

# 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 RECONSTRUCTION)

JANUARY – MARCH 2006

Appeal No.  
25/03  
7 April 2006

*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

Operations Update no. 25; Period covered: 1 January to 31 March, 2006; Appeal target: CHF 53,288,000 (USD 40,893,875 or EUR 33,742,485); Appeal coverage: 96.9 %

Outstanding needs (revised according to plan): CHF 1,651,928 (USD 1,268,180 or EUR 1,046,090) – Please note that the Federation is not seeking new cash contributions. All planned projects implemented through multilateral support and included in the revised plan of action have received sufficient support. The balance shown above represents the budget provision for the project which was planned to be implemented through bilateral cooperation, but later cancelled. ([please click here to go directly to the Contributions List available on the website](#)).

#### Appeal history:

- Preliminary Appeal launched on 26 December 2003 for CHF 15,409,300 (USD 12,290,337 or EUR 9,886,505) for 6 months for 200,000 beneficiaries
- Revised Appeal launched on 8 January 2004 for CHF 51,913,000 (USD 42,006,534 or EUR 33,119,207) for 6 – 8 months for 210,000 beneficiaries.
- 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 totaling to CHF 53,288,000 (USD 45,231,315 or EURO 34,324,335).
- The Final Report for the Emergency Operation Phase of the Bam Appeal, covering the period from 26 December 2003 to 31 August 2004, was issued on 8 December 2004 with Operations Update No.19.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: N/A

#### Operational Summary:

Reconstruction projects are being implemented to meet the clearly identified priority needs of the affected population in Bam. The construction of educational and health facilities in Bam and building foundations for the enhanced services of the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) are going on in line with the objectives outlined in the International Federation's revised Emergency Appeal (no.25/03). Despite some delays, progress is being made in the implementation of the construction projects.

A number of psychological support programmes (PSP), disaster management (DM) and community based disaster preparedness (CBDP) training workshops have been organised to enhance the IRCS' DM capacity at all levels.

The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

**Global Agenda Goals:**

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

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

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

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.

## Background

On the morning of 26 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 was 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. For more information and details of the human loss, financial and material consequences of the disaster, please refer to Operations Update No. 21 at [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?03/250321.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?03/250321.pdf).

## Objectives, activities and results

### 1. Bam Reconstruction Programme

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

#### 1.1 School construction

The sudden death of the managing director of the Sanati Fajr Industrial Company in December 2005 was a shock to everybody and had negative impact on the school construction programme as a whole as he had played a key

role in the whole construction process. Early in January 2006, the Federation Delegation and the Shayesteghan Consultancy Company had a series of discussion with the company to reinforce the managing team in Bam and restructure the chain of command in the construction sites in Bam. Based on the discussion, the company took some organizational and administrative measures to bring the construction process back to normal.

In the reporting period, the Federation Delegation and the Shayesteghan Consultancy Company closely worked together to set clear priorities and assist the construction company in pushing ahead with the construction without further delays. During the winter, the uninterrupted supply of water and electricity was an important issue in all construction sites in Bam. With the support of the Federation Delegation, the Sanati Fajr Industrial Company took necessary steps to provide water and electricity by itself when there was no supply from the city's networks.

To ensure a smooth construction process, the procurement of building materials is going ahead in advance. Purchasing of major items by the contractor is checked and approved by the Consultant and Federation's Bam Office. These items, once approved, are procured and delivered to the sites or stored in the warehouse of the Company. Some sensitive items such as glass, windows and doors are stored at a factory yard.

