

# Appeal 2001-2002



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## CENTRAL ASIA (Appeal 01.62/2001)

*Click on programme title or figures to go to the text or budget*

	<i>In CHF</i>
1. Disaster Response	2,571,654
2. Disaster Preparedness	797,277
3. Health and Care	1,089,217
4. Humanitarian Values	189,615
5. Institutional & Resource Development	1,228,140
6. Co-operation	78,649
7. Coordination & Management	842,964
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,797,517</b>



## Introduction

### Regional Context

The central Asian region is approximately the size of western Europe and has a population of 50 million. The International Federation's Regional Delegation for central Asia provides support to national societies in five countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Since becoming independent in 1991, severe economic dislocation ravaged the economies of these five countries. Virtually overnight, social security systems broke down, jobs were lost due to the breakup of the Soviet manufacturing network, and millions of people were plunged into poverty. The situation of the most vulnerable still continues to deteriorate. Local currencies have devalued by 100 per cent and beyond in some cases. Unemployment, both declared and hidden, is mushrooming.

Throughout the central Asian republics, pensioners, invalids, the sick and multi-children families were identified as the most vulnerable population. They often do not have the resources to buy enough food or winter clothes. These people often have no extended family to rely on and the incidence of vitamin deficiencies and general malnutrition is growing. Due to the increased vulnerability of the population in the region, there is a reemergence of diseases such as tuberculosis. Injecting drug abuse has increased the prevalence of HIV/AIDS. Vaccination coverage also decreased since independence, exposing the younger generation in the region to increased risk of disease.

**Kazakhstan** faces potentially severe health and environmental problems as a legacy of the Cold War. High levels of radiation resulted from the dismantling of nuclear weapons factories, and from years of nuclear testing in Semipalatinsk. Industrial pollution is heavy in many cities. The fisheries of the Aral Sea were seriously affected by irrigation projects, which also increased soil erosion and salination as windblown sand and leached salts threaten the entire region with desertification.

**Kyrgyzstan's** recovery from the economic collapse after the breakup of the Soviet Union has been very slow. Although it was heralded as a model of democratization, because it is 97 per cent mountainous and has few natural resources, poverty is increasing and access to social structures such as education and health services is becoming ever more difficult as even basic government services disappear. The World Bank estimates that half the Kyrgyz population lives in poverty, including 23 per cent in extreme poverty.

**Turkmenistan** retained its command economy, central authoritarian unitary leadership and political control. It has a neutral position but remains heavily dependent on Russia for border security and gas exports. It suffers from high inflation and unstable currency exchange which brought many people to a state of poverty. The urban poor were particularly hard hit by spiralling prices, as they do not have their own private plots on which to grow vegetables. According to the World Bank, 40 per cent of the population has no access to sanitation.

**Uzbekistan** is rich with various natural minerals. Exports, however, remain well below imports due to a difficult economic situation resulting from the slow transition from central command economy of the Soviet years to a market economy. Uzbekistan shielded itself from the currency fluctuations of its neighbours and the Russian Federation, but the black market rate of currency conversion is five times higher than the official rate. This resulted in widespread economic hardship and, in particular, among the lonely elderly, handicapped and multi-children families. The state's social allowance is approximately seven USD per month which is insufficient for survival.

In the challenging context of the region, including its present fragile domestic situation, the prospects for social and economic development are poor in **Tajikistan**. The annual rate of inflation quadrupled between 1996 and 1997 to reach 260 per cent. Illicit drug trade and crime increased and one of the major challenges, while implementing the 1997 peace agreement, is to provide occupation for former combatants and reintegrate them into Tajik society. The drought affecting the country for the third year in a row will have serious consequences for the population of Tajikistan, 80% of which is living under the poverty line.

The severe winter climate in the region of central Asia that the majority of the population is exposed to during six months of the year poses a severe threat to the well-being of the vulnerable population. Lack of economic means makes the provision of adequate winter clothing limited. Many children do not attend school because they lack winter boots, for example, thus having an impact on the level of education of the population. In addition to the serious problem of increasing structural poverty, the countries of Central Asia are prone to a variety of human-made and natural disasters. The most frequent localized disasters include: floods, avalanches, landslides, mud and debris flows, steppe fires, gas explosions, and infestation of insects. The ongoing socio-economic crisis increased the vulnerability of many people to these disasters. Technological disasters constitute a major threat in some areas. Ecological disasters with long term implications also continue to threaten the region. Earthquakes have the biggest destructive potential, having leveled three of the five capital cities (Ashgabat, Tashkent and Almaty) in this century alone.

Regional stability has also been disrupted by armed civil unrest in the border regions between Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. In general, there is concern about emerging opposition groups within the region resorting to terrorist tactics to promote their cause.

### **National Societies Context**

The five countries of central Asia share many elements of a common history and problems in terms of the current political, economic and social development. Therefore, the priorities of the national societies in central Asia have many similarities and priorities, such as: capacity building; disaster preparedness and response; health education and Visiting Nurses programmes; and social welfare activities.

The national societies are aware of where they need to focus in the future in order to become well-functioning. The major weakness of all five national societies remains their historical heritage and the need to incorporate and adopt

a different paradigm compared to the past. The Federation's *Strategy 2010* received positive response and will be incorporated into the development plans and programmes of the National Societies in the region.

### **Priority Programmes for Federation assistance**

To support the national societies in central Asia, the Federation will focus on:

- **Disaster Response:** coordinating and providing technical support for relief operations in the region and supporting Population Movement programmes of the individual national societies.
- **Disaster Preparedness:** strengthening their disaster preparedness and response capacities and raising awareness of disasters in at risk communities;
- **Health and Care:** reducing the incidence of tuberculosis and increasing adherence to treatment programmes; health assistance to targeted areas.
- **Humanitarian values:** developing widespread understanding and acceptance of humanitarian values and, in particular, the fundamental principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
- **Institutional and Resource Development:** strengthening their organizational capacities and assisting them in developing the characteristics of well-functioning National Societies.
- **Regional Cooperation:** encouraging regional consistency in programme planning and implementation.
- **Coordination and Management:** coordinating and managing support from the Movement to national societies in the central Asia region.

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# 1. Disaster Response

- **Regional Disaster Response Programme**
- **Population Movement Programmes in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan**

## Background and progress to date

### *Regional Disaster Response Programme*

Disaster Response in Central Asia tackles natural and environmental disasters, both sudden and slow-onset, the huge and deepening structural poverty (of more than 50 per cent of the population in some countries), populations in movement, and industrial accidents. Response is built on the foundation of the disaster preparedness programme. Logistical support, including procurement, transport and warehousing, covers all of Central Asia and will include support to neighboring countries as needed.

While the focus of preparedness programmes was directed towards natural disasters, response is not restricted to these events. Gas explosions, urban and forest fires, bomb blasts, conflict situations, and dam bursts have all been, and may again feature in the rapid response activities of the region's Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies (NSs). While sudden onset disasters capture the headlines, the NS and the Federation will continue to identify and expose the continuing crisis of prolonged structural poverty which has been the main focus of the regional Disaster Response (DR) programme for the last two years.

To combat the bitterness of the extreme six-month winters, winter clothes and boots have been provided and public canteen programmes established in all five Central Asian countries. The canteens are particularly targeting isolated pensioners who are unable to survive on meagre pensions which were eroded by major currency devaluation in the last two years.

Despite the increasing needs for these ongoing relief programmes, the reality during 1999- 2000 was that of reduced donor support, the consequent down-sizing of the regional delegation's (RD) relief department, and a dramatic reduction in the level of support to the beneficiaries. To reflect the decentralized approach of the International Federation's RD to cater for individual needs of the different NSs, the "structural" relief programmes were incorporated into separate country proposals of the Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan National Societies. Details of these proposals can be found in the separate Appeal documents for each country.

There remains, however, a need for a regional approach to these programmes and for RD support and co-ordination. Though the new emphasis will be on local procurements through the NSs, some procurement will still need to be made internationally and/or through the RD's logistics department and NS procurement procedures will need to be monitored for compliance with Federation and donor standards. Cash or in-kind donations received regionally need to be co-ordinated across recipient countries, and monitored and reported regionally to provide an overview and consistency of approach. To implement these activities, a reduced regional relief department will be retained (one delegate and regional relief assistant) for management of the logistics department and implementation of a training programme for the NSs. The current logistics department also plays a supporting role to the country delegation in Tajikistan and will be retained at the present strength.

One of the greatest ecological and humanitarian disasters is occurring today in Central Asia. The draining of the Aral Sea, which was once the world's fourth largest lake, occurred over the last three decades due to Soviet efforts to irrigate the massive cotton fields which lie in the plains between the two rivers of Amudarja, in Uzbekistan, and Syrdarja, in Kazakhstan. Due to a loss of nearly three quarters of the water from the Aral Sea, thousands of square kilometres of sea bed now lie exposed to the harsh desert elements. In a cycle that feeds on itself, every year more land is laid barren and claimed by the desert, which in turn spreads the desertification effect. This growing desert combined with the decrease in vegetation, changed the micro-climate around the sea increasing summer temperatures, lowering winter temperatures, and creating wind storms. The salination and other contamination of

ground waters due to concentrated levels of salts and pesticide residues in the dust from the dry sea bed, further exacerbated the detrimental effects of this disaster on the health of the population.

In an attempt to address some of the human suffering resulting from this situation, an extensive relief effort, covering three Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) which border the Aral Sea, was implemented as a project delegation by the American Red Cross with assistance from the RD. The project began in mid-1999 with a strong emphasis on food relief, and Phase I was completed in June 2000. Phase II of this project, which focuses primarily on assistance to tuberculosis treatment institutions, out-patients, and their families, in the Aral Sea area, commenced at the end of 2000 and will continue throughout 2001. During Phase II, close links are being maintained with the regional health programme.

### ***PM Programme for the Red Cross and Red Crescent of Kazakhstan***

By mid-1997, more than 200,000 ethnic Kazaks returned to Kazakhstan from other Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Mongolia, Iran, Afghanistan, Turkey, Saudi Arabia and China. A number of ecological migrants moved out from environmentally damaged areas. According to some estimates, about 20,000 persons sought asylum in Kazakhstan, mainly coming from Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and Chechnya (in the Russian Federation).

The deepening of the economic crisis, the decrease in the number of production enterprises, the increase in the unemployment rate, and growing cost of living in the country negatively impacted on the daily life of vulnerable groups.

Over the last two years, the programme was directed to data collection; special research on the situation of migrants as well as Tajik refugees was conducted. Based on the collected data voluntary repatriation of Tajik refugees took place. From 1994 to the present, the NS rendered medical and material assistance to refugees in accordance with the agreement between Red Crescent and Red Cross Society of Kazakhstan (KRCRCS) and the UNHCR. Since 1998, the Population Movement Unit in the KRCRCS, with support from the Federation and other donors, provided assistance to the vulnerable groups through agricultural and livestock projects.

### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan***

Kyrgyzstan still suffers from the consequences of the breakup of the Soviet Union. State resources to support the vulnerable part of population (70 per cent are estimated to be living below the poverty line) are very limited. In addition to this, the present total of officially registered refugees is 16,000 persons, mainly from Afghanistan and Tajikistan. However, specialists in Kyrgyzstan estimate that there are roughly 45,000 to 50,000 refugees and various types of forced migrants and returnees. The number is significant for a small country such as Kyrgyzstan. The migrants can not obtain adequate support from the state due to the difficult economic situation in the country. Since 1998, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan, with financial support from the Federation, initiated the Population Movement Programme to support and assist the forced migrants. The Population Movement Unit has implemented numbers of agricultural projects throughout 1998 and 1999. The project is newly directed to the provision of social and psychological rehabilitation and other forms of socio-economic support to improve self-reliance activities for the refugees in Kyrgyzstan.

### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan***

During 1992-1994, a destructive civil war in Tajikistan resulted in a significant number of forced and disorderly migration. A quarter million of the country's inhabitants took refuge in neighboring countries and up to one sixth of Tajikistan's population of close to six million were internally displaced. In addition to this, some 8,000 Afghan refugees fled their country and sought asylum in Tajikistan. Tajikistan is the poorest of the former Soviet Union republics and is heavily dependent on humanitarian or external support. The lack of welfare support from the government, the lack of family support of persons unable to provide for themselves, and the continuing shortfall in locally agricultural production, combined with internal tension, contribute to a steady deterioration in living conditions of the forced migrants, returnees as well as the local community. Since 1998, the Population Movement Unit in the RCST, with support from the Federation, initiated activities to provide assistance to the most vulnerable persons among the forced migrants and returnees.

The current programme involves the cleaning of irrigation channels on land occupied by the returnee communities. This is a community based project which involves, to a high extent, the beneficiaries themselves for self-management. The RCST maintains close contact and coordination with UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and German Agro Action (GAA) to avoid duplication.

### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan***

Turkmenistan borders conflict areas in Afghanistan and Tajikistan from which between 17,000-20,000 people have moved into Turkmenistan. Most of the 17,000 Tajiks currently reside around the major cities or towns of Ashgabat, Turkmenabad (Lebap Region), Mary and Kerki.

