

# PROGRAMME UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## BANGLADESH

29 December 2004

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilising the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organisation and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.

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### In Brief

**Appeal No. 01.56/2004; Programme Update No. 2; Period covered: 1 April to 31 October 2004; Appeal coverage: 74.6%; Outstanding needs: CHF 683,705 (USD 590,649 or EUR 445,794). (Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List. It is also available on the website.)**

**Appeal target: CHF 2,175,802 (USD 1,631,852 or EUR 1,437,249)**

**Related Appeals: [Bangladesh Floods Appeal 15/2004](#) and [Annual Appeal 05AA046](#)**

**Programme Summary:** The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) is finalising its four-year Strategic Development Plan (2005-2008) including the new four-year disaster management (DM) strategy. This provides the basis for the coming years programme priorities and revision of the BDRCS cooperation agreement strategy (CAS). The strategic work was successfully carried out at the same time as the major floods relief operation was implemented.

During the report period, the funding situation improved to 68.6 percent coverage of the appeal. However, programmes were adjusted and activities scaled down in the DM, humanitarian values (HV) and health sectors. There are still remaining funding needs in the important health area and in promoting HV.

Bangladesh experienced the worst floods since 1998, with severe flooding in July and August and fresh floods in September affecting 43 of Bangladesh's 64 districts and a total of 36 million people (over 25 percent of the population). BDRCS responded rapidly nationally and the Federation was the first agency to launch an international appeal on 26 July for CHF 4,350,000 to assist one million beneficiaries for six months. The positive response to the appeal allowed the Federation and BDRCS to scale up the activities and the appeal was revised on 6 September seeking to assist 1,407,500 beneficiaries. Due to the flood operation, implementation of long term programme activities under this appeal was affected and slowed down.

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

## Operational developments

BDRCS' major long term undertaking in 2004 was to update its four-year Strategic Development Plan in an open and participatory manner, involving all departments, rather than the old 'central planning' model. The BDRCS Strategic Development Plan 2005-2008, will be finalised by the end of 2004 and will provide the basis for the eventual updating of the next CAS.

Bangladesh experienced the most severe floods since 1998 in July to September. Persistent and heavy rainfall combined with the onrushes of water from neighbouring countries (coming from Nepal, India and Bhutan) contributed to severe flooding which saw a total of 36 million people (over 25 percent of the population) in 43 of Bangladesh's 64 districts affected and a death toll of 747. BDRCS responded immediately and as the needs of the affected population grew, the Federation launched an Emergency Appeal on 26 July for CHF 4,350,000 to assist one million beneficiaries by providing food and non-food assistance for six months which was revised due to the generous positive response on 6 September, seeking to assist 1,407,500 beneficiaries (*see separate Operations Updates for Bangladesh on [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)*).

Countrywide, the flood situation has improved, with water receding from all the flood-affected areas and communities starting to move back to rebuild their lives.

The political situation during the reporting period continued to be tense as the major opposition party, Awami League, organised agitation and called several day-long *hartals* (general strikes) demanding government resignation on deteriorating law and order situation amongst other issues. After the bombings at a Dhaka political rally on 21 August, the security situations provided an additional emergency for the government. However, Bangladesh is relatively politically stable, although frequent protest strikes are always potential for civil unrest, and prove to be disruptive to normal life and business.

According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Human Development Report 2004, Bangladesh has made significant improvement in its economic development since 2001, moving from low development countries status to medium development countries status, putting it ahead of Nepal and Pakistan in the South Asian context.<sup>1</sup> However, in terms of ordinary people's access to income, Bangladesh continues to remain at the lower end of the scale with its per capita annual income of US \$350.

## Health and care

With the help of an external facilitator, BDRCS' health department completed the four-year strategic planning process for its different components, including institutions, mother and child health (MCH) programme, blood programme and HIV/AIDS, which will be incorporated into the BDRCS four-year Development Plan (2005-2008).

**Goal: The health status and life expectancy of vulnerable people in Bangladesh are improved.**

**Objective: To improve the health of mothers and children and reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS throughout Bangladesh by strengthening the existing BDRCS network of 60 mother and child health centres.**

***Mother and Child Health project objective: To improve the capacity of BDRCS's mother and child health centres to reduce maternal and infant morbidity and mortality.***

### **Mother and Child Health project expected results:**

- With emphasis on mother and child health care, essential services package (ESP) is implemented in eight MCH centres.
- Eight MCH centres are renovated and equipped for improved MCH delivery.
- MCH centres have progressed towards self-sustainability.

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<sup>1</sup> UNDP Human Development Report 2004

**Progress/Achievements**

BDRCS had a nationwide network of 60 MCH centres, with 44 of these centres externally supported by several national societies (22 from the Japanese Red Cross, nine American and 13 German Red Cross). Treatment for simple ailments, preventive care and maternal care are provided to the community through the rural MCH centres.

Due to the lack of funding through this appeal to implement the planned activities in the eight MCH centres, the German Red Cross agreed to provide financial supports for one year to these eight MCH centres on a bilateral basis in an attempt to make them self-sustainable. Renovation of one of the eight MCH centres in Jangalia, Kaliganj district, was completed with the financial support of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The German Red Cross is currently supporting 13 MCH centres under the South Eastern Community Health Project. The German Red Cross was also partially supporting 10 MCH centres that were previously funded by Japan Red Cross Society, with the plan to hand over these centres to the community management at a later point.

Twenty-two community midwives completed their 18-month junior midwifery training in Holy Family Hospital and Shaheed Moizuddin Maternity Hospital, Banglabazar, and joined their respective MCH centres for practical training. They also received pathology training.

A unified reporting and MIS system had been developed for all MCH centres and being implemented since July 2004.

**Impact:**

- The project seeks to improve the health status of women and children in the rural areas of Bangladesh through the provision of preventive and limited curative health care services in the form of ESP and safe delivery through MCH centres.
- The project implementation is built on a community-based participatory approach ensuring future sustainability of the health services.
- Community participation in the management of MCH centres activities increased.
- Community midwives are developed for self-reliance of MCH centres.
- Opportunity to receive quality health care through these facilities, attracting more clients.
- Reporting system is improved and management information systems (MIS) for BDRCS health division have been developed.

**Constraints:**

- Lack of funds during the first quarter hampers quality care and service delivery.

***HIV/AIDS project objective: To increase the capacity of the BDRCS to develop awareness among health care providers and beneficiaries about HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases.***

**HIV/AIDS project expected results:**

- BDRCS to improve capacity in managing HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases (STD) programmes.
- To increase awareness with appropriate knowledge, behaviour and practices among target beneficiaries on HIV/AIDS and STDs in the target areas.
- To strengthen linkages with the Bangladeshi government sister societies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

**Progress/Achievements**

Due to lack of funding the planned activities in 2004 under this project cannot be implemented. However, funding is expected in 2005 and BDRCS is continuously taking proactive part in addressing HIV/AIDS-related issues, and has been involved in a prevention programme on HIV/AIDS and STD as well as confidential counselling on HIV/AIDS-related issues in a limited manner.

