

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

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

19 May 2006

In Brief

**Appeal No. 05AA059; Appeal target: CHF 13,546,449 (USD 11,284,006 or EUR 8,856,783);
Appeal coverage: 107.2%**

(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

Favourable weather conditions and the deployment of the entire population for a period of agricultural work resulted in an estimated¹ 10 per cent harvest increase in 2006. Economic sanctions imposed on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), however, continue to have an impact on the country.

Sources based in the Republic of Korea (ROK) reported DPRK's economic growth in 2005 to be two per cent. This improvement, however, lags far behind the economic growth experienced throughout East Asia widening the gap in living standards between the DPRK and neighbouring countries.

The only and most current official data on the country's humanitarian situation is the November 2004 United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)/World Food Programme (WFP) food survey. The survey reported a slight improvement of the nutritional status of children and mothers, but chronic and severe malnutrition are still high as compared with elsewhere. Throughout 2005, the WFP continued to report that the 'public distribution ratio' (PDR) was below the required level. Although cereals were available at the market at the start of 2005, public trade was of cereals was later forbidden.

¹ Official statistics have not been publicized yet.

Global isolation has left the country struggling with a chronic shortage of energy, food, medicine and other basic needs. A lack of progress in the six-party talks (DPRK, Russia, China, Japan, South Korea and North Korea) on nuclear issues is blocking the inflow of development aid and holding back investment into the country. The DPRK Red Cross (DPRK RC), in partnership with the International Federation, has been implementing the third largest aid programme in the DPRK (following WFP and UNICEF). Red Cross activities have focused largely on addressing these needs by supplying large quantities of medical supplies, energy to medical institutions, and rehabilitating water and sanitation systems in five provinces. Besides humanitarian aid, the Federation supports the DPRK Red Cross in the areas of disaster prevention, disaster response to small-scale disasters, and the capacity building of the national society.

In the first week of September 2005, the government enforced the 2004 decision to bring all humanitarian aid activities in DPRK to an end by December 2005. Development aid is still appreciated, on the condition that the agencies comply with certain criteria: no humanitarian appeal is issued, development activities are only implemented by nationals, and there is no permanent presence of expatriate staff. Furthermore, the government announced the dissolution of the Flood and Drought Relief Commission (FDRC) by the end of 2005. The FDRC has until now been the primary coordinating mechanism for humanitarian activities.

A draft resolution prepared by the European Union on human rights presented to the UN General Assembly, strained the relationship between the EU and the DPRK. The government reacted by rejecting future support from the Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission (ECHO). By the close of the year, these events resulted in many of the NGO's and UN organizations enduring cuts in programme funding with the government forcing almost all of the NGO's to shut down activities.

Notwithstanding the above complications, the implementation of the different programmes by the DPRK Red Cross continued mostly according to plans. Partners contributed well to the programme, which resulted in full coverage of the appeal funding. Spending remained slightly behind in the last quarter; but this could continue into 2006 without requiring donors to commit to an uncertain future. The water and sanitation programme was delayed due to the delivery of substandard pipes, which are now being replaced, causing delay in the implementation.

Overshadowed by the later events was the Strategic Review of the DPRK Federation Programme in April and May 2005. The review was an important and successful exercise, which enabled all stakeholders later on during the period of uncertainty to maintain a clear view on the directions for future support to the DPRK Red Cross.

Analysis of the Health and Care Programme in 2005

Overall Goal: The health of vulnerable communities is improved and the risk of transmission of communicable diseases reduced.

Programme Objective: To improve the health of vulnerable communities in 65 counties/cities in North Pyongan, South Pyongan, North Hwanghae, Jagang and South Hamgyong provinces.²

The health and care programme supported by the DPRK Red Cross and Federation Secretariat comprises two components:

² One county from South Hamgyong province was excluded from the programme since March due to limitations on access for monitoring purposes.

Sources of hope in the DPRK



A woman's work is never done in rural DPRK, but Kim Yon Bok is happy. She has water in her house. Before a Red Cross pipeline changed her life last summer, she spent three hours a day carrying water from a village well. The labour left her exhausted and often ill, along with the rest of the family.

The well, like many in rural areas, was polluted. Waterborne and sanitation-related illness accounts for much of the infectious disease.

- 1) training and health promotion for Red Cross volunteers and health professionals about the prevention and care of common diseases as well as community-based first aid (CBFA) activities
- 2) supply of medicines and medical instruments to health institutions

Federation-supported activities in this sector have been implemented in 65 cities and counties in five provinces (South Pyongan, North Pyongan, North Hwanghae, Jagang and South Hamgyong) home to some 8.85 million people. In March 2005, however, one county of South Hamgyong province was excluded from the operational area reducing the total number of beneficiaries to 8.76 million.

The health and care programme 2005 was implemented due to the combined efforts of different stakeholders, contributing towards the improvement of the local health situation.

Primary support for the DPRK Red Cross health and care programme has come from ECHO, and through the Danish, Finnish, German, Irish, Japanese, Netherlands and Norwegian Red Cross societies. Both the Federation and the DPRK Red Cross have worked in close cooperation with the DPRK ministry of public health (MoPH), WHO and UNICEF in implementing project activities.

Achievements, Constraints and Lessons Learnt

Expected result 1: The DPRK Red Cross volunteers and community healthcare professionals (household doctors and nurses) have improved their community based first aid skills, as well as awareness and knowledge of the prevention and care of common diseases.

In 2005, the Federation delegation, in close cooperation with the DPRK Red Cross, implemented as scheduled a variety of trainings and workshops to increase the knowledge and skills of community health workers and Red Cross volunteers on prevention of and care for common health threats to communities.

Training activities conducted in 2005 were carried out in line with the DPRK Red Cross' development plan. Training for health professionals and community members has been developed to strengthen the communities' capacities to address common health problems through changes in KAP (knowledge, attitude and practice). Health and care programme activities such as training and health promotion were integrated into other DPRK Red Cross programmes such as water/sanitation, disaster management and organizational development. It is expected that the health promotion and training initiatives carried out by the Federation and the DPRK Red Cross will have a significant impact, and aid in improving the overall quality of health in the operational areas.

The Federation delegation and the DPRK Red Cross worked with the DPRK MoPH, WHO and UNICEF on the development of teaching materials and regularly shared information on field activities.

The activities conducted by the Federation and DPRK Red Cross in 2005 to achieve the expected result are as follows:

Procurement

- Six Red Cross training centres in the Federation's operational areas received 192 desks and 300 chairs procured to strengthen the DPRK Red Cross training capacities for local volunteers and people. A late start to the procurement process at the end of 2005 resulted in the actual distribution of these items occurring in early 2006.
- Thirteen examination beds were purchased with support from the Irish Red Cross, and were distributed to the Ryongchon polyclinic
- Individual families in the malaria-prone regions of the Federation's operational areas received 60,000 malaria bed-nets and 60,000 screens.

Training

First aid refill kits were supplied to 70 first aid posts in Jagang province that was omitted in the 2004 distribution. In 2005, 500 first aid refill kits were procured. Their distribution to 500 first aid posts in South Pyongan, North Pyongan, Jagang and North Hwanghae provinces was delayed due to the need to urgently transport other kits, and

was finished in early 2006. In the meantime, each of the 150 first aid posts in 15 cities/counties of South Hamgyong province received a complete first aid kit and backpack. Two-day training-of-trainers course was also conducted for 30 first aid trainers, who afterwards facilitated 15 two-day training-of-volunteers for 300 first aid volunteers in South Hamgyong province in April.

Other workshops held in 2005 covered malaria control, aseptic techniques, rational drug use and control of infectious diseases. Twelve one-day workshops on malaria control were organized for 300 health workers and DPRK Red Cross volunteers. The workshops addressed how to treat and use mosquito bed-nets and screens provided by the Federation. In addition, 13 one-day workshops on aseptic technique were organized for 260 nurses and midwives from the health institutions to refresh their knowledge on prevention of hospital infections. Thirteen two-day workshops on rational drug use, particularly on proper utilization of the Federation-supported medicines, were also organized for 260 household doctors from primary health institutions supported by the Federation. The same number of doctors were trained on control of infectious diseases such as tuberculosis, acute respiratory infection, diarrhea, malaria and HIV/AIDS, with teaching material updated based on lessons learnt in 2004, through 13 two-day workshops.

