

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

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Appeal No. MAA54001
30 June 2006

**(This report is an integral part of the East Asia Appeal
2006-2007 Programme Update no. 1)**

The Federation's vision is to strive, through voluntary action, for a world of empowered communities, better able to address human suffering and crises with hope, respect for dignity and a concern for equity. Its 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 183 countries.

In Brief

Period covered: 1 January to 30 April 2006;

East Asia Appeal (regional and DPRK) target for 2006-2007: CHF 29 million (USD 23.4 million or EUR 18.6 million) – revised from CHF 30.6 million (USD 23.9 million or EUR 19.8 million) mainly due to reprioritization of programming related to transition from relief to development.

Appeal coverage: 20%;

Outstanding needs: CHF 23.2 million (USD 18.7 million or EUR 14.8 million).

(Click [here](#) for the East Asia Appeal interim financial report with the revised budget and latest income and expenditure)

Related Appeals or Document: [East Asia Appeal \(MAA54001\) Programme Update no. 1](#)

Programme summary:

In January, following four months of uncertainty about the future of the Federation delegation and its programme in the DPRK, the DPRK Red Cross received government's assurance for continuation of the Federation delegation. However, the presence of permanent delegates had to be reduced and technical support arranged on a temporary, 'short-term' basis. As a consequence, the delegation was strengthened with local programme officers and arrangements were made for increased support from the East Asia regional delegation in Beijing.

Immediate government measures to halt humanitarian aid and focus on development required a revision of the programmes with main focus on rehabilitation and development. The transition from relief to development however needs greater pace than earlier foreseen. Discussions have been held with all concerned stakeholders (including line-ministries) to adjust the operational plan for 2006. The budget for 2006 has thus been modified from CHF14.4 million to CHF 12.9 million.

The changes did not interfere with regular activities. However, the [Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission](#) (ECHO) funded WatSan activities were suspended throughout most of this reporting period, due to uncertainties around the provision of technical support and a need to replace bad quality pipes. Following a meeting between WatSan partner national society stakeholders in Stockholm early in February, the proposal for a continued WatSan programme in the DPRK was modified.

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Operational developments

All stakeholders were heavily affected by government measures introduced to reinforce its demand for a halt of all humanitarian assistance. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) was required to close its offices in December 2005 and all NGOs were instructed to wind up their activities by the end of that month. Following expulsion of the NGOs, ongoing ECHO funded activities were frozen. A new 'European Union Programme Support' structure was developed to facilitate completion of suspended ECHO funded programmes and related activities were resumed in April. The World Food Programme (WFP) country programme had been halted in November 2005, pending agreement on terms for its continuation. Discussions relating to future operational realities continued until the end of April.

An intensive period of discussions at the beginning of 2006 resulted in greater government understanding of the Federation's vision and role in the DPRK. In the third week of January, the National Society was informed that the Federation delegation in Pyongyang could continue its activities, though with a reduced complement of resident expatriates. This decision brought to an end a four month period of uncertainty with regard to the Federation's prospects for continued presence in the DPRK - a reality confirmed by the issue of diplomatic registration plates to Federation and ICRC vehicles in April.

Actual and potential consequences of the government decision to decline 'humanitarian aid' are difficult to assess. The socio-economic situation of the DPRK has improved during recent years but the country's continuing isolation slows down the development process. Energy shortage is a major factor thwarting economic progress. The government faces a number of pressing issues, among which the most significant are food security, rehabilitation of health and social services and environmental management to address problems related to soil erosion, deforestation and saline water resources. UN and Aid agencies are requested to focus on rehabilitation and development. However, substantial development aid from international institutions is unlikely to be forthcoming while dispute on the nuclear issue remains unresolved. Since November, continuing mistrust between the DPRK and U.S Governments has prevented the resumption of six-party talks on this issue.

The DPRK operational plan and budget 2006-2007, drafted in cooperation with the DPRK Red Cross and informed by the strategic review undertaken in May 2005, was integrated with the regional appeal at the request of the DPRK government. It did not anticipate the consequences of government freezing of humanitarian aid in September 2005. Uncertainties relating to the Federation delegation's future impeded review of the operational plan until January.

With regard to implemented programmes, health and care is the most directly affected by government decree, since the supply of consumable drugs is considered humanitarian aid. The supply of basic kits to clinics (already in the 'pipeline' in advance of the government decision) can continue in 2006 but not beyond. Given this, future Federation/National Society activities in the health sector will focus on rehabilitation of health care services.

The required reduction of delegates has had an impact on the size of the WatSan programme. In order to ensure quality, the programme has been reduced in size and the role of external technical support redefined. The disaster management (DM) and organizational development (OD) programmes are generally unaffected by the new dispensation. The budget of the DM programme has been increased to reflect significant expansion of its tree planting component but, overall, the 2006-2007 budget for the DPRK programme has been reduced by CHF1.6 million.

The DPRK Red Cross is responsible for implementation of Federation funded programmes and expatriate restrictions introduced by the government affected the National Society as much as the delegation. Re-structuring of the Federation delegation required the National Society to modify its organizational structure - to accommodate the necessary departure of some key mid-level cadres to join the delegation team.

Phasing out of the medical supplies programme and other activities was already a component of Federation and DPRK Red Cross strategy before the introduction of Government restrictions. The new dispensation will not require a contradictory approach but concern persists with regard to the limited period available for transition - particularly in the field of medical supplies. The principle challenge facing both the Federation and the National Society consists in a need to identify effective ways and means to assess the consequences of these and other developments and track emerging vulnerabilities within the country.

Table: Revised budget figures specific to regional and DPRK programmes under the East Asia Appeal 2006-2007

Programmes	Regional Programmes		DPRK Programmes		Original Appeal Budget CHF	Revised Appeal Budget CHF	Variances
	Original Budget CHF	Revised Budget CHF	Original Budget CHF	Revised Budget CHF			
Health and Care	721,114	701,736	26,634,814	24,181,971	27,355,928	24,883,707	-9%
Disaster Management	517,006	517,006	1,581,896	2,041,621	2,098,902	2,558,627	22%
Humanitarian Values	406,630	436,150	439,290	498,485	845,920	934,635	10%
Coordination and Implementation ¹					282,728	748,820	165%
Total					30,583,478	29,125,789	-5%

¹ Revision to Coordination and Implementation is made taking into consideration current pledges received in support of delegate cost.

