

ANNUAL REPORT



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

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In Brief

Appeal No. 05AA048; Appeal target: CHF 1,157,818 (USD 964,446 or EUR 756,991);
Appeal coverage: 103.8%. ([click here to go directly to the attached Annual Financial Report](#)).

This Annual Report reflects activities implemented over a one-year period; they form part of, and are 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, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

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Operational Context

The internal armed conflict which began in Nepal in 1996 is now affecting all districts of the country, disrupting security and livelihood of thousands of families. Many have been forced to leave their homes and have become internally displaced persons. A temporary ceasefire between the government and the insurgents lasted from September 2004 to January 2005 but has since broken down.

The political situation remains deadlocked and the request for peace is proving elusive with none of the three parties (palace officials, political parties and Maoists) able to show real commitment to the process. The economic situation continues to worsen with crippling inflation, price hikes of essential commodities including petroleum products, and a significant downturn in tourism and garment industries.

Localized and national *bandhs* (strikes) continued throughout the year. These often take the form of blockades and widespread disruption of businesses, transport and schools. The restriction on the movement of goods and people has collectively increased the vulnerability of local communities, and caused the virtual collapse of basic local government services in some parts of the country.

The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has significantly scaled up its presence and visibility in the country in recent months. In May, the UN set up a human rights office in Nepal to monitor and investigate violations of human rights in connection with the conflict. According to OHCHR and other

independent human rights organizations, the scale of human rights abuse, kidnapping, killing and forced migration has increased and is adding to the vulnerability of communities. It is estimated over 12,000 people have died as a result of the conflict with nearly a quarter of these fatalities occurring in 2003 and 2004.

Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) is the largest humanitarian organization in the country. The deteriorating situation has caused NRCS to undertake additional responsibilities to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to people affected by the conflict. The national society has prioritized dissemination of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and the Red Cross / Red Crescent Movement's Fundamental Principles, to specific groups, the general public, and to national society staff and volunteers. At the same time, its experience points to the importance of continuing relevant community-based programmes in areas affected by conflict. Community networking and capacity building decreases the vulnerability of communities towards crises and emergencies. It is essential for the national society to continue activities on branch and sub-branch levels in conflict-affected areas. This will make the Red Cross visible and present in the community, so that it can take on other conflict-related tasks.

To maximize its effectiveness, NRCS, with the support of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), has initiated a programme called *Conflict Preparedness and Response (CPR)/Safe Access*, which is designed to equip its staff and volunteers to work more safely and effectively in conflict situations with special emphasis on the dissemination of the Fundamental Principles and IHL in the 35 most conflict-affected districts. Regular workshops for staff and volunteers on how to prepare, act and respond to the conflict situations are being organized. NRCS has also created a first aid alert team which stands by to respond to emergency situations. The leadership of the national society has underlined the need for neutrality and independence. Programme implementation has been adjusted, especially regarding the location for workshops, the frequency of monitoring visits as well as communication and reporting lines between the districts and headquarters. Generally, the programmes have been implemented according to plans, since NRCS is well respected in the country and the implementers are members of the local community and Red Cross sub-branches.

The implementation of community-based programmes, such as community development, first aid and disaster preparedness programmes, has become one of the main strengths of NRCS. The society has an effective model to involve local communities, integrating sustainability components into all its programmes. The society is also a leader in areas such as HIV/AIDS, and water and sanitation, especially in arsenic mitigation. Many of these programmes span over three to five years and it is therefore essential to gain long-term commitments from partners. The development of a draft cooperation agreement strategy (CAS), based on NRCS's five-year development plan, has formed the basis for discussion of cooperation models with partners since the beginning of 2004.

Although the response from partners to the Nepal annual appeal in 2004 was less than 50 per cent, many of the programmes were implemented with internal resources and support from the Federation's regional delegation. The NRCS does also have considerable support from bilateral partners within and outside the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

There has been a significant scaling up of programme activities throughout 2005, particularly women's development, volunteer management, resource mobilisation, HIV/AIDS, water and sanitation, and school



A Dream Come True

Man Maya, a woman in her mid-40s, is living a very hard life with her three children at Chokmagu village in Panchthar district. Some 14 years ago, her husband left them for a new wife and never came back. She said, "Red Cross is very nice. It understood all my miseries and gave me not only skilled-based training but also provided a loan to buy a buffalo calf, and also distributed vegetable seeds for my kitchen garden. To own a buffalo is a symbol of status in the rural community, which was only a dream of my family. But now our family's dream came true. This buffalo has brought the light of joy and happiness to my small house. It's a very precious thing to us. Within three years, it will give birth to a calf and start lactating, and then our regular income will increase remarkably. We believe this small creature would change our fortune. Many, many thanks to the Red Cross for changing our lives, and giving me capacity and confidence."

sanitation. Many of the programmes have been implemented with internal resources and support from the Federation's regional delegation in South Asia. NRCS also receives considerable support from bilateral partners within and outside the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

[Programme updates 1 & 2](#) contain detailed information on progress towards the expected results for the objectives set out in the logical frameworks for the projects described in this report. With the exception of humanitarian values, this report gives a detailed summary of the achievements, constraints, lessons learnt and impact of each project overall.

Overall analysis of the health and care programme in 2005

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

Programme Objective: Communities are empowered to cope with health problems and practise positive health behaviours through strengthened institutional capacities.

Community Development Project Objective: *The level of awareness is increased and the basic health conditions of the most vulnerable are improved, ensuring the capacities of NRCS and communities at all levels.*

Achievements

All of the planned activities under this project have been undertaken successfully. There are regular literacy lessons, as well as classes for facilitators of future sessions on participatory literacy programmes¹. There is also a monthly meeting of the literacy management committee. A community library has been successfully set up in Rasuwa district.

Drinking water schemes have been implemented in Dhankuta while wells have been renovated in Dang. All water sources were registered at district water resource offices and seminars were organized for the drinking water user committee. Various training workshops were organized in the project districts, including kitchen gardening, community-based first aid (CBFA), traditional birth attendants (TBA), traditional healer refreshers and first aid. NRCS/Federation also completed the construction of family toilets, cattle sheds, cooking stoves, school toilets and washing platforms, as planned.

Other activities under this project include leadership development training, house-wiring, making paper envelopes, accounting training and self-help group meetings. Efforts were also made to explore markets for the products of skill development trainees. NRCS/Federation also conducted sustainability workshops, Red Cross dissemination, completed the construction of income generation buildings in all project districts and registered more lifetime members. Regular meetings of district chapters, sub-branches and staff members, supervision and monitoring, formation of junior and youth Red Cross circles, and review meetings were organized to achieve the expected results.

All the districts met and participated in coordination meetings to ensure that all implementers were working on the same work plan.

Constraints

Because of frequent strikes in the country, monitoring and supervision activities took place less frequently than expected. The reduced road access also complicated the transportation of construction materials.

Lesson learnt

The heightened conflict in the operational areas suggested that it would be prudent to include some conflict preparedness activities to the health and care programme. To complement this, disaster response/preparedness activities could be integrated for better preparedness and response. More preparation could also have been made for the programme had the subsequent year's budget planning schedule been decided earlier.

¹ Using the "REFLECT" methodology – REFLECT stands for REgenerated Freirean Literacy through Empowering Community Techniques.

