

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

LEBANON

3 May 2006

In Brief

Appeal No. 05AA078; Annual Report; Period covered: January - December 2005

Appeal target: CHF 497,989 (USD 411,510 or EUR 318,760); Appeal coverage: 95 % (*Please click here to go directly to the attached Financial Report*).

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:

Lebanon Annual Appeal 2005. For details please see the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual05/05AA078.pdf

Lebanon Annual Appeal 2005 - Programme Update no.1. For details, please see the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual05/05AA07801.pdf

Lebanon Annual Appeal 2005 - Programme Update no.2. For details, please see the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual05/05AA07802.pdf

Annual Appeals 2005 for Middle East and North Africa region. For details please see the website at <http://www.ifrc.org/where/mena.asp>

Lebanon Annual Appeal 2006- 2007. For details, please see the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual06/MAALB001.pdf

Emergency Support for the Lebanese Red Cross Ambulance Services Emergency Appeal. For details, please see the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA006.pdf

Emergency Support for the Lebanese Red Cross Ambulance Services - Operations Update no.1. For details, please see the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA0601.pdf

Emergency Support for the Lebanese Red Cross Ambulance Services – Final Report. For details, please see the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA006final.pdf

For further information specifically related to this Annual Appeal please contact:

- Lebanese Red Cross, General Selim Layoun, President, redcross@dm.net.lb, phone +961 1 372802, fax +961 1 378207
- Beirut Delegation, Knut Kaspersen, Federation Representative, knut.kaspersen@ifrc.org, phone +961 1 365374, fax +961 1 365046, mobile +961 3 448700
- Secretariat Geneva, Evgeni Parfenov, Federation Regional Officer, MENA Department, evgeni.parfenov@ifrc.org; Phone + 41 22 730 4325; Fax 41 22 733 0395

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 183 countries.

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For more information please access the Federation website at: www.ifrc.org

Operational developments and Programme assessment

The situation in Lebanon throughout the year 2005 was influenced by the political turmoil. This was often linked to Syria's continued military presence within the country and the assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik al Hariri. Numerous journalists, politicians and governmental ministers were also targeted and major shopping districts and industrial areas were hit by several explosions. This situation led to massive popular demonstrations calling for the withdrawal of the Syrian troops and an investigation into the Hariri assassination. Eventually, the UN Security Council adopted resolution 1559 calling for Syria's withdrawal and disarmament of all militias in the country.

An estimated 1 million people attended Former Prime Minister Rafik al Hariri's memorial service on 14 March. During these demonstrations, the Lebanese Red Cross transported 92 people to hospitals and offered first aid to 1,147 people through the efforts of 682 volunteers.

Subsequent to these happenings, the government resigned on 28 February due and, after several failed attempts, a new government of national unity was finally appointed on 19 April to prepare for parliamentary elections during May/June. Syrian troops finally withdrew in April, in accordance with UNSC Resolution 1559.

On 12 December, Gebran Tueni, a Member of Parliament and editor of the daily newspaper An-Nahar, was assassinated. The government demanded that the international community increase the responsibilities of the United Nations (UN) investigation panel established after the Hariri assassination and to investigate all assassinations since the failed attempt to kill Marwan Hamade, one of the members of Parliament in late 2004.

The continuous political stand-off has negatively affected the Lebanese Red Cross' ability to implement its activities. More than 80 per cent of its income is derived from the government, which withheld funds for various reasons until October 2005.

The first objective of Federation support to the Lebanese Red Cross in 2005 was to provide continuous assistance in strengthening governance through an election process and review of the basic statutes to be followed up by training the new leaders in the society.

The second was to assess the current organizational structure and propose solutions and recommendations for reaching maximum levels of efficiency. The final objective was to assess the portfolio of programmes within the areas of first aid/health and disaster management.

Health and care

Overall Goal: To provide improved community based health services by strengthening preventive health and care programmes and capacities with a focus on disease prevention and health promotion.

