

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

MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

Appeal No. MAA81001
14 December 2006

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 185 countries.

In Brief

Programme Update no. 2; Period covered: 1 June to 30 September 2006;
Appeal target: CHF 5,348,032 (USD 4,407,765 or EUR 3,345,630);
Appeal coverage: 40 % [Click here for the interim financial report to date](#)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:

Middle East Regional Programmes Annual Appeal 2006/2007. For details, please go to the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual06/MAA81001.pdf

Middle East Regional Programmes Annual Appeal 2006/2007 – Programme Update no.1. For details, please go to the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual06/MAA8100101.pdf

Humanitarian Crisis in the Middle East Emergency Appeal. For details, please go to the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?06/MDR81001revised.pdf

North Africa Regional Programmes Annual Appeal 2006/2007. For details, please go to the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual06/MAA82001.pdf

Annual Appeals 2006/2007 for Middle East and North Africa region. For details please see the website at <http://www.ifrc.org/where/mena.asp>

The programmes herein are aligned with the Federation's Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission:

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

Programme summary

The Middle East Humanitarian Crisis (July-August, 2006) affected the implementation plans of some capacity building activities, especially in organizational development, as the Middle East Regional Office was fully engaged in coordinating the International Federation response to the crisis in the affected countries in the region.

The implemented capacity building support to the National Societies through the regional programmes is in line with

Strategy 2010, the Federation Global Agenda Goals and Framework for Action. The aim was to strengthen the capacities of the National Societies to be able to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable people.

There was a mid-term review of the 2006-2007 programmes and budget and accordingly the Appeal for 2006/2007 was revised. The appeal revision document providing more details, plus revised logical frameworks and budget for 2007 is available on the Federation's website. Partners are invited to visit these documents while planning their future support for the regional programmes.

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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 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>

Operational developments

The situation marked increasing vulnerability and deteriorating humanitarian conditions resulting from the current climate of violence in the Middle East, particularly in Lebanon, the Palestinian Autonomous Territories and Occupied Territories (Palestinian AT/OT) and Iraq.

In Lebanon, the conflict resulted in the displacement of around 1 million people in Lebanon and in neighbouring countries. The Federation responded by launching an Emergency Appeal to support the National Societies in the affected countries in their response to this humanitarian crisis. Actions of National Societies in the region focused on meeting the needs of the displaced people as well as building their capacities to allow better response in case of future emergencies. *For additional information on the Humanitarian Crisis in the Middle East, please see the Emergency Appeal and the related operations updates at http://www.ifrc.org/where/reg_sprep.asp?txtRegion=16*

In the Palestinian AT/OT, the deteriorating humanitarian conditions resulted from the daily military actions against the Palestinian people and deepening poverty as a result of Israeli military measures like closures, siege, the construction of the Separation Wall and increasing unemployment rates (above 23 percent¹).

In Iraq, the deteriorating security situation continued to make the lives of people more difficult as a result of arbitrary killing, kidnapping, displacement of thousands of families and attacks on civilians by criminals as well as militias affiliated to different political and religious factions. The Federation's ongoing operation in Iraq is covered by a separate emergency appeal and managed by the country delegation (currently based in Amman). *For additional information on Iraq operations, please see the Emergency Appeal and operations updates at <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/cn6.asp?countryid=87>*

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is the lead agency in the above described context and the Federation's role has been focused on capacity building of National Societies and coordinating support to the National Societies in the affected countries.

Two National Societies in the region were admitted to the movement. The Palestine Red Crescent Society was officially recognized by the ICRC and the Federation in June 2006, in a move that also recognized the Israeli Magen David Adom and an adoption of a third additional protocol of a new protective emblem, the Red Crystal symbol. This achievement contributes to the universality of the Movement and strengthens the operational cooperation of the two National Societies with each other and with their international partners in the Movement.

The logical frameworks and budgets of the regional programmes for 2007 were revised in line with the Federation Global Agenda Goals. The programme objectives, activities and budgets were adapted based on new experiences in the region and taking into consideration the potential funding opportunities. The modified goals, objectives and

¹ http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTWESTBANKGAZA/Resources/294264-1159361805492/CEMSept25_06.pdf

expected results are used for reporting in this programme update. Partners are invited to visit the Middle East Appeal Revision and the revised logical frameworks and budget for 2007 when planning support for the 2007 activities.