Impact

The impacts resulted from the project activities in this year vary from project to project, as they are at different stages of the project cycle. More children taking lessons in child literacy classes have enrolled in government schools. There is now much better access to safe drinking water and this has been reflected in a decrease in cases of waterborne diseases. People have started to adopt better sanitation practices and healthy behaviours. Due to the toilets and improved cattle sheds, people are making their habit to maintain them properly.

The nutritional status of the community has increased due to production and consumption of green vegetables. The involvement of women in self-help groups and income generating activities have improved their social position and given them more say in decision-making. The service of health volunteers has resulted better family planning and lowered the number of complications during pregnancy. In terms of capacity and sustainability, district chapters have been financially stronger owing to the income generation programme.

Community-based First Aid (CBFA) Project Objective: *To build the capacity of communities to promote health and manage injuries and illness as well as prepare for and deal with disasters.*

Achievements

The CBFA volunteers are contributing significantly to improve the health status of rural communities by providing first aid and reproductive health services, immunization campaigns, disaster relief work, as well as awareness activities on health, environmental and social issues. These services have proven to be vital and have established them as model volunteers. In the current situation, many community-level health institutions are ill-equipped to meet needs during conflict and CBFA volunteers are playing an important role to fill these existing gaps. The volunteers have provided first aid service to a total of 2,119 people in a manner that is efficient and easily recognized, according to the local health post. Another indication of the project's success is the replication of its best practices at adjoining communities.

Awareness has played an important role in preventing and controlling diseases. Equal opportunity has also been offered to women and other less privileged groups to participate in the project activities. As a result of the campaign, the community has taken the initiative in building temporary and permanent sanitary units as a campaign. All together, 811 toilets, 94 washing platforms and 125 garbage pits were constructed. NRCS conducted generation activities in two methods. The first was through personal motivation of the community, which included home visits by the CBFA volunteers and knowledge sharing. The other was through mass awareness activities such as street dramas and cleanest house contests.

The community committees implement their action plan, reviewing it accordingly through monthly meetings. The communities have collected over NPR 39,700 (approximately CHF 730) during this year and distributed immediate relief materials to 23 families during disaster and emergencies. In addition to these, steps were taken to caution people against the possible disaster. Now, the communities are aware that collected funds are ultimately for their benefit.

As an achievement of the dissemination activities, seven new junior Red Cross circles have been formed and 77 people have joined NRCS as lifetime members. District chapters and sub-branches have started income generation activities, setting aside some funds using certain portions of their income for continuation and follow up.

Fortunately, there were no incidents with the project during the present conflict situation. The impartiality and neutrality of Red Cross activities were successfully reflected in the field, and good coordination with all related parties was maintained throughout the operations.

Constraints

Some of the activities were not completed in the planned timeframe due to strikes, but all the planned activities for the year are completed.

Lessons learnt

First aid integrated with health promotion and disaster preparedness has proven effective for the communities, even during conflict. The participatory approach employed in the implementation of the project results in a feeling of ownership, encouraging positive health behaviours and bringing in more support for the sustainability of the project. A balanced community participation in terms of gender and target groups is essential for the project to be a successful one. Finally, the fact that the conflict situation did not adversely affect the project's implementation proved that the impartial and neutral image projected by the Red Cross really does make a difference in conflict.

Impact

The CBFA programme has strengthened the community's capacity to manage injuries, illness and other health problems. It also has played an important role in preventing and controlling diseases by raising awareness among people. The transformation can be seen in personal behaviour and the improvement in social behaviour.

The targeted communities are satisfied with the services provided by the CBFA volunteers(,as they expressed during the field visits and the evaluation reports showed),. They have also been empowered to provide initial relief materials to segments of their own communities in times of need, thus showing them that they can help themselves. By becoming personally involved in the Red Cross projects, people also understand more the sentiment of "Red Cross is the society, and the society is Red Cross". Because they have a personal stake, people are more committed and more willing to participate in collective programmes. The CBFA project has also increased the relationship and coordination between concerned stakeholders.

A year ago, it was quite difficult to involve women in the CBFA project. Today, many have participated, and through this, are able to bring their problems out into the open. Similarly, there is increased participation of other less privileged groups.

All these observations clearly indicate that the CBFA project will be institutionalized at community level in the future.

HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care and Support project objective: *Contribute to reduction of the burden of HIV/AIDS in Nepal through strengthened local response, community-based prevention, care and anti-stigma activities in collaboration with other partners.*

Achievements

NRCS has developed its *HIV/AIDS Strategy 2004-2008*, which has identified some components as priority areas. To materialize the concept endorsed in the strategy, NRCS is implementing a care and support project with the support of the Swedish Red Cross, coordinated by the Federation's regional delegation. The project's first phase has been implemented in the districts of Surkhet and Doti since July 2005. The project aims at increasing knowledge around HIV/AIDS and reproductive health, and helping to develop positive attitudes towards infected and affected people, while improving their quality of life. Similarly, emphasis has been put on HIV/AIDS prevention among young people, migrants and their spouses, and community-based care and support to people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) through life skill based peer education.

All activities under the actual work plan for 2005 were successfully completed. In the last six months, the focus was to prepare basic guidelines and a baseline study for the project, and develop the basic foundation for implementation.

To establish a benchmark for the project progress, a baseline study was conducted in both the project districts where several community orientation activities were held to help the community understand the project concept. The project has since formed 90 women groups under the concept of peer-led communication groups. With the coordination of NRCS, the 11th Condom Day was observed with the aim to generate awareness about HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and birth spacing, and to create condom user support groups for family planning and prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs. The main theme for this year was "*Proper use of condom for dual protection*". Various activities were conducted including rallies, street dramas, cultural shows and film shows. Information, education and communication (IEC) material and condoms were distributed. A total of 40,000 people benefited from the event. Likewise, World AIDS Day was observed with various activities such as rallies,

street dramas, health talks, video presentations, interaction with women's groups and the distribution of IEC materials. The event was aimed at promoting condom use, making communities more comfortable about their use of condoms and promoting the benefits relating to dual protection.

Coordination and collaboration have been initiated through various consultative meetings with different PLWHA organizations to materialize the concept of "meaningful involvement of people living with or affected by HIV/AIDS", and design specific activities for PLWHA. A crisis care and support programme has been organized in coordination with Vision Plus, a PLWHA support group, to create a supportive environment. As a direct result, two participants were able to openly express their HIV positive status.

A meeting with regular blood donors, international and local NGOs, community-based organizations and Red Cross volunteers, was conducted in Surkhet district. Project objectives, expected outcomes and planned activities were highlighted in the meeting. Likewise, the project also facilitates to establish blood transfusion services in Doti district. The organisation "Germans for Technical Cooperation" (*Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit or GTZ*) has agreed to support the training of a laboratory technician for the blood transfusion centre, while the district public health officer and Care Nepal have agreed to support logistics.

A total of 21 staff members have been recruited for the project to facilitate the development of a five-year HIV/AIDS operational plan (2006 to 2009), and a health policy and strategy, in consultation with the Federation and other partners. These documents will be the guiding documents to further NRCS's health programme. A project advisory committee at central level and two project committees at district level have been formed to provide technical support and appropriate guidance to the project implementation process.

Constraints

The unrest created by the political situation created an additional challenge in travelling and implementing the project activities at central and district levels. However, the project experienced minimal hindrance because of the limited community-level activities and the good image of the national society.

