

# OPERATIONS 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

## IRAN: BAM EARTHQUAKE

(FOCUS ON REHABILITATION: MARCH–JUNE 2005)

30 June 2005

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

### In Brief

**Appeal No. 25/03; Operations Update No.21; Period covered: 1 March-30 June 2005; Appeal Coverage: 89.7 %**  
*(Please click [here](#) to go directly to the Contributions List)*

#### Appeal history:

- Revised Appeal launched on 8 January 2004 for CHF 51,913,000 (USD 44,068,425 or EUR 33,445,680) to assist 210,000 beneficiaries for 6 – 8 months.
- Revised Plan of Action presented on 29 September 2004, to reflect on-going programming into 2005, under the overall Emergency Appeal. A revised appeal budget for the period December 2003 to end December 2005 reflects the revised Plan of Action, and totalling to CHF 53,288,000 (USD 45,231,315 or EUR 34,324,335).
- Final Report for the Emergency Operation Phase of the Bam Appeal, covering the period from 26 December 2003 to 31 August 2004, presented on 8 December 2004 in Operations Update No.19.

**Outstanding needs** (revised according to plan): CHF 5,488,664

The Federation Secretariat is not looking for any new cash contributions. All projects, planned to be implemented through multilateral support and included in the revised plan of action, received sufficient support. The balance required represent the budgetary needs for the projects which a) have been planned to be implemented through bilateral cooperation or b) have been already implemented but not formally reported yet to the Federation Secretariat.

#### Operational Summary:

In March-June 2005, the International Federation and the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) have continued working on the implementation of the longer-term rehabilitation and reconstruction plan as well as for further enhancing the management capacity of the IRCS.

Practical methods and modalities of cooperation between the International Federation, IRCS and the Iranian authorities have been formalised through signing a series of agreements.

The International Federation has mobilised the resources required to build ten schools (including three primary, two high, three special schools for disabled children and the Arg-e-Bam Model School Complex), one Urban Health Centre/Clinic and one Road and Rescue Base. Sufficient resources have been also allocated to support other assistance programmes, including those in the areas of health, disaster management training, and developing methods of increasing efficiency of the IRCS management practices.

General contractors for the construction of five standard schools, the Urban Health Centre and Road Rescue Base have been identified and contracted. Preparatory work for a new tender is under way to announce call for tender for the Arg-e-Bam Model School Complex and three special schools for disabled children early in July.

The IRCS field hospital that had been bridging gaps in health services in Bam was closed down in early April and its medical equipment and containers were transported and stored in IRCS warehouses in Tehran for use in future operations.

The replenishment of IRCS disaster preparedness stocks following Bam earthquake has been generally completed and a new similar project, following the earthquake in Zarand, has been in progress. Disaster management training workshops are conducted according to the plan of action agreed upon. Training on PSP and HIV/AIDS has been integrated into DM training programme.

## Background

On the morning of 26<sup>th</sup> December 2003, at 05:28 (local time), a major earthquake measuring 6.51 on the Richter scale struck the city of Bam, Kerman Province, south-eastern Iran. According to seismologists, the earthquake is one of the shallowest recorded, with a focal depth of only 10-12 kilometres and the epicentre directly underneath Bam city. Bam is located on a main earthquake fault line. In Iran, which is ranked as the fourth most disaster prone country in the world, this was the worst earthquake to hit the country in more than a decade. According to the latest estimates, more than 26,000 people were killed, approximately 30,000 injured (of which some 10,000 were evacuated out of the area):

In Bam, more than 85 percent of the buildings were completely destroyed. Although most of the casualties occurred in Bam itself, the impact on surrounding rural areas was also severe. As a result of the earthquake the electricity, water supply, and most public health and education services were completely disrupted. Bam, 2500 year-old historic city with an internationally renowned heritage site, was almost completely destroyed.

*Table 1: Key figures concerning the impact of the earthquake.*

Description of the impact	Number
People killed	29,878
People injured	22,628
Houses destroyed beyond repair in Bam City and surrounding villages	25,000 (out of 29,500)
People affected (by loss of economic activity and damage to property and infrastructure)	200,000
Inhabitants in the most affected area	
• Bam	90,000
• Baravat	15,000
• Surrounding villages	10,000
Homeless people (March, 2004)	45,000 (In addition, 20,000 stayed with extended family and 10,000 more were hospitalized)
Number of schools destroyed or unusable	
• Bam City	93
• Surrounding villages	38

\* Reports from the Ministry of Education indicate that all 131 schools in Bam and the surrounding villages, with a combined capacity of 32,843 students, were either destroyed or rendered unusable. While 64 schools survived the impact of the earthquake, but none of these schools were usable.

