next quarter.

The PRCS is a member of the South Asia Red Cross/Red Crescent Network on HIV/AIDS (SARNHA). During the first quarter, it was represented at the 4th SARNHA meeting as well as the HIV/AIDS stakeholders meeting in Nepal in March. These gatherings were to help develop regional project proposals for long-term funding to fight HIV/AIDS in South Asia.

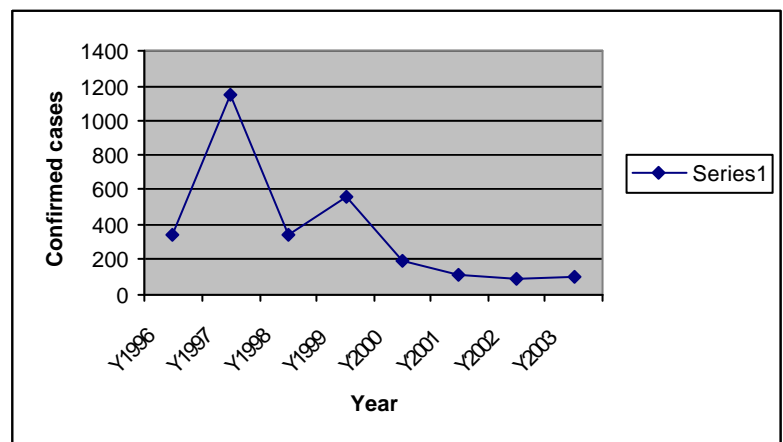
Meetings were held with UNAIDS and the National AIDS Control Programme representatives, as well as NGOs, to strengthen the partnership between the national society and these organisations and improve coordination in the battle against HIV/AIDS.

Continuing its safe blood activities, the Blood Donor Centre at NHQ held 17 blood camps and collected 449 units of bloods during the quarter. A total of 346 units of blood were distributed to patients.

As part of blood donor education and motivation, nearly 9,000 people received information via lectures and/or dissemination materials.

Impact (of entire health programme)

PRCS volunteers administered polio drops to over 10,000 children during immunisation days. This continued campaign is having a significant impact on the incidence of polio in Pakistan. The graph shows the dramatic fall in confirmed polio cases in Pakistan since 1996. (source: WHO).



The national training and resource centre continued to conduct first aid training for external organisations. Not only does this enhance the health capacity of the community as a whole, this is a highly visible activity with inherent positive promotional elements for the image of the PRCS.

The health outlets in Balochistan and NWFP provinces provided healthcare to almost 19,000 people made up of locals and refugees. Male and female motivators play an important role in providing health education and CBFA training for beneficiaries. For many people in remote communities in provinces such as Balochistan and NWFP, PRCS health facilities are the only opportunity to receive regular, quality healthcare.

Constraints

A lack of resources meant the Muhammad Khel BHU in Balochistan closed down, depriving a vulnerable community of health facilities.

There is uncertainty over funding provided by partner national societies (PNS) beyond 30 June 2004 for MHUs in Balochistan. If this funding is not provided it will have an adverse effect on the national society health programme.

Disaster Management

Overall Goal: The impact of disasters on vulnerable communities is reduced.

Programme Objective: PRCS has the organisational and operational capacity to mobilise local communities to reduce the impact of disasters by utilising and further strengthening existing coping mechanisms.

Disaster preparedness project objective: PRCS has the capacity to reduce the vulnerability of disaster-prone communities through implementation of a disaster management plan and policy which provides the framework for disaster preparedness activities at all levels.

Expected Result

Implementation of a disaster management (DM) policy.

Progress/Achievements

The PRCS has a comprehensive and integrated DM policy and strategy incorporating the 2002 capacity assessment exercise. The policy has now been finalised through a consultative process with branches and the Federation.

Expected Result

Plan of action for disaster preparedness/disaster response.

Progress/Achievements

The PRCS has formulated a strategic development plan which covers the four core areas of health, DM, humanitarian values and organisational development. The national society is now in the process of further refining its DM plan, in consultation with branches and stakeholders. A workshop will be organised for this purpose in the next quarter to discuss and coordinate all the related issues with branches.

A key step forward for the department is the process of establishing a PRCS administrative setup in the Federally Administrated Tribal Areas (FATA) which border Afghanistan and Northern Areas (FANA). These regions are particularly prone to conflict and earthquake. A PRCS presence has the potential to significantly improve the lives of vulnerable communities.