Health and Care

Overview

The Federation's operational area in the DPRK includes 64 cities/counties in five provinces, with a total population of 8.76 million. During this reporting period, the support to health services delivery component of the programme focused on medical supplies procurement and distribution, health awareness promotion and community-based first aid (CBFA). All planned activities were successfully implemented. With multilateral support from ECHO and the National Societies of Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Japan and Finland, all received medical items (such as basic medicines, intensive care, safe delivery and household doctor kits) were completely delivered to beneficiary communities. Occasionally encountered constraints related largely to tight delivery schedules and an associated lack of timely access to adequate transport facilities.

The DPRK Red Cross and the Federation co-operated effectively with the Ministry of Public Health, WHO and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to co-ordinate support programming and revise training materials that were later employed to up-date the knowledge and awareness base of community household doctors, nurses, midwives and Red Cross volunteers.

The Federation DPRK WatSan programme, currently funded by the Netherlands Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross, has American Red Cross, Danish Red Cross and Norwegian Red Cross and potentially Australian Red Cross as new confirmed partners in 2006. As a result of government restrictions relating to the provision of humanitarian aid, ECHO funded activities within the WatSan component of the programme initiated in 2005 were suspended from the end of 2005 until mid-April this year. This period coincided with (and aggravated) implementational delays occasioned by identification of significant defects in pipes supplied to engaged communities in all WatSan locations. Pipes supplied to Swedish Red Cross funded projects in four communities of South Hamgyong Province were replaced during this reporting period and, in these locations only, all programmed installation work was completed by the end of April. Extensive discussions with the supplier of pipes to ECHO funded projects resulted in written undertakings to replace defective pipes but ongoing dispute between supplier and manufacturer has prevented its realization, to date.

A meeting of PNS stakeholders held in Stockholm in February to discuss issues related to the status and prospects of future support for the WatSan programme also examined significant issues related to quality assurance and control, strategic priorities, sustainability evaluation and the development of NS technical capacity. Its recommendations informed a Federation supported external consultancy planned to be undertaken in the DPRK in May, to review current WatSan modalities, identify and suggest future directions and priorities and take forward work to improve training and development of NS technicians.

The impact of delegation restructuring required by imposed government restrictions, together with capacity limitations within the NS and a need to start making a reality of Federation strategies to promote increased DPRK

Red Cross responsibility for programme management resulted in a scaling down of planned WatSan and drug distribution components of the health and care programme and an associated revision of its budget for 2006. Increased emphasis on health promotion and CBFA and blood donation is reflected by additional provision for related activities but, overall, the health and care budget has been reduced by CHF2.45 million – largely as a result of enforced cancellation of plans to supply supplementary medical kits, a requirement to withdraw technical delegates and an identified need to scale down WatSan interventions.

Overall Goal: The DPRK Red Cross mandate as a reliable humanitarian organization in the field of community-based health care and social services is fully implemented.

Programme Objective 1: Health of vulnerable communities in 64 / cities in North Phyongan, South Phyongan, North Hwangae, Chagang and South Hamgyong provinces in the DPRK is improved.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Health institutions (provincial, county, city, industrial, and ri hospitals, ri clinics and polyclinics) in the areas accessible to the Federation are provided with essential supplies (basic drugs, medical material and coal) to deliver basic medical services to the population.

The DPRK Red Cross generally succeeded in its endeavours to ensure timely distribution of Federation procured medical supplies to targeted health institutions in 64 cities/counties of five provinces (North and South Phyongan, Chagang, North Hwanghae and South Hamgyong provinces). Drugs and equipment provided, variously, by the National Societies of Germany, Finland, Norway and Denmark (ECHO) and distributed to communities in these provinces during this quarter included 10,009 basic, 2,990 safe delivery, 2,774 intensive care, 562 household doctor and 500 First Aid kits – priority within distribution schedules being accorded to intensive care and delivery kits.² An additional 8,100 basic kits and 90 orthopaedic kits provided by the Netherlands Red Cross were delivered to the DPRK in April and are scheduled for distribution from National Society regional stores to beneficiary communities during May.

During this reporting period, DPRK Red Cross field monitors visited 446 health institutions to check proper use of donated drugs and medical equipment and obtain information on disease prevalence and drug consumption. Federation health delegates and NS staff also undertook three joint inspection visits to pharmacies, drug stores and consulting rooms and examined registers relating to the supplied drugs. Directors and health staff were further interviewed on the impact of drug distribution.

The DPRK is subject to very severe winters, during which temperatures frequently fall to -25⁰ C. In a general context of endemic fuel shortage, such conditions restrict the effective functioning of key hospital functions such as operating theatres, delivery rooms, paediatric care units, emergency and inpatient wards. To address this problem, 5,400mt of coal provided by the Norwegian Red Cross was distributed to 38 hospitals within the five provinces. Procurement and distribution of the coal proved to be extremely challenging, a process that was assisted by re-allocation of funds provided for the health and care programme by the Danish Red Cross in 2005.

Expected Result 2: Red Cross (RC) volunteers and community health professionals (household doctors, midwives and nurses) have increased their skills, awareness and knowledge on prevention and care of local people who are vulnerable to the most common diseases.

Intensive collaboration with UNICEF, MoPH, WHO at the end of last year to develop an appropriate curriculum, training manual and associated materials relating to key aspects of early childhood development and designed to improve the potential of health professionals and volunteers to tackle the challenges of health in communities culminated in a series of ‘training of trainer’ (ToT) workshops on child nutrition and growth monitoring for 260 household doctors and midwives in February and March.

In co-operation with the MoPH, teaching materials related to malaria prevention and control were revised and employed in associated workshops for 300 health workers and RC volunteers in March and April. At these events, proper use of insecticide to impregnate the nets and screens was demonstrated to the participants.

² Detailed information and data analysis related to community level distributions of medical supplies are available to the DPRK Delegation. Local sensitivity to their wider dissemination prevents their inclusion in this report.