In cooperation with the disaster management department, three integrated workshops on community-based first aid, health promotion and disaster management were organized in Anju, Huichon, and Hamheung cities for Red Cross trainers from 65 cities/counties of the Federation operational areas.

In cooperation with the DPRK's MoPH, WHO and UNICEF, the Federation and the DPRK Red Cross developed a HIV/AIDS education brochure and 15,000 copies were printed and distributed to the health institutions and Red Cross branches.

In line with the Federation's plan for World AIDS Day, the Federation and DPRK RC jointly arranged for an awareness event for Red Cross trainers on HIV/AIDS prevention in Red Cross training centres of Huichon and in Sinuijiu cities. The HIV/AIDS Day was organized in collaboration with UNAIDS, WHO and UNICEF in Pyongyang for international and national staff working with different organizations and embassies.

The DPRK RC staff were also active in other health-related events within Asia Pacific. Two health staff from the DPRK Red Cross attended the meeting of Asian Red Cross and Red Crescent AIDS Network (ART) in Mongolia. They also visited the Pakistan Red Crescent and the Chinese Red Cross societies to share field experiences regarding HIV/AIDS and community based first aid initiatives. A DPRK Red Cross social and health care staff participated in the basic training course (BTC) facilitated by the Australian Red Cross in April 2005. Three staff members from the DPRK Red Cross social and health care department participated in the workshop on strategic leadership and management in population and reproductive health held in Nanjing, China to increase understanding of reproductive health within the national society. This strengthened the leadership abilities and analytical skills of the participants in the areas of planning, implementation and evaluation of health programmes.

In terms of material production, 1,000 household doctor's manuals and 1,600 HIV/AIDS leaflets were printed with remaining funds from the 2004 Ryongchon operation, which were then distributed to the health institutions. A curriculum and training material on child nutrition and growth monitoring such as flipcharts were developed in cooperation with MoPH DPRK and UNICEF. The material was prepared in 2005 and the workshop conducted early 2006. Altogether, 13 two-day workshops were undertaken for 260 household doctors and midwives in the Federation supported health institutions.

Constraints and Lessons Learnt

During the harvesting period, priority is given to cereal production in the country, and some workshops were delayed due to the unavailability of human and logistical resources in the national society. A transfer of national society staff to the Federation delegation has the potential to further strain the national society's limited human resources for training. The society is therefore looking towards better mobilization of trainers in local Red Cross training centres. The society also sees the importance of better coordination with other health programme activities in the future.

Non-availability of official statistics or other reliable public data hampers the assessment of the impact of the drug distribution. Pre- and post- testing has been developed for immediate impact measuring, but it remains difficult to assess long-term impact on beneficiaries' level.

In 2005, rising concern about avian influenza and discussions with the ministry of public health and the WHO led to the development of teaching material and manuals for distribution through some of the Federation-supported activities.

Expected result 2: The health institutions (county, city, industrial and *ri* hospitals, as well as *ri* and poly clinics) have improved their capacity in providing basic medical services to the population.

Medical supplies for 2005 were procured and delivered to health institutions in the programme areas. The UNICEF covers the need for basic supplies in the remaining accessible areas of the country. Regular contact with WHO, UNICEF and the MoPH ensured appropriate coordination of the provisions of supplies at the primary care level.

Medical supplies	Quantity	Destination	Details
Basic kits	38,510 items	Primary health institutions	Distributed quarterly
Household doctor kits	9,439 items	Primary health institutions	Contained medical instruments such as stethoscopes, sphygmomanometers and thermometers used for diagnosis and treatment at the primary health care level. Household doctors are responsible for primary health care in their respective areas.
Intensive care kits	8,007 items	City/county hospitals and primary health institutions	Contained emergency and injectable drugs. Distributed to institutions located in remote areas far from the referral institutions to be used for patients requiring emergency treatment
obstetric-gynaecological kits	206 items	obstetric-gynaecological departments of city and county hospitals	Used to improve the quality of maternity care at the community level.
safe delivery kits	5,367 items	primary health care institutions	Used to improve the quality of maternity care at the community level.
baby scales	2,000 items	Primary health care institutions	Distributed to midwives at primary health institutions

Table 1: Distribution of medical supplies in 2005

In addition to the procurement of medical supplies, 5,400 metric tonnes of coal were procured and delivered to 38 health institutions last winter through a winterization project to keep the most active parts of facilities like operating theatres, delivery rooms, and pharmacies functioning.

Two national society health staff visited the Armenian and Georgian Red Cross Societies to share their experience on assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation of health programmes, particularly rational drug use, rehabilitation service, community-based first aid and health promotion.

Impact

Following the first announcement of the DPRK government in September 2004 and a second, stronger announcement one year later to wind up humanitarian aid and reduce monitoring activities, the Federation delegation in cooperation with the DPRK Red Cross revised its monitoring system. The new monitoring procedures would increase the extent of the monitoring by utilizing local health monitors. The involvement of expatriates in the actual monitoring would gradually decrease, and delegates would increasingly focus on the quality of the monitoring procedures. Introduction of the new system started successfully in June 2005, and regular meetings with the monitors were held to improve their capabilities. The transition period ended abruptly in September 2005, following the rigorous introduction of the governments policy on humanitarian aid. Monitoring by the national society could continue unaffected, but field visits for expatriates became more limited.

Within the last 12 months, six field monitors have visited 1,238 health institutions. Monitoring forms from the monitors were collected weekly for database and analyzed quarterly. A sample of 59 health institutions was selected randomly for a small medicine consumption- survey. The data showed the usage of donated drugs in the Federation supported health institutes. Most antibiotics, which are always first run out among the federation drugs lasted for hardly 2.5 months. As this is faster as expected, further analyses will be needed on the prescription behaviour of the household doctors. It also emphasizes the need for the inclusion in the kits for the guidelines for treatment of the most common diarrhoea related diseases and the promotion of oral rehydration solution (ORS) or other alternative oral fluid treatment.

However, the government did not make any official statistical information concerning country's health situation available in 2005. The introduction of the new monitoring system is too recent to draw conclusions. The first data received indicated an average usage period of 2.5 months for kits that were intended to meet the needs over a three-month period. Antibiotics were the first drugs to run out. Analyses whether the training of household doctors on rational drug use would make a difference could not be made yet. Visits of the health delegates to the medical institutions revealed that the knowledge on proper use of antibiotics had yet to trickle down fully.

The high-level use of the kits also indicated that no other drugs are supplied to the institutions from other resources. This was confirmed by the visit of the national society and the Federation delegates. Almost all of drugs in the dispensary were either traditional drugs or drugs supplied through the Federation programme.

The **household doctor kits** appeared to be unique for the supply of simple medical tools. Over the past three years, nearly 15,000 kits out of the total required 20,000 kits were supplied to about 20,000 household doctors in the Federation's operational areas. In view of the life cycle of part of the instruments, there is consideration to develop a refill set for the next year. Contacts with medical doctors in field visits revealed that the referral rate to the secondary facilities dropped because of the support and the rate of complete cures rose.

The **delivery kits** were designed to meet the most urgent needs for basic medical assistance provided by household doctors and midwives, who are working in primary health institutions and at the community level simultaneously. In combination with the **basic medical kits**, altogether 7,238 delivery kits for three years increased the capacity of household doctors and midwives to provide better quality of primary health care.

The 13 examination beds donated by Irish Red Cross strengthened the capacity of the Ryongchon polyclinic. Where only a few beds were available for examination rooms before – these were uncomfortable wooden beds, which were too wide for proper examinations and difficult to keep clean – the polyclinic now has specialized examination beds that enabled it to increase the number of examination rooms to ten. Some of these beds have also been supplied to the sonography/ultrasound, electrocardiogram (ECG) and ear, nose and throat (ENT) diagnostic areas. Although specific statistics could not be shared, the polyclinic director estimated that half of the patients that would have otherwise been referred to the county hospital can now undergo diagnosis and treatment in the Ryongchon polyclinic itself.