Civil war in Tajikistan caused thousands of refugees to flee into neighboring countries. During 1993-1996 between 15,000-20,000 ethnic Turkmen fled from Tajikistan into Turkmenistan and were welcomed by the Turkmen authorities. About 800 families (more than 4,000 persons) from Tajikistan were integrated in Ashgabat. They were settled in nine collective farms where they work for a wage issued twice per year, and each family received living accommodation plus agricultural land for family use, according to family size, from the Turkmen government.

In 1998, the Federation initiated a Population Movement programme to enable the National Society to gain the knowledge, expertise and practical skills on issues and approaches related to refugees and the displaced. Within the framework of this programme, a voluntary repatriation programme of Tajik refugees was carried out from January 1998 according to the provisions of a memorandum of understanding signed by the UNHCR, IOM, NRCST and the Federation. To date, there were organized repatriations of 5,000 refugees to their native Tajikistan. The National Red Crescent Society provided more than 800 repatriates with humanitarian relief (in the form of clothes) donated by the Swedish Red Cross.

The Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan assisted these communities by implementing a project to provide safe drinking water. The priority agricultural cash crops of this region are cotton and wheat. Few families can afford to buy the vegetable seeds or the agricultural implements, fertilisers and chemicals needed for cultivation. This means that there is often severe nutritional deficiency in family diets. A critical problem for farmers in this area is that all land plots have extremely high salination levels. As a result, it is impossible to cultivate good crops without application of phosphoric, potassium fertilisers and ammonium nitrate. Agriculture in Turkmenistan is still going through a difficult transition to a free market economy and collective farms are especially experiencing significant difficulties in raising capital and working investment.

### ***PM Programme of the RC Society of Uzbekistan***

The environment surrounding forced migrants is complex in Uzbekistan. National laws regulating non-Uzbek citizens are limiting and strictly enforced by the government. Many forced migrants entered Uzbekistan for various reasons, but do not comply with these laws. They are not certain of whether to settle in Uzbekistan, to return to their country of origin, or resettle in a third country. Their access to basic needs, such as shelter, food, health and education for children is restricted. The Population Movement Unit in the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan, established in 1999 with support of the Federation, works very closely with the health and information departments in the National Society. In the line with the *Strategy 2010*, the Population Movement Unit provides health and education assistance to forced migrants. The PM unit intends to provide grassroots training on the needs and problems of forced migration to the community and to National Society branch staff. Additionally, if the political environment in the country is favorable, self-support projects will be commenced for the targeted populations.

### **Goal(s)**

- ***Regional Disaster Response Programme:*** To achieve efficiency in co-ordination, technical support and monitoring of the relief operations in the region, and assist the National Societies in building their independent disaster response capacities.
- ***PM Programme of the RC/RC Society of Kazakhstan:*** To promote successful adaptation and integration of vulnerable migrants in six regions of the republic of Kazakhstan and to help them achieve social and economic stability.
- ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan:*** The overall goal of the programme is to improve the situation of the vulnerable groups among forced migrants and returnees in the republic of Kyrgyzstan.
- ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan:*** To promote successful reintegration of the vulnerable people among the returnees in Karategin Valley in the south of Tajikistan and to improve their living conditions by way of involving them directly in the implementation of agricultural and rebuilding of shelter projects. Also, to improve the socioeconomic situation and facilitate the adaptation and integration of 8,000 Afghan refugees in Tajikistan.
- ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan:*** To provide more valuable and multi-faceted support to improve the situation of vulnerable groups among refugees and returnees in Turkmenistan.

- **PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan:** To improve the health situation of the vulnerable people in the forced migrants' communities and provide educational support to migrant children who lack access to schooling.

## Objectives and Activities planned

### *Regional Disaster Response Programme*

**Objective 1** to assist the National Societies of Central Asia in running their relief activities efficiently. Technical support and advice will be provided to the NSs in everyday relief activities, which implies involvement in all the stages of programme implementation, from compilation of project proposals and budgets through to reporting.

**Objective 2** to work towards timely and consistent reporting giving a clear reflection of the work in the field. The reporting deadlines and formats will be negotiated with the National Societies. Clarifications on and regular updates of donor requirements will be provided. The timeliness of reporting will be secured through an agreement signed between the National Society and the Federation.

**Objective 3** to monitor relief activities in the region, ensuring smooth and efficient implementation of projects. Regular visits to the National Societies and the operational sites will be arranged in order to monitor the dynamics of project implementation and make corrections where necessary.

**Objective 4** to improve understanding and knowledge of the Federation's procedures and requirements amongst NS staff and volunteers. Any required advice will be provided to staff and volunteers during regularly planned visits to the National Societies. In order to familiarize the National Societies on the formats for appeals, reporting and budgeting, the regional relief department will be involved in facilitation of annual workshops on reporting and accountability.

**Objective 5** to strengthen the relief and personnel capacities of the National Societies. Support will be provided towards administrative costs associated with a relief department in the headquarters of each NS and in those *oblasts* with relief operations. In order to keep knowledge and skills within the National Societies, it is proposed to hire one project co-ordinator in each country as a focal point for project management and future training.

**Objective 6** to develop National Societies' capacities to identify the level of vulnerability among the communities. National Societies will be assisted in elaborating clear criteria for vulnerability and initiating vulnerability assessments to identify potential beneficiaries.

**Objective 7** to increase the image of the National Societies through humanitarian actions. The National Societies will be assisted with local fund-raising which will enable them to expand their relief operations, and thus achieve better awareness by the communities and governments.

**Objective 8** to provide region-wide co-ordination of relief activities in order to have an adequate distribution of humanitarian assistance allocated to the Central Asian region. High transparency and a systematic approach to the country-wide allocation of regionally arranged humanitarian assistance will be ensured, involving all of the Federation's programme co-ordinators in the process.

**Objective 9** to promote use of good policy and procedures in all aspects of logistics operations and encourage a similar excellence within the NSs in Central Asia. A short briefing on the Federation's standard procurement procedures will be organized for delegates and local staff twice a year to ensure good understanding and compliance. Logistics guidelines applicable for the National Societies will be prepared and published.

**Objective 10** to promote clear communication with the National Societies and other departments of the regional delegation in order to indicate the needs and standard practices of the logistics department and ensure its best service delivery. The Federation's delegations, programme co-ordinators, and National Societies will be familiarized with logistics department activities through a regularly published information bulletin. The Federation's offices and the National Societies will be informed about status of requisitions on a monthly basis.

**Objective 11** to provide, on request, logistics support to the country delegation in Tajikistan, Federation country-based delegates in Bishkek, Tashkent and Ashgabad, and to the National Societies in Central Asia.

Logistics support will be provided to the delegation in Dushanbe for procurement of relief and other items. A rotating exchange of staff will be maintained between the Almaty and Dushanbe logistics departments.

**Objective 12** to improve the capacities of the National Societies through training on procedures and requirements providing for more efficient performance of the relief operations and supplementary logistics support. Two relief/logistics training workshops will be conducted in the year 2001 for each of four National Societies. They will be facilitated by representatives of the Federation's logistics and relief departments and will cover such issues as reporting and accountability, warehousing (Federation procedures, requirements and book-keeping), procurement (standard specifications and procedures, transportation), and promoting the use of Federation systems introduced among the National Societies.

#### *PM Programme of the RC/RC Society of Kazakhstan*

**Objective 1** to assist in securing social adaptation and economic stability of the vulnerable persons among the unstable population, through language and computer courses. The Russian language and computer centers will be open at the Karaganda and Temirtau of RCRC branch committee for the returnees. In order to classify the course participants, language and computer pre-testing will be organized.

**Objective 2** to assist in improvement of the health situation and psychological rehabilitation of the vulnerable groups through organizing summer camps for migrant and local community children. Vulnerable children will be selected among the migrants, returnees and local community for participation in summer camps. Relevant local authorities will be encouraged to contribute to this activity and sign a memorandum of understanding on the project's implementation.

**Objective 3** to strengthen knowledge and increase the capacity of branch staff at the National Society to acquaint it with the legal base of the Population Movement. Activities will include organizing a series of training workshops for the staff of KRCRCS, with invited trainers from the Counterpart Consortium and support from the PM Unit at the headquarters.

**Objective 4** to promote self-reliance projects for migrants through providing skill training and assisting their access to micro-loan funds, available from the local authorities, for small-scale business. Identify the skills in demand on the job market and involve the returnees in the planning and implementation of the project. The course participants will be encouraged to find jobs, with certificates received after completing the course. A memorandum of understanding will be signed with the local authorities (migration and labor department) to help obtain jobs for the participants after course completion.

#### *PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan*

**Objective 1** to provide structured psychological support towards responding to the psychological needs of refugees coming from conflict areas (Afghanistan, Tajikistan and Chechnya). Meetings will be held with the refugees and local communities for the selection of children to attend the RC summer camp and to discuss relevant issues. Meetings will also be held with local and other relevant authorities to encourage their support and contribution towards the project. Beneficiary selection and registration will be carried out, and people provided with necessary information regarding the summer camp.

**Objective 2** to assist towards developing the existing refugees women association's programmes and focus on developing further self-reliance activities for the women. The working conditions in the refugees women association's centre will be improved, and basic office equipment will be provided to it. The capacity of the association will be strengthened for self-reliance activities, and training on developing project proposals and self-management skills will be organized. Funds will be provided for initiation of small-scale pilot projects.

**Objective 3** to strengthen the capacities and increase the knowledge of National Society branches' staff working with refugees and migrants. Seminars and training workshops will be held for the National Society staff at the headquarters and branch level. The National Society branch staff will be involved in preparation of project proposals, implementation and coordination with other departments in NS (such as youth).

**Objective 4** to promote a holistic approach to refugee children's needs. Meetings will be held with refugees and local communities to discuss and involve both in joint activities targeting children (refugee and local). Stationary and other necessary items and tools for the art course will be purchased and distributed to the refugee children who will be assisted in organising exhibitions of their art work.

### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan***

**Objective 1** to assist vulnerable returnee families with food in the short-term, and self-sufficiency on food consumption in the long-term at the household level. Activities will include distribution of 350 kilograms of potato seeds and 50 kilograms of mineral fertilizer to each selected returnee family to enable planting of their own kitchen gardens. A contract between the beneficiaries and the National Society branch will be signed to monitor the use of humanitarian assistance for agricultural implementation.

**Objective 2** to improve and enrich the nutritional situation of the returnee families. An appropriate beneficiary selection will be made based on pre-identified criteria among the returnees, such as multi-children families, single headed families and families with no breadwinner.

**Objective 3** to assist the returnees in reconstruction of their houses and assist towards improvement of living conditions and psychological rehabilitation of the vulnerable people among the returnees. Roofing material will be distributed to a selected set of vulnerable persons among the returnees to complete their houses. Technical support on local construction methods will be provided through the National Society branch, the project manager and local volunteers experts.

**Objective 4** to provide support to the Afghan refugees' committee to organize joint local/refugee handicraft production for income generating purposes, and introducing the hand made carpet weaving skills to the local community. Tools and raw materials will be provided and a workplace will be identified to set up the handmade carpet weaving project, which includes a training component to enable the vulnerable local communities to learn this skill.

**Objective 5** to support the community based approach for more sustainability and establish a link between the local and refugee communities for exchange of experiences and knowledge, through joint project implementation. Joint refugee and local community meetings and social gatherings will be organized for better implementation of joint projects benefiting refugees and the local communities.

### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan***

**Objective 1** to improve the domestic hygiene conditions of the vulnerable groups through education of local and refugee children. Approval from the Ministries of Health and Education will be sought for hygiene classes to be included in the school curriculum. Three rural schools (one in each region) will be selected in areas with a high concentration of refugees. Printed materials on personal and domestic hygiene will be printed and distributed. The content of the printing materials will be based on the already elaborated leaflets used for the "Healthy Living Programme". School supplies, such as pens, pencils, exercise books and rulers will be purchased, and used as an incentive for children to be more engaged in the education process. It is necessary to take into consideration that this work will be carried out in rural areas.

**Objective 2** to develop the capacity of RCST in population movement project management. The National Society staff at the headquarters and branch levels will be involved in project implementation. Work will be carried out in close co-operation with the health department of the NS in preparation for and implementation of the health projects targeting the fluctuating population. Seminars and workshops for the National Society staff at the headquarters and branch levels will be organized.

**Objective 3** to improve the nutritional levels of returnee and local families. A total of 250 refugee families and 30 indigenous families will be selected and will receive tools and seeds, fertilisers and pesticides. The land preparation will be carried out before the planting begins. The project will be implemented by the beneficiary families themselves under the guidance of a project manager with the technical support of a hired agronomist to co-ordinate.

### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan***

**Objective 1** to provide medical services for forced migrants in coordination with the UNHCR. The medical institution for forced migrants established in 2000 in Tashkent will continue to provide its health services to the migrants living in Uzbekistan. Forced migrant patients will be received in the medical institution. Medical consultation will be given on an outpatient basis and, if needed, on an inpatient basis for further medical treatment. Training materials related to hygiene education will be distributed to the forced migrants in Tashkent and to those who are living in rural areas.