The implementation of regional programmes during this reporting period was affected by the Middle East Humanitarian Crisis operation. Resources of the regional delegation were fully directed towards supporting the National Societies in the affected countries in responding to the needs of the displaced population in Lebanon and Syria. Similarly, the National Societies in the region were fully occupied in the emergency situation. As a result there was reduced attention to programme implementation.

Health and care

Programme Goal: Contribute to achieving the objectives of Strategy 2010 and the Global Agenda for reducing vulnerability, and to improving the general health status in the Middle East/North Africa (MENA) region through a shared responsibility and maximal cooperation and collaboration among National Societies and stakeholders.

Programme Objective: Strengthened capacities of MENA National Societies to address the health needs of identified vulnerable groups with focus on health promotion, disease prevention, psychosocial support, public health priorities, and first aid in the community.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Expected Result 1: Promoted commitment of National Societies to support and engage in coordination, networking, partnerships, reporting and sharing resources to achieve Strategy 2010 and Global Agenda goals.

Health and care activities resulted in improved coordination, partnership, networking and knowledge sharing among the MENA National Societies.

The Health@MENA electronic bulletin (English and Arabic versions) was issued in July. It reflects the activities and experiences of MENA National Societies and shares information, experiences and resources. Circulation included MENA National Societies, Partner National Societies, ICRC, World Health Organisation (WHO) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). In addition, printed materials and CDs related to HIV/AIDS, community based first aid (CBFA) and Avian Influenza were mailed to the 17 MENA National Societies as part of the process of sharing new information, tools and updates.

During the reporting period, the use of the Staff on Loan model as a tool for sharing knowledge, experiences and promoting networking continued. Two Staff on Loan were recruited in the fields of HIV/AIDS and CBFA, in addition to exchanges of CBFA trainers/facilitators.

The Health Delegate discussed with the health management team of the Iraqi Red Crescent the health priorities and activities of the National Society based on the recommendations of the coordination meeting held in Istanbul in July 2006. He also discussed with the new regional representative of the French Red Cross the Federation's health programme in MENA and the needs and priorities of National Societies and effective methods of cooperation.

The response to the Middle East Humanitarian Crisis, particularly in Lebanon and Syria through the support to health focal points in the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, the Lebanese Red Cross and the Disaster Management unit was followed up and monitored.

The Health and Planning Officer participated in the Planning and Reporting meeting and the workshop on Reporting in Disasters held in Istanbul, Turkey, during 25-29 September 2006.

Expected Result 2: National Societies had scaled up their coordinating, monitoring, awareness raising and anti-stigma activities related to HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases in accordance with country priorities and defined mandates.

The implementation of the recommendations of the HIV/AIDS network meeting held in March 2006 were followed up. The National Societies' HIV/AIDS focal points were supported in developing their plans of action through related advice and sharing of HIV/AIDS related documents and training materials. Particular support included:

- Facilitating a meeting with representatives of the Syrian Arab RC branches in support of developing the HIV/AIDS plan of action for the National Society.
- Follow up with the Lebanese RC the implementation and evaluation of the HIV/AIDS plan of action for 2006 and planning for 2007.
- Reviewing the HIV/AIDS activities of the Libyan Red Crescent with the Libyan HIV/AIDS focal point.

The HIV/AIDS coordinator supported and supervised a training of trainers (ToT) course in HIV/AIDS peer education for the Syrian Arab RC during 26-30 June. A total of 18 volunteers participated in the course. The training aimed at building the capacity of the National Society in promoting awareness among the youth. At the same time, the 'Come Closer' stamp campaign was translated into Arabic, adapted to the region and is being prepared for printing.

The HIV/AIDS Coordinator is in the process of preparing an HIV/AIDS public awareness brochure and the preparation of the HIV/AIDS Training of Trainers manual is in process and will be finalized by December. The coordinator also assisted the Lebanese RC in the provision of health care during the hostilities in Lebanon.

The Health Delegate followed up with the National Societies the development of Avian Influenza plans of action for preparedness and response and shared with them related guidelines and questionnaires. He also presented a session on Avian Influenza during the field exercise of the National Intervention Team of Jordan Red Crescent in June. The session included group work exercises that highlighted the role of volunteers in Avian Influenza preparedness and response.

