

# ANNUAL REPORT



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

## **ERITREA**

*May 2002*

*This Annual Report is intended for reporting on the Federation's Annual Appeals only.*

*Appeal No. 01.12/2001*

*Appeal Target: CHF 151,912 (USD 93,600 or EUR 103,913)*

### ***Operational Developments***

After a 30-year liberation war, Eritrea gained its independence in 1991. At the time, the country was one of the poorest in the world with both its infrastructure and economy in ruins. Since independence, Eritrea has been involved in a process of reconstruction and rehabilitation for which it developed a policy of self reliance rather than dependence on foreign relief, assistance or loans.

In May 1998, a border conflict with Ethiopia degenerated into a full scale war between the two countries, resulting in the deaths of thousands of people, over one million persons displaced to locations within and outside the country, and tens of thousands deported from Ethiopia. The Peace Agreement signed by the two countries in December 2000 brought a formal end to the border conflict. This resulted in the deployment of a 4,200 strong UN peacekeeping mission (UNMEE) and the establishment of a Temporary Security Zone along the southern 1,200 kilometer border with Ethiopia.

However the fighting in and the displacement from the most fertile regions in Eritrea led to a major disruption in agricultural production. This combined with the continued drought that affected much of the Horn of Africa, including Eritrea, resulted in severe food shortages in the country. A total of 1.6 million persons were estimated to be affected by the war, drought or a combination of these factors.

Eritrea faces huge challenges in restoring broad-based economic growth. This process is difficult and complex considering the need to demobilize 200,000 soldiers, to assist 180,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) who returned, another estimated 50,000 IDPs living in camps and around 5,800 IDPs residing outside of camps in and around villages. These vulnerable groups plus some 75,000 deportees and refugees who came back and the 150,000 refugees expected to do so during the next few years have to be integrated into the society and economy.

Furthermore, Eritrea faced the challenge of clearing landmines (Eritrea is still infested with some two million landmines and unexploded ordinance (UXO) left over from the May 1998 war. This means that together with the one million devices from the 30-year independence war, Eritrea had almost as many inhabitants as it had unexploded projectiles), before it can recover from massive destruction to infrastructure, property and agricultural output and from the human and social toll of the conflict.

In 2001, the Red Cross Society of Eritrea (RCSE) was actively involved in relief and emergency assistance, supported by the ICRC and its bilateral donors. Although directly affected by the mobilization of men and women from 18 to 40 years, the national society still succeeded in implementing most of its development activities planned for the year 2001.

### ***Objectives, Achievements and Constraints***

The RCSE continued to coordinate and manage all development programs in Eritrea, with the Federation giving technical advice and training through its representative and the regional delegation in Nairobi. Good cooperation and regular coordination meetings were the norm between the RCSE, the ICRC and the Federation.

### ***Disaster Response***

**Objective 1** To support the ICRC in its temporary role as lead agency by providing assistance to the national society for relief activities for war victims and to vulnerable groups affected by drought.

#### **Achievements**

The RCSE was actively involved in emergency relief and disaster response, supported by the ICRC and bilateral donors whilst coordinating its interventions with local authorities.

The RCSE also assisted deportees from Ethiopia on arrival in Eritrea, secured safe passage to the border for Ethiopians leaving Eritrea voluntarily, provided water, food and non-food assistance to IDP camp populations and other drought affected communities and provided ambulance emergency services in all six *zobas* (provinces) on a round-the-clock basis.

Additional rehabilitation activities to facilitate the return of the displaced population to their places of origin were limited mainly owing to delays in clearing these sites from unexploded ordinances and to restricted financial and technical capacity.

### ***Disaster Preparedness***

**Objective 1** To assist the RCSE in improving its disaster preparedness and response capacity.

#### **Achievements**

The regional delegation in Nairobi facilitated a disaster preparedness workshop in the Eritrean capital Asmara, in July 2001. Topics included DP policy and plans, vulnerability and capacity analysis (VCA), risk mapping and food security. The workshop emphasized the basis for a comprehensive framework and approach to the disaster preparedness and food security concept. The delegate's follow-up mission in October resulted in the formulation of the RCSE strategic framework 2002 to 2010 on food security. Two additional integrated food security proposals were drafted for Zoba Anseba and Gash-Barka.

