

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

DISASTER RELIEF EMERGENCY FUND

March 2004

Appeal No. 01.95/03; Appeal target: CHF 3,400,000(USD 2,446,214 or EUR 2,336,657); Appeal coverage: 52.6%

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 180 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

Overall analysis of the programme

The Disaster Relief Emergency Fund is one of the International Federations main disaster response tools. It was established in 1985 as is part of the organisations overall centrally managed and coordinated disaster response capacity. The Fund continued to prove itself as an invaluable disaster response tool to both the national societies and delegations. Funds were released in minimal time ensuring that funding was guaranteed almost immediately after the occurrence of the disaster. Approximately 42% of the disasters allocated with DREF were classified as major disasters and therefore required that appeals be launched. The opening balance for 2003 was CHF 7,656,516 and the closing balance was CHF 8,798,523. The total amount of contributions for 2003 was a CHF 1,787,209 which was approximately 52.6% of the amount appealed for.

Objectives, Achievements, and Constraints

Objective: To make DREF a guaranteed line of credit for new emergencies.

Achievements

During the reporting period 34 DREF allocations were made for a total of CHF 3,023,758. Of this amount CHF 1,942,374 was reimbursed to the Fund (please see annex 1 for details). Of the operations funded 14 launched emergency appeals. Of those which launched emergency appeals 11 have fully reimbursed, three were able to carry out partial reimbursements, two requested full waivers and 16 did not reimbursed partly due to the fact that most of the allocations were made at the end of the last quarter. DREF has been particularly useful for operations which have not launched appeals and were short of funding as it provided the necessary funds to provide relief to the victims at the early stages of the operation. Allocations from the previous fiscal year were followed up and were either reimbursed or waived. Waivers for DREF were requested when operations did not attract sufficient donor interest. Three reports were issued on DREF developments and allocations in 2003.

Allocations for disaster preparedness and assessments were made for a total of CHF 280,000 (3 operations) of the total allocated during the reporting period. Of the 34 allocations 22 were in response to sudden natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes. The table reflects details of allocations made regionally during the reporting period.

Region	# of Allocations *	Allocated CHF†	% of total allocated ‡	Reimbursed CHF§	% of amount allocated**
Africa	12	0	36%	0	68%
Americas	6	0	13%	0	13%
Asia/Pacific	10	0	40%	0	80%
Europe	3	0	3%	0	0%
Middle East & North Africa	3	0	9%	200,000	74%
Total	34	0		200,000	64%

* Number of DREF allocations made in each region

† total amount allocated to the region

‡ percentage of total amount allocated in relation to global amount of allocations

§ amount reimbursed by region

** percentage reimbursed in relation to amount allocated regionally

Over one third of the operations were allocated with DREF in the last quarter of the year and it is therefore anticipated that reimbursements will take place in the 1st quarter of 2004. It is worth noting that operations which have not launched appeals managed to fully or partially reimburse – this is mainly due to the fact the more emphasis. Waiver requests for 2003 amounted to CHF 77,200 for the Morocco and Uganda National Society Assistance operation – Uganda had a partial waiver and Morocco was fully waived. Regardless of their financial standing, operations have made commendable efforts to reimburse the Fund. It has been effectively conveyed to users of the DREF that regardless of whether operations have launched an appeal or not all efforts to reimburse must be exhausted before a request for waiver is considered. Over 80% of the allocations in the reporting period were in response to sudden disasters. Approximately 20 % were allocations made to assessment missions and slow onset disasters.

Some operations made multiple allocations to DREF due to uncertainty of the scale of the disaster once it struck whereas others made applications and were unable to use them as donations where made in minimal time. This further proved the need for DREF as an immediate response tool particularly when funds were slow in coming. Operations provided written justifications for waiver requests. Recovery of allocations was manual although much effort was exerted on automating reimbursements. This has advanced and it is anticipated that by the end of the current fiscal year (2004) automation will be in full effect.

Constraints

The main constraint faced by the fund was reimbursement procedures – as it was not automated it took a significant number of man hours to ensure that operations which had sufficient funds reimbursed.

Conclusions

As has always been the case, donor interest and support is crucial in order that the fund is sustained. During the reporting period significant improvements have been achieved in the management of the fund and particularly in the area of reimbursements. It is necessary that the close monitoring of the disbursements and reimbursements is continued if the fund is to reach its target of CHF 10,000,000.

[Financial report below; click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)

Annex I

ALLOCATIONS GRANTED 2003

Location ^{††}	Disaster Type	Date	Approved	Reimbursed	Remaining
AFRICA					
Mozambique	Floods	08-Jan-03	70,000	70,000	0
Mauritania	Food Insecurity	20-Feb-03	100,000	100,000	0
Uganda	Support to NS	20-Feb-03	50,000	42,800	7,200
Chad	CAR Refugees & Returnees	19-Mar-03	20,000	0	20,000
Zimbabwe	Malaria Emergency	22-Apr-03	162,000	162,000	0
Nigeria	Liberian Asylum Seekers	08-Jul-03	10,000	1,287	8,713
Gambia	Storms	01-Aug-03	30,000	30,000	0
Sudan	Floods	04-Aug-03	200,000	200,000	0
Sahel Region	Floods	08-Sep-03	125,000	125,000	0
Zambia	Cholera Outbreak	10-Oct-03	50,000	0	50,000
Chad	Assessment Mission Refugees	23-Oct-03	60,000	0	60,000
Angola and neighbours	Population Movement	03-Nov-03	200,000	0	200,000
			1,077,000	731,087	345,913
AMERICAS					
Bolivia	Floods	24-Jan-03	30,000	0	30,000
Argentina	Floods	01-May-03	50,000	50,000	0
Mexico	Floods	21-Oct-03	80,000	0	80,000
Dominican Republic	Floods	27-Nov-03	80,000	0	80,000
Haiti	Floods & Landslides	24-Dec-03	95,000	0	95,000
Cost Rica & Panama	Earthquake	25-Dec-03	50,000	0	50,000
			385,000	50,000	335,000
ASIA					
Bangladesh	Winter Relief	03-Jan-03	50,056	31,287	18,769
Mongolia	Snowfall	10-Jan-03	300,000	300,000	0
Fiji	Cyclone Ami	23-Jan-03	80,000	80,000	0
North Korea	SARS	05-May-03	100,000	100,000	0
Sri Lanka	Floods	19-May-03	50,000	50,000	0
India	Drought	02-Jul-03	100,000	100,000	0
China	Floods	21-Jul-03	300,000	300,000	0
China	Gansu Earthquake	30-Oct-03	106,952	0	106,952
Viet Nam	Floods	01-Dec-03	81,000	0	81,000
Viet Nam	Floods	18-Dec-03	28,750	0	28,750
			1,196,758	961,287	235,471
EUROPE					
Russia	Severe School Fires	11-Apr-03	15,000	0	15,000
Ukraine	Influx of Illegal Migrants	23-May-03	30,000	0	30,000
Kazakhstan	Earthquake	27-May-03	50,000	0	50,000
			95,000	0	95,000
MENA					
Tunisia	Cold Wave & Heavy Rains	01-Feb-03	50,000	0	50,000
Algeria	Earthquake	22-May-03	200,000	200,000	0
Morocco	NS Assistance	22-Aug-03	20,000	0	20,000
			270,000	200,000	70,000
TOTAL			3,023,758	1,942,374	1081383.83

^{††} Those in blue text launched emergency appeals.