

PROGRAMME UPDATE



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

SUDAN

22 August, 2001

Appeal No. 01.17/2001

Appeal Target: CHF 6,570,787

Programme Update No. 1; Period covered: January - 30 June 2001

“At a Glance”

Appeal coverage: 19.9%

Related Appeals: 11/01; Sudan: Drought

Outstanding needs: CHF 5,265,765

Summary: Despite the obvious humanitarian needs in Sudan, including a drought emergency, a weak donor response combined with limited capacity within the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) has hampered the overall programme. Acknowledging that the 2001 annual appeal for Sudan was overly ambitious, the delegation is currently working with the SRCS to revise programmes and budgets, to be presented to donors shortly.

Operational Developments:

From the start of the year it was clear that the drought situation would be a priority area. On March 2, 2001 the International Federation, on behalf of the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS), launched an appeal seeking support amounting to CHF 2,582,404 to provide assistance for 289,000 beneficiaries in three states. An emergency has, once again, forced the SRCS to re-prioritize its long-term plans, committing its resources at headquarters and the branches in the affected states to save lives in areas where people lack food and water.

The annual appeal has had a very limited response, and with projected donor support remaining limited the delegation has been obliged to consider suspending a number of ongoing projects or activities, including assisting internally displaced women, community based child care, malaria control and reproductive health. Interesting and important new initiatives were temporarily delayed, including enlarging the scope of the elderly program, and the team Red Crescent campaign on dissemination and volunteer recruitment. Even more decisive is the lack of support towards the SRCS reform program which aims at building the capacity of the National Society by addressing a number of needs above all in the SRCS Headquarters.

Under the circumstances, the SRCS has once again clearly shown an ability to fulfill its important humanitarian mandate even with very limited resources.

Disaster Response

After having been part of an agreement involving the SRCS, UNHCR, and COR (the Commission of Refugees), both the Federation and the SRCS considered it an opportune moment for the SRCS to assume full responsibility for the refugee health project in Kassala and Gedaref during the final years of this project (with repatriation to Ethiopia and Eritrea already proceeding). ECHO support to the Kassala preventive health initiative has been secured.

Objective 1: To decrease morbidity and mortality rates in the camps

Achievements

The two new clinics at Gulsa and Fedayeeb have provided increased accessibility to IDPs, with an overall decrease in morbidity. Since seasonal variations play a large role in morbidity in the Sudan, data currently collected should be regarded as baseline. With ongoing interventions underway, quantifiable impact measurements are expected over the next year. However, there is already a quantifiable reduction in malaria morbidity (from 16.3% to 15.2% in Gulsa; and from 25.3 to 24.6% in Fedayeeb) even between the first and second quarter of 2001. This could be attributed to the distribution of the mosquito bed nets as well as a result of the intensive role of the home visitors in mobilising the community. The conjunctivitis (eye infection) rate also decreased from 4.9% to 4.4% in Gulsa, and from 5.7% to 3.4% in Fedayeeb, mainly due to the health education campaigns conducted by the SRCS's home visitors and volunteers.

Constraints

Data collection, reporting and feedback is still of concern. The clinic staff should undergo a comprehensive training on data collection, analysis of data and how to make use of the findings. A lack of health education materials is also an area of concern, and the ongoing production of a new educational health video is important. Pamphlets and posters are also needed. Logistics, data analysis and report writing skills at the SRCS Kassala branch also needs improvement. A programme management course should help alleviate the situation.

Objective 2: To reduce malnutrition rates among the camps' population

Achievements

Malnutrition is not a significant problem at the Gulsa or Fedayeeb IDP camps, but external factors could easily make this a big future problem. Through the health visitors and growth monitoring sections of the clinics and with the support of WFP, malnutrition rates have remained stable in both camps.

Objective 3: To enhance self-reliance among women headed families

Achievements

A credit system has been established in Sinnar State. In River Nile State, raw material has been provided. Five literacy classes have started in Southern Darfur including weekly lectures on health education.

Constraints

The fact that targeted areas are scattered and far away calls for improved communication and transportation. Community attitudes to literacy classes for women has forced the SRCS to invite men as well. The termination of external funds forced all activities except the literacy classes in Southern Darfur to come to an end as of May 1.