## Objectives, activities and results

### Rehabilitation and Reconstruction

**Objective: In close cooperation with the Iranian Authorities and the IRCS, to contribute to the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the education, health and social infrastructure of Bam.**

During the reporting period, the Federation Delegation in Iran continued to cope with the challenges of the reconstruction programme which took its final shape in January – February 2005. The progress has been slower than it was initially expected, however, it is still acceptable taking into account all objective and subjective difficulties which the International Federation has been confronting in this process.

In terms of its scale and value, the construction of ten schools represent the bulk of the Federation's whole multilaterally supported reconstruction programme.

#### Standard Schools

On 11 January 2005, the International Federation signed an Agreement with the Ministry of Education of Iran and the Iranian Red Crescent Society on the Educational Facilities' Construction Programme in Bam. This agreement defined the responsibilities of the parties, objects to be constructed, sites where the schools should be located.



**The construction of standard schools is an important component of the reconstruction efforts in Bam**

On 30 January 2005 the International Federation contracted a building consultancy company "Shayesteghan Consultant Engineering Co." The general task of the Consultant has been to advise the Federation Delegation on the relevant technical matters in all phases of the construction project, including:

- Architectural, structural, electrical and mechanical design, detailing of working documents, documentation preparation for the tenders,
- Assistance in the tendering process,
- Technical advice on the project and maintenance of daily engineering presence on the construction sites,
- Making sure that all relevant quality standards of the Islamic Republic of Iran are respected in construction projects.

Agreement with the Ministry of Education and the Iranian Red Crescent Society provided for the construction of ten schools in Bam and the neighbouring villages, equally affected by the earthquake. Five of these schools ("standard schools") are to be typical standard ones. Two should be part of the modern "Model School Complex" to be established in technical cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). The other three schools are planned to be designed and build especially for handicapped children

Although the original "standard" schools' plans were developed by the Ministry of Education, the Consultant still had to spend time for bringing the level of the documentation to the necessary level. Adaptation of the school complexes, main

building and external facilities such as guard house, external walls, sport grounds, external sanitary facilities, internal roads and parking had required time and energy to develop.

The Federation Delegation carried out market research to define experienced construction companies which were willing and had capacity to implement the Federation’s coordinated Bam School Reconstruction Programme. The result of the pre-qualification brought ten companies to the final stage of short-listing and tendering process.

The process of pre-qualification was finalized by 5 March 2005. Call for tender for five Standard Schools in Bam was announced on 13 March 2005 and formal invitation was sent to ten pre-qualified companies.

On 5 April 2005, the selection committee (composed of the representatives of the International Federation, the Iranian Red Crescent Society, the Ministry of Education and the Consultants Company) awarded a construction contract to the Iranian construction firm “Sanati Fajr Industrial Company”. The value of the contract was CHF 4,449,913.

The general contract for the construction of five “standard” schools was signed on 26 April 2005. However, the Contractor could not start the construction works on the construction sites straight after the contract was signed.

The Ministry of Education failed to honour its obligations related to the timely issue of required building permits and to fixing other formalities without which the construction sites could not be legally handed over to the general contractor. Moreover, due to several technical reasons, the Ministry decided to change three out of five construction sites. Subsequently, the general contractor could not start any of the construction works on the new sites until all the formalities were settled in the middle of June 2005. The International Federation was to remind the Ministry of Education of its obligations under the agreement of 11 January 2005. By the time of writing this report, major obstacles have been eliminated.

Since signing this agreement, the International Federation has been facing multiple obstacles deriving from the multiplicative subordination system, slow reaction and incapability of municipal or ministerial middle management levels to take firm decisions on the ground and provides needed support in an operational manner.

**“Standard” Schools Project Specification:** All five objects will consist of main building complex and external facilities such as: guard house, sanitation block, play-ground, sport facilities and external wall. After major changes, Standard School Complexes consist of build-up as below:

School	Description and size of built in area in m2/m					Total Project Construction Area
	Main Building	Guard House	External Sanitary Facilities	Masonry Wall	Landscaping	
Jihad Primary School	1.533	60	50	214	1,920	2.930
Montazeri Primary School	1.533	60	50	317	3.723	4.829
Farhangian Primary School	1.533	60	50	244	2.069	3.712
Khafi High School	2.200	60	50	290	2.452	4.762
Shamsadini High School	2.490	60	50	335	4.932	7.532

**Implementation Stage of the Project (30 June 2005)**

Detailing foundation works are as follows:

No	Name and Type of Standard School	From	To	No of days
1	Jihad primary School	June 19, 2005	July 14, 2005	25
2	Montazeri Primary School	June 19, 2005	July 14, 2005	25
3	Farhangian Primary School	June 14, 2005	July 9, 2005	25
4	Khafi High School	June 14, 2005	July 9, 2005	35
5	Shamsadini High School	June 14, 2005	July 9, 2005	35

By the beginning of June 2005, the General Contractor has established its main and site offices in Bam. Equipment of the site workshops has been completed. Further action will be taken to obtain demolishing permits of old and damaged buildings at two sites. Informal approval has been received and the Contractor has started this activity.