The DPRK Red Cross played an important role in increasing public awareness about the prevention and care of common health problems at the community level, such as: acute respiratory infections, malaria, and waterborne diseases. Even though some diseases like tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS are not common in the DPRK, prevention and awareness information has been provided through the Red Cross workshops. The different information, communication and education or IEC (flipchart, manual, handout, lecture note, leaflet, brochure and first aid video-tape) material were developed, and supplied from the DPRK Red Cross's headquarters in cooperation with the Federation.

In cooperation with the MoPH and the Federation, DPRK Red Cross HIV/AIDS activities such as internal and external workshops and a "World AIDS's Day" event increased social concern and public awareness among household doctors and the general population about prevention.

The health institutions in the Federation's operational areas were strengthened in their capacity to provide communities in DPRK with better quality medical service. The essential drugs and medical supplies from the

Federation helped them cope with the most common diseases like acute respiratory infections and gastrointestinal diseases.

These initiatives were especially important among the most vulnerable, e.g children and pregnant women. Medical equipment and instruments supported the health institutions, improving primary health care for the beneficiaries.

Constraints and Lessons Learnt

In 2005, UNICEF and the Federation were implementing programmes involving the supply of medicine from the list of basic drugs, as approved by the ministry of public health and the WHO. The ECHO Review and Strategic Review recommended that the Federation and UNICEF coordinate closely on activities regarding distributing medical kits to health institutions in DPRK. The coordination of these activities, however, was challenging due to the different funding conditions and lack of MoPH involvement.

The arrival of a majority of the supplies at the end of 2005 placed a heavy burden on the capacity for the transportation of the items to the local areas. DPRK Red Cross branches arranged for local transport in order to ensure the timely supply.

The DPRK Red Cross had to overcome several logistical challenges on meeting distribution deadlines when German Red Cross-funded intensive care kits arrived three months later than expected.

Analysis of the Water and Sanitation Programme in 2005

Overall Goal: To improve health of communities by reducing the prevalence of waterborne diseases through the provision of clean and safe water and hygiene promotion.

Programme Objective: To provide clean water and locally appropriate sanitation facilities and education in the prevention of waterborne diseases in 40 *ri* and *dong* communities in North Pyongan and South Pyongan provinces as well as 30,000 beneficiaries in four communities in South Hamgyong province.

The water and sanitation project in 2005 had two elements. The main element was the completion of Phase 3 – the final phase – of the ‘100 village programme’ funded by both Swedish Red Cross and ECHO. The second element of the 2005 water and sanitation programme was another Swedish Red Cross-funded project to construct water supply systems in four communities of South Hamgyong province.

Project in 2005	Beneficiaries served	Implementation period	Donor	Details
“100 village programme” Phase 3	Ten communities (22,425 communities)	April 2004 – March 2005	Swedish Red Cross	Construction of water and sanitation systems and hygiene promotion activities. Completed in 40 communities in 2005. The other 60 communities were served earlier in Phase 1 & 2.
	30 communities (67,000 beneficiaries)	January – December 2005	ECHO	
Water supply systems construction	Four communities (30,000 beneficiaries)	April 2005 – March 2006	Swedish Red Cross	Location of communities: east coast of South Hamgyong province

Table 2: Water and sanitation project elements in 2005

The DPRK Red Cross programming was set back when an application from the Netherlands Red Cross to ECHO for further funding of water and sanitation activities in 2006 was declined by ECHO due to the changes in policy towards international humanitarian assistance.

The programme objective was revised in Programme Update no.1 to reflect a more specific scope of the water and sanitation programme, which also includes beneficiaries in South Hamgyong province. The 40 communities

specified here are part of a wider three-year water and sanitation programme that will benefit an overall 100 villages or *ri* and *dong* communities.

Achievements, Constraints and Lessons Learnt

Expected result 1: Forty water supply systems, 20 waste water collection systems and 500 latrines combined with biogas generators have been installed/rehabilitated in 40 *ri* and *dong* target communities in North Pyongan, South Pyongan and Chagang province by the end of 2005, and water facilities have been erected in South Hamgyong province.

Health data (especially the rate of incidence of waterborne diseases) of all the potential target communities collected from the health institutions was used in the selection process to identify the most vulnerable. Water quality information provided by the Red Cross water quality monitors was also used to select communities. After completing the projects, the quality of the water being supplied by the new systems is tested to ensure minimum standards are being met.

Joint field assessments by the DPRK RC and Federation delegation were carried out in all selected communities for the ECHO and Swedish Red Cross-funded programmes.

Federation water and sanitation delegates and national society technicians examined and jointly finalized proposed designs of the water supply systems in all the communities. These materials were then procured in line with Federation standards.

In five three-day water and sanitation technical workshops, 150 Red Cross volunteers and local technicians from the 34 target communities learnt about and discussed general construction and maintenance techniques for the water and sanitation systems. Managers from target communities as well as water and sanitation officers from local branch offices also attended. During the workshop, participants further examined and refined each design in detail and received technical manuals. These workshops were held in North Pyongan and South Pyongan provinces for the 30 ECHO-funded communities in early 2005, while the four Swedish Red Cross-funded communities undertook the training in South Hamgyong province during May 2005. In the workshops general construction and maintenance techniques for the water and sanitation systems were discussed, each design was examined in detail.

Ten one-day water and sanitation technical workshops were held in the field. These were specifically for training the community technicians in pump usage and management. They were held in October and November and were attended by pumphouse keepers and electricians from each community. Demonstrations to local technician informed them on correct installations, operations and maintenance procedures for the pumps and transformers.

Target communities received all the procured materials. Through savings from personnel costs (the water and sanitation coordinator departed in March 2005) and from spending less than anticipated on water and sanitation materials, it was possible to make a number of additional procurements. These procurements not only improved components or expanded existing water and sanitation facilities, it also allowed the national society to print more technical manuals and purchase two computers.

Monitoring of the distribution of materials and construction was carried out throughout the year. Following the introduction of new monitoring modalities, the national society water and sanitation department was given increased responsibility for the monitoring of delivered materials and progress. The national society technicians carried out the monitoring using the newly implemented system of monitoring checklists. The role of the Federation water and sanitation delegates focussed on monitoring the quality of national society technicians' monitoring activities and on training them to use the monitoring checklists properly. During the whole process of the project, the Federation delegates visited the sites to discuss technical problems, decide on changes in the project or develop management qualities.

New water supply systems were constructed in 30 ECHO-funded communities, were completed in 10 Swedish Red Cross-funded communities and are under construction in a further four. In 15 communities, 720 individual

household wastewater collection systems were constructed, while 400 household latrines with biogas digesters were constructed in 14 communities. Materials for another 400 have been procured and will be built come spring (around March) in DPRK.

Impact

In the target communities that now have operational water supply systems, women and children who until now had to carry water to their houses in buckets in all weather conditions, often from several hundred metres away, no longer have to do so. Now they open a tap in their kitchens and clean water flows out. The impact this has on people's lives is significant.

The quality of water being used by the people in the communities has vastly improved since the new operational water supply systems started running. In all the target communities, the water quality had previously been below acceptable standards and was contributing to poor health, especially in children. Now, piped water from the new sources is clean, uncontaminated, and conducive to a significant decrease in the incidence of waterborne diseases.

There has yet to be formal assessments on the impact on health of the beneficiaries. However, the national society water and sanitation team carried out an evaluation of an earlier phase of the project in December 2004. This evaluation found that in the target communities, the incidence of gastroenteritis, colitis and dysentery had been reduced by up to 50 per cent. It is therefore expected that the 2005 interventions will eventually produce similar results.

The construction of 400 latrines with biogas digesters has improved the sanitary conditions and provided a valuable source of fuel for cooking and lighting for 400 families. It has also decreased the demand for firewood, thereby helping to reduce the harmful effects of deforestation. Materials have been purchased for an additional 400 latrines with biogas digesters, using surplus funds. When these are constructed in spring (around March 2006), a total of 800 families would have benefited from the project.

Household wastewater collection systems have been constructed in 15 communities, serving 720 families. These improve sanitary conditions for the people and, more importantly, protected new water sources from contamination.

