

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

BELARUS, MOLDOVA AND UKRAINE

Appeal No. 01.51/2002; Appeal target: CHF 3,060,393; Budget revised to CHF 2,118,653 (USD 1,424,242/EUR 1,457,967); Appeal coverage: 43%

Overall analysis of the programme •

Belarus

In Belarus the humanitarian situation has become even more critical during the last year. Due to the severe lack of funding, the Government of Belarus reduced its spending for social welfare activities. In the search for additional income the government is reducing its support and privileges given to humanitarian organizations, including the Belarusian Red Cross (BRC). This development triggered a crisis of the visiting nurses service (VNS) of the BRC, a development which threatened to paralyze the National Society (NS) or even force it into bankruptcy. The International Federation launched an Information Bulletin in this regard asking sister NSs to support the BRC. It is expected that by mid-February 2003 the VNS wage arrears will be covered with the assistance of sister societies from Liechtenstein, Iceland, Switzerland, Spain and Sweden. This support allows the BRC to cope with the crisis and to avoid severe consequences while providing an opportunity to develop a sustainability concept for the VNS in the future.

Other organizations are affected as well by the present situation in Belarus. Under the new presidential decree on rent effective as of 1 January 2003, all non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including the BRC, will have to pay full and unaffordable rent for premises. Negotiations are ongoing with the relevant state authorities, but no resolution of the situation occurred. Payment of the Federation's statutory fees for 2003, which in the past was covered by the Belarusian government, is also pending.

Ukraine

In Ukraine, the situation is mainly unchanged. The country is moving towards a market economy, with all the challenges of the transition period. On 28 November, the president of Ukraine signed the Red Cross Law, which was passed by the Ukrainian Supreme Council. The Red Cross Law stipulates that payment of the Federation's statutory fees shall be covered by the government, that commercial and income-generating activities run by the Ukrainian Red Cross Society (URCS) shall be tax exempt, while the tracing service shall be exempt of postage fees, and the visiting nurses shall be entitled to a longer annual leave. However, another new law regarding the taxation of donations (previously tax exempt) to charity and humanitarian organizations may affect the URCS and its capacity to raise local funds.

Moldova

Moldova's humanitarian situation remains critical. The country is considered the poorest of all three covered by the delegation and the Red Cross Society of the Republic of Moldova (MRC) is committed in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable. The needs within the MRC are considerable, its capacity as a newly recognized National Society is limited and it is in the process of developing its infrastructure. The positive side is that the MRC has good bilateral relationships (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, American and Austrian Red Cross Societies) and has an opportunity to receive funds from the Global fund to fight HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria (GFATM).

Minsk delegation

In general, the funding situation remained difficult throughout 2002. Within these constraints, the Federation, in accordance with the appeal objectives, continued to support the Red Cross Societies of Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova in the field of disaster response, disaster preparedness, health and care, organizational development and promotion of humanitarian values.

Such a funding situation placed additional importance to the annual appeal process. Therefore, besides management of the ongoing programmes the delegation together with the National Societies focused its work on the planning for the Appeal 2003.

The funding situation forced the delegation to reduce its staff and to suspend its presence in Moldova. In the second half of the year the delegation received funds directly from the Secretariat's Europe department in order to keep the delegation operational. This support reflects the strong commitment of the Federation to maintain its services to the National Societies of Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus.

A new head of delegation was appointed in November and the organizational development (OD) delegate position was advertised. Presently the Minsk delegation consists of a head of delegation, a finance officer, two programme managers and a driver based in Minsk; and an acting head of office (and CHARP coordinator) and a finance officer based in Kiev.

Because most of the delegation's core costs for 2003 are allocated as part of its regional support, the delegation will be able to place more emphasis on the priority programmes of the National Societies as well as on maintaining and increasing its coordination and representation functions.

The delegation is presently restructuring its management and reviewing its approaches in the light of the Federation's change strategy for Europe. In 2003 a new management structure is being implemented, through tasking of one staff member as a focal point in providing capacity building support to each of the National Societies as required. They will be supported by technical expertise available in Moscow and Minsk delegations, as well as from the Secretariat. In order to allow for the implementation of the concept a minimum support net has to be established in the delegation.

Objectives, Achievements and Constraints

Disaster Response •

BELARUS

Disaster response in Belarus is mainly organized through the network of medico-social centres (MSC). The country is in great need of humanitarian support and the BRC is the only organization with the national coverage.

In the past year the existing structure was used efficiently. This structure has allowed the BRC to deliver food aid to the most needed population. Through the Federation organized assistance (supported by the Swiss Government and Swiss Red Cross), as well as through in-kind contributions from Swedish, Danish and Finnish Red Cross Societies, the BRC was able to mitigate the impact of the harsh socio-economic situations of the most vulnerable population groups.

Emergency relief

Objective 1: To provide short-term assistance to approximately 8,000 elderly people with no family, disabled, homeless, TB patients, ex-prisoners and children from single-parent and socially disadvantaged families during six months of the most unfavourable winter weather conditions in 2002 and 2003.

Achievements: A total of 9,050 food parcels were distributed to the beneficiaries three times over a six-week period.

Constraints: Due to logistical constraints and delays in the early stages of the operation, the programme was completed only at the end of August 2002. Despite these delays, the BRC provided vital assistance to the most underprivileged people hardest hit by poor living conditions and substandard nutritional status.

Objective 2: To strengthen local capacities as a development element of the relief programme.

Achievements: This objective was partly achieved through training activities within the OD programme supported by the capacity building fund (CBF) which facilitates the overall change process in the BRC (*for details please refer to the Organizational Development section of this report*). The training delivered to the BRC leadership under the CBF-supported project contributed towards better governance/management and more efficient fund-raising.

Furthermore, in May 2002 vulnerability capacity assessment (VCA) methods were disseminated among the BRC headquarters and regional staff members through a one-day VCA workshop in Minsk. In July a representative of the BRC headquarters received further VCA training in Italy. The participant will be utilized as a resource person for Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine.

Objective 3: To promote local community resources (human resources, goods and services).

Achievements: The delegation supported the National Society in seeking opportunities for local fund-raising and advocacy through the coaching/consultancy and training component of the OD programme. In the last year the image of the BRC improved and enabled its branches to mobilize local material and human resources. Volunteer activities launched in the autumn helped lonely elderly and disabled people with their preparations for winter. Through this programme, the National Society built a closer relationship with the media, local authorities and the social sector. In addition the BRC could secure funding for 150 visiting nurses through local government contributions, private enterprises and other sources.

Analysis and outlook for emergency relief in Belarus

Late donor response and adherence to the Federation procurement procedures caused a considerable delay of the assistance which was planned for winter and delivered in summer.

This year it is planned to link the assistance to the spring period and to allow for a timely tendering process. This operation's experience and a regional logistics training in December in Kiev have strengthened the logistics capacity of the BRC and staff members of the delegation. In addition the beneficiary selection criteria are being reviewed. Different regional committees (*oblasts*) have prepared short proposals in which they specify beneficiaries groups, logistic arrangements and connections with other RC/RC programmes to maximize the impact of the assistance.

Population movement

The state migration committee estimates there are 100,000-150,000 migrants in Belarus, mainly from Afghanistan. The Belarus-Russian border especially aggravates the migration flow. The other most

intensive migration flows reportedly originate from Ukraine, Kazakhstan and the Caucasus countries. Since 1991, more than 2,500 migrants have applied for refugee status in Belarus, and 650 of them have been granted this.

In October, the Belarusian Parliament passed changes that would bring the country's refugee law in line with the 1951 Geneva Convention and the 1967 Protocol to the Convention.