## Bangladesh Annual Appeal; Appeal 01.56/2004. ; Programme Update no.2

UNAIDS describes Bangladesh as a country with low HIV prevalence but high vulnerability, with risk behaviours comparable to rates of other countries in the region where epidemics are occurring. The World Health Organisation (WHO)/UNAIDS estimates there are approximately 13,000 HIV cases in Bangladesh.

In 2004, BDRCS developed its own HIV/AIDS strategic plan based on the South Asia Regional Delegation (SARD) regional five-year HIV/AIDS strategy, which has been used as the framework for the establishment of a new five-year HIV/AIDS programme. This programme was intended to increase awareness and knowledge while at the same time build networks for better coordination and cooperation to achieve maximum impact to be implemented from 2005 onward. The first year of the programme focuses on operational set-up, baseline studies, and the training of trainers (ToT).

The national society is continuously maintaining coordination with the South Asia Regional Network on HIV/AIDS (SARNHA). A two-person delegation consisting of BDRCS managing board member and a HIV/AIDS focal person will participate in the fifth SARNHA meeting at New Delhi from 20 to 24 November.

### Impact:

- Increased awareness about HIV/AIDS among youth volunteers, service providers and policy makers.
- Confidential approach and free access with results in behavioural changes in the community.

### Constraints:

- Not all planned activities were fully implemented due to financial constraint and lack of donor support.

## Disaster Management

**Overall Goal: Vulnerability to the impact of disasters and community dependence on external support is reduced.**

**Programme Objective: To increase BDRCS' capacity in providing support to individuals and communities seeking to withstand the impact of disasters and becoming more self-reliant**

***Long-term Humanitarian Assistance Operations project objective: Maintain the distribution of food rations and essential non-food relief items to refugee families from Myanmar for one year.***

### Expected results:

- Nutritional sufficiency for 20,000 Myanmar refugees.
- Practical experience of operating in cross-cultural, multinational and multi-agency environment acquired by BDRCS staff and volunteers.
- Appropriate exit strategy identified and agreed with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the government.

### Progress/Achievements

BDRCS continued to distribute a daily food ration provided by WFP, (2,100 calories per person) and non-food items among the Myanmar refugees during the reporting period. The food items include rice, dhal (pulse), cooking oil, salt, sugar and baby food, and non-food items include soap, rice husk, spices and kerosene among the beneficiaries staying in two camps.

As BDRCS is implementing this programme with the financial assistance of UNCHR and WFP, as per the memorandum of understanding (MoU) of January 2004. Due to slow repatriation and a very high birth rate, the number of refugees has remained around 20,000. During the reporting period, only 30 refugees (five families) were sent back to Myanmar. The UNCHR representative visited the two camps on 30 June followed by a coordination meeting attended by all concerned agencies working in the camp. The repatriation process is delicate and is ongoing.

**Impact:**

Timely distribution of food rations had helped in maintaining nutritional balance among the refugees.

**Constraints:**

Slow repatriation process of refugees and indefinite nature of end of programme dates resulted in poor donor response.

***Building Disaster Response Capacity of the National Society project objective: Increase and sustain the response capacity of BDRCS and its branches for efficient and effective management of crises with a functional contingency plan.***

**Expected results:**

- Efficient and effective disaster response is undertaken with coordinated initiative at national headquarters and branch level.
- Extended and regular BDRCS networking with national and regional agencies engaged with disaster management (DM).

**Progress/Achievements**

Despite lack of financial support for this component of the DM programme in 2004, the national society has kept buffer stocks of relief items for rapid response for the emergency needs of the most vulnerable. Blankets and warm clothing had been utilised during the cold wave spell in the northern part of the country in January. BDRCS was also the first agency to assist the victim of a fire at a slum in Mirpur, Dhaka, and distributed relief items, including family kits among the most affected population.

Twin tornadoes with severe destructive winds of over 120 km per hour struck over 20 villages of the northern districts of Mymensingh and Netrakona on the evening of 14 April, killing at least 76 people and causing widespread damage. Another tornado struck the district of Gazipur and Comilla on 19 April, causing casualties and destruction. The local BDRCS branches in the four districts immediately deployed Red Cross youths (RCY) and community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP) squad volunteers in the affected areas. The RCY and CBDP squad volunteers provided first aid to the injured and assisted in moving the vulnerable population to safer areas. The BDRCS/Federation relief assessment team was immediately dispatched to the affected areas, following the recommendation of the assessment team, with BDRCS allocating emergency relief goods consisting of 2,000 family kits, 2,350kg of BP-5 biscuits and 550kg of soybean oil among the most vulnerable population.

With extensive experience in responding to flood emergencies, BDRCS has developed its operational capacity through disaster relief and preparedness programmes over the last few years. The impact of investment in CBDP was demonstrated during a Participatory Learning Process during the current flood operation. The ongoing relief operation will further strengthen the capacity of the national society to implement the four-year disaster management strategy, particularly for community-based disaster management (CBDM) programme for floods. The national society seeks additional financial support for its long-term strategic development programmes in the field of disaster preparedness and response.

The BDRCS Secretary General attended the United Nations Inter-Agency Standing Committee Working Group meeting at New York on 22 to 23 September. He made a highly acclaimed presentation entitled *Floods in South Asia*, with special reference to Bangladesh and received the audience's special attention. Considering the importance of the Red Cross/Red Crescent intervention during the disaster, a resolution has been adopted that in all future disaster-related meetings, the Federation will be ensured of the UN's participation.

**Impact:**

The national society's image was further enhanced for its rapid response during disaster by distributing buffer stocks and emergency relief distribution among the most vulnerable. Regular contact and networking with national and international agencies engaged with DM resulted in better coordination and cooperation for the society's disaster preparedness (DP) and humanitarian work.

**Constraints :**

Insufficient funding and lack of donor support hampered the implementation of planned activities. However, some activities, like BDRCS transport facilities, were improved with the purchase of three new trucks.

**Early Warning and Disaster Information Systems project objective:** Improve BDRCS' capacity to effectively prepare for and respond to natural disasters, and through its volunteer network, enhance the capacity and capability of communities to cope with and reduce the impact of natural disasters.

**Expected results:**

- To increase public preparedness among coastal communities about the threats of cyclone- and earthquake-related disasters.
- To reinforce local DM with community involvement through conducting various trainings for the volunteers at community level.
- Strengthen early warning systems to ensure effective action and response in the event of disaster.

**Progress/Achievements**

As mentioned in the first Programme Update, after more than six months of negotiations, the DIPECHO earthquake preparedness project contract was approved and signed by both the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) in Brussels and the Federation in Geneva on 24 February. Despite the slight delays in the initial start-up, BDRCS DIPECHO field coordinators started the implementation of advocacy and raising public awareness and training activities at the last week of May. These were marked with the first mass awareness rallies implemented under the DIPECHO project, as well as the first aid training and school disseminations organised in all four districts.

By the end of May, all procured items, except very high frequency (VHF) radios (which were delivered in September) were sent to the field, with a demonstration held on June 3. In addition, obtaining permits from the BTRC government department for the use of VHF radios took much longer than anticipated, creating a delay in the procurement process.

From June 20 to July 1, representatives from the ECHO and Delhi office visited Bangladesh. During this visit several meetings/briefing and discussions were held with ECHO, as well as other DIPECHO and ECHO partners in Bangladesh. Another joint field visit to a DIPECHO project area, involving ECHO representatives from Delhi and Dhaka, the Federation DIPECHO project manager and a DIPECHO partner in Bangladesh, Action Aid, was organised in August.

