

CAMBODIA: HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

15 September 2000

appeal no. 01.24/2000

situation report no. 1

period covered: 1 January - 30 June 2000

During the first half of the year 2000, the Cambodian Red Cross Society (CRC) has made considerable progress through the development of its five-year plan, 2001 - 2005, the adoption of revised statutes and a text on the Red Cross law. In a drive to build capacity, additional key staff members have been recruited and will facilitate the new working methods of the National Society, with further emphasis on support to the branches. The earmarking of contributions has posed problems, particularly for the programmes focusing on institutional development, communications and rehabilitation and capacity-building for the north-east.

The context

Approximately CHF 3 million were sought for the Cambodian Red Cross Society (CRC) for the year 2000 through the Emergency Appeal. The country assistance strategy (CAS) 2000 includes support to the core areas as defined in Strategy 2010: community based disaster preparedness (CBDP), health and care, including community based first aid (CBFA) and community based primary health care (CBPHC), promotion of humanitarian values, and disaster response. The disaster response programme follows up on assistance to returnees from Thailand and the local population provided in 1999, and focuses on rehabilitation and capacity building in the north-east of the country.

Latest events

The CRC attended the South East Asia Partnership Meeting held in Bangkok from 15-19 May during which the National Society presented its draft five year development plan 2001-2005 to donors and sister National Societies from the region.

The CRC held an Extraordinary General Assembly (EGA) on 12 June. The agenda included a report from the Secretary General on activities since the last General Assembly in 1998, the adoption of the revised CRC Statutes and the presentation of the draft Red Cross Law. The revised Statutes were adopted with minor amendments, and a final version was submitted to both the ICRC and the Federation.

Red Cross/Red Crescent action

Institutional and Resource Development •

Human Resource Development

At CRC headquarters, the disaster management and administration/finance departments finalised all job descriptions in accordance with the new structure and the communications department initiated a participatory approach to the development of job descriptions. However, the programme department is behind in this process, and further efforts will be made to ensure that all job descriptions correspond to defined criteria.

The CRC director of administration and finance initiated the development of job descriptions for branch directors, administration officers and development officers. These are now being used in the recruitment of staff in Red Cross branches in the provinces.

Leadership training for directors & deputy directors, as well as management training for heads of sub-departments, was carried out from January-April 2000. An evaluation report received from CfBT (Cambodian-British Center for Education Services), the external facilitators, referred to the overall success of the training. Individual participants also reported that they found it useful and appropriate in the work environment, but needed further guidance as to how to implement the lessons learned in the context of the CRC.

National and Branch Development

The CRC held an Extraordinary General Assembly on 12 June 2000. The Federation, ICRC, PNSs, government and other partners were invited as observers.

The revised CRC Statutes, developed with the support of the Federation's legal advisor in December 1999, and based on the Federation guidelines for National Society Statutes, were finalised and adopted at the EGA. The Central Committee was tasked with developing an implementation plan, primarily for the holding of branch assemblies, prior to the next General Assembly in April 2002. Rules of Procedure for the full implementation of the Statutes are still to be developed.

The draft Red Cross Law, also developed with the support of the Federation's legal advisor in December 1999, ensuring recognition of the Cambodian Red Cross Society (legal base), and the protection of the emblem in Cambodia, was introduced at the EGA. The draft will be finalised during the third quarter before it is officially submitted to the Council of Ministers.

At the beginning of the year, the current three year development plan 1998- 2000, was analysed internally to review progress made to date. The analysis was translated into Khmer and circulated within the CRC both at the national and branch levels. In February, a three day strategic planning workshop, reflecting Strategy 2010, the Hanoi Declaration as well as the in-country situation and that of the CRC, took place with the facilitation of the Regional ID Delegate. The institutional development process since 1996 and progress made to date on pledges made by the CRC at the 27th International Conference were discussed. All 24 branches participated in the process together with the headquarters. As a result, the CRC was able

to develop the five year development plan, which will be finalised during the fourth quarter and the goals of which are as follows:

- Goal 1:** To strengthen the capacity building process of the CRC at national, branch and community levels;
- Goal 2:** To increase self-reliance and sustain ability of the CRC;
- Goal 3:** To improve the quality of life and capacity of the most vulnerable;
- Goal 4:** To promote health, care and social welfare among the most vulnerable;
- Goal 5:** To further strengthen internal, national and international relations and to ensure a good image of the National Society.