Expected Result 3: The DPRK RC capability to plan and manage appropriate community-based health activities is improved.

Required equipment (such as computers and printers) were procured and distributed to four DPRK Red Cross Training Centres and First Aid refill kits to 500 First Aid posts in South Phyongan, North Phyongan, Chagang and North Hamgyong provinces.

The curriculum of a ToT workshop organised and undertaken in North Phyongan province in April to upgrade the knowledge and skills of 40 Red Cross CBFA trainers was expanded to include dissemination of information related to avian influenza. Later in that same month, the workshop's participants conducted 2-day training courses for 400 RC volunteers in 20 cities/counties of the province. An earlier identified need to improve integration of cross-cutting themes within RC sectoral programmes was significantly taken forward in the context of a workshop related to community-based first aid (CBFA) and community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP) jointly facilitated by staff of the health and disaster management departments of the National Society in April. Twenty four trainers from 19 cities/counties participated in this event that was also supported by ICRC – of which the head of the ICRC delegation delivered valuable contributions on the Movement, International Humanitarian Law and ICRC activities in the DPRK.

Programme Objective 2: The prevalence of waterborne diseases in communities is reduced through sustainable water and sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion, which are supported by interventions made in partnership with beneficiary communities and other stakeholders.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Selected target communities that are within the Federation's operational area have access to installed and rehabilitated water supply, wastewater collection systems and latrines.

In April, WatSan installations were completed in four locations supported by the Swedish Red Cross. Installation of Netherlands Red Cross (ECHO) supported WatSan systems initiated in 30 communities last year was subject to a suspension during most of this reporting period. Its re-activation in mid-April was attended by ongoing dispute over the quality of supplied pipes and the implementational status of these projects will be reviewed in May.

The process for selecting additional communities within which to initiate new interventions commenced in February, when the DPRK Red Cross WatSan unit collected relevant information relating to potential target communities. Subsequent data analysis (in the context of agreed standard criteria), initial NS field inspections and checking of proposed system installation designs was followed up by extensive field assessments undertaken jointly by NS and Federation WatSan staff in 20 communities during the second half of April. The assessment process included comprehensive discussions relating to the prevailing and potential WatSan status of the identified communities with all stakeholders (local authorities, community representatives and RC branch staff). Issues covered included problem analysis, perceived expectations of any Red Cross intervention, provisional implementation plans, the respective roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder during and after project implementation, water quality assurance, operation and maintenance of installed systems, eventual hand-over procedures and provisions for impact assessment. Project site visits were undertaken to verify the technical viability and integrity of proposed installation systems.



Interior of Red Cross installed WatSan pumping station

Technical workshops related to appropriate construction methodologies and practice, system operation and maintenance are being planned for community leaders, local technicians and relevant RC branch staff and city/county authorities.

Expected Result 2: Target communities have improved hygiene behaviour.

A particular focus of the joint field assessment visits consisted in a need to ensure continuous, systematic hygiene promotion and related status assessment among the populations of target and unsupported communities, alike. The respective roles and responsibilities of DPRK Red Cross Headquarters and branch officers, anti-epidemic centres and health institutions in proposed hygiene promotions activities were discussed and redefined and workshops related to prevention of water borne diseases for local RC volunteers and health professionals in the targeted communities have been planned for October of this year.

Expected Result 3: The DPRK RC has improved its capacity in water and sanitation activities during normal and emergency situations.

There has been only limited progress in the context of structured emergency preparedness, not least due to a need to create further institutional understanding within the DPRK for cross-sectoral integration of disaster management capacity building initiatives. On the technical front, it is anticipated that a Federation WatSan consultancy planned to be undertaken in May will provide an opportunity to assess the training needs of DPRK Red Cross WatSan technicians, in preparation for overseas training planned for July.

Impact

Lack of access to reliable and systematically updated baseline data in the DPRK impedes objective assessment of the impact of Red Cross initiatives on the health status of beneficiary populations.

With regard to specific programme inputs, NS monitoring inspections carried out in 446 health institutions indicate that all medical supplies distributed by the Red Cross were successfully delivered. At this stage, it may only be assumed that increased community access to essential drugs and equipment is contributing to an enhancement of local capacity to provide effective primary health care.

Testimonial evidence indicates that the provision of coal for heating hospital facilities during the winter months had a very positive impact on their operational efficiency.

Mr. Lim Dong Hun (the Director of Hoichang County Hospital) has remarked:

“At the onset of winter, all doctors and patients in our hospital worried that frigid weather would freeze patients to death. The coal arrived like an oasis in a desert and everyone is thankful for the support of the Red Cross in always providing timely and quality support to vulnerable people. Provision of heating coal has increased the hospital’s bed-occupancy rate during winter months from 10-15% to 60-70%, enhanced the effectiveness of treatment facilitated by Federation supplied drugs and positively raised the profile of the DPRK Red Cross.”

Together with other national agencies (including the MOPH), the DPRK Red Cross has been playing an important role in raising public awareness on issues related to prevention and care of the most common health problems at community level and health professionals’ comment indicates that Red Cross training has improved the quality of medical services delivery in beneficiary communities. Integrated workshops for trainers from RC branches accelerated integration of CBFA, health promotion and disaster preparedness activities within Red Cross organizations at city and county levels.

Constraints

Federation logistics capacity was strained, as some medical supplies planned for distribution last year did not arrive in the DPRK until February 2006. The problem was compounded by roads rendered inaccessible to heavy trucks during the winter months and, although local Red Cross branches hired local transportation and the Federation hired additional trucks, a minor percentage of the intensive care kits could not be delivered on schedule.

Only three field visits were permitted for Federation health delegates before the enforced withdrawal and relocation to Beijing of the last remaining delegate in March.

The Federation and DPRK health team organized workshops related to malaria prevention and control but the procurement and distribution of mosquito nets, screens and insecticides was delayed and did not arrive before the start of the malaria season in April.

Timely completion of WatSan projects was compromised by poor quality pipes. Replacement of defective pipes enabled eventual completion of installations in communities supported by the Swedish Red Cross but extensive discussions have so far failed to resolve a dispute with the supplier with regard to responsibilities for pipe replacement in 30 communities supported by the Netherlands Red Cross (ECHO) funding. Given that ECHO regulations require definitive completion of this project by mid-August, this is an issue of particular ongoing concern.