### 1.1.1 Standard schools



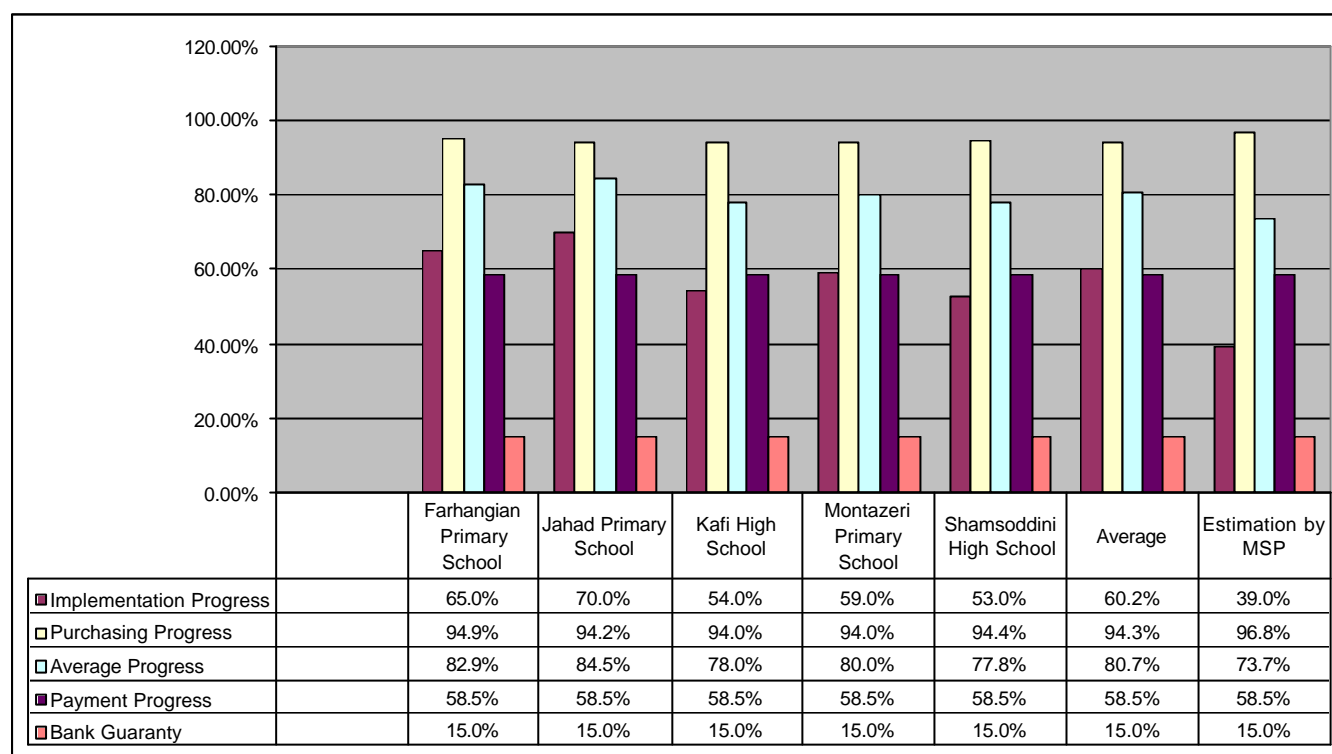
**The construction of the Kafi school was accelerated, enabling to move on to the next phase of implementation**

Among the five standard schools, the construction of the Kafi, Montazeri and Shamsaddini schools was far behind the schedule at the end of December 2005. Accelerating the construction in these sites was a priority in the first quarter of 2006. The Federation's Bam team and the Shayesteghan Consultancy Company paid very close attention to these sites and actively supported the site managers in setting the proper order of construction works, organizing parallel works and ensuring the advance delivery of construction materials. As a result, a substantial progress has been made in these sites. These sites have now passed the stage of foundation and structural works, the most time-consuming process, and moved on to the next phase of implementation with multiple activities running at the same time.

Indicators and milestones of the progress achieved to date are as follows:

- External fencing, masonry walls are erected in 95%,
- Steel structure is fully completed in all sites,
- Guard Houses are completed,
- WCs are completed,
- Roofing is fully completed,
- External and internal walls are completed in 85%,
- Mechanical installations are completed in 80%,
- Electrical installations are completed in 80%,
- Finishing works are at the stage of 45%.

By 15 March 2006, the average implementation progress of the standard schools stands at 60.2%.