Constraints

In early November, the national society technicians monitoring the delivery of materials to the four Swedish Red Cross-funded communities in South Hamgyong province found that the polyethylene (PE) pipes from the contracted manufacturer were substandard. Subsequent investigations by Federation delegates revealed that the pipes purchased for the 30 ECHO-funded communities earlier in the year were made by the same manufacturer and of the same poor quality. Unfortunately, the national society technicians did not detect this, and the discovery was only made in late November 2005. After samples were sent for formal testing, the delegation and national society deemed that pipes used in 23 out of the 30 communities needed to be replaced to ensure the integrity of the system, which will be done in the coming months.

Throughout the year, field visits to the target communities by Federation delegates were restricted for different reasons. As a result, delegates spent only 68 days in the field, an average of 2.8 days per delegate per month, reducing visits to the 30 ECHO-funded communities. This limited the possibilities for sharing experience and to have more technical input in the field.

Under the new monitoring system, the national society technicians carried out monitoring of construction. Some weaknesses in the new system have been identified and will be improved for future programmes to avoid, for instance, variances and substandard quality/materials at different stages of construction. The national society water and sanitation technicians' lack of familiarity with the use of monitoring checklists and the importance of timely reporting led to their findings being inadequately and irregularly reported. Lessons learnt during this year's monitoring would be used to improve monitoring in 2006.

Some delays to procurement were experienced in the ECHO project due to communication difficulties between Korean suppliers and the external world, linked very much to the modes of communication familiar to both parties. This ultimately delayed the timeframe of the overall project.

Lessons learned

Federation and the national society should further enhance quality inspection of the materials in the tendering process as well as before shipment and after delivery of materials.

In order to ensure proper management of the overall programme, the national society's water and sanitation team, with the support of Federation water and sanitation officer and delegate, should further strengthen the monitoring and reporting systems of national society technicians by assigning them clear roles and responsibilities. Special attention should be given to train technicians on the newly introduced monitoring systems and tools, which should be upgraded continuously to better meet the changing situation. Field trips of the technicians should be monitored to ensure quality of monitoring practices, and national society and Federation water and sanitation members should hold regular joint meeting to discuss and solve issues raised during monitoring and programme implementation.

Expected result 2: Water and sanitation activities and hygiene promotion activities have been better integrated with other programmes in 40 *ri* and *dong* target communities.

Waterborne disease and hygiene promotion workshops were held in July and August 2005. They were organized by the water and sanitation department and jointly facilitated by delegates and staff from the health and water and sanitation departments. Six workshops were held, with a total of 206 participants from 27 communities in 21 counties and cities trained. Most of the participants were Red Cross health volunteers, but water and sanitation technicians, staff members from anti-epidemic centres and health officers also attended. Topics covered included management and control of water supply and wastewater collection systems, protection of water sources and hygiene and sanitation information. This process helped to further integrate the programmes run by the health and water and sanitation departments as well as provided the participants with valuable information and training methods for dissemination to the people in their communities.

The health and water and sanitation teams jointly developed the curriculum and methodology for the waterborne disease and hygiene promotion workshops. Flipcharts and booklets were developed and used in the workshops. They contain information on water and sanitation systems, protection of water sources, appropriate hygiene and sanitation, causes and prevention of waterborne diseases, and other hygiene-related information. Each participant was issued with a flipchart for further training of the people in their communities.

Impact

As each of the 206 participants at the workshops was trained to be a trainer themselves, and provided with teaching materials for further dissemination of information, the impact in the communities should be a significantly increased awareness of hygiene and waterborne disease prevention. This in turn will help reduce the incidence of hygiene-related and waterborne illnesses.

The process helped to further integrate the programmes being run by the health and water and sanitation departments.

Constraints

The difficulties associated with carrying out reliable baseline surveys in DPRK limit the extent to which the impact of the programme can be accurately measured.

Expected result 3: The capacity of the DPRK RCS to implement the water and sanitation programme has been further strengthened in relation to other relevant institution.

Four DPRK Red Cross water and sanitation personnel participated in a study tour in October 2005 to visit water and sanitation projects being implemented by the Federation and Red Cross national societies of Cambodia, Indonesia and China.

A DPRK RC water and sanitation desk officer participated in a 'Strategic Leadership and Management' workshop held in China in December 2005. All DPRK Red Cross water and sanitation technicians and management staff also participated in the sanitation review workshop facilitated by the sanitation review team in August 2005. In the meantime, Red Cross water and sanitation officers and volunteers participated in five three-day water and sanitation technical workshops.

Impact

The national society water and sanitation personnel who participated in the overseas study tour were given the opportunity to observe water and sanitation programmes being implemented in other countries in the region. This helped to broaden knowledge of both the management and the technicians on different possible approaches to water and sanitation deficiencies in similar contexts.

The Red Cross water and sanitation officers and volunteers who participated in the technical workshops learned about the construction and maintenance of sustainable water and sanitation systems using modern materials.

Constraints

The process of deciding which types of training and study tours are the most appropriate is still under development as well as designing a system for sharing learning with a larger group of DPRK RC colleagues upon return. Personal training and development programmes will be required in the future to identify which training courses or study tours would be of the greatest benefit to each team member.

Analysis of the Disaster Management Programme in 2005

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

Programme Objective: The DPRK Red Cross will have the disaster management capacity to provide quality services to the most vulnerable in a timely and efficient manner.

The disaster management programme has two main elements: the strengthening of the disaster response capacity at national level, including an emergency stock, and disaster preparedness and mitigation at regional, county and community level. Planned activities, as measured against the targets in the appeal remained reasonably well on track. Some of the activities were slightly delayed due to the seasonal floods in July and August 2005. A further slowing down was caused by the departure of the disaster management delegate in September, who could not be replaced in view of the government's decisions on humanitarian aid.

In view of the continuation of technical support, the disaster management delegate from the regional office in Beijing visited the DPRK RC from 22 to 27 November 2005 to discuss future cooperation and coordination mechanism within the regional disaster management framework.

Funding for the project from United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) ended in September 2005. Notwithstanding the positive outcome of an evaluation of the disaster management programme, a continuation of the funding could not be arranged timely in 2005. Fortunately, the Australian Red Cross Society became interested in the programme and contributed CHF 50,000 for the community-based disaster preparedness project (CBDP) for 2005, while the Danish Red Cross contributed CHF 125,000 to the appeal.

Achievements, Constraints and Lessons Learnt

Expected result 1: A disaster management structure has been built to enable the national society to play a key role in disaster response in the DPRK.

The National Disaster Preparedness Working Group (DPWG) meetings convened in January, April and July 2005. Meeting participants included the Flood Damage Rehabilitation Committee (FDRC) and the ministry of land and environment protection (MoLEP), DPRK Red Cross Society, representatives from the Federation as well as UN

agencies. The meetings introduced the Red Cross's disaster management plan for 2005 and its activities and reviewed the lessons learnt from the Ryongchon operation, providing an opportunity to share and discuss means of improving information sharing and coping mechanisms during future emergencies.

Provincial DPWG meetings were also held on a regular basis in North and South Pyongan, Chagang, Kangwon, South Hamgyong provinces and Kaesong and Anju cities. These meetings, which were attended by staff from the DPRK RC headquarters and the disaster management delegate, were an excellent and creative platform to explore joint measures to reduce risks and hazard, impact of possible floods during the rainy season, and to strengthen the coping mechanism for disaster response in the different areas.

Eight disaster management workshops at city/county level were conducted by the national society and the Federation delegation for volunteers, aiming at creating a more effective and efficient response to disasters and an effective issuing and distribution of pre-positioned relief items. 190 Red Cross volunteers from 108 *ri* (high-risk or flood-affected communities) in 28 counties of three provinces participated in workshops to improve their knowledge about disaster management and to improve their skills and quality of services to the community people. Please refer to annex for details on the workshops carried out.

In order to facilitate the integration of community-based disaster preparedness into the first aid service and health promotion, integration workshops were also conducted in Anju, Huichon and Hamhung cities for 65 trainers from 65 cities/counties in South Pyongan, Chagang and South Hamgyong provinces.

