

# Appeal 2003-2004



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## CHINA

### Appeal no. 01.66/2003

*Click on programme title or figures to go to the text or budget*

	2003 (In CHF)	2004 <sup>2</sup> (In CHF)
1. Health and Care	914,255	960,000
2. Disaster Management	2,464,941	1,954,000
3. Organizational Development	185,134	195,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,564,329<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>3,100,000</b>

### Introduction

The third largest and the most populous country in the world is divided into twenty-three provinces (including Taiwan), four municipalities, five autonomous<sup>3</sup> regions and two special administrative regions which are directly under the Central Government. These administrative units, which are often the size of big to medium European countries, are further divided into prefectures, autonomous prefectures, counties, autonomous counties and cities which in turn are further divided into townships, ethnic townships and towns.

While having predominantly a monsoon climate, the country sees at least six other types of climate due to its vast territory, complex topography and a great disparity in elevation. Being therefore more of a continent than a country, China has a significant variance from one administrative unit to another.<sup>4</sup>

Unlike the case in various transition countries, China followed an evolutionary course with respect to the role of the state.<sup>5</sup> In the field of economy, the major challenges are associated with a shift from a centrally planned to a market economy and from a rural to an urban economy and with social implications related to this shift.

China's membership in the World Trade Organization (WTO) in late 2001 reinforced the pace of changes already gaining momentum. This important membership status involves significant opportunities but also challenges for the national economy. In addition, hundreds of laws and regulations have to be revised to become consistent with the rules of the WTO. Increasingly, strict regulations and mechanisms for law endorsement are seen as priorities of the Government of China.

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<sup>1</sup> USD 2,442,454 or EUR 2,422,114.

<sup>2</sup> These are preliminary budget figures for 2004, and are subject to revision.

<sup>3</sup> In this context autonomous means ethnical minority area

<sup>4</sup> UNDP-China Human Development Report, June 2002

<sup>5</sup> UNDP-China Human Development Report, 1999

A five-year planning system is proper to socialist economies and the related plan represents basically an overarching strategic document. In March 2001, the Government of China adopted a tenth five-year plan (2001-2004) which unlike the previous ones, focuses on quality of growth and sustainable development rather than on physical (or output) targets.

Despite the global economic slowdown in 2001, the economy of the People's Republic of China (PRC) remained one of the best performing in the Asia/Pacific region with the GDP expanding at a rate of 7.8 per cent *per annum*.

However, any attempt to try describing China in terms of average, aggregate numbers run the risk of missing some of the crucial information.<sup>6</sup> In the context of China's booming economy, it is to be noted the recent wealth is very unevenly divided, not only among individuals but also geographically.

While some of the administrative units in the eastern regions (i.e., Shanghai and Beijing) are relatively wealthy, in most of the western and central regions, development has lagged far behind. The slow pace of development of these regions is essentially due to an inadequate infrastructure, severe ecological problems such as desertification and soil erosion but also to lack of skilled human resources.

Since 1999, a strategic priority of the government of the PRC was on promoting development in the twelve western regions where, in cumulative figures, most of poor people of the PRC live.

In May 2001, the PRC adopted its new ten-year poverty strategy (2001-2010) with the focus on poor household and village activities. Based on income, social and physical conditions, some 592 counties located in remote, mountainous areas and minority areas, were selected to benefit from the national poverty funding. The poverty planning participatory methodology for county and village planning was developed with the support of the Asian Development Bank and adopted as a national policy.

According to the latest UNDP Human Development Report (2002), China was ranked as 96th among 173 countries thus achieving a medium development in human objectives.

## **Country Strategy**

In general terms, the most frequent vulnerability patterns in China are traditionally associated with the consequences of natural calamities, resulting frequently from environmental degradation on one hand and deprivation on the other. While efforts were made to address these vulnerabilities, increased attention needs to be paid to newly emerging vulnerability generated by socio-economic and demographic changes and health issues such as the HIV/AIDS epidemics.

China's population stands at 1.265 billion of which 36 per cent live in urban areas. The official estimate of urban unemployment in 2001 was 3.6 per cent, putting it slightly higher than in 2000. Increased urban unemployment is partly resulting from the restructuring of state owned enterprises and limited opportunities for the reemployment of some seven million redundant workers, a factor to be taken into consideration when determining real proportions of urban unemployment. Each year six million jobs are needed to absorb new labor market entrants.

The floating urban population and the urban unemployed are susceptible to fall into poverty in the absence of new job opportunities and a well-developed social safety net<sup>7</sup>. Rural to urban migration is another cause of the growing poverty in urban areas. Sustained, rapid economic growth and targeted

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<sup>6</sup> UNDP-China Human Development Report, June 2002

<sup>7</sup> *Asia Development Bank's statistics, 2001*

poverty interventions carried out by the Government of China significantly reduced rural poverty over the past few years bringing the number of absolute rural poor in terms of the official poverty line down from 80 million in 1994 to below 30 million (or about three per cent of the rural population) in 2001. However, the official poverty line at CNY 625 (about CHF 110) is much lower than the international standard of a dollar a day and only reflects subsistence food and clothing.

By applying the above international standard for measuring income poverty, about 213 million people, or 23 per cent of the rural population still live below that level. A total of 120 million rural residents is underemployed. Land degradation affects 260 million hectares (or about 27 per cent of the PRC's total land area). Nearly 90 per cent of rural poor live in areas suffering from land degradation, a major element of rural poverty.

Changing demographics caused by the one-child policy and consequent population ageing will increase pressure on the health care, social security and pension systems.

China had almost stayed safe from the HIV/AIDS pandemics for a long time. Unfortunately, at the beginning of the new millennium, the issue marked the Chinese society. With one million people already infected<sup>8</sup> and a projected prevalence of 10 million by 2010<sup>9</sup>, fighting HIV/AIDS was officially acknowledged as one of the priorities for the health authorities of China. According to the official statistics, 68 per cent of all reported cases are intravenous drug users (IDU). Other ways of transmission such as unsafe sex, blood collections, blood and blood products, transmission from mother to child were cumulatively reported in 18.6 per cent of cases while 13.5 per cent of the cases remain unclassified.

Sixty-one per cent of reported HIV/AIDS infections were screened among young people under 29 years of age. Results of a study conducted by the state family planning commission showed a fundamental lack of knowledge about HIV/AIDS transmission, lack of knowledge about prevention and lack of awareness of risk and vulnerabilities among Chinese people.<sup>10</sup>

In response to growing HIV/AIDS infection rates, the Government of the PRC took measures by promulgating policies, laws and regulations regarding prevention, care, surveillance, education, testing and other related issues. An HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) prevention and control coordinating committee was established under the auspices of the state council and roles and responsibilities were designated for each of the 34 member ministries and/or commissions. While implementation of policies and laws was uneven, efforts are being made to standardize the response from the central to the grassroots level of government and civil society.

Early in the new millennium, HIV/AIDS began to take a higher profile in media and in government reports, including greater transparency about illegal blood collection procedures of the 1990s that resulted in thousands of HIV infections among blood donors. Publication of *HIV/AIDS: China's Titanic Peril* (UNAIDS, June 2002) focused international as well as national attention on the successes and gaps in China's anti-HIV/AIDS efforts and initiated a more strategic and inclusive national planning process for HIV/AIDS prevention and care.