Lessons learnt

The involvement of PLWHA organizations, with shared knowledge, experience and expertise, was essential to the success of the project.

Impact

As the year 2005 was planned for setting the foundation of the project, impact was not clearly visible. However, the developing of major documents – the health policy and strategy, and the five-year HIV/AIDS operational plan – will be a major milestone for future health-related programming towards improving the health conditions of the communities.

Reproductive Health project objective: *At the end of the one-year project, access to information and services for reproductive health increased.*

Achievements

NRCS has been implementing its HIV/AIDS prevention and reproductive health programme since 1994. Now running in 28 districts of the kingdom, the programme aims to empower youth through life skills to adopt safer behaviours regarding HIV/AIDS. The major target group of the programme is young people aged from 12 to 29 years while women and other influential members of the community are secondary target groups.

During the year 2005, the programme has developed 6,200 peer educators and distributed information on HIV/AIDS to some 300,000 young people and community women. In total, 140,000 copies of the quarterly bulletin (youth forum), 2,000 flip charts and 2,000 "life skills" booklets have been produced and distributed to all project districts. The quarterly bulletin was distributed to non-project districts as well.

For the year 2006, the programme will be implemented in 22 districts with various preventive and promotion activities such as teachers training, life-skill based peer education training, adaptation and development of various IEC materials. The peer education is focused on imparting skills to deal with peer pressure, make good decisions,

and develop analytical skills and creative thinking. The programme will also hold events to mark occasions including World AIDS Day, Red Cross Day, and Condom Day. Similarly, a pilot project on prevention of women trafficking will be implemented in Nuwakoat district. This project will focus on the empowerment of vulnerable women through income generating and leadership trainings activities.

A query box is given to each school in the project districts. This box is installed in private spaces easily accessible to students. Students of these schools use these boxes to submit queries and problems considered to be sexually sensitive or difficult to express openly. Each week, the peer educators, with support from the teacher trainers, address and discuss these queries with the students in a group.

Impact

This practical approach has been very well received among youth groups and therefore is more easily implemented. In addition, the query boxes installed at schools in project districts have proven to be an effective method to settle youth queries and problems on sexually sensitive issues at a local level. Students are now free to ask or share problems, and receive open answers in a group of peers, giving them reliable and accurate information while protecting their privacy.

School-based Drinking Water and Sanitation Project Objective: *Ensure access to child-friendly water and sanitation facilities and promote safe hygiene practices through an empowerment process.*

The junior/youth Red Cross drinking water and sanitation programme, which started in 1984 with the collaboration of the Japanese Red Cross, provides safe drinking water and sanitation facilities to over 180,000 people in 43 districts. Building on this experience, the International Friendship Project was started in January 2004. Under the guidance of the programme, each junior Red Cross circle works on hygiene and sanitation activities to develop sanitation habits. Junior/youth Red Cross circles serve as an agent for change in the communities by adopting healthy sanitation habits and demonstrating good sanitation practices to the community.

Achievements

Junior Red Cross circles demonstrated good networking ability which produced significant results. Almost all of the targeted schools kept rubbish bins in their classrooms and dug pits in the school grounds to dump solid waste collected from classrooms and school compounds. It was a pleasant surprise to find nearly all of the project schools free of waste paper and other rubbish both in classrooms and in school compounds. The toilet design is child friendly as well as cost effective. Toilets and drinking water areas were kept relatively clean. Some schools even kept plantations maintained by circle members. During this year, the society also helped to construct 45 school toilets, 521 community toilets, 45 garbage pits, implemented water source protection in six schools and conducted various renovation and construction for sanitary facilities.

The mid-term evaluation report showed that programme was found successful in enhancing the capacity of junior Red Cross circles and members. The training provided on health, hygiene and environmental sanitation encouraged members to develop the habit of washing their hands with soap or ash after using the toilet and before eating. The schedule drawn up for cleaning of classrooms, school compounds and toilets was a good opportunity for circle members to create a child-to-child learning environment for hygiene and sanitary behaviour. The child group activities in the communities are established for the improvement of sanitation behaviour.

Nawalparasi is considered the district with the most arsenic-affected water² in the country. Junior Red Cross circles were active in raising awareness about the adverse effects of arsenic and ways of minimizing them. The mid-term survey showed that nearly 90 per cent of the water stored was covered in the three districts, indicating that many schools are conscious of the need to protect and keep their water clean. All of the schools have established junior Red Cross circles and many of their students have joined as members. The continuation of

² Arsenic is a semi-metal element in the periodic table. It enters drinking water supplies from natural deposits in the earth or from agricultural and industrial practices. Non-cancer effects can include thickening and discoloration of the skin, stomach pain, nausea, vomiting; diarrhea; numbness in hands and feet; partial paralysis; and blindness. Arsenic has been linked to cancer of the bladder, lungs, skin, kidney, nasal passages, liver, and prostate.

sanitation classes, school-level life skills based sanitation training, first aid training in all schools and life skills based sanitation handbook publication for school students are completed. The circle members also monitor the project to ensure that cleaning takes place regularly. Garbage pits were dug and used for managing waste generated from classrooms and school compounds. A sense of need for proper disposal of waste was instilled in the school management and student body. Over 6,000 students have benefited from the stationery kits received from the Japanese Red Cross.

In 2006, the project will aim to increase the access to and use of child-friendly water and sanitation facilities in schools and nearby communities. It will also continue to develop life skills and positive practices among school children. Junior/youth Red Cross members will remain as peer educators in hygiene and sanitation promotion, and assist with the construction of sanitation facilities.

Constraints

Construction of the sanitary and hygiene facilities was delayed due to the unavailability of the technical resources in the community. The same limitations also meant that the project could not immediately address water quality issues.

Lessons learnt

The school-led hygiene and sanitation programme is an effective model for sanitation practices in the community as systems are more easily implemented and behaviours instilled in schoolchildren. The leading roles of women should not be overlooked as an effective method for behavioural change in communities, as women often play pivotal roles and assume important positions of leadership in many communities. People have also been found to be inspired to get better results when working in a competitive environment and a reward or incentive system effectively creates such a situation.

Impact

Junior/youth Red Cross circles are involved almost at all phases of the programme, giving them more ownership. Schools and communities are initiating sanitation campaigns and regular visits, strengthening the participatory nature of the programme.

Compound cleanliness, regular meetings, using dustbins and personal hygiene are fast becoming regular practices. Examples can be seen in the significant increase of the number of people (3126 people from 521 households and 22500 in 45 schools) using toilets and using soap in washing hands. Students are practising a daily routine in cleaning the toilets, school compounds and waste pits. The majority of schools keep rubbish bins in the school premises and class rooms. The student awareness on sanitation, sense of responsibility and ownership towards the programme are highly recognized. Headmasters, teachers and students are committed to the Red Cross principles and IHL and are transferring this knowledge and motivating the students through junior/youth Red Cross. As a team, the community works together with schools for the construction of toilets. Most of the surrounding and nearby communities of target schools have constructed toilets while the rest of the community people have shown willingness to follow suit.

Overall analysis of the disaster management programme in 2005

Overall Goal: Livelihood of people affected by disasters and conflicts sustained by assisting them promptly through effective preparedness and response systems.