The implementation timetable worked out by the Federation Delegation in cooperation with the Contractor is respected. Implementation time frame for all five schools is 8.5 months. The project is expected to be finalized and handed over to the Ministry of Education on behalf of the Iranian Red Crescent Society by 31 December 2005.

Certain amount of un-forecasted expenses may arise in the progress of the implementation due to the additional works related to excavation, demolishing of the old buildings on the construction sites, as well as others.

The project is implemented on a turn key basis which provides for the equipment of the schools with furniture and the essential teaching equipment. These costs have not been included in the general contract; however the required amount has been budgeted and available, thanks to the adequate response to the appeal.

### **Arg-e-Bam Model School Complex**

After a substantial delay caused by the discussions between the Ministry of Education and UNESCO Cluster Office in Tehran on the principles of the design for the Model School Complex, the former took the responsibility as of middle May 2005 to design Phase I architectural plan of the Arg-e-Bam Model School Complex. The Federation's Consultant has been in charge to complete the architectural plan for Phase II and related structural, electrical, water/sanitation, air-conditioning plans. Plans have been completed and approved by the Ministry of Education at the beginning of June 2005.

The Federation Delegation and the Iranian Red Crescent Construction Department have been working closely with the Ministry of Education technical departments in all aspects of the project. The Delegation will prepare call for tender documentation and announce tender in late June, 2005. Award of the construction contract to the selected Construction Company will take place in the middle of July, 2005.

The Arg-e-Bam Model School Complex will be a three level educational facility for pre-, primary and lower secondary education levels. The project consists of main building complex, external facilities such as guard house, sanitation facilities, external wall, sport facilities, and playground.

#### ***Technical Parameters of the Project:***

<b>No</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Built in area, m2/m</b>
1	Main building Pre- & Primary Schools	1050
2	Main building Lower-Secondary School	600
2	Guard house	60
3	External Sanitation facilities	50
5	Landscaping	4776

***Total site area: 6536 m2***

The International Federation has been implementing this project as a turn key one, including provision of specialized school furniture and equipment.

### **Specialised Schools for Disabled Children**

With respect to the Specialized School Construction Project for disabled children, the Ministry of Education and the Federation Delegation have shared responsibilities in the phase of design. Phase I architectural design has been prepared by the Technical department of the Schools Renovation and Mobilization Organization of the Ministry of Education. For Phase II, architectural design and related structural, electrical, water/sanitation, air-conditioning plans have been

developed and completed by the Consultant Engineering Company contracted by the Federation Delegation. Close monitoring, supervision and liaison has been maintained in all stages of the programming, planning and documents' preparation between the Ministry of Education and the Federation Delegation/Consultant Engineering Company.

Completed plans and documentation for the project have been submitted to the Ministry of Education for final approval on 15 June 2005. It is expected to launch the tendering process in late June, 2005. Contracting of the Construction Company will take place in the middle of July, 2005.

The size of the Disabled School Project is as follows:

School	Description and size of built in area in m2/m					Total Project Construction Area
	Main Building	Guard House	External Sanitary Facilities	Masonry Wall	Landscaping	
Peyvand School	1.011	60	50	200	2,800	4.121
Marafat School(for girls) & Peyvand School(for boys)	850	60	50	200	1.800	2.960
<b>Total</b>	1.861	120	100	400	4.600	7.081

**Urban Health Centre (UHC):**

The Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of Belgium (Flanders), Malaysia, Norway and Qatar responded to the IRCS/International Federation Emergency Appeal on behalf of the victims of Bam Earthquake with earmarked contributions for the construction of the Urban Health Centre.

On 22 February 2005, the International Federation signed two agreements with the Ministry of Health of Iran, which specified the obligations and responsibilities of the parties in the implementation of this project.

The Sarakhs Structures Co. Ltd. (Iran) was selected as a general contractor through an open tender in March 2005. The general contract was signed on 3 April 2005. However, the actual on-site construction works could not be started until recently.



**Cleaning of the construction site for the Urban Health Centre**

The International Federation was offered a construction site located in one of the central parts of Bam. However, the progress of the project implementation has been delayed due to several reasons. The most important reason was connected with the definition of the land ownership and failure of the Ministry of Health of Iran to implement its obligations under the agreement with the International Federation, namely obligations to resolve property issues, to clarify donation documentation, to ensure timely provision of building permits, and formal site allocation.

Only by the middle of June 2005, the major problems have been resolved and the general contractor has been enabled to continue with the construction works on the site.

By now, demolishing of damaged building remnants on the site has been completed. The site has been flattened and cleared from debris. Excavation works have taken place to clear old foundation. Foundation works are in progress and to be completed by mid July, 2005. Elements of the superstructure (steel) have been purchased and delivered by the Contractor.

