

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

CAMBODIA

14 September 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. 01.62/2004; Programme Update no. 2, Period covered: 1 April to 30 June 2004; Appeal coverage: 81.7%; Outstanding needs: CHF 248,983 (USD 186,737 or EUR 159,349).

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Appeal target: CHF 1,359,264 (USD 1,019,448 or EUR 869,929);

Programme summary: The political deadlock and resulting lack of a functional government as well as the situation for the Montagnard refugees have provided the broader context for the period. Recognising the importance of refugee protection, the Federation hosted a global refugee 'Reachout' workshop and worked with the Cambodian Red Cross (CRC) to advocate on behalf of this vulnerable group. The period also saw the beginning of a process to consolidate the CRC community-based disaster preparedness programme, further grants being issued for CRC's health programme and bold steps being taken by the CRC leadership in moving toward organisational reform. The Federation Appeal is adequately funded for 2004 and a committed group of partners continues to support CRC in its delivery of services, to what is widely regarded, as a growing number of vulnerable people.

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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

Following the August 2003 national election, the political deadlock in forming a new government has not abated. While the King of Cambodia has reportedly expressed his support for new elections, discussions continue between the three main parties over the composition of a coalition government. Meanwhile, investors in Cambodia remain wary and while the United Nations Development Programme called Cambodia's economy one of the "best performing" (Hafiz Pasha, May 2004) in Asia, it is widely recognised that economic gains are not translating into better conditions for the rural poor. Despite improved infrastructure such as bridges and roads, indications are that infant mortality is rising and there is a growing disparity between rich and poor. In the meantime, foreign banks and donors, recognising that agriculture will be a driver of export growth and employment, have renewed their commitment to major agricultural reform. This is seen by some as the only major strategy to prevent Cambodia from sliding further into poverty.

The situation for the Montagnards, where the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is unable to provide the protection required for refugees crossing the Cambodian border from Vietnam, has continued to be a significant issue not only for the Red Cross Movement but also for foreign governments, the United Nations and NGOs. With the media playing a key role in highlighting the human rights issue in April, concerned parties are pressing the Royal Government of Cambodia to allow UNHCR full access. After the holding of the UN Commission on Human Rights, observers expressed concern that the new resolution written by Japan and adopted by the UN Commission represented a decline in international commitment to improving the human rights situation in the country.

Health and care

Goal: The health and well being of the most vulnerable communities in Cambodia is improved.

Objective: The Cambodian Red Cross is an efficient national society competent to deliver quality services in health care.

Expected Results:

- HIV/AIDS transmission and related stigma and discrimination among vulnerable groups have been reduced.
- The incidence and case fatality of dengue fever have been reduced.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Following an intensive process of consultation, the CRC HIV/AIDS project has developed a strategic plan for the period 2004 to 2010. The strategy will be formally endorsed by CRC leadership later in 2004 and seeks to work in partnership with people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) and other national and regional stakeholders. In preparation for the XV International AIDS Conference in Bangkok, the Federation worked with CRC to produce a short video on HIV/AIDS to be broadcast at the conference as well on BBC television.

Specific achievements under the three core components are as follows:

Peer and life skills education with youth (in schools)

200 Red Cross Youth from three provinces and three universities participated in a five-day peer support training.

Peer and life skills education with police

125 police from six provinces trained as peer supporters. 890 police attended two days of HIV/AIDS and life skills training.

Community support for people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in two provinces

Red Cross volunteers made visits to 65 PLWHA and their families in nine districts in the two provinces of Battambang and Kampt. In addition 245 community and village councillors participated in stigma and discrimination workshops and 600 people participated in HIV/AIDS awareness sessions. During this quarter, the CRC volunteers also supported 250 orphans affected by HIV/AIDS, repaired 19 homes of PLWHA and referred 18 suspected HIV/AIDS cases. CRC is also supporting PLWHA self-support groups to start small-scale income generation projects such as chicken farming.

