

Appeal 2006-2007



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

FedNet



Sharing global knowledge
Partageons nos connaissances
Compartamos nuestros conocimientos
مشاطرة المعرفة العالمية

Appeal no. AA00009

This appeal seeks a total of CHF 1,280,000¹ to fund programmes and activities to be implemented in 2006 and 2007. These programmes are aligned with the International Federation's Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross and Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

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The International Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people. The Federation is the world's largest humanitarian organization, and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries. All international assistance to support vulnerable communities seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response, according to the SPHERE Project.

[Click here to access the detailed budget summary.](#)

	2006-2007 (in CHF)	
FedNet	2006	645,000
	2007	635,000
Total	1,280,000	

Context

Since the very early days of the World Wide Web it has been possible to protect Web content by requiring the user to supply a username and password, but such was the early success of entirely open web sites that the potential of this technology for communicating information in specific communities was only gradually realised. In recent years first "intranets" (web sites serving users at a single location) and then "extranets" (serving a particular community of users, no matter where they are, using the Internet) have become increasingly important, and are now

¹ USD 974,810 or EUR 831,559

widely used in organizations and the corporate sector to communicate with and between staff, as well as between companies and their clients and suppliers. An extranet allows an organization to communicate with staff wherever they might be, ensuring they have access to current versions of key documents, keeping them apprised of organizational development and change, enabling controlled access to information from other information technology (IT) systems and providing a channel both for feedback to management and for more efficient lateral communication.

The International Federation adopted Internet technologies relatively early; a Gopher server (a predecessor of the Web) was set up in 1994 to distribute appeals and situation reports (as programme updates were then known). This was replaced by a Web site in 1995, which has become a central pillar of the Federation's communications. The benefits have been considerable, in terms both of cost and of efficiency in distributing information, and more importantly in transparency and public awareness of the Federation's role. The Federation's web site is now a widely respected source of information, delivering between one and two million pages a month.

In parallel with the public site, an intranet was created to distribute internal documentation and provide access to Federation IT systems such as financial systems, directories and databases. This was welcomed by Federation Secretariat staff in Geneva, and was used successfully for several years; however it did not permit access to travelling or delegation staff, or to national society staff.

The demand for a private space on the Web, in which a group working on a particular project or within a particular field can share information, has arisen with increasing frequency in the Federation in recent years. With the tools available (the public web site and the intranet) this demand could not be met. In some cases this has led to these groups creating their own small extranet systems, which proliferated until by 2003 they covered between them such diverse subjects as disaster management, financial systems access for delegations and separately for national societies, organisational development, first aid, strategic planning, Governing Board meetings, etc. These systems were inconsistent in terms of presentation, in some cases were based on insecure technology, and could not be interlinked. Although they were meeting a real need they were doing so in an unsustainable way, fragmenting information and user communities, failing to meet production standards appropriate for the Federation, and collectively becoming unmanageable.

Background and lessons to date

“Strategy 2010” calls for “increased availability of information ... (sub)regionally and globally”²; and the “Change Strategy” identifies the role of the Secretariat headquarters in Geneva in the creation of generic tools for communication and knowledge management, in particular “knowledge flows from national societies to Secretariat headquarters and vice versa” and “knowledge sharing across regions”³. In line with this, and to meet the demonstrated need for this type of information system in a sustainable manner, the Secretariat initiated a project to create a single unified extranet to serve the Federation (FedNet, <http://fednet.ifrc.org>).

Officially launched at the Federation's General Assembly and at the International Conference in 2003, FedNet allows national societies and their Secretariat to capture, share and discuss learning about strengthening capacities, organisational development and disaster management systems from around the world.

In developing the basic structure of FedNet, five major Secretariat applications were integrated into the FedNet system. To date, over one hundred editors have been trained. FedNet has entirely replaced the Geneva intranet and various pre-existing extranets, providing access to a wider range of information not only to Geneva staff but to all seventy regional and country delegations and increasingly to national society leadership and staff. Since the launch the technical platform of FedNet has been strengthened, and tools have been put in place to support a rapidly growing user base. The range of information continues to grow, with secretariat departments increasingly staying in touch with their contacts via their pages on FedNet and some early experiments by national societies in coordinating activities and networks using FedNet. The number of users continues to grow rapidly; at the end of 2005 over 4,000 national society personnel were registered.