The BRC has been implementing population movement programmes since 1998 in order to meet the needs of the most vulnerable among refugees, asylum seekers and other migrants. The main target groups include single parent families, children, the elderly and large families.

Objective 1: To develop a small-scale emergency assistance project which can quickly respond to the unforeseen needs (such as for temporary shelter, medical and nutritional assistance) among the target group.

Achievements: A total of 100 refugee families received 204 food parcels through the humanitarian assistance programme supported by the Swiss Red Cross. Some 200 soft toys, 39 bed linen sets and ten mattresses for refugee families were supplied by the Austrian Red Cross. In addition, the most needed families received some 900 sets of second-hand clothing delivered by the Danish Red Cross.

Objective 2: To develop, in cooperation with the United Nation's High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) office in Minsk, two medical-social centres for refugees and asylum seekers in Minsk city and Pinsk Charity House (Brest region).

Achievements: A Red Cross MSC became operational in March 2002 in Minsk city, providing assistance to refugees and asylum seekers. The centre is equipped with a special room for medical-social activities. A therapist and a cleaning lady (both from the Afghan refugee community) are employed for the centre. During 2002, some 150 refugees received regular medico-social assistance including physiotherapy, massage, remedial gymnastics, heart and ultrasound examinations. Within the project, 146 refugees were provided with sets of basic medicines. In addition, 230 hygiene kits (toothpaste, soap, powdered detergent and other cleansing agents) were procured and distributed to the target group.

Constraints: Part of the activities in the MSC in Minsk had to be suspended due to a sudden collapse of a mirror-wall in the treatment room in March. Modification of the budget as well as purchasing and mounting process led to a delay in running therapeutic activities in the centre. Lack of funds did not allow for extension of assistance to refugees through the Pinsk Charity House.

Analysis and outlook for PM programme in Belarus

Last year the PM programme in Belarus was supported by the US Government. In 2003, the BRC intends to provide assistance to some 2,000 refugees at a medico-social centre in Minsk city. Cooperation with the UNHCR is planned in the area of dissemination. Continuity of funding is being sought through the Appeal 2003 in order to provide assistance to refugees in Pinsk.

UKRAINE

In 2002, Ukraine's ongoing economic difficulties and frequent natural and technical disasters placed additional strains on families living in poverty and added to the spread of vulnerability. The National Society's disaster response (DR) programme aimed to respond to emergency relief needs in the country.

During 2002, the URCS maintained a strong DR infrastructure with the trained staff members able to respond effectively to local disasters. Prompt action by the URCS following the Air Show accident in

Lviv in July 2002 is just one such example, when a plane explosion killed 83 people on the spot, most of them young families with children, and injured 199 people.

Immediately after the accident, the URCS Lviv branch was on the scene to provide first aid to the injured and dying. The victims were visited in hospitals and provided with dressing materials, syringes, intravenous sets, hygiene supplies, bed linen and other emergency equipment where required. Red Cross volunteers donated blood and provided psychological support to the families of the injured and dead. A total of UAH 41,585 (approximately USD 7,600) was raised locally by the URCS organizations to assist the air crash victims. The Netherlands Red Cross provided assistance with antibiotics for EUR 36,970. US citizens donated USD 800. The relief items were distributed through the hospitals where the injured were placed. The Federation responded with CHF 6,596 from the disaster response emergency fund (DREF) to reimburse the expenses of the Lviv branch.

Population movement

Since the collapse of the former Soviet Union, the population movements and various conflicts that gave rise to a large-scale population displacement in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) have had a significant impact on Ukraine. As a result, Ukraine has become an asylum country for refugees and a transit country for other migrants. New social problems related to migrants and refugees appeared.

Objective 1: To provide social assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers in a social centre for refugees and asylum seekers in Odessa.

Achievements: Regular courses focusing on computer training, Russian language instruction, first aid and vocational training (waiter) were conducted for refugees and asylum seekers. The refugees showed particularly high interest in the Russian language course.

Educational activities were organized for the refugees and families to provide basic information on family hygiene, drug and alcohol abuse, general health issues, prevention of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases. In addition, medical consultations were given in agreement with a diagnostic centre, and psychological assistance was provided by a volunteer psychologist.

The URCS organized legal advice in order to provide the refugees with information on their refugee rights and obligations, and to provide counselling on civil and criminal law issues.

In addition the URCS organized social activities at the centre on the occasion of national holiday celebrations in order to allow the refugees to maintain their cultural and ethnic identities as well as to foster social adaptation and integration of refugees and asylum seekers into the Ukrainian society.

Objective 2: To improve living conditions at detention centres for illegal migrants in Mukachevo, Chop and Lviv and to enlarge the Red Cross input in carrying out the joint task of stabilizing the epidemiological situation in the region.

Achievements: The URCS procured and distributed a total of 2,364 hygiene kits and 21 medical kits, 244 food parcels, 20 sets of bed linen and blankets and 23 litres of disinfectants. Furthermore, ten information desks were set in the detention centres to explain how to receive refugee status and where to apply, and volunteers of the Red Cross conducted educational sessions on healthy lifestyles and prevention of TB, HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases. A total of 208 illegal migrants benefited programmes run in the Lviv detention centre, and 2,191 in the detention centres in Mukachevo and Chop.

Objective 3: To improve assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers.

Objective 4: To improve the effectiveness of the mobile technical teams and the living conditions of the most vulnerable internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Objective 5: To improve psychological conditions and nutritional status of the most vulnerable IDP children.

Constraints: It was not possible to mobilize resources for the activities planned under objectives 3-5.

Objective 6: To promote the fundamental principles and humanitarian values and improve the image of the Red Cross in the public as well as in beneficiary groups.

Achievements and constraints: Due to the lack of funding and lack of food distributions, the visibility activities could not be performed at the distribution sites. However, this objective was partly achieved through the humanitarian values programme supported by the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC).

Analysis and outlook for PM programme in Ukraine

In 2002, PM activities in Ukraine were supported by the US Government and UNHCR. Although being a priority programme of the URCS, the PM is not included in the Annual Appeal 2003. In the planning phase the URCS assumed that the financial support from the UNHCR would continue in 2003. Unfortunately, the URCS was recently informed by the UNHCR that they would not be able to extend the support for 2003. The Federation and the URCS are currently exploring possibilities to secure funding for PM activities.

MOLDOVA

The Red Cross Society of the Republic of Moldova is the only nation-wide operating humanitarian organization which is providing relief support to the needy. In the past Moldova was suffering repeatedly from natural disasters. This, in addition to the high poverty level, makes the population extremely vulnerable. The MRC had provided assistance in the past through its nation-wide network of branches.

The capacity of the MRC to assist the vulnerable was demonstrated during the severe flooding which occurred in May and July 2002.

Heavy rainfalls between 30 May-5 June 2002, led to serious flooding in the central part of Moldova. The districts of Tighina and Lapushna, and the administrative territorial unit of Gagauzia were the worst affected areas, with damage to property estimated at USD 832,000. The flooding affected more than 800 people, and one person was reported dead. Nineteen homeless families were evacuated. Between 17-19 July 2002, heavy rains again pounded Tighina district causing severe flooding of some 300 houses and gardens. The disaster ruined five bridges and destroyed agricultural products on the area of 81 hectares. The total damage was estimated at USD 328,000. Some 900 people were affected by these floods.

The MRC in cooperation with local authorities carried out an assessment of needs of the flood victims. The Federation's delegation staff members visited the sites affected by the disaster for assessing and monitoring. A plan of action was elaborated by the MRC and the Federation's delegation in Minsk. The MRC branches collected food and relief items for the victims of the disaster, however the disaster exceeded the society's capacity and therefore international assistance was requested through the Federation. The Federation immediately allocated CHF 34,723.82 from the DREF for the victims of the disaster. The operation started on 1 July 2002 and was carried out within two months. A total of 864 beneficiaries from the affected areas received 590 food parcels, 590 hygiene kits, 500 bed linen sets and 631 blankets.

