

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

REDUCING DISCRIMINATION

Date 20 July 2004

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

For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal No. 01.97/2004, Programme Update no. 1, Period covered: January to June 2004; Appeal Target: CHF 666,845; Appeal coverage: 32.3%; Outstanding needs: CHF 449,131

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

Related Annual Appeals: N/A

Programme summary: The “Reducing Discrimination” Global Programme allows real focus on changing behaviour as described in the Strategy 2010 core area “Promotion of the Movement’s Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values”. It’s about appreciating people differences, building an environment of mutual understanding, tolerance, non discrimination and respect for diversity. Concretely, it’s also about changing actor’s behaviour which means changing our own behaviour. This Global Programme was initiated in 2001 as part of the so called “Global Local Action to Reduce Discrimination and Violence in the Community”. The strong positioning of the Federation within and outside the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement at the occasion of the 2003 Council of Delegates as well as the 28th International Conference created a real momentum to scale up what was engaged since few years.

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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 (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Overall Goal: national societies work at community level and develop effective action and communication with the community and public authorities in order to influence behaviour to reduce discrimination and violence in the community and promote a culture of tolerance, non discrimination and respect for diversity.

Objectives 1 and 2: to capture, develop and share knowledge on best and good practices in reducing discrimination and promoting a culture of tolerance, non discrimination and respect for diversity, as well as monitor and reinforce the Global-Local Action to reduce Discrimination and Violence in the Community.

Progress/achievements

Integrating Human Rights components within the Action to Reduce Discrimination pack - Pilot programme in Poland – March 2004

Based on the recommendations presented in the research “Reflections on the role of human rights in defining the humanitarian values of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies” published late 2003, a number of interactive exercises and inputs have been designed to be integrated in the training manual Action to Reduce Discrimination, developed since 2001. These exercises have been tested and piloted with different target groups and more specifically the youth network in Europe. Learning lessons of the test phases have been consolidated to build up a full package proposed in March 2004 to the Polish Red Cross as host national society to pilot the integrated process.

A second phase, to be implemented in the few months following the workshop, has been engaged to ensure integration of the learning in the day to day Red Cross development. Some of the local branch leaders integrated their learning as part of their work with the Tutors in School Circles while others are developing Voluntary Centers focusing on violence and discrimination or organizing Summer Camps for young people.

Case Studies from a Community Based Integrated Approach

Reducing Discrimination is not an isolated agenda. A number of national societies have developed programmes and actions utilising gender, health or population movement agendas as entry points addressing Action to Reduce Discrimination and Violence in the community. Several case studies have been developed as a basis for sharing knowledge, know-how, and practice. Those case studies are made available to Humanitarian Values actors and focal points.

60th session - Commission on Human Rights – April 2004

As part of the advocacy efforts for the Global Local Action to Reduce Discrimination and Violence in the Community, an institutional Point of View has been shared and a statement delivered at the occasion of the annual Commission of Human Rights as part of Item 6 -“Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and all forms of discrimination”. This relates to the International Federation continuing to act on its strong basis and firm commitment to challenge discrimination in all its forms. The foundation of this commitment is the fundamental principle of impartiality, which states that, the Movement: “makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions”. Abhorrence of all forms of discrimination is one of the most deeply shared convictions between the International Federation and members of the Commission on Human Rights. Some focus was given on the International Federation’s efforts in Reducing Discrimination. It was explained how the activities undertaken by national societies around the world include programmes aiming at reducing discrimination towards ethnic, racial and national minorities, often with a focus on asylum seekers. Also, some reference was made to regional activities which included targeted training of key individuals, workshops at regional conferences and an inter-agency think tank. For example, in South Asia, this training led to further integration of discrimination reduction activities in the strategic plans of national societies. Non-discrimination and human dignity are key common elements that bind together human rights law, international humanitarian law and the principles and values of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. There was a reminder how, in this same spirit, States and components of the Movement adopted the Declaration and Agenda for Humanitarian Action at the 2003 International Conference.

Discrimination in the spotlight on 8 May

The International Federation used the occasion of World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day to remind National Societies to work with their governments to combat stigma and discrimination and take active measures to promote tolerance and respect for cultural diversity. "It is a matter of profound concern to us that while many resolutions have been adopted in support of this general objective, discrimination remains a serious problem in almost all countries," Federation President Juan Manuel Suárez del Toro said in an appeal to coincide with 8 May.

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His call, which comes as the 181 member National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies are staging events under the global theme, "Stop Discrimination", draws attention to the stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS, as well as the vulnerabilities of minorities and other marginalized groups. The Federation President noted that the Federation had raised the issue of stigma and discrimination at many international meetings since the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement adopted a wide-ranging resolution on the subject in December 2003. At this occasion, it was reminded that two years ago, the Federation launched its campaign against HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination. In partnership with key civil society organizations, such as the Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (GNP+), it has become a leading advocate for policy change.

Follow-up of 2003 Movement statutory decisions addressing Non Discrimination and Respect for Diversity

A methodology was developed (up-date of information pack as well as training tools, case study process, mapping exercise, sharing of learning lessons, update of guidelines for field programmes) as part of the implementation of the **2003 Council of Delegates, Resolution 9 to "Promote respect for diversity and fight discrimination and intolerance"**. Also, some consultations were engaged with ICRC and external players to ensure that the expert meeting to contribute to "learning from experience and developing new initiatives internally and with other organizations" (CoD 2003, Resolution 9, item 5.a) will be properly organized later 2004.

A consultation of all delegations has been engaged as part of the implementation of the **Federation Pledge at the 28th International Conference** (non discrimination and respect for diversity PO 34) to identify reasons for non respect for diversity. This step is part of the on-going process engaged by the Secretariat Diversity Action Group.

Fed Net

The existing Action to Reduce Discrimination tool kit, already available through the Federation Web site, has been up-dated and made available, specifically to national societies via FedNet. The 2003-2004 version of the training tool "Action to Reduce Discrimination" has been up-graded, mainly with human rights related modules, and made available to national society trainers interested in integrating this training pack to their existing training tool box.

All information related to Reducing Discrimination has been integrated in the revised version of the CD ROM "From Principles to Action", version 2004, including material in French, English Spanish and Arabic languages (distribution expected August 2004).

Constraints

Low coverage of the appeal is an obstacle in terms of delivery speed. However, the development perspective of the programme ensures the sustainability of it although the critical mass is not yet reached. Lack of available funds reduces the speed of the scaling up phase. However, the rooted development process secures a sustainable approach, ensuring a real long-term, local level impact in terms of changing behaviour in the community.

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Reducing Discrimination

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 01.97/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

22/07/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				666,845		TOTAL COVERAGE 32.3%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				6,496		
BRITISH - GOVT/DIFD GRANT 2004				175,000	29.01.04	
SWEDISH - GOVT				200,000	SEK	24.05.04
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				215,296	CHF	32.3%

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	