Disaster Management

Overview

Competence to respond rapidly to sudden onset disasters (through competent needs assessment and efficient mobilization of volunteer resources to administer first aid, provide other support services and distribute appropriate, strategically pre-positioned relief stocks) demonstrated by the DPRK Red Cross in recent years has been clearly recognized by the government. Its continuing development is promoting effective linkages with disaster management authorities at national, provincial and community levels.

A government decision to halt external provision of humanitarian aid by the end of last year resulted in the closure of its Flood Damage Rehabilitation Committee (FDRC), a key player in the network of Disaster Preparedness Working Groups (DPWGs) initiated at national and provincial levels by the Red Cross. Concerned that the demise of the FDRC would diminish co-ordination capacity within the network, the National Society raised this issue with the Cabinet, suggesting comprehensive reformation of the working groups to include all relevant line Ministries (ie. National Planning Committee, Ministry of Peoples' Security, Ministry of City Management, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Land Management) and the DPRK Red Cross. The Cabinet indicated support for Red Cross initiatives to reconstitute and further develop DPWGs and agreed to encourage their convocation, both on a regular basis and - especially - in emergency contexts.

The DPRK Red Cross continued to expand and consolidate its work in the field of community-based disaster preparedness and, in this context, engaged with an additional ten ris in North Phyongan province during this reporting period.

Expansion of the reforestation programme supported by the Norwegian Red Cross since its commencement in 2003 resulted in a significant increase (52%) in the programme's 2006 budget, which has now been revised to CHF1.3 million. Tree-planting campaigns have traditionally been regarded as a means for raising the profile of the Red Cross, at both national and community levels. This component of the programme has been refocused, to link the provision of material and technical support for increasing the rate of tree seedling production in targeted nurseries to encouragement of the campaign's integration within micro-level disaster mitigation initiatives in environmentally challenged, vulnerable communities.

Overall Goal: The DPRK RC has received support in building up preventive and emergency response capacities to enable it to address the needs of the most vulnerable effectively.

Programme Objective: The DPRK RC plays an influential role in disaster management.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: DPRK Red Cross capacity in disaster management is strengthened at national and branch levels.

In January, the DPRK Red Cross approached the Cabinet to consider issues relating to disaster preparedness working groups at national and provincial levels. The Cabinet acknowledged the important role played by such groups in the past and expressed willingness to set-up national disaster management co-ordination mechanisms on similar lines.

Two disaster management workshops for RC volunteers were conducted in April in the cities of Anju and Phyongsong, South Phyongan province. Their purpose was to deepen understanding of disaster management issues and encourage volunteers to improve the value of awareness, disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness activities by increasing the participation of communities in initiatives intended to reduce risk and

vulnerability. Two provincial RC staff and 18 volunteers from nine disaster prone communities participated in the Anju workshop and, in the event held in Phyongsong, one provincial DP officer and 28 volunteers from 18 local communities.

The NS disaster management training curriculum for RC volunteers was reviewed and updated to include CBFA issues and dissemination of the basic provisions of international humanitarian law. In April, the new curriculum was tested in an integrated workshop jointly conducted in Sinuiju city (North Phyongan province) by HQ staff of the DPRK Red Cross health and disaster management departments for 24 CBFA and CBDP volunteers from 19 city/county branches

Expected Result 2: Three additional provinces have benefited from community-based disaster preparedness projects that have consolidated and expanded beyond current Red Cross operational areas.



Plan identifying a potential disaster mitigation site selected by the CBDP committee in In-da-ri (South Hamgyong)

During this reporting period, South Hamgyong and South Phyongan provincial branches submitted to the society's national headquarters annual reports and action plans prepared by 28 CBDP ri committees. Recognising the importance of needs-based, result-oriented participatory planning, these documents reviewed work implemented in 2005 and indicated lessons learned. They subsequently informed DPRK Red Cross planning intended to consolidate progress made by the communities concerned.

project planning and implementation, early warning systems, coping mechanisms and working relationships with neighbouring and local authorities. They also viewed disaster mitigation sites and interviewed community beneficiaries of embankment reinforcement and/or water channelling projects. The visit provided an opportunity to identify ways and means by which the quality of CBDP work could be improved by innovative approaches to tackling practical challenges faced by vulnerable communities. This was the first of two related exchange visits, the second being planned to take place in May. Participation in the later visit will be expanded to include a representative of each of the CBDP committees in South Hamgyong.

With a view to improving the quality of CBDP work, a delegation consisting of eight RC staff and volunteers from South Phyongan province was organized to share experiences and lessons learned with colleagues in South Hamgyong province. The delegation visited eight CBDP ris, to review work undertaken last year and current plans. They enquired into risk and hazard mapping,

In response to a request by the North Phyongan provincial branch for inclusion of 21 ris in the CBDP programme, a field assessment for the selection of CBDP project ris for was conducted in March. Based on last year's experience, a joint assessment team consisting of two HQ disaster management staff, the Federation Delegation DM officer and the provincial branch DP officer was organized to interview city/county branch officials and community leaders in all the indicated ris, to gather information on locally occurring disasters and past responses and inspect risk prone locations. Most of the ris visited were discovered to be prone to flood and/or landslide, to which phenomena vulnerability was indicated as being high. Ten of the assessed ris were considered to meet established criteria for inclusion in the CBDP programme later this year.



Red Cross youth in the vanguard of tree planting in Sudong ri (South Hamgyong)

Tree-planting campaigns were organized in 28 CBDP project ris in South Hamgyong and South Phyongan provinces. 11,622 people (including more than 500 RC volunteers) were mobilized in an intensive campaign conducted in March/April. A total of 1,532,700 saplings (acacia, pink acacia, poplar, larch and pine nut) were planted on hillsides adjacent to communities prone to landslide and flooding. The campaign effectively combined implementation of a proven disaster prevention initiative with promotion of Red Cross values.