Objective 1: Support the Lebanese Red Cross Society (LRCS) in developing a strategy for strengthening their preventive health and care programmes, reshape clinical services, review structures and training of staff and volunteers in line with the conclusions and recommendations of the health assessment.

Achievements:

The results of last year's health assessment were discussed during a meeting in April, attended by LRCS management and the Ministry of Health. The recommendations from this meeting confirmed the need for reforms towards primary health care, whilst maintaining a few special services in low-income areas. A committee was formed at this meeting to ensure proper follow-up of the recommendations and implement a pilot project in one or two centres. The committee consists of representatives of LRCS, the Ministry of Health and the Federation.

Another achievement is that psycho social support PSP/stress management is now integrated into training for first aid volunteers. Moreover, a group of trainers from the Lebanese Red Cross Youth has continued to expand its HIV/AIDS & STI awareness programme. The targeted groups are predominantly teenagers and university students. The training focuses on peer education, addressing issues such as life skills to withstand popular pressure. In addition, a HIV/AIDS campaign was launched on 1 December 2004 and continued until mid January. The primary focus of the campaign was to reduce stigma and discrimination. The methods used varied from range of discussion groups, distribution of leaflets, concerts, a theatre play and finally a 'Run against AIDS'.

Objective 2: Primary health care and social services throughout the country are consolidated and expanded with a shift in emphasis from curative interventions to community based health education and prevention activities coupled with further integration of youth volunteers into health and social services.

Achievements:

A campaign called "*Speak out*" featuring a board used in the HIV/AIDS forum of the LRCS Youth Club in the American University of Beirut received broad coverage in the media, as well as reaching thousands of students throughout Lebanon.

Impact:

The results of the health assessment and the follow-up set out a new direction for LRCS, with potential for improved impact and renewed cooperation with the Ministry of Health. The talks following the assessment also led to a more thorough discussion on coordination and planning in LRCS. In addition, first aid volunteers were able to provide basic counselling support to victims.

The LRCS' HIV/AIDS programme has successfully addressed the problem of stigma and discrimination in Lebanon and is seen by the government as the main partner in HIV/AIDS awareness among university students. The Youth to Youth programme has also prompted other organizations to use the LRCS as a source of advice and partnership. Notably, UNHCR recently asked the LRCS to offer training on HIV/AIDS and STIs to refugees in Lebanon. Up to the present time, the LRCS Youth department is still working closely with the National AIDS Programme and other NGOs in order to develop the services offered to Youth.

Constraints:

The political situation in Lebanon affected the financial situation of the LRCS, causing further delays in the implementation of the recommendations from the health assessment meeting and in the implementation of the Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA). This resulted in a lack of coordination between the LRCS departments working on HIV/AIDS and complete dependency on outside funding, most notably the Federation.

Lessons Learned:

The society should ensure adequate coordination with other health care providers in the country.

Approach for 2006:

In line with *Strategy 2010* and the National Society's health policy, Federation assistance will also focus on human resource development, including volunteer recruitment, training and management. On the programme level, priority will be given to activities targeting the most vulnerable segments of the population, particularly women and children.

Disaster Management

Overall Goal: Strengthened internal and external cooperation and coordination mechanisms that enable the LRCS to provide effective disaster response and preparedness.

Objective: The LRCS position as the key humanitarian actor in disaster management is reinforced through effective disaster response, preparedness and mitigation aimed at preventing and alleviating the suffering of vulnerable communities.

Lebanon Annual Appeal 2005; Appeal No. 05AA078; Annual Report

Achievements:

As a result of the ambulance assessment, accomplished in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the LRCS prepared a plan of action to improve the maintenance and purchasing procedures of the first aid teams' vehicles fleet. This plan of action has yet to be presented to potential donors who would be asked to provide funds so implementation could go ahead.