Objective 4: To increase and secure access to potable water, provide hygiene promotion and improve community engagement in the care and maintenance of the water supply system for displaced persons in El Salam and Wad El Bashir camps, Khartoum, with the minimum aim of achieving the Sphere standards

Achievements

Due to frequent technical problems water production was down to some 600,000 lt./day at the end of 2000, but has increased to more than 1,240,000 lt per day or approximately 10 lt./person/day for consumption and household use. A further increase to more than 1,750,000 lt./day is expected.

Activity	January	February	March	April	May	June
Water production (lt./day)	860,000	848,000	1,209,000	1,148,000	1,126,000	1,208,000
Home visits	133,276					
Public sessions	69					

Regular and sufficient supplies of fuel for pumps, generators and vehicles has been provided. Water committees from the communities living near each public water distribution point have been established. The committees are encouraged to care for their stand pipes as well as to assist in draining standing water around the water points. This work is considered to be a first step in the process of involving the community in the management of the water supply infrastructure. The SRCS has signed a new agreement with CARE and the Federation which more clearly define the roles of each partner and entrusts the SRCS with the daily implementing responsibility.

Constraints

Delays due to shortcomings in the CARE procurement system sometimes brought project activities to a halt. Contractors assigned to carry out maintenance of the pumps did not always meet the agreed upon deadlines because of their limited capacities. With old and unreliable project vehicles which were often out of order, the planned water analysis could not be done. The funding situation (late and not sufficient) has not allowed for necessary planning to be undertaken. Procurement problems are expected to be solved with the new agreement which simplifies the procedures.

Disaster Preparedness

Fortunately, the DP program is comparatively well funded. The British and Spanish Red Cross are supporting the Early Warning System and the VCA project and, to some extent, the drought and floods mitigation activities. However, due to the drought emergency, it has not been possible for the SRCS to begin implementing these projects. The project start for the Dfid (Department for International Development) grant is July 1.

Objective 1: To strengthen the SRCS capacity in preparing for and responding to emergency situations and disasters in a timely and effective manner.

Achievements

The SRCS has been selected to participate in a Dfid-sponsored pilot project intended to improve the linkage between disaster preparedness and response. During the reporting period, plans were made for a 12 months' implementation starting in July 2001. The project concentrates on contingency planning, data collection, analysis and communication (reporting skills), VCA techniques, training of staff and volunteers and development of early warning systems.

Objective 2: To provide the SRCS with relevant and reliable information regarding the magnitude of suffering and destitution that vulnerable groups might encounter during and after a disaster.

Activities on this objective are being planned for the second half of 2001.

Objective 3: To establish an information network within the SRCS in order to facilitate the flow of information which can be used to mitigate the effects of disasters (natural or man-made) and respond at an early stage.

Activities on this objective are being planned for the second half of 2001.

Objective 4: To enhance the SRCS' capacity to intervene in epidemic diseases with increased speed and efficiency.

A workshop involving seven State Branches is being planned, but has been postponed due to the strain on Headquarters resources following the drought operation.

Humanitarian Values

Due to the lack of funds, no activities have been carried out in this program to address the following objectives:

- encourage more people to join SRCS as members, governance and volunteers by deepening the knowledge of RC principles and the IHL and improving the image of SRCS in the community;
- defining and raise the standards of the membership in SRCS.
- assisting the State Branches in developing a permanent recruiting and retaining program.
- bringing about improvements in the quality of life of vulnerable elderly in poor and displaced communities.

Health and Care

The only activities undertaken during the first six months' of the year implemented by using available funds brought forward from 2000. The child health program was suspended at the end of last year, while reproductive health and malaria control were suspended on April 1 and June 1 respectively. The SRCS is currently seeking funds from bilateral donors for child and reproductive health. Following pledges in June from the Norwegian and Swedish Red Cross, the ARCHI 2010 activity of developing the volunteer network in three designated areas is expected to start in August.

Objective 1: To facilitate human development and poverty reduction by reducing the prevalence of malaria.

Achievements

In collaboration with National Malaria Administration, a seven day ToT workshop was conducted at the Youth Palace - Omdurman. 32 volunteers representing seven provinces in Khartoum State participated, and they are expected to train more SRCS and community volunteers in their provinces. Under the supervision of the Malaria Role Back Partnership, 30 volunteers were trained for three weeks in the impregnation of mosquito nets.

In terms of health education, the volunteers launched 3,625 home visits and 478 education sessions. 284 posters containing different messages were distributed to schools, public places and NGO clinics. A total of 38,867 IDPs attended the health education activities.