Most Chinese people are not yet aware of the disastrous impact of HIV/AIDS infection. In China, natural disasters such as floods and droughts as well as water-borne disease and epidemics are still perceived as the greatest threat to people's lives.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> *Official news media reports*

<sup>9</sup> *PRC Ministry of Health*

<sup>10</sup> *XIV International AIDS Conference, Abstract WePeC6174, D. Holtzman et al*

<sup>11</sup> *RCSC/International Federation Baseline Survey in the Guangxi Province, July 2002.*

Sudden and/or slow onset disasters, which could be of small, medium or large scale (and should be clearly understood in China's context and proportions), are annual phenomena claiming thousands of lives, affecting at different degrees, hundreds of million people and causing economic losses and damages worth billions of US dollars.

Since 1998, the government made considerable efforts and investments aimed at reducing disaster impacts in some of the most disaster prone areas such as the basins of the Yangze and Yellow Rivers. The unpredictable nature of most of the disasters coupled with global climate changes and their growing complexity will remain a long term concern for national and international stakeholders.

Rural areas especially in the twelve under-developed regions and in disaster prone areas are particularly exposed to vulnerabilities resulting from a poor water/sanitation structure in households and communities in general. Difficult access to health facilities indicates a need for extensive community-based health prevention programmes. Short-term emergency interventions, improving water sanitation systems and increasing awareness about health issues, especially on waterborne disease prevention, will considerably improve the lives of individuals and reduce some chronic vulnerabilities in the communities.

With 20.26 million members and volunteers, the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) is certainly the largest national society in the world and potentially the strongest. Similarly to the state, the Red Cross Society of China is not a "monolith" organization but the amalgam of 33 administrative units' branches (22 provinces, five autonomous regions, four municipalities, and two special administrative regions) with ramifications laid further down to the grassroots level. The RCSC is currently undergoing a process of organizational changes and will play an increasingly important role in the emerging civil society in China. The gradual shift in operational focus from an exclusively health/first aid organization to a community-based social relief organization was largely the result of the process of "separation" from the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) which was the national society's organizational and operational umbrella for 50 years. By passing supportive legislation and regulations, the Government of the PR of China (GoC) has recognized the RCSC as an important organization for China now and in the future. It currently plays a role of a valuable auxiliary partner to the government in times of disasters.

The effects of the recent independence, although still to be gained at lower organizational levels, generated substantial changes in the national society. The RCSC has been aligning its programmes and activities to those of the International Federation's and the overall International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement; strategies such as developing and implementing disaster preparedness and disaster response programmes, health and care in the community including blood and first aid, social welfare, promotion of humanitarian values and the dissemination of international humanitarian law. The RCSC was able to take an independent position on issues that were felt as sensitive and it initiated activities in the still controversial sphere of HIV/AIDS. In mid-2002, the RCSC launched an international Emergency Appeal, in response to flash floods, independently from the government which did not appeal for external assistance. This is indicative of the national society's growing independence within the given mandate.

The branches of the Red Cross throughout the country are facing different humanitarian challenges. The efficiency and effectiveness of their response to needs depend on their capacity which varies largely from one unit to another, ranging from branches with extensive expertise and potential such as in Hong Kong, Macao, Shanghai and Beijing, to branches which are just commencing to build their capacity. For many, transition and newly gained independence provided not only an opportunity but also a challenge in adjusting their operational mode from the reactive to the proactive and looking for innovative ways of creating future funding stability.

While the operational interventions and planning of the RCSC are still fully based on data and statistics provided by the government's designated ministries (and their branches), such as the Ministry for Civil Affairs, which has the lead role in disaster management or the Ministry of Health (MoH) in public health related issues, the national society is gradually positioning itself as an important and independent player in the field of national and international humanitarian assistance.

Pursuant to a status agreement signed with the GoC in October 1999, the regional delegation was formally opened in February 2000 and became functional at the end of March 2001. Most of its activities were directed in building relations with the RCSC. This approach was necessary due to the size of the country and the national society and the Federation's lack of knowledge of both, outside of relief operations.

The core areas of support to the national society focused on knowledge sharing in the field of disaster preparedness /disaster response, information/communication, health and HIV/AIDS. For the first two years, the delegation's capacities were limited to the head of regional delegation and a DP/DR delegate. It was only in mid-2002 that two additional key positions were filled (regional health/HIV/AIDS and regional information delegates). Although all these positions are designated as regional, to date most of the activities were carried out in China.

So far, the primary role of the delegation was to support the national society's dynamic process of change and its expanded role in the RC/RC Movement. Short-term support was provided through relief operations and community based water-sanitation projects.

### **National Society Priorities**

The adoption of the *Law on the Red Cross* in 1993 by the Government of China was a pivotal event for the national society's development. Further supportive regulations such as the one on the *Use of the Red Cross emblem* promulgated in 1996 further strengthened the national society's legal basis. However, until 1997 the RCSC remained *de facto* an extension of the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) and was functioning as one of its departments. This largely influenced the operational mandate/functions of the national society.

Since 1999, the national society has embarked on the process of separation from the MoPH. These organizational changes reflect the overall transitional trends in China.

The RCSC has a complex structure that models the state's administrative division pattern. The headquarters of the RCSC in Beijing is acting as a central body and branches corresponding to state administrative 'units' (such as provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities, and special administrative regions) are directly under the responsibility of the headquarters.

Since the beginning of the process, a significant degree of independence was achieved in 26 of the 31 branches. Once fully completed at the upper levels of the organization (branch headquarters), the process is expected to be carried out at lower organizational levels.

The national society has ownership of this significant and ongoing change process which is a precondition for any subsequent self-assessment to be undertaken if and when appropriate. In May 2001, the headquarters of the RCSC completed the Federation's self-assessment questionnaire. The design and implementation of the programmes of the Red Cross are influenced by several factors, such as vast territory and intra-regional diversity in terms of economic development, vulnerabilities to be addressed, position of the branches at the local level and their resources and capacities. The priority

programmes of the national society are in line with its legal base, mandate and the Strategy 2010 core areas.

The multiplicity of natural disasters, their frequency, proportions and consequences is inevitably ranking disaster preparedness and disaster response as the national society's priority programme. However, not all of the regions are affected by natural calamities to the same extent. The RCSC is focusing on community-based social relief services targeting the most vulnerable and health activities ranging from the national first aid training programme, HIV/AIDS peer education training and awareness campaigns to health prevention and care. While the promotion of a non-remunerated blood donation was one of the traditional activities of the RCSC, the national society initiated an ambitious project involving the management of a national database of non-remunerated marrow bone donors and the raising of funds for testing potential donors.

Promotion of the international humanitarian law and the law of the RCSC, as well as promotion of the humanitarian values and knowledge of the Red Cross for target groups and the general public, is becoming an increasingly important activity especially in view of the changing role of the RCSC as an independent organization with specific national and international roles and responsibilities. Capacity building in general, and organizational and resource developments in particular, are key areas for the future of the RCSC.

The efforts of the national society are directed towards reinforcing the organizational independence of the branches where it was already achieved and driving the process further down to lower levels of the organization. This is a first step and a condition *sine qua non* for strengthening the organizational structure of the RCSC and its funding base and ultimately for providing focused and quality services to beneficiaries. Bearing in mind the size of the country and inequality in development of the branches, the national society is encouraging and facilitating in-country exchanges and mutual support between the well-developed branches and those where development has just commenced.

The RCSC has a potential for significant and fast changes and is welcoming initiatives which complement its strategies and plans. In addition to in-country knowledge sharing, the RCSC is active in hosting and participating in regional and international training activities aimed at improving its organizational and operational expertise. Lately, special attention was paid to strengthening internal and external communication flow and improving operational mechanisms and regulations. Geographically speaking, priority is given to the capacity building of the twelve branches in the western part of the country.

