EMERGENCY APPEAL

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

Appeal no: 24/00
19 September, 2000

RUSSIAN FEDERATION: SEVERE POVERTY IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES

THIS APPEAL SEEKS CHF 17,617,400 IN CASH, KIND AND SERVICES TO ASSIST 209,000 BENEFICIARIES FOR 12 MONTHS

The Situation

Russia continues to suffer through a period of chronic economic dislocation and social unrest. One third of the population lives on less than a dollar a day; old and new virulent diseases are contributing to a dramatic decline in the country's population which fell by almost half a million in the first half of 2000. The medical system is non-existent in many areas, and Russia has been hit by numerous natural disasters ranging from earthquakes in Sakhalin to floods in Yakutia. Additionally, the conflict in Chechnya and incidents in Moscow and other cities has meant an increased emphasis on security issues, with a consequent falloff in the attention devoted to the most vulnerable.

For the last three years, the Russian Red Cross (RRC), supported by the Federation, has implemented several large-scale humanitarian programmes across Russia, providing humanitarian assistance to 5 million of Russia's most vulnerable citizens. These programes include: appeal 30/98 to assist 1,631,500 beneficiaries during the winter in Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine and the Russian Federation; appeal 05/1999 covering critically isolated communities in Russia (Chukotka, Kamchatka, and Magadan) primarily intended to alleviate the impact of cold, malnutrition, disease, stress, and lack of medical care to 82,000 indigenous people; and appeal 8/99 responding to TB/HIV/AIDS/STDs in Belarus, Moldova, Russia, and Ukraine. The previous winter appeals were designed as broad-spectrum, emergency aid programmes intended to deliver assistance to the most vulnerable through the long, cold winter months. The challenge has been immense, but by mounting this response the Federation and RRC have gained valuable experience and lessons about the type of aid needed, and the timing of such aid. Local Red Cross

branches returned detailed questionnaires and monitoring reports. Despite working within an infrastructure which was poor even in Soviet times and is now almost non existent, results have been impressive.

This Appeal is different. Concentrating almost exclusively on Russia's most vulnerable and critically isolated Northern Territories and far north-east -- Nenetsk AO, Taimyr AO, Yakutia Republic (Arctic regions only), Magadan, Kamchatka (including Koriak), Chukotka, and the Tuva Republic (included because it is the worst affected republic) where the children and impoverished communities have absolutely minimal coping mechanisms, the RRC and Federation aim to alleviate the suffering and restore a measure of dignity to 209,000 beneficiaries while assisting the RRC to develop to its full potential. This appeal also reflects two core areas of Strategy 2010 (Health and Care in the Community and Disaster Response) by concentrating on support to health centres and directly to families through the establishment of community canteens.

A particularly valuable element of the programme is the community canteen facilities which will serve as the primary source for the delivery of assistance. From past experience and lessons learned, the Federation considers canteens to be an effective way of developing active community centres which provide a platform for micro economic projects, thereby drawing communities closer together. In the process, the Red Cross will be promoted as a provider of community services, raising and improving its profile.

The Needs

Immediate Needs •

The following table summarises the types of assistance and the number of beneficiaries:

Food items for individuals	
Bulk Food (beneficiaries)	64,500
Community Canteens	19,100
Seeds/Garden Kits	48,000
Non-food items for individuals	
Hygiene Parcels	64,500 ***(two distributions to this group of beneficiaries***)
Clothing packs (children)	12,000
Clothing packs (adults)	8,500
Fishing Nets	8,000
Food/Non-food items for institutions	
Bulk Food (supplementary)	18,500
Medical/Health Care	
FAP Kits (health Institutions	718
First Aid Kits (families)	13,500
Mother/Baby Kit	17,000

*** Please note that 85% of beneficiaries served in communal canteens will be children, with 15% to other categories.*

For a more detailed summary of quantities to be delivered to the specific areas, please see the attached table (annex 2).

The Proposed Operation

Objectives, Activities Planned, and Expected Results •

Goal: By the end of the programme, one year after the delivery of assistance, there will have been a significant improvement in the health and overall situation of the most vulnerable population in these areas. More specifically, to achieve this the RRC and Federation aim to:

Objective 1: Improve the level of food security and nutrition of children in remote areas, urban centres and institutions: To achieve this, three activities will be undertaken: (1) community canteens in urban and rural centres will be established and supported to be able to provide a substantial hot meal every other day to 16,235 vulnerable children and 2,865 other beneficiaries (a total of 19,100) in towns and remote settlements; (2) supplementary bulk food will be delivered to 64,500 beneficiaries in the most vulnerable isolated rural communities; (3) supplementary food will be delivered to 18,500 most vulnerable children staying in children's institutions. Expected results for this objective are that the overall nutrition, health, and quality of life will have improved and the level of vulnerability lowered for over 100,000 beneficiaries. It is also expected that children will be less susceptible to disease as a result of the interventions.