In September, the RCSE programme coordinator participated in a workshop organized by the regional delegation in Nairobi on disaster preparedness policy and in October, the RCSE relief coordinator attended the DP skills development workshop organized by the DP department in Geneva.

An inter-sectoral approach for community development was prepared over the course of the year, in which disaster preparedness and response, first aid, water and sanitation and HIV/AIDS would be

integrated with volunteer development and the establishment of Red Cross action teams at branch levels.

### ***Health and Care***

**Objective 1** To further develop and support the health policy and to provide technical assistance to existing health programmes.

#### **Achievements**

The RCSE continued successfully with its integrated approach to health interventions. Water and sanitation projects (some only of a demonstrative nature) and skills development for vulnerable groups were always linked with health promotion, prevention of common diseases and training in community based first aid (CBFA). Information about HIV/AIDS was integrated into every CBFA training course.

Two RCSE staff participated in the regional workshop on PHAST (participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation). The regional technical watsan officer followed up in October by facilitating a hands-on training session in Asmara on planning community participation in water and sanitation activities, for branch staff and volunteers. The methodology learned enabled the RCSE to use appropriate tools in community participation and ways of changing hygienic practices so as to eliminate water and sanitation related diseases.

Ambulances continued to provide emergency health services in all six *zobas* by transporting sick or injured persons to the nearest health facility. This service, provided by the national society, was extremely well perceived by the general public.

### ***Humanitarian Values***

**Objective 1** To complement and support the ICRC's tracing and family reunion activities, and its efforts to promote humanitarian values.

#### **Achievements**

The RCSE cooperated with the ICRC in tracing and dissemination, while the Federation's representative took part in individual dissemination sessions to selected groups.

In November, the regional communications delegate provided technical advice to headquarters staff, branch managers and selected volunteers at a workshop on effective communication techniques, held in Asmara.

### ***Organizational Development***

**Objective 1** To help the RCSE obtain formal recognition from the Eritrean government and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

#### **Achievements**

Numerous meetings were held with the relevant ministries to promote official recognition of the national society by the Eritrean government. The process of translation into Tigrinya, Arabic and

English of the draft statutes was facilitated. In collaboration with the ICRC and RCSE, a plan of action following recognition was drafted, and a brochure to profile the national society was compiled, with support from the regional information delegate.

In connection with branch visits, meetings were held with interested government representatives and private enterprises to reactivate Red Cross committees at provincial level. Increased visibility of the national society was promoted through the marking of project sites with the Red Cross emblem, dissemination sessions in connection with Red Cross community based activities and training programmes.

**Objective 2** To assist the RCSE to establish a clear national structure and to improve its internal communications.

### **Achievements**

Although the lack of progress in the recognition process impeded the establishment of governance structures and Red Cross committees, improved project management and reporting guidelines were implemented during the year. Management and branch staff discussed project progress and policies at quarterly meetings. The need to further elaborate job descriptions, performance evaluation systems, opportunities for staff development, volunteer recruitment and coaching mechanisms, as well as clear policy guidelines on issues such as HIV/AIDS and community participation were identified as specific objectives to be addressed next year.

In 2001, the RCSE was involved in two exchange programs with the national societies in Rwanda and Ghana. Valuable experiences were shared including the development of administrative systems, decentralization and branch development and volunteer recruitment.

In December, the RCSE programme coordinator participated in the human resources working group in Geneva.

**Objective 3** To help the RCSE develop its financial resources and its financial management systems.

### **Achievements**

With support from the regional finance development delegate, the RCSE finance department further improved its financial reporting, providing timely accounts internally and to donors. The computerized financial system, enabling the society to provide greater transparency for donors (project accounting etc.), became operational in 2001. However, owing to the delay in formal recognition of the society, activities planned for income generation schemes, membership recruitment and active lobby for subsidies from public organizations for services provided were postponed. In October, the RCSE programme coordinator was sponsored by the Federation at the International Fundraising Congress in Amsterdam.

### **Conclusions**

With the support of its partners, the national society's dedicated staff and volunteers were able to play an important role in relief and emergency activities in a country stricken by conflict and drought. Despite the difficult conditions, the RSCE demonstrated its operational capacity by implementing most of its development activities planned for the year.