The programmes and activities of the Red Cross are funded from different sources. Since its gradual separation from the MoPH, the national society has a possibility to directly apply for funding to other governmental departments and institutions which has *inter alia* resulted in an increase in support in some branches. This support is in the form of facilities, i.e., offices and warehouses, human and financial resources.

Diversification of the funding sources of the RCSC includes access to business and other national and international stakeholders. The staff members of the national society, at the headquarters and branch levels, are paid by the government.

The GoC has granted a full tax exception on all gifts made to the RCSC and given access to a portion of the national lottery funds, thus reconfirming its support to the national society and recognizing the role of the RCSC as a catalyst in the creation of a civil society.

## **Red Cross and Red Crescent Priorities**

The RCSC has a well established and structured intra-regional and/or bilateral cooperation with both neighbouring and participating national societies (PNSs), the Federation and the ICRC. The national society is an important player not only in Asia but also internationally within the Movement.

The programmes of the RCSC are focusing on the four core areas of the *Strategy 2010*. Some of these programmes such as disaster response and, to a lesser extent, disaster preparedness, were traditionally implemented by the national society; other programmes such as prevention of HIV/AIDS and related activities are rather new.

The Federation's regional delegation for East Asia was hosted by the GoC and its status was regulated through an agreement signed in late 1999 with the government. Prior to 1999, the Federation's presence in China was linked to emergency relief operations. Since its official opening in mid-2000, the regional delegation is gradually building a constructive relationship primarily with the RCSC and is increasingly complementing the already existing coordination.

Besides the Federation's support, five national societies (Netherlands, Norwegian, Swiss, Australian and Canadian Red Cross Societies) are currently implementing medium-term assistance and developmental programmes in China. In addition, the American, Swedish, Netherlands and French Red Cross Societies are showing an interest to assist in the near future. All these programmes (of which only a few are implemented directly with the local authorities) are targeting programme and geographical areas which were prioritized by the RCSC. The headquarters of the RCSC ensures the overall coordination of activities supported by sister national societies. These activities are on the ground, jointly implemented with local branches and/or local authorities.

Within the framework of a three-year cooperation agreement (2002-2004), the RCSC (jointly with the ICRC) implements activities focusing on dissemination of the international humanitarian law to armed forces and principles of the Red Cross to its staff members and youth volunteers. The ICRC does not yet have a permanent presence in China and the joined activities were supported with resources from the regional delegation of the ICRC for Southeast Asia based in Bangkok. Networking with internal and external stakeholders in view of supporting strategic objectives of the national societies and especially priorities of the RCSC is more likely to be achieved in the period to come.

A cooperation assistance strategy (CAS) was not yet developed for China. However sectoral cooperation strategies in priority programmes such as HIV/AIDS prevention and/or communications including the promotion of humanitarian values are envisaged to be agreed among partners working with the RCSC and other national and international stakeholders by the end of 2003 and 2004, respectively.<sup>12</sup>

Coordination with the UN in China is predominantly structured through the UN's disaster management team (UNDMT) which is the international disaster coordination forum gathering representatives from UN agencies, relevant governmental ministries, the Federation, the few international NGOs working in China, donors' embassies, the World Bank, etc. It is chaired by the WFP and meetings are scheduled when situations require.

## **Priority Programmes for Secretariat Assistance**

The 2002 Secretariat's Strategy for Change focuses on improving ways for providing support to the capacity building of its membership in the four core areas outlined in the Federation's Strategy 2010, and advocating at the international level on issues of interest for its national societies and their

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<sup>12</sup>A *regional Assistance Strategy for South-east Asia* was developed by the International Federation in 1998. Due to several organizational and operational changes that occurred since then both in the national societies and the International Federation, the document is not fully relevant any longer.

beneficiaries. In addition, the Federation facilitates coordination and through the CAS process maximizes other activities aimed at pulling together efforts of various actors towards the areas prioritized by the national society.

In the light of the Strategy for Change, the Federation's delegations should be seen as the Secretariat's extensions with increased responsibilities and resources allowing them to better serve individual needs of each national society on one hand and global strategic objectives on the other.

The RCSC is in the process of significant change and is receptive to the transfer of knowledge in the form of technical assistance, training, technical advice, visits to sister national societies and representation at international meetings. This will contribute to ongoing efforts in building its new "identity" and streamlining its activities which will be tailored to the needs and its focused response.

The following priority programmes were identified by the RCSC as areas needing the Federation's support:

- Visits to sister national societies, participation in international meetings/workshops.
- Disaster preparedness and disaster response and community-based disaster mitigation activities.
- Capacity building at headquarters and branch levels includes designing, implementing, managing and funding sustainable interventions of HIV/AIDS prevention targeting primarily the youth population.
- Care and support are provided for people living with HIV/AIDS and their families and awareness is raised of HIV/AIDS and needs of the people affected.
- Increasing the understanding and knowledge of the Movement's fundamental principles and humanitarian values at the headquarters of the RCSC and in the branches, among international, governmental and non-governmental agencies, and national and international media.
- Intensifying the learning process of the RCSC in the areas of management and resources development.

## 1. Health and Care w [<Click here to return to the title page>](#)

### *HIV/AIDS*

#### **Background and achievements/lessons to date**

China had stayed safe from the HIV/AIDS pandemics for a long time. Unfortunately, at the beginning of the new millennium this health issue has marked the Chinese society. In a report published in September 2002, by the Department of Disease Control of the Ministry of Health, transmission of the virus was caused in most of the reported cases by sharing needles among intravenous drug users and represents 68 per cent of cases, by sexual relations in 7.2 per cent of cases, blood collection in 9.7 per cent of cases, blood/blood products in 1.5 per cent of cases and from mother to child in 0.2 per cent of cases. A balance of 13.5 per cent of the reported cases remains unclassified with regard to the source of the infection. According to the same report 61 per cent of reported HIV infections are among young people under 29 years of age.

Major gaps were identified in a study conducted by the State Family Planning Commission (*XIV International AIDS Conference, Abstract WePeC6174, D.Holtzman et al.*) and are shown in the table below:

<b>LACK OF KNOWLEDGE</b> about transmission	<b>LACK OF KNOWLEDGE</b> about prevention:	<b>LACK OF AWARENESS</b> of risk and vulnerability:
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52 per cent do not know that HIV can be transmitted through blood;	77 per cent do not know that using condoms can prevent HIV/AIDS transmission;	17 per cent have never heard of AIDS;
81 per cent do not know that sharing needles among drug users can transmit HIV/AIDS;		75 per cent who have heard of AIDS do not know its cause;
81 per cent do not know that sharing needles among drug users can transmit HIV/AIDS;		90 per cent do not know about HIV/AIDS testing.

In addition, studies have found that young people in China reach puberty earlier than past generations, and experiment with sex and drugs. These young people lack skills, such as resisting peer pressure, to protect themselves.

The RCSC was involved in HIV/AIDS projects since 1994 when it started cooperation with the Australian Red Cross Society on HIV/AIDS prevention and care, as well as the capacity building of the Red Cross branches in Yunnan and Xinjiang provinces.

Achievements of the Red Cross project in Yunnan were publicly praised by the UN Secretary General Kofi Anan at the meeting on HIV/AIDS which took place during his visit to China in October 2002.

Other partners working in China, such as the Canadian, Swiss and Norwegian Red Cross Societies as well as the World Bank Health IX and UNICEF, are contributing to HIV/AIDS prevention efforts. However, apart from the supported activities of the Australian Red Cross Society, other projects are not yet well developed. Most of them are recent, and some are add-ons to primary health care projects.