**Objective 2** to facilitate access to education for children of forced migrants. The RCSU will assist children to attend schools by providing stationary, and other school supplies. This will be a temporary solution until the rights of forced migrants are ensured by national legislation. Educational materials will be printed for the refugee children to help them learn their mother tongue.

**Objective 3** to continue training of staff and volunteers at the grassroots level in PM issues. The Population Movement Unit in the NS will continue grass root seminars targeting branches at the *oblast* and *rayon* levels for better understanding the needs and rights of forced migrants and how to work with them. Regular contact with the communities of forced migrants will be maintained regarding their outstanding needs and problems. Seminars on the rights of refugees will be held for teachers and refugee children.

## **Expected results**

### ***Regional Disaster Response Programme***

The quality of programme performance will increase during 2001, strengthening experience, potential and image of the National Societies in Central Asia. Unified reporting formats will achieve better understanding between the National Societies, Federation and the donors, decreasing the workload of programme co-ordinators and finance officers during 2001. Regular monitoring will prevent problems from arising in project implementation, enabling NSs to introduce necessary adjustments in good time. Improved transparency will increase donor confidence by 2002. Better understanding of procedures and requirements will facilitate communication and understanding between the National Societies, the Federation and donors. Effective management of relief programmes by NSs will be facilitated through competent, trained relief co-ordinators at the national headquarters. These will become self-sustaining positions by the end of 2002.

Vulnerability Assessments will be carried out by four National Societies during 2001 which will have allowed targeting of more specific vulnerable groups during 2002. Local fund-raising events will become a traditional way to draw attention to the needs of the most vulnerable groups by the end of 2001, and locally raised funding will enable the National Societies to expand their operations, covering broader categories of the needy, and increase the NS image among the communities by the end of 2002.

There will be equal and fair allocation of humanitarian assistance throughout the countries, taking into consideration such factors as the number of population, economic situation, vulnerability level, etc., with an emphasis on targeting those whose need is greatest. Improved knowledge of standard procedures on procurement will help to reduce potential mistakes and avoid misunderstanding, saving time and decreasing the workload of the logistics department. A manual for logistics procedures will be developed by the end of 2001 and be in widespread use during 2002.

The country delegation in Tajikistan will receive prompt, effective support from the RD's logistics department on request. Two staff members each from Almaty and Dushanbe will exchange positions for a period of one month during 2001 and a further month during 2002. The National Societies will be able to perform their relief activities, and supplementary logistics support, efficiently, in set time-frames and following all of the Federation's procedures and requirements by the end of 2001.

### ***PM Programme of the RC/RC Society of Kazakhstan***

Learning the local language will enable migrants to adapt and integrate into their new life more rapidly and, in the long-term, help them to improve their socioeconomic situation. The psychological rehabilitation of the migrants' children will be a vital expected result of the programme. The children will learn how to integrate with the local community children. The National Society branch staff will enjoy learning how to work more effectively with fluctuating populations. The self-reliance activities will prove feasible both for the vulnerable groups and the local authorities with the provision of jobs or micro-loans to vulnerable migrants.

### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan***

The capacity of the individuals, families, communities and National Society will be strengthened for more effective and sustainable activities in republic of the Kyrgyzstan. The profile of the Movement and the National Society of Kyrgyzstan in particular, will be strengthened and raised among the population.

### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan***

The beneficiaries will be able to produce food at the household level and gradually will reduce their dependency on humanitarian aid. The beneficiaries are expected to return part of their harvest to the National Society branch to distribute to a new set of vulnerable population among the returnees. The PM design on rebuilding of roofs is introducing a cost effective system which contributes to resolving the pressing shelter problem for returnees. The refugees and local community will be able to adapt socially more quickly.

#### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan***

The incidence of the water-born diseases (diarrhea, hepatitis, etc.) among the target population will be reduced by 35 to 50 percent by May 2002. Some 1,000 schoolchildren will receive training in prevention and awareness of infectious diseases (such as typhoid, TB, etc.). The infection rate will be decreased among schoolchildren targeted by the programme, who will have an indirect impact on their parents as well. Children will be taught of tolerance toward refugees. The profile of the Movement and the National Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan, in particular, will be strengthened and raised among the population of targeted provinces.

#### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan***

Forced migrants will have access to medical treatment and their health situation will improve. The children of the forced migrants will have access to education and will learn social adaptation more quickly. The rights and dignity of the forced migrants will be more respected. The National Society branch staff will have opportunity to increase their capacity and work more efficiently and effectively with forced migrants.

### **Indicators**

#### ***Regional Disaster Response Programme***

Improved ability of the National Societies to work efficiently with little external support. Increased quality of reporting. Availability of updated, transparent information on programme activities. Clear understanding and application of the Federation's procedures by the National Societies in everyday practice. A relief/logistics co-ordinator in four NSs, developing relief activities by the end of the year 2001; by the end of 2002, no external funding required for these positions. Comprehensive vulnerability assessment reports and corresponding data base in each NS by 2001; targeted beneficiaries according to the assessment information by 2002. At least two additional relief projects funded by local donors by the end of 2001. Contacts established by the National Societies with local businesses and other potential donors. Equal distribution of the allocated humanitarian support with full transparency and correlation. Printed guideline document. Regular information bulletins distributed to NSs. Logistics records of assistance to delegation in Tajikistan; staff exchanges taken place. Total of 40 NS officers trained in 2001 and an additional 40 after expansion of training down to the *oblast* level in 2002.

#### ***PM Programme of the RC/RC Society of Kazakhstan***

The willingness of the repatriate families to participate in self-reliance activities which help them to move from dependency to independence. The interest of returning parents for their children to interact with local community children through summer camp. The actual degree of needs on language skills among the returnees in their new daily life. The level of the local authorities' interest and their contribution to the RC/RCSK population movement activities.

#### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan***

The actual degree of refugees' need for social activities, particularly the women and children. Assistance available from the state to the migrants. Increased level of interest, capacity and knowledge among National Society staff to support the refugees.

#### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan***

The capacity and rich experiences gained by the National Society's PM Unit and the Khatlan branch staff in implementing self-reliance projects. Nutritional and shelter situation of vulnerable returnee families improved and their dependence on humanitarian decreased. Income generated by increasing number of refugees with new skills.

#### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan***

Decrease in the spread of diseases among schoolchildren. Increased adherence to preventive health measures at schools and at home. Nutritional situation of vulnerable groups improved. Profile and image of the NS enhanced nationally.

#### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan***

Improved access to medical services by forced migrants. Increased attendance at schools by children of forced migrants. Improved capacity of the NS.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation arrangements**

### ***Regional Disaster Response Programme***

Regional relief co-ordination and other supplementary activities will be implemented by the regional relief/logistics delegate and the regional relief assistant. Relief operations in the countries will be the responsibility of the relief/logistics officers of the National Societies under the supervision and support of the Federation's programme co-ordinators. It is expected that all will carry out the monitoring of the project activities on different levels through standard reporting channels and field visits.

Efficiency of the operational performance will be evaluated at the end of each individual project by the National Societies, in co-operation with the Federation's programme co-ordinators and relief department staff. Input from the Secretariat's technical departments will be requested where appropriate. Results of the evaluation will be reflected in the final report to the donors with recommendations for the future. Monthly quality control procedures will indicate the level of performance of the logistics department. Self-evaluation of the logistics officers will serve as a basis for ongoing improvement of performance.

### ***PM Programme of the RC/RC Society of Kazakhstan***

A Memorandum of Understanding will be signed between the Federation and National Society to identify the roles and responsibilities of each party during the programme's implementation. The National Society's PM coordinator will regularly report to the Federation on programme progress. The coordinator will travel to the field, provide technical support and monitor the implementation of the projects. The PM unit in the National Society maintains attempts to coordinate with the other relevant organizations in the country to avoid duplication of the project. The regional Population Movement delegate will make a field visit to monitor implementation and provide necessary support to the Unit in the National Society.

### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan***

A memorandum of understanding will be signed between the Federation and the National Society to indicate the role and responsibilities of each party during the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the programme. The National Society's PM Coordinator will regularly report to the Federation on the progress of implementation and will provide technical support where needed. The PM unit in the National Society will attempt to coordinate with the other relevant organizations in the country to avoid duplication of the project. The regional PM delegate will conduct field visits to monitor implementation and provide the necessary support to the PM Unit in the National Society.

### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan***

The Population Movement coordinator in the RCST is responsible for the overall implementation of the projects. The project managers and the Khatlaon branch are supervising and providing reports. The PM coordinator at the headquarters will travel frequently to the region for field visits, monitoring and providing technical support for implementation of the project. The relief department at the Federation's country delegation's in Ttjikisan will monitor the implementation of the project. The regional Population Movement delegate provides technical support and will monitor the project implementation.

The evaluation will be carried out by field visits and discussion with beneficiaries. The PM coordinator in the RCST will provide reports including narrative and financial report on the implementation of the project to the Federation. During the evaluation process the beneficiaries themselves will be involved and a final report will be produced based on the lessons learnt.

### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan***

Monitoring will be carried out at the local level by the chairpersons of respective branches as well as at the national level by the Population Movement coordinator. The Federation's representative in the country will provide technical support to the Population Movement coordinator for monitoring of the projects. The regional Population Movement delegate will visit the country and monitor the project's implementation. The PM co-ordinator will provide regular financial and narrative reports on implementation of the projects. The monitoring of the project will be undertaken at the local level by the chairpersons of respective branches as well as at the national level by the PM co-ordinator, the Federation's representative and the regional Population Movement

delegate. This programme will be evaluated through a social survey to be conducted before and after the project's implementation

### ***PM Programme of the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan***

The Population Movement Unit in the National Society will submit all narrative and financial reports on the projects to the Federation. The Federation's programme co-ordinator participates in and provides technical support to the Population Movement Unit within the National Society for the monitoring of the project. The regional Population Movement delegate also provides technical support and will monitor the project's implementation. The Population Movement Unit in the National Society will report regularly on the implementation of the project and the Federation's PM delegate will carry out field visit to evaluate the project and prepare a written report.

### **Critical assumptions**

- Availability of sufficient and timely funding.
- Economic development in the region will enable National Societies to become more self-sustainable.
- National Societies can establish good relationships and gain support from their local governments.
- The regional delegation obtains the services of an experienced and highly qualified delegate with both relief and logistics experience.
- The effects of the tensions in southern Kyrgyzstan (Batken) could potentially impact on population movement within and between the countries in the region.
- The effects of the current drought in Tajikistan could potentially impact on population movement within the country.
- The security situation in Batken (Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan) and in the north of Afghanistan may impact on population movement within and between the countries in the region.
- No overwhelming disaster which would absorb the energy and resources of the RCS Turkmenistan to the exclusion of other programmes.
- No dramatic deterioration in the fragile political and military situation in Turkmenistan.
- Passage of national legislation on rights of forced migrants in Uzbekistan.
- The effects of the severe drought in the south and northwest of Uzbekistan and the tensions within the Ferghana Valley are not yet determined, but could potentially impact on population movement within the country.

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## 2. Disaster Preparedness

### Background and progress to date

In addition to the serious problem of increasing structural poverty, the countries of Central Asia are prone to a variety of man-made and natural disasters. The most frequent localized disasters include: floods, avalanches, landslides, mud and debris flows, fires and gas explosions. The ongoing socio-economic crisis has increased the vulnerability of many people to these disasters. Technological disasters also constitute a major threat in some areas. Ecological disasters with long-term implications (such as at the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site and changing water levels in the Aral and Caspian seas) continue to threaten the region. Earthquakes have the biggest destructive potential in the region. In this century alone, three of the five capital cities (Ashgabad, Tashkent and Almaty) were leveled by earthquakes and a major event is statistically overdue. Droughts, which normally occur every decade or so, have become more severe, and in 2000 a major drought devastated Tajikistan and affected parts of Uzbekistan. Sarez Lake, in Tajikistan, is held by a vulnerable natural dam which, if breached or damaged, would cause major flooding across four countries.

The regional disaster preparedness (DP) programme which commenced in 1996, was instrumental in developing a DP capacity in each of the region's five National Societies (NSs), initially at the national headquarters level, but now increasingly at the *oblast* and *rayon* levels. This was achieved through development of localized DP training materials, implementation of a systematic training programme for NS personnel and governmental emergency services staff, and provision of limited stocks of emergency supplies. Each of the five NSs has a disaster preparedness officer who is responsible for the programme within their respective NS. The programme also successfully supported the development of a strong and close working relationship between the NS, the Federation and the emergency services of the various governments. As an example, the Red Crescent/Red Cross Society of Kazakhstan was closely involved with the Kazakhstan government during 1999 and 2000 in writing the country's national DP plan.

Early in 1999, an independent evaluation of the regional DP programme was carried out. This made a number of recommendations which were incorporated into the programme and helped to shape its current direction. Details of the evaluation can be found in the report itself and in summary form in the Regional Assistance Strategy (RAS) for Central Asia.

Country specific DP projects, which better reflect the individual needs and capacities of each country and its NS, were developed and implemented. This involved the NS more in project planning and enabled more local procurement of emergency stocks.