The technology used for the UHC construction has already been approved by the Ministry of Health. The Federation Delegation and the General Contractor have been concentrating on the proper composition of the main and support facility and its compound. Building plans: architectural, structural, electrical and water/sanitation, ventilation and air-conditioning had to be developed by the Contractor using the light structure technology. An additional approval of the complete documentation is needed from the Ministry of Housing. This approval is in progress.

The design consists of elements as follows:

1. Main building of the clinic – two stories building with a three meter easement of the frontal site
2. Clinic yard with palm trees and fencing
3. Doctor's & nurses' accommodation – four apartments approximately 60 m2 each
4. Support facilities building – heating and cooling

Total built in area: 787 m2 two story building/Land size: 1000 m2

The total funds received from four national societies for the implementation of this project amounted to CHF 527,260. These funds are sufficient to ensure construction and equipment of this facility.

The revised implementation timeframe of the Project is 3.5 months. Original timeframe cannot be respected since many organizational obstacles have risen as described above. New tentative deadline for project completion is by the end of September 2005.

### **Road Rescue Base (RRB)**



**The general view of the Road Rescue Base construction site**

One of the important features of the IRCS/International Federation reconstruction plan is that it reflects a balanced approach to the direct alleviation of the disastrous consequences of the earthquake, namely reconstruction of the socio-economic infrastructure with an emphasis on the educational and health facilities, as well as to the enhanced capacity of the local IRCS infrastructure to respond to natural and other disasters.

Such approach was supported by a number of donor National Societies, including the Hong Kong Red Cross which decided to allocate the total of CHF 537,497 to the establishment of the IRCS Road Rescue Base in Kerman province. Kerman province is located in a remote and high disaster risk part of Iran. The entire province is prone to disasters, particularly earthquakes, road accidents and floods. Yet, and unlike many other provinces in Iran, there is no Road Rescue Base in this province. Following the Bam

experience, and impressive job done by the provincial branch, the IRCS decided to enhance the Disaster Preparedness capacity in the province, through establishing a Road Rescue Base along Kerman-Bam highway.

### **The Project Composition of the Road Rescue Base**

- Administration Building consists of three identical parts (multilateral funding)
- Residential Buildings
- Parking
- Helicopter pad
- Watchman post
- Custodian house
- Warehouse (24 x 66) for food and material storage
- Warehouse (24 x 66) for food and material storage
- Warehouse (24 x 66) for medical equipment
- Warehouse (18 x 36) for material storage (multilateral funding)
- Loading area
- Warehouse (12 x 18) refrigerator house
- Guard dog's place
- Latrines
- Unloading area
- Parking for heavy trucks
- Repair workshop
- Warehouse (24 x 66) for blanket storage
- Warehouse (18 x 36) for spare part storage (multilateral funding)
- Warehouse (48 x 60) for tent storage
- Extra place for future extension of the Road & Rescue Base
- Water wells
- Garden

The International Federation (Hong Kong Branch of the Chinese Red Cross) has funded two elements of the larger project, namely an Emergency Centre Office and a Warehouse (two units).

The funding situation of other components of the larger project is not clear to date. But, partial national societies' bilateral and the Iranian government funding are envisaged.

### **Milestones of the progress**

As a result of a long process of qualification of companies, tendering and contractor identification, the IRCS signed an implementation contract with SARATEL Co. Iran on 25 April, 2005.

Land allocation documentation was obtained from local authorities on 7 May, 2005. The site plans and construction documentation were ready on 31 May, 2005. Mobilization fee partially was paid to the bank account of the contractor. Mobilization of the Contractor has been expected to be completed by 23 June 2005. Further delay has been observed in relation to the contractually defined mobilization period and erection of workshop. Final version of the timetable for implementation is under discussion.

The Contractor has been finalizing activities linked to the company's mobilization. Labor force, basic building materials are relocated to the site. Workshop for metal works is being erected and functional. Foundation works are to start soon.

### **Financial indicators**

Contracted price for erecting office building: 390 CHF/m<sup>2</sup>

Contracted price for warehouses: 173.3 CHF/m<sup>2</sup>

Contractual implementation timeframe for one Emergency Centre Office and two Warehouses is 6 months. Since there is a delay in the mobilization in the first place, it has been expected that the project will demand more time to be finalized.

## **Projects in response to the revised joint IRCS/Federation's plan of action, implemented through bilateral cooperation**

*The French Red Cross* has been considering building up part of the Nursing University Complex. The French Red Cross representatives visited Iran in April and June to discuss with the IRCS and the authorities on how to build the complex within the limits of available funding. Discussion has been still going on between the parties concerned. No progress has been observed on the construction site.