Health education activities (home visits, education sessions, posters)

Camp	No. of beneficiaries	Achievement (%)
Elsalam	22,960	100%
Jebel Aulia	8,375	100%
Wadelbashir	7,532	94%
Total	34,176	98%

For clinical services, 34,176 patients were received in the SRCS clinics in the IDP camps for both medical and laboratory investigations. There were 7,054 malaria cases, with a prevalence rate of 20.6%. Most affected were children under five.

Clinical services

Camp	No. of clients	Malaria cases
Elsalam	9'897	1'613
Jebel Aulia	5'545	2'214
Wadelbashir	18'734	3'227
Total	34'176	7'054

During the period the project worked in a close coordination with the National Malaria Administration mainly in the field of training and impregnation of mosquito nets.

Constraints

Due to the lack of funds and for the purpose of sustainability, the project activities were scaled down to a minimum. The shortage of drugs made it impossible to continue providing prophylactic doses to pregnant women. Funds brought forward from 2000 were depleted in May, with activities suspended as of June 1.

Objective 2: To reduce the suffering among displaced women from pregnancy related health problems.

Achievements

Efforts were concentrated on the provision of clinical services (ante natal and post natal care, deliveries and vaccination) and very low scale health education sessions. The project is maintaining effective relations with the Sudanese Ministry of Health which provides some material and equipment. The SRCS is also working with SCF-UK and IRC in training staff and volunteers.

Activity	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Total
Ante natal care	261	380	137	342	417	371	1'908
Post natal care	86	249	96	113	219	196	959
Deliveries	21	33	26	47	118	79	324
Vaccination (women)	53	64	23	67	97	91	395
Family Planning	667	329	432	567	510	472	2'992
Home visits	416	416	200	182	182	182	1'578
Health education sessions	4	4	4	4	4	4	24

Constraints

Due to scarce resources, financial support to the project was phased out on 1 April. The SRCS has managed to run the part of the project up to end of June with their own funds.

Objective 3: To reduce human suffering in terms of morbidity and mortality among infants and under-fives by raising mothers' awareness of their children's health situation as well as their options and capacities to care for them.

No activities were undertaken due to a lack of funds.

Institutional and Resource Development

The Movement recognizes the need for a well-functioning and funded National Society Headquarters to coordinate and support the direct interventions carried out by the branches. The lack of resources for developing the headquarters' role of a technical core for the Society is the driving force behind the SRCS reform programme. The solutions to most of the constraints will have to come from within the

SRCS itself, above all via recruiting of qualified staff, reforming the Headquarters' organization and mode of operation. The participating National Societies are, however, crucial for this change process.

Objective 1: Establish and maintain an adaptive organizational structure for the SRCS.

Due to the lack of funds, neither the organizational structure nor the salary scale have been implemented.

Objective 2: Develop the Society's financial resources to attain self-reliance.

Achievements

A management consultancy firm has been assigned to carry out a thorough survey of the SRCS financial management system. The task includes survey and mapping of the existing financial system (phase 1). Phase 2 will cover recommendations and design of new systems for internal control procedures as they affect financial operations, warehousing, control over assets, an accounting manual which will include an updated chart of accounts, adopted accounting policies including those relating to treatment of donated items, and related matters, development of a budgetary control system to be included in the accounting manual, development of financial management reporting formats for the SRCS management and development of formats for annual financial statements. In phase 3, the consultant will assist in selecting and implementing suitable software. In addition, positive steps have been taken towards a management information system. In this regard, a new server has been installed with enough capacity to accommodate state branches. Training of staff in handling the network facilities has also been carried out.

Constraints

The report of phase 1 has been delayed due to technical problems with the consultant, but an executive summary is indicating a number of areas to be addressed in order to achieve a transparent financial management system necessary to improve the Society's fund-raising capacity.

Objective 3: Develop and promote the Society's human resources.

Achievements

A team from the SRCS' senior staff visited Ethiopia in March to study the Ethiopian Red Cross Societies' training institute for staff, volunteers and governance. The report recommends that the SRCS establish a training institute, and a final decision should be followed by a technical study considering the existing training institutions in the country, present and future training needs, potential partners and donors, and government advice on legal, technical and procedural support.

Constraints

SRCS staff, volunteers and governance master training plan 2001-2002 is completed, but not implemented so far.

Objective 4: Strengthen State branch infrastructure requirements.

Due to lack of funds, no activities have been carried out.

Coordination and Management

The Sudan delegation is located within in the premises of the National Society with a total of 10 professional staff. The first priority of the delegation is to support and encourage the capacity building of the society, both at headquarters and in the State Branches. During the reporting period the delegation has devoted most of its resources towards assisting the drought operation.