Various policy guidelines are currently being developed: conditions of service (staff policy), financial regulations (to be printed with the Statutes and Rules of Procedure), the financial procedures manual, and fund-raising and membership guidelines.

The CRC received its audit report from PriceWaterhouse Coopers for the year ending 31 December 1998. This was distributed to donors and partners at the South East Asia Partnership meeting in May.

Further to a branch needs assessment carried out in February, the Japanese Red Cross representative in Cambodia will assist the municipal Red Cross branch to develop a project proposal and plan of action for branch development/capacity building. A needs assessment was carried out in Battambang branch in May. The findings of the assessment resulted in a branch development/capacity building project proposal to be developed by the branch.

In June, a review of the Kampong Cham branch development programme was carried out by the parties to the tripartite development contract - the Netherlands Red Cross (NLRC), the Federation and CRC. The review report made several recommendations to improve programme implementation, to revise the development contract and to review financial procedures and reporting/management lines. The final report, received by all parties on 26 June, was followed by a decision by the NLRC to close the development contract as of 30 June.

Communications/PR/Fund-raising

The Red Cross Day celebrations on 8th May 2000 were linked to the 45th anniversary of the CRC. Using the global theme "Dare to Dream" under the slogan "the Power of Humanity", the CRC was joined by many thousands at Wat Phnom, the heart of the Cambodian capital. Speeches were given by the Honorary President, Her Majesty Queen Norodom Monineath Sihanouk, the CRC President Madam Bun Rany Hun Sen, the ICRC Head of Mission and the Federation Head of Delegation. A comprehensive exhibition of CRC activities was on display and all participants, including royalty, government officials, the diplomatic community, Red Cross staff, youth and volunteers all wore Red Cross T-shirts. The event was widely publicised on national TV, radio and newspapers.

A contest on Red Cross/Red Crescent, CRC history and the millennium year was launched in four target secondary schools. The contest was broadcast on every television channel prior to the 8 May celebrations, as well as on the day itself.

A CRC shop was opened in January opposite the CRC headquarters. The initial six month operation has shown promise under the management of the head of the fund-raising sub-department and with the assistance of three volunteers. A market survey was conducted amongst its customers, CRC and Federation staff, and the analysis of the survey should be completed within the third quarter.

A three-day fund-raising and membership drive workshop was held in April at which representatives from 21 branches participated alongside staff from the headquarters. A local NGO, PONLOK, was invited to share its experiences in fund-raising techniques. The workshop included discussion of fund-raising strategies and membership tools, a practical example of a PONLOK fund-raising programme, the application of fund-raising programmes in the CRC and group discussions on new challenges in fund-raising. The workshop enabled the communications department to commence the development of a fund-raising manual and a draft form for the forthcoming membership database.

Community Based Disaster Preparedness •

In addition to the American Red Cross supported CBDP program in Cambodia, an application was submitted to Dip ECHO for the expansion of the programme in 2000-2001 to a further four pilot provinces. Activities will include an assessment and development of an action plan with the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) as well as information sharing meetings in co-operation with the NCDM in relation to disaster management co-ordination in Cambodia. The Dip ECHO application was successful, albeit with a reduced budget allocation and implementation is planned to commence at the beginning of the third quarter. As part of a further ECHO contract, the procurement and pre-placement of 3,000 emergency household kits commenced in April.

Formal discussions were held with the General Secretary of NCDM on an assessment of current capacity building initiatives in conjunction with CRC. More informal discussions were held on the clarification of roles and responsibilities with regard to CRC’s membership of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee to NCDM.

The fifth annual Asian disaster preparedness centre (ADPC) working group meeting, co-hosted by CRC, was held in Phnom Penh in February.

The CRC established a senior management committee to oversee integrated CBDP training in Kampot province. This integrated training consists of Red Cross orientation, CBDP, CBFA, community organisation and flood mitigation. A review was conducted of the materials and the curriculum used in the training, and the training plan was formulated and approved by the committee with implementation commencing in 6 of 8 districts in Kampot.

