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Annual Report 2014

Eritrea

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAAER002
30 April, 2015

**This report covers the
period 1 January to 31
December, 2014.**

*Site selection for the public latrine
construction in Tesenne –
2014/RCSE*



Overview

In 2014 following the approval by the Eritrean government (late 2013) to sign an agreement with the European Union, Red Cross Society of Eritrea (RCSE) continued implementing the 4-year Urban Sanitation Project (USP) co-funded by the Netherlands and Swedish Red Cross Societies. USP aims to extend the coverage of improved sanitation conditions through constructing six public latrines in peri-urban areas of Eritrea, and encourage household latrine construction, implement Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) and above all promote hygiene behavioural change. The project pursues a community-based approach which focuses on strengthening the capacity and involvement of communities in the project at the same time addresses sanitation problems and ensures project sustainability.

The urban sanitation project targets an estimated 64,000 people residing in 3 Zobas (provinces) of Eritrea. The project strongly focused on capacity building of RCSE staff on the sanitation project. As a result of this project there has been an increase in the number of volunteers by 6% with 180 volunteers recruited. During the reporting period the volunteers were trained on CBHFA and facilitation of PHAST sessions, enabling them to work with the community in triggering Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS).

IFRC maintained its presence in Eritrea to provide support to the National Society throughout the reporting period.

Working in partnership

Implementation of activities in Eritrea was supported through multilateral funding by European Union, Netherlands Red Cross Society and Swedish Red Cross Society. 75% of the funding was received from EU and 25% shared between the partner national societies.

Progress towards outcomes

Business line 1: To raise humanitarian standards

Outcome 1: A country trend report on key humanitarian and development issues is developed and kept updated

Outcome 2: A databank of objectively analysed NS capacities is established that creates greater self-awareness at all levels, services, strengths, gaps, and their future potential for boosting their own development

Measurement			
Indicators	BL	Annual Target ^[1]	Year to Date Actual
Output 1.1: Eritrea country representation provides quarterly analysis on country context and trends	-	4	4 QMRs
Output 1.2: Red Cross Society of Eritrea contributes information annually to the databank with support of the Eritrea country office	-	1	1 (FDRS)

Comments on progress towards outcome
IFRC country representation provided information on country context and trends on a quarterly basis throughout the reporting period through the quarterly management reports. The national society worked with the IFRC in providing information on key performance indicators for the federation data reporting system.

Business line 2: To grow Red Cross Red Crescent services for vulnerable people

Outcome 1: Timely quality disaster relief assistance is delivered to people affected and NS, mobilising fully operational regional disaster response teams where required

Outcome 2: Comprehensive technical assistance is provided to NS on community level disaster management programming, incorporating disaster risk reduction

Measurement			
Indicators	BL	Annual Target ^[1]	Year to Date Actual
Output 2.1.1: RCSE has established a nationwide psychosocial support service for people affected by disasters.	-		Not done due to inadequate NS capacity and funding
Output 2.1.2: Effective and trained National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT)	-		NDRT training was not done
Output 2.1.3: 3 RDRT members on standby for possible deployment within the region as part of RDRT	-	3	1
Output 2.2.1: RCSE has established a community DRR programme in the three most vulnerable Zobas (provinces)	-	3	3

Output 2.2.2: Climate change adaptation activities developed to improve resilience and reduce vulnerabilities of 54 communities to effects related to climate change	-		Not done due to inadequate NS capacity
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Comments on progress towards outcome

The NDRT training could not take place as a result of the organizational restructuring in the national society. There was also no funding to support the activity. The NDRT training will be conducted in 2015. Although there is one RDRT member, deployment in the region was difficult as a result of the long duration it takes to acquire entry and exit visas due to the political situation in Eritrea.

The community DRR programme was established in 3 Zobas through bilateral with Danish Red Cross.

Business line 3: To strengthen the specific Red Cross Red Crescent contribution to development

Outcome 1: Strategy 2020 is rolled out throughout Africa, with support provided to RCSE for strategic planning based on S2020

Outcome 2: Programmes and support mechanisms addressing health and care priorities are developed and improved, enhancing social mobilization and encouraging volunteering and engagement of youth in RCRC activities

Outcome 3: NS capacities and internal development are strengthened by alignment of assistance to their self-determined needs

Measurement			
Indicators	BL	Annual Target ^[1]	Year to Date Actual
Output 3.1: RCSE contributes to achieving the aims of Strategy 2020 through development of a new RCSE strategic plan 2012-2016 with support of the country representation	-	1	1
Output 3.2.1: RCSE scales up its integrated water and sanitation programming by 15% as contribution to the country strategic direction	-	15%	15%
Output 3.2.2: RCSE scales up its HIV/AIDS programming by 5%	-	5%	0%
Output 3.2.3: RCSE establishes a CBHFA programme in six branches	-	6	6
Output 3.2.4: RCSE expands its youth volunteer base of 3,000 by 2% per year	-	2%	6%
Output 3.3.1: RCSE has effective financial procedures and guidelines and annually audited accounts	-		Financial guidelines in

	-	1	place and audited accounts
Output 3.3.2: RCSE has a fully constituted Board with fair representation of youth and women			Board not yet in place

Comments on progress towards outcome

Although RCSE has been allowed by the Eritrean government to continue operating in Eritrea, it is yet to receive official recognition that allows the formation of NS board. However plans are underway to acquire official recognition by the government.