An activity yet to be included as an activity in the national disaster preparedness document *Standing Orders on Disaster*, earthquake preparedness has come as a challenge to many key players in DM in Bangladesh. As no standardised earthquake preparedness leaflet was available, the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, working alongside BDRCS, came up with initial draft of a leaflet.

From 18 to 19 May a cyclonic storm was formed in the Bay of Bengal threatening the coastal belt, while another forming over the north-west Bay and adjoining the western coast was formed on 12 September, which moved inland north-north westwards as a land depression and gradually weaken. The BDRCS cyclone preparedness programme (CPP) officers (including current DIPECHO field coordinators) and volunteers responded immediately, establishing and maintaining an emergency round-the-clock radio contact with their officers and volunteers in the coastal areas as well as with the national headquarters. BDRCS continued to closely monitor and update the population on the levels of danger by hoisting signal flags.

**District wise activities implementation as of 31 October, 2004**

Project Area	Mass Awareness Rallies		School dissemination meetings		First Aid Trainings		Search and rescue trainings	
	Target	Completed	Target	Completed	Target	Completed	Target	Completed
Chittagong	27	26	10	10	23	7	12	1
Noakhali	38	22	18	18	39	34	19	0
Cox's Bazar - 1	24	24	12	12	24	16	12	0
Cox's Bazar - 2	29	26	12	12	24	15	12	0

During the reporting period, the DIPECHO project coordinator and head of delegation maintained frequent contacts with Dhaka and New Delhi ECHO representatives. In addition, regular cooperation and coordination with ECHO and other DIPECHO partners in Bangladesh (Oxfam, Action Aid, TDH-I, DCA) has continued unhindered. All partners meet on a monthly basis and share their progress of planned activities and targeted areas in order to avoid overlapping, try to further prolong their ongoing cooperation and improving the impact of the DIPECHO project. This cooperation was further extended during the flood season, where current DIPECHO partners also became ECHO relief operation partners and continued to coordinate their activities in both disaster response and disaster preparedness.

An interim report was prepared and sent to ECHO in September 2004. As for the time-frame of the implementation, because of the late sign up and start of the operation (beginning of the cyclone and monsoon seasons), two months of non-cost extension as well as budget reallocation is anticipated. This has been discussed extensively with ECHO representatives in the field and the request for the amendment will be sent to ECHO in November.

Besides the earthquake preparedness project activities, CPP is also implementing its regular activities. A series of mass awareness rallies, witnessed by hundreds of thousands of community people, encouraged them to take appropriate preparedness measures for the upcoming cyclone season, and a preparatory meeting of volunteers was organised in 30 Upazilla (sub-districts) before the cyclone season began.

Regular organisational meetings, attended by the general volunteers, unit, union and upazilla (sub-districts) team leaders, were held in unit, union and upazilla levels, and were facilitated by, respective zonal officers. The community trainers (ToT-obtained volunteers) and local officers conducted short training for the volunteers attending these meetings, which had very positive and significant results.

Radio workshops located in Dhaka, Chittagong and Barisal repaired 35 warning equipments, including 15 wireless sets. About 2,820 big and 17,164 medium-sized dry cell batteries were procured and dispatched to the field stations for use in warning equipments during disaster seasons.

A cyclone awareness and preparedness training was conducted for 10,457 participating students from 37 educational institutions in 10 sub-districts.

The same ongoing training is also in progress for fishermen from 24 sub-districts under the CPP-commanded area..

**Impact**

By the end of October, the overall progress of the DIPECHO project was reported as being 63 percent completed and the overall performance of the BDRCS field coordinators and volunteers being quite impressive. They have exercised high levels of flexibility and immediately responded to newly-raised challenges in addition to investing their efforts in dissemination and networking among the key stakeholders in their respective areas.

The CPP volunteers were well organised, and with the early warning system strengthened and well maintained, were prepared to face any eventualities. The vulnerability of the coastal community people was reduced due to their strengthened capability in coping with the cyclonic situation. The result of arranging training programme among the students is very much positive and significant.

**Constraints :**

Due to funding constraints, basic, refresher and first aid training as per plan of action could not be implemented. Some of the warning equipments, like megaphone, transistor radio, hand siren, and torchlights, used by the volunteers for disseminating cyclone warning signals, were getting out of order because of long-term usage, hampering timely dissemination of warning signals during disaster. The replenishment of the wireless sets and worn-out warning equipments have not been implemented as yet.

Due to some difference in policy matters, government funding has been delayed, resulting in activities needing recurring expenses not being executed. However, after some negotiations, the issues have been settled.

**Community-Based Disaster Preparedness project objective:** To increase the capacity of local volunteers to prevent and mitigate disasters in vulnerable communities.

**Expected results:**

- To develop and consolidate organisational capacity for effective DP and disaster response (DR) among 3,400 volunteers, 34 BDRCS Branches and 102 associated vulnerable communities.
- To increase the range and scope of local coping mechanisms available to communities vulnerable to disasters.
- To locally manage maintain safe refuges (cyclone shelters) for 40,000 vulnerable families in 143 communities located within 10 coastal districts (including the German Red Cross phased-out district).
- The implement of CBDP programme and activities are to be completed and phased-out in an organised manner from 34 branches and 143 coastal communities.
- To integrate the comprehensive CBDP programme into the BDRCS four-year development plan.

**Progress/Achievements**

In addition to the 26,189 members enrolled in the first quarter of 2004, during the reporting period 877 new life members have joined the national society, bringing the number of life members to 27,066. Enrolment of new members has been increasing, particularly in the flood-affected units as civil society is eager to be involved with the Red Crescent Movement's good humanitarian work.

Unit-level squad volunteers and RCY open troops monthly meeting were also regularly held in 11 operational units. Programme-related issues like the implementation of activities at unit and community levels and squad roles and responsibilities were discussed in these meetings.

Community volunteers in 68 communities at 11 operational units continued to hold regular monthly meetings during the reporting period, but are losing momentum in the phase-out units. These meetings provides the community an opportunity to assess the performance of the volunteers, get updates on DP subscriptions and to draw a mutually agreed plan to withstand the emerging threats of tornadoes, early floodings and other disasters.

*DP and CBFA training for CBDP Squad and RCY*

DP and CBFA training for CBDP squad and RCY was conducted in eight operational units, with CBDP squad in two phased-out units and RCY at 11 phased-out units. The DP training provided basic knowledge on DP and formulation of disaster contingency plan, while the CBFA training aims at producing first aid workers at community level.

Twenty DP and CBFA refresher trainings for CBDP squad and RCY are planned to be organised in 10 phased-out units (two courses each). During the reporting period, 11 courses have been completed in the fully-funded units.

One day-long basic national society training for RCY teachers was conducted at nine out of 11 operational units, funded by the CBDP units. Aimed to further strengthen their knowledge for further dissemination of the Movement, Principles and values as well as the ongoing CBDP programme, 135 teachers from different schools and colleges participated in the RCY teachers training.