The VCA process has been approved by the governance and launched in September 2005, and two employees have been recruited and trained to assist the LRCS in this task. In addition, the National Intervention Team is due to meet during the first quarter of 2006 to form the different task forces needed during a disaster.

Impact:

The LRCS was able to take decisions based on clear recommendations in the ambulance assessment. The VCA process, which started in October 2005, was delayed due to internal disagreements on the process; however, a final plan of action is to be presented in April 2006.

Constraints :

Because of the political turmoil in the country, there was severe shortage of funds in the LRCS. To avoid similar future financial problems, total dependency on government funds for First Aid services needs to be addressed as well as the coordination and cooperation between members of the Disaster Management Unit. These should be addressed and clarified to enable efficient and coherent work between the different concerned parties.

Lessons Learned:

It is essential and urgent to start the VCA programme in the LRCS. By finding solutions to vulnerabilities and stressing capacities, a better way of facing the political and economical crisis in the future will be found.

Approach for 2006:

Federation will assist the LRCS to develop a true budget and plan for sustainable fleet renewal. The assessment recommended a maximum fleet of 150 ambulances and a 10-year renewal plan with 12 new ambulances acquired per year. There is also a need for improved protective gear for volunteers, as well as specialized equipment for rescue teams operating in areas with difficult access.

The extended DM programme will have a participatory approach involving local communities in planning community based preparedness activities, such as risk reduction and awareness programmes.

Organisational development

Overall Goal: A well functioning and adequately resourced Lebanese Red Cross Society with sufficient governance and management capacity to ensure focused and responsive programmes addressing the needs of the most vulnerable people in Lebanon.

Programme Objective:

Service delivery of the LRCS is increased and improved through strengthening of its foundation and capacity.

Achievements:

The LRCS held an extraordinary general assembly on 25 February to amend its internal regulations to allow the First Aid and youth volunteers' direct representation in the General Assembly and the Central Committee of the LRCS. The election of Youth and First Aid representatives in the General Assembly and the Central committee was accomplished in September 2005.

Thus, a governance training manual, for all newly elected members of the General Assembly and the Central Committee, has been prepared. A Training of Trainers on governance and management was organized in August 2005, with a total of 15 trainers, from the different departments, participated in the workshop. They will facilitate the governance and management training, organized by the Internal Affairs Department (IAD), for General Assembly members. Three training workshops on governance and management, for General Assembly members, took place during October and November.

Lebanon Annual Appeal 2005; Appeal No. 05AA078; Annual Report

The annual youth congress was organized in early February. Recruiting and retaining volunteers was the main topic on the agenda. Consequently, a website for the youth department has been established to improve internal communication (with other departments and within the youth department) as well as external communication with other stakeholders.

The elections of the members of the local branches committees, General Assembly, central and executive committees are to be held in March - April 2006. For the first time in 30 years, the ordinary General Assembly of the LRCS met on 6 December 2005, where they voted on the plan of action of 2006, with focus on continuing the election process, revising the statutes, and developing internal regulations.

Impact:

Youth volunteers in the First Aid and Youth departments are now more involved in the decision making of the National Society and they participated in the first General Assembly for the LRCS in 30 years. *All together now: Training session to develop volunteers' capacities.* After the participation of four volunteers from the Lebanese Red Cross at a volunteer management meeting in Kuala Lumpur, an initiative for developing a LRCS volunteering policy will start in the second half of the year to develop the human resources system for volunteers.

Additionally, a training workshop for the administrative body of the Youth department, to support Youth local branches, took place in late May as recommended during the Annual Youth Congress. The governance and management training took place in October- November 2005 and it was very well perceived from the local branches that asked the IAD to organize similar trainings for all the members and volunteers of local branches.

Constraints:

All these events led to funding shortage and political instability. As a consequence the time that was consumed for the election process left the IAD with very little time to organize training for the members of the governance, General Assembly and members of local branches committees. The internal disagreement on procedures delayed the election process for a long period.