Furthermore, the MRC was active in addressing the needs of the poorest among the lone elderly, the disabled and multi-child families. With financial support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, nine soup kitchens are providing daily hot meals to a total of 550 beneficiaries. The activities cover the period from 15 November 2002 to 16 March 2003. Those vulnerable who are not able to come to the canteens are receiving assistance at home. A total of 1,500 food parcels and 1,500 hygiene kits will be distributed by the end of the project in 2003.

Disaster Preparedness •

BELARUS

Taking into account all technical disasters and natural emergencies (storms and floods) in Belarus during the last several years, the BRC considers further development of its disaster preparedness/disaster response (DP/DR) activities as priority. The National Society plays a complementary role to the government in disaster preparedness. Close contacts are established with the relevant authorities. The BRC regularly takes part in meetings of governmental bodies dealing with emergency situations and civil defence. The society's DP unit consists of a small warehouse, parking lots, a truck and a mobile kitchen, as well as tents and other facilities to set up a camp for 300 persons.

Objective 1: To increase the role of the Belarusian Red Cross in nation-wide and local disaster preparedness in its role as a partner in the governmental disaster preparedness plan.

Achievements: As part of the plan to train staff members and volunteers in conducting risk, vulnerability and capacity assessment, in May 2002 a one-day VCA workshop was held in Minsk for staff of the BRC headquarters and its regional staff. In July a representative of the BRC received further VCA training in Italy. It is anticipated that vulnerability and capacity assessments in Belarus will be carried out in 2003.

Constraints: Funding needs to be secured to allow the BRC to carry out vulnerability and capacity assessments in 2003.

Objective 2: To establish regional volunteer disaster response teams.

Objective 3: To improve the existing disaster preparedness material and technical base.

Constraints: No progress was made on objectives 2 and 3, due to the lack of funding.

Objective 4: To further develop the community-based first aid programme.

Since the collapse of Soviet Union, the first aid (FA) programme in Belarus was supported externally only in 1998. This programme was revitalized in September 2002, with an allocation of CHF 50,000 from the British Government's Department for International Development (DfID). A task force was established to ensure implementation of the planned activities. Grodno and Brest regions were selected as the target areas of the programme. The task force selected three main target groups which have an increased need in first aid training: schoolchildren, rescue workers and road militia. Grodno and Brest RC regional committees were invited to select additional target groups, which included personnel of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working with disabled children and single parents.

Achievements: The programme activities during the past year included the purchase of five sets of mannequins, two training of trainers (ToT) seminars, production of calendars and posters, and public events. By the end of 2002, the BRC reestablished a working team of 20 FA instructors, who are currently delivering FA training in Brest and in Grodno, among them two schoolteachers, four

professional rescuers, three road militiaman, five Red Cross staff members, a social worker, a school psychologist, an officer from the regional department of education, a pre-school teacher, director of teenager community service group and a staff member of the NGO 'Children in trouble'. Some 15 schoolchildren (ages 14-15) were trained in first aid in Grodno by two newly trained instructors. A total of 2,000 first aid wall and 3,000 pocket calendars were produced featuring drawings of winners of the children's art competition 'It is easy to save a life!'.

Constraints: The programme's timeframe was originally estimated at six months (September 2002-February 2003), however an extension for one additional month was requested in order to accomplish all the projected activities. Several factors contributed to the delay in running the activities, among them the VNS crisis and resignation of two key staff: programme coordinators at the BRC headquarters and chairperson in Brest region.

Analysis and outlook for DP programme in Belarus

The BRC views FA education as an important tool for fund-raising and volunteer mobilization. The NS made substantial efforts towards achieving self-reliance of FA activities and is currently working with the government on a legal base for training industry workers and employees in FA and emergency care. By the end of March 2003, the BRC aims to publish 3,000 workbooks for the FA course, with tests, quizzes, situations to make the course programme more diverse and to allow more time for individual work, and to produce 300 T-shirts and 300 coffee cups with the BRC logo and FA programme motto 'It is easy to save a life'. Regional committees from Grodno and Brest will carry out six to eight more seminars each, thus bringing the total number of trained people to 300.

Although no specific funds were received by the Federation for activities under objectives 1-3, the need for work in these areas is considerable. At the moment the BRC has a limited capacity to strengthen its DP services on its own and seeks international support. A regional initiative aimed to re-establish volunteer DR teams and to improve the existing DP base was supported by the Ministry of Emergencies. A memorandum of understanding (MoU), expected to be signed with the Ministry in 2003, will entitle the BRC to financial compensation from the government for expenditure related to disaster response action. Applications for grants were submitted by the regional Red Cross branch to the Empress Shoken Fund and the World Bank.

MOLDOVA

Nearly all of Moldova's territory is prone to disasters such as earthquakes, landslides, floods, hailstorms, droughts, heavy snowfall, various epidemics and radioactive and chemical contamination. In this context, disaster preparedness has been one of the most important responsibilities the MRC.

Objective 1: To obtain a recognized role in nation-wide and local disaster preparedness efforts as a partner of the national disaster preparedness authorities.

Achievements: Close contacts are established and maintained with the relevant authorities. Playing a complementary role to the government in the area of disaster preparedness and response, the MRC regularly takes part in meetings of the state bodies dealing with emergency situations and civil defense.

Constraints: These relations with the authorities have not resulted in written agreements with the MRC. Formal partnerships with donor national societies in the area of DP were not developed either.

Objective 2: To improve disaster preparedness capacities of the national society and to ensure a community-based approach to disaster preparedness with wide participation of volunteers.

Achievements: A total of 864 flood victims were provided with 590 food parcels, 590 hygiene kits, 500 bed linen sets and 631 blankets (*see section Disaster Response above*).

Constraints: Although voluntary disaster response teams are set up in large localities and at some private enterprises, funding is still needed to further develop the capacity of the MRC at the local level.

Objective 3: To continue training on first aid and response in disaster areas.

Achievements: At present, first aid volunteer training is performed together with the State Department for Emergencies. The skills of the volunteers are tested at regional competitions.

Analysis and outlook for DP programme in Moldova

Since 1996, the MRC did not receive any external funding for implementation of activities in the DP area, with the exception of support to the community-based first aid programme in 1998. Since Moldova is situated in a disaster prone area (earthquakes, landslides, draughts, floods, etc.), an appropriate DP service is essential for the National Society. Recognizing the needs in Moldova, the Federation is currently looking at different solutions for support to the MRC in this area and included DP/DR activities in the 2003 Annual Appeal.

UKRAINE

To assist the victims of natural and technological disasters is one of the essential activities of the URCS. In the last few years, the National Society was involved in assisting the population affected by hurricanes and floods in Zakarpattia, Volyn, Rivne, Zhytomir, Khmelnytsk, Ternopil, Lviv and Ivano-Frankivsk regions; landslides in Dnepropetrovsk and Chernovtsy regions, hoar frosts in Vynytsa, Odessa, Kirovograd, Khmelnytsk and Cherkasy regions; accidents in mines in Donetsk, Lugansk and Dnipropetrovsk regions; and the air show accident in Lviv. More than 500 permanent staff members, 3,200 Red Cross nurses and 1,500 Red Cross volunteers are ready to assist victims of possible disasters. Rescue units are organized in eight regions and in Kiev.

Objective 1: To improve theoretical, practical and material capacities of the Red Cross' voluntary rescue units in order to provide more efficient assistance to the victims of disasters.