*The German Red Cross* has been engaged in the following reconstruction projects in Bam:

- Warehouses  
The steel structure of the warehouses has been erected. However, the supplying company has delayed the delivery of the roof sheets. Therefore, the roof could not be fitted yet. The IRCS Kerman branch is tendering for a constructor for walls and floors.
- Orthopedic Centre/Medical Centre/Office Building  
These three projects were supposed to be built on the same plot of land. After completion of the planning, the projects were tendered as one contract. The contract was awarded to a company offering the best price. However, the contract volume was right at the budget limit and a further price increase was expected due to local practices. Subsequently, it was decided to omit the construction of the medical centre for the time being. If towards the end of the construction the budgetary situation allows, the plan to support the establishment of the medical centre will be revived. The general contract was signed and the construction activities are expected to start in the near future.
- Cultural Centre  
The Bam branch of IRCS is in the process of evacuating the building which is temporarily used as the office. This will allow the consulting engineering company to conduct a proper assessment of the damages to the building and plan for the required rehabilitation works.

## **Health**

**Objective: Gaps in the health system between the emergency and the long-term solutions are bridged through the IRCS referral hospital.**

The IRCS field hospital that had been bridging gaps in health services in Bam was finally closed down in early April and its medical equipment and ward containers were transported and stored in IRCS warehouses in Tehran for use in future operations. The Federation Iran Delegation and IRCS are now discussing with the Federation Secretariat and the Norwegian Red Cross the issues related to the organization of an Emergency Response Unit (ERU) hospital training workshop for IRCS staff. Such a workshop will ensure the proper use of the hospital equipment and containers when a disaster happens in the country.

The Psycho-social Support Programme (PSP) activities based on the plan of action developed jointly by the IRCS, Icelandic and the Danish Red Cross ended on 15 March 2005. To continue provision of PSP services for the earthquake victims, the IRCS Bam branch developed and submitted a project proposal to the Federation Delegation in June 2005. The proposal consists of 3 components, as continuation of the emergency phase activities:

- Continuation of sewing machine classes, mainly targeting women,
- Computer training courses, targeting young people,
- English training classes, targeting PSP volunteers and staff.

A total of about 500 people will benefit from the above 3 activities for 6 months (July to December 2005). The Federation Delegation approved this proposal, with resources leftover from the emergency phase. Implementation will start in July 2005.

Meanwhile, and using ear-marked Danish Red Cross leftover resources (from emergency phase), efforts were made to integrate PSP and HIV/AIDS training into the disaster management programme. The purpose is to include these components in the IRCS work for disaster preparedness and let its staff and volunteers have necessary skills through training and other activities. In April 2005, the IRCS/delegation prepared a joint plan of action and a budget to this effect. The proposed activities included workshops for IRCS staff and volunteers and the production of materials and manuals for training.

According to the plan of action, the following technical PSP workshops for IRCS staff and volunteers were held in three regional branches:

<b>Workshop</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Target Group</b>	<b>Dates</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> PSP Technical Workshop	Mashad (Central Khorasan Provincial Branch)	Relief deputies, provincial PSP focal points, staff, and volunteers from 5 neighbouring provincial branches	Conducted on 28 May – 1 June 2005
2 <sup>nd</sup> PSP Technical Workshop	Shiraz (Fars Provincial Branch)	Relief deputies, provincial PSP focal points, staff, and volunteers from 6 other provincial branches	Conducted on 6-9 June 2005
3 <sup>rd</sup> PSP Technical Workshop	Tabriz (Eastern Azerbaijan Provincial Branch)	Relief deputies, provincial PSP focal points, staff, and volunteers from 7 other provincial branches	Conducted on 12 – 16 June 2005

In these workshops, the participants learned about important issues for psychological support such as psychological reactions of affected people, the role of managers in PSP, game therapy, PSP skills for different age groups, etc.

The fourth technical PSP workshop and a training of trainers (ToT) workshop are scheduled for July and September 2005.

As part of integration activities, the PSP training manual “Community-based Psychological Support” published by the Federation, was translated into Farsi in May 2005. The design and copy of 2,000 interactive CDs of this manual are in process and will be ready for distribution to the branches in July 05.

Two HIV/AIDS workshops were held in June 2005 in the presence of 60 HIV/AIDS managers and focal points from 30 provincial branches. Issues discussed include HIV/AIDS management strategies, prevention and psychological support, effective techniques of training for youth, etc.

Two more training workshops for 60 HIV/AIDS counsellors and one ToT workshop will be organized in July 2005. The publication of 1,000 HIV/AIDS guidebooks for counsellors and 1,000 HIV/AIDS training manuals for trainers will be ready in July 2005.

The PSP and HIV/AIDS workshops were facilitated by the relevant departments of the IRCS. The lessons learnt during the Bam operation were discussed at length and relevant experience and knowledge were shared among participants of the workshops.

## **Disaster Preparedness and Capacity Building**

**Objective: IRCS capacity in disaster management has been strengthened at all levels.**

Based on a list of priority items agreed upon between the IRCS and the Federation Delegation, the replenishment of relief items distributed during the Bam operation has been generally completed

The Federation and the IRCS held a series of discussions on replenishment of Disaster Preparedness (DP) stocks during the preparation for a revised emergency appeal in January 2004. Based on the national society priorities and the availability of earmarked funds, the Federation prepared a list of items to be procured. The final agreed list included the four most needed items of the national society, such as canvas, plastic sheeting, kerosene lanterns, and hydraulic relief & rescue sets.