Objective 1: To assist the SRCS in implementing its decision on decentralisation.

Achievements

As part of the CAS process, it has been agreed to commission an internal working group to analyze each task and activity in the Strategic Workplan in order to lay the basis for programme planning. Capacity building projects such as decentralization and the SRCS State branches' development and reform programme have been given special attention.

Constraints

The Strategic Workplan 2000-2004 gained very little focus following the Donors' Meeting which took place over one year ago. The State branches do not always have a clear understanding on how to obtain and maintain their "autonomous" status, and there is a need for guidance from the headquarters as to how they should plan their activities. The headquarters is not yet adequately staffed to assume the intended responsibility for acting as the "technical core".

Objective 2: To support the SRCS endeavor in implementing the ARCHI process in its health program.

Achievements

The Health delegate has initiated a discussion on volunteer management and the implementation of the health and care programme in ARCHI pilot areas (Juba, Khartoum, Northern State).

Constraints

The health delegate departed after three months and a decision on a possible replacement (sharing a delegate with another delegation) is still pending. The temporary limited capacity of the SRCS' health department is delaying the implementation of the programme.

Objective 3: To contribute to the development of the co-operation between the ICRC, the SRCS and the Federation.

Achievements

Management meetings have continued every second month, involving the senior management of the SRCS, the Federation, and the ICRC. A joint Federation and ICRC planning for SRCS training opportunities has been initiated.

Objective 4: To enhance the SRCS' capacity to respond to disasters.

Achievements

Strengthening of the SRCS logistics system through developing updated guidelines and a three days' workshop for headquarters and State branch directors. A DP officer has been employed for one year to be responsible for implementing the "Dfid pilot project".

Constraints

The proposed logistics department not in place due to financial limitations.

Objective 5: To be an important co-ordinating body for all assistance to the SRCS from within the Movement.

Achievements

A Plan of Action and a timetable for developing the next generation of CAS has been prepared by the delegation. It includes a letter to all traditional partners about the planned production of the Sudan CAS, a revision of the Strategic Workplan 2000-2004, the gathering of country specific information, and proposed meetings in Khartoum and Nairobi between the SRCS, the Federation, ICRC and PNSs.

Constraints

With the ongoing drought emergency presenting challenges to the SRCS' capacity, the process is being delayed.

Outstanding needs

Despite the obvious needs in Sudan, a weak donor response combined with limitations within the SRCS has hampered the overall programme. Acknowledging that the 2001 annual appeal for Sudan was probably too ambitious, the delegation is currently working with the SRCS to revise programmes and budgets, to be finalized before end of August.

The most urgent needs at this point concern the implementation of the Ouagadougou Declaration. Within the health and care program, issues such as volunteer management, the ARCHI approach, and HIV/AIDS should be addressed. As soon as a plan of action has been adopted as a result of the ongoing finance management consultancy study, support to the implementation of the plan will be critical.

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All International Federation 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.

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

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Sudan						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 01.17/2001		PLEDGES RECEIVED				22.08.2001
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						TOTAL COVERAGE
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				6'570'787		19.9%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD						
AMERICAN - GOVT/PRM		65'000	USD	115'018	02.07.2001	
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID				150'000	21.03.2001	
CANADIAN - RC/PRIVATE		15'371	CAD	16'639	20.04.01	WATER PROJECT
ECHO - 01013		280'000	EUR	430'752	17.01.01	KASSALA PREVENTATIVE HEALTH
NETHERLANDS - GOVT				12'364	04.02.01	CHILD ALIVE/WOMEN IN DEV.
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		700'000	NOK	133'913	30.05.2001	HELATH PROGRAMME
SPANISH - RC				90'000	01.03.01	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
SWEDISH - RC		100'000	SEK	17'370	07.02.01	REHABILITATION PROGRAMME & WATER PROJECT
SWEDISH - GOVT/RC		225'000	NOK	42'367	23.03.2001	DISASTER RESPONSE
SWEDISH - GOVT		850'000	SEK	140'675	21.05.2001	WATER PROJECT, DP, HEALTH, COORDINATION & MGT
UNDP		9'000	USD	14'652	26.02.01	SPHERE PROJECT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				1'163'750	CHF	17.7%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
Australia	delegate			19'712		
Germany	delegate			31'047		
Norway	delegate			30'554		
Sweden	delegate			59'959		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				141'272	CHF	2.2%