*Disaster Emergency Fund*

During the last floods, units affected by severe flooding had withdrawn funds from the disaster emergency fund (DEF) for emergency assistance to aid vulnerable communities. Districtwise, the withdrawals are as follows: Sunamgonj - Taka 40,000; Shariatpur - Taka 21,000; Moulvibazar - Taka 30,000; Narsingdhi - Taka 10,000; Brahmanbaria - Taka 50,000; Munshigonj - Taka 25,000; Bhola - Taka 10,000; Netrokona - Taka 10,000; and Laxmipur - Taka 35,000.

Moulvibazar unit set a good example of sustainable DEF through replenishing Taka 70,000 after investing Taka 50,000 in two consecutive emergency responses (the tornado in May and the flood in July), while Sylhet unit set the example of an effective early response through mobilising local sources by raising local donations amounting Taka 150,000 in cash and kind from the affluent sector of the public.

Patuakhali unit, which was supposed to have received a grant of Taka 50,000, has not been given the matching amount as the source of their DEF collection is being questioned and the matter is presently being investigated. Additionally, during the reporting period Chandpur unit succeeded in collecting the targeted amount of Taka 50,000 for DEF), providing them with a matching grant.

*DP Awareness Drama*

As open field drama is considered to be an entertaining tool for raising DP awareness (including personal hygiene), drama messages were highlighted, further strengthening the community's knowledge and skills. During the reporting period, 11 communities under seven units benefited from the open field drama, with an average of 1,500 community people from each community (of whom 35 percent are women) witnessing the drama. Other units have been provided with the necessary funds in late June for staging open field dramas in their second community, but due to the floods, did not take place. However, the remaining units are expected to stage the open field dramas soon.

*World Red Cross Day celebrated*

CBDP communities joined in the World Red Cross/Red Crescent Day celebrations, with this year's theme of 'Stop Discrimination' which was adopted globally and echoed in BDRCS. Between 5,000 to 7,000 community people took part in rallies which were organised in 100 communities, with each community chanting the various Movement slogans.

*Gender and DP Training*

One day-long training on gender and DP has been organised in four units with 30 participants (15 female, 15 male) and six officers from different units attending with the objective of making them capable in conducting such training in the targeted communities. New in its kind under the programme, the objective of this training was to bring about change in society's traditional attitude towards women so they can contribute positively in DP at both household and community levels, leading to reducing loss and sufferings. In total, the trained unit level officers have conducted 30 gender and DP training in the targeted communities in six Units.

*Community Disaster Assistance Fund*

The building up of community disaster assistance fund (CDAF) had been the most crucial task undertaken by CBDP. As community members were primarily the sole subscriber of CDAF, almost all CBDP communities have opened bank accounts and continuously deposited their subscriptions on a regular basis.

*Awareness raising events*

In addition to the 20 evacuation drills and 20 video shows organised at 20 shelter sites that was reported in the first Programme Update, during the reporting period a further 23 evacuation drills and 22 documentary video shows were organised at different shelter sites in Chittagong, Noakhali, Bhoal, Barguna, Cox's Bazar, Hatiya and Barguna. An average of 1,250 people participated/witnessed each drill while an average of 500 people witnessed the video shows. These activities will help further disseminate and raise DP awareness to mitigate cyclone disaster impact.

*DP and CBFA Training*

In addition to the six DP basic training and six CBFA conducted in the first quarter, a further 13 DP basic trainings (five in Noakhali, four in Bhola, and four in Barguna) were conducted for the DP squad members in 13 cyclone

shelters while 15 CBFA courses were conducted in different cyclone shelters (five in Noakhali, four in Bhola, four in Barguna, two in Chittagong) with a total of 728 persons (338 in DP basic, 390 in CBFA) attending these two courses. DP and CBFA training were organised for the shelter management committee (SMC) members in four shelters in Bhola, seven in Borguna, and one each in Banskhali and Monpura. During this quarter, 285 SMC members also received this training, with the purpose of imparting basic DP knowledge highlighting local coping mechanism and rendering first-aid services.

#### *Search and Rescue Training*

Two three-day long search and rescue training for DP squad members was organised at Banskhali and Noakhali with 26 DP squad members, along with two officers in Banskhali and seven in Noakhali, participating. The objective of the training is to create a pool of search and rescue trainers in cyclone shelter areas who can conduct these training in their respective communities. The officers got the opportunity to refresh their training, which they received from a search and rescue ToT in October last year. However, due to bad weather, a planned training at Barguna was postponed in September.

#### *Child Literacy Education Centres*

The CDBP programme is providing continuous support to four shelter-based child literacy education centres (CLEC) located in remote places in Noakhali, Hatiya and Monpura. About 1,285 students are studying in these centres and average attendance of students is around 90 percent. The respective Red Crescent units are exploring the possibilities of handing these centres over to the government's education department.

#### *Shelter Management Committee/Village Disaster Preparedness Committee*

At the end of the reformation process and reconstituting SMC in 112 cyclone shelters in four zones (Chittagong, Barguna, Noakhali and Bhola), all SMCs are holding regular monthly meetings. The village disaster preparedness committees (VDPC) of cyclone shelters located in Cox's Bazar also continued their monthly meeting where DP and various issues related to proper maintenance and management of cyclone shelters are discussed. CDBP department had been providing minimum essential support to 31 VDPCs in the Cox's Bazar region since January this year, reflecting uniform support for all shelter maintenance structure.

#### *Shelter Management and Disaster Assistance Fund*

All SMC and VDPC are also maintaining a shelter maintenance and disaster assistance fund with a bank. With encouragement from CDBP department officers, SMCs have been encouraged to further enhance their funds through community subscription.

#### *Equipment for cyclone shelters*

CBDP department provided 88 jackets, 70 mike sets (loud speakers), 185 plastic drum pieces, 224 jerry cans for storing water, 1,507 raincoats, 1,500 pairs of gum boots, 450 hurricane and 310 pieces of torchlights to different cyclone shelters through the respective SMC zones. To respond efficiently, the shelter DP squad members will use the equipments as mikes, plastic drums and hurricane lights will be useful in managing the shelters properly during disaster and calm periods.

As reported in the earlier update, a 26-member DP squad was formed (eight in first aid, eight in rescue and evacuation, six in signal and dissemination, and two traditional birth attendant) in each of the 112 shelters under SMC.

#### *Monitoring by national headquarters*

Prior to phasing out in December 2004, the department has decided to monitor the latest activities status at unit and community levels. The officer in-charge has extensively toured four units (Moulvi Bazar, Sylhet, Sunamgonj and Brahmanbaria) while a monitoring visit, including the implementation and progress of the programme activities, will be carried out in the rest of the units by the national headquarters (NHQ).

#### *Flood awareness poster distributed*

At this crucial stage of countrywide flooding and as a backing support for the flood beneficiaries, CDBP focussed on the dissemination of 'flood awareness messages' in the affected areas and communities by distributing a total of 50,000 posters that had the Federation's support which ensured a wide coverage.

## Bangladesh Annual Appeal; Appeal 01.56/2004. ; Programme Update no.2

As reported in the first Programme Update, activities carried out in the first quarter of the year included a four-day long ‘flood risk management training’ organised in Rangpur unit, followed by a one-day programme sharing workshop in January. Both activities saw 26 people taking part.