The next two years will see the Federation Secretariat build on the foundation that is now established; training information providers in national societies and delegations to share their information on FedNet, integrating a wider

² Strategy 2010, p.24

³ Strengthening National Societies and delivering a more effective service. A change Strategy for the Secretariat. p.34

range of Federation information systems into FedNet to make them available globally, ensuring the management systems are in place to allow the sharing of information, and broadening and consolidating the range of information available. FedNet is well positioned to become a key support for knowledge sharing in the Federation.

FedNet Objective: A universally accessible extranet system supports the information and communication needs of all components of the Federation.

Indicators⁴:

- Page retrievals exceed 200,000/month at end 2006 and 500,000/month at end 2008 (Oct. 2005 figure: 110,000).
- Users active on FedNet exceed 3,000 at end 2006 and 6,000 at end 2008.
- Number of pages on FedNet exceeds 5,000 at end 2006 and 7,000 at end 2008.

Plan of Action Objectives

1. Consolidate and extend the capabilities of FedNet.

FedNet is established on a stable and scalable IT platform and routine operations and administration are assured. Information presentation is of a consistently high and improving standard, and additional functionality is made available in response to the needs of users and information managers.

Indicator: Page retrievals exceed 200,000/month at end 2006, and 500,000/month at end 2008.

Activities planned:

- Maintain operations at the current level by resolving arising technical issues; assuring production standards and quality control, including templates and style guide; maintenance of site structure and navigation pages.
- Carry out daily administration and support by: managing user accounts and groups, supporting users and editors, continuing editor training in Geneva, and responding to requests for assistance and information.
- FedNet system development by: developing tools to reduce administrative load; developing ad hoc templates and databases to support specific requirements; integrate other Federation systems as they become available.
- FedNet application development by: replacing discussion forums system; implementing networking tools; integrating mailing list systems; applications in support of regionalisation; implementing other FedNet applications as required.

2. Train and equip Red Cross and Red Crescent staff worldwide to share their information on FedNet.

A worldwide network of information providers based in national societies, Federation secretariat and delegations is in place to feed information into FedNet and provide FedNet access to their own constituencies.

Indicator: Number of pages on FedNet exceeds 5,000 at end 2006, and 7,000 at end 2008.

Activities planned:

- Create resources to support editors, user managers and trainers by: creating a standard training package; creating a trainers' support area in FedNet.
- Identify and train trainers and FedNet focal points (will be responsible for editor training and local user administration) in regional delegations and nearby national societies for 12 select national societies; 4 pilot regional delegations; all remaining regional delegations.
- Continued training in regions to cover staff turnover and new requirements.

3. Extend the scope and depth of content in FedNet.

Information is available on FedNet covering a wide range of Red Cross and Red Crescent activities, in all official languages. The information content of FedNet develops in line with increasing demands from users, and is structured and presented to maximize ease of use.

⁴ Additional indicators will be introduced in 2006 as part of task 5.3 outputs

Indicator: Number of pages on FedNet exceeds 5,000 at end 2006, and 7,000 at end 2008.

Activities planned:

- Revise and develop the structure of FedNet in response to requirements and user feedback.
- Migrate other Red Cross and Red Crescent extranets into FedNet.
- Develop and support a network of focal points in departments to extend departmental knowledge sharing on FedNet.
- Develop new information areas in all official languages to ensure comprehensive coverage of Red Cross and Red Crescent activities.

4. Promote understanding and use of FedNet in the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The potential of FedNet is understood at all levels within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement; FedNet is used to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the widest possible range of Red Cross and Red Crescent activities and to strengthen the sense of common identity and cooperation in the organization.

Indicator: Users active on FedNet exceed 3,000 at end 2006, and 6,000 at end 2008.