Based on this list, the Logistics Department of the Secretariat in Geneva purchased the items in accordance with the Federation’s standard procedures. Hydraulic relief and rescue sets, plastic sheeting and kerosene lanterns arrived in Iran at the end of 2004-beginning of 2005. Delivery of canvas was completed in February-May 2005.

***List of Federation procured items for replenishment of IRCS Disaster Preparedness stocks***

ITEM	UNIT	QUANTITY	Value, CHF	REMARKS
Plastic Sheeting	Roll	2,250 (width 8m, length 30m)	298,600.00	Arrived in Iran in 2004
Hydraulic Relief & Rescue set	Set	5	316,675.00	Arrived in Iran in 2005
Kerosene lanterns	Piece	50,000	120,000.00	Arrived at the end of January 2005
Canvas (Fabric for making tents by IRCS)	Roll	7,027 units (two types ) - 474,900 lm of fabric- width 160cm, length 150 m - 374,490 lm of fabric width 200 cm, length 90m	2,365,623.00	Arrived in Iran in February 2005

The Relief and Rescue Organization of the IRCS and the Federation Delegation finalized a Disaster Management (DM) training calendar which has detailed the different workshops to be held in 2005. In organizing various DM workshops, they agreed to focus on DM training for IRCS branch directors in all provinces, specialized training for rescue teams and integration of PSP and HIV/AIDS training into the overall DM training programme.



**The DM workshop held in Mashad on 10-12 June 2005 was designed to acquaint branch directors with disaster management tools, procedures and standards applied by the Federation and IRCS**

The first DM training workshop for branch directors was held on 10-12 June in Mashhad, Khorasan Province. 60 directors of city and district branches in Golestan, Semnan, Khorasan-e Razavi, North and South Provinces took part in the workshop. It was designed to acquaint them with disaster response tools, procedures and standards applied by both the Federation and IRCS. In the light of the disaster profiles of these provinces, the workshop introduced to the participants the disaster preparedness and emergency response policies, disaster response tools and logistics system of the Federation, as well as various assessment tools, use of SPHERE standards at different stages of the operation, coordination, reporting, and distribution procedures. Besides, practical and technical issues concerning the implementation of relief operations were also discussed. Integrating PSP with DM activities, particularly PSP interventions during and after emergencies, was an important part of discussion at the workshop.

6 more DM workshops for branch directors are expected to be held this year.

The head of the Bam Task Force requested the Federation Delegation to assist the Kerman Province in improving its level of disaster preparedness and disaster response through DM workshops, public awareness campaigns and contingency planning. The Federation Delegation and the IRCS have been working jointly to finalize the plan of action and budget in this regard.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> of April, the IRCS received a visit of the representatives from the Operation Support Department of the Federation's Secretariat. The purpose of the visit was to see the possible ways of starting the activities of the Tehran Regional Relief Centre. The discussion included all related technical departments, specially Relief and Rescue Organization, as well as leaders of the IRCS, the President and the Secretary General. The line of thinking is to get the centre starting as quickly as possible using IRCS's disaster preparedness and disaster response capacity and that the centre will be operated by the IRCS on behalf of the Federation, in line with the Federation of the Future Concept, using strong National Societies on behalf of the Secretariat.

On 22 February, a powerful earthquake with a magnitude of 6.4 on the Richter scale struck Zarand and its neighbouring villages in Kerman Province. According to the local authorities, it left 612 people dead, 1,411 injured and 93,355 people (23,790 families) affected. The IRCS responded to it in a timely and effective manner. Immediately following the disaster, it deployed 4 task forces with 20 subunits for directing the operation, 50 relief and rescue teams, 8 search and rescue teams with life detectors and sniffer dogs, medical teams, etc. IRCS rescue teams and volunteers distributed 26,795 tents, 47,549 blankets, 3,574 cooking sets and many other non-food relief items. In addition, the IRCS supported 7,000 affected families (35,000 persons) with food baskets (please read Zarand Information Bulletins in the Federation web site for details).

The Zarand earthquake operation has further depleted the IRCS's disaster preparedness (DP) stocks which had already been reduced by the Bam and other relief operations. After the Zarand earthquake, the IRCS did not ask for an international appeal but welcomed voluntary contributions from donors. In the agreement with the IRCS, the Federation agreed to receive and handle in cash & in kind donations from the Australian, Belgian (through the Belgian Red Cross – Flanders) and Irish governments. After consultation with the IRCS, the new replenishment project focused on procurement of tents and kitchen-sets. Following items will be provided to the IRCS, to better enhance their emergency response capacity:

- 1,900 family tents from the Federation (using Australian and Irish governments money),
- 1,300 family tents from the Belgian Red Cross - Flanders (using Belgian government donation).
- 5,000 kitchen sets from the Belgian Red Cross.