Achievements: In May, a workshop for the voluntary rescue units was organized in Lviv in cooperation with local authorities and other parties involved in emergency situations and population safety. This training was delivered for Red Cross rescuers from Lviv, Ivano-Frankovsk, Zakarpattia. The workshop, including both theoretical and practical components, was also attended by heads of rescue teams from the URCS headquarters, Chernihiv and Sumy.

In July, the second workshop for the voluntary rescue units was conducted with participation of the youth alliance, 'Club Compass' and the URCS tracing service. This training was delivered to 30 RC rescuers from Ivano-Frankivsk, Chernigiv, Lviv, Zakarpattia, Lugansk and the URCS headquarters staff. Among the participants were the URCS leadership, representatives of UNHCR and mass media. The workshop was held in the form of imitation of emergencies. Voluntary rescue teams practised setting up a life-supporting camp, organizing reception and registration of beneficiaries, food supply, and providing first aid.

In October, one headquarters staff member and four heads of rescue teams attended a nine-day disaster management course organized by the Federation in Moscow.

In November, three staff from headquarters, five staff from Zakarpattia RC regional organization and regional representatives of the Ministries of Emergencies and Health visited the Hungarian RC for experience exchange and discussions on a joint action in case of a regional disaster.

In December, a seminar for the regional staff members of the URCS was conducted to review implementation of the DP programme. The seminar was attended by the URCS leadership, headquarters and regional organizations' staff, heads of rescue teams from the URCS headquarters,

Chernihiv, Lviv, Zakarpattya and Ivano-Frankivsk regional organizations. The seminar was focused on the issues of logistical support for emergency stocks and on further training for the staff of rescue teams. An important part of the seminar was experience exchange between the participants of the regional DM workshop (Moscow, October 2002) and the joint URCS/Hungarian RC seminar on disaster preparedness and response (Szolnok, Hungary in November 2002).

To better equip voluntary rescue workers, procurement of overalls (for 30 persons), sleeping bags (30 units) and footwear (30 units) was completed.

In addition, work continued to set up a fire protection system and electricity supply at the URCS DP centre. The following equipment was procured at the end of 2002: one transformer substation, six reinforced concrete bearings and some electric lighting and wiring equipment.

Objective 2: To improve communication and coordination of the rescue units with other parties involved in disaster response.

Achievements: Four sets of portable radio transmitters were purchased and distributed to the Red Cross rescue unit in Kiev.

Objective 3: To improve the response capacity of disaster preparedness.

Achievements: For emergency stocks, the URCS purchased 100 water filters and food items (200 kg of rice, 200 kg of buckwheat 200, 150 kg of macaroni, 150 cans of meat, 400 cans of fish, 200 cans of meat pate, 150 kg of sugar, 30 kg of tea and 200 cans of condensed milk).

Activities under objectives 1 and 3 were supported by a DfID allocation.

Constraints related to Objectives 1-3: Due to unforeseen circumstances the project coordinator in the URCS had to leave the job, and it took some time for a new project coordinator to take over and continue the projected activities.

Analysis and outlook for DP programme in Ukraine

Further enhancing of the DP capacities of the National Society is a high priority for 2003. Therefore, building of disaster preparedness stocks will be considered as an essential step in that direction, and will include water supply equipment, hygiene items, food and medicines. Additional funding is also required to retrain members of the Red Cross rescue teams and to increase the dissemination of the first aid training to all Red Cross staff and volunteers. The Federation plans to support these activities through the 2003 Annual Appeal.

Humanitarian Values •

BELARUS

The BRC has a well-functioning dissemination department, established with considerable support and in close cooperation with the ICRC. Promotion of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's fundamental principles and humanitarian values has a impact on changing behaviour in the community, and contributing to building a civil society. Since 1998, a number of training workshops for all regional Red Cross organizations was held and many youth volunteers were involved in the activities related to dissemination of humanitarian values and regulations of international humanitarian law (IHL).

Objective 1: To provide methodical assistance and training for young volunteers and to spread knowledge about the Movement and IHL among high school students.

Objective 2: To promote understanding and importance of humanitarian values in the Belarusian Red Cross and to train instructors at regional level on dissemination.

Objective 3: Strengthen the identity and image of the Belarusian Red Cross Society.

Achievements and constraints: Although no funding was received in response to this appeal, the activities were undertaken with human and material support from the ICRC. In addition, the issues of identity and image of the BRC were addressed through the OD training by the international consultant and further discussions with HoD.

Analysis and outlook for Humanitarian Values in Belarus

Being an agent of change in the civil society as well as in the National Society, youth represents the capacity building potential of BRC. Although the humanitarian values component is not included in the Appeal 2003, it is intended to support the BRC in its dissemination and advocacy roles through other programmes, organizational development in particular.

MOLDOVA

The MRC is undertaking efforts to disseminate the humanitarian values guiding the Movement with the aim of having greater impact in changing behaviour in the community, and contributing to building a civil society. These activities create understanding of the role of the Red Cross and international humanitarian standards. They serve as a tool to facilitate humanitarian work and seek support from public and various state bodies for the benefit of vulnerable people in Moldova. Dissemination activities help the MRC not only to raise its profile but to attract the youth as a capacity building factor.

Objective 1: To promote the humanitarian values and IHL in the national society (staff and volunteers) and to ensure their implementation in their work with the vulnerable people in the community.

Objective 2: To promote the Movement's principles, historical background, structures and activities in various population groups.

Objective 3: To intensify cooperation with the public authorities and private sector to ensure understanding and respect for the international humanitarian law and humanitarian values.

Objective 4: To strengthen the identity and image of the national society and the Movement in Moldova.

Achievements: The activities under these four objectives were undertaken with ICRC support.

Analysis and outlook for Humanitarian Values in Moldova

In absence of an office in Chisinau as well as international funding, the Federation is developing new approaches to help the country and the National Society. Based on the known donor trends, the Federation has not included humanitarian values in the 2003 Appeal, however it is intended to support the MRC in its dissemination and advocacy roles through other programmes.

Health and Care •

Dramatic increases in poverty, homelessness and illnesses including TB, HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are creating larger numbers of vulnerable populations in Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova. Their health systems are unable to meet the rising needs. In addition, an increasing number of the elderly need constant special care at home or in social institutions. More and more people are facing unbearable hardship and appeal to the National Societies for assistance.

BELARUS

The VNS is a priority service of the BRC responding to the health and social consequences of poverty, challenges faced by a lack of social-welfare services for the elderly, negative effects of the Chernobyl disaster, as well as an increase in HIV/AIDS and TB incidence. The VNS represents a significant part of the identity of the BRC. Throughout all the years of economic dislocation, the BRC visiting nurses were providing vital assistance to the most vulnerable, thus filling the gaps in state health and social services.

For many of the beneficiaries living at home would be more difficult without regular visits from a RC nurse. Visiting nurses provide medical care and company to the lone elderly, handicapped and bedridden patients, but also assist with daily chores such as cooking, cleaning and shopping.

Constraints: Unfortunately, 250 nurse positions had to be terminated in November 2002 when the funding from the Belarus government was discontinued despite the excellent reputation of this traditional RC service. Throughout the year, the BRC provided support to the most vulnerable through its network of nurses, on the assumption the pledged government funding would materialize. The salaries were not paid as a result, expecting the nurses would be fully compensated for their services, once the funds were received by the National Society.

An obligation to pay a three-month compensation (severance pay), as well as outstanding wages of up to six months (on average) created liabilities amounting to USD 60,000. This by far exceeded the BRC's available financial resources.