Programme Objective: Strengthen the disaster management capacity of Nepal Red Cross in order to provide effective response to disasters as well as enhance capacities of vulnerable communities.

Disaster management is one of the priority programmes of NRCS. It implements programmes related to disaster preparedness, disaster response and population movement under disaster management programmes. All disaster preparedness, disaster response and population movement projects were carried out smoothly according to the plan of action. Community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP) has now been developed as a very important project of the society and has been extended over the period. Three new partners have now established partnerships with NRCS for the implementation of disaster risk reduction programmes. Despite difficult situations

caused by the ongoing conflict in the country, NRCS was successful in implementing the programme activities in several parts of the country.

Disaster Preparedness Project Objective: *Disaster management capacity of Nepal Red Cross as well as the most vulnerable communities further strengthened in order to provide effective response to save lives and properties.*

Achievements

NRCS has currently been implementing CBDP projects in eight districts covering 32 communities. To implement the programme and ensure community participation, the targeted communities formed a disaster preparedness unit committee. During this year, two CBDP training-of-trainers (ToT), two refresher ToT and an account keeping training course were organized for 32 community workers. First aid, disaster management, disaster management refreshers and community management training were also organized for a total of 4,878 persons to enhance their capacity in these areas. The communities are now more active in preparedness and emergency response activities, while trained first aiders served people with needs. Different types of IEC materials were either reproduced or developed during this period. A total of 800 seasonal calendars highlighting disaster preparedness, 500 audio folk music cassettes (these were produced by the communities themselves and contain messages of disaster preparedness), and 2,000 CBDP quarterly newsletters were produced and distributed to the communities in this year.

All the communities conducted vulnerability and capacity assessments (VCA) and prepared reports incorporating hazard and social maps. This was a very useful tool for the communities to prepare their disaster preparedness plan.

With the financial support of the programme, resources generated by the communities and local contributions, all the CBDP-targeted communities have conducted small-scale mitigation activities in targeted areas. For instance, Dhobauli community of Mahottari district has constructed a huge check dam (3 km long and 3 m wide) for a total cost of NPR 500,000 (approximately CHF 8,900). The project had provided only NPR 75,000 (approximately CHF 1,300); the rest was obtained locally. Community members also contributed their time and also supported in kind.

Communities and schools have also created a revolving fund to stockpile grain as an emergency preparedness measure. A total of NPR 697,480 (approximately CHF 12,400) has so far been collected and 11,190 kg of grain have been stockpiled. To ensure coordination and coordination with relevant stakeholders such as NGOs, governmental and community-based organizations, district- and community-level coordination meetings were organized regularly in CBDP-targeted district chapters and communities. As a result of coordination meeting, some organizations have supported using gabion wire mesh and plants to build weather barriers for small-scale mitigation. Mitigation work has been more helpful in uniting communities and increasing their participation in social activities. To establish a local pre-disaster early warning system, a handheld microphone was supplied to each of the 32 disaster preparedness units under the CBDP project. They have been using these microphones as a tool for early warning in emergencies.

NRCS organized biannual meetings of CBDP projects supported by different partners to review progress, analyze impact and discuss problems encountered during the implementation phase. The project has been found very useful in reducing disaster risks at community level.

The national society implemented a flood mitigation programme in eight different communities in Chitwan and Jhapa in 2004 with the financial support of the Swiss Red Cross. The programme has already been completed.

NRCS started a school-based disaster risk reduction programme as a model programme since 2004 covering 40 schools in three districts, supported by the Finnish Red Cross. In 2005, school-based CBDP ToT, disaster management and CBFA training courses, were organized for a total of 935 beneficiaries. Peer learning sessions, VCA mapping, disaster preparedness competitions, disaster response simulations/drills, and small-scale mitigation works were conducted in the schools and nearby communities. Various IEC materials produced by NRCS were also used in the programme areas, including in schools. Activities such as street dramas, poster-

drawing and pamphlet-making competitions, drawing competitions and quizzes on disaster preparedness were also carried out. The students of the schools are also actively involved with the revolving fund and stockpiling of grain. The Junior Red Cross Circle of Janjeevan Secondary School of Chitwan district where this programme has been implemented, provided grain and cash support to a family of fire victims. Using students as vehicles to disseminate disaster management messages and reaching communities through them has been found to be very effective.

To empower women in disaster response, the disaster management department organized a five-day leadership training workshop for 21 women from 21 districts. Their skills were enhanced and they can now be mobilized in disaster relief operations. NRCS also completed a standardization exercise for disaster management training courses this year.

NRCS implemented the Kathmandu Valley Earthquake Preparedness Initiative (KVEPI) Programme covering ten wards in five municipalities in the valley in partnership with the American Red Cross. During the last quarter of 2005, the national society developed a training course for light search and rescue, piloted a search and rescue course, conducted municipality-level orientation and organized a ward-level disaster management training session. In total, 2,000 KVEPI brochures and 500 earthquake manuals were printed and dispatched to districts chapters. NRCS will implement a similar project in 2006 covering another ten new wards in Kathmandu Valley.

NRCS has recently organized an earthquake simulation exercise collaborating with the home ministry to disseminate earthquake safety knowledge to the people in Kathmandu. More than 100 Red Cross volunteers and staff trained in medical first responders, collapsed search and rescue, first aid, and light search and rescue, were mobilized for this purpose. More than 5,000 people observed the simulation.

Disaster Response Project Objective: *Effective response service rendered to victims of disasters in order to save lives and assist the victims of disasters through strengthening disaster management capacities of the society.*

Achievements

In 2005, no major natural disasters occurred in the country. Small-scale disasters were managed locally by district chapters and CBDP communities. NRCS provided relief materials to 1,046 affected families during this period.

In this period, to build disaster response capacity at local level, NRCS conducted basic disaster response training in 32 districts for over 800 Red Cross volunteers. After having been trained, the disaster-prone district chapter is more able to carry out disaster response work effectively and efficiently. NRCS also conducted a national disaster response team training workshop for 28 volunteers and staff members.

On 8 October, 2005, countries in South Asia, particularly Pakistan, were affected by a massive earthquake. Coordinated by the Federation's regional delegation, 20 regional disaster response teams (RDRTs) from NRCS were deployed to Pakistan for relief operations. The national society also supported the Pakistan Red Crescent with 1,000 blankets and collected funds to assist the affected.

Population Movement Project Objective: *Livelihood of displaced population sustained and vocational skills developed of a mixed group of refugees and local population.*

Achievements

Since 1992, NRCS has been rendering relief services to internally displaced people (IDP) from Bhutan by providing food and non-food items in seven different camps located in Jhapa and Morang districts. In 2005, NRCS continued to provide the same assistance to 105,783 Bhutanese, with support from OHCHR and the World Food Programme. The assistance programme was phased out from the end of 2005. The following activities were carried out during the year.

a) Life Skill Development Training

NRCS, with the financial support of the regional population movement programme, conducted four life skill development training activities this year. Based on all the aspects of IDP life, their possible scope for livelihood and the relevance of skills being taught, the life-skill development training sessions included training in

electronics, beauty care, tea planting and tailoring for the Bhutanese IDP and the local people from the host community. A total of 240 persons benefited from this training.

b) Restoring family link programme

With the support of ICRC, NRCS has been successfully providing tracing services in conflict-affected districts over the last few years. During the year, two tracing workshops were organized for 24 district representatives in the central-western region of Chitwan and 26 district representatives in the central-western and far-western region of Nepalgunj. In 2005, 1,670 Red Cross messages were collected; of these, 1,429 were distributed and 59 were returned to sender.

c) Non-food item support

With the support of ICRC, NRCS has been providing non-food items/family kit assistance to the conflict-affected people in 30 districts in the mid- and far-western regions. This programme aims at helping those affected by conflict to resume normal lives. A total of 1,624 families benefited from this support in 2005.