Expected Result 3: Strengthened capacities of National Societies in meeting community health needs and in preparedness and response in times of emergencies.

The Federation Regional Office financially supported the implementation of the following CBFA trainings:

- Advanced CBFA training for 27 participants held at the Syrian Arab RC, 30 May - 4 June.
- CBFA TOT course for 47 staff and volunteers held at the Lebanese RC, 27 May - 4 June.

The Regional Health Delegate and two regional trainers from the National Societies of Egypt and Tunis facilitated a CBFA ToT course for the Libyan Red Crescent (20-24 August). A total of 33 First Aid trainers participated in the training, which aimed at updating the CBFA concept, training materials and methods of volunteer training. The Regional Health Delegate also discussed with the Secretary General of the Libyan RC the implementation of the CBFA programme and related health issues. As a result of this activity, the National Society approved the implementation of the CBFA programme at branch level.

During his mission to the Libyan RC, the Regional Health Delegate discussed with the CBFA focal points of the National Societies of Egypt, Tunis and Libya the CBFA framework, the new modules of the training manual and related issues. He also discussed with the CBFA focal point of the Palestine Red Crescent the CBFA plan of action of the National Society and the current regional programme.

National Societies in the region celebrated the World First Aid Day on 9 September; among those were the National Societies of the United Arab Emirates, Tunis, Libya, Egypt and Iraq. A press release on this occasion was communicated from Geneva which included a statement on the non-discriminative actions of the Iraqi RC volunteers during their First Aid activities.

The new optional CBFA training modules on Mother and Child Health and Mine Injuries were finalized after integrating the feedback from the National Societies.

Expected Result 4: National Societies had integrated and formalized psychosocial support programme with relevant programs and structures.

Three documents on planning and implementation of Psychological Support Programme (PSP) were translated into Arabic and sent to all National Societies in the region. The documents were originally published by the Federation's Reference Centre for PSP.

The PSP focal points of Qatar Red Crescent are working on finalizing two training modules of the PSP ToT Arabic manual. Four modules of the manual were finalized so far.

The Arabic version of the newsletter 'Coping with crisis', which was published by the Federation's Reference Centre for PSP was shared with the PSP focal points in the region.

Impact

Basis for achieving the objectives of the Federation Global Agenda Goals as well as for longer-term sustainability and impact is being generated through:

- Targeting priority National Societies in the region with health initiatives that best suit their country context especially those affected by the current humanitarian situation in the region.
- Encouraging the National Societies in the region to develop their health and care strategy and plans of action in line with the Federation Global Agenda Goals and Strategy 2010.
- Integrating CBFA, PSP and HIV/AIDS into other National Society programmes.

The need for increasing focus on Public Health in Emergencies had emerged during the Middle East crisis (July-August 2006). A regional training for 20 participants is being planned to take place in December 2006. Such training will sensitize National Societies on the importance of increased focus on this issue as well as creating a regional core group capable of training volunteers and could be mobilized and deployed during disasters.

Constraints

Delays in the response of some National Societies to health related issues create additional costs. For example, delayed response of the PSP working groups on the ToT manual and guidelines had hindered holding the PSP coordinators meeting planned to be held in April.

Some National Societies' focal points do not have adequate authority to plan and implement activities. Therefore, more advocacy efforts with National Societies' leadership are needed.

Disaster management

Programme Goal: Contribute to increased resilience and reduced vulnerability of populations exposed to natural and man-made hazards.

Programme Objective: MENA National Societies have developed well functioning Disaster Management capacities that can promote optimal utilization of human and technical resources to implement integrated DM programmes.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)



Jordan RC National Intervention Team exercise, June 2006

Expected Result 1: Strengthened disaster management structure and policies of MENA National Societies.

The Federation assisted the Jordan Red Crescent in reviewing and updating its DM plan of action and finalising administrative issues related to the capacity building project.

Expected Result 2: Enhanced preparedness and response capacities of MENA National Societies in terms of planning, management and specialized technical skills (Water/Sanitation, Relief Health, Logistics, Nutrition & Food Security, PSP, and Shelter).