Achievements: In response to the VNS crisis the Federation launched an Information Bulletin appealing for assistance to the BRC. A contribution of CHF 10,000 from the Liechtenstein Red Cross was received in Minsk in December, while the pledges for further support were confirmed by the Icelandic Spanish, Swiss and Swedish Red Cross Societies. In addition, a task force was created by the BRC and the Federation to ensure there will be no repetition of such a crisis. This task force is currently developing a sustainability concept to secure the nurses and operation of their medico-social centres in 2003.

Objective 1: To strengthen the capacity and sustainability of the VNS.

Achievements: Considerable progress was made by the National Society towards the achievement of this objective. Throughout the year the BRC took action to obtain alternative funding for the programme. The fund-raising efforts of the BRC resulted in the ability to independently fund 150 nurses, with support from private enterprises, local authorities, donations from local communities, support from PNSs and other sources. The total amount raised through such initiatives came to about USD 150,000.

Constraints: Complete self-reliance of the VNS is not yet achievable in the context of the deteriorating social-economic conditions in Belarus.

Objective 2: To improve the treatment of and care for TB patients.

Constraints: Even though significant efforts were made to seek out partners to support the TB programme, continuity of funding was not secured and all the activities were suspended since May 2002.

Objective 3: To increase community awareness about the need for TB/HIV/AIDS prevention and control and to improve human rights and dignity in order to prevent stigmatization and discrimination against persons with TB, HIV/AIDS and their families.

Achievements: The youth of the BRC play an increasing role in combating HIV/AIDS and TB epidemics in Belarus. The knowledge and competence the BRC gained from the TB/VNS programme is currently being used in a peer education project, supported by the Danish Red Cross and Empress Shoken Fund. The training module on HIV/AIDS prevention was developed to include a TB prevention component. This project covers the period from 1 June 2002 to 30 August 2003. The period of implementation was originally estimated at 12 months and later extended to 15 months, following the agreement from the Danish RC and Empress Shoken Fund.

During the year, the activities were focused on producing and disseminating a number of information materials on HIV/AIDS and TB prevention, including leaflets (15,000), posters (5,000), wall calendars (3,000), and trainer manuals (200), T-shirts and pullovers for volunteers (450) and other visibility material, such as badges. Apart from visibility materials, awareness was raised through the youth camp activities (five-day event for 36 participants), training-of-trainers sessions (for 74 volunteer trainers) and educational sessions for the target groups at schools.

Constraints: Further efforts and funding are needed to replicate these youth activities on a countrywide scale.

Objective 4: To support diagnostic facilities.

Constraints: No progress was made on this objective, due to the lack of donor funding.

Analysis and outlook for Health and Care in Belarus

The BRC is identified as a key partner in the implementation of the social and psychological support within the state programme on HIV prevention. The state programme is however severely under funded. The Belarus government submitted an application to the Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria for the second round of allocations. Although this application was not accepted for funding in the second round, it was recommended for resubmission in the next round. If the application is successful, subject to a functioning county coordination mechanism, the BRC will be considered as one of the potential partners in implementing HIV/AIDS prevention activities.

While the TB epidemic remains one of the major public health problems in the country, the BRC has unfortunately not been able to secure support from the government. In the meantime, negotiations between the government and the World Bank on a loan for the TB/AIDS project have continued throughout the year and the World Bank officials now hope the project will get off the ground in 2003.

Through the 2003 Annual Appeal, BRC aims to continue its HIV/TB prevention work in Minsk city but considers it especially important to replicate the activities at regional and district levels.

MOLDOVA

The MRC has a history of active involvement in health programmes. In order to perform tasks in the welfare services and to take over responsibilities in the areas such as TB/AIDS campaign, an improved VNS structure becomes increasingly important.

Objective 1: To build the capacity of the visiting nurses service.

Objective 2: To assist the Ministry of Health in adjusting the TB diagnostics and treatment to the directly observed treatment short-course (DOTS) in the municipality of Chisinau and in the regions of Lapusna and Orhei.

Objective 3: To provide social assistance through nutritional and hygiene support to the most vulnerable TB patients in the selected target areas and to large families at risk of developing TB.

Objective 4: To increase awareness of the population regarding the prevention and control of TB, HIV/AIDS and STDs and to promote human rights and dignity in order to prevent stigmatization and discrimination against persons with TB and their families.

Achievements: Some of these objectives were achieved through a bilateral programme supported by the Austrian Red Cross. This one-year programme is ongoing since May 2002. The programme targets 350 TB patients, who receive directly observed treatment in compliance with the World Health Organization recommended strategy for TB control, and 650 vulnerable families at risk of developing TB. By the end of the programme the target beneficiaries will be supplied with 10,000 food parcels and 5,984 hygiene kits. In addition, the NS will produce and distribute 25,000 booklets on TB prevention and 25,000 booklets on HIV/AIDS. Through this programme, the MRC was able to secure a total of 43 nurse positions and seven headquarters' staff members for 12 months.

To improve health conditions in the Lipcani prison with ICRC support, the MRC purchased and distributed 125 parcels for 125 juvenile prisoners. This action was carried out in September.

During the reporting period, the network of nurses and volunteers of the MRC was utilized for the national immunization campaign against measles and rubella. The activities took place from 1 October 2002 to 31 January 2003. Playing a social mobilization role, the MRC produced and distributed a total of 650,000 bookmarks containing information about the campaign and about the fundamental principles of the Movement, and a total of 10,349 (6,000 in Romanian and 4,349 in Russian) copies of a volunteer guide 'Handbook for volunteers'. In addition, soup kitchens were organized for street children. This was also a bilateral programme supported by the American Red Cross.

Analysis and outlook for Health and Care in Moldova

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria awarded Moldova a total of USD 11.7 million for five years. The MRC submitted its proposal to the government for USD 400,000 for five years to take care of 6,000 TB patients. These activities are complementary to the current Austrian RC project. However, the National Society's involvement with the GFATM funds is subject to re-endorsement by the county coordinating mechanism (CCM) and MRC may not receive the level of funds indicated in the proposal. In the meantime, the Federation continues to provide technical support to the MRC in realizing the funding potential from the CCM of the GFATM, so that the TB and HIV/AIDS activities could successfully continue.

In 2003 the Federation will continue to build up the capacity of the NS in primary health care. The community-based structure of the Red Cross VNS and MSCs is too small to make a significant change in the health situation in the country. The capacity of the VNS will be further strengthened and the NS volunteers network will be developed as a part of its identity.

UKRAINE

Since 1961 the URCS was providing medical and social assistance to the most vulnerable through its visiting nurses service. The VNS is a priority Red Cross activity in Ukraine. This traditional service provides strong operational structure for the URCS, increasing its effectiveness in responding to civic needs, and enhancing its image within the communities, as well as its standing towards the authorities. The VNS is a vehicle that the Red Cross is using to advance towards the realization of the social goal of 'Health for all' through primary health care. The VNS is instrumental in implementing the TB and HIV/AIDS prevention programmes. In the field of HIV/AIDS and TB prevention, the URCS

accumulated a great deal of experience and is a close partner to the Ministry of Health, the Ukrainian Centre for AIDS Prevention and Control, scientific research institutes and other state institutions.

Red Cross youth against HIV/AIDS

Objective 1: To mobilize the Ukraine Youth Red Cross resources and organize training for those involved in HIV/AIDS project activities in both information and dissemination among children and youth.

Achievements: During 2002, the URCS continued to put knowledge and tools in the hands of young people in the field of prevention and control of HIV/AIDS. A task force was set up by the URCS to carry out educational activities in three pilot regions: Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhya and Cherkassy. By the end of the year, the following progress was made: three seminars for youth leaders took place; three volunteer groups for working with the youth were created; and a total of 95 people educated. In all pilot regions training seminars took place: for VNs on HIV/AIDS education among youth; for RC staff members on how to work with risk groups; for RC staff members on HIV/AIDS prevention with a total of 155 people educated; one training seminar for 30 visiting nurses on HIV/AIDS youth education; four district seminars for nurses and volunteers in Dnipropetrovsk region with a total of 80 people educated; three district seminars for youth leaders and volunteers in Zaporizhzhya region with a total 60 people educated; and in Cherkassy region a total of 170 volunteers were educated.