The CRC dengue fever project supported by the New Zealand Red Cross and the Health and Nutrition Initiatives Fund of Canada is well underway in all four target provinces. Following some delay in establishing effective provincial dengue working groups (PDWG) and with the onset of the rainy season – a critical time to control the breeding of mosquitoes – health promotion activities have been intensifying in all locations.

Impact:

PLWHA are satisfied with services provided by CRC volunteers and have gone on to form support groups in their community. Through the support groups, they are able to meet and share knowledge and experiences and advocate for improved access to health care. In addition small income generation activities such as raising chicken will help improve the financial capital of the households.

The impact of the dengue project in 2004 can only be seen in terms of project outputs. Impact on the disease incidence as well as on morbidity is not expected until later in 2004.

Constraints:

The complexity of establishing a national structure to coordinate dengue fever prevention has taken longer than expected. Hence, project implementation has been somewhat delayed. This has no significant impact on the overall project though expenditure is significantly slower than scheduled.

Disaster management

Goal: The impact of disasters on the people of Cambodia is reduced.

Objective: CRC, in coordination with national authorities and other bodies, and working through a network of volunteers and community structures, is recognised as a leading organisation in disaster management.

Expected Results:

- Communities have enhanced capacity to cope with, and to mitigate the effects of, natural disasters and CRC has the strengthened capacity to prepare effectively for, and respond to, natural disasters.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

The implementation of the CRC community-based disaster preparedness programme experienced delays in early 2004, due largely to changes in staffing. Following these delays, the second quarter saw an intensive period of activity. To support CRC the Federation contracted two consultants: the first provided technical support in project planning, in refreshing the hazard, vulnerability and capacity analysis (HVCA) and in streamlining the selection of small-scale structural mitigation projects. The second consultant worked with CRC on establishing a system to ensure the effective operation and maintenance of the structural mitigation projects (also referred to as 'micro-projects'). In late June CRC and the Federation also commissioned a study to consider the relationship between food security, livelihoods and disaster; the report will be available in September.

With the support of the Federation's regional office in Bangkok, a meeting was held in May between CRC, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross and the Federation to consider future funding for the CBDP programme. As a result the Danish Red Cross have submitted a funding application to DIPECHO. In addition partners expected to support the 2005 CBDP programme include British Red Cross, American Red Cross (with OFDA funds), the British government's Department for International Development (DFID) and Hong Kong Red Cross.

Impact:

While analysis of the impact of the CBDP programme since its establishment in 1998 is well documented, the impact of the 2004 activities in the sense of establishing 'disaster resilient communities' will not be known until later in 2004 and 2005. However, with the support of DIPECHO, an evaluation of the programme scheduled for July 2004 will examine the effectiveness of the CBDP training, the process for the selection of the structural mitigation projects and opportunities for CRC to strengthen coordination with other disaster risk reduction actors.

Constraints:

Aside from issues of capacity referred to above, there were no significant constraints.

Humanitarian values

Goal: The awareness and application of humanitarian values, principles and key national and global themes in Cambodia are enhanced.

Objective: The awareness of humanitarian values in Cambodia is increased.

Expected Results:

- CRC is actively communicating with stakeholders and advocates on key issues/concerns.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

CRC capitalised on both World Red Cross Day (8 May) and International Children's Day (1 June) to disseminate the Red Cross Fundamental Principles and to promote greater respect for humanitarian values. CRC and the Federation addressed the theme of discrimination at a gathering in Kandal province on 8 May attended by representatives of the Cambodian government, embassies and NGOs. While the event raised an estimated USD 100,000 towards the work of CRC, discrimination was further taken up through a televised roundtable discussion between a number of ethnic groups as well as through a video production. In recognition of International Children's Day CRC provided assistance packages to 263 orphans.

While CRC also continued its dissemination work with the support of ICRC – this included targeting diverse groups of people such as different ethnic groups, orphans and vulnerable women who are frequently marginalised – CRC launched its new website for an initial trial period (to be officially launched in August 2004). The website was welcomed by CRC partners and is considered to be a positive step both in attracting support and in enhancing its transparency and public accountability.