Objective 2: Enable the most vulnerable children to remain warm, active, more healthy and able to attend school: Warm clothing sets will be distributed to 12,000 vulnerable children in remote settlements. By providing suitable winter clothing, the quality of life and health will be expected to improve for 12,000 children.

Objective 3: Encourage beneficiaries to become more self sufficient: Two activities will be undertaken: (1) distribution of seeds and fertiliser to 48,000 beneficiaries encouraging self sufficiency and improving nutritional intake; (2) fishing nets will be given to 2,000 heads of households, a total of 8,000 beneficiaries, encouraging self-sufficiency and improving nutritional intake. The expected result is that 48,000 beneficiaries will be able to grow supplementary food, 8,000 beneficiaries will supplement their diet with fish, and income generation opportunities will be explored.

Objective 4: Improve the health and welfare of infants and families, and equip rural medical stations: The following four activities will be undertaken: (1) 17,000 of the most vulnerable new born children will be provided over a twelve month period with a specially designed support pack (mother /baby kits consisting of disposables, including diapers and cleaning/sterilisation supplies); (2) 13,500 families will be provided with a comprehensive family medical kit which will prevent minor illnesses becoming serious and possibly life threatening; (3) 718 remote medical centres will be equipped with basic medicines and care equipment enabling more of the population to survive minor medical conditions; (4) 64,500 beneficiaries will be supplied with hygiene items (two distributions) improving basic health care and hygiene at home. The expected result is that 17,000 infants from the most vulnerable families will have been given support during their most formative year. The most vulnerable families, often days away from medical aid, will be able to treat minor illnesses resulting in a reduction in deaths from preventable illnesses. Isolated communities will have been supported by better equipped rural medical aid centres further reducing the high mortality rate caused by minor ailments.

Objective 5: Establish community development focal points and explore openings for Russian Red Cross income generation: Activities: (1) Explore the possibility of RRC ownership of the community canteens and supporting local Red Cross initiatives to make the community canteens a focus for community activity such as micro economic projects, community health advice and visiting nurse centre. The expected result is that the local Red Cross committees will each operate one canteen, and will receive income from the activity.

Time table:

- October - December: Planning, preparation for procurement.

- January - March: Tendering procedures, procurement, assembling of relief items in Moscow.
- April - June: Transport to regions, start of local distribution.
- July - September: Continuation of local distribution.
- September - October: Monitoring, evaluation, reporting.

For monitoring and quality control and because of the needed quantity, it is necessary to assembly all relief items in Moscow and transport them to the regions from there. Transport to the regions takes from 6 - 8 weeks (the distance Moscow - Nenetsk AO, the closest of the regions, is 3,500 km, the distance Moscow - Kamchatka, 9,000 km). The local distribution takes up to three months after the items are received in the region.

Indicators, Monitoring and Evaluation •
As one of the main thrusts of the appeal is support for children, anthropometric statistics will be recorded to assess health levels before the implementation of the programme. This data will be measured again during and at the end of the programme to reflect the improved health and development of the beneficiaries. Similar surveys will be undertaken in vulnerable isolated communities prior to the start of the programme to assess the overall level of disease and malnutrition.

Monitoring will be carried out under the direction of the RRC and the Moscow-based Federation monitoring officer. Each region will recruit locally-hired monitors to carry out monitoring before, during and after implementation of the programme. Monitoring will be carried out not only to assess the impact of the programme, but also the targeting and delivery of aid.

Critical assumptions •
- Although well supported by the local authorities in previous operations, continued involvement and assistance is crucial.
- Timely donor support soon after the appeal launch to proceed with food and seeds procurement.
- Erratic fuel price fluctuation does not effect transportation costs.

Capacity of the National Society •
The Russian Red Cross is in a state of transition, but has proved itself an increasingly effective partner in implementing large-scale international relief operations through the 1990's. In each of the regions covered by this appeal, there is an RRC branch, and past experience shows that the presence of relief programme has a highly beneficial effect on local branches. One of the criteria for participation in the programme is a high standard of capacity and capability of local branches.

Present Capacity of the Federation in the Russian Federation •
The Federation has a strong relief and logistics component in Moscow office which, along with their National Society counterparts, provides regular support and assistance to the target areas. The Federation office, directed by a Head of Delegation, is also staffed with a programme co-ordinator, relief co-ordinator, TB programme delegate, USDA/American Red Cross programme co-ordinator, information delegate, regional population movement delegate, health department, finance department, IT department and administration, in total 8 international 21 local staff.