Before the commencement of the sowing season in March, 3,140kg of seeds (acacia, larch, and pine nut) were procured and delivered to Red Cross managed tree nurseries in Kujang, Unjon, Jongju and Junghwa.

Two Norwegian foresters visited the country in March, during which period they conducted a workshop related to containerized seedling production for nursery technicians, carried out needs assessments in all five nurseries managed by the DPRK Red Cross and undertook field visits to newly established nurseries planned to be extended this year. Agreed support for an expansion of tree planting initiatives has resulted in supplementation of the overall disaster management budget by CHF447,255. The programme's Operational Plan and logframe have been revised to reflect these changes.

Expected Result 3: Communities are better served by an increased emergency response capacity that has secured human, material and financial resources.

In February/March, the DPRK Red Cross organized an Emergency Rescue Team (ERT) workshop in the Emergency Rescue Service compound located in Pyongyang under the authority of the Ministry of People's Security. Its objective was to twofold: to finalise the ERT's mission principles and terms of reference; and to extend knowledge of rescue service action procedures relating to disaster scenarios that variously included fire, building collapse, traffic accident and drowning. The Ministry provided training materials for all 20 members of the National Society's two specialist rescue teams and indicated willingness to provide the Red Cross with a building in the compound for use as an operational base.

After lengthy discussions relating to their effective use, initial items of Federation procured equipment were received by the DPRK Red Cross during this reporting period. The NS is now preparing potential ERT deployment scenarios for the Finnish and Norwegian Red Cross societies, who have expressed willingness to provide technical support (including intensive training) for team members.

Impact

The Government demonstrates an increasingly positive attitude toward disaster management initiatives undertaken by the DPRK Red Cross, not least because it values the National Society's role in seeking to promote and develop more effective cooperation and coordination between concerned stakeholders, recognises the importance of its strategically pre-positioned emergency contingency stocks of essential relief items and appreciates the practical contribution its trained and experienced volunteers to disaster preparedness and mitigation – both at national level and within vulnerable communities.

Increased deployment of DP Officers at branch level to monitor and support decentralized DM training and CBDP development is decreasing branch dependency on national HQ capacity and generating increased local confidence and self-reliance.

Extensive community participation in tree-planting campaigns led by Red Cross volunteers in CBDP has demonstrated greater community level cooperation and coordination between Red Cross volunteers, local authorities and the communities concerned. It also significantly raised the profile of the Red Cross in those localities.

Mr. Kim Jong Chol, DP Officer of the South Hamgyong provincial Red Cross branch said:

“Reforestation is an important disaster prevention activity. The impact of typhoons which struck the province in 2000 and 2001 was increased by lack of care for the forest environment. To protect our villages, farm land and livelihoods, we [the Red Cross] promote reforestation and this tree-planting campaign provides community people with a visible lesson as to why they have to protect the hillsides.”

Regular support visits from Norwegian Red Cross to reforestation projects are a key factor promoting progress National Society endeavours to encourage environmental rehabilitation.

Constraints

Re-formation of Disaster Preparedness Working Groups is proving to be a significant challenge, requiring steady effort to enhance general understanding, capacity and commitment between the Red Cross and the government.

Organizational Development

Overview

Following up the process adopted last year and in line with the Federation's 'Framework for Action', the organizational development programme has continued to focus on three key issues - branch development, finance management and communications. In the context of changed operational modalities and with intent to consolidate progress made during the past four years, the National Society developed a new working structure in February, whereby the programme could be tailored to fit changing organizational needs. In the new structure, the former organizational department has been upgraded to include responsibility for NS planning. Headed by the Deputy Secretary General, the resulting Organizational and Planning Department has increased authority to co-ordinate planning between all departments.

The DPRK Red Cross will be celebrating its 60th anniversary in October and has been working earnestly to ensure ratification by the Supreme People's Assembly of a Red Cross Law by that significant date. With that intent, in February the National Society formed a working team headed by its vice-chairman, to develop and promote appropriate legislation in mutual consultation with representatives of the Supreme People's Assembly. In an allied context supported by the Danish Red Cross, a counsellor of the National Society (together with two law scholars) has been preparing a draft law due to be published in May.

Addressing identified needs for improvement of linguistic skills, ongoing English language training for 40 HQ staff and volunteers commenced in March.

Overall Goal: The DPRK RC has developed its institutional capacity to implement programs and activities in accordance with its policies.

Programme Objective: The organizational development efforts of the DPRK Red Cross will incorporate characteristics of a well functioning national society, enhancing efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of service delivery.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Efficiency and effectiveness of Red Cross service delivery in the community will be enhanced by motivated and skilled volunteers.

High-level regional branch leaders' meetings to review branch performances in 2005 and prioritise activities for this year were conducted in northwest, southwest and eastern areas of the country during this reporting period. The National Society's vice-chairman, secretary general and deputy secretary general, together with branch committee chairpersons and secretaries from all provinces, participated in these meetings. They focused on a national scale process for change in administration and finance management at branch level and motivational public relations activities aimed at strengthening the National Society's legal base by the occasion of its 60th anniversary on 18 October. These events also provided an opportunity to introduce Federation policies and its mid-term report on the implementation of Strategy 2010 adopted by the 15th General Assembly held in Seoul in November last year. Significant recommendations issuing from these meetings included:

- Decentralization of NS budgeting systems, to allow branches to spend 70% of membership fees.
- Regular updating of materials and information (expertise/experience sharing) on the ongoing organizational development process.
- Greater focus on resource mobilization and income generation, informed by substantial and measurably sustainable long term strategies.
- Increase provision of training opportunities for personal capacity building and skills development.
- Development of effective, sustainable financial support for volunteer management.

Taking advantage of an opportune visit by the APSC organizational development co-ordinator, branch staff from North Hwanghae, Kaesong and Kangwon provinces came together in North Hwanghae in February to learn from each other about the work of their respective branches. Following discussion enriched by valuable contributions from the OD co-ordinator and later consultation with the Swedish Red Cross, the scale branch activities and

associated progress indicators were revised, to render them more realistically achievable and objectively measurable.

In mid-March a new cycle of basic, intermediate and advanced English language training facilitated by two tutors from the University of Foreign Languages and targeting 40 national HQ staff and volunteers, commenced in Pyongyang.