In Kandal, Kampong Cham and Prey Veng, 75 Red Cross volunteers received CBFA training and continued to identify future micro-mitigation projects.

Micro Projects:

Province	Completed	Unfinished	Unfunded	Cancelled
Kandal	4	2		
Kampong Cham	5	1		1
Prey Veng	6	2	3	

A further 75 Red Cross volunteers completed their integrated training and then commenced site visits and group meetings including community hazards assessment and mapping.

Preliminary discussions took place on organising a national level workshop linking the CBDP programme capacity building results, micro-projects and donor communities.

Health Education and Services •

Community Based First Aid

The aim is to build the capacity of the CRC CBFA trainers and instructors, as well as to assist the CRC to develop commercial first aid training. The CRC is encouraged to change the methodology and content of CBFA refresher training courses, the curriculum has been revised and a more participatory approach is promoted in order to make the training more action-orientated.

An orientation workshop was carried out in June by the training section of the programme department. The objectives were to introduce the CBFA trainers, who are mostly provincial branch development officers, to the revised curriculum and to give them some training in participatory techniques. CBFA refresher training in the provinces commenced after the orientation workshop and will continue until the end of the year.

CRC agreed to support the Ministry of Health (MoH) anti-dengue and anti-malaria campaigns with funding support from ECHO through the Federation. Through its Red Cross volunteers, CRC will be able to promote effective prevention of communicable diseases, and refresher training for 1,800 volunteers will be provided in 2000.

Together with the National Malaria Centre (NMC), the programme department planned and implemented a three day workshop for 23 development officers. This workshop, facilitated by NMC and CRC staff, used participatory techniques and include participants from the MoH from the five most at-risk provincial health departments, who were able to interact with the development officers from those provinces during the workshop.

A purchasing process of 30,000 bednets and 5,000 litres of insecticide (K-Othrine 1% SC) for bednet impregnation was initiated by the CRC and the Federation to support the MoH National Malaria Control Programme through ECHO funding.

Community Based Primary Health Care

Urban Setting - Chamcar Mon District, Phnom Penh Municipality

25 Red Cross volunteers received a one day refresher training course on the use of oral rehydration salts (ORS) at the commencement of the diarrhoea season. ORS has since been included in the volunteers' first aid kits. Discussions on the recruitment of new volunteers for the district have taken place. The terms of reference for a situation analysis and survey of the health situation in Chamcar Mon have been drafted for an external consultant. The volunteers have identified the key health problems in their villages and the project is working in co-ordination with the health centre and with the provincial health authorities.

The urban health project is supporting the outreach clinics of the health centre, and discussions will be continued as to how the volunteers can be utilised to improve patient access.

The Municipal Red Cross branch received a request from the National Malaria Centre to help with an anti-dengue campaign in 4 at-risk districts in Phnom Penh, including Chamcar Mon.

Rural Setting - Chong Kal District, Odtar Mean Chey Province

In spite of difficulties in access and lack of communications as a Red Cross office was set up in Chong Kal, the pilot project has been progressing well. The CRC had a high visibility ceremony to open the project officially. The terms of reference (ToR) for a situation analysis and survey of the health situation in Chong Kal have been drafted. As in Chamcar Mon, the project is working in co-ordination with the health centre and with the provincial health authorities.

The numbers of volunteers have now been increased to ensure that all villages in the district are represented. Some villages had previously been omitted because of lack of literacy or remoteness.

The volunteers became actively involved in the health centre's TB programme, including training to recognise TB, to inform the community and to advise any suspected patient on the process of diagnosis and treatment. A follow-up system has also been developed.

All volunteers have received training or refresher training in hygiene and sanitation, in the prevention of diarrhoea and the use of ORS. The volunteers have all received practical training on simple methods of improving water sources. As the rains have started this year, rehabilitation of wells may be difficult, and a Dutch NGO, ZOA, will provide advice as to which activities can be undertaken immediately in order to ensure that people have safer water.

