

NEPAL

REFUGEE RELIEF, CAPACITY BUILDING

CHF 1,076,000
100,000 beneficiaries

Programme No. 01.31/98

Objectives in 1998

Relief / Bhutanese Refugees

Since the issues pertaining to the Bhutanese refugee situation are unlikely to be resolved in 1998, the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) will continue to provide essential food and non-food distribution services to the beneficiaries — approximately 100,000 people — in seven camps. With UNHCR cutbacks, and other organisations, both local and international, also reducing services, Federation support is more crucial than ever. As part of this programme, the NRCS has developed services that also benefit communities in the same areas as the camps. Since some of the refugees will probably be integrated into Nepal these services should help facilitate their acceptance. The refugees' personal rights are limited; they do not have access to employment or income generation schemes, and live under a daily curfew.

Capacity Building

The Nepal Red Cross Society will continue to focus on its institutional development both at headquarters and in the branches. Various initiatives will be expanded to enhance human resource potential at all levels of the Society. The Women Activities Section (WAS) will integrate gender sensitive orientation and training programmes into NRCS programmes, conduct membership drives targeting women, and undertake other activities that will increase awareness and help ensure that a better balance gender balance in planning and decision making is established.

The Remote and Developing District Chapter Development will result in assistance to remote District Chapters in institutional and resource development, enhancing the quality of services, increasing managerial capacities, and moving towards a higher degree of sustenance and self-reliance.

The Nepal Red Cross Training Centre will be a phased development over 5 years. The planning phase was completed in 1997. During year 1, the Society will fence the land, construct the first 3-floor

dormitory, complete water supplies, and conduct the first of many training courses. At the end of the 5 year period, the facility will consist of 5 training rooms, a conference hall, dormitory, and auditorium. The Society plans to use this to develop human resources and rent the facility out to NGOs as part of the maintenance and sustainability plan.

The following projects will be included with other capacity building initiatives. The budgets are under final preparation, and are not included in the total for Nepal:

- | Women Activities Section;
- | Remote and Developing District Chapter Development;
- | Nepal Red Cross Training Centre.

Management and Organisational Training

Management and Organisational Training at NRCS National Headquarters and in selected branches will be expanded to include more staff and volunteers in communities around Nepal, as well as provide more advanced skills for those who have already completed training courses. The NRCS values this programme after the positive results of previous training.

SCALA Implementation

During the last quarter of 1997, renovation of the NRCS Finance Section took place, in preparation for the installation of the SCALA system. Training, provided by the SCALA consultant, was also scheduled to be completed in 1997. During 1998, technical support will be required from the SARD, Secretariat and SCALA consultants. Maintenance costs also need to be covered. It is anticipated that over a 3 year period, the NRCS will be able to utilise savings from staff attrition and reassignment, as well as other resources, to take over all financial obligations for SCALA at National Headquarters, although the Federation may be asked to contribute to upgrading the system and its expansion into selected branches.

Health Services

With one doctor per 15,346 residents, the NRCS seeks to expand its health services coverage by adding a number of Community Based First Aid training programmes; expanding ambulance services to nine districts and replacing old ambulances in three districts; and improving and upgrading its blood transfusions services through quality assurance measures, increased donor motivation campaigns, specific technical and general management training programmes, and the addition of two blood collection vehicles.

The following projects make up health initiatives for which the NRCS is requesting assistance. The budgets are under final preparation, and are not included in the total for Nepal:

- | Community Based First Aid;
- | Ambulance Service;
- | Blood Transfusion Services.

Community-Based Disaster Preparedness (CBDP)

Following the successful implementation of this programme in 6 districts during 1997, the CBDP programme will be expanded to more communities in Nepal. It will improve the community's awareness of DP while increasing its capacity to deal with disasters in a more structured manner through risk identification, the integration of traditional practices and knowledge, and pre-emptive action. Outputs will include establishment of community-level disaster management committees, an

increase of trained human resources, hazard mitigation, and an integration of community-based first aid into CDBP.

Disaster Preparedness (DP)

The NRCS will continue to upgrade and enhance its Disaster Preparedness programme through follow-up basic training as well as positioning relief supplies throughout the country. A five year plan has been developed by the NRCS that includes five key components: community-based disaster preparedness; training and dissemination; community leader training; development and stocking of district depots, warehouse construction and stocking; and the development of a NRCS National Training Centre. The overall DP plan has been designed to be implemented in stages.

The budgets for disaster preparedness initiatives are under final preparation, and are not included in the total for Nepal.