The project has not only helped the URCS to educate staff and develop its contact network, but also caused a great interest of the public and media.

Objective 2: To increase awareness of the risk groups among the youth regarding prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and to promote human rights and dignity in order to reduce the stigmatization, discrimination and intolerance against people with HIV/AIDS.

Achievements: A total of ten self-awareness trainings were conducted for schoolchildren and students. A total of 155 trained volunteers and representatives of risk groups (HIV-infected and drug users) were actively involved in peer education activities. In Dnipropetrovsk region a mobile information station was set up jointly with a youth social centre. The main activities are: youth smoking and drug prevention; promotion of healthy lifestyles; and HIV/AIDS prevention. A total of 2,231 schoolchildren were involved in sanitary and education work in Dnipropetrovsk region. A total of 12,437 volunteers were involved in joint RC/NGO educational activities in Zaporizhzhya. A needle exchange post was organized for intravenous drug-users in Zaporizhzhya. Cherkassy regional RC branch conducted informational youth activities on 19 May and a disco with the theme 'Look into the future'. The funds collected at the disco were for the benefit of children living with HIV/AIDS.

Objective 3: To make the target groups aware of their primary responsibilities in maintaining and developing their own health through such means as healthy lifestyle and behavioural changes and to organize active face-to-face advocacy or public campaigns among youth and children.

Achievements: The URCS organized a countrywide youth campaign under the motto "Choose Life" to prevent HIV/AIDS and promote healthy lifestyle among youth. Charity actions were held on the International AIDS Memorial Day, Children's protection Day, World AIDS Day and others. In addition, all three pilot regions organized nine seminars for a total of 150 schoolchildren and student volunteers. In Zaporizhzhya region a final competition on healthy life style among teenagers was conducted. In total, 187 teams from all districts took part in this event.

To attract public attention and promote the youth Red Cross, the National Society actively cooperated with local mass media and provided them with materials on HIV/AIDS prevention. A total of 8,000

leaflets were distributed in July and August all over the country with a focus on Zaporozhje, Cherkassy and Dnepropetrovsk regions. The leaflets targeted youth, especially in rural areas.

Constraints: No major constraints were reported during the project implementation. In Cherkassy region one seminar was held earlier than originally scheduled. The seminar was rescheduled in order to cover a larger audience of young people at the youth summer camp. This change in the schedule created some delay with the money transfer but eventually the problem was resolved.

Visiting nurses service

Objective 1: To do sociological research in Nikolayev, Zaporozhie, Chernovtsy *oblasts* and the city of Kiev.

Objective 2: To inform the heads of the VNS about the research and its results and to propose further directions.

Objective 3: To improve the material and technical base and professional skills of the visiting nurses.

Constraints: Funding was not available for objectives 1-3.

TB/visiting nurses service programme

Objective 1: To strengthen the capacity and sustainability of the VNS.

Objective 2: To scale up training of VNS, VN instructors and Red Cross staff members.

Objective 3: To promote nursing as a profession and as a service.

Objective 4: To increase awareness of the population regarding the prevention and control of TB/HIV/AIDS and STDs, and to promote human rights and dignity of patients and their families.

Constraints: With an abrupt termination of donor support to the TB programme in Ukraine, these four planned objectives were not achieved.

Objective 5: To provide an increasingly wide range of services to the most vulnerable.

Achievements: During the reporting period, the VNS continued to provide social and medical assistance to the disabled and lonely elderly, multi-child families, as well as orphans in their homes and at local centres. In addition to the nursing care, the services included prevention of contagious diseases, informing the population of safe health practices, cultivating the needs for personal hygiene and healthy lifestyle. To date, more than 420,000 pensioners and disabled persons are registered with the service, of which nearly 24,000 are bedridden. To address their needs the service employs 3,200 nurses. The government subsidizes their salaries and local authorities support the VNS by providing premises. In addition to home-based services, the nurses run 473 MSC/R and 569 clothing banks (mainly located in remote areas where no other medical assistance is possible). There are four Red Cross hospitals, five indoor hostels (based at MSC), two hospices and two hospice departments operating under the joint patronage of the VNS and health authorities.

Blood donor recruitment

Objective 1: To develop a strategy of non-remunerated blood donor recruitment, especially among youth.

Achievements: In October representatives from the URCS carried out a study visit to the blood service of the Belgian Red Cross. Upon return to Kiev, a board meeting of the URCS proposed a strategy of non-remunerated blood donor recruitment, which was reflected in a resolution and distributed to the branches. Furthermore, recent negotiations with the government resulted in the inclusion of URCS in the national blood programme.

Objective 2: To upgrade the capacities and knowledge of the staff members of the National Society in recruiting and retaining non-remunerated blood donors.

Achievements: The team which visited the Belgian RC prepared a summary of the experiences and methodologies learned for use by the RC branches as recommendations for development of their blood donor activities.

Constraints: The related promotion, information and education materials were not produced due to absence of funds.

Objective 3: To promote non-remunerated blood donations among the general population and the youth in particular.

Constraints: the URCS planned to organize a meeting of honourable donors and blood recipients and broadcast it on the national television, arrange blood donor recruitment activities at regional level and to broadcast the Red Cross video materials on TV. These activities were not carried out due to absence of funds.

Analysis and outlook for Health and Care in Ukraine

In 2002 the HIV/AIDS programme was supported by a DfID allocation. Since July 2002 the HIV/AIDS programme was supported by funding from Netherlands Red Cross. This is a two-year allocation (1 July 2002–30 June 2004), enables the URCS to carry out HIV/AIDS prevention work in two new pilot regions (Donetsk and Poltava) and to continue the activities in Dnipropetrovsk region.

In addition, the Global Fund against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria pledged a total of USD 92,152,744 to help the Ukrainian government to fight HIV/AIDS. In 2003 the URCS will continue to focus on prevention of HIV/AIDS and TB. Funds will be sought through the GFATM, with the pending request to the country coordinating mechanism in Ukraine. The request of the URCS for funding is USD 3,271,000 for five years. The funds are planned to be used for the information/education and medical-psychosocial support to the youth in rural areas and to street children with the purpose of HIV/AIDS prevention. However, the CCM has not yet started the distribution of the allocated grant funds to NGOs and the URCS may have difficulties in accessing these funds. This will be an area requiring the Federation's support next year. TB also remains a priority programme for the URCS. In 2003, Ukraine will receive a loan from the World Bank of USD 60 million for anti-TB/AIDS activities and the URCS works towards participating in this programme as well.

In 2003, the URCS will seek funding to evaluate its VNS in order to assess the appropriateness of the service in its auxiliary role to governmental activities in health and social work. It is expected that the evaluation will help redefine the role and activities of the nurses and will bring about further improvements of the service. Furthermore, the capacity of the VNS will be further strengthened through supplying of 250 medical nursing kits and seven units of medical equipment, as well as through training aimed at enhancing the professional skills of the nurses. In addition 3,200 copies of training manuals will be produced and distributed to the nurses.

The outlook for the development of blood donor activities in 2003 is positive. Being part of the national blood programme the URCS will receive support from the government.

Organizational Development •

The 2001 Kiev conference on integration and development brought about a renewed commitment of the National Societies in the region towards organizational development, especially through diversification of funding sources, adoption of contemporary methods of governance and management, and meaningful involvement of youth and volunteers.