A day-long programme sharing workshop held on 14 January saw 21 people participating (19 unit level officers and two CBDP NHQ officers). The department responded positively to an income-generating programme submitted by Feni Unit, granting Taka 25,000 to run a computer training centre at the branch level, while Feni unit contributed Taka 10,000 to cover the costs of the scheme.

A dry run rehearsal (DRR), which focussed on disaster preparedness and response measures (warning, first aid, evacuation and rescue) was organised in the first quarter of the year at Kachipara and Patuakhali units for the community level. About 2,500 people, of whom 40 percent were women, witnessed DRR.

The construction and distribution of 900 sets of slab latrines was completed in different communities, with 500 sets of slab latrines distributed and the remaining 400 awaiting distribution in three communities.

Twenty-five billboards, which contain a number of significant messages in raising DP awareness to the vulnerable coastal communities, were repainted at important sites of Hatiya Island.

### Impact

- Under SMC, catchments area communities have learnt about their responsibilities during and post disaster situation through the evacuation drill and film show.
- The search and rescue training have produced search and rescue members in the cyclone shelter areas and in respects to DR, a sense of responsibility has been developed at unit and community levels.
- The building of DEF has been geared up at unit level while community people have realised the importance of CDAF.
- Staging dramas, film shows and evacuation drills in the community has contributed in raising DP awareness regarding coping mechanism and a change in attitude towards women.
- Bi-monthly and quarterly meetings play an important part in informing the community about the latest situation of the programme, drawbacks and suggestions.
- DP and CBFA refresher trainings for squad and open troops have enabled them to perform their responsibilities efficiently.
- Observance of 8 May in all CBDP communities has led to the awareness of the national society Movement, while training on gender in DP in the community has ensured gender equity is practiced in the programme.

### Constraints:

During the third quarter, incessant rainfall, severe flooding and the involvement of NHQ officers and respective flood-affected units in long term relief operation caused some delay in the implementation of planned activities at all levels.

***Disaster Mitigation/Reduction project objective: Increase the resilience of communities vulnerable to disaster in remote villages of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) region.***

### Expected results:

- Wider understanding of humanitarian values within targeted communities and local authorities and sustaining social harmony between members of formerly hostile ethnic groups.
- Targeted communities organised and mobilised in preparation for (and respond effectively to) local disasters and linkages developed with local government institutions and NGOs.
- CBFA services and basic primary health care support, including TBA (particularly for women and children), established in six targeted sub-districts and enhancement of nutrition status of the indigenous vulnerable communities.
- Increased access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation facilities in targeted communities.
- Community management and marketing skills facilitating locally sustainable livelihoods based on improved and extended indigenous traditional skills, agro-based and farming systems.

### **Progress/Achievements**

During the reporting period health awareness and formation of village/para development committee (VDC), national society, Principles and humanitarian values and water and sanitation activities were implemented in the CHT disaster preparedness (DP) programme. Additionally, training on the afore-mentioned issues is the important element of the development activities.

#### *Health awareness activities*

About 157 trained TBA volunteers were continuously discharging their duties in all the programme areas under three CHT units. However, during the reporting period, TBA volunteers provided services that include 7,477 home visits, provided medicines and health advises to 5,631 patients, provided 804 mothers ante natal care and 627 with post natal care, and helped with 581 deliveries, conducted with 26 infant deaths during delivery time. The volunteers also provided first aid to 419 people. These services, especially during delivery time, were highly valued by the community people. In addition to the 3,199 home visits, 3,109 patients were provided with medicines and health advises, 564 mothers were provided with ante- and post-natal care, and 387 deliveries were conducted with 22 infant deaths during delivery time.

#### *RC/RC Principles and Humanitarian Values*

The CHTDP is continuously promoting the Movement's Principles, international humanitarian law (IHL) and the esteem in which the emblem is held. The programme had a well-trained team of dissemination workers who were undertaking new initiatives by disseminating Federation Principles and humanitarian values (HV), ensuring and acting on the basis of the Fundamental Principles in their work with vulnerable people in time of peace, disaster and in the event of conflict.

#### *Home-Based Income Generation Activities*

During the reporting period, Khagrachari unit disbursed loans amounting to Taka 200,000 among 66 families in Sadar Upazilla and Taka 210,000 among 58 families at Ramgarh Upazilla. Bandarban and Rangamati units also disbursed loans among the beneficiaries for one year. The home-based income generation activity was one of the most important components of the programme. BDRCS had earlier provided Taka 1.2 million (approximately CHF 25,500) as revolving funds to be disbursed as micro-credit among the beneficiaries in three CHT districts. By investing this money into small business, the beneficiaries were earning money which helped them maintain a modest livelihood.

#### *Water and Sanitation Activities*

Since January this year, Rangamati unit had installed 12 ring wells, three deep-set pumps and four tube-wells in Barkol and Kawkhali Upazilla with the assistance of the respective water and sanitation workers, while 150 sets of latrines were distributed among the beneficiary families of Kawkhali Upazilla. Bandarban unit installed 12 ring wells, three deep-set pumps and four tubewells in Sadar and Thanchi Upazilla, while 100 sets of latrines were provided to the beneficiaries at both Upazillas during the first quarter of the year.

Khagrachari unit had completed 102 sets of slab latrines, distributed among 102 families in Kamalchori Headman Para and Jaliapara, under the programme areas by June. Prior to this programme, BDRCS provided only 52 sets of latrines while 150 families live in Kamalchori Headman Para. However, Red Crescent workers managed to motivate 98 families to purchase and install latrines in their respective houses.

As planned, Rangamati unit had established one pipeline system at Barkol Upazilla, providing safe drinking water to remote communities, but due to the lack of funds, this project was not completed. Accordingly, in May this year Rangamati unit started communicating with the local administration and an agreement was made between the local administrations of Barkol to construct the pipeline on cost sharing basis (50 percent each). However, the local administration failed to provide the necessary funds. It is reported that 50 percent of the work on the establishment of pipeline is already finished, while the rest cannot be completed due to shortage of funds.

#### *Training*

Five TBA refresher training courses were conducted for TBAs working in three CHT districts, 12 CBFA refreshers training were conducted in the DP squad communities in three CHT districts and three gender sensitisation

workshops were conducted in three CHT districts by the planning and development department. A first aid/ safer access ToT training was conducted in CHT with the financial assistance of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

#### **Impact:**

- Development activities in the fields of health, water and sanitation, income generation and the formation of VDC is having an overall positive impact in the community, reducing their vulnerability.
- People in post-conflict region are now more aware about the Red Crescent Principles and values.
- By providing basic health services, TBA volunteers earned a good reputation in the community.

#### **Constraints:**

- Lack of donor support continued to affect the implementation of the overall CHT programme, which led to delays in implementation of the planned activities.

## **Humanitarian Values**

**Overall Goal: Countrywide knowledge, awareness and understanding of humanitarian values, international law and significance of the Movement's emblem, encouraging the population to act more humanely and compassionately with increased respect for the dignity of human life.**

**Programme Objective: To increase awareness, understanding and acknowledgement of the humanitarian values that guide the Movement and respect for BDRCS as an independent, principled and impartial humanitarian organisation.**

#### **Expected results:**

- Increased awareness and motivation of the BDRCS staff and volunteers reflected in their respective fields of activities.
- Increased awareness and knowledge among BDRCS potential stakeholders, including media, of the Movement, Principles and ideals through campaign and motivational drive.
- Enhanced communication and advocacy skills and networking with external organisations and programme stakeholders.