All above items are expected to arrive in Bandar Abbas in July-August 2005, and the Federation is working closely with the IRCS to prepare for the time consuming custom clearance.

In May, the Kerman Province was hit by several earthquakes ranging from 2.5 to 5.4 in Richter scale because the two faults in the North and South of the Kerman province were activated. Although these consecutive quakes did not cause destructions, they gave rise to fear and stress among the residents, especially in Kerman city, and its neighbouring villages. Population of Kerman felt insecure to be at home and tried to sleep at tents outside. The Kerman branch of the IRCS put rescue teams and volunteers on alert, in order to respond quickly to a possible earthquake in the region.

## **Coordination**

The IRCS and the Federation continued to have monthly coordination meetings in Tehran. All relevant IRCS technical departments attended them which proved to be very valuable for speeding up decision making process, providing and sharing adequate information. The Head of Delegation continued his monthly meetings with the IRCS Secretary General and the International Affairs Department. Issues on the agenda included wide range of issues including custom clearance, difficulties to implement agreements/contracts, implementation of the Status Agreement with a special emphasis on entry visas to Iran for the federation's staff, closing down of the Iraqi crisis operation, the office move of the Federation Delegation to the new building, and etc.

The Federation office still remained on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the old IRCS building in Taleghani Street. There is a potential possibility to move closer to the new Headquarters building of the IRCS at Vali-e-Asr Avenue and to get space at the Treatment Department of the IRCS. No working premises have been made available to the Federation Delegation in the new headquarters of the IRCS.

Important issues are being discussed concerning the ability of Federation Delegates to discharge their functions as representatives of an international organisation because of difficulties in obtaining visas which enable them to travel in and out of Iran. Normal multiple re-entry visas of the type required for efficient action in support of the programme have been sought, through representations by the Federation Secretary-General to the Government through the Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva as well as by the President of the Iranian Red Crescent Society in Tehran. Such visas are envisaged in an Agreement between the Federation and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and every effort will be made to secure their issue.

On 8 May 2005, the IRCS arranged for a celebration of the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day. The occasion was attended by the Federation Head of Delegation and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Head of Delegation. During the day, the IRCS made a formal presentation of their three new helicopters, MI 17, which are considered to be a substantial enhancement for the IRCS's disaster response capacity which might go beyond the needs of exclusively in Iran to support also the activities of the Regional Relief Centre in Tehran.

In May 2005, the Deputy Director General of the IRCS International Affairs Department spent 7 days to attend a coaching session on organizational development (OD) in the Amman Regional Office. The Director General of the International Affairs Department is expected to go for a similar session during July. The purpose of these sessions is to expose IRCS senior managers to the Federation's capacity building systems and tools in order to bring harmonization between the IRCS, the Federation and international accountability systems.

After they complete their coaching sessions, and during late August-early September 2005, the Federation and the IRCS will organize an OD/Planning workshop. It is planned that all branch directors and senior managers (heads of departments) will participate in this workshop. The overall goal of the workshop is to harmonize IRCS and Federation Systems to ensure proper international accountability and support that the Federation can offer to the IRCS capacity building in this area. The workshop will have 2 specific objectives, to reach the above goal:

- Exposure to the Federation OD and capacity building tools including good governance, good management, Well-Functioning National Society, etc.
- Take the advantage of the gathering to come up with the IRCS priority areas for support during 2006 and beyond.

The Regional Basic Training Course (BTC) took place in Tehran on 28 May-1 June 2005. It was attended by a total of 23 participants--9 from the region (from 8 countries), 11 from the IRCS as the host national society, one from the Secretariat-Geneva, one each from the German and the Norwegian Red Cross. The course was facilitated by the Federation and ICRC and was hosted by the IRCS. The Federation Delegation provided administration, logistics and financial support and contributed to the facilitation of some sessions.

During the reporting period, the Federation Delegation received and facilitated visits of more than 30 persons. This includes the participants of the joint IRCS/Federation/ICRC Regional BTC in Tehran and the official visit to the IRCS of the Kenyan Red Cross leadership (Governor, Deputy Governor, Secretary General, and Deputy Secretary General).

With the departure of the former Federation Programme coordinator in Bam, the Delegation in Iran has consisted of four expatriate and thirteen locally employed staff. The expatriate staff has been the following: Mr. Mohammed Omer Mukhier (Head of Delegation), Mr. Gyula Kadar (Programme Coordinator, Bam), Mr. Chang Hun Choe (Disaster Management and Preparedness Delegate), Mr. Khazar Ali-zade (Finance and Administration Delegate).

**Activities of the bilateral Participating National Societies in Bam**

The activities and interests of the Participating National Societies (PNSs) in Bam have continued to be on the decline. At present, only two of them (French and British) have continued to maintain presence through the locally employed staff. The Federation Delegation in Bam maintains good cooperation with the PNSs staff present and provides support as required.