Following a needs assessment undertaken in March, the office buildings of two branches (South Hwanghae Province and Nampho City) were selected for refurbishment.

With bilateral support from the Netherlands Red Cross, capacity building continued in South Hamgyong and North Hwanghae provinces, which (in April) were visited by the Netherlands RC East Asia desk officer and Beijing located regional programme manager to review and plan projects based on identified needs.

Expected Result 2: The DPRK Red Cross will have a sound system of financial management, budgeting, accounting and motivated, effective resource mobilization activities that will lead to sustainable programmes at the community level.

Pursuant to its national resource mobilization strategy, work continued on construction of a multi-functional Red Cross service centre in Pyongyang. The centre is the National Society's flagship income generation project and will provide commercial facilities for vehicle repair and servicing. It will also include a cafeteria and massage/sauna facilities, a workshop for producing subsidized orthopaedic prophylactics and provide First Aid training courses. Construction work is on schedule for completion in time for the 60th anniversary of the DPRK Red Cross in October.



Work in progress on the Red Cross Pyongyang Service Centre

After several resource mobilization piloting exercises, three branches (N. Hwanghae, Kaesong and S. Hamgyong) started to implement income generation projects. The National Society intends to share their experience with other branches in a second phase of project development planned for a later date.

Expected Result 3: The DPRK Red Cross will enjoy increased public knowledge and understanding of the humanitarian values and programmes of the DPRK RCS and of the Movement among all the stakeholders.

The National Society established a legal working team to research and address law issues and held regular, bi-monthly meetings with officials of the Legislative Department of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA). In these meetings, SPA law makers confirmed their commitment to upgrading the legal status of the DPRK Red Cross Society and were provided with reference documents for further deliberation. Consultation with law makers on issues relating to Red Cross law and (in particular) protection of emblems is ongoing. A delegation from the Danish Red Cross visited the National Society and expressed its continued support for this work. Ongoing consultations are expected to result in publication of a 'first draft' of the new law in May.

The National Society's communications department finished work on two sets of animated presentations relating to dissemination of the Movement's Fundamental Principle and disaster awareness. They will be deployed in support of Red Cross initiatives to spread understanding and adherence to Red Cross values among young people.

Impact

Consultation processes and associated advocacy for drafting a Red Cross Law have been attended by mutual goodwill and contributed to a positive Red Cross profile at national level. Increasingly visible activity by Red Cross volunteers has promoted greater community familiarity with the nature and purpose of the Red Cross emblem and increased awareness of the Movement's values and volunteering practice.

The mass media is becoming increasingly aware of (and interested in) the Red Cross and has extended its coverage of National Society activities and events.

Integration of organizational development issues within service programmes is encouraging branches to adopt revised National Society policies and development plans. Until last year, most branches shared facilities and meeting rooms with local authority entities. Local branches that were enabled to own their own offices and training centres through infrastructure support grants provided under this programme underline its impact on their sense of independence.

Mr Yom Chang Guk (Branch Secretary of Kangwon province) said:

“We are a ‘decades old’ branch. Our new building is only one year old - but it is ours. Before, we had to loan a room in the provincial anti-epidemic centre. We now own premises that are four times larger – with a big office and training centre. We hope that this will lead to a fourfold increase in the range and extent of our activities compared with a year ago, too!”

Constraints

Government announcement that external aid must be ‘development oriented’ has presented significant challenges. Addressing them has required review of its strategic approach and reconfiguration of its organizational structure.

In seeking to realign its priorities to the realities of new planning exigencies, the programme’s capacity to promote an integrated approach to programme development and implementation is being tested.

Implementation and coordination

Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

International support to the DPRK Red Cross is mainly multi-lateral. A wide range of National Societies supporting the Federation programme in DPRK includes the Red Cross Societies of Australia, China (Hong Kong Branch), Britain, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Japan, The Netherlands, Norway and Sweden. Bilateral support activities are limited to those indicated in the table, below:

RC Partners	Summary of activities: 1 January -30 April
ICRC	Construction and development of physical rehabilitation centers in Rakrang and Songrim. IHL dissemination to specific target groups.
The Netherlands Red Cross	Support to DPRK Red Cross branch development (provincial branches of South Hamgyong and North Hwanghae).
Norwegian Red Cross	Financial support to Sariwon Orphanage. Technical support to the vehicle workshop and in kind donation to the DPRK RC for the workshop.

Mutual understanding, support and cooperation between contributing PNSs continued to be a characteristic feature of the Federation programme. A bi-annual Partnership Meeting held in Beijing in April discussed the latest developments in the DPRK, including structural changes within the delegation and the National Society. *Inter alia*, its participants approved a draft cooperation agreement strategy (CAS) MoU to be prepared for signing. In February, the Federation Secretariat in Geneva organized a successful ‘DPRK WatSan 2006 programme’ focused stakeholder meeting in Stockholm.

New issues of the ‘CAS Newsletter’ produced by the delegation to inform PNS and other partners on developments in the country, the National Society and the Federation delegation continued to be published on a monthly basis.

International representation and advocacy

The head of delegation (HoD) participated in weekly meetings of the inter-agency group comprising all UN agencies and international humanitarian organizations present in the DPRK and continued to promote Federation policies and priorities in monthly specialist sector meetings related to WatSan, health and nutrition. The strength of the Federation’s global approach to avian flu was reflected by an invitation to the delegation to join a small WHO/FAO led group examining issues that the Government and sector agencies would need to address in the event of an outbreak of flu induced by the H5N1 virus occurring among the human population in the DPRK.

Meetings were held with the German embassy concerning a pledge for emergency kits. A Dutch government delegation (consisting of the Head of the Asia Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Netherlands ambassador to the DPRK) visited Sariwon orphanage and Sariwon branch of the National Society. The HoD met the Swiss ambassador (visiting from Seoul) and, together with the desk officer of the British Red Cross, visited the new British ambassador to discuss DFID funding. Given the significance of its funding support to key Federation programmes in the DPRK, consultation with the EU resident representative organization ECHO has been a regular feature of this reporting period.