Promotion of Humanitarian Values •

Red Cross Youth

Finnish Red Cross has supported the development of this programme since 1998 and has now pledged funds for the full implementation of the planned activities for 2000. CRC received several invitations to participate in Red Cross Youth (RCY) exchange programmes. The programme sent two participants to Australia in April to attend the Australian Youth Network Conference. The participants discussed the Asia Pacific Youth Network, including improvements in the network and network communications. The participants also discussed volunteer policy, the forthcoming international year of the volunteer and the establishment of a youth network directory. Significant recommendations for CRC from the conference included clarification of the RCY policy and strategies, development of a RCY curriculum, establishing a RCY programme liaison officer, further development of the programme at all levels and review of the roles of the advisor and RCY members.

10 RCY members visited Thailand from 14-20 June for the 8th Pacific Red Cross and Red Crescent Youth Gathering. The participants gained knowledge in several key areas: social awareness, health care provision, environmental protection, agricultural techniques and disaster preparedness. In addition, participants had the opportunity to exchange experiences and present cultural performances.

In Phnom Penh, the Municipal Branch increased the number of target schools from 9 to 25 using its own funds. RCY from 2 schools in the capital visited patients in hospital and made a donation to the hospital. In Pursat and Saem Reap Provinces, RCY participated in clean up campaigns in the schools, the community and homes. In Kampong Chhnang, RCY members attended a ceremony to ban land mines.

The RCY water and sanitation pilot project in two provinces is fully funded by the Australian Red Cross/Victoria Branch and includes the involvement of RCY in a peer feedback role. Key messages disseminated as part of the pilot project are developed in a short drama by the RCY members and presented to the school community.

In January, a project proposal was drawn up targeting RCY in six schools in two provinces, concentrating on the development of drinking water and latrine facilities, disabled access issues and the provision of hygiene education to students. A small knowledge, attitudes and practice (KAP) survey was undertaken before the facilities were developed, and hygiene education was undertaken to ascertain the change in the key areas to be measured. A Training of Trainers' (ToT) workshop was held in April for 57 teachers and RCY advisors in the two provinces, including representatives from the provincial departments of Education, Youth and Sport.

Communications Programme

Additional support was provided to the Communications Department by two volunteers who are assisting in developing a fund-raising strategy, including a review of the newly-opened Red Cross shop in Phnom Penh.

Events and materials promoting the CRC have included a charity bazaar (1999) a bulletin and video, an updated brochure, a monthly newsletter, desk calendars and an A3 leaflet on the 7 Fundamental Principles and the RC emblem for Red Cross Volunteers to display outside their houses.

Four staff members from the information/dissemination and national/international relations sub-departments established a teaching manual for the training of 200 volunteers in Kampot province. This allowed them to gain a better understanding of community work, as well as technical skills in reviewing and upgrading written materials.

Disaster Response •

Repatriation

The Repatriation operation (EA 03/99), which commenced in February 1999, was extended to February 2000 following delays caused mainly by heavy rains during the implementation of the water and sanitation component of the operation. A final Situation Report was published on 7 July 2000.

Rehabilitation and Capacity Building Programme North East

Following the repatriation operation, this programme aims to provide longer term support to returnees and local communities in the four north eastern provinces of Monduliri, Ratanakiri, Stung Treng and Kratie. It is an expansion of a 1999 pilot project implemented in Monduliri and funded by the UNHCR. The four provincial branches are at various stages of development. Three branches have, however, recruited key staff - an administration officer and one development officer - to develop the programme and implement activities, primarily the training and supervision of volunteer networks. Experience has shown that a second development officer to support the programme in each branch is required, but a lack of funding during the first half of the year has prevented their immediate appointment. Development officers from two provinces have observed newly developed training techniques for teaching illiterate or semiliterate volunteers. This issue is significant in the north east provinces where many ethnic languages are spoken and literacy in Khmer is low.

UNHCR provided funds for emergency assistance to 400 vulnerable families in Monduliri. Red Cross volunteers identified 1,200 such families and therefore the vulnerability assessment criteria requires further development.

There was little financial support for this programme in the first half of 2000, and therefore many planned activities have been much delayed.

Floods

The Flood operation (EA 18/99), which commenced in August 1999, continued effectively during the first quarter of 2000 both in Kampot and Pursat Provinces. This six-month operation was extended for two months to 12 April following delays in the implementation of the water and sanitation component of the operation. A final Situation Report was published on 25 July 2000.