Activities planned:

- Communicate with all sectors of the Movement about FedNet through a systematic program of promotion online and at key meetings in Geneva and regions.
- Integrate FedNet into national society and Federation activities and maintain alignment with global objectives by: establishing an editorial board, liaising with national society and Federation secretariat management.
- Develop and promote use of FedNet throughout the Red cross and Red Crescent Movement – identify and develop target user groups; publish case studies.
- Consult users and capture their input through a user needs analysis.
- Create an online project team with participants from all sectors to contribute to FedNet's development.

5. Manage the development of FedNet.

FedNet develops in a sustainable manner both technically and financially in response to the needs and objectives of national societies and the Federation secretariat and delegations.

Indicator: To be determined in 2006 as part of task 5 outputs.

Activities planned:

- Create and maintain the development plan.
- Maintain financing at a level to meet project objectives.
- Evaluate impact of FedNet by identifying a more advanced set of indicators and implement mechanisms to capture them.
- Report on project progress.
- Manage implementation team consisting of one senior officer and two officers (one for user community development, the second for Technical development).

[Please refer to the appeal budget below; click here to return to the title page and contact details](#)

BUDGET 2006

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.: MAA00009

Name: FedNet: Sharing Global Knowledge

PROGRAMME:

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	Emergency	Total
	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Shelter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clothing & Textiles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seeds & Plants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water & Sanitation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical & First Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teaching Materials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Utensils & tools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Supplies & Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers & Telecom	0	0	0	0	13,500	0	13,500
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND, VEHICLES & EQUIPMEN	0	0	0	0	13,500	0	13,500
Storage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Distribution & Monitoring	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transport & Vehicles cost	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRANSPORT & STORAGE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
International Staff	0	0	0	0	434,000	0	434,000
Regionally Deployed Staff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
National staff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
National Society Staff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Consultants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PERSONNEL	0	0	0	0	434,000	0	434,000
Workshops & Training	0	0	0	0	12,250	0	12,250
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING	0	0	0	0	12,250	0	12,250
Travel & related expenses	0	0	0	0	49,200	0	49,200
Information & Public Rela	0	0	0	0	7,280	0	7,280
Office Running Costs	0	0	0	0	19,800	0	19,800
Communication Costs	0	0	0	0	67,590	0	67,590
Professional Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other General Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GENERAL EXPENDITURE	0	0	0	0	143,870	0	143,870
Asset Depreciation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DEPRECIATION	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Contributions & Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRIBUTIONS & TRANSFERS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Programme Support	0	0	0	0	41,962	0	41,962
PROGRAMME SUPPORT	0	0	0	0	41,962	0	41,962
TOTAL BUDGET:	0	0	0	0	645,582	0	645,582

BUDGET 2007

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.: MAA00009

Name: FedNet: Sharing Global Knowledge

PROGRAMME:

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	Emergency	Total
	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Shelter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clothing & Textiles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seeds & Plants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water & Sanitation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical & First Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teaching Materials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Utensils & tools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Supplies & Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers & Telecom	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND, VEHICLES & EQUIPMEN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Storage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Distribution & Monitoring	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transport & Vehicles cost	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRANSPORT & STORAGE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
International Staff	0	0	0	0	434,000	0	434,000
Regionally Deployed Staff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
National staff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
National Society Staff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Consultants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PERSONNEL	0	0	0	0	434,000	0	434,000
Workshops & Training	0	0	0	0	17,250	0	17,250
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING	0	0	0	0	17,250	0	17,250
Travel & related expenses	0	0	0	0	69,700	0	69,700
Information & Public Rela	0	0	0	0	2,520	0	2,520
Office Running Costs	0	0	0	0	19,800	0	19,800
Communication Costs	0	0	0	0	51,290	0	51,290
Professional Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other General Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GENERAL EXPENDITURE	0	0	0	0	143,310	0	143,310
Asset Depreciation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DEPRECIATION	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Contributions & Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRIBUTIONS & TRANSFERS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Programme Support	0	0	0	0	41,333	0	41,333
PROGRAMME SUPPORT	0	0	0	0	41,333	0	41,333
TOTAL BUDGET:	0	0	0	0	635,893	0	635,893