**Graphic No. 1 Details of progress in each school site**

### 1.1.2 Special Schools

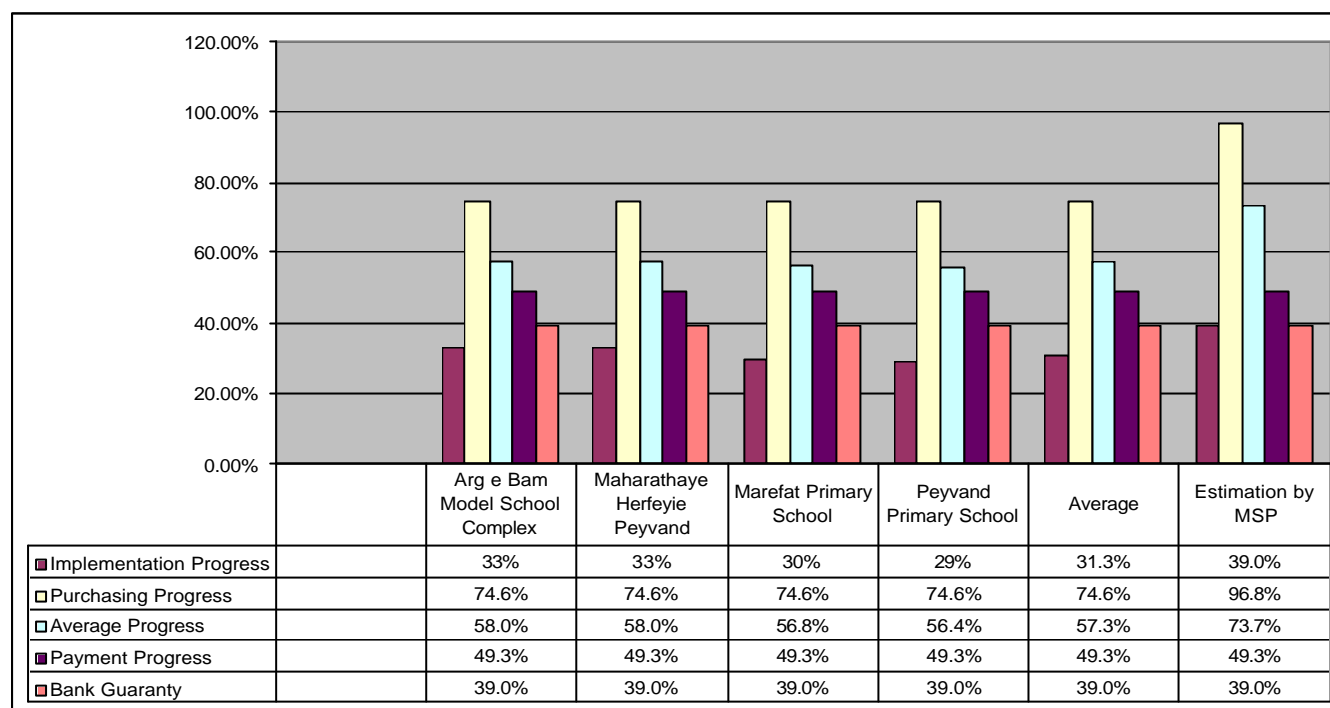
Substantial difficulties and obstacles of a technical and organizational nature have been experienced throughout the process of design, planning and implementation. The implementation of the already approved project design had to be stopped as a new design was required. The approval of the new design and related documents was given only at the end of November 2005.

These last minute changes in the design and the new requirements by the Iranian Heritage Organisation regarding the building code in the vicinity of Arg-e-Bam Citadel obliged the contractor to excavate and move an additional soil of 6,000 m<sup>3</sup> at the site of the Arg-e-Bam Model School Complex. Time and additional funds were needed to comply with the new requirements. In other construction sites of special schools, the contractor was heavily involved mainly in time-consuming process of laying the foundation and building steel structures.

Indicators and milestones of the progress achieved to date are as follows:

- Foundations of main buildings and external facilities laid and/or in progress,
- Metal superstructure is in progress, with welding teams fully occupied with welding beams, columns, fittings, adjusting stabilizers,
- Masonry wall footings are being erected in disabled schools,
- Locations for external facilities such as guard houses, latrine & shower facilities are marked, foundations are in progress,
- In the Peyvand Disabled School external facilities are in the stage of erecting superstructure,
- Due to its volume and lack of sufficient space at the site of the Arg-e-Bam Model School Complex the foundation is completed in 95%,
- Roofing is in progress in Maharathaye and Marafat Schools.

By 15 March 2006, the average implementation progress of the Special School Programme stands at 31.3%:

**Graphic No. 2 Details of progress in each school site**

The construction of the four special schools is expected to be completed by 31 August, 2006. During the coming period, the implementation will focus on starting & completing erection of walls, plastering, mechanical equipment, electrical, heating and cooling systems. All external facilities will have to be completed by the end of May 2006. Walls of the sites will have to be completed by April-May, 2006. Final plastering and painting of walls alongside with external finishing and landscaping with sport and other external elements of the projects will have to be completed by the deadline of 31 August, 2006.

## 1.2 Urban Health Centre

The original contract was amended on 8 November 2005 with a new completion date of 15 January 2006. In the reporting period the contractor, with the support of the Federation Delegation, took various measures to accelerate the construction progress. By 15 March 2006 the actual implementation progress of the project was at 84%. The specific progress achieved to date is as follows:

- Superstructure of the main clinic and apartment buildings are completed,
- Surrounding masonry walls are completed,
- Basement is completed,
- Elements of external walls and internal separations are installed,
- Installation of door frames are completed,
- Plastering of separations are in progress,
- Main wiring of the electrical system is completed,
- Insulation of external walls are in progress,
- Sewerage facilities for the clinic and apartment building are completed,
- 95% of the construction materials have been purchased.

