

Appeal 2003-2004



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

ERITREA

Appeal no. 01.04/2003

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	2003 <i>(In CHF)</i>	2004 ² <i>(In CHF)</i>
1. Organizational Development	228,182	240,000
Total	228,182¹	240,000

Introduction

The Red Cross Society of Eritrea, in line with adopted policies and strategies of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, is providing essential services to its needy population which suffered severely after years of conflict and droughts.

The Red Cross Society of Eritrea has achieved remarkable progress and results over the last years. However, some management and operational areas need more focus, better integration and clearer alignment with other sectors. Therefore, continued Federation support to further build on the existing capacity is essential.

National Context

Eritrea gained its independence in 1991 after a liberation war that lasted for 30 years and was one of the poorest in the world with both its infrastructure and economy in ruins. The new government pursued policies and investments that promoted rapid and equitable economic growth. However, a border conflict with Ethiopia started in May 1998 and degenerated into a full-scale war that resulted in loss of human life, damage to physical infrastructure, and the displacement of nearly one-third of the total population.

Following the signing of the Algiers peace agreement in December 2000, the deployment of the UN mission for Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) and the establishment of a 25-km. temporary security zone along the entire 1,000-km. border between Eritrea and Ethiopia, the Border Commission finally delivered its verdict on the border dispute between the two countries in April 2002. Eritrea can now focus on the many post-war recovery challenges, among them the need to rehabilitate and reconstruct the damaged social and economic infrastructure in the war affected regions; assisting the remaining 70,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) return to their homes and restoring their means of livelihoods; reintegrating 180,000 refugees from the Sudan, Djibouti and Yemen and the 75,000 expellees from Ethiopia; demobilising and assisting to integrate into civilian life 200,000 extra soldiers recruited during the border conflict; and developing and implementing a National Mine Action Programme to significantly reduce around 225,000 land mines and 3 million unexploded ordinances registered in the war-affected regions.

¹ **USD 154,859 or EUR 154,930.**

² **These are preliminary budget figures for 2004, and are subject to revision.**

Human Development Indicators at a Glance

	Eritrea	Sub-Saharan Africa	World
Life expectancy at birth (years)	52	48.7	66.9
Adult literacy rate (% age 15 and above), 2000	55.7	61.5	~
Adult literacy rate (female as % of male), 2000	66	77	~
Combined primary, secondary and tertiary gross enrollment ratio (%), 1999	26	42	65
GDP per capita (PPP\$), 2000	837	1,690	7,446
People living with HIV/AIDS, adults (% age 15-49), 2001	2.8	9	1.2
Refugees (thousands), in/out, 2000	2/377	~	~

Source: UNDP HDR 2002

Only 46% of the total population has access to potable water, while only 13% has access to adequate sanitation, resulting in high child mortality (146/1000 live births). Currently, the Government is implementing a major 'HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Tuberculosis (HAMSET) Control Project', financed by the World Bank. Land is almost the sole source of income for more than 80 % of its population and its economy is dominated by traditional agriculture; industry is still at an infant stage. The country's over 1,200-km. coastline on the Red Sea gives a high potential in fisheries, sea trade, tourism and salt extraction. Eritrea's heavy dependence on income from its two ports, which were extensively used by Ethiopia before the conflict, and its small agricultural base weakened by drought and soil erosion, has resulted in the current weak food security situation.

The poor rains of 2002 have delayed the planting season. The situation has been further aggravated by adverse effects on the regeneration of essential pasturelands and ground water supplies. The Eritrean Relief and Refugee Commission (ERREC) felt that the situation was so critical that it issued a preliminary appeal on 28 August 2002 for 400,000 metric tons of cereals and proportionate quantities of pulses and edible oil. The estimated population at risk is 1,095,000 persons. It is already clear that Eritrea will face severe food shortages in 2003.

National Society Priorities

The formal recognition of the National Society by the government is expected soon, but was still pending at the time of the writing of this appeal. In the interim, the Red Cross Society of Eritrea operates under written agreements with the Ministry of Health and with the Eritrean Relief and Refugee Commission, which is the body responsible for registration and coordination of voluntary organisations. The National Society carries out its activities according to the Movement's Fundamental Principles.

At a Glance

	Year	Comment
Recognition	2002	Slow progress in formal recognition of the National Society by the national government. Pledged end 1999, expected for end 2002 or begin 2003.
Strategic Development Plan	2001-2004	Due to the organisational development process ongoing, this strategic plan will be revised during 2003
Appeal	yearly	National Society issues each year an development appeal to receiving support for their programmes

CAS	2003	Draft, to be finalised 2004
Self-Assessment	2002	Another planned for 2003
Elections	N/A	Awaiting recognition
Audit	yearly	External audit according to Federation standards

The Red Cross Society of Eritrea has operational branch offices in each of the six zobas (provinces) of the country. The National Society has almost 100 employees, over 1,000 active volunteers and over 5,000 volunteers who are deployed as need arises.