Expected Result

National society disaster response capacity is improved.

Progress/Achievements

The PRCS responded to an earthquake (magnitude 5.7) which struck various districts of the NWFP in February. The NWFP provincial branch carried out an assessment and coordinated with local authorities. NHQ dispatched relief items to the branch for onward distribution to the earthquake victims. The national society provided PKR1,047,230 worth of relief (approximately CHF 22,460).

Disaster response project objective: To enhance the capacity of vulnerable communities to respond to and cope with disasters and increase the capacity of the PRCS for efficient and effective management of crisis through a functional DM plan.

Expected Result

Community capacity building.

Progress/Achievements

There have been no activities due to changes in the governance and management of the PRCS. However funds have been transferred to branches which will be in a position to commence activities as planned.

Expected Result

Coordination and advocacy.

Progress/Achievements

The PRCS is an active partner in the International Non-Governmental Organisations Forum, established by the international NGOs in Pakistan to benefit from each other's experiences.

During the February earthquake in NWFP, the national society attended coordination meetings arranged by the forum at the UNDP office in Islamabad.

Expected Result

Information management capacities.

Progress/Achievements

No activity in the first quarter.

Impact (of entire DM programme)

The PRCS provided a timely and effective response to the earthquake-hit communities in NWFP in February. The relief operation was carried out in complete coordination with local authorities as a result of relief distribution posts which had been established to provide relief to those affected. The branch also involved local volunteers in the operation. A total of 1,400 people benefited from PRCS relief distribution.

As outlined earlier in this report, the DM department is undergoing a significant revamp in its focus and priorities. The impact of these changes will be reflected in future reports.

Constraints

Implementation coordination activities as per the Annual Appeal 2004 could not be meaningfully initiated at the start of the quarter mainly due to changes in management at various levels.

Humanitarian Values

Overall Goal: Bring about a change in the behaviour of people, increase tolerance, mutual understanding and respect for human beings by greater dissemination of humanitarian values and the Movement's Fundamental Principles.

Programme Objective: To increase PRCS' capacity to promote the Red Cross/Red Crescent's Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values.

Expected Result

Dissemination within PRCS.

Progress/Achievements

Coordination meetings are held on a weekly basis within the national society to improve the understanding of humanitarian values and the Movement's Fundamental Principles.

All training for volunteers includes the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values.

Expected Result

Dissemination outside PRCS.

Progress/Achievements

A media policy has been finalised and will be implemented this year.

Posters for donation boxes have almost been completed. These will promote humanitarian values. This is an example of the humanitarian values programme integrating with the resource mobilisation project.

The national society website has been redesigned and developed and is now ready to go 'live'. The new website has interactive features such as online registration and improved quality of images from the field.

The contact list of media contacts has been finalised. There will be a concerted effort to target certain media outlets and maintain regular liaison as part of the dissemination process in humanitarian values and image building for the national society.

Impact

Immediate impact based on activities to date this year is difficult to measure. However as part of an ongoing process, the profile of the national society is slowly improving, and with it public awareness in relation to humanitarian issues linked to the Fundamental Principles.

Liaison and contact with the media has continued to improve but, as outlined above, it is planned for activities in this area to be stepped up for the remainder of 2004.

Constraints

A lack of human resources and changes in management left several positions vacant for long periods. Activities have been slow in the first quarter as a result.

Organisational Development

Overall Goal: The national society has a well functioning, strong organisational base providing high quality assistance with greater impact and relevance to the most vulnerable people in each of the communities it serves.

Programme Objective: To make further progress towards a strong foundation and organisational capacity in PRCS in order to deliver effective and relevant services to vulnerable populations .

Expected Result

Consolidated legal framework for the national society.

Progress/Achievements

The draft of the revised PRCS constitution and rules, which were prepared in 2003, are now under consideration and review by the constitutional committee of the managing body. Following the review process, these documents will be submitted to the managing body for their endorsement.

Expected Result

Standardised and developed organisational systems, procedures and structure.

Progress/Achievements

The PRCS NHQ is going through a restructuring process; a consultant has been appointed for the purpose.

In order to bring the financial system and procedures in line with international accounting standards, a revision of the finance manual and fixed assets register was initiated late last year using a firm of chartered accountants. This process has continued and eventually the draft revised policy and procedures will be presented to the managing body for approval.