The following information has been available on the currently implemented projects through bilateral cooperation between the IRCS and other national Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

**British Red Cross:** The first phase of distributions was planned for May, however, this was finally completed in June. The breakdown of beneficiaries is outlined in Table 1. The initial phase targeted female headed households (FHH) and the elderly and disabled (E+D), which reached a total of 2860 selected people. Each would receive the equivalent of 185 UK pounds in Rials (approx 3,145,000 Rials). The beneficiary list was prepared by the Welfare Organisation in Bam and cross-checked by representatives of Iranian Red Crescent and British Red Cross. A random sample check of over 25% of selected beneficiaries produced no mistakes.

**Table 1**

<b>Bank (Mallat) in Bam</b>	<b>Female Headed Households (FHH)</b>	<b>Elderly and Disabled (E&amp;D)</b>	<b>Total</b>
Bazar branch	875	259	1134
Motahari branch	93	793	886
Motahari branch	670	170	840
<b>Total</b>	1638	1222	2860

Funds were transferred from London to Mallat bank in Tehran. Instructions were then given to transfer to the respective Mallat branches in Bam. The banks were previously instructed of amounts being received and provided with a beneficiary list. The respective banks in Bam then transferred the amounts to individual accounts. The process was completed in mid-June.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase will be finalised in June with transfers likely to occur during the 1<sup>st</sup> week of July. This phase will target 3 separate categories; Female Headed households (whose documents were not completed during the 1<sup>st</sup> phase), Orphans (living together or under guardian care) and disabled children (both orphans and those with families).

Table 2 provides a breakdown of the list of beneficiaries and categories. The funds will again be transferred through the Mallat branches in Bam. Each beneficiary will receive the equivalent of 185 UK pounds in Rials (approximately

3,145,000 Rials). The beneficiaries' lists were prepared by the Welfare Organisation in Bam and cross-checked by representatives of Iranian Red Crescent and British Red Cross. A random sample check of over 25% of selected beneficiaries produced no mistakes.

Table 2

Mallat Bank (Branch) in Bam	Category			Grand Total
	Orphans	Female headed Households	Disabled children	
Markazi branch	421			421
Tabatabayi branch	359			359
Masgadjameh branch	270			270
Bazar branch	6			6
Sheriati branch	358	108	85	551
Baravat branch		54		54
Motahari branch		44		44
<b>Total</b>				1705

**French Red Cross:** The French Red Cross has been engaged in the 'Qanat' project (traditional water irrigation channels for agricultural use). The project which was aimed at rehabilitating three main "Qanat" systems in Beravat city experienced some delay in implementation, due to difficulties in the preparation & implementation phases. By May 2005, 4,000 meters of open and covered channels were constructed. An additional 1,200 meters of channel system remains to be constructed to reach the objectives of the project.

**German Red Cross:** The first two year project of the search and rescue (SAR) dog project has been completed. A rubble-search examination for dogs and handlers was conducted according to the German Red Cross standards. The results of the exams were satisfactory. The IRCS and the German Red Cross are committed to prolonging the cooperation in the field of SAR dogs and a continuation of the project for another two year term is currently in planning. This will constitute an increased support from the German Red Cross side and an expansion of the project.

The German Red Cross has agreed to support the refurbishment of the Relief Training Centre in Chaf with 400,000 EURO. It has also pledged 400,000 EURO for the purchase of disaster preparedness (DP) equipment. Details are currently under discussion.

**Japanese Red Cross:** The Japanese Red Cross is involved in several bilateral projects which include the construction of a secondary boarding school, a rescue training school in Bam, as well as the procurement of relief items. A contract was signed for construction of the rescue training school, and it is at the stage of designing. The school is under construction and the procurement of relief items is over.

**Republic of Korea Red Cross:** With the support of the Republic of Korea Red Cross, 40 prefab houses were built. The project is almost completed with small technical problems being currently addressed by the construction company before the IRCS accepts the buildings. The IRCS is working with local authorities to identify the 40 families to move there.

**Spanish Red Cross:** To improve sanitary and hygiene conditions of earthquake-affected people in Bam, the Spanish Red Cross installed 1,010 "Combos" (latrine and shower units) in living premises of the beneficiaries. A hygiene promotion project was completed by 19 March 2005. A Spanish Red Cross delegate left the country on 5 March 2005 but a locally recruited project assistant follows up further developments. The Spanish Red Cross installed 10 bladders to

support local hospital activities at Khomeini Hospital. 434,000 EURO was donated to the IRCS to purchase blankets and kitchen sets.

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

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*The IRCS maintains a website ([www.rcs.ir](http://www.rcs.ir)) both in English and Farsi which also provides the latest information, operational updates, reports, interviews and news on the Bam operation to the public.*

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