The development activities and the change process of the Red Cross Society of Eritrea regained momentum after the recent focus on relief activities related to the conflict. Current priorities include the development of a volunteer management system, a focus on activities based at the community level, accelerating and including HIV/AIDS activities in the ongoing Health Programme, and restructuring the organisation at headquarters and branch level to accommodate the above.

Furthermore, due to the large number of water facilities destroyed during the war and the drying up of water sources in drought-affected areas, provision of water and sanitation is one of the priorities to address health, hygiene and nutritional domestic requirements of the affected communities. Emphasis is put on hygiene education and the establishment of sustainable water management structures, along with the rehabilitation and construction of drinking water and sanitation facilities. The aim is to effectively decrease illnesses such as diarrhoea, acute respiratory infections, malaria and various skin conditions that are affecting large segments of the population. The interventions are in line with the Ministry of Health approach in Primary Health Care focusing on health promotion and prevention of illness as the first line of action, linked with the provision of affordable basic health services in the periphery and a viable referral mechanism between different levels of care.

The competitive advantage of the Red Cross Society of Eritrea is its network of branches and community volunteers and its integrated health approach. However, the severity of the country's drought could divert the National Society's efforts towards relief, and supported by the Federation, the National Society may launch a separate drought appeal to assist the most vulnerable communities.

Guided by its mission statement, its self-assessment results and organisational development plan, and in line with Strategy 2010, the ARCHI recommendations and Ouagadougou Declaration, the Red Cross Society of Eritrea identified the following key programmes:

- To become a capable partner in emergency response by providing timely and efficient support.
- To develop a realistic level of disaster preparedness in strategic branches, including training skills to handle disaster and to increase material preparedness.
- To further develop its community-based health services in the areas that have a significant impact on public health or health-related problems, cover the aspects of promotion, prevention and First Aid, and increase HIV/AIDS activities.
- To maintain and strengthen its ambulance service as it provides a valuable service to communities, gives a clear identity to the National Society and has cost-recovery potential.
- To maintain and strengthen the promotion of humanitarian values, already present in programmes.
- To strengthen the new community development programme by integrating activities and services in priority areas selected by community members themselves; develop the self-help community participation concept to have an impact on health.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Priorities

A memorandum of understanding was signed between the Red Cross Society of Eritrea, the Federation, the ICRC and various Participating National Societies (PNS) at the beginning of 2000 that provides an overall framework to coordinate the support to all programmes for the period 2001-2004. The focus was on an integrated community-based approach with emphasis on primary health care. Other partners are expected to support the National Society programmes as soon as sectoral

frameworks are well developed and capacities to implement the activities at the community level put in place.

The Federation will coordinate the long-term support to the National Society's strategy and priority programmes in 2003 through the Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) process with all stakeholders.

Primary Support from the Movement in 2002

Partner	Health	Relief	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Other
ICRC	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
Federation*	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
Danish RC	xx			xx	xx	xx
Swedish RC	xx			xx	xx	
Norwegian RC	xx			xx	xx	
Netherlands RC	xx			xx	xx	xx
American RC	xx			xx	xx	
Swiss RC	xx				xx	

*Federation support comes from Netherlands RC, Danish RC, Swedish RC and Norwegian RC.

Priority Programmes for Secretariat Assistance

Some years ago, the Federation Secretariat adopted a strategy to assist the Red Cross Society of Eritrea to further build its capacity and support the implementation of its priorities and programmes. This approach will continue and the Federation will focus its support to the National Society efforts for recognition as well as to encourage the governance to understand and assume its new roles and responsibilities. The Federation will also facilitate the restructuring of the Red Cross Society of Eritrea into a self-improving organisation that is an effective provider of community health and disaster preparedness and response services. It will also assist in identifying, preparing, monitoring and evaluating integrated community health programmes while the implementation role will remain with the National Society.

The Federation will provide policy framework and technical guidance to the National Society to address contemporary problems in Eritrea. This includes strengthening the structures and procedures at branch and headquarters levels, supporting the financial development, and diversifying the National Society resource base. Assistance will also be provided to build up the National Society's technical expertise, adapted working tools, and membership systems.

The budgets for the projects underneath have been merged into one document.

1. Organisational Development W [<Click here to return to the title page>](#)

Note: assistance to the Red Cross Society of Eritrea in the areas of the Promotion of Humanitarian Values, Health, and Disaster Management is being implemented within this programme.

Background and achievements/lessons to date

The lack of progress in the process of recognition of the National Society by the Eritrean Government has limited the opportunities for establishing governance structures at national and branch levels. However, pending the admission to and recognition by the Movement, the National Society continues to receive full operational cooperation from the Movement and partners.

The programme priorities of the National Society are addressed by the management and branch staff of the National Society on a quarterly basis. They discuss progress in project implementation and how

policies can be strengthened. They have also established project management and reporting guidelines.

The National Society continues its integrated approach to health interventions. Water and sanitation projects and skills development for vulnerable groups are connected with health promotion and common disease prevention, as well as training in Community-Based First Aid (CBFA). Project planning with community participation in water and sanitation activities has empowered the National Society to help change hygiene behaviour in an endeavour to eliminate water- and sanitation-related diseases.