A financial management workshop is planned by the national society in the upcoming quarter for NHQ and provincial branches. Core areas will be the introduction of revised finance policies and procedures, accounting structures for donor funds, operational budgets for 2004, financial reporting and budgeting, and a brainstorming session of accounts personnel with programme managers.

Software firms have been approached for the development of customised package to meet the requirements of the PRCS financial management system.

The PRCS internal audit unit made pre-audit visits to provincial branches. The visits aimed to compile financial data on the Federation funded projects for the period 2002-2003. This data will be used for the forthcoming internal audits. Recommendations have been made to the Sindh branch to improve data entry records of Federation funded projects as part of the pre-audit process.

Expected Result

PRCS has developed a long-term development plan and partnership strategy.

Progress/Achievements

Two workshops have been arranged to finalise the inputs of the provincial branches to the draft Strategic Development Plan 2005-2008. Representatives from governance and management from all levels of the national society have participated in the process. All provincial chairpersons and secretaries were also invited to NHQ to make the plan more comprehensive and realistic. This draft plan was also presented and shared with stakeholders at the South Asia regional partnership meeting in Nepal. PRCS management has decided to further refine the plan in certain areas.

Expected Result

Strong and coordinated network of PRCS branches to deliver efficient and effective services to the vulnerable is measurably increased.

Progress/Achievements

The national society plans to extend its infrastructure into the FATA as well as the FANA of Pakistan. Preliminary meetings in this regard have been held with the provincial authorities/branches.

Expected Result

Sustainable resource development, mobilisation and fundraising strategy and plan.

Progress/Achievements

No significant activities this quarter. The resource mobilisation manager resigned and has not been replaced as yet.

Impact (of entire OD programme)

The PRCS now has a strategic vision towards the alleviation of the suffering in vulnerable communities through a long-term strategic development plan. Targeted provincial branches have been prepared for internal audit. The financial management system at national and provincial levels has been improved.

Constraints

One of the major constraints is the absence of a human resource policy. The national society is exploring options at addressing this situation.

Several key positions have become vacant which has meant certain tasks have not been completed.

Representation, Management and Implementation**Progress/Achievements**

International representation was somewhat limited in the first quarter due to the change of head of delegation and the vacancy in the secretary general's position at the PRCS. In addition, the future direction and focus of the national society was in a state of flux and review; this meant it was difficult to present/sell the PRCS.

However, links with embassies and international organisations were maintained. As mentioned earlier in the report, a series of visits was made to provincial governors and chief ministers to gain support for the new direction of the PRCS. The visits were undertaken by the chairman, the honorary treasurer, together with the head of regional delegation and head of delegation.

As a result of bilateral talks at the South Asia regional partnership meeting and follow-up invitations from the PRCS chairman to various PNS, visits will be made by the Japanese, British and Swedish Red Cross Societies, and a high level (chairman and head of international department) visit by the Danish Red Cross Society.

The delegation's overall goal to give support to maximise the impact and effectiveness of the national society has not been possible. The delegation has found itself in the role of supporting PRCS staff through a tough transition period. Regular meetings and daily communication have done this.

The managing board, selected and appointed by the chairman, has received delegation support through dissemination sessions on the role of the Movement. No one on the new board had previous experience with the Movement.

It should be noted that the selection of an entirely new board meant that the draft revised constitution was put on hold.

A major constraint that numerous vacancies caused by the change in management and staff at national society level meant there has been an absence of counterparts in various areas for country delegation delegates/staff. This situation will improve as the vacancies are filled and a more stable period of cooperation is anticipated.

Cooperation with ICRC continues smoothly and the delegation has established regular meetings. Both the Federation and the ICRC recognise that there is an urgent need to coordinate better our respective support to the PRCS. The Federation country delegation plays a useful role in improving coordination between the ICRC and the national society.

A more regular and detailed security alert screening process has been established and there is regular contact with PRCS NHQ and branches on this issue.

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

APPEAL No. 01.59/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

08/06/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

					TOTAL COVERAGE	
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				1,242,150		67.7%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				651,549		
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID GRANT 2004				75,000	29.01.04	
SWEDISH - GOVT		300,000	SEK	50,550	06.04.04	HEALTH ACTIVITIES, ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				777,099	CHF	62.6%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SWEDEN	DELEGATES			64,000		
Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				64,000	CHF	5.2%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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