After last year's bombings in Jordan (November 2005), the Jordan RC embarked on the training of its National Intervention Team (NIT) in the areas of First Aid, psychological support and camp management to ensure the preparedness of the team for future emergencies. The Jordan RC NIT consists of 106 members of whom 61 participated in the NIT exercise in June 2006. A steering committee was selected to draft the related National Society policy and to guide the implementation of activities. Fifteen volunteers representing branches are also participating in the coordination meetings. A list of NIT members with contact information was prepared as the Jordan RC is working on organizing its next NIT exercise (December, 2006). The Federation is contributing to this process financially and technically. Technical support includes training, reviews, discussions of the lessons learnt and preparations for the upcoming NIT exercise.

The Federation extended its support to the Syrian RC during the response to the Middle East Humanitarian Crisis. The Syrian RC with support from the Federation, ICRC, bilateral Partner National Societies, private donors and other humanitarian actors responded adequately to the immediate needs of some 140,000 displaced people who crossed from Lebanon into Syria following the outbreak of armed conflict and hostilities in Lebanon. The Syrian RC volunteers assisted the displaced people at the four border crossing points by providing water, meals, snacks, First Aid and psychological support, transportation, restoration of family links services and hygiene items to the new comers. The Syrian RC also managed temporary shelters accommodating 11,366 people at schools, youth camps, mosques and university campuses around the country. The National Society also assisted 24,609 displaced people accommodated by host families through distribution of food parcels and other forms of assistance.

The Senior DM officer participated in the Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) workshop held in Turkey from 14 to 25 September, 2006). The workshop was organized by the Ankara delegation and facilitated by the Operations Support Department in Geneva. Participants included representatives from ICRC, National Societies and Federation delegations in East Europe and Southern Caucasus. Workshop discussions included disaster preparedness and response, disaster response system and tools, logistics, health issues including psychosocial support, telecommunication, assessment, reporting, budgeting, media, water and sanitation, and shelter. There were field exercises on the Regional Disaster Response Mechanism of the Federation and field visits to the regional logistic warehouses run by the Turkish Red Crescent. Workshop participants were added to the RDRT roster.

Expected Result 3: Enhanced capacities of MENA National Societies in community-based risk reduction (CBRR).

The Federation continued to support the analysis and synthesis of the final reports of Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment in Jordan and Syria.

Expected Result 4: Improved quality of DM programmes in MENA National Societies with focus on preparedness, response and advocacy and according to standards (particularly Sphere Standards).

Preparations for organizing the Sphere ToT training are ongoing. The training is scheduled to take place in December 2006 in cooperation with the Organization of Arab Red Crescent Red Cross Secretariat and Jordan RC.

A proposal on Sphere trainers' project was developed and shared with Sphere project for input. This will be circulated for fundraising after the Sphere ToT in December.

Expected Result 5: Enhanced knowledge and skills sharing, coordination and cooperation among MENA National Societies.

The regional working group representing eight National Societies are in continuous contact electronically to follow up the development of the National Intervention Team (NIT) practical guide, which aims at developing a tool to help and better manage NIT teams during disaster response.

The regional office participated in preparing working papers to the National Societies in the MENA region on Partnership in Disaster Management and Resource Mobilization to be submitted to the Asia Pacific 7th Regional Conference, which will be held in Singapore during 18-24 November, 2006.

Impact

The responsiveness of National Societies to disasters is improving in terms of both timeliness and quality of delivery. The experiences related to the Middle East Humanitarian Crisis and responses executed by the Syrian RC indicated that capacity building activities in relation to DM has paid off.

Constraints

Although the responsiveness of National Societies to emergencies has considerably improved, the main challenge remains to ensure that the process is based on a strong local level of preparedness to enhance community resilience in a dynamic approach addressing the link between prevention, preparedness, response and rehabilitation.

The DM delegate concluded his mission in the end of June without appointing a replacement, which had put an additional burden on the existing local staff. His mission was extended during the Middle East crisis, but he exclusively focused on Syria to assist the NS in its response to the operation.

Humanitarian values

Programme Goal: Contribute to enhanced advocacy on priority humanitarian issues, including fighting intolerance, stigma and discrimination and promoting disaster risk reduction.

Programme Objective: Improved information/communication capacity of NS through promoted networking and coordination, skill sharing and training, and integrated RC/RC principles and values with the different programmes and projects.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Expected Result 1: MENA National Societies benefited from shared experiences and lessons learnt by using Al-Ittihad newsletter as a learning resource.