#### **Progress/Achievements**

This is an area that has no donor support; however humanitarian values (HV) are promoted through all programmes where possible. BDRCS works in three priority areas for the promotion of HV and Principles.

- BDRCS is currently developing better understanding internally – by advocating HV and Principles to volunteers and board members.
- Raising awareness of public authorities and private institutions.
- Influencing behaviour in the community
  - a) emergency relief distribution among the disaster and ethnic conflict victim.
  - b) promoting and advocating wider usage of the better programming initiative (BPI) in the CHT conflict area.

During the reporting period BDRCS had appointed a HV focal point person in consultation with SARD in order to coordinate and integrate the HV agenda into the ongoing programmes as well as to take proactive steps and preparation of plans of action.

BDRCS is planning to further focus its HV and Principles interventions through actively applying the cross-cutting issues of 'anti discrimination' and 'tolerance' into the ongoing programmes and projects in 2005. Potential areas for intervention would be in HIV/AIDS, gender and ethnic conflict.

Furthermore, BDRCS is also implementing the activities for the dissemination of Red Crescent Principles and values with ICRC's support. As reported in the first Programme Update, a national seminar was held on emblem issues with the participation of representatives from the Chemist and Druggist Association, Bangladesh Medical

Association (BMA), private hospitals and print and electronic media while a press conference was held on the prevention of misuse of emblem in the National Press Club in Dhaka on 15 March. About 65 journalists and photographers from different print and electronic media attended the event.

A first aid/safer access training was held at BDRCS NHQ from 21 to 25 March and 31 RCY members from six district branches attended the course. The training schedule aimed to provide first aid service and safe access measures to victims during and post-conflict situation.

### Impact

- The dissemination seminar and press conference had a positive response from the concerned group of people to stop the misuse of the Red Crescent emblem.
- Media will also play a positive role in raising more public awareness on this important issue.

### Constraints:

- Funding constraint continues to hamper the implementation of planned activities under this component.

## Organisational Development

**Overall Goal: A principled, skilled and efficient national society supportively linked to communities within which vulnerability is being progressively reduced.**

**Programme Objective: To move BDRCS closer towards becoming a well functioning national society, with a national network of active branches and volunteers carrying out activities in accordance with its mandate and principles and motivated to improve the lives of vulnerable people.**

**Programme Management Skills Development project objective:** Increase BDRCS management skills at NHQ and branch levels to enabling them to run more effective and efficient programmes to better meet the needs of the vulnerable.

### Expected result:

- Senior staff possess significantly improved and expanded professional skills.

### Progress/Achievements

The preparation of the national society's four-year development plan (2005-2008) is in its final stage. In this respect the planning and development (P and D) department provides support to the youth department in preparation of their four-year plan, while the health department benefited in developing its strategic plan with the professional support of an external facilitator.

As reported in the first Programme Update, a day-long workshop with 25 women officials participating and a formal ceremony for the whole society was held on International Women's Day on 8 March, generating awareness on women rights' in the day-to-day work. The BDRCS gender policy was prepared in line with the Federation's gender policy and is awaiting approval and adoption by the managing board.

During the reporting period the P and D department organised four gender sensitisation workshops at Ranagamati, Bandarban, Khagrachari and Narsingdhi district branches, with 20 female and 10 male participating in the workshops. The objective of the workshop was to create an environment on gender equality and equity, particularly in motivating and inspiring the local potential female personalities towards their active involvement with the national society activities at the branch level.

An English language course, aiming to increase the language skills of the officers, was organised by the department. The course, which saw 18 officers from different departments at NHQ participating, commenced on 7 August and was completed by the last week of October.

The department also conducted a two day-long organisational development (OD) workshop for branch level programme/project officers at NHQ from 15 to 16 June, with 29 NHQ and field level officers participating. The objective of the workshop was to enhance the capacity of staff in identifying OD interventions, including well functioning branches, programme management, communication, monitoring and evaluation and reporting.

Constituted by the national society, the human resource development committee is working on preparing a human resource policy that will formulate a guideline on recruitment, promotion and performance appraisal and other staff-related issues following the review of existing national society staff rules and procedures.

In addition to the three training conducted in the first quarter, the training department conducted an extra 13 basic first aid training course for external organisations during the reporting period, with a total of 201 staff from these institutions participating. Three refresher first aid training was conducted for an external institution while a safe driving and first aid training for BDRCS and Federation driver was also conducted in August. The training department earned Taka 241,500 (CHF 5,138) by conducting these trainings as a part of its approach to attain sustainability.

They also coordinated in the organisation of the regional RDRT training held in Bangladesh from 4 to 11 April, supported by SARD, with 13 participants from five South Asian countries taking part in the training. A reach-out ToT was also jointly organised by BDRCS and supported by the Federation Secretariat from 9 to 14 May in Bangladesh, with 20 participants from different organisation attending. The main objective of the training was to improve operational cooperation between the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the participants' organisations.

#### **Impact:**

- The overall capacity of the officers increased and the activities are being implemented more efficiently.
- Overall management capability of the concerned departments is gradually increasing.
- Quality of training attracted outside organisations and income is being generated through sale of training courses.
- The branches are more sensitised in addressing gender issues in their own activities.

#### **Constraints:**

- Some delay was experienced in the implementation of planned activity as the P and D department was intensively engaged for the preparation of the BDRCS four-year development plan, and later severe flooding situation in the country slowed the pace of implementation of activities in the field.

**Leadership Training project objective:** Better understanding of BDRCS leadership, at headquarters and branch levels, of the history, Principles and mandate of the Red Crescent Movement and motivation to lead the national society towards providing better services to the vulnerable.

#### **Expected results:**

- Well functioning, locally representative, inclusive and efficient branches effectively demonstrating the practical and social value of voluntary service.
- Organisational capacity, as well as functional facilities, of various departments of the society increased.
- The Movement's Fundamental Principles and values inform and reinforce all decisions of the BDRCS managing board and branch executive committees.
- Volunteer members of the society's governing bodies at all levels are well informed and highly motivated.

#### **Progress/Achievements**

During the reporting period, a two-day orientation workshop, in cooperation with ICRC and the Federation on Red Crescent Movement and BDRCS activities, was organised for the national society's managing board members from 18 to 19 April 2004, with the chairman and the member of the managing board, Secretary-General, ICRC regional head of delegation, regional cooperation delegate, and the Federation Bangladesh head of delegation, attending. The Secretary-General presented the outline of the national society's four-year strategic plan while the P and D director made a presentation on the characteristics of a well functioning national society.

The department also organised two day-long OD orientation workshops at 12 district branches (Gaibandha, Kurigram, Rangpur, Nilphamari, Dinajpur, Chapainawabganj, Rajshahi City, Rajshahi District, Sirajganj, Netrakona, Habiganj and Kishoreganj) for volunteers, RCY and staff between June and September. The objective of the workshop was to develop and manage the activities of the respective branch through mobilising local human and financial resources. A total of 40 participants, including the acting chairman, secretary, members of the branch executive committee, life members, branch level officer, RCY chief and senior RCY members attended each of the workshops.

