

PROGRAMME UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

11 July 2005

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

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In Brief

Appeal No. 05AA064;

Programme Update no. 1,

Period covered: January to June, 2005;

Appeal target: CHF 989,285 (USD 758,320 or EUR 636,985);

Appeal coverage: 77,8 % *(Please click here to go directly to the Contributions List available on the website)*

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:

Bosnia and Herzegovina Annual Appeal 2005. For details, please see the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual05/05AA064.pdf

Bosnia and Herzegovina Floods Emergency Appeal. For details, please see the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/1104.pdf

Bosnia and Herzegovina Floods Emergency Appeal – Final Report. For details, please see the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/1104final.pdf

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This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning. All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Operational developments

The general humanitarian situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) is developing slowly. Many people would claim it is too slow, but fortunately it is developing. In major cities and towns, the situation has become comparatively good but in many places in the country side the situation is still very bad. The Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina (RCSBiH) and the two entity Red Crosses of Republica Serpska and Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina are carrying out very good support services to people in need. It seems that the Red Cross will continue to carry out these activities for many years to come since the needs will remain.

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The winter of 2004-2005 became a very rough one with lots of snow. In many places, the depth of the snow was over three meters and many villages were cut off from the outside world. The RCSBiH raised a special appeal for the affected people and managed to do a very good job in support of the most vulnerable even during this tough period.

Health and care

Goal

The overall health and social situation of the population in Bosnia and Herzegovina is improved.

Objective

Through targeted Red Cross health and welfare services, vulnerability is reduced and awareness of population about various health issues are increased.

Expected Results

- Sufficient resources are raised locally to deliver home-based services to all vulnerable elderly people.
- The RCSBiH is the preferred supplier of training services for first aid and the number of voluntary no remunerated blood donors is increased through safe blood promotion.
- Regular Red Cross campaigns are organised in order to reduce AIDS-related stigma, tuberculosis (TB) incidence and substance abuse

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Health and Care programme consists of two parts:

1. Health Development including first aid, blood donor recruitment, HIV/AIDS and TB activities
2. Home Care Programme which is a social care programme mainly targeted at elderly and other vulnerable groups living in smaller towns, villages and in the country side

In the *Health Development* programme, the RCSBiH has only carried out first aid properly. The RCSBiH is now more and more developing the possibilities to use first aid as a vehicle for raising funds for the other programme activities. During spring 2005, the RCSBiH has done some test courses for the United Nations (UN) organisations working in BiH with good result and there are hopes that this good development will continue. The RCSBiH receives substantial support for the first aid programme from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

The RCSBiH is only promoting blood donor recruitment as an auxiliary to the health authorities in the country. The activities are on a low level, due to lack of funds.

The RCSBiH has the intention to become more active in the HIV/AIDS and TB programmes but, due to lack of funds, the activities have to be on a low level. Nevertheless, the society is closely following the work within authorities and other non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and is prepared to take a more active role. One example of this is the participation in a HIV/AIDS project prepared for the Global Fund.

In the *Home Care Programme*, the RCSBiH is very much running a programme that is quite sustainable and functioning well. Currently, the RCSBiH is reaching 10,000 beneficiaries with their activities. Every branch in the country carry out some Home Care activities, but in the branches (presently 6) where they have Mobile Technical Teams the activities are very much professional. The majority of the beneficiaries are elderly people in desperate need of support in order to carry out their daily life.

The RCSBiH will increase the Home Care programme this summer with the support of the Italian Red Cross and the plan is that the RCSBiH will have 10 functional Mobile Technical Teams by the end of 2005.

Impact

Through the first aid activities and partly through the blood donor recruitment programme, the *Health Development* programme has mainly had some positive impact on the BiH society in general. When it comes to the HIV/AIDS and TB programmes, the RCSBiH activities still have very little impact but if and when the Global Fund project takes off the possibilities, the RCSBiH to have an impact on the BiH society will increase considerably.

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The *Home Care Programme* is one of these programmes going on silently. It is therefore easy to assume that it has no or little value. Nevertheless, this is a programme that has a great impact and makes difference on the daily lives of many people living in BiH.

Constraints

The general constraints are lack of funding. In the Home Care Programme, the funding situation is fairly good but in the Health Development programme the funding situation is not very bright. Consequently, the RCSBiH has very little possibilities to really be active in very important fields like HIV/AIDS and TB.