Reflecting on lessons learnt from the Ryongchon train explosion, the DPRK Red Cross established two pilot emergency rescue teams (ERT) in April. Twenty volunteers with some experience in search and rescue and first aid were selected to be team members. General principles, rules, roles and responsibilities of the ERT were developed by the national society, and procedures for responding to different types of disasters were also formulated in close cooperation with the ministry of people's security.

Flip charts and field disaster relief manuals were printed for disaster preparedness and response workshops at the local level, and disaster preparedness manuals were produced with reference to the ones used by the Vietnam and Philippine Red Cross societies. CD-ROMs containing an animated film about disasters in the DPRK, intended for raising public awareness, were produced and distributed to 64 counties in five provinces (North Pyongan, Chagang, South Pyongan, North Hwanghae and South Hamgyong provinces).

Five members from the DPRK Red Cross and the Federation delegation visited the Iranian Red Crescent Society in July 2005 to study their activities in disaster management and logistics, as well as the IRCS operations and structure. Of particular interest were the disaster management policies and legal basis, disaster relief procedures, training curriculums, and preparation of search and rescue units (SAR). Activities of SAR and the road safety teams organized by the IRCS captured the interest of the DPRK RC to further strengthen the national disaster response team (NDRT) and two pilot emergency rescue teams that will become operational in 2006.

Impact

The DPWG meetings have created links that allow for a better-coordinated disaster response mechanism for national disasters, while offering opportunities to advocate disaster preparedness and disaster management activities. However, when government announced in September its decision to close the Flood Damage Rehabilitation Committees – nationally and locally – by the end of 2005, the fate of DPWG became unclear. The DPRK RC consulted the government for the future functioning of DPWG at national and provincial level. The issue was raised in the cabinet and the proposal of the national society for the future of disaster coordination was received in a positive way. Further discussions will follow.

Disaster management training for volunteers with new training materials has shown results in preparedness and response to small-scale of disasters in their communities. However, poor communication at the community level are a main bottleneck, causing late arrival of disaster information at the higher level and resulting in lack of effective and timely response.

Expected result 2: Integrated community-based disaster preparedness and community-based first aid projects have been implemented in 28 *ri* by 2005.

The community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP) programme continued in 28 *ri* with the following activities:

- CBDP review workshop of the original 18 *ri* was conducted in January 2005 with representatives from the Federation and DPRK Red Cross headquarters. Thirty CBDP committee members participated and presented summaries of the year's work to facilitate learning from experiences and lessons to apply them in future.
- The DPRK Red Cross extended activities into an additional ten *ri* in South Hamyong province, one of the disaster-prone areas that was subjected to a severe typhoon in 2000 which affected 12,000 people. Ten *ri* were selected for the project based on the levels of vulnerability and capacity through field surveys made by local branches and the national society's headquarters together with the disaster management coordinator of the Federation's country delegation. An orientation workshop for newly selected CBDP *ri* was facilitated by the DPRK Red Cross and the Federation in March for 30 community leaders.
- All 28 *ri* formed CBDP committees charged with organizing and supervising disaster preparedness and first aid training, while supporting community mitigation work and response to unforeseen emergencies. All committees developed a disaster preparedness plan comprising disaster preparedness and risk reduction activities, as well as the training of community members. While identifying their vulnerability, hazards and capacities, the committees have worked out a disaster preparedness action plan with clearly-defined roles and responsibilities for the people concerned.
- With material support from the Federation, ten *ri* in South Hamgyong province reinforced embankments (2,880 metres) and adjusted waterways to mitigate their vulnerability to floods and mudslides during the rainy season. Altogether, about 20,200 community members and an approximately 2,800 families (9,200 people) have been mobilized to carry out these mitigation activities.
- Basic disaster management training for 4,900 community members, including Red Cross volunteers, has been conducted between March and September 2005. Additionally, about 14,900 community members from ten CBDP *ri* participated in separate simulation exercises on different scenarios.
- Review meetings with a field visit between CBDP *ri* were arranged to improve their roles and responsibilities in future work respectively, but also for the national society and the Federation to work out the future CBDP plan of action in an realistic and effective way.
- An annual review workshop for the new ten *ri* was organized in December 2005. Twenty members of CBDP communities and five staff from relevant city/county Red Cross branches participated in the workshop to review the progress made in the project and to improve the quality of their work.

Before the mitigation work



After the mitigation work



Impact:

CBDP is allowing communities to build up their own capacity to cope with disasters. During the implementation of the project, the society has observed that participants from the project communities have become increasingly creative and capable of defining risks, preparing for and mitigating possible disasters by engaging members of the local community, local authorities and the national society.

Expected result 3: Necessary material and human resources for timely and effective disaster response have been established.

Activities to meet the expected result are as follows:

- Monitoring of the disaster preparedness stocks in central and regional disaster preparedness warehouses was conducted on a regular basis and improvements to the warehousing were made in consultation with the Federation's logistics coordinator.
- A logistics management workshop was conducted in February 2005. Thirteen disaster preparedness warehouse managers attended the training. The national society's logistics department and the Federation logistic delegate facilitated the training.
- To reinforce the DPRK RC capacity to respond to recurring disasters (floods and landslides), the Federation procured additional disaster preparedness items. The relief items comprised of 1,500 cooking sets, 10,000 blankets, 2,000 twenty-liter water jerry cans and 600,000 water purification tablets.
- Following the July floods, the Federation launched a minor emergency appeal, with support from donors, to replenish the disaster preparedness items that were distributed to affected people. The appeal allowed for the release of CHF 345,000 from the DREF and facilitated replenishment stock. In addition, the Republic of Korea Red Cross supported the DPRK RC through the Federation with 3,000 emergency kits, while the Hong Kong Red Cross branch procured 500 kitchen sets for the operation. The Norwegian Red Cross also provided in-kind contributions of 4,000 quilts and 3,500 collapsible water containers.

Impact

Examples of the importance of pre-positioned relief items and the training for volunteers were visible in March and July 2005 when fires burned down the homes of 263 victims. Funding from the Federation's DREF for a flood relief operation made it possible to help 16,093 people affected by flash floods in South Pyongan province. The DPRK Red Cross' rapid response included providing first aid to the victims. The importance of having a sufficient level of pre-positioned disaster preparedness supplies has been acknowledged by the cabinet and local authorities in the affected areas.

Expected result 4: Micro-mitigation initiatives like reforestation have been implemented in high-risk areas to prevent and mitigate natural disasters and control risks posed by floods and landslides.

A tree-planting campaign by Red Cross volunteers and youth was organized by the national society in close cooperation with the Federation delegation in April and November 2005. The Federation and the national society provided tools such as picks, buckets, hand carriers and shovels, for tree planting. Up to 15,440 Red Cross volunteers and youth with technical workers from forestry stations participated in the campaign and 95,500 seedlings of Acacia, Pinus, larch and poplar trees were planted in areas threatened by erosion.

Equipment for a greenhouse for the central seedling nursery were procured, and with assistance from a team of Finnish experts, the installation of a green house in the central tree nursery was completed in August 2005. Three tractors have been distributed to Junghwa, Jongju seedling nursery (local) and a central seedling nursery in Pyongyang. All five nurseries successfully received 1.9 tonnes of seeds and water pipes for connecting pump houses and irrigation systems.

In April 2005, two Norwegian foresters visited five tree nurseries currently being supported by the reforestation project and observed the running of the irrigation system, the areas forested this spring and the areas to be forested in the future.

Two hundred flipcharts have been produced for distribution to nurseries and Red Cross branches for awareness education sessions prior to tree planting campaigns during the spring and autumn tree-planting season. Furthermore, two thousand tree-planting manuals and posters each have been published and printed with the support of Caritas, Hong Kong. The DPRK RC, in coordination with the ministry of land and environmental protection, has arranged the distribution of the manual to 188 nurseries.

Two Norwegian foresters who visited again in October 2005 conducted technical workshops on seedling production using the cutting method, and 125 nursery staff and worker benefited from these workshops.