The workshops highlighted and discussed the issues on the characteristics of well functioning national societies and branches, resource mobilisation and development, SWOT analysis on branch development, the importance of communication and reporting, etc. The workshops concluded with the formulation of the branch's own action plan based on the results of the SWOT analysis and recommendations in a participatory manner.

**Impact:**

- Majority of the branch European Community members and volunteers are well aware on the Movement work in general and as well as the characteristic of well functioning national societies and branches.

**Constraints:**

N/A

**Volunteer Management Development project objective:** Increase the capacity of BDRCS to recruit and retain a diversified volunteer base, reflecting its membership, to enable vital services to the vulnerable (including new HIV/AIDS awareness campaign) to continue and improve.

**Expected results:**

- Well trained, highly motivated and actively organised volunteers.
- An increased volunteer base which is more diverse in cultural, social, gender and age.
- Greater sense of common purpose between staff and volunteers.
- A revitalised RCY having significantly increased membership of highly motivated and well organised youth volunteers.
- Increased BDRCS participation in public awareness campaigns related to vulnerability reduction.
- HIV/AIDS awareness and anti-stigma campaign launched and 120 volunteers from 30 units are well trained as trainers to disseminate the idea.
- Solidarity networks formed with other youth organisations and linkages established with families of vulnerable communities.

**Progress/Achievements**

As reported in the previous Programme Update, the Federation's capacity building fund has been supporting this programme for the past two years, and the programme is entering its third and final year. By the implementation of this capacity building programme for the development of youth, BDRCS is currently developing its capacity to recruit, motivate and manage youth volunteers as well as improve the technical competence of its more than 63,000 youth volunteers through the provision of appropriate and effective training.

The department has continued with motivating and recruiting new members and being able to draw the national society's attention by taking initiatives and by generating new ideas for further development of the RCY members and volunteer's quality and commitment towards the movement.

The youth volunteers are becoming the focal group to conduct different youth programmes in the schools, colleges and other organisations in the country. Regular communication on RCY movement is continued and ongoing with 68 BDRCS branches, including 20 branches under the pilot project.

*To strengthen the potential of current members*

During the reporting period two day-long basic and first aid training was organised at NHQ for RCY from 20 branches from 24 to 27 April, with 24 RCY attending each course, while one basic and first aid training was organised at NHQ from 10 to 14 July for the RCY headmaster of the school from 20 branches, with 24 teachers participating.

To further strengthen knowledge and skills in order to conduct basic and first aid trainings for RCY at their respective institutions, the department also organised a seven day-long ToT on basic and first aid training from 18 to 24 August for RCY headmaster of the school from 20 branches with 24 teachers participating.

*To upgrade and reframe the BDRCS youth and volunteers policies*

The draft youth policy formulated in the first quarter of the year was approved by the managing board in October and is now being printed for distribution at NHQ and branch levels.

*Construction of a meeting place at NHQ,*

As the Youth and Volunteers Department was facing shortage of space for the monthly RCY meetings, a shed was constructed to facilitate the work of the RCY volunteers and their activities.

*Observance of World Red Cross/Red Crescent Day through rally, membership drive, blood donation and cultural competition*

To mark the 176<sup>th</sup> World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, BDRCS' Youth and Volunteers Department organised a colourful rally and hoisted the national and Red Crescent flags with the BDRCS chairman, member of the managing board, Secretary General, officers, staff and RCY volunteers participating in the rally. All 68 branches observed the day and discussion meetings, blood donation, membership drive and cultural competition were organised.

*Leadership Training Camp for RCY leaders from 20 units and NHQ*

As reported in the first Programme Update, the leadership training camp was held from 3 to 7 March at NHQ with 50 volunteers participating. The objective of the training was to enhance the existing leadership qualities among existing RCY leaders.

**Other activities conducted by the department's own initiative during the reporting period:**

*RC/RC Basic and First Aid Training*

During this period three day-long basic first aid trainings aimed to strengthen the RCY volunteers' motivation towards the Movement was organised for RCY members from three schools (T and T School, Rayerbazar School and Siddeshwari School) at Dhaka between May and June. NHQ RCY conducted these training and participants contributed to the funds.

*Participation in the ongoing flood relief operation*

RCY volunteers are actively participating in the identification of beneficiaries and the organisation and distribution of relief goods in all 43 flood-affected district branches. RCY also organised a collection of fund and relief goods in their respective branches for emergency disaster response after July's severe flooding.

**Impact:**

- RCY policy will provide guidelines for RCY volunteers to work in a better and systematic way for the Movement.
- The Movement will have a disciplined young force to serve distressed humanity.
- The ToT basic and first aid training for RCY teachers created a very positive impact and helped in strengthening the knowledge of teachers about Red Crescent Movement and their skills in conducting training in their respective institutions.

**Constraints:**

- The monitoring of field level activities was hampered due to the pre-occupation of staff with the formulation of youth policy and the four-year development plan of the department.

**Communication and Advocacy Development project objective:** Continued growth in public knowledge and understanding of the Red Crescent Movement and an increase in BDRCS' mandate and programmes.

**Expected results:**

- Increased capacity and competence for the timely preparation, publication and effective propagation of accurate and relevant information.

- BDRCS to have an effective and operational computer networking and management system.
- Enhance communication skills and more effective advocacy and networking with external organisations and programme stakeholders.
- A widely known, regularly updated and frequently accessed BDRCS website.

### **Progress/Achievements**

Since the publication of a monthly BDRCS newsletter in April last year, subsequent issues have been successfully published and circulated among all concerned.

With external trainers support, a basic website development training was conducted in July with six participants from different departments taking part. In order to develop the participants' skills and to maintain and update the national society's website in future, a comprehensive on-the-job training follow-up will be organised.

Launched in May 2003, the national society's 'special unit development package programme' had been extended for another year, to 30 June 2005. The programme had created enthusiasm in all branches, with the unit level office bearers and volunteers actively involved in implementing the defined activities in close cooperation with the different stakeholders of the branches. In most of the districts the local administrations actively supported the package programme to make it a success.

Many of the branches have mapped out a comprehensive plan of action incorporating new and innovative ideas, especially in the field of membership drive and fundraising.

BDRCS and Federation participated in the South Asia Regional OD/DM meeting organised by SARD and held at the Indian Red Cross Training Centre, Bahadurgarh, India from 16 to 19 July 2004. The meeting emphasised on OD and DM integration for obtaining effective results as well as sustainability of the efforts of combined interventions. BDRCS has greatly benefited in respect of gaining and sharing experiences on regional perspective.

The P and D department is regularly producing a bi-monthly 'package bulletin' published and circulated to all concerned on the basis of the monitoring results and reports obtained from the branches.

The Federation Secretary General constituted an HR focal group made up of members from the Federation Secretariat and national society staff with the BDRCS Secretary General nominated as a member of the HR focal group. The terms of reference of this group would be to develop key human resource policies and practices within the *Strategy for Change* framework. The Secretary General attended the first human resources group meeting held in Geneva from 16 to 17 August.