Constraints

The strikes and blockades during the conflict situation delayed some activities by blocking access and supply routes to IDP. Communication disruptions also caused delay in the collection and processing of information.

Lessons learnt

The income generation programme was essential in overcoming economic vulnerability, helping the communities to realize that they have a vital role in mitigating the effect of disaster on themselves. Integrated disaster management activities have also helped to build resilience at all levels.

Impact

The CBDP programme has helped communities to increase their coping capacity, get organized and manage disasters locally, reduce vulnerability more quickly. The local resource mobilization has also done much to mitigate economic vulnerability, as communities now have access to instant funds and food supplies in the event of disaster. As a result of the programme, communities are more resilient and institutional disaster response capacity has been strengthened.

Overall analysis of the humanitarian values programme in 2005

Overall Goal: Bring about changes in people's behaviour, increasing mutual understanding and respect for human dignity through promotion of humanitarian values and Nepal Red Cross activities.

Programme Objective: To train Red Cross members and the general public on the Movement's Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values and by promoting these, bring positive changes to selected communities.

In its current five-year development plan, NRCS has shown its commitment to *Strategy 2010* and identified the promotion of the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values as one of its core areas. The society has been working in line with the *Federation Pledge* (made at the International Conference 2003) and *Council of Delegates 2005 Resolution 3* to promote non-discrimination and further promote human dignity and tolerance among its volunteers and the general population. This will contribute towards bringing about positive changes in people's behaviour both within the NRCS and in the communities.

As an activity, the promotion of Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values is not new in the Red Cross. Promotion of the principle of humanity already supports humanitarian values and respect for human dignity. Also, combined with the principle of impartiality, the principle of humanity assumes respect for all the individuals irrespective of religion, ethnic group, political ideology, nationality and the like.

In view of the growing conflict in Nepal, special focus has been given to dissemination of the principles and IHL in cooperation with the ICRC. At present, the Red Cross has become the only agency capable of going to all the parts of the country and providing humanitarian service to the needy people, making it necessary to disseminate

information on what the Red Cross is and how it works. Dissemination of the Principles, the Movement and IHL has made it easier for the Movement to provide humanitarian assistance to the needy people. The ICRC is solely supporting NRCS in this aspect and the support that has been received through the Federation for humanitarian values promotion has been utilized to sensitize the national society programme managers and youths so that discrimination can be addressed through its programmes and youth activities in the communities. Through the mobilization of the junior/youth Red Cross members, the society promoted an atmosphere of cooperation, friendship, tolerance, non-violence and non-discrimination in local communities.

It is noteworthy that the programme has been successful in orientating the NRCS activities towards achieving the goal of bringing changes in people's behaviour. The programme has been successful in establishing promotion of humanitarian values as one of the major cross-cutting issues to be addressed by all the programmes, and this is a step forward to promoting social harmony. Likewise, training youths and mobilizing them to fight discrimination has paid off, as the youths from the selected districts have been able to raise awareness in the communities on the issue.

There were two separate projects under the programme: humanitarian values and communication development.

Promotion of Red Cross Principles and humanitarian values project objective: To train Red Cross members and the general public in humanitarian values and encourage the fight against discrimination to bring changes in behaviour.

Achievements

The first step towards achieving the overall goal was to train NRCS volunteers themselves on humanitarian values, a process which started in 2004. Being comparatively a newer area of work, more time was needed to understand the concept and idea behind the programme. In 2005, a major priority was to orientate NRCS youth and workers on humanitarian values and receiving feedback from NRCS programme managers, who were trained in 2004 and who had already begun addressing the issue of discrimination while planning their programmes.

Overall, the project has succeeded in pushing ahead the concept of promotion of humanitarian values as an inbuilt component of all programmes. The communication and humanitarian values department has continued working with department and programme heads to find efficient ways to integrate promotion of humanitarian values into other programmes. Likewise, many youths have been sensitized on the issue of discrimination through youth camps, essay-writing competitions and radio programmes. They have changed their behaviours and in turn worked as change agents in the communities to promote non-discrimination and they also developed new action plan selected different community level programmes /activities for year 2006 to promote humanitarian values. Achievements and progresses made under the specific expected results are listed below.

Expected result 1: NRCS project managers and volunteers will have a better understanding of HV as well as issues of discrimination and tolerance. They will have started to integrate humanitarian values into their programmes.

By nature, promotion of values is not an isolated activity. All the programmes need to support the promotion of humanitarian values and respect for human dignity. NRCS started orientating the programme managers in the first year of the programme and continued reinforcing the idea of integration into other programmes. In December 2005, a one-day workshop was held with the programme managers to find suitable methods of integrating values in various programmes. Through the recommendations made in the workshop, they showed that they considered humanitarian values as an important issue and were in the position to implement through integration into their programmes. The next step is to develop a clear policy and guidelines, material (literature) will be needed to do so; all this is planned for 2006.

Youths were another focus for promoting better understanding of humanitarian values and addressing the issue of discrimination. Selected youths from eight districts were trained on humanitarian values and non-discrimination, enabling them to promote non-discrimination and social harmony in their communities. In total, 32 youths from each district were led by a district-level volunteer in the camps. The youths were selected representing various backgrounds such as ethnic group, religion, economic condition, caste and gender, so that they would understand

the idea behind discrimination and be convinced to fight it. The youths not only learnt about discrimination but also showed their commitments by developing action plans for 2006, which were implemented as a programme for the year.

They will continue to organize awareness campaigns, perform street dramas, and organize competitions including elocution on the topic of discrimination and addressing the issue of discrimination. Through fighting discrimination, they will be working for the protection of human dignity and promoting the principle of humanity.

Another activity under the expected result also focused on youths. It was the national-level essay competition among youths with the objective of sensitizing them on the issue of discrimination. Youths from 25 districts participated in the competition. The competition that was announced from the national radio and Red Cross bulletin took the issue of discrimination to the public. Most of the essays received were from outside the Red Cross, showing that dissemination reached beyond the Red Cross to the public.

Expected result 2: Examples of better social harmony will be seen in selected communities of the end-discrimination pilot project.

The proposed pilot project could not be implemented due to funding constraints. 12 villages of two districts, Sindhuli and Saptari, were selected for implementation. A project proposal was prepared with support of the regional humanitarian values programme and was submitted to the European Commission in partnership with the Spanish Red Cross. However, since there was no response from the organization, the pilot project could not materialize.

Communications Project Objective: To strengthen communication work of NRCS, increasing support to its activities and raising awareness of humanitarian issues.

Communication has been prioritized by the society as an important area for the promotion of principles and humanitarian values, improving the image of the Society and obtaining support for its humanitarian services. The national society's communication department has focused on dissemination of Red Cross Fundamental Principles, the Movement and International Humanitarian Law, promoting humanitarian values and profiling and publicizing NRCS activities. For the purpose, communication work has been strengthened and utilized for raising awareness on humanitarian issues. The following were the expected results and achievements regarding the project.