The National Society has prioritised an inter-sectoral approach: integrating community development in Disaster Preparedness and Response, First Aid, Water and Sanitation, and HIV/AIDS with volunteer development and the establishment of Red Cross Action Teams at the grassroots level. Information about HIV/AIDS is already integrated within every CBFA training course. Further HIV/AIDS materials are being developed including the formulation of clear policy guidelines on, for example, HIV/AIDS and community participation and development. A working partnership has been established with BIDHO, the national association of people living with HIV/AIDS. The National Society drew a three-year plan to scale up its HIV/AIDS intervention with support of the Federation Secretariat's Regional Delegation.

The National Society has identified the need to further develop job descriptions, performance evaluation systems, opportunities for staff development, volunteer recruitment, and coaching mechanisms.

The computerised system of the Finance Department enabled the National Society to provide more transparency, improve financial reporting, and provide timely reports internally and to donors. However, due to the delay in formal recognition of the National Society, the planned activities for income generation schemes, membership recruitment, and active lobbying for subsidy from public organisations for services provided were postponed.

Overall Goal

Significant and sustainable improvements in the general well-being of vulnerable people in Eritrea.

Programme Objective

The capacity of the Red Cross Society of Eritrea to deliver relevant and high quality services for the most vulnerable people in Eritrea is increased.

Expected Results

The National Society's institutional capacity and its progress towards operating as a well-functioning National Society is enhanced through Secretariat support.

- Roles and responsibilities of the recognised Red Cross Society of Eritrea is well understood and implemented by its governance.
- The National Society's structure is improved to become an effective and efficient service provider to the beneficiaries.
- Based on regular analysis, the National Society's programmes are increasingly focused, relevant, well coordinated and integrated, and implemented at the community level.
- Funding of the National Society is improved.

2. Federation Coordination W

Background and achievements/lessons to date

In the past years, Federation support to the National Society has mainly been directed to its decentralisation, transparency of operations, and improvement of financial management systems. As

such, organisational development was fragmented. A coherent approach to strengthen the overall organisation, its structures and its performance is now being implemented.

The role of the Federation in the next few years will be to provide technical support and assistance to the National Society in order to holistically develop its resources and to improve its programmes and delivery capacity. Assistance will be provided through mobilisation of local and international resources and a coordinated input of the involved PNS and will focus on technical assistance and policy development of institutional capacity building systems and programmes, particularly those related to volunteering, Disaster Preparedness and Response, HIV/AIDS, community development and health services.

A Federation Representative will continue to be based at the National Society's headquarters in Asmara and will provide adequate support and coaching to the National Society leadership.

Overall Goal

To build capacity and empower the Red Cross Society of Eritrea to achieve its mandate through better partnerships.

Programme Objective

The Red Cross Society of Eritrea's integrated capacity building planning and implementation skills are ensured by the Federation through participatory facilitation.

Expected Result

Federation coordination and support mechanisms through an agreed CAS have increased the impact of Movement support to the National Society.

- An efficient consultation mechanism with bilateral and multilateral partners is further developed through the Cooperation Agreement Strategy process. External stakeholders like UN agencies, NGOs, and government agencies are consulted in the process and are informed about the progress of the National Society in capacity building and programme delivery.
- The Federation Country Representative and regional technical delegates provide ongoing coaching to the National Society staff based on mutually agreed terms of reference and through the use of the expertise of bilateral delegates, ICRC, and local consultants.

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BUDGET 2003

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.: 01.04/2003

Name: Eritrea

PROGRAMME:	Organisational Development	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Federation Coordination	International Representation	Total
	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Shelter & construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clothing & textiles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seeds & plants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water & Sanitation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical & first aid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teaching materials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Utensils & tools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other relief supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers & telecom	3,300	0	0	0	0	0	3,300
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other capital exp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL EXPENSES	3,300	0	0	0	0	0	3,300
Warehouse & Distribution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transport & Vehicules	8,140	0	0	0	0	0	8,140
TRANSPORT & STORAGE	8,140	0	0	0	0	0	8,140
Programme Support	14,832	0	0	0	0	0	14,831
PROGRAMME SUPPORT	14,832	0	0	0	0	0	14,831
Personnel-delegates	144,000	0	0	0	0	0	144,000
Personnel-national staff	2,400	0	0	0	0	0	2,400
Consultants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PERSONNEL	146,400	0	0	0	0	0	146,400
W/shops & Training	14,000	0	0	0	0	0	14,000
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING	14,000	0	0	0	0	0	14,000
Travel & related expenses	27,550	0	0	0	0	0	27,550
Information	5,000	0	0	0	0	0	5,000
Other General costs	8,960	0	0	0	0	0	8,960
GENERAL EXPENSES	41,510	0	0	0	0	0	41,510
TOTAL BUDGET:	228,182	0	0	0	0	0	228,181