The task now is to continue to build upon the firm foundations already established. During 1999 and 2000 the programme focused more on strengthening the DP capacities of the NS at *oblast* and *rayon* levels whilst maintaining the strength of the existing structures at the national level. A major focus for 2001-2002 is to further strengthen and develop the capacities of NS *oblast* branches to enable stronger support for DP activities. What is still required is strengthening the volunteer base, and improving community preparedness, especially in disaster prone rural areas where the relatively smaller scale disasters such as floods, debris flows and landslides occur frequently and claim many lives each year. Training, and the provision and maintenance of limited stocks of emergency supplies will continue to be major components of the programme.

Integration of DP and first aid (FA) activities, particularly at the community level, was commenced through the inclusion of NS FA staff in DP meetings and activities, and is seen as a crucial strategy through the next two years.

Some DP activities relating to Tajikistan are included in this appeal document. However, due to the presence of a separate delegation in Dushanbe, and to the special problems relating to the country, a separate DP programme appeal has been prepared for Tajikistan. The overall goals and directions of the regional programme as discussed in this document, are also applicable to Tajikistan in accordance with the RAS for Central Asia.

**Goal** To improve the lives of vulnerable people in the five countries of Central Asia, by strengthening the disaster preparedness and response capacity of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and by disaster awareness dissemination to those living in the most at risk communities.

## Objectives and Activities planned

**Objective 1** to strengthen the DP personnel and administrative capacities of the five NS at *oblast* and *rayon* levels. Support will be provided towards the salary and other administrative costs associated with the DP officer staff in each of the 16 *oblast*-based DP centres in four NS. This support will be progressively reduced from the end of 2001 as the funding base of the NS expands. Where appropriate, the DP response and FA activities in these centres will be integrated into one staff position. In conjunction with the country-based institutional development programme in each NS, the recruitment and retention of volunteers during 2001 will be encouraged and facilitated to implement community level DP initiatives during 2002 and beyond.

**Objective 2** to assist Central Asia NSs in developing clear policies and operational guidelines in their DP and response programmes. Technical support and advice will be provided to NSs in development of specific DP and response policy, operational plans and guidelines, in accordance with their capacities and agreed roles in governmental national DP plans. The completed policies and plans will be printed, distributed and disseminated. Improved mechanisms within all NSs will be established to facilitate more effective and timely post-disaster damage and needs assessments.

**Objective 3** to improve the DP skills and knowledge of NS staff and volunteers, through structured DP and response training programmes, with a focus on high-risk *oblasts* and *rayons*. Training will be provided in disaster management, training techniques, humanitarian values of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, first aid and other related topics, to *oblast* DP officers and volunteers to enable them to understand and implement DP activities. Training of volunteers in disaster-prone *rayons* will be facilitated, to enable them to prepare for and respond effectively to disasters, and to implement community-level DP training and mitigation activities by the end of 2001.

**Objective 4** to increase public awareness of disaster risks in disaster prone areas through specific information dissemination campaigns appropriate to each NS. Public campaigns and materials on disaster awareness issues will continue to be developed and implemented, in close cooperation with NS information officers. Close working relationships with the media will be developed and maintained, and new and innovative ways to disseminate disaster awareness issues to a wide public audience will be implemented.

**Objective 5** to reduce the vulnerability of selected communities by enhancing their coping measures and assisting them to develop suitable disaster mitigation and prevention projects. Pilot projects will be undertaken to develop suitable methodologies and training materials to enable communities to plan for, prevent, and respond to common localized disasters. These will be conducted in Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan and, if successful, will be expanded to include Kazakhstan during 2002. Learning from the community-based DP pilot project in Uzbekistan during 2000, the programme with one community level project in 2001 will be further developed, and expanded during 2002 to cover the most vulnerable communities throughout the country.

**Objective 6** to improve the disaster response capacities of Central Asia NSs, especially at the *oblast* level, through the supply and maintenance of limited emergency relief stocks at DP centres in high risk areas. Support will be provided to NSs to procure locally appropriate emergency preparedness stocks in *oblast*-based DP centres, to maintain an acceptable level of first response capacity, particularly in smaller, frequent emergency situations. This support will be progressively reduced from the end of 2001 as the funding base of the NSs expands. Where appropriate, and at the request of NSs, the regional delegation will procure, on their behalf, additional emergency stocks from outside their country.

**Objective 7** to integrate related NS programme initiatives, particularly community based first aid, in the region. FA coordinators from the NSs will be actively involved in DP training workshops and meetings where appropriate. *Oblast*-level DP officers will be appointed, with partial responsibility for FA programmes where appropriate. FA training for community members will be included in all community DP training projects. Information officers will be included in all NS disaster assessment teams.

**Objective 8** to encourage the NSs to cooperate and collaborate with each other and with other involved agencies, in regional DP programmes and to facilitate agreements on cross-border disaster response. Agreements with governments will be facilitated to liberalize border crossing arrangements for personnel of the NSs and the Federation involved in disaster response operations across national borders. The regional delegation will carry out the advocacy work to formulate inter-NS agreements on cross-border cooperation in disaster response situations. Cross-border meetings will be conducted at the *oblast* level, amongst NSs and appropriate government personnel from both sides of the border in disaster prone locations, with the aim of removing barriers to cross-border emergency response, and to improve cooperation and understanding between involved parties.

### **Expected results**

All Central Asia NSs will have competent, trained, DP staff at national headquarters, volunteers and staff in disaster-prone *oblasts* (by the end of 2001), and volunteers in the disaster-prone *rayons* (by the end of 2002). Each of them will have formulated country-specific DP and response policies incorporated into operational guidelines for implementation of DP activities by the end of 2001. All NS will have individual Red Cross/Red Crescent DP plans by 2002.

All NS will have Memoranda of Understanding with their governments, specifying their agreed roles and responsibilities in DP and response (2001). By 2002, all NSs will have these roles and responsibilities embodied in their governments' national disaster management plans. By early 2001 there will be effective mechanisms in place in each NS to enable timely efficient and accurate post-disaster needs assessments to take place.

By the end of 2001, staff and volunteers at the *oblast* and *rayon* levels will be able to respond more effectively to disasters, conduct training of other NS and community personnel, and carry out effective disaster awareness and education campaigns for targeted groups. The training will continue throughout 2002. The NSs will have established ongoing public awareness programmes through a variety of media during 2001, such that they will be self sustaining by 2002.

An effective community level DP training programme will be developed in Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan by the end of 2001 with training of 25 community leaders and 25 community members in one disaster-prone *rayon* in each country, ready for wider implementation during 2002. In Uzbekistan, wider implementation of community programmes will be achieved during 2001 with the training of community leaders and members in two disaster-prone *rayons*, ready for further expansion during 2002. Community members in these selected disaster prone rural communities will have increased awareness of their vulnerabilities and capacities, and have prepared their own community preparedness plans, including mitigation activities. In Kazakhstan, development of a community level programme will be completed by mid-2002.

Sixteen DP centres in disaster prone *oblasts* in four countries will maintain adequate and appropriate stocks of basic relief supplies to meet the basic needs of those affected by small-scale disasters. Responsibility for sustaining these stock levels will be transferred to the NSs by the end of 2002.

DP officers, FA coordinators and information officers in the NSs will develop and implement a system of routine interaction, cooperation and team work before the end of 2001.

All NSs will, by the end of 2001, have an understanding with their governments, at national and local levels, to enable easier border crossing for RC/RC personnel in times of disaster response requiring operations across national borders. This will have been negotiated throughout 2001, though formal agreements may not be formulated until 2002. All NSs will have formal agreements between each other before the end of 2001, on cross-border cooperation in disaster response operations.

### **Indicators**

Adequate numbers of trained DP staff and volunteers at the national, *oblast* and *rayon* levels. More complete and timely post-disaster needs assessments. Completed policies and operational guidelines for each NS in relation to DP. Role of NSs recognized in national DP plans. Wider awareness of disaster-related issues and NS roles and involvement in mitigation, by members of disaster-prone communities. Adequate, appropriate, emergency stocks in place at all 16 NS DP centres in four countries. Integrated programme approach by the NSs, involving DP, FA/health and information staff in project implementation. Cross border relief operations facilitated by agreements negotiated between all NSs and their respective governments.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation arrangements**

Day to day monitoring of the project will be carried out by the regional DP delegate and regional DP assistant, through normal reporting channels and field visits. The DP staff at the NSs will monitor and report to the delegation on a monthly basis. Input from the relevant Secretariat technical departments will be requested where appropriate.

The regional DP delegate will evaluate overall progress of the project on a month-by-month basis with reference to reports from the DP officers at the NSs and to direct monitoring observations. Together with NS counterparts, the delegate will ensure establishment of appropriate personnel databases and will utilize information from these databases to ensure that indicators referring to trainees, volunteers and staff, are verified. A formal system of post-disaster, self-evaluation of the National Societies' disaster response performance, will be implemented. An external evaluation of the whole DP programme (a follow-up to that carried out in 1999) will be carried out in mid-2001. This will include formal evaluation of the training programme by a suitable specialist.

## **Critical assumptions**

- Sufficient funding is available for the duration of the programme.
- Economic development in the region is sufficient to enable the NSs to become more self-sustaining financially.
- Qualified DP staff at NSs can be retained and replacements trained. Excessive dropout of trained staff, where there are no suitably experienced alternatives, can seriously disrupt implementation of NS activities.
- Governments continue their close cooperation with NSs on DP programme activities.
- Governments can be persuaded to liberalize border crossing bureaucracy in times of emergency.
- Senior management at the NSs are in agreement with any required policy changes.
- The regional delegation, obtains and retains the services of an experienced regional DP delegate throughout 2001 and 2002.

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## 3. Health and Care

### Background and Progress to Date

Ten years since the breakdown of the centralized political and economic system of the former Soviet Union, the newly independent countries in the region are still in their early phase of economic recovery. A large section of the population continues to fall through the safety net of the social services, and the number is not small indeed. The prevailing socio-economic factors have a profoundly negative impact on the health of the population. Primary level health care is in a precarious state; the public health service has virtually collapsed; and communicable diseases are on the rise. Tuberculosis is in spreading in epidemic proportion, sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS are on the increase, and drug abuse is widespread.

During the former Soviet Union, the health care system was based on professional services with little involvement of people. The services were provided through a large network of facilities, aiming at ensuring 'health care for all'. The primary level health care services - feldsher-midwife points in rural areas and city polyclinics in urban areas - were combined with a network of sanitary epidemiological stations for surveillance of environmental pollution and communicable diseases. However, due to excessive provision of services and mismatched resource input and expenditure, health care delivery proved to be inefficient during the economic recession which started in the 1980s.

The countries in the region have been experiencing an epidemiological transition for the past 20 years or so, characteristic of both developing countries on the one hand - high infant and maternal mortality rates and increasing incidence of infectious diseases - and of developed western countries on the other, with high cardiovascular and cancer rates. Now, with a collapsing economy, the epidemiological picture of the independent republics has reached a serious endpoint.

Tuberculosis is a global threat. Available estimates suggest that approximately one third of world population is currently infected with the bacteria. Global incidence is predicted to increase from 7.5 million new cases annually in 1990 to 10.2 million new cases by the end of 2000. Deteriorating living standards, poor nutritional status, low immune defense are all contributing factors to higher risk of developing active tuberculosis. The HIV pandemic is drastically worsening the tuberculosis situation in countries with a high incidence of the disease among young people and high prevalence of HIV infection. For this reason Central Asia is a fertile ground for tuberculosis. Although hard data are difficult to obtain from all the countries in Central Asia, it is feared that HIV is prevalent throughout the region. According to the Republic AIDS Centre (Kazakhstan), the number of registered HIV cases in Kazakhstan in July this year is 1,153, of which 31 are diagnosed with AIDS. In Kyrgyzstan, the number of registered HIV cases at present is 48.

<b>Table 1. Incidence rate of Tuberculosis (all forms) in Central Asia, per 100,000</b>					
Year	Kazakhstan (15.92 million)	Kyrgyzstan (4.69 million)	Uzbekistan (23.13 million)	Turkmenista n (4.55 million)	Tajikistan (5.94 million)
1996	82.5	87.5	51.6	45.3	27.8
1997	91.3	112.6	55	72.3	33.5
1998	118.8	108.9	59.3	78.8	40.3
1999	141	114.4	-	84.1	41.6
<i>Comment: The data are probably an underestimate, as it is likely that the rate of incidence is much higher in certain areas. According to the recent report of Medecins Sans Frontieres' pilot</i>					

*project in Karakalpakstan (Uzbekistan), the incidence in two rayons is as high as 157.5 per 100,000.*

The extent to which tuberculosis will continue to create havoc globally and take lives will largely depend on the extent to which modern intervention strategies become available to the countries where tuberculosis is a growing problem. Such intervention is not widespread throughout Central Asia. The governments of Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan have adopted to the intervention strategy recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO); the other countries in the region are in the process of adopting pilot interventions in one or two provinces. Therefore, it is a requisite to advocate WHO recommended DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment, Short course) strategy for tuberculosis treatment throughout the region.