While collecting and analyzing soil samples from the five nurseries, errors during the soil analysis led to inconclusive results regarding the use of fertilizer. This issue was discussed with two Norwegian foresters during

their visit to DPRK in April. All concerned agreed that the soil analysis should be resumed by the ministry of land and environmental protection in October and handed over to the DPRK RC.

The electrical supply appeared too unstable for the high-tech control system of the newly constructed greenhouse. The supplier of the greenhouse will visit the DPRK again to find proper solutions for this problem. Provisions are being made to guarantee sufficient water supply to the greenhouse. Despite the hard work to deliver seeds before the end of the sowing season, they arrived too late and the seeds have to be preserved until the next sowing season.

Impact

The tree-planting campaign organized by the DPRK RC was a good opportunity to raise public awareness on the importance of reforestation in high-risk areas where mountains have no remaining trees, encouraging participants as well as relevant agencies to participate in this activity. Technical support from the Norwegian experts ensured the nurseries increased their production of seedling and the involvement of the local tree expert has improved technical knowledge on all issues concerning trees, tree nursing and tree planting. Improved promotion material was produced and the new staff member had considerable input on the new handbook for nursery staff.

The output of five seedling nurseries has comparatively increased and the central seedling nursery could facilitate the production of around 700,000 seedlings this year. Seedlings produced in five nurseries were planted in the erosion-threatened mountains in spring and autumn this year and are growing well.

Analysis of the Organizational Development Programme in 2005

Overall Goal: The Red Cross Society of the DPRK becomes a well-functioning national society.

Objective: The organisational development efforts of the DPRK RCS support the implementation of “characteristics of a well-functioning national society” enhancing efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of service delivery at central and branch level.

The DPRK Red Cross organizational development programme took several significant steps forward in 2005. With support from the Swedish, Norwegian, Australian and British, Japanese Red Cross societies, the organizational development programme focused on developing the capacity of the DPRK RC from headquarters down to the branches. The DPRK Red Cross has prioritized efforts to become a well-functioning national society. In 2004, as a result of the three-year change process, the whole organization was restructured, clearly defining the roles and responsibility of the society's leadership and management. The society's constitution and policies were revised, and the national society's Development Plan 2010 was adopted, setting forth the organization's vision statement, strategic direction and four core areas.

Achievements, Constraints and Lessons Learnt

Expected result 1: Branches will increasingly have ownership of the development process through integration of community service programs and branch development and training.

The national society's human resource development working group, consisting of four branch leaders and three directors from headquarters, was formed after an extended national development organizational development committee meeting in May with co-facilitation from the Federation's Asia Pacific organizational development coordinator. The main responsibility of the group is to work on the overall revision of volunteer, staff and governance training curricula and manuals. This group reviews the draft national society volunteering policy.

Federation tools for training governance and staff were translated, and in mid-January, 48 city/county-level branch leaders in South Hwanghae province participated in the provincial governance workshop and tested the first draft of governance training curriculum.

Renovation of Kangwon provincial branch office was completed by the end of July 2005 and the South Pyongan provincial branch office's renovation will be completed in the first quarter of 2006. Based on needs assessments

on facilitating trainings in four provinces (South Pyongan, North Pyongan, Kangwon and South Hamgyong) in March-April, the first three provincial Red Cross training centres were selected for refurbishment in 2005. The assessments also identified the needs for branch office renovation of South Pyongan province, Kusong city (North Pyongan) and Danchon city (South Hamgyong). The Federation head of country delegation paid a visit to the Kaesong branch and discussed with the branch workers on the effective use of the training hall.

The 2005-2008 national society branch development plan drafting taskforce was formed in June, comprising four headquarters staff and three branch leaders. The taskforce was assigned to conduct needs assessments targeting all provincial branches and six county-level branches before going into drafting phase.

In addition, a monitoring and evaluation workshop facilitated by the Netherlands Red Cross regional programme manager took place in July 2005, with participation from 12 branch and headquarters staff. Three branch staff of North Hwanghae visited South Hamgyong branch and conducted a resource mobilization forum as well as a vulnerability and capacity assessment on Pujon county in late July.

A delegation of two branch representatives and two headquarters staff visited branches in the northeast part of China to exchange experiences and discuss cooperation. With support of Netherlands Red Cross and the Federation delegation, these two branches have drawn resource mobilization projects to implement from 2006.

The Federation volunteering policy and training materials for volunteer management was translated and distributed to provincial training centres for use in volunteer training courses. Language trainings have been conducted November-December 2005 for 30 headquarters staff and volunteers.

Expected result 2: The DPRK RCS has a sound system of financial management, budgeting, accounting, as well as motivated and effective resource mobilization activities that lead to sustainable programme at the community level.

National society representatives made several external visits in 2005 to exchange expertise and discuss their programmes. In September, the DPRK RC vice chairperson and deputy secretary-general participated in the leadership training in Geneva. The national society secretary-general toured the Nordic countries to discuss a number of organizational development issues with partner national societies, including legal support issue with the Danish Red Cross, human resource support from the Finnish Red Cross and branch twinning with the Swedish Red Cross.

The new management is looking for a possible change process of the national society's finance and administration mechanism, which was the most difficult part to implement during past years. The head of delegation and finance delegate in DPRK provided an introduction session for the DPRK RC finance management team in February in order to look for possibilities to further this part of organizational development.

With support of the delegation and Hong Kong branch of the Red Cross Society of China, research for a certified public accountant training course for national society finance staff was undertaken in August 2005. The head of the international department, the financial officer and logistics officer of the Federation delegation participated in the Mango financial management training for non-governmental organizations organized by the UK-based Oxford financial training institute in Bangkok. This is a first step towards restructuring the national society's financial management system, whereby a new financial unit will be developed, responsible for dealing with financial support from the Federation and bilateral donors in accordance to international standards. The head of the international department used this opportunity to discuss the future of the national society's financial management with the regional finance development delegate and "Mango" (finance software) facilitators.

The logistics and resource mobilization department drafted a draft national society resource mobilization strategy for 2005-2007. The draft was revised and enriched based on the review organizational development committee meeting in May 2005. The logistics and resource mobilization department organized a two-day national workshop in South Pyongan province on diversifying the financial resources for sustainable Red Cross services. Eleven provincial and city branch workers participated in the workshop, which was also an opportunity to brainstorm on further development on the national society's 2005-2007 resource mobilization strategy.

During the needs assessment, a number of resource mobilization initiatives in provincial and county branches were taken into consideration by the assessment team. In April 2005, a workshop for all disaster preparedness warehouse keepers was conducted by facilitation of the Federation logistics delegates and 15 participants attended.

Expected result 3: Internal and external communications capacity has strengthened to increase the visibility of the DPRK RCS and the movement as well as to promote humanitarian values.

The 25 participants from national mass media and legal institutions attended a World Red Cross Day event jointly organized by the Federation, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) delegation and national society on 5 May. This event was especially geared towards advocacy and the need to upgrade the legal status of the national society.

The assistant secretary-general of the Danish Red Cross visited DPRK in August 2005 to support a legal base strengthening project, meeting with the legislative unit in the Supreme People's Assembly (parliament). Meetings were arranged with three lawmakers who acknowledged the need to upgrade the legal status of the DPRK RC described in Cabinet Decree No. 101 in 1948.

The Model Red Cross law and Red Cross laws from China, Mongolia and Bulgaria were translated into Korean and sent to the legislative unit in the Supreme People's Assembly to be referred to in August. Red Cross laws and regulations on the protection and proper use of the emblem from different national societies, including those from Cambodia, Austria and Finland, were translated and handed over to legislative unit in the Supreme People's Assembly (parliament) as reference materials for law drafting in November 2005.

On 18 October 2005, celebration events in all of the provincial capitals on the foundation day of the DPRK Red Cross attracted media coverage. In Kaesong city, the city cable radio carried several articles on the devotion of Red Cross volunteers to humanitarian causes, who dedicated their lives during the 1996 flood. During the Federation president's visit to DPRK, all leading newspapers and the central television channel carried 14 articles and three video footages showcasing the humanitarian values of the Red Cross Movement. The 2004-2005 national society annual activity report was published and shared with the sister societies at the 15th General Assembly of the International Federation.