### **Impact:**

- Regular publication of BDRCS newsletter had been able to present updated and current national society news, creating a positive image within and outside the Movement.
- Branch level stakeholders are encouraged and actively involved in developing their branches under the branch development package programme.
- Regular publication and circulation of the 'package bulletins' played an important role in the sharing of inter-units information, knowledge and experiences among the key players.

### **Constraints:**

- Due to shortage of staff in the P and D department, monitoring of branch level activities is not effective.
- Some trainees of the website development training were unable to participate full time due to other duties and occupation with flood relief work.

**Finance Resource Development project objective:** Increase BDRCS capacity to generate, access, mobilise and manage financial resources and ensure sustainable support to vulnerable groups.

### **Expected results:**

- Comprehensive and well-developed fundraising strategies and related plans.

- A regularly reviewed and updated database of actual and potential local donor's utilisation, involvement and fund generation.
- Increased and improved financial management and reporting skills.

### **Progress/Achievements**

Following the formulation of a resource mobilisation policy and a four-year strategic resource mobilisation plan for the society, BDRCS recruited a fundraising management consultant for six months in order to enhance the fundraising department's capacity by providing a structured technical support to operate the above plan and strategy. The position was advertised and currently under process for recruitment.

During the reporting period the fundraising department organised the annual BDRCS lottery and launched its sale on 1 June with 3.2 million lottery tickets sold during the four-month selling drive. The draw was held on 29 September. Taka 10 million (CHF 212000) is expected to be raised through lottery.

The fundraising department also organised a fundraising golf tournament in January at Kurmitola Golf Club, Dhaka. More than 200 golfers participated in the tournament and Taka 800,000 (CHF 17,800) was raised through this event.

The fundraising department continued its efforts and initiatives to develop a number of souvenir items for sale for fundraising. During the year, the national society has earned an amount of Taka 205,000 (CHF 4,200), which includes Taka 108,000 (CHF 2400) earned in the first quarter of the year by selling souvenir items as part of its approach to become sustainable.

In addition to the seven workshops held in the first quarter, the fundraising department organised two day-long resource mobilisation workshops together with donor seminars at nine branches, with 50 to 60 participants drawn from the branch executive committee, senior volunteers and local level officials attending each of the workshops. The workshop adopted several practical measures, formulating a donor forum at branch level with the local administration actively involved in the process of unit level resource mobilisation. During the seminar, potential donors at these units committed substantial funds for the respective branches to implement their planned activities and response in the event of disaster.

In association with the P and D department, the accounts department organised a two day-long training on finance development at NHQ on 20 to 21 September with 32 officers and accountants from the field and NHQ participating. The training course included the national society's financial rules, financial plan, budget and control, procurement procedures, basic accounting system, financial reporting system and procedures, Federation's accounting system and procedures, etc.

### **Impact:**

- Fundraising methods and techniques disseminated to unit executive committee members, volunteers and officers will further strengthen the unit capacity to explore local resource mobilisation and achieving self-reliance.
- Unit resource mobilisation workshop had been able to generate enough enthusiasm at the unit level in raising funds and networking with the local stakeholders.
- Along with fundraising, lottery, promotional and souvenir items served the purpose of dissemination.

### **Constraints:**

- Due to insufficient human resource and lack of technical knowledge of the department, delays have occurred in the implementation of recently developed resource mobilisation plan and strategy.

### **Representation, Implementation and Management**

#### **Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)**

The Federation and country delegation had continued to solicit and coordinate international support from UN agencies and diplomatic missions for humanitarian emergency operations and capacity building initiatives undertaken by BDRCS. Regular contact with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding delegation administration

**Bangladesh Annual Appeal; Appeal 01.56/2004. ; Programme Update no.2**

matters was maintained while the Bangladesh head of delegation attended the South Asia regional head of delegation meeting organised by SARD during the reporting period. The head of delegation also facilitated a basic training course organised by New Zealand Red Cross and attended the global Geneva head of delegation meeting held in June.

Throughout the year, the Federation Secretariat (both at Geneva and country level) continued to play a leading role in attracting funding support, particularly with international donors based in Bangladesh. Several meetings had been held with donor missions, mainly to advocate the flooding issue during monsoon season, and all donors approached gave assurance by supporting the Emergency Flood Appeal which was well received. The Secretariat and delegation is also advising and assisting the national society in its operational management, guiding it through an ongoing process of organisational change.

The long-term presence of a Federation delegation, staffed by experienced and competent delegates and local staff, has added considerably to the capacity of the Federation in Bangladesh and has promoted external funding support, knowledge sharing and skills transfer, and has provided a consistent source of encouragement and solidarity for BDRCS staff and volunteers.

BDRCS had a strategic four-year partnership agreement with British Red Cross, which is running into its second year, supporting DM and OD activities. The World Food Programme (WFP) and other UN agencies are continuing to support BDRCS programmes, while additional support had been extended by non-Movement partners and new partner national societies.

Cordial, cooperative and mutually beneficial relations between the Federation's country delegation and the ICRC regional delegation based in Delhi had been continuously maintained.

BDRCS is participating in a 'real time' action learning exercise, which is being coordinated by SARD, with the ongoing flood operation providing a good opportunity for real time learning in time of emergencies. In October, a two-member assessment team has conducted a field study focussing on learning how previous investments in DP have increased the Red Crescent and community's capacity in coping with disasters. The findings of the study will be shared/discussed in a regional participatory action-learning workshop to be held on 2 to 3 November in Dhaka.

Following a meeting between the BDRCS Constitution Review Committee chairman and Joint Commission in September, the joint ICRC/Federation Commission for National Society Statutes approved BDRCS' final draft constitution with some amendments and provision for significant change on two key issues within the next six years.

**Impact:**

The active representation that the Delegation has maintained was reflected in the 2004 floods appeal where over CHF 500,000 was raised locally and with the support of the diplomatic community, the appeal was funded 170 percent.

New initiatives and support to assist in strengthening the management and governance of BDRCS have enabled the national society to make some major advancement in line with its change management process.

**Constraints:**

Nil

**[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)**

APPEAL No. 01.56/2004

## PLEDGES RECEIVED

23/12/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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## CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				2,175,802	TOTAL COVERAGE 74.6%	
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				192,414		
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID GRANT 2004				50,000	29.01.04	
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID		40,000	GBP	92,320	04.06.04	DISASTER MANAGEMENT & ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
BRITISH RC		80,000	GBP	182,880	18.06.04	CBDP - COMMUNITY BASED DP
ECHO (03006)		220,000	EUR	346,610	01.03.04	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND				92,500	03.03.04	
ITALIAN - RC		50,000	EUR	75,825	15.12.04	DISASTER MANAGEMENT CHITTAGONG HILLS TRACKS
NEW ZEALAND - RC		25,000	NZD	19,863	21.09.04	CHITTAGONG HILLS TRACKS
NORWEGIAN - RC				6,600	05.07.04	BP5 INSTRUCTION MATERIALS & WAREHOUSE FUMIGATION
SWEDISH - GOVT		2,900,000	SEK	488,650	16.04.04	DISASTER MANAGEMENT, ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPEMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				1,547,662	CHF	71.1%

## KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SWEDEN	DELEGATES			59,800		
GERMANY	DELEGATES			16,400		
Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				76,200	CHF	3.5%

## ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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