Together with the head of the ICRC delegation, the HoD held discussions with the secretary general of the DPRK Red Cross and his councillor on matters pertaining to the upcoming International Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference. Given the DPRK government's recent vote against the additional protocol, these discussions emphasized the importance of a good understanding of issues related to the Movement's emblems.

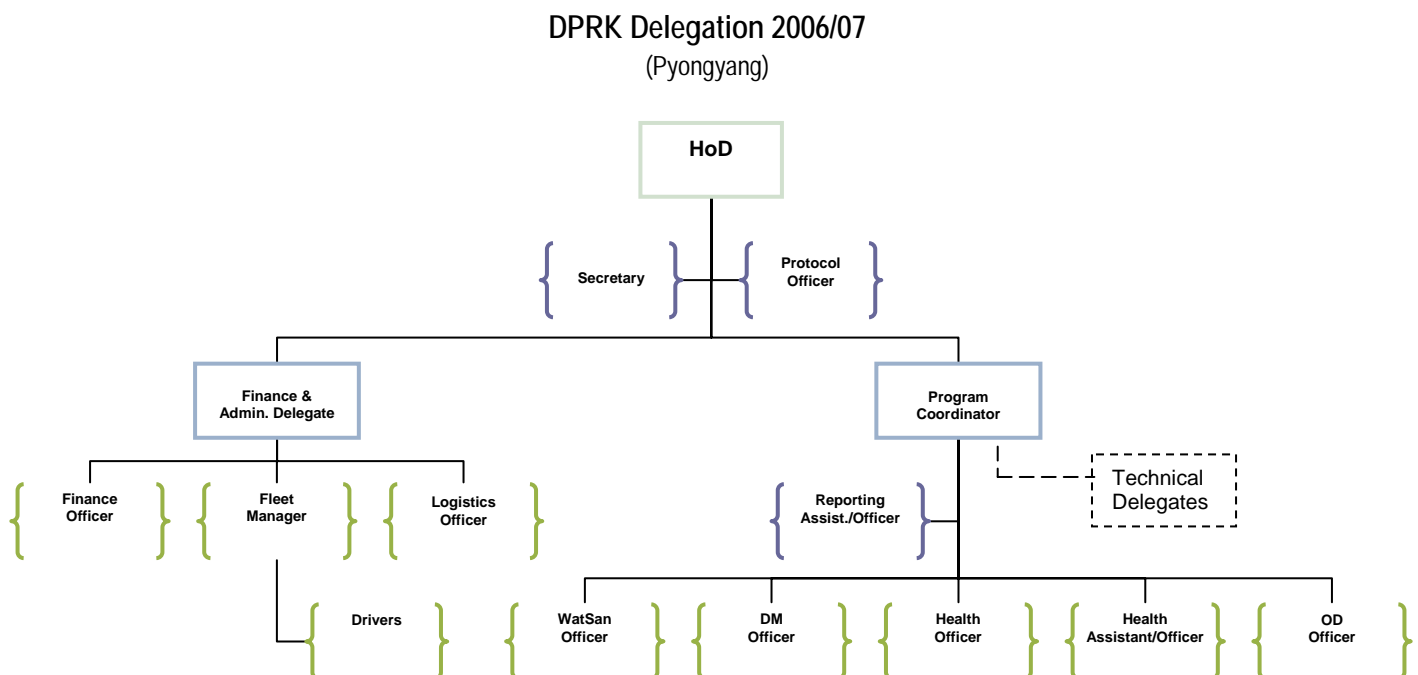
Federation governance support

The vice-president of the DPRK Red Cross is a member of the national Disaster Preparedness and Relief Commission. The Federation delegation facilitates communication between the DPRK Red Cross and the Geneva Secretariat, since government restrictions impede National Society direct access to international communication services.

The head of delegation gave a presentation to senior staff of the National Society on the outcome of the last General Assembly and Council of Delegates meeting - in particular, on the 'Federation of the Future'.

Management of the delegation

Following assurances from the government that (with a reduced expatriate complement limited to three management posts) the delegation would be permitted to remain in the DPRK, first steps were taken to redefine the delegation team structure.



Given an imposed requirement to withdraw technical delegates, the delegation adopted additional disaster management, WatSan, health and organizational development personnel seconded by the National Society. In so doing, it hopes to turn a situation arising from duress into an opportunity for significant capacity building – through expansion of the skills and knowledge base of the new team members. The new delegate post of programme coordinator became a reality with arrival of the appointed delegate at the beginning of April.

A three-day reporting and finance workshop for newly recruited Federation delegation officers was held in February and included also NS staff. Facilitated by staff of the Federation's Asia Pacific Service Centre (heads of reporting and finance units and its organizational development co-ordinator) supported by the East Asia desk officer of the British Red Cross, the event took place in a working environment and management context that were new to the National Society and the Federation delegation, alike. It provided an opportunity for participants (particularly, newly seconded delegation officers) to become familiar with Federation narrative and financial reporting requirements.

The APSC logistics coordinator completed his mission on 28 March and the delegation's health delegate was relocated to Beijing on the same date. A new WatSan delegate (allocated to the DPRK on a temporary basis) started his first mission of three months during the second week of April.

The realities of the 'new look' delegation entail increased support from the regional delegation and the Kuala Lumpur-based Asia Pacific Service Centre. Arrangements to that effect were discussed with the Federation regional coordinators for disaster management and health based in Beijing and with the Asia Pacific organizational development and logistics coordinators in Kuala Lumpur - all of whom visited the DPRK during this period and made field visits to familiarize themselves with programme activities and the environmental contexts within which they are undertaken.

Given abolition of a delegate post for logistics, the Asia Pacific regional logistics coordinator advised handover of transport responsibilities to the National Society. Two of the five trucks currently managed by the delegation will be transferred to the National Society and the number of 'Land Cruisers' will be decreased. To that end, PNS will be called upon to assist complex procurement procedures or make 'donations in kind'.

Communications connectivity remains problematic for the operational capacity of the delegation. While demand access to and use of internet based tools is on the increase, the quality of telephone, fax and internet connections continues to be poor and frequently deteriorates. All efforts to regain the broadband connection accessed in October 2005 failed. To date, it has not proved possible to connect new delegation staff to 'cc-mail' – itself, an already an outdated Federation e-mail tool. Given this, a new approach is being made to establish FedMail access to all delegation personnel.