Impact:

Though too early to consider the impact, CRC is well placed to influence behavioural change with respect to values. It is hoped that in time, CRC, with support from its partners is able to develop better indicators to help evaluate both the impact on the respect for values as well the respect for the Red Cross principles and the wider role of CRC.

Constraints:

The work of the communications department is not only constrained by the multiple roles played by the director and overall staff capacities, but by the Federation budget for this programme in 2004 which is underfunded – though some support is available from British Red Cross and Norwegian Red Cross.

Organisational development

Goal: A greater number of people in Cambodia have access to poverty alleviation programmes and more immediate and effective humanitarian relief.

Objective: The capacity of CRC to implement sustainable programmes through headquarters and branch level structures has significantly increased.

Expected results:

- CRC leadership and management are effectively implementing the CRC Strategy 2003-2010.
- CRC is efficiently managing its human financial and material resources.
- CRC has enhanced external cooperation and coordination.
- CRC has an annual plan, reporting regime as well as a monitoring and evaluation system.
- CRC has increased resources harnessed through fundraising and income generation.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Following a commitment by the CRC leadership to bring about significant organisational reform, CRC has established an organisational development/human resources task group. The group operates under the guidance of the CRC first vice-president and is made up of representatives from both governance and management. The group is supported by the Danish Red Cross organisational development delegate who is seconded by the Federation. Since March the task group went through a process which required the CRC staff and management at all levels to be more familiar with the change objectives established in the Strategy 2003 - 2010 before seeking to set out an agenda for change. Hence the staff at headquarters and in nine branches was taken through a process to better align their plans with those expressed in their strategic plan. This was complemented by a governance and management workshop held in April and a branch capacity assessment completed in June. It is on the basis of these activities that CRC expect to establish a more detailed plan for reform¹. It is likely, however, that a human resource department, to be established in early 2005, will be an important part of bringing about the much needed and much talked about organisational change.

Impact:

The steps taken by CRC towards organisational change will have a significant impact on the capacities, profile and work of the CRC. By mid 2004 the process had clearly led to a renewed sense of commitment by some CRC staff and their partners. A key indicator of this impact is the level of motivation and ownership demonstrated by the CRC task force.

Constraints:

While there are no major constraints, the production, through a rigorous process, of a CRC plan for reform will help ensure partner confidence is maintained.

Coordination, representation and delegation management

Coordination

In addition to monthly coordination meetings, the Federation facilitated two events to look at the future role of the Federation in Cambodia. Complementing the work undertaken through the Federation's 'Strategy for Change' and referring to the study carried out by the Feinstein Famine Centre, the two meetings – the first between CRC and the Federation, the second between the partner national societies (PNS) and the Federation – considered the changing role of the Federation delegation over the next four years. While the findings of the meetings are available on request from the delegation, the overall sense is that the Federation is valued for its coordination, organisational development and representation roles. However, given the emphasis on building CRC capacity and assuming significant organisational reform, some of the Federation functions, particularly concerning coordination and the provision of services to the PNS, would eventually be taken up by CRC. Further deliberations on this issue are expected in late 2004 following the partnership meeting and production of the CRC organisational development plan.

¹ The plans for reform are expected to be presented at a partnership meeting in Phnom Penh later in 2004.

The below table summarises Red Cross partner activities for this period in support of CRC:

Red Cross Partners	Activities (April – June 2004)
ICRC	ICRC continues its regular activities managed through the Bangkok office as well as its support to the orthopaedic programme through Cambodia based staff. In late 2003 ICRC carried out a review of its work and this is expected to lead to an increased level of cooperation by ICRC in 2004/2005.
American	American Red Cross supports CRC through an innovative water filtration project (World Bank funded) as well as through a flood referencing 'Early Warning' project. In this quarter a new USAID grant of USD 1,500,000 was announced for child survival to be implemented in the province of Siem Reap.
Australian (ARC)	ARC provides direct technical support to CRC for HIV/AIDS activities as well as support to organisational development through the Federation. ARC is currently considering further funding possibilities to support CRC through strengthening existing health, and water and sanitation programmes in rural communities.
Belgium (BRC)	While the BRC procurement operation was concluded in late 2003, BRC staff visited Cambodia during this quarter.
British (BRCS)	BRCS supports ongoing projects in healthcare, disaster management and organisational development. The BRCS international finance manager carried out a review of CRC financial systems and BRCS staff made visits in support of the health project in Chong Kal/Kep.
Danish (DRC)	DRC continues to consolidate the CRC/DRC healthcare programme and to broaden capacity-building support to CRC.
Finnish	Finnish Red Cross supports the CRC landmine awareness project (2004 in the final year of support).
French (FRC)	FRC embarked on two new projects in 2004: The water, sanitation and food security project in Oddar Meanchey province (ECHO funded) was completed in July and will be followed by a three-year programme co-funded by the EU and FRC. The HIV/AIDS project (funded by GFATM and FRC) launched earlier in 2004 is underway with the Day Care Centre opening in Sihanoukville and a similar centre is under construction in Phnom Penh. Home based care activities with CRC are being developed.
Hong Kong	Hong Kong Red Cross in its work to support the CRC disaster management programme visited Cambodia and is currently seeking to finalise its first grant to CRC before considering further support.
Korea	Korean National Red Cross supports the CRC blood donor recruitment programme.
New Zealand	New Zealand Red Cross continues to pledge support for the CRC dengue fever operation and is also committed to a water and sanitation initiative in Kep.
Swedish	Swedish Red Cross supports the HIV/AIDS project and the organisational activities facilitated through the Federation delegation.
Swiss	Swiss Red Cross, working with the Ministry of Health and with Asian Development Bank (ADB) funding, is in the process of establishing a programme providing support to health care in two districts.

Representation

In their efforts to influence the humanitarian and development agendas, the Federation, CRC and a number of Red Cross partner societies based in Cambodia, have taken the following steps:

The Federation worked with UNHCR, the Ministry of the Interior and a number of humanitarian and human rights based NGOs to organise a 'Reach Out' workshop in April. The workshop was widely seen as a great success in broadening the understanding of global refugee protection issues as well as in pushing forward issues concerning the Montagnards in Cambodia and Vietnam.

The Federation joined a small group of agencies to reflect on conflict management. The Federation introduced the Better Programming Initiative (BPI).

CRC and the Federation attended monthly food and nutrition meetings that are part of the Technical Working Groups (TWG) supporting the organisational development process.

Delegation management

The delegation continues to seek ways to reduce costs and yet to both administer a number of grants made to CRC through the delegation and to provide services to the PNS. The delegation drafted an outline four-year strategy. Through the quarter a number of Cambodian national staff (the delegation has only four core administrative staff) attended workshops to enhance their skills and development. The head of delegation attended the annual heads of delegation meeting in Geneva as well as a consultation with the British Red Cross.

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

APPEAL No. 01.62/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

14/09/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->					1,359,264	TOTAL COVERAGE 81.7%	
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				431,973			
BRITISH - RC		50,000	GBP	114,325	06.02.04	REPRESENTATION, MANAGEMENT & IMPLEMENTATION BUDGET, HOD COSTS	
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID GRANT 2004				89,000	29.01.04	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, DEVELOPMENT	
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID		10,000	USD	12,640	09.06.04	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
BRITISH - RC		7,500	USD	9,484	08.07.04	WEBSITE RC	
BRITISH - RC/DFID		53,267	USD	67,356	12.08.04	DISASTER MANAGEMENT	
NEW ZEALAND - RC		100,000	NZD	80,500	29.04.04	WATER & SANITATION	
NEW ZEALAND - RC		100,000	NZD	79,450	14.07.04	DENGUE FEVER	
NEW ZEALAND - RC		100,000	NZD	79,450	14.07.04	WATER & SANITATION	
SWEDISH - GOVT		165,000	SEK	27,803	26.03.04	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, CRC YOUTH PROGRAMME	
SWEDISH - RC		700,000	SEK	118,300	10.06.04	HIV7AIDS	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				1,110,281	CHF		81.7%

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