In spite of the effort taken by the contractor to complete the project within the timeframe set in the amendment of the contract, the construction continues to be affected by delaying factors which were not foreseen at the time of the amendment. The delays are mainly caused by:

- Shortage of skilled or semi-skilled workers,
- Afghan workers forbidden to work from January 2006,
- Difficulty in organizing double shifts,
- Long holidays in Iran,
- Lack of building materials and diesel,
- Frequent cut of water and electricity.



**The construction of the Urban Health Centre is in process and is aimed to be finalised on 30 April 2006**

The contractor was warned of its failure to meet the deadline of project completion. Meanwhile, the Federation Delegation looked into the problems facing the contractor, advised it on how to address them and held a series of meetings with the local authorities concerned to resolve the problems which are related to themselves.

Considering the current delays in construction and the amount of the work to be done in the weeks to come, the Federation and the construction company jointly reviewed the work schedule and set a new completion date of the project at 30 April 2006. This revised and final deadline for the project has been mentioned in the amendment No 2 to the original contract which was signed in March 2006.

In April 2006, the project will focus on completion of the remaining works which include:

- Internal and external wall-installations,
- Finishing works,
- Electrical installations,
- Make-up of the building interiors, such as plastering and painting,
- Mechanical works,
- Air-conditioning and heating related works,
- External finishing works such as completion and make-up of the UHC building.

### 1.3 Road Rescue Base

The Federation mobilized the resources (Hong Kong branch of the Chinese Red Cross) for the construction of the part of the main administrative building and two warehouses with the total floor space of 1,334 sq. meters. These objects form an integral part of a major disaster preparedness complex which will comprise warehouses, administrative buildings, parking areas, helipad and other facilities.

By 15 March 2006, the implementation progress of the Federation-funded part of the project is at the level of 85.8 %. At this stage the administrative building has reached the level of 92% readiness. Flooring and painting will have to be completed during April 2006. There has been progress in installing doors and windows, and erecting separations at the site of warehouses.

The bilateral part of the project funded by the Japanese Red Cross has achieved the level of 95.6% readiness.

The Road Rescue Base Project is expected to be completed by May 2006.

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

### 1.4.1 Bilateral projects funded by the German Red Cross

These projects are being implemented by the IRCS' Construction Department. Some progress has been made in construction of the IRCS branch office and the Orthopaedic Centre. The foundation has been laid and steel beams erected. Preparations are under way to start the roofing works. These projects are expected to be completed by the end of 2006.

### 1.4.2 School project funded by the Japanese Red Cross

The foundation of the school has been laid and steel beams erected. Preparations are under way to start the roofing works.

## 2. Health

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

All planned activities within the HIV/AIDS project were completed by the end of 2005 and there is nothing to report in this reporting period.

The PSP project which had begun in June 2005 continued to be implemented till January 2006. The project consisted of the training in sewing, embroidery and computer. The following classes were given from November 2005 to January 2006:

Classes	Period	Participants
4 classes (computer, sewing & embroidery machine)	7 November – 11 December 2005	80
4 classes (computer, sewing & embroidery machine)	7 December – late January 2006	80

## 3. Disaster Preparedness

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

In the reporting period, the Federation Delegation and the IRCS focused on implementing the pilot community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP) project in Kerman and winding up the on-going disaster management (DM) training workshops for IRCS branch directors.

The CBDP project in Kerman, a disaster-prone province, is aimed at introducing CBDP approaches to local officials, community people and IRCS staff. With the completion of the first phase of the project for training CBDP trainers, the second phase began with CBDP training workshops targeting local officials from the provincial ministries of education and health, community people and IRCS staff.

A total of seven CBDP training workshops were held with the participation of 199 people:

**Table No. 1 CBDP training workshops in Kerman**

No	Name of the workshop	Dates	Venue	Number of participants	From
1	CBDP Workshop	8-9 December 2005	Sirjan	31	Sirjan & Babak Cities
2	CBDP Workshop	15-16 December 2005	Rafsanjan	24	Rafsanjan, Bardsir & Anar Cities
3	CBDP Workshop	22-23 December 2005	Jiroft	35	Jiroft, Kahnouj, Anbarabad, and Manoojan Cities

4	CBDP Workshop	29-30 December 2005	Rayen	26	Bam, Shahdad, Golbaft, and Rayen Cities
5	CBDP Workshop	5-6 January 2006	Zarand	23	Zarand, Ravar, and Kouhbanan
6	CBDP Workshop	12-13 January 2006	Baft	23	Baft, Rabar, Sardouieh, and Arzouieh
7	CBDP Workshop	26-27 January 2006	Kerman	37	Kerman & Mahan Cities

