

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

NATIONAL SOCIETY SELF-ASSESSMENT

13 October, 2004

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 181 countries.

For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal No. 01.101/2004; Programme Update no. 1, Period covered: January – June, 2004; Appeal target: CHF 636,363; Appeal coverage: 44.6%; Outstanding needs: CHF 352,617.

(click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List (also available on the website)).

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: N/A

Programme Summary: This global programme is facilitating a significant development of evaluation activities within the International Federation, more specifically within the Evaluation Department, Monitoring and Evaluation Division. Both branches of the Department, Programme Evaluations and Self-Assessment of National Societies, have been further developed in recent months.

This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning (refer below to access the detailed logframe documents). All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Introduction

The evaluation function is first and foremost an important management tool, enabling the International Federation to review its performance, take decisions, learn from experience and account for its actions, thereby improving the organization's ability to deliver results. During the reporting period the Evaluation Department has managed to carry out the activities listed below and has strived to ensure the proper dissemination of the findings and the recommendations of the different exercises.

Evaluation of the Programmes, Projects and Processes

Overall Goal: The evaluation function primarily exists to make a significant contribution to the achievement of the Federation's goals and objectives through organisational shared learning. There are many different lessons and recommendations emerging from the evaluations. Consistent among these is the need for more responsive and focused interventions and an improved management of interventions particularly in the area of planning, monitoring, gathering of baseline data and reporting.

Activities

During the reporting period the following activities were executed:

- Mid-term Review of the Bam Earthquake, completed.

National Society Self Assessment; Appeal no. 01.10/2004; Programme Update no. 1

- Southern Africa Food Security Operation –Management Review – completed.
- Mid-term evaluation of the Ouagadougou Declaration, completed.
- Mid-term review of Strategy 2010, completed.
- Evaluation of Pan American Regional Disaster Unit, implementation phase.
- Evaluation of Southern Africa Food Security Programme, completed.
- Consultation process of Review of Major Disaster Operations over the last four years, completed.
- Monitoring and Evaluation page set up on FedNet, where reports and other issues concerning the Evaluation Department are posted.

Please note that all evaluation reports can be made available upon request.

Management notes were drawn up for the various completed evaluations. These notes are a commitment from management to commit to carrying out certain recommendations put forward in the reports. This encourages utilization and uptake of recommendations and will facilitate follow-up review by the evaluation department. There have also been substantive discussions with ICRC on the process for evaluating the Strategy of the Movement.

National Society Self-Assessment

Overall Goal: To contribute to building a Federation that is made up of *Well-Functioning National Societies* with capacity to improve the lives of the most vulnerable, as called for in *Strategy 2010*.

The Secretariat was directed by the Federation Governing Board to implement the system to all the Federation members. The objectives of the Self-Assessment:

- Support the Federation Governance in policy making by providing the means to review the members' performance against the *Characteristics of a Well-Functioning National Society*.
- Assist individual Societies to identify their strengths and weaknesses towards achieving the *Characteristics of a Well-Functioning National Society*.
- Contribute to organizational learning by highlighting and sharing best practices from national societies.

One hundred and eighty-six national societies were invited to participate in the Self-Assessment process since the beginning of the programme in 2000 with coverage rate of above 90% in response. This proved the utility, value and acceptance of the process.

The second round of the self-assessment process started in September 2004 and 50 national societies were invited to participate. This exercise will be repeated in four-year cycles and will cover once again all national societies.

The Monitoring and Evaluation Department has provided Self-Assessment Findings to all national societies which participated in the first round and will continue the process for the national societies taking part in the second cycle. The preliminary findings, prepared individually for each national society, are based on the Self-Assessment questionnaire response and additional documentation sent in by the Society, and contains indicators on the nature and adequacy of national society functioning in various areas. The purpose of the individual findings is to acknowledge the information received from the national societies, ask for clarifications if needed, and recommend action following Federation policies.

Based on the findings and the additional comments, the society should, in consultation with the Regional Delegation or Regional Department, prepare a Plan of Action with clear benchmarks, target time frames and focal points. Crucial to the success of follow-up to the self-assessment process is the national society's ownership of the Self-Assessment process and the resulting Plan of Action. Based on the findings and after revision and approval of the action points by each national society, the Regional Department in the Federation Secretariat in Geneva and the corresponding Delegation, a Plan of Action for the follow up of the Self-Assessment should be developed. The Findings and Plans of Actions will assist individual societies in identifying their strengths/weaknesses, demonstrating their commitment for change and prioritizing actions in line with *Strategy 2010*.

Based on the analysis of the responses by the national societies that completed the Self-Assessment Questionnaire, a global report will be prepared every two years and be presented to the Federation Governing Board and the General Assembly. Its objective is to inform the Governing Board and Federation members about the status of the member Societies, to provide means to review the members' performance against the *Characteristics of a Well Functioning National Society*, to identify strengths and weaknesses through a synthesis of findings of Self-Assessment, to compare the results, and to track progress achieved by the national societies since their first participation in the Self-Assessment process. Moreover, it has provided the analysis and information for many PNS during their application for funding appeals.

The Governing Board has monitored progress in the area of capacity building through reports on the National Society Self-Assessments, which identify certain trends, progress and weaknesses in meeting the characteristics of a well-functioning national society. Based on the results of the self-assessments, the Governing Board has reminded national societies of the need to submit annual financial reports and other information on programmes and activities to the Secretariat. This reinforces transparency and accountability within the Federation, and more importantly, provides valuable information that allows governance and the Secretariat to analyse trends within the Federation. The Governing Board also encouraged the concept of peer reviews of self-assessment results as a mechanism to encourage the exchange of knowledge and capacity between national societies.

Completion of the first cycle set the baseline for beginning of the time-trend analysis in the next cycle. This will enable the Federation to monitor the changes within the network. Most of the national societies demonstrated the usefulness and relevance of the Self-Assessment process. Phased over the three-year period it has been incrementally strengthened and its application deepened.

[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page](#)

National Society Self Assessment

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 01.101/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

13/10/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

					TOTAL COVERAGE	
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				636,364		44.6%
BRITISH - GOVT/DIFD GRANT 2004				200,000	29.01.04	
SWEDISH - RC		500,000	SEK	83,750	30.09.04	IMPACT ASSESSMENT CHAPTER M&E HANDBOOK
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				283,750	CHF	44.6%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	