Expected result 1: To strengthen communication work of Nepal Red Cross increasing support to its activities and raising awareness of humanitarian issues.

The communication work of the NRCS supported not only humanitarian values programme but also all the programmes of the society by profiling and publicizing them. The communication team and representatives from all the departments actively coordinated the communication work of the programmes. Trained communicators in 35 districts, with support from the ICRC, regularly produced stories which were published or broadcast at local and national levels. The communication and humanitarian values department gradually developed as the speaker for the society.

Expected result 2: NRCS communications and publicity works will result in increased support, enabling the Society to carry out more humanitarian activities, and bring changes in behaviour in the society.

Profiling and publicizing Red Cross activities supported the image building of NRCS, resulting in greater support. Regular publications of the society, such as a monthly Nepali bulletin, a quarterly English newsletter, its website (www.nrscs.org) and radio programmes have been a regular source of news and stories of all Red Cross programmes. Such activities have done much to promote NRCS's humanitarian efforts, resulting in a better image of the society. Easy accessibility of the Red Cross workers to all the parts of the country despite the conflict, an increasing number of partners willing to work with NRCS and the national society being the reference for many organizations are a few examples of NRCS being positioned at a better place.

The news and stories that appeared in the media in 2005, both electronic and print, were also encouraging. Many national dailies published news and articles on the NRCS humanitarian activities being carried out in various parts of the country. Many television reports profiling these activities were also telecast. These all have a positive

impact on the activities of the society. They have not only helped promoting the humanitarian values but also supported the overall humanitarian endeavours of NRCS.

Finally, a documentary on NRCS activities that was started a year ago has been completed. It will be a good reference for disseminating the humanitarian works of the national society.

Constraints

The year 2005 has been a year of challenges and opportunities: of challenges in the sense that the activities had to be carried out in the conflict situation. While other development and relief activities had to focus more on service delivery, it was equally important for the programme to emphasize the importance of promotion of values. The programme was comparatively small in terms of financial assistance and human resource but covered a vast area, and therefore, implementation was slower.

The lack of materials or literature for policy and guidelines was another constraint faced during the implementation of the programme. Although it was proposed to prepare a document in the revised version of the programme, it could not be completed due to lack of time and resource. Preparation and publication of literature has been planned for 2006.

Lessons learnt

It is necessary to develop a national-level policy on the integration of promotion of humanitarian values, as recommended by NRCS programme heads in the workshop in December 2006. The policy will guide all the programmes to better address the issue through their activities.

Youths have been an encouragement for the programme. The trained youths have proved that they can be the best medium to address the issue of discrimination in the communities where it rules many aspects of Nepalese life. However, training only a few youths from a few districts may not be sufficient to bring changes in the society. It may be necessary to reach the young people at a mass level so that they can take the message to a national level.

Less has been done to improve partnerships with other organizations outside the Red Cross in 2005. It might be useful to look for the partners who can work with the Red Cross in the issue of discrimination. This would not only support the individual programme but also broaden the horizon of the society's cooperation with other organizations.

The approved budget was almost fully spent. A small amount was left over as savings, after the consultant hired to produce radio programmes agreed to work for an amount less than originally proposed.

Impact

The impacts of the humanitarian values promotion programme are not statistically measurable. However, promotion of the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values has resulted into better understanding of the Red Cross among NRCS members as well as the general public. It is difficult to claim that such understanding has brought changes in the behaviour of the people, increasing respect for human dignity to a fixed degree. However, the general feedback and response to the Red Cross activities and the organization as a whole show that the Red Cross messages have been received positively.

Programmes in 2006 will be a continuation of the activities that started in 2004. However, a slight shift has taken in the programme emphasis. The idea of the pilot project was dropped this year as explained previously. There are indications that the effort would prove to be more worthwhile if the promotion of humanitarian values were to be incorporated into all existing programmes, and youths could be further mobilized for the purpose of raising awareness in their communities.

Overall analysis of the organizational development programme in 2005

Overall Goal: Nepal Red Cross makes an effective difference in the lives of vulnerable people in their respective communities. The communities will receive sustainable community-based support to reduce their vulnerability through increased capacities of the national society.

Programme Objective: Strengthen the volunteer capacity of NRCS at all levels by enhancing the managerial and resource mobilization capacity towards self-reliance to be able to better serve vulnerable communities.

Volunteer Management and Service project objective: *The Nepal Red Cross develops a volunteer framework and increases the managerial capacities of volunteers at all levels.*

Achievements

NRCS, by implementing the volunteer management and service project, increased the managerial competence of volunteers for effective delivery of services in conflict-affected areas and selected two districts for implementation. Under the project, NRCS formed new subchapters, appointed new volunteers, provided volunteer services by volunteers in the Eye Camp project, involved volunteers in fundraising, and disseminated the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values through its volunteers.

A volunteer framework was developed and used by all branches. A volunteer management workshop was conducted for 32 branches, with the headquarters leading the projects. A volunteer management manual was finalized in an English version and translated into a Nepali version.

Lessons learnt

Volunteers are the strength of the national society. NRCS's capacity can be increased by effective mobilization and strengthened capacity of its volunteers. The volunteer management project and its activities are directly related to the Fundamental Principle of voluntary service and some activities chiefly advocated and disseminated the Principles. The volunteer management system is one of the components of organizational development and has been integrated to all programmes. Through this integrated approach, the community development project - under the disaster management programme - supported a volunteer management workshop.

The project supported people affected by conflict in two districts through activities such as campaigns, community-based meetings on the Fundamental Principles, humanitarian values and advocacy. However, it should also focus on the establishment of a volunteer management system in all NRCS programmes including at all district chapter and sub-chapter levels.

A volunteer management manual was developed in Nepali and it will be necessary to disseminate the concept to all district chapters and sub-chapters. Within three years, the project could cover all district chapters, enhancing their capacities and allowing them to implement the project for their respective subchapters using internal resources. Within that period all district chapters will be able to categorize the skills of volunteers and establish a database of volunteers to mobilize them effectively.

During a disaster this year, where the roof of the Manipal Medical College in Pokhara collapsed, the Kaski district chapter was not able to deploy their volunteers immediately and effectively. After participating in the volunteer management workshop, the chapter felt that they could have received better volunteer services if a volunteer management system had been in place at the time of the disaster, and have committed to implement such a system in the Kaski district chapter.

Constraints

The project was implemented into two district chapters, Palpa and Jhapa. A drinking water and sanitation project was implemented in Jhapa only in August 2005 due to late funding, and the volunteer management project is integrated into it. Because of this late implementation, parts of the budget for this project will only be spent in 2006.

Impact

Organizational development is a long-term process and can be achieved only by continuous effort. Volunteer management is the key component for the organizational development of NRCS and the society expects extensive volunteer involvement in delivering effective services in its structures. Therefore, the project's impact will only be visible, and its outcomes precisely measurable in the longer term.

However, the programme contributed to the establishment of a volunteer management system in 32 district chapters and projects of the national headquarters. The district chapters did not use the system in their activities before implementation of the project but have now committed to implement it in their respective programmes.