Issue 19 of Al-Ittihad newsletter was printed in September and 8,000 copies were distributed to Arab National Societies, Federation delegations in the region, ICRC delegation in Amman, National Societies in Europe, Australia and USA, and hundreds of individual addresses covering the media, diplomats, intellectuals and others across the Arab World. The newsletter covered major activities of the National Societies of Jordan, Lebanon, Qatar, Egypt, Syria, Palestine, Iran, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Morocco, Algeria, Bahrain and Iraq. As a result, coverage of the activities of MENA National Societies became wider and more extensive with improved contents, format and editing.

Work on issue 20 of the newsletter is in process. This issue will focus mainly on the Middle East Humanitarian Crisis in July-August, 2006.

A number of articles were written and published on the Federation's public website and stories were fed to some media outlets including press releases, especially on the latest crisis in Lebanon, the Pakistan earthquake and Tsunami countries.

Expected Result 2: National Societies' programmes/projects had integrated advocacy and promotion of Red Cross/Red Crescent principles and values.

Two training workshops were conducted for the National Societies of Libya and Palestine focusing on media related issues. The objectives of the trainings were to:

- Activate, rehabilitate and strengthen local information networks at National Society level where available, and establish new ones where missing.
- Increase the capacity of information officers and focal points.

- Enable the function of the National Society information networks by equipping them with the necessary knowledge and skills.
- Increase the flow of information from National Society networks into the regional network and expand exchange of information with the Federation to enhance Movement work in MENA.

Table 1: Details about the training workshops

National Society	Date and location	Participants	Facilitators
Libyan Red Crescent	Tripoli, 22-27 July	28 persons	5 facilitators from Federation, Libya RC, newspapers, TV and Radio
Palestine Red Crescent	Amman, 8-10 August	20 persons	5 from Federation, TV, Jordan RC

The generic curriculum used for the trainings included writing skills with focus on press releases, organizing press conferences, photography, social mobilization, production of information materials, managing networks, establishing partnerships with the media, using the internet and the FedNet, interviews with the media and responsibilities of the information officers. The training included practical exercises on writing press releases, organizing conferences, using the internet and FedNet, and conducting interviews. The curriculum was tailored to the need of each National Society after thorough discussions.

Similar trainings were held in April and May 2006 for the National Societies of Qatar, Bahrain and Egypt. The outcome of the trainings has been a mixed product depending on each National Society. For example, the Egypt RC now has a wide reaching information network which is the first in the region. The flow of information to the Federation had improved. More contacts exist now between the National Society information officers, Geneva, Amman and Tunis than ever before. The trainings also resulted in increasing contributions of National Societies to Al-Ittihad newsletter and shared information with the two regional offices in MENA.

A follow-up committee for the Regional Information Network was established to monitor progress and coordinate sub-regional activities in the Gulf, North Africa and the Middle East. The first meeting of this committee, which was supposed to take place in September has been postponed to October.

There was a field visit to the Libyan Red Crescent for training purposes and to assist the National Society in establishing its information network.

Major assistance was provided to the Syrian Arab Red Crescent during the Middle East Humanitarian Crisis, including establishing an information/communications committee responsible for all media contacts, issuing a weekly newsletter, collecting information and organizing campaigns during the war. The Information Officer of the Syrian RC and the Regional Information Officer participated in the After Action Review carried out after the ceasefire by a team from the Federation, Syrian RC and representatives of the British Red Cross.

There were contacts with media partners such as Al-Jazeera, CNBC and Jordan News Agency among others as part of the routine contacts with the media.

A flurry of activities has taken place before, during and after the 29th Red Cross/Red Crescent Conference held in Geneva (20-22-June 2006) in coordination with the Jordan Red Crescent. Jordanian media, Al-Jazeera, the BBC Arabic Service and Abu Dhabi TV attended the conference.

Assistance was provided to the Jordan Red Crescent to promote its National Intervention Team camp during the last week of June. Sessions on the history of the Movement and its Humanitarian Values and Principles were organized for the participants in addition to lectures and a practical training session on conducting interviews during disasters.

Assistance was extended to other programmes in the Amman Regional office in the production of printed materials.

Expected Result 3: Road-safety Public Service Announcements (PSAs) have been adopted by a number of Arab NS and broadcasted by several TV stations in MENA.