Disaster Management

Goal

National Society capacity to respond quickly and efficiently to natural and man-made disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina is upgraded.

Objective

Disaster Preparedness/Disaster Response (DP/DR) network in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) is established and population movement issues are better addressed by the RCSBiH.

Expected Results

Disaster Management

- By the end of 2005, a place and role of the RCSBiH within the state planning, disaster preparedness and response activities in case of emergency is clearly defined
- By the end of 2005, 20 branch secretaries and 20 branch emergency response teams are trained and equipped
- A disaster communication network within and outside of the RCSBiH is in place, by the end of 2005
- By the end of 2005, the population is more aware of potential risks and how to react in case of disaster via leaflets, brochures and posters

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

The RCSBiH has not been able to start most of the activities planned for 2005, due to late funding from donors. Having said this, it is also important to underline that the RCSBiH has been very much involved in response activities following the heavy snow-falls this winter.

The RCSBiH today has an agreement with the BiH Civil Protection authorities with regard to the state disaster preparedness and response activities in case of an emergency in the country. The cooperation with the authorities is very good, with participation in each others trainings etc.

Impact

Besides the fact that the RCSBiH today has managed to become a major player in the BiH emergency response set up, the impact of the Disaster Management programme has been limited to the very good performance during the snow campaign.

Constraints

The funding situation of the Disaster Management programme is comparatively good. The major constraint is the late funding which normally affects the start of trainings etc. Most of the activities have to take place in the second half of the year.

Population Movement

- Four mobile teams will have made 4,000 visits providing minor repairs and distributing relief items to the most vulnerable returnees
- There is a greater understanding of the Red Cross role in asylum related activities in the community

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Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

The Population Movement programme is supporting returnees and also failed asylum seekers when they come to BiH from various western countries in Europe. One component of the programme is an information programme to returnees before they actually come to BiH, providing information about the situation in the village or town where they are actually going. This programme has been evaluated and proven to function very well. The RCSBiH has received funding for this programme from Swedish Red Cross and based on the good results it has been agreed that the programme will continue. Besides this, the Population Movement programme function very much the same as the Home Care Programme using the same Mobile Technical Teams etc. Therefore, it can be foreseen that these two programmes will be merged in the long run.

Impact

The impact is the same as in the disaster management programme. For details, please see above.

Constraints

Funding for this programme is good and there are no major constraints.

Organisational Development

Goal

Quality of services provided to the vulnerable population is increased through reinforced organisational capacity of the RCSBiH

Objective

The RCSBiH headquarters is reinforced through improved legal base, defined strategic priorities, increased local funding and membership

Expected Results

- A uniform Red Cross model of functioning in accordance with the NS Strategy 2005-2010 is defined
- The fundraising/marketing strategy and implementation guidelines are developed
- The number of well trained staff and volunteers is increased and NS headquarters is reconstructed
- Participation of the Red Cross Youth in the RCSBiH programmes is increased, as well as its presence in the NS governance and management

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

The RCSBiH today is legally recognised by law in BiH. The same goes for the Republica Serpska RC. In the case of Federation of BiH, the RC law is still waiting for approval in the Federation BiH parliament.

The RCSBiH General Assembly has approved new statutes for the society. The major change is that the rotating chairmanship of the RCSBiH Presidency will be abolished and the society will have one elected President and two vice Presidents. Another change is that the society will have a Secretary General.

It is expected that these changes will be implemented as soon as the Statutory Commission of the Federation and the ICRC has scrutinised the new statutes.

The general feeling is that everybody has been waiting for the change of the statutes and the new Red Cross law. Hopefully, the implementation now can take place and the RCSBiH can be reconstructed in a way that will improve the performance of the society.

Impact

The real impact of the new RCSBiH statutes will have to wait till the implementation of the statutes finally can take place by the end of 2005 or early 2006.

Constraints

As in all other programmes, funding was the main constrain. The funding situation for the RCSBiH headquarters is not good. Today, RCSBiH is totally relying on support from the Federation and the ICRC and this funding is

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supposed to decrease the coming years which makes the picture even darker. In the new RC, law there are some provisions for support from the Government to the RCSBiH. The unfortunate thing is that the funding situation for the Government is as bad as for the RCSBiH, therefore, the possibility to receive this funding is very low at least in the short run.

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