Gender and Women Development project objective: *Increased participation of women in all levels of the structure and development programmes.*

Achievements

The project was implemented in five conflict-affected districts of the three development regions of the country. In the the year 2005 training, orientations and workshops on gender awareness were organized in central, district and community levels. These activities increased the level of gender awareness of 158 representatives of district chapters, sub-chapters, women development committees and staff members, important to encourage gender balance in their concerned areas. The first national-level gender analysis and need assessment study was carried out in NRCS. This study will guide not only the women development department but also assist all the programmes and departments in implementing gender programming, through the introduction of appropriate policies and guidelines for gender balance.

Different skill-based training workshops including animal husbandry, *zinger* (a type of plant) farming and vegetable gardening were conducted for 159 conflict-affected, vulnerable and single women of the project area. Of these, 86 of the most vulnerable women were supported with two- to three-year loans for income generation activities to improve their livelihood. By the end of 2005, most of the women had started their activities and some had already begun generating income from their small businesses.

Constraints

Because of the limited time and budget, and the conflict situation of the country, the project could not be implemented in the mid- and far-western regions despite the urgent needs there. The participants from those regions were not even able to attend gender training workshops because of the poor security at the time.

Although preliminary activities were complete, there was little time and resource left to develop the gender guideline handbook in 2005, and this was a major disappointment for the national society.

Lessons learnt

Eight months is very short to conduct all of the planned activities. Ideally, the project's time frame could have been extended by one to three years, while the budget could have been carried over to the new time frame.

In Nepal, women have a very low literacy rate, compounded by high poverty and a heavy workload. In addition, they have a high economic dependency and are badly affected by the internal conflict. In such a situation, achieving gender balance in NRCS at this stage is very ambitious and impractical. The national society has to work very hard for a long while more. Therefore, NRCS, and its Movement partners of sister national societies, the Federation and ICRC have to work together to overcome all these problems and achieved the goal of gender balance.

Impact

Despite the short period of eight months, in all the project areas, women development committees have been formed. At Sangrumba village in Ilam district, the committees are planning to form a separate sub-chapter in their village to conduct gender awareness activities, and run savings, credit and income generating programmes for enhancing the capacity of vulnerable women. Red Cross memberships have increased remarkably in all the project areas. Therefore, the project has not only enhanced women capacity and improving gender balance, but also helped disseminate information about the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The financial support to 86 most vulnerable women will also lead to a better life for their families.

Coordination and cooperation with governmental organizations, especially with the agricultural development office and district veterinary office, has further improved. In Panchthar district, these offices supported ten more

vulnerable women, by providing two goats to each, and also committed to provide the technical support for kitchen gardens.

Youth Development project objective: *Junior/youth volunteers trained and mobilized in organizational development for service activities.*

Achievements

A national seminar, five junior camps, ten child literacy classes, a youth leadership development training, a first aid trainers training, establishment of five training units, ten reforestation schemes, 20 educational support schemes and publication of the English version of junior/youth Red Cross policy and procedure manual have been completed this year, as planned in the youth programme supported by the Swedish Red Cross through the Federation. Over 2,000 junior/youths Red Cross members, 1,500 community leaders and people, 100 communities, 200 schools/circles and 1,000 members of the general public have been benefited from the project. NRCS district, sub-chapter and circle programmes have been supported through this project with resource persons and reference materials. A rapid appraisal was conducted to assess the programme which had been ongoing for some 20 years, and to trace its progress onwards. In addition, the project hosted the International Youth Exchange programme in which youths from the Bangladesh Red Crescent and the Sri Lankan Red Cross participated with Federation support. NRCS has also sent participants for another such exchange programme which was conducted by the Japanese Red Cross this year.

NRCS junior/youth programmes have been an integral component in developing junior/youth volunteers, Red Cross leaders, and skilled and motivated youths who have been involved in humanitarian activities of the Movement. This project contributed to the expansion of junior/youth circles and members to 3,743 circles and 760,583 members so far. Many programmes have been successfully implemented and completed with the cooperation and coordination of the circles. The junior/youth Red Cross institution that comprises a headmaster or principal as a patron, a teacher in each circle as a sponsor and members as the volunteers, cooperates to implement all programmes, by orientating the community people about the Red Cross Movement.

Impact

Many corners of the countryside are familiar with the Red Cross, through its junior Red Cross circles. Teacher sponsors are the main leaders who provide relief, rescue, rehabilitation, first aid and other many services involving junior/youth Red Cross volunteers. Awareness raising on various areas such as diseases, explosive devices, HIV/AIDS and use of the Red Cross emblem has been very successful. Most of the activities launched under this project have been sustainable. In order to empower and involve the huge number of junior/youth volunteers more effectively, NRCS will initiate the junior/youth Red Cross volunteer management programme in 2006.

Finance Resource Mobilization project objective: *To ensure dependable and regular financial resource through the implementation of improved system and diversification of resources by developing the fundraising skill at all levels.*

Achievements

NRCS conducted diversified fundraising activities such as setting up donation boxes, producing and selling new year greeting cards, selling souvenir products and training packages, distributing pamphlets, direct mailing, holding meetings for token support, carrying out cooperation schemes and junior/youth mobilization, and operating a printing press. The national society also emphasized on proper operation of its training centre and proper utilization of fixed assets including the formulation of resource development and fixed asset management committees. Most of these activities were successfully conducted, although NRCS is in its foundation stage of fundraising. The activities will prove to be a major source of backup income for the society.

The translated version of the resource mobilization policy was finalized, providing a clear guideline for fundraising. NRCS is continuously following up and encouraging the district chapters for its fundraising campaign. It conducted trainings and workshops where fundraising techniques and experiences were shared, developing the cooperation mechanism between strong and weak district chapters to enhance their capability. In accordance to its trend of district cooperation, six new districts pledged to support six remote district chapters.

NRCS has started using the *Supporters Management Software* to store data of donors, which will facilitate better management of the data. The society announced an appeal through electronic media as well as print media, and conducted face-to-face meetings and telephone requests to help the people affected by the earthquake and tsunami of December 2004, and those affected by the Pakistan earthquake of October 2005. The NRCS website (www.nrccs.org) was also updated, and a donation form was placed there.

Constraints

It was very difficult to convince people to participate in the project owing to their lack of awareness about the Red Cross. Additionally, people were expecting immediate gains in return for their support. There was duplication in efforts as global disasters, including the tsunami of December 2004, Hurricane Katrina and the Pakistan earthquake of October 2005, diverted concentration and effort. A concert was planned with several event management companies, but because other organizations were also conducting similar events, and the difficulty faced in locating sponsors, the idea was postponed. Initially, some errors were discovered in the *Supporters Management Software*, delaying the work of storing donor data.

Lastly, the lack of previous regular and institutional fundraising practices, and the deteriorating security of the country have also added to the complexity of the situation. Nevertheless, significant funds were generated through diversified activities, which will definitely support the provision of services to vulnerable people.

Lessons learnt

2005 has been very important year for NRCS, teaching the society some important lessons which will help it complete its task successfully in coming days. The national society realized that fundraising for any specific programme and emergency was a good method to draw the attention of people, but it will take a long time to make district chapters skilled at fundraising, while creating awareness about the importance of correct and timely reporting.

It was also found to be very important to identify the right people to contact while making initial approaches in planning events or activities. Finding the motivating factors behind their support and knowledge of economic health of companies was the key to successful partnerships.

There was also a need for volunteers to be trained for the project. An integrated training manual for this purpose could be produced with the volunteer management and service project.