Historically, National Societies in the region played a crucial role in the health and social support sector through the Visiting Nurses programmes. Traditionally, these nurses make regular visits to elderly who are homebound, incapacitated, sick and lonely or in need of nursing care. Also, they provide nursing services to the community through so-called social medical centres (SMCs). In recent years, these services (visiting nurses and SMCs) were reduced drastically, due to funding constraints, with the exception of Uzbekistan.

Analyzing the present crises in public health in the region, it is apparent that the visiting nurses have the potential to play an effective role. Prevention through health promotion and community mobilization are essential components of effective public health intervention. The visiting nurses are to be trained in this new role, be it tuberculosis control or any other condition of public health importance. They are community health nurses in a *new* role.

The governments in the region gave priority to tuberculosis control. However, the responses are far from adequate and not uniform throughout the region. The governments of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan adopted the WHO-recommended strategy and are implementing tuberculosis control programme with international assistance in the form of a World Bank loan or bilateral aid. The programmes focus mainly on training of medical personnel, provision of drugs, laboratory equipment and reagents, and management. However, they lack adequate attention in public education and community mobilization. Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan initiated the WHO's DOTS strategy in pilot areas in partnership with international organizations such as MSF and UNICEF.

Primary level health care and communicable disease control are the two top priorities in Central Asia. The National Societies have been closely looking into their appropriate role in these efforts. Emphasis was given to tuberculosis control. For the current year, pilot projects in small geographic areas were considered. The aim is to gain experience and learn from the lessons and thereby expand in steps in the following years. Such an idea was welcomed with considerable interest by the respective ministries of health.

In Kyrgyzstan, a pilot project run in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health, was initiated in two *rayons*. In Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan similar pilot projects are under preparation. Also in Kazakhstan, a project proposal is being developed and will be made available in early 2001 for health assistance to the vulnerable population in the Semipalatinsk region in the east of the country, which was the site of hundreds of nuclear tests during the Soviet era. In Turkmenistan, the National Society is also involved in tuberculosis awareness programme in schools. In Tajikistan, the focus is on community awareness through first aid and advocacy for DOTS strategy.

**Goal** To reduce the incidence of tuberculosis through implementation of WHO- recommended DOTS strategy efficiently and uniformly throughout the Central Asia region.

## **Objectives and Activities planned**

**Objective 1** to implement the Red Crescent/Red Cross prevention programme in 20 to 30 per cent of the DOTS implemented *rayons/oblasts* by the end of year 2001, and 50 to 60 per cent by the end of 2002. Target *rayons/oblasts* will be selected in cooperation with the respective Ministries of Health. Community health nurses will be selected and trained. Following the training, detailed planning and implementation of the programme will be carried out.

**Objective 2** to improve patient compliance to DOTS treatment for an estimated 25 per cent in the covered areas. Patients will be followed-up at the drug distribution point and at the family level. Nutritional supplement packs will be distributed to patients. Defaulters will be traced and motivation encouraged. Expected impact is estimated

on the basis of comparison with the baseline data, i.e. the compliance prior to the programme. At this stage, it is difficult to define such impact indicator with confidence as it is dependent on the availability of sound baseline data. The indicator will be better defined as the project unfolds.

**Objective 3** to increase the level of awareness of tuberculosis among the general population and community institutions. Informative and educational materials will be prepared and disseminated to the local community. Public education campaigns will be carried out, emphasizing that tuberculosis can be cured and stressing the importance of early case detection, reducing stigma and publicizing availability of free diagnosis and treatment. Training sessions will be organized in various institutions (schools, kindergartens, etc.). Mass media will be also be used to disseminate all these messages.

**Objective 4** to advocate political, administrative and financial support to implement the WHO-recommended DOTS strategy. Information will be regularly disseminated and exchanged with the concerned authorities. The Ministries of Health will be assisted in organizing conferences on tuberculosis and intervention strategy. Close collaboration will be developed with the ministries and with other international agencies (including WHO, UNICEF, IUATLD) to publicize the issue. It would be difficult to measure the effectiveness of the advocacy work in a short span of time, but it is expected that some indications of the effects of the advocacy work will be observable by the end of 2002.

### Expected results

In a given community, it is expected to see an increase in number of patients completing treatment. This can be verified by comparison of data prior and after the programme completion (subject to availability of reliable data). A significant impact is expected by the end of the two-year period. Moreover, it is expected to see an effect of awareness campaign in the community. Such results will be reflected in more suspected cases seeking treatment, and in an initial decrease of the number of treatment defaulters. While the impact of the programme will be difficult to measure due to the very nature of the intervention and because the results are dependent on several other external factors, certain standards (such as those in humanitarian charter and minimum standards in disaster response of the *Sphere Project*) will be adhered to.

### Indicators

Standardized training modules used throughout the region for training of the RC/RC Visiting Nurses. One hundred trained Red Crescent/Red Cross community health nurses with clear job descriptions. Increased awareness of tuberculosis and other health issues by the general public and targeted groups. Increased number of TB patients completing treatment course.

### Monitoring and Evaluation arrangements

The medical coordinators of the National Societies will have the overall responsibility for monitoring their respective programmes. Monitoring will be carried out through regular visits and analyses of the reports from the community health nurses in specified formats.

The evaluation of the project will be made by the end of 2001, by a team consisting of the Federation's health delegate in Russia and a health advisor from the Secretariat. Further evaluation will be made by a team of external consultants by the end of 2002.

### Critical assumptions

- Commitment of governments in the Central Asia region to implement tuberculosis control programmes promoting the WHO-recommended DOTS strategy.
- Coordination and co-operation between the National Societies and the ministries of health and other partner agencies are maintained throughout the project.
- Anti-tubercular drugs and diagnostic facilities are available free of charge.
- Funding is secured for a minimum period of two years.

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## 4. Humanitarian Values

### Background and progress to date

This programme intends to continue essential support for the information departments of the National Societies (NSs) of Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. The main aspects of the project are training, administrative and programme support and provision of advice and guidance to NSs during the implementation period. An information network already expanding across the region, and its further development, will give an opportunity to the NSs to better utilize all the potential and capacities of their local branches for better advocacy and promotion of humanitarian values. The focus on promotion of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's fundamental principles and humanitarian values will be complemented by routine information work.

This project is rooted in the ongoing regional information programme which was commenced in 1997. Within the programme framework, information officers were hired by the National Societies and information departments were established for the first time. By the end of the third year of the programme, the NSs in Central Asia had completed the intensive training part of the regional programme and the information staff are now better prepared for specific tasks. The officers obtained essential skills in public relations and communication with the media. During the past three years, work of the departments contributed greatly to strengthening the image of the NSs, which facilitated fund raising activities. Contacts and cooperation with mass media were established. Every major event held by the NSs is now being covered by TV, radio and newspapers. The information departments work in close contact with the regional delegations of the Federation and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), in the production of the locally based *Compass* magazine, and a Geneva-based Secretariat newsletter that covers all current activities of Red Crescent/Red Cross National Societies.

The Federation-supported information programme was originally designed for a three-year period on the basis of a year-by-year budget reduction, with increasing financial contribution by the NSs (beginning from November 1999). However, the further deterioration of the economic situation and the cessation of all fiscal benefits for NSs governments in some countries, has meant insufficient local funding to sustain the information departments and it is feared that these services could be lost. A lack of information about the NSs activities will further affect their fundraising efforts and ability to disseminate humanitarian values.

In continuation of the programme the regional delegation intends to expand it to a different level and to reach the *oblast* committees of the NSs and into communities, linking with and as a basis for other programmes and operations.

Humanitarian values will also be promoted through profiling the relief, disaster response, health, youth programmes and other activities of the NSs, aimed at governmental authorities at local and national levels to assist in building better relationships. Since the youth movement gains in strength in Central Asia every day it is considered as an agent of change both in the civil society (in their communities and families) and in the National Societies as such and are a great target for the capacity building of the respective Red Crescent/Red Cross Societies.

The most important aspect of the programme is intensive training, taking place over two years. This will involve training seminars at the regional and national level, with the model of the *From Principles to Action* concept and methodology used. One of the objectives is to define and recruit and train at least three new volunteers in each country among journalists.

As discussed in the Regional Assistance Strategy, as the level of development in the Central Asia countries differs, the regional information programme was designed taking into account the existing political, cultural and economic nuances in the region.

**Goal** Widespread understanding and acceptance of humanitarian values and, in particular, the fundamental principles of the Movement. Broad public understanding of the roles of the Movement and of the activities of the NSs resulting in widespread support of governments and the public and increased prospects for local funding.

## Objectives and Activities planned

**Objective 1** to promote the Movement's fundamental principles and humanitarian values and help NSs in Central Asia to build relations with local authorities and international organizations. A series of internal workshops will be conducted for staff and volunteers of the NSs with focus on profiling the idea and mission of the Movement, especially focusing on *Strategy 2010* as the way towards improving the lives of vulnerable people. Videos and publication materials will be provided on the fundamental principles and on National Societies' activities for distribution to the government, local and private authorities, international organizations and the local business communities. The NSs will be supported in their liaison and advocacy role with the ICRC and partner National Societies in a variety of international forums.

**Objective 2** to profile the National Societies' activities and, more specifically, in core areas of disaster preparedness and response, health promotion and care at the primary level through a regional information network. Activities to achieve this objective will include:

- establishing an information network using existing youth centres and local RC/RC branches;
- producing monthly NS newsletters and other publications on a regular basis;
- producing and maintaining a regional web site;
- expanding contacts with media and promoting media coverage of the National Societies' actions and programmes;
- contributing to a permanent column in newspapers or on-air (TV/radio) briefings about National Societies' activities, programmes and other aspects of the Movement's work;
- recruiting new volunteers, at least three among journalists, in each Central Asian country.

**Objective 3** to improve local fundraising capacities of the national societies. Activities will include:

- training of trainers at the national and local level on fundraising methodology;
- assisting in implementation of fundraising campaigns;
- establishing contacts with the Knowledge Sharing Division at the Secretariat in Geneva to gain knowledge of the fundraising experiences of other National Societies.

## Expected results

The information departments in five National Societies will be able to continue their activities as a result of salary and programme support from the Federation. The National Societies will recruit professional staff capable of leading the information work and fundraising activities at the branch level. The Movement's messages will be widely disseminated in the region. Regular contacts with government officials will be established. The information departments will become more independent in their work and will become self-sustainable at the end of 2002.

## Indicators

Increased number of articles and other media coverage of National Societies' activities, events and Movement messages. Increased number of new volunteers involved in information work. Accurate and timely flow of information from local RC/RC branches to their respective national headquarters.

## Monitoring and Evaluation arrangements

The information department at the regional delegation in Almaty will coordinate and monitor the project. The information officers of the National Societies of Central Asia will implement activities and provide monitoring on the local level. Monitoring of this project will be carried out through quarterly reports (narrative and financial) and the Federation's in-country programme coordinators. Also, the regional information officer will visit the information officers at the NSs regularly to provide a steady flow of advice, to monitor progress and to follow up on expected results.

## Critical assumptions

A human rights report conducted by the US State Department, released in February 1999, indicates that all five of these Central Asian states have changed little since a 1997 survey was conducted. Freedom of speech and of the press was deemed insufficient in all five countries but especially in Turkmenistan, whose record was deemed "dismal". In this situation access to media might be difficult and the success of the programme could be threatened

should the atmosphere become more restrictive. Also, due to the economic situation in Central Asia, the National Societies might have limited success with local fundraising.

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## 5. Institutional and Resource Development

### Background and Progress to Date

#### *ID/RD of the Red Crescent and Red Cross Society of Kazakhstan*

The economic transition of the past few years caused a dramatic social decline in Kazakhstan. The achievements of the Soviet era particularly in health and education, are threatened because of financial constraints. Rapid Soviet industrialization brought some wealth to the population but a lack of investment for the past decade, while prices rose and the export and internal market collapsed, crippled the economy. Pensions and other state benefits are barely sufficient to pay even for domestic utilities which increased about 300 per cent last year. Some state benefits were abolished as a cost-cutting measure in 1999. Pensioners, invalids and those from multi-children families do not have the resources to buy enough food or winter clothes. These people often have no extended family to rely on and the incidence of tuberculosis and malnutrition is growing.

The National Society's activities are focused on 'mercy houses' for elderly people, medical services, dissemination of fundamental principles, distribution of used clothes and food parcels, disaster preparedness (DP) and disaster response (DR), activities on support of refugees and displaced people, soup kitchens for elderly people and multichildren families, tracing services and first aid training courses.

The Federation's regional delegation (RD) for Central Asia provided assistance to the NS since its establishment in 1992. It also organized regular meetings with the Presidents of the five Central Asia National Societies (NSs) and maintained regular contacts with the International Committee of the Red Cross and with Participating National Societies (PNSs) operating in the region (Netherlands and Spanish Red Cross Societies) in order to assure the necessary coordination and coherence in the activities.

During 2000 the RD concentrated its efforts on the process to gain formal recognition of the NS, improved contacts with the branches, support to youth activities, training in accountability and reporting, revision of the statutes, follow-up of relief and DP programmes, new approaches in health and care activities and initiation of discussion on preparation of a new development plan according to the *Strategy 2010*.