There were several meetings with partners interested in road safety such as the Jordan RC, the Traffic Department, the Jordan Society for Protection from Road Accidents and the Municipality of Greater Amman. A meeting aimed at coordinating the production of TV messages to raise public awareness on dangers on the road was organised. Seven TV spots were produced and are now ready for broadcast.

Discussions have already begun with a number of National Societies to approach TV stations and satellite channels in their countries with the produced TV spots for broadcast. The plan is to try to broadcast the spots via as many TV stations as possible. Major Channels such as Al-Jazeera will be approached with a proposal to broadcast spots to raise public awareness on rules of the road.

Impact

National Societies in the region increasingly show interest in the Movement's Fundamental Principles and Values and they continue to work together on related issues of concern.

The Middle East humanitarian crisis, which resulted from the hostilities in Lebanon, had highlighted the importance of information during disasters for the use of media, press releases, National Societies, donors, humanitarian actors, planning and reporting officers and the general public. There is a need to strengthen the capacities of National Societies in information gathering and sharing during disasters.

Al-Ittihad is being distributed to a wide audience in several parts of the world. Many National Societies in the region and abroad have shown interest in the newsletter, which has become an influential tool to inform the public, partners and the donor community on the activities of National Societies.

Constraints

There is still a long way to go before networking reaches its full capacity in the region. The size of work on traffic safety is tremendous and there is room for improving National Society participation in Al-Ittihad newsletter. There are also management and governorship issues within some National Societies that make the process of establishing information networks slow.

Organizational development

Programme Goal: Contribute to reducing vulnerability and improving humanitarian services to the most vulnerable through strengthened and sustainable capacities of the MENA National Societies.

Programme Objective: Improved services of MENA National Societies to the most vulnerable based on the characteristics of Well Functioning National Societies and enhanced capacities in the areas of strategic and operational planning, integrity and accountability, resource mobilization and development, youth and volunteers and gender.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

The Middle East Regional Office supported the Yemen Red Crescent in the preparations for the partnership meeting (November 2006) in which the draft of the strategy of the National Society was presented.

The gender focal point of the Jordan Red Crescent supported the Yemen RC in organizing a Gender mainstreaming workshop in September. The Middle East Regional office will provide technical and financial support to implement the recommendations of this workshop.

Two members of the Syrian Arab Red Crescent were supported to participate in a workshop on local branch training on governance and management organized by the Lebanese Red Cross (July 2006). These two members are part of the steering committee of the Syrian RC assigned to develop a similar training programme to the local branch board members.

Activities related to local branch development and strategic planning processes were resumed after the end of the hostilities in Lebanon (12 July - 14 August, 2006). Most of the project activities were postponed to 2007.

The Middle East office supported the Iraqi Red Crescent in training the youth and volunteers coordinators on planning issues in order to facilitate the development of plans of action for 2007. This is in addition to providing technical assistance to the National Society in developing a Volunteers' Management System.

Technical support to the Federation delegation in Lebanon has been provided to assist the Lebanese Red Cross in its response to the Middle East Humanitarian crisis (July-December 2006). The support is being focused on capacity building and Organisational Development.

The regional Youth and Volunteers coordinator conducted an introductory workshop on Volunteers Management in emergencies for the Yemen Red Crescent volunteers of the Disaster Management team.

Continuous efforts are being made to integrate volunteers' management in the different programmes. An introduction on volunteers' management will be presented to the members of the Community Based First Aid MENA regional network in November 2006.

The Organizational Development review report is being translated into Arabic and will be distributed to the National Societies in MENA region. Follow-up of the implementation of the recommendations of the review is in process.

Impact

The Organizational Development regional programme continues to support National Societies in the region to build their capacities and improve performance in terms of scaling up of services with better quality, wider outreach and positive impact on the targeted communities.

Constraints

The OD delegate concluded his mission in June without appointing a replacement, which had reduced the capacity of the Middle East office in implementing the 2006 programme.

Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

Programme Goal: The National Societies in the region have developed effective and strategic partnerships, enabling them to deliver quality services and promote advocacy on behalf of the vulnerable people.

Programme Objective: Through well structured regional cooperation frameworks, the National Societies in the region have increased and diversified the number of partners who are aware of and sensitive to the Red Cross and Red Crescent priorities that address the needs of the vulnerable people in a coordinated manner.