Impact

NRCS received very good response from the general public not only in the form of money but also feedback, pledges and queries. For instance, many people were happy to receive the greeting cards produced by NRCS, and suggested more for other occasions. The overwhelming response from different individuals and organizations to the appeal for disaster relief indicated success in creating awareness among people and increasing level of understanding of people towards the Red Cross. Workshops, seminars and trainings have increased the skill, knowledge, performance and efficiency of volunteers and staff members, which encouraged them to initiate fundraising activities. The project is gradually creating more awareness in NRCS district chapters and its volunteers about the importance of local fundraising to ensure sustainability.

Implementation and Management

Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

Regular coordination meetings have taken place between the NRCS, ICRC and the Federation office to share information and discuss the security situation in the country, programme implementation and coordination of assistance to the national society.

ICRC, together with the Federation, has launched a programme of conflict preparedness and response based on the principles of safe access starting with NRCS senior governance and management committee. In view of the deteriorating security and economic situation in the country, this programme is of key importance in assisting national society staff and volunteers to continue working safely and effectively in the conflict-affected districts in

Nepal. It is of note that NRCS is the major national humanitarian organization in the country which is still able to work in all districts.

With the Federation's assistance, the NRCS has been following up with all partner national societies involved in the cooperation agreement strategy for Nepal regarding their future commitments. A clearer picture on this should develop in the coming months. Further efforts will continue to be made to initiate a coordinated audit process among all NRCS partners in the reporting period.

Various routine coordination meetings were held with UN partners including UNDP, UNICEF, UNOCHA, WFP, WHO as well as with the European Union, USAID and NGO partners. The national society is the key partner in a UNDP funding application to ECHO for emergency preparedness and enhancing the capacities of DP-Net. The NRCS is also included in the UNOCHA consolidated appeal process (CAP) for Nepal. In the light of the conflict situation and risk of earthquake, there is now a strong focus on expanding cooperation with UN partners in the areas of emergency preparedness and response. Two new programmes will start early in 2006 – a DipECHO-funded disaster management project with the Belgian Red Cross and a EU-funded community-based disaster preparedness project with the Danish Red Cross.

During the meeting of the Federation's South Asia team in September, the support of the regional delegation to Nepal was discussed and plans were drawn up for future assistance of technical delegates and staff to NRCS programmes. This was followed by Federation's Asia Pacific management meeting in Kuala Lumpur at the end of January 2006 during which the practical realities of implementing *Federation of the Future* agenda were discussed in detail.

Effective representation and advocacy

The NRCS is maintaining close contacts with the donor community and is active in fundraising for projects and positioning the national society within the humanitarian and development sectors. The society received good coverage from local media for specific events such as HIV/AIDS, youth and local disaster response interventions as well as the support which it provided for those affected by the December 2004 tsunami and Pakistan earthquake of 2005 in terms of funds, blankets and RDRT members.

The NRCS involvement in both national and international disaster response operations continues to be widely reported and has helped raise the profile of the national society. Other events included the *Federation of the Future* consultative meeting in October and promotion of the World Disasters Report in early November.

Management of the delegation

The Federation office in Nepal consists of a Federation representative only. A new representative arrived in September. Together with the regional delegation for South Asia, technical and other support continues to be provided to the national society in its core activity areas.

[The annual financial report is below; click here to return to title page and contact information.](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

NEPAL

Selected Parameters	
Year/Period	2005/1-2005/12
Appeal	M05AA048
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget	535'791	457'983	42'583	121'461	0	1'157'818
B. Opening Balance	20'516	10'596	2'177	30'690	-177	63'801
Income						
Cash contributions						
British Red Cross	84'597	138'411	27'329	4'969		255'306
Capacity Building Fund				45'015		45'015
Danish Red Cross					1'860	1'860
Finnish Red Cross		97'326				97'326
Korea Republic National Red C				30'000		30'000
New Zealand Red Cross		125'646				125'646
Swedish Red Cross	294'708			46'200	78'624	419'532
C1. Cash contributions	379'305	361'383	27'329	126'184	80'484	974'685
Outstanding pledges (Revalued)						
British Red Cross		0				0
New Zealand Red Cross		134'475				134'475
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)		134'475				134'475
Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)						
OPEC Fund For International C	-25					-25
C3. Reallocations (within appeal)	-25					-25
Inkind Personnel						
Danish Red Cross					28'617	28'617
C5. Inkind Personnel					28'617	28'617
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	379'280	495'858	27'329	126'184	109'101	1'137'752
D. Total Funding = B + C	399'796	506'454	29'506	156'874	108'924	1'201'554

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	20'516	10'596	2'177	30'690	-177	63'801
C. Income	379'280	495'858	27'329	126'184	109'101	1'137'752
E. Expenditure	-374'324	-359'875	-25'724	-122'606	-107'215	-989'744
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	25'472	146'579	3'782	34'267	1'709	211'809

Selected Parameters	
Year/Period	2005/1-2005/12
Appeal	M05AA048
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
	A					B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)		535'791	457'983	42'583	121'461	0	1'157'818	
Supplies								
Shelter	120'776							120'776
Medical & First Aid	3'786							3'786
Teaching Materials	30'521							30'521
Total Supplies	155'083							155'083
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Land & Buildings	1'365							1'365
Computers & Telecom	1'001					1'517	1'517	-516
Others Machinery & Equipment	38'664	1'282			235	-1'517	0	38'664
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	41'030	1'282			235	0	1'517	39'513
Transport & Storage								
Storage	1'247							1'247
Transport & Vehicle Costs	10'332	1'974	277		2'936	0	5'187	5'144
Total Transport & Storage	11'578	1'974	277		2'936	0	5'187	6'391
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	129'000					67'597	67'597	61'403
Delegate Benefits		3'713	17'355	1'451		30'609	53'128	-53'128
Regionally Deployed Staff	186'098							186'098
National Staff		4'838	939			-841	4'936	-4'936
National Society Staff						841	841	-841
Consultants	10'656	9'000				13	9'013	1'643
Total Personnel Expenditures	325'754	17'551	18'294	1'451		98'217	135'513	190'240
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	271'901					1'175	1'175	270'726
Total Workshops & Training	271'901					1'175	1'175	270'726
General Expenditure								
Travel	16'397	691			918	973	2'582	13'816
Information & Public Relation	76'527	75	743			0	819	75'709
Office Costs	184'289					3'496	3'496	180'793
Communications			17			1'425	1'442	-1'442
Professional Fees		-100	1'696	-50	-100		1'446	-1'446
Financial Charges						18	18	-18
Other General Expenses		4'415	48	284	678	-4'938	486	-486
Total General Expenditure	277'214	5'081	2'504	234	1'496	973	10'288	266'926
Federation Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societi		324'105	315'408	22'367	109'970		771'851	-771'851
Total Federation Contributions & Transfers		324'105	315'408	22'367	109'970		771'851	-771'851
Program Support								
Program Support	75'258	24'331	23'392	1'672	7'969	6'848	64'212	11'046
Total Program Support	75'258	24'331	23'392	1'672	7'969	6'848	64'212	11'046
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	1'157'818	374'324	359'875	25'724	122'606	107'215	989'744	168'074
VARIANCE (C - D)		161'467	98'108	16'859	-1'146	-107'215	168'074	