Lessons Learnt:

It is not easy to implement new governance procedures in an association where leaders insist on staying in their leadership positions and refuse any change or improvement.

Approach for 2006:

The Federation will support the LRCS in establishing a web-page in 2006 by building on the youth web-site. A structure and content layout has already been developed.

To ensure a common approach and consistency in capacity building work with the LRCS, detailed planning and the implementation of organisational development support to the National Society will take into account the need for continuing harmonization with the ICRC.

As the closing balance of CHF 80,897 is due to the late arrival of funding, this amount will be used in order to implement new projects in early 2006.

The financial report is attached below. Please click here to return to the title page and contact information

Selected Parameters	
Year/Period	2005/01-2005/9998
Appeal	M05AA078
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	96'920	42'781		358'289		497'989
B. Opening Balance	432	139		2'295		2'865
Income						
Cash contributions						
British Red Cross	51'678			32'795		84'473
French Red Cross		3'159				3'159
Norwegian Red Cross	64'444	31'885		203'980		300'309
C1. Cash contributions	116'121	35'044		236'776		387'941
Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)						
Ecuadorian Red Cross				6'740		6'740
Netherlands Red Cross				539		539
C3. Reallocations (within appeal)				7'279		7'279
Inkind Personnel						
Norwegian Red Cross				74'400		74'400
C5. Inkind Personnel				74'400		74'400
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	116'121	35'044		318'455		469'621
D. Total Funding = B + C	116'553	35'183		320'750		472'486

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	432	139		2'295		2'865
C. Income	116'121	35'044		318'455		469'621
E. Expenditure	-75'589	-30'583		-285'417		-391'589
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	40'965	4'600		35'332		80'897

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

LEBANON

Selected Parameters	
Year/Period	2005/01-2005/9998
Appeal	M05AA078
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)		96'920	42'781		358'289		497'989	
Supplies								
Teaching Materials	2'000							2'000
Total Supplies	2'000							2'000
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom		-509	2'804				2'295	-2'295
Office/Household Furniture & Ex			1'500		2'998		4'497	-4'497
Total Land, vehicles & equipme		-509	4'304		2'998		6'792	-6'792
Transport & Storage								
Transport & Vehicle Costs	29'680	1'815	7'353		15'309		24'477	5'203
Total Transport & Storage	29'680	1'815	7'353		15'309		24'477	5'203
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	102'000							102'000
Delegate Benefits	40'600				126'621		126'621	-86'021
National Staff	24'240	999	4'243		26'452		31'694	-7'454
National Society Staff			3'385		3'256		6'641	-6'641
Consultants	10'000							10'000
Total Personnel Expenditures	176'840	999	7'628		156'329		164'956	11'884
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	168'355	-3'318	1'190		5'637		3'510	164'845
Total Workshops & Training	168'355	-3'318	1'190		5'637		3'510	164'845
General Expenditure								
Travel	8'000	920	1'947		14'373		17'240	-9'240
Information & Public Relation	35'945	-226	1'797		1'562		3'133	32'812
Office Costs	17'280	-2'401	2'649		5'976		6'224	11'056
Communications	14'880	44	500		25'860		26'404	-11'524
Professional Fees	11'000				6'757		6'757	4'243
Financial Charges		1'853	1'226		-9'972		-6'893	6'893
Other General Expenses	1'640				108		108	1'532
Total General Expenditure	88'745	189	8'119		44'665		52'973	35'772
Federation Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societi		71'500			42'279		113'779	-113'779
Total Federation Contributions & T		71'500			42'279		113'779	-113'779
Program Support								
Program Support	32'369	4'913	1'988		18'238		25'139	7'230
Total Program Support	32'369	4'913	1'988		18'238		25'139	7'230
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions					-37		-37	37
Total Operational Provisions					-37		-37	37
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	497'989	75'589	30'583		285'417		391'589	106'401
VARIANCE (C - D)		21'331	12'198		72'871		106'401	