Floods, 2000

Following heavy rains since July, flooding and thunderstorms, an Appeal (EA 22/2000) was launched on 13th September in order to assist 500,000 beneficiaries with the provision of household kits, the repair of

damaged homes and water sources, the distribution of mosquito nets and the setting up of health education campaigns. This Appeal will be reported on separately.

Outstanding needs

The first half of the year 2000 saw, as in 1999, funding shortages for some programmes. This can be seen partially as a result of donors' funding cycles caused by the different fiscal years. Longer term programmes such as CBDP are not affected, neither are those with donors who have given a commitment for longer than one year, such as those which are supporting the CBPHC pilot projects. The institutional development programme, CRC communications department activities and, in particular, the rehabilitation and capacity building programme in the north east have been most seriously affected this year and are now faced with implementing 12 months' activities within the second half of the year, subject to sufficient funding. Budgets have been revised downwards to reflect current financial support.

External relations - Government/UN/NGOs/Media

The CRC continues to enjoy a high profile in Cambodia through the mass media, and CRC activities are widely disseminated every week, especially through local television news.

The Delegation has maintained co-ordination and contacts with the Royal Palace of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and the Royal Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia through relevant Ministries and Government agencies (especially the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM), Diplomatic Missions, UN Agencies, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, EC and ECHO and other relevant organisations and agencies.

Contributions

See Annex 1 for details.

Conclusion

Despite limited funding for some development programmes during the first half of the year, satisfactory progress was made in all development oriented programs. The highlights of the period were the development of the CRC five year development plan 2001 - 2005 and the Extraordinary General Assembly held in June 2000 adopting the revised Statutes of the CRC. Significant progress was also made in relation to the draft Red Cross Law and the drawing up of essential policy documents and guidelines. These documents, once finalised and approved by the CRC, will be important management tools for the CRC, both at the national and provincial levels. The Federation will increasingly shift its institutional development support from the national to the provincial level in the coming months. A landmine awareness programme to be conducted through the Red Cross Youth network in five of the worst hit provinces, will be a new challenge for the CRC.

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Cambodia						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 01.24/2000		PLEDGES RECEIVED			09/15/00	
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				2,945,000		TOTAL COVERAGE 105.5%
Balance carried forward from 1999				214,550		
AMERICAN - GOVT/RC		128,619	USD	211,900	28.04.00	CBDP
AUSTRALIA - RC		40,000	AUD	41,904	31.01.2000	WATSAN PILOT PROGRAM
BRITISH - RC		30,000	GBP	75,000	09/12/99	DEVELOPMENT + WORKSHOPS
ECHO		600,000	EUR	933,720	30.05.00	ECHO/KHM/210/2000/01004, EMERGENCY HOUSEHOLD KITS & MALARIA PREVENTION STOCKS. TRAINING ON DHF & MALARIA AWARENESS, PREVENTION & EARLY TREATMENT
DIPECHO		350,000	EUR	544,670	06.07.00	DP AND FLOOD MITIGATION
FINNISH - RC/GVT		72,825	EUR	114,517	05/23/00	INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT
FINNISH - GOVT/RC		95,026	EUR	147,879	04.07.00	MINE AWARENESS
JAPAN - RC		14,000,000	JPY	208,768	04/25/00	COMM. BASED PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PILOT PROJECT IN PHNOM PENH
UNHCR		52,879	USD	83,232	01/27/00	FOR VARIOUS ITEMS
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		1,198,257	NOK	226,708	02.07.00	
SWEDISH - RC		75,000	SEK	14,220	30.05.00	NATIONAL COORDINATION
SWEDISH - GOVT/RC		425,000	SEK	80,580	30.05.00	ID
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				2,897,648	CHF	98.4%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
Australia	Delegate(s)			3,285		
Finland	Delegate(s)			60,123		
Great Britain	Delegate(s)			108,090		
USA	Delegate(s)			37,946		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				209,444	CHF	7.1%
ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	
THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS ARE LINKED TO THIS APPEAL:						
PKH000, PKH015, PKH020, PKH025, PKH030, PKH160, PKH161						