### ***Youth Peer Education***

This project, based on the model developed by the Asian Red Cross and Red Crescent AIDS Task Force (ART), was identified by UNAIDS as the best practice for China. The model consist of four components which are:

- training of youth facilitators;
  - peer education training;
  - post-workshop evaluation; and
  - post-workshop informal peer education.
- ***Training of Young Facilitators:*** The initial group of fifteen to twenty young people, under 30 years of age, were identified and recommended by the work unit leaders and teachers of the local Red Cross branch, to be trained as young facilitators (project volunteers). The training lasts from 6-10 days and covers participatory facilitation skills, communication skills, HIV/AIDS knowledge, STDs, drugs, peer pressure, care and support of people living with HIV/AIDS.
  - ***Youth Peer Education Workshop:*** Fifteen to twenty youth<sup>13</sup> (peer educators or participants) take part in the two-day workshop which covers topics related to the HIV/AIDS transmission and prevention, skill building to resist peer pressure, drugs, STDs, care and support of PLWHA. The

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<sup>13</sup>Students, unemployed, entertainment workers, drug users, health care providers, etc. under 30 years of age. Specific target youth will depend on the local risk analysis. In most cases each workshop will have equal numbers of men and women, except where that is not possible e.g. entertainment facilities and/or drug treatment centres. Overall gender balance was maintained.

trained young facilitators run the workshops using games, role plays, contests, and other participatory methods. Subsequently, candidates for a new round of training of young facilitators could be identified from among the two-day workshop participants. Each workshop is facilitated by two trained facilitators and monitored by one trained facilitator. Local staff members of the Red Cross are acting as observers.

- **Post-workshop evaluation:** (for training of facilitators and youth peer education workshop) includes a pre-test, post-test, and evaluation written by participants; post-workshop debriefing by facilitators and observers.
- **Post-workshop informal Peer education** includes a variety of activities workshop participants will conduct over two days with family, friends, colleagues, etc. It is estimated each of the trained peer educators and/or participants can spread newly gained knowledge about HIV to at least five other people from their environment.

First results in the implementation of the peer youth education model were achieved in 1998, four years after the beginning of the programme. Since 1998, some 400 facilitators were trained and some 25,000 people attended two-day youth peer education workshops in Yunan and Xinjiang provinces. A peer education manual was developed and produced in the Mandarin language and translated into the Uygur language.

With the support of the Australian Red Cross Society, three HIV/AIDS related care and self-help manuals *AIDS Home Care Manual* (WHO), *Positive Development* (GPN+) and *Lifting the burden of secrecy* (APN+) were translated into Mandarin and are expected to be in circulation in late 2002. Building constructive relationships with partners, and covering a vast country such as China, is a lengthy process especially in areas such as HIV/AIDS interventions.

Moreover, this appears to be a common denominator for all programme initiatives in China. A high degree of flexibility with regard to time-frame needed for programming and to a lesser degree for implementing projects should be taken into consideration as an operational ground rule.

The RCSC is demonstrating a growing sense of ownership of the HIV/AIDS programs in Yunnan and Xinjiang, an increased enthusiasm to participate in worldwide events to promote HIV/AIDS awareness and to decrease stigma (e.g., World AIDS Day, International Red Cross Day), and increasing willingness to develop appropriate programmes in other provinces.

Since the arrival of the regional health/HIV/AIDS delegate in Beijing, in mid July 2002, progress was achieved in mapping the Federation's collaboration with the RCSC and projecting a way forward on gradually expanding HIV/AIDS interventions within China.

The headquarters of the RCSC and the delegation established a cooperation working model by defining the roles and responsibilities of different organizational layers in the national society respecting its organizational structure and the existing expertise at the provincial Red Cross branch level and at the delegation. According to the model, the headquarters of the RCSC will facilitate identification, communication and cooperation with provincial Red Cross branches, and will actively participate in planning, monitoring, and evaluating the projects. Through the RCSC, the project may request assistance from already experienced provinces (Yunnan and Xinjiang) for planning, training, etc.

Identified provincial Red Cross branches will plan and implement the project, in conjunction with their local partners (other Chinese grassroots organizations such as the Women's Federation and/or Youth League) and governmental agencies (health department, public security, education commission, anti-drug office, industrial and commercial bureau, etc.). The Federation's regional delegation will

provide technical assistance in project design, training, monitoring, evaluation and facilitate communications and activities with international stakeholders.

### **Overall Goal**

The RCSC will contribute to the reduction of the transmission of HIV/AIDS in China and help to improve care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS and their families.

### **Programme objective and Expected Result(s)**

The abilities of the RCSC both at the headquarters and in provincial branches to design, implement, manage, and fund effective and sustainable HIV intervention was improved leading to the increased capacity of the youth in key provinces to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS infection.

- Criteria are established and used to identify a number of priority provinces for capacity building and implementation of HIV/AIDS activities.
- All stakeholders in six priority provinces demonstrate increased awareness and participation in HIV prevention and care activities.
- Provincial Red Cross branches are committed to implement the youth peer education (YPE) training, a model developed by the Asian Red Cross and Red Crescent AIDS Task Force and identified by the UNAIDS as a best practice for China; Governmental and non-governmental support at the local level for the YPE is granted.
- A total of 180 young facilitators from six priority provinces are trained in 2003-2004.
- A total of 40 youth peer education workshops for 20 participants each is carried out in three priority provinces in 2003.
- Some 1,800-2,400 peer educators/participants are trained and a further 9,000 to 12,000 young people educated by peer-educators.
- The RCSC organization as a whole and the staff and volunteers of the Red Cross are supported to set and maintain a clear direction for HIV/AIDS interventions; develop knowledge and skills; form productive relationships inside and outside the Red Cross as part of a broader effort to achieve objectives; and assume increasing levels of responsibility for programme design, management and evaluation.
- Evaluation was improved with qualitative indicators based on following up ten per cent of the YPE participants three months after the workshops to document behaviour change, knowledge retention, and peer education by participant for friends and colleagues.
- Selected staff members from the RCSC and provincial branches have taken opportunities to learn of new models of prevention and care, to meet donors and international partners, and to highlight the successes and experiences of the Red Cross in China. Staff members will be taking part in the Harm Reduction Conference (Chiang Mai, April 2003) and the International Congress on HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP, Japan, October 2003).
- Six large scale public awareness events (per year) were launched in three targeted provinces.

## **2. Disaster Management w [<Click here to return to the title page>](#)**

### **Background and achievements/lessons to date**

The People's Republic of China is one of the most disaster prone countries in the world. During the last ten years, the country suffered a number of major flood disasters. The floods of 1996 and 1999 affected some 200 million people. In 1998, some 180 million people were affected by floods which caused a direct economic loss of US\$ 30 billion. While the number of deaths associated with floods in China is relatively low, the economic impact is staggering. In 1999, nearly 1.6 million hectares of

harvest were totally lost, meaning hundreds of thousands of farmers stayed without any form of income until the middle of 2000.<sup>14</sup>

Despite significant interventions and investments by the GoC, aimed at preventing and reducing the impact of disasters, the country was exposed in 2002 to extreme natural phenomena. The flood season started earlier and lasted longer than usual. According to the still uncompleted statistics issued in early September 2002 by the Ministry of Civil Affairs, the 2002 floods have claimed 1,532 lives across China and affected at different degrees an estimated 190 million people. One million houses were destroyed and 13.15 million hectares of crops were damaged. By precaution, local governments temporarily evacuated more than 2.4 million people. Direct economic loss of the 2002 floods amounts to approximately 68 billion CYN (US\$ 8.2 billion). While heavy downpours were repeatedly registered between June and September in central and southern provinces, a prolonged drought and high temperatures were affecting large areas in the north of the country. The state fire prevention office reported that bush fires raging in Inner Mongolia, for more than 20 days in August, were the worst in the last 53 years. In the same month an earthquake measuring 5.3 on the Richter scale was felt in Sichuan. In July and August, heat waves swept across the country claiming several lives.