In August 2000, the Federation carried out a regional Institutional and Resource Development Review for all five national societies in the region. The NS will use the conclusions and recommendations of the review to guide its activities for the next three years.

#### *ID/RD of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan (RCSK)*

During the last few years the RCSK was involved in a number of large-scale relief operations and developed a good capacity to implement and monitor programmes. Its activities were mainly focused on providing assistance to most vulnerable groups, such as lonely elderly and the handicapped in urban areas, by establishing seven medical rooms for free medical and psychological assistance, and the public canteens programme. In addition, the RCSK youth programme in Bishkek is operating effectively, with a new pilot project in schools, aimed at prevention of HIV/AIDS, smoking and drug abuse. In August, the RCSK participated in the regional Institutional Development Review programme which provided an opportunity for it to use the conclusions and recommendations of the review team for future development of the NS.

Every year the RCSK runs a Charity Lottery with the participation of all branches. In 1998 it raised 159,914 Soms (approximately USD 3,000) and in 1999 the profit was almost the same. This is a good initiative which will be supported and used by the RD as an example of effective fundraising. Training was also conducted with refugees but results are not yet clear.

The RD has provided assistance to the RCSK since its establishment in 1993. Today, two Federation regional delegates, a health co-ordinator and a population movements delegate, are based in Bishkek, to provide assistance to the NS in addition to their regional technical responsibilities. In 2000, the RD increased its support for development issues and youth activities, and also started to work with the NS on updating its statutes and formulating a fundraising plan.

The RCSK was well supported in its institutional development through an ongoing bilateral programme with the Netherlands Red Cross Society (NRCS) which has a delegation in Bishkek. This bilateral programme focuses particularly on branch development in Issykul and Naryn *oblasts* and offers substantial support to the branches including training, salaries, equipment and furniture. It also provides funding to establish income generation projects to ensure long term sustainability. The NRCS programme also provides financial and institutional development support to the national management of the RCSK.

***ID/RD of the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan (RCST)***

Since its establishment and admission to the International Federation in December 1995, the RCST has gradually grown through its own efforts and with support from the Federation. Most recently, it reached a memorandum of understanding with the British Red Cross which provided a full time development delegate, based in Ashgabad since July 1998, concentrating on moving the Society towards the characteristics of a well-functioning National Society.

At present the Society runs two medico-social programmes, teaching preventive health and first aid in schools and supporting elderly pensioners and multi-children families through the visiting nurses programme, an active disaster preparedness programme working in close co-operation with the civil defense and other governmental departments, and a well respected population movement function that runs its own programmes as well as those contracted by UNHCR (providing financial and social support to Tajik refugees). In addition, there is a growing youth department with branches in each *oblast* promoting a healthy lifestyle including AIDS awareness and drug prevention. The society also runs six soup kitchens and due to donations from European NSs is able to distribute second-hand clothes both in Ashgabad and through the *oblast* offices. Furthermore, in co-operation with the American Red Cross, the Society recently distributed approximately 2,000 tons of relief goods as a part of the Aral Sea relief programme. The information department highlights all the above activities in order to improve public awareness of the society's actions and to improve its public image.

The developmental emphasis so far was centred on the National Society's head office in Ashgabad, supporting programmes and improving the programme management capacity of its senior management and department heads. This support covered programme planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting, both financial and narrative. Good progress was made here although, of course there is some room for improvement. In future more emphasis will be based in branch development as the branch structure expands in line with the gradual expansion of the programmes, so that management skills of the branch chairpersons will also improve. Communications and financial reporting will receive particular attention.

Initial steps were taken to reduce the National Society's reliance on external support for its programmes. Although at a very early stage, the NS has looked into other sources of fundraising and some small income generating and image building projects will start in the near future. This focus will be a priority for the coming years. Finalizing the Society's operational and fiscal base is a necessity for the successful implementation of these projects.

***ID/RD of the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan (RCSU)***

Since its establishment and admission to the International Federation in 1995, the RCSU, with the support from the Federation and other donors and utilizing its own resources, has implemented programmes in: relief and disaster preparedness, population movement, first aid training, preventive health, information and dissemination, youth, home care programme, social medical centres and food for the most vulnerable people in Aral Sea area. Through these programmes, the RCSU assists the most vulnerable groups, those being the isolated elderly, multi-children families, handicapped and chronically ill, orphans and people in the Aral Sea area.

The development section of the RD for Central Asia has been assisting the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan since the establishment of the delegation in Almaty. As part of the regional initiatives, a number of regional programmes were organized to open up the National Societies and to broaden their horizon of understanding of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Training on volunteer management, youth camps, regional meeting involving all the Presidents of the NSs in Central Asia, management and leadership training were organized. The RCSU also had a resource development advisor for a period of about one year to assist it in improving its resource management capacities. The Federation's programme coordinator, based in Tashkent since July 1999, provides necessary support to the NS in the field of institutional and resource development, including

youth activities. The RCSU is in a consolidation phase and continues to need support from the Federation in this process.

### Goal(s)

- **ID/RD - Kazakhstan:** The programme aims to assist the NS to systematically strengthen its organizational capacity, to make the most effective use of its available human and material resources, especially in the branches, to enable it to achieve its humanitarian objectives as a well-functioning National Society.
- **ID/RD - Kyrgyzstan:** To support efforts of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan in its objective to work as a well-functioning National Society.
- **ID/RD - Turkmenistan:** To support the NS in its objective to become a well-functioning National Society with a clear mission to support the most vulnerable in Turkmenistan through efficient, targeted, and well managed programmes.
- **ID/RD - Uzbekistan:** To assist the RCSU to further consolidate its legal base, capacity and performance, and achieve the characteristics of a well-functioning National Society.

### Objectives and Activities planned

#### *ID/RD of the Red Crescent and Red Cross Society of Kazakhstan*

**Objective 1** to assist the NS in fulfilling the conditions for its admission to the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement. The statutes of the NS will be revised according to the regulations of the Movement and approved at its National Assembly in 2001. A plan for implementation of the required conditions will be prepared. All NS branches will be informed of their obligations under the revised statutes and will commit to working in accordance with them. Agreements with the government will be established in order to obtain privileges for the humanitarian work of the NS (Value Added Tax reduction, exemption of public services, direct or indirect support).

**Objective 2** to assist the NS in responding to local vulnerabilities, focusing on the core areas specified in *Strategy 2010*. An assessment of local vulnerabilities will be carried out, and local capacities will be identified. Priorities will be established, and local development plans made, according to the vulnerability/capacity criteria. Local development plans will be incorporated into regional and national development plans. Programmes will be developed, as well as effective systems for monitoring and evaluation.

**Objective 3** to develop the operating capacity of *oblast*-level branches. Branches will be provided with basic resources necessary for proper functioning. Priorities for the coming two years will be defined. Local plans will be prepared to improve the National Society's public image and visibility. Local capacities, both human and technical, will be reinforced.

**Objective 4** to strengthen the capacity building of the National Society in programme management. Training will be organized in project design, assessment, accountability and reporting. Internal communication and coordination between the headquarters and branches will be promoted. Assistance will be provided to the NS to improve its organizational systems and structure, and to better identify its roles and responsibilities. The human resources management of the NS will be improved.

**Objective 5** to reinforce the visibility and public image of the NS and increase its technical and operational cooperation with other organizations. Documents and information materials will be produced. Visibility standards of the National Society will be established, such as uniforms, identification, etc. A public campaign on the emblem issue will be conducted. Events will be organized to celebrate 8 May (World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day). All materials will be translated into Russian and, where appropriate, local languages. *Oblast* and *rayon* staff, youth and volunteers, will all be trained in information and communication activities. Educational, operational and technical cooperation with other organizations and the local community will be encouraged and increased.

**Objective 6** to promote different forms of volunteering and support for youth activities. Special events will be organized to celebrate the International Year of Volunteers. Branches and *rayons* will be informed of the importance of volunteers in the RC/RC Movement, their responsibilities, participation and commitment, and the roles of the volunteers from local communities and organizations in building civil society. The role of volunteers in the institution will be re-evaluated (in regards to their areas of competence and activities, leadership, participation and coordination) in order to clearly determine their contribution, needs for training, promotion, recruitment, motivation, interest and conditions to retain highly qualified and committed people as volunteers. The

youth programme activities developed in 2000 will be evaluated and priorities for the next two years will be set. Youth groups in *oblasts* will be created and/or reinforced. Youth educational materials will be produced. Participation of youth members in core programmes will be encouraged in order to give higher visibility and image to the NS. National and regional youth events, campaigns, meetings and camps, will be organized regularly.

**Objective 7** to define and implement a realistic fundraising plan in order to increase sustainability and thereby reduce dependence on external aid. An assessment of the current fundraising and financial situations will be carried out, priorities and possibilities identified, and, on this basis, an annual fundraising plan will be formulated at local and national levels. A balanced, multifaceted and varied policy of financing will be developed to increase sustainability and reduce dependence, extend humanitarian services, develop branches and improve the society's public image. Contacts with the governmental authorities will increase, in order to obtain privileges for NS humanitarian activities. Systematic efforts will be made to modernize and reform NS finance and accounting services. NS staff and youth volunteers will be encouraged to participate in fundraising activities. A fundraising unit will be established within the NS and will be responsible for carrying out the funding plan. Measures will be adopted to guarantee the sustainability of those programmes and activities which currently rely on funding from international cooperation.

#### *ID/RD of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan*

**Objective 1** to be responsive to local vulnerability, focusing on the four core areas as defined in the Federation's *Strategy 2010*, and to develop the operating capacity of the branches. An assessment of local vulnerability in five branches will be carried out, independently from the Netherlands Red Cross' bilateral support. Local possibilities and capacities will be identified, and NS priorities will be established accordingly. Local and national development plans will be formulated. The NS staff will be trained in conducting vulnerability and capacity assessments.

**Objective 2** to strengthen the capacity of the RCSK in programme management. Internal coordination and communication inside the headquarters and with the *oblasts* and *rayons* will be promoted. Assistance will be ensured to improve the organizational systems of the NS. Staff will be trained in accountability, reporting and project writing.

**Objective 3** to promote the International Year of Volunteers in 2001 and support youth activities. A plan will be elaborated to celebrate the International Year of Volunteers. The NS will formulate a volunteers and youth policy. Youth groups in four *oblasts* will be created or reinforced. Educational and informational materials will be produced in the Russian and Kyrgyz languages. Youth participation will be encouraged in the four core areas of the *Strategy 2010*. Meetings, camps and other activities will be organized for youth members.

**Objective 4** to improve the financial viability of the RCSK. An annual fundraising plan will be developed, based on economic realities within the NS. Contacts with the authorities will be intensified, to obtain privileges for the RCSK. Systematic efforts will be made to modernize NS finance functions. Measures will be adopted to guarantee the sustainability of those activities which currently rely on international financial support.

**Objective 5** to reinforce the public image of the RCSK and increase its technical and operational cooperation with other organizations. A plan to reinforce RC visibility at all levels will be developed and implemented. Information and promotional documents and materials will be produced, and special events organized to celebrate 8 May. *Oblast*-level staff will be trained in communication and visibility. Educational, operational and technical co-operation with other organizations and local communities will be enhanced.

#### *ID/RD Development of the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan*

**Objective 1** to develop the capacity of the National Society in terms of programme management. An annual planning cycle will be developed, and will coincide with the Federation's global appeal process. A monitoring and evaluation system will be created, based on given indicators for each project. Financial and narrative reporting, as well as proposal writing skills, will be strengthened.

**Objective 2** to develop the operating capacity of *oblast*-level branches. Efforts will be made to ensure that branches have sufficient basic resources to function properly. Image building or income generation projects will be allocated to each *oblast*-level branch. The management skills of the chairpersons in these branches will be developed through training. Annual plans for the development of each *oblast* will be elaborated. Activities of existing branch youth clubs will be strengthened.

**Objective 3** to improve the National Society's financial situation and reduce reliance on external donors for programme funding. An annual fundraising plan will be developed at both headquarters and branch levels. Image building and income generation projects will be initiated at each *oblast*-level branch. Public awareness of the National Society's activities will be enhanced.

**Objective 4** to assist the National Society's senior management in structural and planning issues. The financial reporting and annual planning procedures of the NS will be computerized. A nationwide e-mail system will be set up to improve and facilitate communication. The NS will be supported in the finalization of a new operational and fiscal agreement.

**Objective 5** to support membership and volunteer recruitment initiatives. Activities of the youth department will be increased. A volunteers' rights charter will be outlined. Functions of the information department will be supported at the central and *oblast* levels.

#### ***ID/RD of the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan***

**Objective 1** to further strengthen the National Society's capacity in programme management, with a special focus on financial management. Two-year core programme strategies and plans will be developed in line with the National Society's development plan. Each branch will be engaged in programme implementation, and monitoring and evaluation visits will be carried out by programme co-ordinators quarterly. Programme co-ordinators will produce monthly cash forecast and expenditure statements compared to original budgets. They will work and report against agreed monthly and/or annual work plans and objectives. A finance development plan and financial manual for the NS will be developed, and training will be provided to the finance staff of the NS. English language courses for the RCSU staff will continue with financial support from the British Red Cross. Training on project proposal writing and report writing will be organized.