BELARUS

Achievements: An important change process was triggered within the BRC over the last year. This process involves the entire National Society as a complex and interrelated system in order to achieve sustainable behaviour change, cultural change, systems change, structural change and other change. With the assistance from the capacity building fund, the work started focusing on strengthening of management, governance and human resources of the headquarters and branches, as well as helping the NS to formulate its development plan.

With strong support from the delegation and an international consultant, notable progress was made by the BRC through two governance, management, fund-raising workshops in June and a follow-up effort in October. Building on the plans and commitments made in June and as a result of the executive coaching in June/October, the president agreed to specific recommendations for changes in the BRC statutes to strengthen the board of directors and other changes to strengthen the management of BRC. In October, a special meeting of the presidium debated and approved steps to change the BRC statutes to separate governance and management, including having different persons serve as the head of the board (volunteer chairperson) and the staff director (paid president) and to strengthen the board by the election of more outside directors who would have skills in health, management and fund-raising. Similar changes would be made at the *oblast* and district levels. As a first step in this direction, in November a volunteer head of the board (director of a commercial enterprise) was elected in Bobruysk, Mogilev region.

A task force was established to develop exact wording and to discuss the plans with the government and the Federation. The president and the presidium agreed the functions and membership of the board and management will be separated in 2003. Plans to have another presidium meeting in February and a Plenum meeting in late April to approve these changes were agreed.

Furthermore, with DfID funding the BRC completed a preparatory phase for the establishment of a computer-based communication and information network to connect the headquarters and eight regional committees. The data communications network will enable the BRC to cost-effectively bring together isolated systems, efficiently access and share real-time information, monitor the use of funds and accounting in the field and, ultimately, to improve operational efficiency. Part of the hardware was installed in the BRC headquarters in December 2002. This project is complementary to the ongoing change process within the BRC.

A project planning process (PPP) training, coupled with a logistics component for the participants from the Red Cross Societies of Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine and Russia was held in Kiev on 2-7 December 2002.

Objective 1: To raise awareness among young people in Belarus and to promote leadership in youth volunteers.

Objective 2: To give a professional profile to youth activities (pilot youth projects in two regional cities).

Achievements: These two objectives were tackled through the youth HIV/TB project (*see section Health and Care above*).

Objective 3: To build relations of mutual trust, respect and understanding between the leadership and young volunteers and leaders of the National Society, to find the implementation tools for the youth policy and strategy and to establish the Belarusian Red Cross youth mission by the end 2003.

Achievements: Youth Red Cross representatives participated in all meetings of the National Society, including management meetings to discuss its development plan and planning for short-term actions in governance, management and fund-raising. The BRC leadership attended youth Red Cross events. Active participation of youth in projects and programmes carried out by the National Society was promoted (HIV/AIDS and TB prevention, first aid, dissemination, visiting nurses). Future involvement and more independent action of the youth are reflected in the development plan of the NS drafted by the BRC task force.

Analysis and outlook for OD in Belarus

Despite the recent VNS crisis and other unfavourable circumstances, the change process is moving ahead at several levels of the BRC. The president and the board are changing and the management and regional structures are beginning to change. There is a rising awareness at the management level that change is really coming at the presidential and board levels and the roles of all managers will be changing too. The growing commitment by the leadership of the BRC to make the needed changes was evident to staff from the delegation and the Federation's Secretariat in June and October 2002.

In 2003, the annual appeal seeks to support the next stage of coaching, training and consulting for the BRC. In addition to a continuation of governance and management initiative, the delegation will facilitate the establishment of the computer network and other systems of communications data management, financial records, and human resource management in the BRC.

MOLDOVA

As a national relief organization, the MRC has capacity building among its priorities. The National Society faces many challenges due to difficult social and economic conditions in the country, including the growing number of the vulnerable; its place and role in the community; and the response capacity. Despite the growing needs, the current level of Red Cross activities is low, due to limited external funding, as well as a low-level of funding opportunities locally.

Objective 1: To promote local fund-raising.

Objective 2: To improve the capacity of the selected staff members and volunteers.

Objective 3: To improve the material and technical capacity of the national society, especially at the local level.

Objective 4: To actively involve more youth volunteers in the preparation, implementation and evaluation of the national society's programmes.

Constraints: No progress was made on these four objectives over the reporting period due to the lack of funding support.

Analysis and outlook for OD in Moldova

Although in 2002 funding was not available for these four objectives, the delegation is currently looking into different options to strengthen its support to the MRC.

UKRAINE

Changes in the political, economic and legal circumstances created new challenges for the URCS, requiring new skills, knowledge and technical know-how. To achieve this, development of resources to improve the overall effectiveness and impact of the NS programmes is essential. In line with this, improved financial management was identified by the URCS as a key area for organizational development.

Objective 1: To strengthen the capacities of financial services of the URCS at the branch level.

Objective 2: To set up a training programme for the URCS staff members.

Achievements: Further funding for strengthening the financial services of the NS was obtained through an application to the Federation's capacity building fund. The CBF allocation enabled the URCS to set up a computer network and information system to connect headquarters with 17 regional branch finance departments. A training programme was established to ensure the installation of this new system is well supported and that finance staff at all levels are enabled to provide more efficient financial management and reporting. In accordance with the training plan, a five-day workshop for *oblast*-level Red Cross financial staff was organized in June. This new system facilitates better coordination and information exchange on programme management.

As reported by the URCS headquarters, the regional committees that were covered by this project improved their financial reporting and the information exchange between the regions and headquarters has become more efficient.

Analysis and outlook for OD in Ukraine

The present financial structure of the NS includes 26 chief accountants of regional organizations and seven finance officers at the headquarters level. With support of the Federation's CBF, the financial departments of the NS received 17 units of computer hardware and bookkeeping software, which covered the needs of 13 regional organizations and the headquarters. In 2003, the Federation intends to finalize the support to the development of the financial networks, through a provision of 17 computers and relevant financial software to the remaining regional offices of the URCS.

Coordination and Management •

By the end of 2002 the situation for the delegation in Minsk had eased to a certain extent. The strong commitment of the Europe Department at the Federation's Secretariat, which was reflected in resource allocations for the core costs, to keep the delegation operational allowed it to pay more attention to the National Societies. The delegation was able to maintain an office in Kiev though could not yet re-establish its presence in Moldova.

Objective 1: To promote and represent the Federation in the region.

Achievements: Over the year, the Federation took an active role in all areas of international representation. The head of delegation and national staff participated in meetings with international organizations and authorities of the three countries, using the existing fora to advocate the Federation's initiatives including TB and HIV/AIDS prevention. Discussions were held with the communication department in GVA to promote further the work of the National Societies and the delegation. A new approach to serve PNS with small features for their own publication was introduced. In December the delegation facilitated a visit of a Japanese TV crew (NTV) covering the activities of the BRC funded by the Empress Shoken Fund.

Objective 2: To ensure the effective management of the delegation.

Achievements: Despite several constraints the financial management of the delegation was successful in achieving a balanced financial result at the end of the year. Expenses of the delegation were controlled. The number of international and local staff members was reduced. At the end of the reporting period some essential maintenance and security requisitions could be purchased. Despite the reductions and the tight financial situation the spirit and the commitment of the local staff members remained high. Staff meetings were conducted regularly. In November staff meetings were intensified in the light of a participatory management approach. A joint planning meeting for Minsk and Kiev staff members was held in December.

Regular appraisals of staff members were conducted. The performance development review system will be introduced to all staff in January 2003.

Objective 3: To provide competent support and assistance to the management of the Belarusian, Moldovan and Ukrainian National Societies, especially with regard to the provisions of the Strategy 2010 and development of a cooperation agreement strategy (CAS).