The Swedish, Finnish, Norwegian, Netherlands and German Red Cross Societies manage bilateral programmes in various parts of Russia while maintaining a good working relationship with the Federation Moscow office.

Co-ordination w
The Federation and RRC have built up an excellent relationship with local authorities in the programme areas, and have frequent consultations with RAIPON, the Organization of Northern Indigenous Peoples. Regular contacts are also maintained with organizations such as CIDA, DFID, ECHO, EU office and the embassies of North American, Scandinavian and European embassies in Moscow.

Budget summary

See Annex 1 for details.

For further details please contact: Grazyna Samsel; Federation Desk Officer, Phone: 41 22 730 4324; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; email: samsel@ifrc.org>

All International Federation Assistance Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

In line with the Minimum Reporting Standards, the first situation report on this appeal will be issued within 30-days of the launch; A final narrative and financial report will be issued no later than 90 days after the end of the operation.

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

For longer-term programmes, including capacity building, please refer to the Federation's 2000-2001 Appeal.

Jean Ayoub
Acting USG - DROC a.i.
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Didier J. Cherpitel
Secretary General

BUDGET SUMMARY	APPEAL No. 24/2000	
Russian Federation: relief assistance		
TYPE	VALUE	
RELIEF NEEDS	IN CHF	
Clothing: 8,500 sets for adults & 12,000 sets for children	979,610	
Flour: 1,290 mts	845,982	
Rice: 387 mts	528,526	
Buckwheat: 387 mts	528,526	
Sugar: 572 mts	468,897	
oil	499,228	
Food for soup kitchens	3,953,700	
Other food expenses and seeds	1,000,328	
Medical kits: 718	529,726	
Family first aid kits: 13,500	331,965	
Mother & baby kits: 17,000	557,430	
Utensils & tools	246,000	
Other relief supplies	846,240	
TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS		11,316,158
CAPITAL EQUIPMENT		
Computers	43,117	
PROGRAMME SUPPORT		
Programme management	1,187,941	
Technical support	355,607	
Professional services	394,366	
TRANSPORT STORAGE & VEHICLE COSTS	3,470,903	
PERSONNEL		
Expatriate staff	116,348	
National staff	397,132	
ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL SERVICES		
Travel & related expenses	132,800	
Information expenses	15,987	
Administrative & general expenses	187,041	
TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS		6,301,242
TOTAL APPEAL CASH, KIND, SERVICES		17,617,400
LESS AVAILABLE RESOURCES (-)		
NET REQUEST		17,617,400

ANNEX 2		Nenetsk AO		Taymyr AO		Yakutia Republic		Chukotka AO		Magadan oblast		Kamchatka oblast		Tyva Republic			TOTAL
																benef	QTY
Food stuff for individuals																	
Bulk Food	benef/kg	1,500	60,000	3,000	120,000	15,000	600,000	4,000	160,000	10,000	400,000	21,000	840,000	10,000	400,000	**64,500**	2,580,000
Soup Kitchens	benef/meals	200	36,000	1,200	216,000	6,000	1,080,000	200	36,000	3,500	630,000	5,000	900,000	3,000	540,000	**19,100**	3,438,000
Seeds / Garden kits	benef/pcs									14,000		14,000		20,000		**48,000**	48,000
Non-food stuff for individuals																	
Hygienic Parcels	benef/pcs	3,000	3,000	6,000	6,000	30,000	30,000	8,000	8,000	20,000	20,000	42,000	42,000	20,000	20,000	**64,500**	129,000
Clothes sets, children	benef/sets							2,000	2,000	3,000	3,000	4,000	4,000	3,000	3,000	**12,000**	12,000
Clothes sets, adult	benef/sets							2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,500	2,500	2,000	2,000	**8,500**	8,500
Fishing Nets	benef/nets	400	100	1,000	250	1,400	350	800	200	1,600	400	1,800	450	1,000	250	**8,000**	2,000
Food/Non-food stuff for institutions																	
Hygienic Parcels	benef/pcs																
Bulk Food (supplementary)	benef/pcs	1,000	13,000	2,000	26,000	5,000	65,000	3,000	39,000	2,000	26,000	3,500	45,500	2,000	26,000	**18,500**	240,500
Medical/Healthcare stuff																	
FAP kits	instit/pcs	28	28	40	40	250	250							400	400	**718**	718
First Aid Kits	benef/pcs									3,000	3,000	4,000	4,000	6,500	6,500	**13,500**	13,500
Mother/Baby kit	benef/pcs	500	500	1,000	1,000	5,000	5,000	1,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	**17,000**	17,000