The Federation's regional information delegate visited in March on World Water Day and reviewed the communications plan for 2005.

In November, the communications department produced multimedia training and dissemination material on the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and introduced it to participants of a resource mobilization workshop held at the national level.

Constraints

Promoted to a higher position in March 2005, the organizational development programme officer was heavily engaged in many different tasks. A new officer could only fill his position in October, and training is needed for the new candidate.

In the first half of 2005, the implementation of organizational development activities fell behind as it began to tackle the intractable issues of financial management, resource mobilization, legal issues, branch development, the integration of organizational development and programming. The organizational development programme was therefore revised to be better adapted to the real situation and to enable discussions with donors for support. The 70-day nationwide campaign for rice transplanting and harvesting also affected the timely implementation of the programme.

The participation in the resource mobilization forum organized by the Federation in Netherlands in October 2005 had to be cancelled because of a change in the departure visa system in the DPRK.

Lessons learned

- Branch staff need to increasingly own the branch development process.
- The smooth implementation of the organizational development programme will require more skilled staff.
- Organizational development should play a central role in human resource development, including the training handbooks and volunteer management.
- The Strategic Review strongly advised to continue support to six pilot branches as “model” branches to better use the experience learned for other parts of the country. The original number of target branches for this year is therefore reduced and some resources will be used for supporting the initial six pilot branches.
- A separate unit of finance needs to be set up to deal with just the operation part.

Impact

The Strategic Review in April 2005 coincided with the visit of the AP organizational development coordinator. This ensured the inclusion of the organizational development element in the outcome of the review. The overall conclusion on the impact of the national society and Federation organizational development approach was highly positive, but it was strongly recommended to improve the impact indicators of the organizational development programme in order to better facilitate evaluations.

The regional organizational development coordinator concluded also that branches have gradually taken ownership on their development process through different trainings and exchange visits as well as improved working environment. The role of the national society organizational development committee is strengthened. The regional organizational development coordinator's report together with the final report of the strategic review team was valuable input for future actions.

The promotional activities have contributed to the awareness of the government on the role and responsibilities of the Red Cross in the DPRK. The DPRK lawmakers quickly understood the value of a Red Cross law and are now facilitating the preparation of the approval process fully. The promotional activities also facilitated the understanding of the government on the special position of the Red Cross when negotiating the continuation of a Federation delegation in Pyongyang.

A particularly large delegation of eight people – uncommon for the DPRK RC – was permitted to participate in the Federation's General Assembly and Council of Delegates.

Implementation and management in 2005

The position of the government on humanitarian aid caused great uncertainty within the Federation and national society on the future of the Federation delegation in the DPRK. At the beginning of September 2005, a consultation on the decision of the government took place with all of the main Red Cross partners in Copenhagen. The participants discussed a proposal for the Federation delegation presence in the DPRK, which possibly could match the requirements of the DPRK government. The proposal, which entailed a down scaling of permanent expatriate staff, the increase of trained professional local staff and increased support from the regional delegation in Beijing, was presented to the DPRK Red Cross. This proposal was further supported by a visit from the secretary-general of the Federation to the DPRK mission in Geneva and an official visit from the president of the Federation to the DPRK.

The government's approval to the proposal followed only in late January 2006. While awaiting this decision, no new activities could be developed and delegates who ended their contract in this period were not replaced. The field visits in December reduced to nearly none. Consequently, the Netherlands Red Cross requested for a suspension of its ECHO-funded water and sanitation programme.

A formal suspension was not requested from ECHO for the Danish Red Cross-supported distribution programme of basic kits. In November 2005, the DPRK RC confirmed permission to distribute the basic kits as the procurement procedure for the drugs started before the government announcements. The introduction of a new

monitoring system, with increased involvement of the national society, provided sufficient control on the distribution of the drugs.

Coordination and cooperation

The governmental policy on external aid and the imposed limitations for field visits by expatriates were influential factors affecting the management of the Federation delegation. Following the first request of the DPRK government in September 2004 to wind up humanitarian aid, to increase developmental activities and to reduce the presence of expatriates, the Federation delegation developed a new monitoring policy for its activities in cooperation with the national society. By involving the DPRK Red Cross in the monitoring activities, the monitoring coverage could expand with less involvement of delegates. The proposal for adjustments of the monitoring framework was discussed with all parties involved and adopted at the partnership meeting in Ulaanbaatar in May 2005. With the new approach, the number of delegates was reduced from eleven to nine.

A Strategic Review of the Federation operations in the DPRK enabled the discussion of existing programmes and their future in depth. The composition of the team (which included a representative of the DPRK Red Cross) and the quality of the members resulted in a report highly appreciated by all stakeholders, enabling the development of consistent and shared strategic directions for the future. The overall conclusions in the report supported the continuation of present programmes. However, the Strategic Review team noted that the programmes had become 'mechanistic' and out-phasing of the drug distribution should be considered as soon as government supplies improved. The review findings were used for the preparation of a document for the Country Agreement Strategy (CAS), which was shared with the Red Cross partner societies of the DPRK Red Cross for long-term planning of international cooperation.

The progress in the CAS process became seriously affected in the end of August 2005 by the reinforcement of the government's decision to halt all humanitarian activities in the country by 31 December and the abolishment of the Flood and Drought Relief Commission by the same date. The CAS meeting in September 2005 in Copenhagen expressed its concern about the consequences of the Government's decision and the lack of sufficient time to bridge the gap between relief and development activities. The partners and DPRK Red Cross discussed also minimal operational conditions for the Federation delegation within the new environment. The final recognition of the government of the special position of the Red Cross (not being NGO or UN) and its acceptance of the operational conditions was only obtained in January 2006. The uncertainty in the period between hampered the normal continuation of the Federation programme: planning of future activities was not possible and departing delegates could not be replaced. In December, field access for expatriates became extremely limited.

Advocacy and International Representation

All stakeholders presented a unified Red Cross position to the government. The Federation office in New York informed the inter Agency Committee, while participating national societies met with government delegations of the DPRK on official visits in the respective countries. In the meantime, the Federation secretary-general invited the DPRK ambassador for a meeting on the issues and the president of the International Federation visited the DPRK for talks with governmental officials. Within the DPRK, the Federation delegation actively participated in regular meetings with the different embassies, UN agencies, ICRC, ECHO and resident NGO's. At appropriate opportunities, the head of the delegation briefed visiting ambassadors from main donor countries. All partners were updated monthly on the latest developments through the CAS newsletter, which started in September 2005.

Operational Management

Notwithstanding the above, the DPRK Red Cross continued uninterrupted implementation of the Federation programme. In the second part of the year, the new monitoring procedures were gradually put in place. The activities were largely implemented as scheduled, with only the water and sanitation programme hampered in the end of the year by the delivery of inferior quality pipes. Total income and pledges received covered more than 95 per cent of the CHF 13.5 million budget. Expenditures remained within budget; the expenditure rate however slowed down in the last part of the year pending the uncertainty of delegation's future. This has resulted in a balance of CHF 2.7 million, which was brought forward and facilitated uninterrupted continuation of programmes in the first months of 2006 despite a lack of incoming pledges, attributed to the uncertainties surrounding the Federation delegation's future presence.

The number of delegates decreased from 11 at the beginning of the year to five at the end of 2005, with a further scheduled decrease to three permanent delegates in April 2006.

The logistics office worked efficiently and effectively. The presence of a delegate enabled the delegation to handle complicated issues in procurement, such as cooperating with the Netherlands Red Cross for the procurement of ECHO-funded materials. The long-term aim of the logistic office was to transfer logistics responsibilities to the national society. For this purpose, a logistics workshop was organized in February 2005. The delayed appointment of a new logistics director in the national society delayed the handover process.

Impact and future perspectives

The government measure to halt humanitarian aid has complicated the progress of the Federation programme in the DPRK. It has exacerbated the discrepancies between expectations of the government and donors. While the government no longer desires humanitarian aid, humanitarian aid remains for many donors the sole support channel. Where development aid requires more transparency, monitoring is felt to be intrusive in the DPRK. While the DPRK sees capacity building as the transfer of knowledge or resources furthering 'independency', globally capacity building focuses on strengthening partnerships and international relations.