Partnership within and outside the movement:

The Middle East Regional Office followed up with the Yemen Red Crescent and the Federation Delegation in Yemen the preparations to organize the partnership meeting to be hosted by Yemen Red Crescent in November. The Head of Regional Office contacted key partner National Societies with whom the Federation has developed strong cooperation to encourage them to attend.

Regular contacts with various partners were initiated, including diplomatic missions and United Nations (UN) agencies. The Head of Regional Office met the new WHO Representative to Jordan and briefed him about the Federation's regional activities and its cooperation with the UN agencies. Likewise, he met the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Deputy Country Director for Iraq and briefed him about the Federation's activities in Iraq and the areas of cooperation between UNDP and the Federation.

As part of his representation responsibilities the Head continued his contacts with the foreign missions in Jordan through telecommunications, meetings at functions and receptions.

Networking and knowledge sharing among the National Societies of the region:

The Middle East Regional Office, in coordination and collaboration with the United Arab Emirates Red Crescent, organized the third Gulf National Societies leaders meeting in Abu Dhabi (11-12 September, 2006). Participation in the meeting included the leaders of the National Societies of United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the Secretary General of the Organization of Arab Red Crescent Red Cross as well as the Federation

Secretariat represented by Head of the Middle East and North Africa Department and the Senior Officer of the Relationship Development unit of the communications and resource mobilization department.

The Head of Regional Office accompanied the Head of MENA department and the senior officer of the Relationship Development Unit in a familiarization visit to the Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in Dubai to be acquainted with the services provided by the RLU. During this mission, the team visited Al-Arabia Satellite TV station (a leading Arabic Media Service) where they met the Chief Editor of the channel to promote the cooperation between Al-Arabia and the Federation.

The Head of MENA department, the Head of Regional Office, the Head of Communication and Resource Mobilization Department and the Senior Officer of the Relationship Development unit carried out a follow-up visit to the Qatar Red Crescent where they met the senior staff of the National Society and discussed issues of mutual interest and confirmed the Federation's commitment to support the National Society in its capacity building endeavours. The Head of Communication and Resource Mobilization Department and the Senior Officer of the Relationship Development unit extended their familiarization visit to Al-Jazeera Satellite TV channel, Qatar Foundation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Head of the Middle East Regional Office attended the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Organization of the Arab Red Crescent Red Cross held in Damascus on 30 July, 2006. The National Societies of Syria, Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon, Sudan, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Egypt participated in the meeting. The meeting focused on the support to the Lebanese Red Cross and Syrian Arab Red Crescent in their response to the Middle East Humanitarian crisis. The Head of the Regional Office also attended the follow-up meeting of the Executive Committee of the Arab RC/RC Secretariat held in Beirut (18 September, 2006). The National Societies of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Somalia, United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Palestine, Morocco and Algiers participated in the meeting. Discussions were focused on the preparations for the 35th session of the Organization of the Arab Red Crescent Red Cross Organization to be held in Doha- Qatar in February, 2007 and the response of the National Societies of the region to the Middle East Humanitarian crisis.

There were regular coordination meetings with the ICRC counterparts, which focused on the enhancement of the cooperation and coordination between the two institutions to harmonize the capacity building support to the National Societies. The meetings also covered the coordination of the support to the National Societies of Lebanon and Syria during the Middle East Humanitarian Crisis and logistical services provided to the National Societies' humanitarian convoys passing through Jordan.

The Head of the Middle East Regional Office undertook several follow-up missions to the National Societies of Lebanon and Syria during the Middle East Humanitarian Crisis. During these missions he met the leadership of the two National Societies, ICRC counterparts and representatives from several partner National Societies from within and outside the region to coordinate the response to the crisis. He also met counterparts from the United Nations agencies.