Achievements: Meetings with the leadership of the three National Societies were held regularly, as well as delegation/National Society senior management meetings. Efforts were made to facilitate a dialogue with the partner National Societies. Technical input was provided to the National Society programmes. This includes assistance in the development of project proposals to various partners and drafting the annual appeal 2003. The delegation provided the National Societies with expertise in logistics, finance and reporting. Vulnerability assessment methods were supported through the VCA workshop in Minsk. A representative of the Belarusian Red Cross received further VCA training in Italy (in future he will be available as a trainer and resource person for the region), and a representative of the Ukrainian Red Cross went to Italy for a PPP course.

Constraints: Support to the NS in Moldova was limited due to financial constraints.

Objective 4: To ensure proper coordination of partner national societies and other donors' support to the three National Societies in the region.

Achievements: The National Societies in the region received support in their strategic planning and preparation of individual project proposals and budgets. The delegation in Minsk played a key role in helping the NSs to design and negotiate a number of successful project proposals to TACIS, governments and funds. In so doing, the delegation made the information available to the NSs concerning funding requirements of different partners and donors. Potential partners and donors received proper information on the strategic priorities of the NSs in the region. This was achieved through increased number of contacts with the World Bank, TACIS, UN agencies, governmental organizations, ministries and embassies. The system of timely and accurate reporting for the different donors and partners was maintained.

Objective 5: To provide better financial and budget management support to the National Societies in the region.

Achievements: The National Societies in the region were supported in their regular reporting on programme activities and expenditure. Support was provided to the National Societies in procedures related to development of budgets and budget control.

Objective 6: To provide capacity building support to the three national societies essential to their change process.

Greater emphasis was given to capacity building, in particular to the promotion of modern methods of governance and management as well as strengthening of communication and financial systems. This

work was further intensified with allocations from the Federation's capacity building fund and DFID (for details see section *Organizational Development of this report*).

Analysis and outlook

In the past years, the Federation's delegation support to the Red Cross Society of the Republic of Moldova was limited. A new management structure, which is now being established in the delegation, will allow for a more intensive support to this National Society. In 2003, a senior programme officer will be assigned as a focal person and budget holder in Moldova. He will be officially based in Minsk but will spend at least 10 days per month in Moldova working with the NS. The main focus will be establishing a dialogue, capacity building, assisting the NS in identification of funding opportunities, providing PPP training and working on the Federation's agreement.

Conclusions •

The down-sizing of the delegation, the suspension of the presence in Moldova and the struggle for resources to cover core and programme costs affected the service to the National Societies. Within these financial and human resource constraints, but with the financial support from the Europe department in Geneva, the Minsk delegation was able to continue delivering assistance to the three National Societies in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine. This assistance included the Chernobyl Humanitarian Assistance and Rehabilitation Programme (CHARP) with the participation of the National Societies from Belarus, Russian Federation and Ukraine. The extent of the service given to the National Societies varied considerably due to the described constraints.

The delegation is presently restructuring its management and reviewing its approaches in the light of the European change strategy of the Federation. In line with the Federation's change process, the delegation in Minsk is developing a new model of support to the National Societies in the region.

This model includes a more comprehensive approach towards capacity building, redefining of roles and a more effective placement of national staff, a full introduction of the budget holder concept, as well as sharing of resources and technical expertise with the delegation in Moscow. This will involve more effective use and sharing of available human and financial resources, both from the delegations in Minsk and in Moscow. This new model of support to the National Societies in the region will be implemented and tested in 2003.

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 web site at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES

Interim report	
Annual report	X
Final report	

Appeal No & title: 01.51/2002 Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine
Period: year 2002
Project(s): PBY001, 160, 401, 502, 517, 518, UA161, 401, 502, 526, 580
Currency: CHF

I - CONSOLIDATED RESPONSE TO APPEAL

FUNDING	CASH		KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL INCOME
	Contributions	Comments	Goods/Services	Personnel	
Appeal budget	2,118,653				
less					
Cash brought forward	-28,360				
TOTAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT	2,147,013				
<i>Contributions from Donors</i>					
American Government PRM (DGUSPRM)	59,465				59,465
American Red Cross (DNUS)	15,000				15,000
Danish Red Cross (DNDK)	46,918				46,918
DFID - British Government (DFID)	90,000				90,000
DFID 3- British Government (DFID03)	145,224				145,224
Donor - Capacity Building Fund (DCBF)	158,850				158,850
Donor - Disaster Relief Emergency Fu (DRE)	7,411				7,411
Donor - Unidentified (D000)	392				392
Finnish Red Cross (DNFI)	7,571				7,571
French Red Cross (DNFR)	7,809				7,809
Norwegian Red Cross (DNNO)	2,142				2,142
Private Donors-online donations (DPOLD)	123				123
Swiss Red Cross (DNCH)	100,000				100,000
FINNISH - RC			82,906		82,906
SWEDISH - RC			149,500		149,500
AUSTRIA				8,378	8,378
DENMARK				40,903	40,903
NEW ZEALAND				48,460	48,460
TOTAL	640,904		232,406	97,741	971,051

II - Balance of funds

OPENING	-28,360
CASH INCOME Rcv'd	640,904
CASH EXPENDITURE	-590,160

CASH BALANCE	22,384

Appeal No & title: 01.51/2002 Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine

Period: year 2002

Project(s): PBY001, 160, 401, 502, 517, 518, UA161, 401, 502, 526, 580

Currency: CHF

III - Budget analysis / Breakdown of expenditures

Description	APPEAL Budget	CASH Expenditures	KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL Expenditures	Variance
			Goods/services	Personnel		
<u>SUPPLIES</u>						
Shelter & Construction	31,594					31,594
Clothing & Textiles	15,275	10,580	232,406		242,986	-227,711
Food & Seeds	329,540	117,994			117,994	211,546
Water & sanitation		1,298			1,298	-1,298
Medical & First Aid	441,599	12,015			12,015	429,584
Teaching materials	24,000	5,786			5,786	18,214
Utensils & Tools	6,940	199			199	6,741
Other relief supplies	51,180	8,420			8,420	42,760
Sub-Total	900,128	156,292	232,406		388,698	511,430
<u>CAPITAL EXPENSES</u>						
Land & Buildings	14,000	12,309			12,309	1,691
Vehicles						
Computers & Telecom equip.	73,975	70,610			70,610	3,365
Medical equipment	19,851					19,851
Other capital expenditures	14,670					14,670
Sub-Total	122,496	82,919			82,919	39,577
<u>TRANSPORT & STORAGE</u>	82,261	30,574			30,574	51,687
Sub-Total	82,261	30,574			30,574	51,687
<u>PERSONNEL</u>						
Personnel (delegates)	94,000	20,813		97,741	118,554	-24,554
Personnel (national staff)	319,401	122,295			122,295	197,106
Sub-Total	413,401	143,107		97,741	240,848	172,553
<u>GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION</u>						
Assessment/Monitoring/experts	7,755	23,298			23,298	-15,543
Travel & related expenses	21,675	6,213			6,213	15,462
Information expenses	93,796	17,954			17,954	75,842
Admin./general expenses	112,515	61,846			61,846	50,669
External workshops & Seminars	131,574	17,920			17,920	113,654
Sub-Total	367,315	127,231			127,231	240,084
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>						
Programme management	142,861	44,319			44,319	98,542
Technical services	42,765	13,269			13,269	29,496
Professional services	47,426	14,720			14,720	32,706
Sub-Total	233,052	72,308			72,308	160,744
Operational provisions		-22,272			-22,272	22,272
Transfers to National Societies						
TOTAL BUDGET	2,118,653	590,160	232,406	97,741	920,307	1,198,346