

Appeal 2008-2009

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Yemen

Scaling up capacities and services

Appeal No. MAAYE001

Date: 14/12/2007

This appeal seeks 3,001,121 Swiss francs (USD 2,684,000 or EUR 1,819,000) to fund the planned programmes that are to be implemented in 2008-2009.

In a world of global challenges, continued poverty, inequity, and increasing vulnerability to disasters and disease, the International Federation with its global network, works to accomplish its Global Agenda, partnering with local community and civil society to prevent and alleviate human suffering from disasters, diseases and public health emergencies.



Trained volunteers from the Yemen Red Crescent in a search and rescue operation helping people caught in a partial landslide in a crowded market in Sana'a. Photo: Yemen Red Crescent.

Current context

Poverty and vulnerability in Yemen are deep-rooted and persistent. The overwhelming majority of the population suffer from a lack of access to the basic necessities of life- health and education. Up to 50 per cent of the population have no access to basic health services while the literacy rate for women is as low as around 30 per cent according to United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) figures for 2005. Out of 177 countries in the human development index, Yemen stood in 151st place.

Yemen is recurrently affected by conflict and non-conflict disasters. Floods and land slides lead to death, destruction and displacement on a regular basis, while the country's situation in a seismically active zone causes major concern. Cyclone warnings are issued from time to time, raising anxiety and memories of the Tsunami of 2005. Furthermore, the conflict in the northern governorate of Sadaah continues unabated with up to 70,000 people displaced. Mediation efforts to end the conflict have, as yet, not produced the desired results. Another major killer, albeit one that attracts fewer headlines, is the disproportionate number of traffic accidents every day on Yemen's roads.

The Yemen Red Crescent Society is scaling up its capacities and services to meet these challenges by building operational alliances with Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and external partners. The greater synergy and more effective use of resources that these alliances bring are part of the commitment to build the capacity of the Yemen Red Crescent and improve

services that increase community resilience and reduce the adverse effects of diseases and disasters. Specific delivery lines to achieve this include community based health development and national and local level preparedness to ensure effective response in time of disasters. Disseminating the Movement's Fundamental Principles and values is also a key part of the National Society's work, in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Programme summary

Disaster Management

Target population: 2,000

The Yemen Red Crescent aspires to play a significant role in reducing the number of deaths, injuries and impact of disasters by having the capacity to be *the first to arrive and the last to leave* in the management of disasters and their consequences. Target beneficiaries of the programme include people affected by disasters – conflict and non-conflict disasters including traffic accidents. On average, the society, including its branches, annually caters to the basic non-food needs of more than 2,000 beneficiaries affected by localized, non-conflict disasters including floods and land slides. Women and children often constitute the majority of the beneficiaries. The National Society also assists internally displaced persons in cooperation with the ICRC.

The main results expected from the implementation of the programme include having increased preparedness for disasters at branch level as part of a comprehensive disaster management policy. Through this greater coordination with other actors would be achieved leading to greater overall disaster preparedness in the country.

Health and Care

Target population: around 70,000 people

In addition to the ongoing services on prevention of HIV and AIDS, community based first aid (CBFA) and psychological support, the Yemen Red Crescent Society, together with its operational alliance partners - the Danish, Norwegian and Swedish Red Cross Societies- is redirecting its focus towards community based health development. Initially this is a pilot, flagship programme that aims to work with, and serve, semi-urban and rural communities better and on a larger scale. Based on the success of the pilot programme, the National Society is prepared to reorganize its existing health services and the network of health clinics in a way that promotes quality, outreach and impact in terms of reducing illness and death due to preventable diseases. More partners are also expected to join forces as members of the operational alliance, assisting the Yemen Red Crescent Society to realize this vision.

Annually up to 30,000 beneficiaries are reached through the National Society's network of health clinics providing a variety of health services, including mother and child health care. The community based health development work that is being piloted in two governorates aims to serve up to 10,000 beneficiaries. The programme that the Red Crescent will run in 2008 and 2009 will also lead to more integration of health services during emergencies.

Capacity Building

The organizational development and capacity building needs of the society have sharply increased as a result of the desire to scale up services and reduce vulnerabilities with increased partnerships. This programme will focus on ensuring that there is a well functioning governance and management in the National Society and that the Statutes are strengthened.

As much of the service delivery and work of the National Society depends on volunteers, efforts will be stepped up to increase social mobilization in the country, with membership and volunteering drives. The role of women within the society will be addressed, with more effective participation of women and youth at all levels being a key outcome in the coming two years.

Coordination

The Federation plays a critical role supporting the National Society in coordination and management. The main results expected from this support include greater coherence, synergy and cost-effectiveness as well as increased partnerships and operational alliances in support of Yemen Red Crescent Society's strategy for 2007-2011 to scale up its *capacities and services*.

Needs

The table presents the financial needs to fund the planned programmes for 2008-2009.

Programmes	2008 budget in CHF	2009 budget in CHF	Total budget in CHF
	Total Required Budget	Total Required Budget	Total Required Budget
Disaster management	396,385	461,626	858,011
Health and care	375,540	348,802	724,342
Capacity development	489,506	458,374	947,880
Coordination	235,444	235,444	470,888
Total	1,496,875	1,504,246	3,001,121

Working in partnership

The Yemen Red Crescent Society is consolidating and expanding its cooperation with an increasing number of existing and potential partners from within and outside the Movement. With the society's strategy as a launching pad, a new architecture of partnerships is evolving. A memorandum of understanding has been signed in support of the strategy and specific operational alliances to scale up capacities and services to promote synergy and optimal use of resources. Signatories are the National Societies of Denmark, France, Italy, Norway, Qatar, Sweden and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the Federation and the ICRC.

The Danish Red Cross, the Norwegian Red Cross and the Swedish Red Cross have raised the level of their engagement by establishing an operational alliance focusing on community based health development in semi-urban/rural communities as a pilot. The National Societies of France, Italy, Iran and the UAE currently have in-country presence in Yemen contributing, bilaterally, to providing medical care, water and sanitation and, in some cases, livelihood improvement and branch development. These National Societies, and other potential partners, are expected to join forces as operational alliance members as the success of the pilot community based health development programme attracts their notice and wins their confidence.

The ICRC has maintained its presence in Yemen over the past 40 years, providing protection and assistance in time of conflict and promoting International Humanitarian Law (IHL).

The Yemen Red Crescent also cooperates with governmental actors based on its auxiliary role, and with non-governmental organizations, including women's associations, in specific operational requirements and plug-in opportunities in areas of common interest. Some of the major non-Movement partners include the Ministry of Health, Civil Defence, Oxfam, Islamic Relief, United Nations agencies including the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the World Health Organization (WHO).

How we work	
<p><i>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 (Sphere) in delivering quality and accountable 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</i></p>	
<p>The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".</p>	<p>Global Agenda Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters. • Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies. • Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability. • Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.
Contact information	
<p>For further information specifically related to this Appeal, please contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Yemen Red Crescent Society: Dr. Abbas Zabarah, Secretary General, Sana'a; email: abbaszabarah@yahoo.com, phone +967-7774165, +967-1-283133. • In the Federation Yemen country representation: Tenna Mengistu, Federation representative, Sana'a; e-mail: tenna.mengistu@ifrc.org, phone +967-1-480030. • In the MENA Zone (temporarily Amman): Marwan Jilani; Head of Zone; email: marwan.jilani@ifrc.org; phone: +962-6-5694911; fax: +962-6-5694556. 	

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