### **Red Cross Society of China Programme**

In China the central government, through the Ministry of Civil Affairs, takes the lead role in emergency coordination, as well as in disaster preparedness strategies. The role of the RCSC is complementary, as an auxiliary to this response. The RCSC has gained vast experience over many decades working in emergency situations in China and there is considerable recognition within the country about the credible role that it plays in support of the government's disaster relief activities.

Recently, the ongoing separation of the RCSC from the Ministry of Public Health has resulted in a change in the national society's response strategy; away from medical support, dispatching medical teams and providing basic medicines, towards an approach focusing on the provision of basic relief items such as shelter, quilts, clean water and food in emergencies and on the short-term community-based interventions aimed at improving water sanitation systems.

The emergency stocks of the RCSC at both headquarters and lower organizational levels are however, very limited and rapidly exhausted. Replenishment of stocks and further relief interventions take place only when funds from national and international appeals, collection and fundraising campaigns are raised. The RCSC is currently exploring ways in bridging this gap which causes delays or even temporarily suspensions of relief distributions. The RCSC perceives itself therefore as an organization intervening mainly in the "prolonged" phase of an emergency and its response could be qualified as reactive rather than proactive.

In line with the shift in focus and as part of response to the 2001 floods, the RCSC developed a pilot water and sanitation programme for 20,000 flood affected beneficiaries mostly from a minority ethnic population in Guangxi Province. The community-based project aims to reduce the level of sanitation related diseases through the construction of locally developed "ECOSan" dry composting toilets. At the end of 2002, the project is to be further extended within Guanxi and to one other province. This second phase of the project for a total of 56,000 beneficiaries is designed to include a stronger basic health education component, HIV/AIDS awareness and disaster preparedness.

The process of separation from the MoPH raised other challenges for the national society such as defining its new role vis-a-vis the government and other actors on the humanitarian scene and creating the physical infrastructure enabling it to function as a separate entity.

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<sup>14</sup> *Insight magazine, February 2000, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies*

The national society started to establish a network of six regional disaster preparedness centres (Liaoning, Guangdong Shaanxi, Sichuan, Zhejiang and Hubei) which once completed should be directly managed by the headquarters and thirteen others, and be under the responsibility of the provincial branches in which they are located. Disaster preparedness centres were designed to fulfill a multipurpose function of warehousing space and as training centres however, they are not all fully functional yet.

Another implication of the separation from MoPH is that the RCSC no longer has the same access to transport, office space and office equipment as before. It will take a number of years to build up the physical infrastructure allowing the RCSC to become truly independent, to have separate offices, means of transportation and administrative procedures.

New buildings in many provinces are under construction which is supported partly by the government and partly by the RCSC. A number of provinces already moved into new premises and in the areas where disaster preparedness centres were constructed new offices are often constructed in connection with these structures. The move towards separate premises has not seriously hampered the implementation of the operations of the Red Cross.

Considerable funding is required to finalize the construction of buildings to be used ultimately as disaster preparedness centres. The RCSC is seeking support for completing some of these projects through separate proposals. This construction activity is not budgeted in the Federation's appeal.

One of the obstacles in the running of everyday programmes and relief operations is the limited access to transportation following the separation from the MoPH. A number of branches are without transport while others have very old vehicles. As a result, some of the local branches in those provinces affected by the 2002 floods found it extremely difficult, in some cases impossible, to access disaster affected communities.

In 2001, the RCSC started a training programme aimed at familiarizing the staff members of the RCSC at all levels with the *Rules for the RCSC in acting in Natural Disasters and in Emergency Relief Operations*. This core relief document comprises 34 articles and incorporates the Federation's standard operational requirements. The 2002 training was a continuation of the 2001 programme during which leaders and relief officers from 31 provincial branches and from six regional disaster preparedness centres of the RCSC were trained.

In June 2002, the RCSC carried out two disaster preparedness/disaster response workshops for a total of 240 participants from 145 (out of 333) branches at the prefecture level. The main topics covered during each of the two five-day training events were disaster management concept, logistics, finance and reporting procedures as well as the Federation's standard requirements in relief operations.

Since the beginning of 2001, the RCSC was active in developing both an intranet and an extranet communication network. The intranet (internal communication network) consists of a specially designed disaster preparedness software application which contains thirteen (13) forms, each of them relating to a different stage of a relief operation, from assessment (data collection from competent government sources), reporting, logistics, stocks movement, monitoring, etc. A software application was licensed and installed in computers at the headquarters national society in 31 provincial branch headquarters and in six DP centres. The provision of computers as well as initial training activities and testing of the software was completed in mid-2002.

This IT project is a significant milestone for the RCSC as it will facilitate communication flow within the national society and, in times of disaster, will ensure the more timely exchange of information

between the provinces and the headquarters and vice-versa. It will also help the national society to reinforce its operational procedures for the disaster response. These procedures are standardized in the thirteen-form software application.

The continuation of the project in 2003 involving upgraded training for the headquarters and branches already trained and initial training for selected branches at prefecture and county level is essential for ensuring the functioning of Red Cross internal communication network throughout China. The existing system will be upgraded with additional hardware and software applications for lower organizational levels as well as with a wireless link through the GSM network which covers 90 per cent of China territory.

Bearing in mind the size of the country, frequency and intensity of disasters, the capacity of the relief division at the headquarters of the RCSC in Beijing (only four staff members) proved to be limited especially in view of taking decisions and organizing activities such as the DP strategic planning process which is not directly related to the relief operation.

However, in 2002, the RCSC initiated small scale activities with regard to assessing long-term DP initiatives and the process will be followed-up in 2003. The ongoing relief operation and continued occurrence of localized disasters until mid-September 2002 put further strain on the relief division of the RCSC and a number of long-term activities planned to take place in 2002, such as the establishment of the committee tasked with reviewing and analyzing the role of the national society in disaster preparedness and relief, were postponed.

The Federation was involved in relief operations in China for over ten years. Recent joint operations have included: China flash floods 2002, Inner Mongolia blizzards 2001, China/Tibet floods 2001, China floods 1999, China earthquake in Yunnan 1998, China floods 1998, China earthquake in Hebei 1998, and China floods 1996.

#### **Overall Goal:**

The impact of natural disasters on vulnerable populations in China will be minimized by developing the disaster preparedness and disaster response capacity of the national society.

#### **Program Objective and Expected results:**

To develop a clearer definition of the role and identity of the RCSC in emergency situations and in disaster preparedness, and to further develop the national society's DP/DR structures and systems. A total of 350 staff members of the RCSC at the prefecture level received training in relief procedures, disaster management concepts, logistics, finance and reporting procedures as well as the Federation's standard operational requirements.