Notwithstanding many practical obstacles, the newly configured Federation delegation is gradually getting into shape and is energetically tackling new challenges.

[Interim financial report below; click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)

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

Global Agenda Goals:

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

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

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA54001 - EAST ASIA

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAA54001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget	24'883'709	2'558'626	436'150	498'486	748'819	29'125'789
B. Opening Balance	2'463'882	399'118	106'005	100'145	155'663	3'224'812
Income						
Cash contributions						
American Red Cross	115'945				115'945	231'890
Australian Red Cross	23'678					23'678
British Red Cross		91'800				91'800
Danish Red Cross	-204'944					-204'944
ECHO	204'944					204'944
Finnish Red Cross	47'994					47'994
Netherlands Red Cross	582'489					582'489
Norwegian Red Cross	32'957	482'971	83'910		73'430	673'269
Swedish Red Cross	335'783					335'783
C1. Cash contributions	1'138'844	574'771	83'910		189'375	1'986'901
Outstanding pledges (Revalued)						
British Red Cross	11'400	-75'840				-64'440
Danish Red Cross	2'086					2'086
Finnish Red Cross	-48'057					-48'057
German Red Cross	1'475					1'475
Netherlands Red Cross	-416'505					-416'505
Swedish Red Cross	302'295					302'295
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	-147'305	-75'840				-223'145
Inkind Goods & Transport						
Netherlands Red Cross	758'529					758'529
C4. Inkind Goods & Transport	758'529					758'529
Inkind Personnel						
British Red Cross					27'487	27'487
Finnish Red Cross	22'000				12'400	34'400
Netherlands Red Cross	8'507				42'500	51'007
Norwegian Red Cross	8'067					8'067
Swedish Red Cross	20'873				20'047	40'920
C5. Inkind Personnel	59'447				102'434	161'881
Other Income						
Service Agreements					6'000	6'000
C6. Other Income					6'000	6'000
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	1'809'515	498'931	83'910	0	297'809	2'690'166
D. Total Funding = B + C	4'273'397	898'049	189'915	100'145	453'472	5'914'978

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	2'463'882	399'118	106'005	100'145	155'663	3'224'812
C. Income	1'809'515	498'931	83'910	0	297'809	2'690'166
E. Expenditure	-1'972'991	-111'113	-19'431	-55'840	-345'338	-2'504'713
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	2'300'406	786'936	170'484	44'305	108'134	3'410'265

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA54001 - EAST ASIA

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAA54001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		24'883'709	2'558'626	436'150	498'486	748'819	29'125'789	
Supplies								
Shelter	77'000							77'000
Construction	420'665							420'665
Clothing & textiles	654'000		2'653				2'653	651'347
Seeds,Plants	69'300							69'300
Water & Sanitation	3'892'400	315'576					315'576	3'576'824
Medical & First Aid	14'114'495	750'712					750'712	13'363'783
Teaching Materials	324'119	37'921					37'921	286'198
Utensils & Tools	191'400							191'400
Other Supplies & Services	845'094	260'558	5'945				266'503	578'591
Total Supplies	20'588'473	1'364'768	8'598				1'373'366	19'215'107
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles						7'500	7'500	-7'500
Computers & Telecom	36'140	4'637	2'681		2'286	4'448	14'052	22'088
Office/Household Furniture & Ec	5'500					5'443	5'443	57
Others Machinery & Equipment			10'147				10'147	-10'147
Total Land, vehicles & equipme	41'640	4'637	12'828		2'286	17'391	37'142	4'498
Transport & Storage								
Storage	84'817	4'413	261				4'673	80'144
Distribution & Monitoring	310'158	27'167	189				27'356	282'802
Transport & Vehicle Costs	574'803	64'669	11'090		3'852	26'705	106'316	468'487
Total Transport & Storage	969'778	96'248	11'540		3'852	26'705	138'345	831'433
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	1'418'400	6'208	26'670	11'122		25'894	69'894	1'348'506
Delegate Benefits	1'176'907	131'047	10'852	4'350		157'870	304'118	872'789
Regionally Deployed Staff	84'900							84'900
National Staff	320'945	41'054	1'576		3'352	14'308	60'290	260'655
National Society Staff	449'152	73'643	11'962		5'415	990	92'010	357'142
Consultants	164'000	16'125					16'125	147'875
Total Personnel Expenditures	3'614'304	268'077	51'060	15'471	8'767	199'062	542'437	3'071'867
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	1'151'057	40'049	14'075	342	25'160	16'073	95'698	1'055'359
Total Workshops & Training	1'151'057	40'049	14'075	342	25'160	16'073	95'698	1'055'359
General Expenditure								
Travel	226'758	12'100	1'671	60	10'441	14'239	38'510	188'248
Information & Public Relation	338'200	3'681	898	39	497	1'284	6'399	331'801
Office Costs	152'621	8'049	1'936	1'528		30'069	41'581	111'040
Communications	145'013	5'163	808	728	185	16'694	23'577	121'436
Professional Fees	3'000				2'948		2'948	52
Financial Charges	10'200	974	478		236	662	2'351	7'849
Other General Expenses	25'000	57				1'145	1'202	23'798
Total General Expenditure	900'792	30'023	5'790	2'355	14'308	64'093	116'569	784'223
Depreciation								
Depreciation		6'481					6'481	-6'481
Total Depreciation		6'481					6'481	-6'481
Program Support								
Program Support	1'859'745	162'707	7'222	1'263	3'630	22'014	196'836	1'662'909
Total Program Support	1'859'745	162'707	7'222	1'263	3'630	22'014	196'836	1'662'909
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions					-2'162		-2'162	2'162
Total Operational Provisions					-2'162		-2'162	2'162

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA54001 - EAST ASIA

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

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Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		24'883'709	2'558'626	436'150	498'486	748'819	29'125'789	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	29'125'789	1'972'991	111'113	19'431	55'840	345'338	2'504'713	26'621'076
VARIANCE (C - D)		22'910'718	2'447'513	416'719	442'646	403'481	26'621'076	