

# Appeal 2004



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## DISASTER RELIEF EMERGENCY FUND (DREF)

### Appeal no. 01.93/2004

*The International Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. The Federation is the world's largest humanitarian organization, and its millions of volunteers are active in over 180 countries. All international assistance to support vulnerable communities seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response, according to the SPHERE Project.*

*This document reflects a global programme and related activities to be implemented in 2004, and the related funding requirements. For further information concerning programmes or operations in this or other countries or regions, please also access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>*

	2004 (in CHF)
<b>Disaster Relief Emergency Fund</b>	1,300,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,300,000<sup>1</sup></b>

### Context

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) was established in 1985 and has since been growing in terms of both size and utilisation. Over the years the fund has been an invaluable source of funding for national societies when kick-starting operations. At times of disasters the fund is immediately tapped into providing instantaneous seed capital until donor contributions against an operation are received. At the time of writing this appeal the funds available in the account stood at CHF 8,903,830. Therefore the current appeal seeks to raise CHF 1,300,000. One of the four core areas of the International Federation's Strategy 2010 is that of international disaster response. The Fund is one of the Federation's main, and essential, disaster response tools. It aims to provide national societies and delegations with the initial funds to help provide immediate assistance to alleviate the suffering of disaster affected communities in the cases of rapid, slow onset and forgotten disasters.

### Background and achievements/lessons to date

The DREF has, over a period of 10 months, allocated CHF 2,669,008 to 28 disasters with 11 allocations made to Africa, 8 to Asia/Pacific, 3 to each of Europe, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and the Americas. Out of the 28 allocations, 11 were classified as major disasters, whereby an appeal was launched. The size of interventions varied depending on the needs identified in the initial phases of the operation. The largest DREF allocation during this period was for CHF 300,000 to each of Mongolia and China. The total amount reimbursed for the period is CHF 1,015,721 (over 61% of the total amount allocated). Allocations from 2002 are still outstanding. CHF 632,833,

<sup>1</sup> USD 1,041,000 or EUR 860,143.

from a total of CHF 2,252,411 outstanding allocations, have, however, been reimbursed from 2002. Ten months into the year the 2003 appeal is approximately 48.3%.

**Goal: The goal of the DREF is to provide immediate funding in response to major and minor disasters thereby enabling the Federation to react rapidly, effectively and efficiently.**

**Objective: To make the DREF a secured line of funding for new emergencies.**

This objective will be achieved through:

- Continuing to actively fund raise for this appeal to reach the target of CHF 10,000,000;
- Revising the DREF guidelines to guarantee recovery, where possible, to sustain the fund and disseminate new procedures to those concerned;
- Continuing to expand DREF information sharing and allocations to emergencies and disseminate through its web page on the public web site;
- Include the DREF into the disaster management-working group and benefit from lessons learned by incorporating them back into the system.

**Expected programme result(s); and related projects for this objective:**

Through the expansion of this fund the DREF is expected to contribute rapidly, effectively and efficiently thereby contributing to the improvement of the disaster response capacities of national societies and delegations. In turn however, timely reimbursements from the operations are expected. DREF will continue to strive to become a mechanical line of credit for emergency operations providing up to 15% of the expected appeal target (in cases where an appeal is launched) in the initial phases of the operation. It is expected, through generous donor contributions to this appeal and prompt reimbursements from the operations, that the CHF 10,000,000 target will be achieved. Donors will continue to receive timely reporting on the use of, and developments on, the Fund. The guidelines will be revised and modified taking into account the issues and difficulties faced when dealing with the Fund in previous years.

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