- The DP/DR information network is expanded to a selected number of prefecture and county branches; further training in using the system and simulation exercises will take place.
- The speed and efficiency of the disaster response of the RCSC and monitoring of its disaster preparedness systems and stock movements is improved
- The strategy for disaster preparedness and disaster response of the RCSC is revised based on the findings of the review process undertaken by the DP/DR committee.
- A total of ten staff members of the RCSC, selected by the DP/DR committee, visit two sister national societies to share DP/DR knowledge
- An integrated community-based water/sanitation programme minimizing the effects of both slow and sudden onset disasters was successfully implemented in two provinces with 8,500 dry composting toilets constructed in Guangxi Province and 5,000 toilets in Hunan Province. At the end of the project, 100 per cent of beneficiary households surveyed among 56,000 beneficiaries expressed improved living conditions and increased awareness on health prevention measures.

- The RCSC identified and prestocked the DP centres with basic relief items for 10,000 beneficiaries. The procedures for management, release and replenishment of stocks and reporting were strengthened through an increased use of the DP computerized systems.
- A minimum of two vehicles was provided to support the organizational independence of the RCSC at the provincial level.

### 3. Organizational Development w [<Click here to return to the title page>](#)

#### Background and achievements/lessons to date

The Federation's cooperation with the RCSC was predominantly in response to natural disasters. Since 1999, besides the ongoing support in relief operations, there was increasing cooperation in organizational development programmes including finance systems development and training, disaster preparedness information networking and leadership and resource development training.

The RCSC has a complex structure which reflects the state's administrative division pattern. China has a centralized power structure and a deep administrative hierarchy including provinces, cities, counties, towns and a number of other organizational units. The central government has less influence over the provinces than what could be expected from such a centralized state.<sup>15</sup>

The national headquarters of the RCSC in Beijing acts as a central body and the 33 branches (22 provinces, five autonomous regions, four principalities, two special administrative regions) are directly under the responsibility of the headquarters.

Vast territory and intra-regional diversity in terms of economic development, specific vulnerabilities, positioning of the branches at the local level, their resources and capacities, are decisive in designing and implementing programmes of the Red Cross in China.

Market reform was the hallmark of the changes China has undergone over the last couple of decades, with substantial efficiency gains. China's GDP increased faster than major emissions (Johnson *et al.*, 1997)<sup>16</sup>. The country remains however a low-income, developing country.

While serious efforts were made to adjust legislation, governance and related organizational structures from command-and-control towards a market-based economy, these processes have to be understood in the context of the country and not to be confused with western models, some of which are unsuitable for China.

China proved to be open to the transfer of knowledge in all domains by following the principles of adopting and then adapting and selecting elements of value for the society.

As China becomes economically stronger and more influential in world affairs, then so should the national society become stronger, more effective and influential. The need for a strong and effective RCSC with focused and relevant programmes is of interest not only to the people of China but to the Movement as a whole.

In 2001, the RCSC became a member of the Federation's Governing Board. One of the most powerful and promising trends in China in the next few decades may be a stronger civil society.<sup>17</sup> Legislation enacted in 1998 outlined new regulations on registration and management of NGOs and established the

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<sup>15</sup> UNDP China Human Development Report 2002

<sup>16</sup> UNDP China Human Development Report 2002

<sup>17</sup> *Idem*

clearest legislative framework for the NGO sector to date. However, the new legislation falls short of giving NGOs complete independence from governmental control. Despite the unclear legal situation, China has now more than 200,000 not-for-profit organizations.<sup>18</sup>

The Red Cross Society of China is currently positioning itself in this emerging civil society as an organization independent from the Ministry of Health which was the organizational and operational umbrella of the Red Cross for several decades. In 1999, the leadership of the RCSC changed substantially, and since this time the society (at headquarters and provincial levels) has been undergoing an internal restructuring and a 'separation' process from the MoH, leading to increased organizational independence.

The Government of China was supportive in the restructuring of the RCSC. While the process of separation was achieved at the central (headquarters) level and to a large extent at the provincial level (in 29 out of 31 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions<sup>19</sup>), the process did not gain momentum at many lower organizational levels (prefecture, and county level branches). Similar to what occurred in the national administration, in 2001 the national society underwent a management restructuring process mainly consisting of the rationalization of staffing levels.

The headquarters of the national society presently consists of four departments (general administration, relief health, programme development and support and external liaison departments) directly responsible to the executive committee which is a senior management structure comprising an executive vice-president, a vice-president and a secretary general. Four departments are further divided into fourteen divisions.

In order to adjust to this newly created operational environment, the RCSC developed a three-year organizational development programme (2001-2004) with the main programme components being IHL training, leadership and resource development training, finance development and English language training courses.<sup>20</sup>

The establishment of the regional delegation for East-Asia in Beijing in February 1999 and the clearly expressed intention of the RCSC to become a more active and influential member of the Federation has created the basis to expand and intensify cooperation in organizational development programs.

As a recognition of its importance and significant change the national society is undergoing, the RCSC became a member of the Federation's Governing Board in 2001. Since the beginning of the transition process, the turnover of staff members throughout the RCSC system was very high. One third of the 3,609 paid staff members<sup>21</sup> of the RCSC are new to the society.

The national society has taken over initiatives of improving knowledge about the Red Cross and Red Cross Movement and familiarizing officers and officials (president, vice-president and secretary general) at the headquarters and the provincial branch levels with a basic legal framework, rules, procedures and tools of the RCSC in place.

This form of training was understood as a precondition to innovate programmes, to create independent funding sources and provide quality services to beneficiaries.

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<sup>18</sup> *Idem*

<sup>19</sup> *Hong Kong and Macau Red Cross are having a different background and a special status within RCSC*

<sup>20</sup> *2001 Annual Report, Red Cross Society of China*

<sup>21</sup> *Data provided by RCSC in May 2001 in the International Federation "Well functioning national society Self-Assessment" Questionnaire,*

Given the society's newly found independence, it is engaged in assessing the opportunities, which up to recently were not extensive, for raising funds outside disaster operations. The RCSC is at present entirely dependent on the government for financial support for salaries of its staff members and funding for its programme activities. It is in the interests of both of the RCSC and the government that the society broadens its funding base. Given the current economic growth, an overall increase in wealth of individuals and the establishment of more and more businesses throughout China, the opportunities for resource development are considerable. In addition, the increased organizational independence of the RCSC will raise the profile of the society and have positive implications for dissemination and resource development.

### **Leadership and Resource development Training**

The leadership and resource development training of the RCSC were designed with the aim of enhancing knowledge and skills of the leadership at both headquarters and branch levels as well as exploring ways for revenue generation projects and thus cultivating the grounds for ensuring the sustainability of the organization.

The seven-day training, held in September 2002 in Beijing, was organized by the Red Cross Society of China in cooperation with the Federation, as part of the organizational development programme of the RCSC. For the first time, 78 senior official and officers of the RCSC from the headquarters and 29 provinces and municipalities of China took part in a leadership training workshop. The participants were updated on issues related to the Movement and their national society. Given the size of the country, the workshop gave participants the opportunity to share knowledge and experiences and appeared to be an efficient mechanism ensuring pockets of expertise benefit the national society as a whole.

The lectures included presentations on the ICRC and the Federation. Special attention was given to topics such as the Federation's Strategy 2010, governance and management and characteristics of a well-functioning national society. In addition to the handout of the presentations, both the Movement and the Federation's 2010 Strategy and the Seville Agreement were translated and distributed to the participants. A full-day session on resource generation, given by PACT China, an NGO specialized in capacity building, was very successful. Throughout the session, the participants learned how to improve their fund-raising activities with internal and external stakeholders. At the end of the seven-day workshop, participants were unanimous in requesting that such a type of training be continued.