CBDP trainers trained in the first phase of the project also joined the facilitators in facilitating the discussion at the workshops. Each workshop consisted of presentation, group discussion, case studies and practical exercises. During the two-day workshop, the participants learned not only the CBDP concept but also some practical skills of rescue and relief and first aid. The agenda of the workshops included, among others:

- CBDP in theory and practice
- Comprehensive plan of relief and rescue
- Safety in disasters
- Medical triage
- Teaching methods
- Removing debris
- Carrying the injured
- First aid in different scenarios



**The CBDP project in Kerman, accompanied with training workshops, is aimed at introducing CBDP approaches to local officials, community people and IRCS staff of this disaster prone province**

At the end of each workshop, each participant received one training pack including one first aid training book, one book concerning training on disaster preparedness, plus a training CD. The trained participants are expected to give necessary training and apply CBDP practice in their respective communities with the support of IRCS branches.

The Federation Delegation and the CBDP team of the IRCS discussed the next phase of the project, which will include the actual implementation of the CBDP practice in selected communities and the organization of contingency planning (CP) training workshops. A plan of action and a CP training program have been finalized and agreed upon between the two sides.

Meanwhile, as a follow-up to the overall disaster management (DM) training programme for branch directors at city and district levels, the Federation Delegation and the IRCS held five DM training workshops for IRCS branch directors in 18 provinces. Each workshop which lasted for three days was facilitated jointly by the Federation and IRCS facilitators. A total of 192 directors of IRCS branches and some staff from the headquarters attended these workshops.

**Table No. 2 DM training workshops for branch directors**

No	Name of workshop	Dates	Venue	Number of participants	From
1	DM workshop for IRCS branch directors	14-16 January 2006	Bandar-Abbas	29	Hormozghan, Kerman, and Fars Provinces
2	DM workshop for IRCS branch directors	25-27 January 2006	Rasht	43	Ghilan, Hamadan, Mazandaran, and Kordestan Provinces
3	DM workshop for IRCS branch directors	1-3 February 2006	Broujerd	37	Lorestan, Khuzestan, and Markazi Provinces
4	DM workshop for IRCS branch directors	19-21 February 2006	Yasooj	27	Kohghilooye-boyerahmed, Booshehr, Chaharmahal-Bakhtiari, and Kermanshah Provinces
5	DM workshop for IRCS branch directors	5-7 March 2006	Yazd	56	Yazd, Isfahan, Sistan-Baluchistan, and Ilam Provinces

These workshops were designed to acquaint IRCS branch directors with disaster preparedness/disaster response (DP/DR) tools as well as procedures and standards applied by the Federation and IRCS. In the light of the disaster profiles of these provinces, the agenda of the workshop included, among others:

- Federation's disaster response system & tools (Emergency Response Unit, Field Assessment and Coordination Team, Disaster Management Information System, Disaster Relief Emergency Fund, etc),
- Federation's new DM framework,
- DM terminologies, cycle,
- Various assessment tools,
- Contingency planning,
- Risk mapping,
- Vulnerability & capacity assessment (VCA),
- SPHERE,
- Standard Operating Procedures.

Besides, practical and technical issues concerning the implementation of relief operations with a review of standard operational procedures (SOPs) were also discussed through various case studies and group discussion. Integration of psychological support program (PSP) with DM activities, particularly PSP intervention during and after emergencies, was an important part of discussion at the workshops.

These 5 DM workshops, together with 3 other workshops held in the second half of 2005, enabled the Federation to give DM training to all IRCS branch directors at city and district levels in 28 provinces.

The Federation made arrangement for two IRCS staff to participate in an ERU hospital training workshop scheduled in Oslo in March 2006 but the trip was canceled the last minute because of management staff changes within the National Society.

## Coordination

The IRCS and the Federation Delegation have continued to work closely in all aspects of programme implementation and other Federation support activities in Iran. Working meetings and consultations covered a wide range of issues including custom clearance, application of the Status Agreement, entry visas for visitors. To process entry visas for the Federation Delegation's visitors (Secretariat staff/consultants) still takes a lot of time and poses constraints for the joint programme activities.

With the departure of the Head of Delegation in November 2005 and of the Finance/Administration Delegate in March 2006, the Iran Delegation consists of two Delegates and thirteen locally employed staff based in Tehran,

Bam and Zahedan. The Delegates are Chang Hun Choe (Acting Head of Delegation) and Gyula Kadar (Programme Coordinator in Bam).

[\*Please click here to return to the title page and contact information\*](#)