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

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA81001 - MIDDLE EAST

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/9
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAA81001
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	1'360'785	1'331'661	672'631	1'315'873	667'082	5'348'032
B. Opening Balance	209'953	179'102	190'700	331'705	69'571	981'030
Income						
Cash contributions						
British Red Cross	0	48'836	0	0	0	48'836
Danish Red Cross	22'099					22'099
DFID Partnership	25'944	74'338	29'061	70'346	34'300	233'989
New York Office		3'067				3'067
Norwegian Red Cross	29'685			29'685		59'370
Swedish Red Cross	100'449	28'692	0	103'278		232'420
C1. Cash contributions	178'177	154'933	29'061	203'309	34'300	599'781
Outstanding pledges (Revalued)						
DFID Partnership	60'000	95'000		30'000		185'000
Swedish Red Cross	57'726	4'421		74'733		136'880
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	117'726	99'421		104'733		321'880
Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)						
British Red Cross		189'268				189'268
C3. Reallocations (within appeal)		189'268				189'268
Other Income						
Miscellaneous Income					4'737	4'737
Service Agreements					41'125	41'125
C6. Other Income					45'862	45'862
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	295'903	443'622	29'061	308'043	80'162	1'156'791
D. Total Funding = B + C	505'855	622'724	219'761	639'747	149'733	2'137'821

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	209'953	179'102	190'700	331'705	69'571	981'030
C. Income	295'903	443'622	29'061	308'043	80'162	1'156'791
E. Expenditure	-304'368	-505'462	-138'576	-350'836	-62'692	-1'361'934
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	201'487	117'262	81'185	288'912	87'041	775'886

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA81001 - MIDDLE EAST

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/9
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAA81001
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)		1'360'785	1'331'661	672'631	1'315'873	667'082	5'348'032	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	9'653							9'653
Clothing & textiles	14'480		363				363	14'117
Food	5'000		666				666	4'334
Water & Sanitation	47'810		9'726				9'726	38'084
Medical & First Aid	5'142		1'303				1'303	3'839
Teaching Materials	11'000							11'000
Utensils & Tools	6'957							6'957
Other Supplies & Services	348		11				11	337
Total Supplies	100'390		12'069				12'069	88'321
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	50'896							50'896
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment			7'651				7'651	-7'651
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	50'896		7'651				7'651	43'245
Transport & Storage								
Storage	730	1'781	1'032	259			3'072	-2'342
Distribution & Monitoring				145			145	-145
Transport & Vehicle Costs	96'217	9'356	6'974	5'022	15'243	8'852	45'447	50'770
Total Transport & Storage	96'947	11'137	8'006	5'426	15'243	8'852	48'664	48'283
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	667'008	52'611	53'124		58'356		164'091	502'917
Delegate Benefits	324'750	33'829	26'466		23'068	3'099	86'462	238'288
Regionally Deployed Staff	101'440	11'321			21'385		32'705	68'735
National Staff	668'398	46'098	35'002	46'909	20'377	19'195	167'580	500'818
National Society Staff	254'650	3'344	39'618		1'771		44'733	209'917
Consultants	168'200		20'756		32'845		53'601	114'599
Total Personnel Expenditures	2'184'446	147'203	174'965	46'909	157'801	22'294	549'172	1'635'274
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	1'237'717	90'181	133'303	11'727	94'991	1'750	331'951	905'766
Total Workshops & Training	1'237'717	90'181	133'303	11'727	94'991	1'750	331'951	905'766
General Expenditure								
Travel	459'740	15'911	33'153	11'972	27'090	4'565	92'692	367'049
Information & Public Relation	556'970	3'976	27'767	44'124	9'219	2'934	88'021	468'949
Office Costs	101'024	3'099	10'674	1'614	2'412	4'232	22'030	78'994
Communications	175'140	11'297	13'402	7'923	13'279	8'750	54'649	120'491
Professional Fees	2'000							2'000
Financial Charges	20'500	1'578	636	1'066	190	4'484	7'956	12'544
Other General Expenses	14'640	202	235	121	306	757	1'622	13'018
Total General Expenditure	1'330'014	36'064	85'868	66'819	52'497	25'722	266'969	1'063'045
Federation Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societies			37'000				37'000	-37'000
Total Federation Contributions & Transfers			37'000				37'000	-37'000
Program Support								
Program Support	347'622	19'784	32'855	9'007	22'804	4'075	88'526	259'096
Total Program Support	347'622	19'784	32'855	9'007	22'804	4'075	88'526	259'096
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			13'746	-1'312	7'500		19'934	-19'934
Total Operational Provisions			13'746	-1'312	7'500		19'934	-19'934
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	5'348'032	304'368	505'462	138'576	350'836	62'692	1'361'934	3'986'098
VARIANCE (C - D)		1'056'417	826'199	534'055	965'037	604'390	3'986'098	