### **Finance Development**

In 1999, the Federation and RCSC initiated a feasibility study to investigate the most appropriate interventions for strengthening the accounting and financial reporting capacities of the national society. Following the study, a finance development project was designed with the aim of strengthening the capacity of the RCSC through the development of a manual and computerized accounting system for the production of standardized financial accounts and staff training. The revised accounting system will enable financial information to be presented in a form acceptable to external donors and will facilitate the process of consolidating financial information received from the branches.

The project aimed at establishing an accounting system in the national headquarters and 21 provinces and an integration system for financial reports in the headquarters and provincial branches as well as providing training to financial staff and management in headquarters and provincial branches commenced in July 2000.

At the end of 2001, the design of the software application for the financial system was completed and testing was conducted at the headquarters level and in a number of pilot branches. In 2002, all 24 provincial branches were equipped with computers and the financial management system application.

A series of basic training courses was initially implemented for headquarters financial staff and staff members from the 21 branches. During the 2002 flash flood operations, an additional three-day training workshop was implemented for 16 staff members, two staff members from each of the eight provincial branches targeted by the Federation's Appeal. Five of these provinces previously received the initial training while three others were trained for the first time.

This new accounting system is currently operational in only eight provincial branches which completed refresher training during the 2002 emergency operation. Other branches require additional training prior to using the system. Furthermore, the finance management system lacks technical hardware and software components which link the branches to the headquarters in a unified intranet accounting system.

### **English Language Training (ELT)**

The ability of the RCSC at the international level to access information, to communicate and to form partnerships is severely constrained by the very small proportion of staff and volunteers with English language skills. This lack of capacity in the English language is constraining information flows, full participation and ownership, and ultimately the sustainability of key programmes.

Furthermore, transferable skills and experience gained by staff members in the RCSC in disaster operations within China, especially flood responses, cannot be employed in other Federation operations due to lack of English skills. The English language training will develop the ability of the RCSC to communicate in English and hence to establish its capacity in effective dialogue and partnerships with its partners. It will allow key officers and officials (managers) to increase awareness about the availability of tools and new approaches of the Federation, frequently documented in English only. This awareness could be an added value in the national society's search for its new identity and operational models adapted to the specific country context.

The project comprises basic ELT for headquarters and provincial branch employees, and an advanced ELT for staff with key roles in external relations and health and relief departments at the national level. The quality of the outcomes of the programmes of the RCSC will reflect the quality of communication and in turn the quality of the communication will depend upon participants having a command of the relevant languages. Poor communications result in misunderstandings, resentment, inefficiency, loss of time and goodwill, and soured relations. Unfortunately, this programme in many respects essential for the RCSC did not attract donors in 2002.

### **Overall Goal**

The RCSC will build the capacity of the RCSC to make a positive difference in the lives of vulnerable people through more relevant programmes and services.

### **Objective and Expected Results**

The staff members and volunteers of the RCSC have improved skills and knowledge contributing to a better functioning of the national society.

- A total of 120 headquarters and provincial leaders of the RCSC have improved knowledge/understanding of the RC/RC principles, values and policies and improved management, leadership and public relations skills.
- Resource development knowledge and skills of the 120 staff members of the RCSC in headquarters and in 31 provincial branches have increased.
- One resource development pilot project is designed and implemented by the RCSC annually.
- Finance management capacity in 24 branches is further strengthened.
- The new finance management system is expanded to an additional seven branches.

- The headquarters management of the RCSC is better informed in making management decisions as the result of an operational accounting system established in 31 provinces.
- The internal finance management of the RCSC is technically upgraded to link provincial branches and the headquarters into an internal unified system.
- A total of 140 staff members of the RCSC have good command of the English language after completing the training by the end of 2004.
- The public image and relationship of the RCSC with donors in China and in the international arena have improved.

## 4. Humanitarian Values w

### Background and achievements/lessons to date

The East Asia regional delegation was reinforced with the arrival of a regional information delegate in July 2002. Previously the informational work was being covered by the regional delegation in Bangkok.

The regional information delegate's presence in Beijing is a significant asset for the national societies covered by the East Asia delegation, including the RCSC.

At the last Asia and Pacific regional conference held in Hanoi in 1998, the 37 national societies of the region recognized for the first time the importance of communications. The final declaration read: *"We will progressively improve our ability to publicize the activities and enhance the image not only of our own national societies but of the Movement as a whole, thereby building public, corporate and governmental support for our national and international operations"*.

In March 2002, and as part of the ongoing efforts to reinforce communications within the Asia and Pacific national societies, the Bangkok regional communication unit organized in Macau, a second communications network meeting. The national societies from the Republic of Korea, Mongolia, China and DPRK were among 16 societies represented at the meeting. The meeting aimed at sharing skills in the areas of communications, fund-raising and advocacy, as well as strengthening the regional communications network. One of the meeting's objective was to continue the development of a practical and comprehensive 2001-2005 regional communications strategy for the Red Cross/Red Crescent in East and Southeast Asia. A revised framework for the strategy was produced and is in the process of being approved by the national societies. As of today, the Macau Red Cross has given its endorsement to the strategy.

In 2002, three communications officers, from the Red Cross Societies of Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and the Hong Kong have taken part in a one-week internship<sup>22</sup> session organized jointly by the Federation's Southeast Asia regional delegation and the ICRC. In 2003, similar sessions aiming at building the capacity of national societies, by preparing communications officers with the necessary skills as well as familiarizing them with the work of the Federation and the East Asia regional information unit, will alternately take place in Beijing and Bangkok.

The general strategic direction the Federation is pursuing in support of the significant and positive change of the Red Cross Society of China, is to promote the role, principles and activities of the Federation and its national societies through training and technical support.

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<sup>22</sup> Individual, tailor-made training programme in the various area of communications e.g. media relations, publications, etc.

In 2003 more targeted communications activities linked to global Federation's advocacy priorities, such as reducing the stigmatization and discrimination surrounding HIV/AIDS, will be integrated into the communication programme of the national society.

Leading up to the 100th anniversary of the Red Cross Society of China in 2004, public relations activities will be organized in 2003 for external stakeholders with emphasis on the Movement, humanitarian values and global advocacy issues.

The RCSC has a press service which publishes a monthly Red Cross magazine and a weekly newspaper in the Mandarin language. The circulation of one million copies of the newspaper of the RCSC was done by the branches. In 2002, the RCSC started to publish its magazine in English as well. The intention in 2003 is to publish it as a bimonthly edition with an increased circulation and better targeted distribution.

A major development in 2002 was the creation of the web site and intranet of the RCSC. This will improve communication flows within the national society and will contribute to the increased profile of the RCSC in China and internationally.

The East Asia delegation plans to organize and/or to participate in a number of regional and in-country information training and workshops together with the ICRC and those will include dissemination sessions to the officers of the People's Liberation Army.

### **Overall Goal**

The Movement's fundamental principles and humanitarian values are better understood by internal (national societies both at headquarters and branch levels, Federation's delegates and national staff members of the delegation) and external (international, governmental and non-governmental agencies, national and international media) stakeholders in China.

### **Programme Objective and Expected Results**

Increased visibility, cooperation and support for the RCSC, through communications and advocacy initiatives.