Efficient cooperation with different partners did exist although the national society was constrained, since it was not yet formally recognized, to publicize its achievements and to accelerate its local fundraising and membership drive. Nevertheless, more emphasis was placed on increasing community participation in its activities and on widening its volunteer base.

*For further details please contact: Josse Gillijns, Phone: 41 22 730 42 24; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; email: [gillijns@ifrc.org](mailto:gillijns@ifrc.org)*

*All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.*

*For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.*

John Horekens  
Head  
Relationship Management Department

Bekele Geleta  
Head  
Africa Department

# INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES

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**Appeal No & title: 01.12/2001 Eritrea**

**Period: year 2001**

**Project(s): ER510**

**Currency: CHF**

## I - CONSOLIDATED INCOME 2001. CASH. KIND. SERVICES

FUNDING	CASH		KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL INCOME
	Contributions	Reallocations	Goods/Services	Personnel	
Appeal budget	151,912				
less					
Cash brought forward	24,225				
TOTAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT	127,687				
<u>Contributions from Donors</u>					
British Red Cross (DNGB)	22,861				22,861
Netherlands Red Cross (DNNL)	1,084				1,084
Swedish Red Cross (DNSE)	8,415				8,415
Danish Red Cross (DNDK)	3,864				3,864
Netherlands Red Cross (DNNL)	17,374				17,374
Norwegian Govt.via Norwegian Red	15,200				15,200
Norwegian Red Cross (DNNO)	3,800				3,800
Danish Red Cross (DNDK)	9,764				9,764
Denmark				26,283	26,283
Netherlands				25,133	25,133
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>82,362</b>			<b>51,416</b>	<b>133,778</b>

## II - Balance of funds

Opening balance	24,225
CASH INCOME Rcv'd	82,362
CASH EXPENDITURE	-77,478
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<b>CASH BALANCE</b>	<b>29,109</b>

**Appeal No & title: 01.12/2001 Eritrea****Period: year 2001****Project(s): ER510****Currency: CHF****III - Budget analysis / Breakdown of expenditures**

Description	Appeal Budget	CASH Expenditures	KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL Expenditures	Variance
			Goods/services	Personnel		
<u>SUPPLIES</u>						
Shelter & Construction						
Clothing & Textiles		151			151	-151
Food/Seeds						
Water		16			16	-16
Medical & First Aid						
Teaching materials						
Utensils & Tools						
Other relief supplies						
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>167</b>			<b>167</b>	<b>-167</b>
<u>CAPITAL EXPENSES</u>						
Land & Buildings						
Vehicles						
Computers & Telecom equip.	4,257					4,257
Medical equipment						
Other capital expenditures	2,000	1,615			1,615	385
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>6,257</b>	<b>1,615</b>			<b>1,615</b>	<b>4,642</b>
<u>TRANSPORT &amp; STORAGE</u>	4,400	3,473			3,473	927
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>4,400</b>	<b>3,473</b>			<b>3,473</b>	<b>927</b>
<u>PERSONNEL</u>						
Personnel (delegates)	94,185	41,058		51,416	92,474	1,711
Personnel (local staff)	7,560	1,503			1,503	6,057
Training						
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>101,745</b>	<b>42,561</b>		<b>51,416</b>	<b>93,977</b>	<b>7,768</b>
<u>GENERAL &amp; ADMINISTRATION</u>						
Assessment/Monitoring/experts	4,000	140			140	3,860
Travel & related expenses	12,000	16,647			16,647	-4,647
Information expenses		126			126	-126
Administrative expenses	6,800	3,987			3,987	2,813
External workshops & Seminars						
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>22,800</b>	<b>20,900</b>			<b>20,900</b>	<b>1,900</b>
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>						
Programme management	10,243	5,371			5,371	4,873
Technical services	3,066	1,608			1,608	1,458
Professional services	3,401	1,784			1,784	1,617
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>16,710</b>	<b>8,762</b>			<b>8,762</b>	<b>7,948</b>
Operational provisions						
Transfers to National Societies						
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>151,912</b>	<b>77,478</b>		<b>51,416</b>	<b>128,894</b>	<b>23,018</b>

**Consumption rate:** Expenditures versus income 96%

Expenditures versus budget 85%