Dealing with these discrepancies will be the challenge of the Federation in the years to come. The new structure, with increased professional local staff and support of the regional delegation, will be the way forward to build local capacities. The upcoming challenge of the DPRK Red Cross will be to recognize new vulnerabilities evolving in the changing DPRK society.

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

ANNEX: Disaster management workshops conducted at various levels in 2005

No	Period covered	Venue	No. of participants	Level with name of city/county/province covered
1	15~17 March	Jungsan county, South Pyongan Province	30	25 <i>ri</i> (communities) from 5 counties in South Pyongan province: Jungsan, Onchon, Taedong, Phyongwon
2	22~24 March	Hamhung city, South Hamgyong province	30	19 <i>ri</i> from 3 counties and one city in South Hamgyong province: Yonggwang, Sinhung, Hamju counties and Hamhung city
3	29~31 March	Phyongsong city, south Pyongan province	30	8 county/one city RC branches in South Pyongan province : Taedong, Phyongwon, Eunsan, Mundok, Sukchon, Chongnam Onchon, Jungsan counties and Phyongsong city
4	10~12 May	Hoichang county, South Pyongan province	20	9 <i>ri</i> from 4 counties in South Pyongan province: Hoichang, Yangdok, Sinyang, Songchon
5	17~19 May	Hamhung city, South Hamgyong province	20	10 <i>ri</i> from 3 counties in South Hamgyong province: Hungnam, Rakwon, Jongphyong
6	30 Aug. ~ 1 Sept.	Hyangsan county, North Pyongan province	20	15 <i>ri</i> in Hyangsan county in North Pyongan province
7	6~8 Sept.	Sinpo city, South Hamgyong province	20	15 <i>ri</i> in Sinpo city in South Hamgyong province
8	13~15 Sept	Ryongchon county, North Pyongan province	20	15 <i>ri</i> in Ryongchon county in North Pyongan province
Total No. of trained volunteers			190	

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DPR KOREA

Selected Parameters	
Year/Period	2005/1-2005/12
Appeal	M05AA059
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	12'338'731	868'770		307'280	31'668	13'546'449
B. Opening Balance	21'044	238'820		12'959	140'139	412'962
Income						
Cash contributions						
Australian Red Cross	3'490	56'228		4'870		64'587
British Red Cross		136'140		22'590		158'730
Caritas International		12'644				12'644
Danish Red Cross	1'373'681	125'000				1'498'681
Finnish Red Cross	85'380					85'380
German Red Cross	490'140					490'140
Hong Kong Red Cross		16'500				16'500
Irish Red Cross Society	3'362					3'362
Japanese Red Cross Society	122'268			104'432		226'699
Netherlands Red Cross	724'907				6'630	731'537
Norwegian Red Cross	806'238	180'410		31'950		1'018'598
Spanish Red Cross	40'500					40'500
Swedish Red Cross	467'298			88'585	4'957	560'840
C1. Cash contributions	4'117'264	526'922		252'426	11'587	4'908'199
Outstanding pledges (Revalued)						
Danish Red Cross	84'344					84'344
Finnish Red Cross	48'057					48'057
German Red Cross	61'240					61'240
Netherlands Red Cross	512'932					512'932
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	706'573					706'573
Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)						
Canadian Red Cross Society	80'000					80'000
Danish Red Cross	46'435					46'435
ECHO	0					0
Finnish Government	25'532					25'532
Japanese Red Cross Society	13'826					13'826
Norwegian Red Cross	9'259					9'259
C3. Reallocations (within appeal)	175'052					175'052
Inkind Goods & Transport						
Danish Red Cross	3'477'113					3'477'113
Finnish Red Cross	1'297'894					1'297'894
German Red Cross	756'390					756'390
Netherlands Red Cross	1'474'674					1'474'674
Norwegian Red Cross	876'390					876'390
C4. Inkind Goods & Transport	7'882'461					7'882'461
Inkind Personnel						
Australian Red Cross	74'400					74'400
Danish Red Cross	22'000					22'000
Finnish Red Cross	54'853					54'853
Netherlands Red Cross	52'800				102'000	154'800
Norwegian Red Cross	52'800					52'800
Swedish Red Cross					76'673	76'673
C5. Inkind Personnel	256'853				178'673	435'526
Other Income						
Miscellaneous Income					2'889	2'889
C6. Other Income					2'889	2'889
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	13'138'203	526'922		252'426	193'149	14'110'700

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D. Total Funding = B +C	13'159'247	765'742	265'385	333'288	14'523'662
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II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	21'044	238'820		12'959	140'139	412'962
C. Income	13'138'203	526'922		252'426	193'149	14'110'700
E. Expenditure	-10'709'873	-588'463		-165'241	-314'951	-11'778'527
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	2'449'374	177'279		100'145	18'337	2'745'135

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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)		12'338'731	868'770		307'280	31'668	13'546'449	
Supplies								
Shelter	18'000							18'000
Construction	68'000		70'343		13'151		83'494	-15'494
Clothing & textiles	228'000	341'990	65'306				407'295	-179'295
Seeds, Plants	20'000							20'000
Water & Sanitation	2'059'350	1'707'805	4'848				1'712'653	346'697
Medical & First Aid	6'746'300	5'768'933	1'369				5'770'302	975'998
Teaching Materials	192'452	65'328	29'665				94'993	97'459
Utensils & Tools	43'000		61'189				61'189	-18'189
Other Supplies & Services	223'250	241'086					241'086	-17'836
Total Supplies	9'598'352	8'125'142	232'719		13'151		8'371'012	1'227'340
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	13'000	-69'464	12'953				-56'510	69'510
Computers & Telecom	11'000							11'000
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment						1'536	1'536	-1'536
Others Machinery & Equipment	191'698		31'982				31'982	159'716
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	215'698	-69'464	44'936			1'536	-22'992	238'690
Transport & Storage								
Storage	152'074	11'200	1'352			19	12'570	139'504
Distribution & Monitoring		370'764	10'897				381'661	-381'661
Transport & Vehicle Costs	325'948	204'639	16'696		31'491	-364	252'462	73'486
Total Transport & Storage	478'022	586'603	28'944		31'491	-345	646'693	-168'670
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	1'180'690	76'699	52'992			94'345	224'037	956'653
Delegate Benefits	1	617'607	45'386			158'634	821'627	-821'626
Regionally Deployed Staff	6'000							6'000
National Staff	410'575	107'455	3'644		246	18'745	130'090	280'485
National Society Staff		212'431	33'862		11'940	4'613	262'846	-262'846
Consultants	49'000	44'916	1'230		23'727		69'873	-20'873
Total Personnel Expenditures	1'646'266	1'059'108	137'115		35'913	276'337	1'508'473	137'793
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	278'891	191'788	83'632		39'457	5'170	320'047	-41'156
Total Workshops & Training	278'891	191'788	83'632		39'457	5'170	320'047	-41'156
General Expenditure								
Travel	23'100	18'274	3'188		5'953	14'035	41'449	-18'349
Information & Public Relation	59'050	1'736	4'140		1'064	3'442	10'381	48'669
Office Costs	85'579	25'634	6'786		3'802	42'583	78'805	6'774
Communications	102'519	43'495	4'897		658	24'515	73'565	28'954
Professional Fees	60'000				8'070		8'070	51'930
Financial Charges	4'500	0				5'450	5'450	-950
Other General Expenses	113'953	71'878	3'855		2'022	-77'488	267	113'686
Total General Expenditure	448'701	161'017	22'866		21'568	12'537	217'988	230'713
Depreciation								
Depreciation		15'555					15'555	-15'555
Total Depreciation		15'555					15'555	-15'555
Program Support								
Program Support	880'519	640'125	38'250		10'741	19'717	708'832	171'687
Total Program Support	880'519	640'125	38'250		10'741	19'717	708'832	171'687
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions					12'919		12'919	-12'919
Total Operational Provisions					12'919		12'919	-12'919
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	13'546'449	10'709'873	588'463		165'241	314'951	11'778'527	1'767'922

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VARIANCE (C - D)	1'628'857	280'308	142'039	-283'282	1'767'922
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