- The launching of the World Disasters Report (WDR) enabled the local and international media to better understand the importance of disaster preparedness and disaster response in general and specifically in such a disaster-prone country as China.
- Information officers from different organizational levels of the RCSC have improved their skills in promoting the Red Cross image among internal and external stakeholders (measured through various activities linked to important events such as the 100th anniversary of the RCSC).
- In cooperation with the ICRC, training modules, to include existing tools such as the "From Principles into Action" kit for information officers, were adapted to the needs of the RCSC.
- At least one communication training workshop for competent staff members and volunteers of the RCSC is conducted annually.
- A communication module for public relations and media related activities of the Red Cross is designed and key staff members of the RCSC have received the appropriate training at the second leadership training.
- The RCSC understands better the importance of media for the Red Cross work. The establishing of audiovisual libraries enables the NS to promptly provide the media with photo and video coverage of disasters when needed.
- The international media and donors, governmental and non-governmental agencies understand better the role and the activities of the RCSC within the context of the Movement.

- The advocacy projects around the RCSC anniversary, International Red Cross day as well as World AIDS Day and Natural Disaster Day have contributed to improved knowledge and increased awareness among both general and targeted audiences in China.

## 5. Federation Coordination w

### Background and achievements/lessons to date

The aim of the CAS process is to come to an agreement within the components of the Movement primarily but also with other national and international stakeholders in the areas of support to be provided to the national society and this by respecting its strategic priorities and its capacities.

In China, the Federation does not have a coordination role which is fully assumed by the RCSC. Given the size of country, its administrative and identical Red Cross structure consisting of 34 administrative units (23 provinces, four municipalities, five autonomous regions and two special administrative regions) that vary hugely in capacities and activities, the CAS process for and by the RCSC has not been pursued so far.

The RCSC welcomed however the initiative of the regional delegation in Beijing to arrange and co-chair with the national society information sharing meetings with the participating national societies working in China.

In 2001, such a meeting was held under the umbrella of a wider partnership meeting, while in 2002 a separate meeting was planned for the last quarter of 2002 in Chengdu (Sichuan Province).

Most of the participating national societies working in China have been present in the country for a number of years and have built an extensive and constructive cooperation with the RCSC and its branches. The table below gives an overview of activities of the PNSs in China and respective geographical areas in which activities were carried out:

National Society	Activities	Geographical area	Period
Australian RC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HIV/AIDS youth peer education and peer education by/for PLWHA</li> <li>• Wat/san project and primary health care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Xinjiang and Yunnan (plans to extend activities )</li> <li>• Tibet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From 1992 onwards</li> <li>• From 1997</li> </ul>
Canadian RC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support to township clinics</li> <li>• Eye care (cataract) programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Xinjiang, Sichuan, Gansu, Inner Mongolia</li> <li>• Qinghai, Gansu, Inner Mongolia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1999-2004</li> <li>• 2001-2003</li> </ul>
Netherlands RC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DP</li> <li>• Primary health care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tibet (Naqu)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1999-2001</li> </ul>
Norwegian RC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organizational development, including disaster</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sichuan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2001-.2003</li> </ul>

	preparedness, first aid, primary health care and dissemination		
Swiss RC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary community-based health care (HIV/AIDS education included)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tibet (Xigaze)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1989-2002</li> </ul>

Through the Federation's global appeal process, the Canadian Red Cross has supported finance management and IT development projects for the RCSC.

China, Mongolia, DPRK, RoK and Japan are among countries covered by the ICRC regional delegation for South-East Asia based in Bangkok. The RCSC and the ICRC have concluded a cooperation agreement strategy (2001-2004) which is focused on the implementation and dissemination of the programmes of the RCSC.

### Overall Goal

An effective, noncompetitive and harmonized cooperation between all stakeholders is achieved in the best interests of beneficiaries and the RCSC.

### Programme Objective and Expected Result(s)

Stakeholders have increased, and in a sectoral CAS formalized the level of cooperation, thus strengthening the national society's capacity in implementing at least one of its priority programmes.

- An increasingly strategic and inclusive planning process for HIV/AIDS prevention and care activities and the promotion of humanitarian values resulted in formulating a sectoral CAS among stakeholders.
- Information sharing meetings with the national societies working in China were convened twice a year and co-chaired by the RCSC and the regional delegation.
- A partnership meeting takes place in China during the first quarter of 2003.
- A regional basic training course for future Red Cross/Red Crescent delegates is hosted by the RCSC in 2003.

## 6. International Representation w

### Background and achievements/lessons to date

A minimum of staffing levels in the regional delegation until mid-2002 resulted in a low level of activities related to advocating in the international arena for issues strategically important for the Federation and its member national societies from the region. The Federation was however permanently represented in the UN's disaster management team in China which is a UN coordination forum convened on an *ad-hoc* basis in times of disasters.

Since four core regional positions were filled in late 2002, an increased emphasis on promoting strategically important issues for the Federation is anticipated in the period to come.

With 160 embassies and correspondents of all major international media networks based in Beijing, there is a huge potential to increase the awareness of the international community on issues of interest for the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement.

The presence of a regional information delegate is essential for heightening the profile of the national societies from the region covered by the regional delegation, creating a better understanding of RC/RC work and building the basis for increasing stakeholders' participation in RC/RC initiatives.

**Overall Goal**

International stakeholders are increasingly supporting the Red Cross/Red Crescent global and regional initiatives for the benefit of the targeted vulnerable groups in China.

**Programme objective and Expected Result(s)**

Vulnerability patterns in China and the priorities of the RCSC were better understood by stakeholders especially by the international media and embassies based in Beijing.

- The regional delegation organized two public relation events focused on a specific and in advance determined advocacy issue of interest for the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement and the RCSC in particular.
- Representatives from the RCSC attended at least two important international or regional conferences on global issues such as HIV/AIDS.
- The RCSC used its credible record in HIV/AIDS prevention activities as an opportunity to meet donors and international partners and to highlight its successes and experiences. The head of the regional delegation and core delegates regularly attended diplomatic, UN and government of China events/functions with the view of raising the profile of the Federation, thus laying a solid basis for support.

*<Budget below - Click here to return to the title page>*

# BUDGET 2003

## PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.: 01.66/2003

Name: China

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	145,000	0	0	0	145,000
Food	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seeds & plants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water & Sanitation	0	0	1,233,500	0	0	0	1,233,500
Medical & first aid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teaching materials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Utensils & tools	0	0	75,000	0	0	0	75,000
Other relief supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>SUPPLIES</b>	0	0	1,453,500	0	0	0	1,453,500
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	0	76,200	0	0	0	76,200
Computers & telecom	17,000	7,767	145,900	0	0	0	170,666
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other capital exp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CAPITAL EXPENSES</b>	17,000	7,767	222,100	0	0	0	246,866
Warehouse & Distribution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transport & Vehicules	0	0	70,560	0	0	0	70,560
<b>TRANSPORT &amp; STORAGE</b>	0	0	70,560	0	0	0	70,560
Programme Support	12,034	59,427	160,221	0	0	0	231,681
<b>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</b>	12,034	59,427	160,221	0	0	0	231,681
Personnel-delegates	0	144,000	216,000	0	0	0	360,000
Personnel-national staff	0	18,000	93,360	0	0	0	111,360
Consultants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>PERSONNEL</b>	0	162,000	309,360	0	0	0	471,360
W/shops & Training	140,000	362,688	151,400	0	0	0	654,088
<b>WORKSHOPS &amp; TRAINING</b>	140,000	362,688	151,400	0	0	0	654,088
Travel & related expenses	1,200	108,806	21,600	0	0	0	131,605
Information	5,400	194,567	15,200	0	0	0	215,167
Other General costs	9,500	19,000	61,000	0	0	0	89,500
<b>GENERAL EXPENSES</b>	16,100	322,373	97,800	0	0	0	436,272
<b>TOTAL BUDGET:</b>	185,134	914,255	2,464,941	0	0	0	3,564,329