A revision of the RCSE Strategic Plan (2012-2016) will be done in 2015. A new strategic plan was not developed as a result of inadequate financial and technical support A Plan of Action was produced for the implementation of activities in 2014 and the activities started in January 2014.

The volunteers in their respective peri-urban areas and schools were taken through 60 hours of Community Based Health First Aid (CBHFA) training by RCSE TOTs (staff and volunteers) under the EU funded urban sanitation project.

Business line 4: To heighten Red Cross Red Crescent influence and support for our work

Outcome 1: RCSE is supported to adopt its legislation and further develop its auxiliary role, as well as promote and advocate for IDRL and risk reduction law

Outcome 2: Resource mobilisation capacities of NS are scaled up, diversifying income sources and expanding partnerships

Measurement			
Indicators	BL	Annual Target ^[1]	Year to Date Actual
Output 4.1.1: RCSE auxiliary role is promoted through promulgation of the Red Cross law	-		This could not be done due to lack of official recognition by the Eritrean government.
Output 4.1.2: IDRL guidelines are incorporated into country DP/DRR policies	-		Same as above
Output 4.2: RCSE adaptive and innovative programme design results in new partnerships and domestically generated resources increased by 30%.	-	30%	Not done

Comments on progress towards outcome

All the activities under this outcome could not be implemented as RCSE is not yet officially recognised by the government.

Business line 5: To deepen our tradition of togetherness through joint working and accountability

Outcome 1: Assistance is aligned among Movement components: National Societies (including PNS), ICRC and the Federation, to optimise the Movement's work and impact at country level

Outcome 2: International cooperation and coordination dialogue is enhanced through regular Africa Zone NS leadership meetings, dialogue platform meetings, and other NS groupings and regional networks

Outcome 3: National Societies increase the quality and impact of their programmes through sound programme management, including timely and quality planning, monitoring and reporting

Measurement			
Indicators	BL	Annual Target ^[1]	Year to Date Actual
Output 5.1: RCSE and Movement partners establish a new MoU and NS-led coordination platform	-		No in-country partners. All programs are multilateral
Output 5.2: NS actively participate in 3 regional network with support from the Eritrea country office	-	3	1
Output 5.3: RCSE provides quality reports on time to all major donors with assistance of a funded PMER officer	-	100%	100% though no PMER officer

Comments on progress towards outcome

All RCSE programs are multilateral and there are no in-country partners. The national society continues to submit timely reports to major donors, although there is no PMER officer recruited due to inadequate resources and the NS restructuring process. The national society however continues to receive support from PMER regional office.

Stakeholder participation and feedback

Under the USP project, based on the progress made in the first and second quarters, the RCSE conducted a one-day meeting with local stakeholders in June 2014, during which implementation modalities and other issues were raised and discussed. RCSE invited an expert of EcoSan from MoH to present the whole concept of EcoSan and the possibility of its application in the public latrines. All technical people, engineers from Zoba administration and other participants exchanged comments on the possibility of EcoSan in their localities. This provided a great learning opportunity for all the stakeholders involved.

Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority High Medium Low	Recommended Action
<p>NS were not allowed to receive foreign aid in 2013. Although this is no longer the case, the situation in Eritrea remains volatile and might change in the near future.</p> <p>The long process in government recognition of the NS creates uncertainty and undermines sense of a clear role for the NS.</p> <p>Despite an identified need for an IFRC presence in Eritrea, IFRC is unable to maintain an office in Eritrea due to limited funding for coordination and management and OD related</p>	<p>M</p> <p>H</p> <p>H</p>	<p>This risk should be considered whenever planning. Flexible programming and remote implementation and programming to be considered.</p> <p>Continued dialogue with the government and having IFRC in country representation to follow up on the process</p> <p>Additional funding allocation on OD and IFRC representation to support NS development.</p>

Lessons learned and looking ahead

During the assessment phase it was clear that the urban sanitation issue is one of the biggest issues for Eritrea which needs a well-coordinated all stakeholder approach in implementation. The RCSE presented at a workshop organized by MoH on the approach to coordinated sanitation and the lesson learnt from this workshop was that strong local partnerships are needed to ensure sustainability of any sanitation projects/services, without this such projects are doomed to fail due to poor maintenance. During the baseline survey, one lesson learnt was there is need to include the needs of children and elderly in the design and construction of latrine as these interested groups raise the issue that they were not catered for in some designs of latrines. The engagement of the community on the use and maintenance of latrines has ensured that previously built latrines are well maintained, this has then been the basis for construction of new facilities. What has made this possible is having the government as a partner in the monitoring process.. Having a strong partnership with the community administrative authorities has resulted in greater ownership from the community and government and has resulted in extra funding (cash and in-kind) coming from the government. This change in approach from 'build and transfer' to working in partnership has made it possible for there to be greater ownership, utilization and maintenance of the latrines.

Financial situation

[Click here to go directly to the financial report.](#)

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

Find out more on www.ifrc.org

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