**Objective 2** to evaluate the existing financial situation of RCSU and explore ways of diversifying income-generation to meet shortfalls in priority activity and core costs. RCSU income and expenditure A/C will be produced in the cash-flow format, to quantify shortfall consistent with priorities. A business plan will be developed, both at headquarters and branch level, to consider possible cost savings, using SWOT and cost/benefit techniques. Potential local donors will be identified. The ongoing income generating activities will continue and expand. Youth members will be encouraged to actively take part in fund raising activities. Income-generating projects started in 1999 and 2000 will continue and run as self-funded projects. These include: the RCSU hotel and training centre; the stamp project; the agriculture project in Fergana; and, a small bakery in Sirdariya. Two additional projects will be initiated in late 2000 from the profit of these projects. The printing house project, started in 2000 with the financial assistance of the South Korean Red Cross, will be completed and fully operational by mid-2001.

**Objective 3** to provide assistance in general management and governance and assist the NS in designing plans and developing systems in the area of volunteer recruitment and retention. A seminar with Presidium members will be held to discuss the Federation's *Good Governance Manual* and to enhance their understanding of its importance, to facilitate a short- and long- term change of RCSU to achieve Movement standards. Regular meetings at all levels of the RCSU will be organized, encouraging good management techniques. Various training for the volunteers and staff, both at the headquarters and branch levels will be organized, and include topics such as volunteer management and leadership.

**Objective 4** to assist branch development in an integrated manner by linking income generation components and the service and managerial activities at the branch level. The branch development programme will be elaborated, and will include income generating projects. A system of regular meetings and recording agreements reached will be developed, as well as training on project development, implementation and monitoring. The NS will be assisted in identifying core programme areas in line with *Strategy 2010*, and integration of activities will be promoted. The membership scheme of the Uzbekistan RC will be strengthened. Training of selected branch staff will be organized.

**Objective 5** to maintain high profile of the Federation and the RCSU. General information leaflets and annual reports will be produced and disseminated locally and to international donors. Red Cross/Red Crescent events, such as 8 May celebrations, will be organized. The Federation will carry out general representational activities. Interaction with local news media will be increased in close conjunction with the information programme.

**Objective 6** to assist the RCSU in developing policies and guidelines on health, DP, youth and other core activities. Draft policies on core RCSU activities will be elaborated and submitted for Presidium approval using the Federation's expertise and technical advice. Dissemination and training will be organized according to approved policies.

**Objective 7** to consolidate and expand the youth activities of the RCSU. The RCSU will be assisted in consolidating the work of its youth section. At least five new youth centres will be opened at the *oblast* level throughout the country. The youth set up in the educational institutions will be strengthened. The youth guidelines developed and approved in 1999/2000 will be printed and made available to all branches, youth centres and youth clubs. The RCSU will be assisted in organizing various youth programmes, such as first aid training, various competitions, camps, 'stop the violence' activities, participation in AIDS awareness programmes and anti-alcohol and anti-smoking campaigns, environmental programmes. Participation of youth in NS fundraising activities will be encouraged. Participation of RCSU youth leaders in international Red Cross and Red Crescent events will be supported. International contact will be supported, with the exchange of volunteers, souvenirs and greetings with youth volunteers of other NSs. Exchange visits and bi-annual meetings of the youth co-ordinators at the regional level will continue. Local contacts with other organizations will expand in order to organize joint activities and promote contacts and co-operation among the youth in the country.

## **Expected results**

### ***ID/RD of the Red Crescent and Red Cross Society of Kazakhstan***

The NS will be admitted as a member of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. Local vulnerability assessments will be carried out according to the agreed processes and formats, local development plans will be developed, and the national development plan approved by October 2001. Branches will acquire basic resources to function properly, and their local capacities will be improved. Three training courses will be conducted in 2001 with the participation of all branches. The NS will have a new human resources policy by December 2001, and defined needs in terms of structure, role and responsibilities. The NS will have approved standards for visibility, uniforms and identifications at the end of 2001. Three communication seminars will be held in 2001, and another three in 2002. The NS will define and approve policies for volunteers and youth respectively. Five new youth centres will be opened, and seven existing ones reinforced. A variety of events will be organized to celebrate the International Year of Volunteers campaign. The NS will formulate and approve a fundraising plan by October 2001, with participation of all branches, and form a fundraising unit by July 2001. By the end of 2001, the NS will obtain some support from the government and adopt a plan to reduce dependence on external aid.

### ***ID/RD of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan***

Local vulnerability assessments will be carried out in five *oblasts* in 2001, and priorities will be defined according to the *Strategy 2010*. A national development plan will be finalized in 2001. The RCSK will develop effective mechanisms for planning and preparing proposals, and for the timely presentation of clear, transparent and accurate narrative and financial reports. By the end of 2001, the NS will define its needs in terms of organizational systems and structure, and define its roles and responsibilities. The society's National Assembly will approve new Statutes in 2001. By the end of 2001, the RCSK will approve the volunteer policy, and strengthen participation of the three youth groups in regular NS activities. In 2001, a development plan will be finalized, finance services will be modernized and appropriate privileges and exemptions from the government obtained. A plan to reduce dependence on external sources will be adopted. Visibility and image of the NS will be improved at all levels, through training, increased communication with other NGOs and community members, and promotional materials produced in this period.

### ***ID/RD of the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan***

The NS will develop well-elaborated programmes and gained donor credibility and support. Project management at the branch level will be improved, as well as the public's awareness of the society's activities. Local funding will increase, thus reducing reliance on external funding. An efficient and transparent communication system will be established between the headquarters and *oblast* offices. Higher level of transparency for donors will be achieved. An increased number of volunteers and members will be involved in dissemination of the fundamental principles and values among the youth of Turkmenistan. The youth department of the NS will gain higher visibility and respect within the society.

### ***ID/RD of the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan***

Capacity and confidence of the NS to successfully implement programmes will increase through establishment of two-year core programme proposals, improved financial management, and adherence to work plans and objectives. The financial shortfall of the NS will be overcome through business plans based on clarity, analysis and financial transparency.

A well-functioning and highly visible youth section in the NS will be established.

## Indicators

### *ID/RD of the Red Crescent and Red Cross Society of Kazakhstan*

Revised and approved statutes adhered to. Developed and approved plans for all core NS programmes. Increased human and technical capacities at more branches. Increased level of media coverage and cooperation with other organizations. Successful results of participation in celebrations of the International Year of Volunteers. Timely narrative and financial reports following formats and standard requirements. Reduced dependence on external financial aid.

### *ID/RD of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan*

Vulnerability and capacity of local branches assessed. Programme policy documents approved. Volunteer policy established. Improved level of media coverage. Increased cooperation by NS with other organizations and community authorities. Reduction of dependence on external financial support.

### *ID/RD of the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan*

Increased standard of proposal writing and project reporting by NS staff. Public more aware of the National Society's activities. Increased number of volunteers, members, and local donations. Increasing amount of income generated from implemented projects.

### *ID/RD of the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan*

Developed and approved plans for all core NS programmes. Effective monitoring and evaluation of programmes. Policies developed and applied for programmes. Improved programme management by the NS. Increased media coverage of NS activities. Increased participation of youth members and number of volunteers and funds raised locally.

## Monitoring and Evaluation arrangements

Monitoring of the individual programmes will be carried out primarily by the respective National Societies and the Federation's country based delegate, through regular meetings and visits to the branches. Budgets and working advances will be controlled, and regular narrative and financial reports on activities will be submitted. Evaluation of this programme will be carried out by the Federation and partner National Societies, as appropriate. In Turkmenistan, evaluation missions from the British Red Cross will take place at least once a year. In Uzbekistan, an official detailed evaluation is planned at the end of the two-year period by the Federation using an external consultant.

## Critical assumptions

### *ID/RD of the Red Crescent and Red Cross Society of Kazakhstan*

- Preliminary admission of the NS to the Movement is accepted.
- Sufficient external support is available to complete successfully this project.
- Governmental cooperation and support to the NS.
- The national fundraising plan is accepted by all branches.
- The political, social and economic conditions in the country remain stable.

### *ID/RD of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan*

- The Netherlands Red Cross continues to support programmes in two *oblasts* and the headquarters of the RCSK.
- Sufficient external support is available to successfully complete the programme.
- Government co-operation and support to the RCSK.
- The national fundraising plan is accepted by all branches.
- The political, social and economic conditions in Kyrgyzstan remain stable.

### *ID/RD of the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan*

- Sufficient material and financial resources are made available for the successful completion of the project.
- The political situation in Turkmenistan remains stable.

***ID/RD of the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan***

- The level of government influence is not prohibitive to the changes in governance, stakeholders' involvement and income generating activities.
- The RCSU will continue to match the programmes with their development needs, and actively facilitate work according to job descriptions, the work plan and Memorandum of Understanding.
- There will be no major disaster in the country necessitating a major shift in deployment of RCSU or Federation delegate resources.
- The political and security situation within the country will not deteriorate.

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## 6. Regional Cooperation

### Background and progress to date

The International Federation's regional delegation (RD) for Central Asia has been providing assistance to the National Red Crescent/Red Cross Societies in the region since 1992. The National Societies (NSs) of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan are supported through the following programmes: regional disaster response; disaster preparedness; health and care; humanitarian values; institutional and resource development; and, coordination and management. Support to the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan is provided through the country delegation in Tajikistan, with the RD maintaining a support, back-up and coordination role.

The geographical area of Central Asia is large and diverse both in terms of climate and culture. The five National Societies are at differing stages of development - from country to country and also from programme to programme.

The RD promotes a regional approach to problems and programme planning and encourages close cooperation between the five NSs, encouraging and facilitating regional meetings to exchange views and to adopt mutually beneficial strategies.

In a step aimed at implementing *Strategy 2010* within the region, a comprehensive Regional Assistance Strategy was formulated in 1999 which sets out the priorities and directions of assistance to these NSs for 2000 and 2001. This document will be revised extensively in 2001 with input from the Central Asian NSs and other involved partners.

During 2000 the RD focused on accountability and reporting issues with the NSs and held the first of a planned series of region-wide training sessions for senior NS programme managers.

A programme to facilitate regional recruitment of Federation delegates was to have been initiated during 2000, and although some progress was made, it was hampered by lack of funding for a planned regional Basic Training Course (BTC), and the limited language skills of many NS staff in any of the Federation's official languages. This effort will be refocused during 2001 and 2002 to direct candidates to BTCs operated by sister NSs.

Skill levels are high in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries and there is a great opportunity for NS staff to learn from each other in a common language. It is planned to take advantage of this situation by facilitating staff exchanges between NS staff in Central Asian countries with their counterparts in other CIS regions. This will also assist in building mutual understanding between NSs and will encourage working together as a Federation as envisaged in the Federation's *Strategy 2010*.

A planned leadership training course for senior NS managers was also postponed during 2000 due to insufficient time available at the end of the year in the light of the late re-scheduling of statutory meetings. This training will now take place in 2001.

Donor support for the Central Asia region has been declining in the last two years and to encourage continued and closer relationships, a partnership meeting was held in Almaty at the end of 2000 to present to donors a clear, cohesive picture of the activities and needs of the NSs and the RD. This concept will be repeated during 2001.

**Goal** To ensure a coordinated approach between Central Asia NSs in working together to strengthen their capacities to enable effective implementation of responsive and focused humanitarian programmes that improve the lives of the vulnerable.

### Objectives and Activities planned

**Objective 1** to enable close cooperation between senior management of Central Asian NSs, the Federation, donor NSs, and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in the areas of strategic planning, support for

regional humanitarian initiatives, and the exchange of information and views. Two meetings will be conducted during 2001 and a further two in 2002, between all Central Asia NSs chairpersons, Federation delegates, ICRC, bilateral NSs, and other interested donor NSs, with the purpose of developing and maintaining a coordinated approach to planning of humanitarian activities in the region in accordance with the Federation's *Strategy 2010*.

**Objective 2** to enhance the skills and understanding of senior programme managers at NSs, of the need for, and methodologies of, Federation accountability and reporting requirements. One training workshop on accountability and reporting issues will be conducted during 2001 and a second one in 2002. These workshops will be followed up by day-to-day guidance from in-country Federation programme coordinators.

**Objective 3** to enhance the management and leadership skills of National Societies' senior management. Conduct, in conjunction with facilitators from the Secretariat and from ICRC, one training workshop on leadership for senior managers of the NSs during 2001. This workshop is a joint initiative with the ICRC, which will share the cost for the workshop.

**Objective 4** promote recruitment of delegates from Central Asian National Societies and Federation delegation staff. Activities will include:

- interviewing and selecting prospective candidates for attendance at Basic Training Courses (BTC) for delegates, from amongst NS staff and Federation local staff during 2001;
- facilitating the attendance of selected persons at BTCs to be arranged by donor National Societies during 2001 and 2002.

**Objective 5** to enhance the skills and experience of NS staff, and their understanding of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement through exchanges with staff from other NSs outside the region. Organize staff exchanges for four staff of Central Asia NSs with four staff of NSs outside the region but within the CIS, for one month at a time. This will be evaluated at the end of 2001 and, if successful, will be repeated in 2002.

**Objective 6** to improve donor support for regional and NS programmes and to coordinate the efforts of donor NSs in their assistance to the region. Activities will include conducting one Partnership meeting of prospective donors and other interested parties during 2001 and a further meeting in 2002.

### Expected results

- All components of the Movement active in Central Asia will improve their understanding of each others perspectives and will formulate common approaches and goals to their humanitarian objectives during 2001; this will be sustained during 2002.
- Senior programme managers at the NSs will gain a clear understanding of the Federation's reporting and accountability requirements and will regularly apply these requirements in their daily work by mid-2001.
- Senior Management at the NSs will have improved leadership qualities by mid-2001 and will build close, effective teams within their organizations during 2002.
- At least five persons selected to attend BTCs will be identified during the first part of 2001; during the second part of 2001 and into 2002 they will all attend BTCs, and during 2002 at least two of them will be appointed as delegates.
- Staff exchanges will take place between four Central Asia NS staff and four NS staff from outside the region, by the end of 2001. This will be repeated during 2002.
- The number of donors and the amount of available funding for the region will increase by the end of 2001 and will be maintained during 2002.

### Indicators

Plans of action developed by the Central Asian National Societies and the regional delegation of the Federation take into account contributions of all components of the Movement working in the region. Increased cooperation between NSs in the region. Exchange of experiences and knowledge with staff from societies outside the region. Pool of potential delegates from the Central Asian region identified and trained.

### Monitoring and Evaluation arrangements

This programme will be implemented by the RD in close cooperation with the NSs. Monitoring of the activities will be carried out by the head of regional delegation (HoRD) with overview by the Secretariat's Europe Department. The indicators will be assessed on an ongoing basis by the HoRD. In-country monitoring of progress

by the NSs will be carried out by the respective Federation programme coordinators. Donor NSs will be invited to participate in monitoring and evaluation activities according to their own priorities.

### **Critical assumptions**

- NSs continue to support the training and cooperation initiatives of the RD.
- The ICRC and the donor NSs continue their presently high level of cooperation.
- Sufficient candidates with adequate language skills can be found for regional delegate recruitment, from amongst NS and Federation local staff.
- Reciprocal funding can be identified in Federation delegations outside of the region to facilitate staff exchanges from their side.
- Donors are willing and able to support this programme and the regional programmes as a whole.

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## 7. Coordination and Management

### Background and Progress to Date

The International Federation's regional delegation for Central Asia (RDCA) has been providing support to five National Societies (NSs) in Central Asia - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Tajikistan - since the republics became independent in 1991. Since then, severe economic dislocation has ravaged the economies of these five countries. Even as fragile signs appear of increases in the gross domestic product, the situation of the most vulnerable continues to deteriorate and unemployment, both declared and hidden, is mushrooming.

Throughout all of the Central Asian countries, pensioners, invalids and those from multi-children families often do not have the resources to buy enough food or winter clothes. These people often lack an extended family to rely on, and the incidence of tuberculosis, vitamin deficiencies and general malnutrition is growing among the population. It is a common sight on the streets of all cities to see increasing numbers of people begging or scavenging through rubbish bins to find enough food to eat.

After the Tajikistan sub-delegation became a country delegation in 1998, the RDCA mainly focused its support to the National Societies (NS) of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. However, the RDCA continues providing its support to the Tajikistan Country Delegation (TCD) in logistics and administration matters, and through the regional programme coordinator.

After the restructuring of the RDCA in early 1999, which resulted in its decentralization, offices in Almaty (in Kazakhstan), Bishkek (in Kyrgyzstan), Tashkent (in Uzbekistan), and Ashkhabad (in Turkmenistan) were staffed with nine delegates in total, as follows:

Almaty (five delegates)	:	head of regional delegation (HoRD)
	:	programme coordinator for Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan
	:	regional disaster preparedness delegate
	:	regional finance delegate
Bishkek (two delegates)	:	regional programme coordinator
	:	regional health delegate
	:	regional population movement delegate
Tashkent (one delegate)	:	programme coordinator for Uzbekistan
Ashgabad (one delegate)	:	programme coordinator for Turkmenistan

A further three delegates work on the Aral Sea project delegation supported by the American Red Cross. The head of project is based in Almaty and the delegates for Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan are based in Tashkent/Urgench and Ashgabad/Dashoguz, respectively.

**Goal** To provide comprehensive support for the development of the National Societies' and Federation's programmes throughout Central Asia, through the ongoing operation of the regional delegation in Almaty.

### Objectives and Activities planned

**Objective 1** to provide a coordination function among Federation delegates and of support going to the NSs in the region (including Tajikistan) and partner National Societies, while liaising with the ICRC. In harmony with the Europe Department, the HoRD will direct strategy for the Federation activities and implement policies of the organization in the region, especially for coordination among the programme coordinators, RD in Central Asia and Tajikistan CD. The HoRD and programme coordinators will maintain close contact with the senior management of NSs in the region to improve understanding of day-to day problems and needs as well as to provide feedback on a

regular basis. The regional delegation will encourage and facilitate communication among NSs in the region to allow for sharing of knowledge, experiences and finding solutions to common problems. Continued close liaison with the Regional Delegation of the ICRC will be maintained.

**Objective 2** to provide a managerial, coordinating and advisory role to all delegates in the region, including delegates working on the Aral Sea project. The HoRD will provide managerial oversight for Federation delegates in the region. The RDCA will act as a liaison between the Secretariat and NSs in the region. It will organize periodical meetings of all delegates in the region, including the partner NS bilateral delegates. The HoRD will pay frequent visits to offices in Bishkek, Tashkent and Ashkabad to maintain equality and consistency of the management throughout the region.

**Objective 3** to provide financial and administrative support to the NS programmes in the region (including the Aral Sea project). The finance department within the RDCA, and the regional finance delegate, will have overall responsibility for all financial transactions in the region to make sure that every expense incurred in the region conforms with Federation standards and procedures and is reported to donors in a timely manner.

**Objective 4** to work with the local community and international media in order to promote the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and its humanitarian values and to explore local funding opportunities. The RDCA will maintain close communication with international agencies and commercial organizations operating in the region. Maintaining offices in all countries in Central Asia, the RDCA relationship with these organizations will aim to cover the entire region, but cooperation will be at individual country levels. The RDCA will be a focal point of information towards international media stations based in the region to inform on activities of the NSs and the Federation in the region and to promote advocacy.

**Objective 5** to provide logistics services to the NS programmes supported by the delegates in the region (including the Aral Sea project and the Tajikistan country delegation). The RDCA will support and encourage procurement following Federation standards and procedures in close collaboration with the Logistics Services in Geneva. The RDCA logistics department will provide all necessary support related to vehicles, from import and registration to maintenance.

**Objective 6** to provide a centralized welcome/administrative facilitation service for delegates, partner NS and Secretariat staff visiting the region, including assistance with obtaining diplomatic status, visa applications, customs clearance and briefings. The RDCA will maintain an administrative function which will arrange and retain the Federation's diplomatic status in all countries in the region. The administrative department at the RDCA in Almaty, coordinating with other internal offices, will ensure that all delegates in the region, as well as partner NSs, Secretariat Geneva and other visitors, will travel and be accommodated to acceptable standards and assisted in fulfilling their tasks in an effective way.

**Objective 7** to build and maintain institutional knowledge of the situation in Central Asia and NSs in the region for the Secretariat and partner NSs. The RDCA will ensure that it is constantly updated with news and information available locally to adequately inform the Secretariat and partner Societies of local events. RDCA will maintain close contacts with embassies, government, other NGOs and other sources, to obtain information to make any necessary analysis.

### **Expected results**

- Programmes implemented and accomplished in the region will be focused and consistent with the strategy and policy for the region. All NSs in the region will receive adequate support from the Federation based on their needs.
- Delegates in the region will be equally informed and updated in all aspects of Federation activities. Coordinated support to NSs in the region provided by delegates will be uniform and maintained to high standards.
- Improved financial management of NSs in terms of accuracy and transparency.
- The NSs and the Federation will obtain more support and visibility. Increased profile of NSs in the region will encourage more volunteers and local donors to support the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement; as a result, NSs in the region will become more self sustainable. The NSs will develop their own contacts with local media and promote humanitarian values more effectively.

- Procurement for all the programmes in the region will comply with Federation rules and standards and adhere to the programme budget. Good vehicle fleet management will enable effective programme implementation.
- The legal status of the Federation will be respected and visas obtained effectively. Thanks to effective briefing, visitors and delegates will be knowledgeable of the region.
- Federation and donor National Societies will be fully informed of situations and events in the region, based on which they will be able to make informed decisions on ongoing and upcoming activities in the region.

### **Indicators**

National Societies in the Central Asia region successfully implementing Federation and donor NS-supported programmes within agreed time frames and according to accepted budgets and standards. Closer cooperation among NSs in the region. Increased public awareness and media coverage of National Societies' activities. Higher percentage of contributions received from local donors.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation arrangements**

Monitoring will be conducted by the Federation's delegates in the region. The Head of the RD will supervise the process, while the Secretariat's Europe department will oversee the role of the RD for Central Asia. The ID/RD review conducted in 2000 will be used as a tool for evaluation and its findings will be implemented during 2001.

### **Critical assumptions**

- Sufficient funding to maintain the RDCA at the current level needs to be available for the successful completion of its role and responsibilities.
- Stability within the Central Asian region.
- If ongoing internal/regional conflicts expand to other parts of the region, the RDCA will need to review its role.
- Availability of experienced delegates for placement in the region

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<b>DELEGATION: ALMATY RD</b>								
<b>PROGRAMME</b>	<b>Disaster response</b>	<b>DP</b>	<b>Health &amp; services</b>	<b>Human values</b>	<b>IDRD</b>	<b>Coord. &amp; mgt</b>	<b>Regional coop.</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Shelter & construction	899	0	0	0	0	0	0	899
Clothing & textiles	196,445	27,880	0	0	3,280	0	0	227,605
Food & seeds	1,150,653	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,150,653
Water	0	1,476	0	0	0	0	0	1,476
Medical & first aid	3,233	984	196,800	0	0	0	0	201,017
Teaching materials	65,154	0	3,279	656	7,378	0	0	76,467
Utensils & tools	4,133	14,266	0	0	0	0	0	18,399
Other relief supplies	4,018	6,232	98,400	0	0	0	0	108,650
<b>Sub total supplies</b>	<b>1,424,535</b>	<b>50,838</b>	<b>298,479</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>10,658</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,785,165</b>
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers & telecom	12,296	15,247	4,263	18,149	20,494	7,870	0	78,319
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other capital expenses	6,230	4,099	0	4,919	110,797	4,673	0	130,717
<b>Sub total capital</b>	<b>18,526</b>	<b>19,346</b>	<b>4,263</b>	<b>23,068</b>	<b>131,291</b>	<b>12,542</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>209,036</b>
Programme management	173,407	53,760	73,446	12,786	82,813	56,841	5,303	458,357
Technical services	51,909	16,093	21,986	3,827	24,790	17,015	1,588	137,208
Professional services	57,566	17,847	24,382	4,245	27,492	18,870	1,761	152,162
<b>Sub total programme support</b>	<b>282,882</b>	<b>87,700</b>	<b>119,814</b>	<b>20,858</b>	<b>135,095</b>	<b>92,726</b>	<b>8,651</b>	<b>747,727</b>
<b>Transport &amp; storage</b>	<b>164,782</b>	<b>54,766</b>	<b>21,878</b>	<b>1,640</b>	<b>69,731</b>	<b>74,171</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>386,967</b>
Personnel (delegates & expatriates)	263,409	129,205	124,390	0	333,630	221,540	0	1,072,175
Personnel (local staff)	209,116	104,213	171,935	63,436	187,364	237,751	10,362	984,176
<b>Sub total personnel</b>	<b>472,525</b>	<b>233,418</b>	<b>296,325</b>	<b>63,436</b>	<b>520,994</b>	<b>459,292</b>	<b>10,362</b>	<b>2,056,351</b>
Travel & related expenses	39,234	14,756	11,313	6,148	33,577	46,119	17,337	168,483
Information expenses	16,151	64,106	255,483	46,890	103,787	2,558	0	488,975
Expert fees	10,919	24,593	0	0	0	984	0	36,495
Admin. - general expenses	100,309	30,544	16,084	17,740	72,942	154,572	984	393,175
Training workshops / seminars	41,792	217,211	65,580	9,181	150,063	0	41,315	525,143
<b>Sub total travel, training, general exp.</b>	<b>208,405</b>	<b>351,209</b>	<b>348,459</b>	<b>79,959</b>	<b>360,370</b>	<b>204,233</b>	<b>59,636</b>	<b>1,612,271</b>
<b>Total budget</b>	<b>2,571,654</b>	<b>797,277</b>	<b>1,089,217</b>	<b>189,615</b>	<b>1,228,140</b>	<b>842,964</b>	<b>78,649</b>	<b>6,797,517</b>