

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

BANGLADESH: 2007 OUTLOOK

Appeal No. MAABD001
15 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: May to September 2006;

Appeal amount for 2006-2007 revised from CHF 5.4 million (USD 4.47 million or EUR 3.39 million) to CHF 6.3 million (USD 5.2 million or EUR 3.96 million);

Appeal coverage for 2006-2007: 54.2%;

Outstanding needs: CHF 2.9 million (USD 2.4 million or EUR 1.8 million).

Click here for the attached [interim financial report](#) showing income and expenditure till October 2006

Click here for the original [Bangladesh Appeal 2006-2007](#) (MAABD001) launched

Click here for the [revised logical frameworks](#)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: [South Asia Regional Appeal MAA52001;](#)
[Revised Tsunami Plan of Action 2005-2010 \(28/2004\)](#)

Programme summary:

During this reporting period under the leadership of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), with the support of the Federation delegation, work towards becoming a well-functioning national society continued. Changing its organizational development process towards a more holistic and systematic manner has strengthened BDRCS and integrated local branches with other programme areas.

The country faced a few natural catastrophes during this reporting period, in south western Bangladesh and, the storm in the Bay of Bengal. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) and the Federation have been assessing the situation to address the needs of those affected. For details please refer to the information bulletins posted on the Federation's website.

The health and care programme is progressing steadily, but continues to be poorly funded except for some HIV and AIDS activities. The Federation restructured the organizational development department and has been continuing efforts to work with the BDRCS on various integrity and managerial issues. Overall appeal coverage is at approximately 54.2% and additional funding for programmes in health and humanitarian values is particularly required.

Programmes	Original budget 2006-2007	Revised budget 2006-2007	Variance	Beneficiaries (estimated)
Health and care	616,421	773,187	25%	250,000
Disaster management	3,855,926	4,277,765	11%	11,855,000
Humanitarian values	71,792	71,792	0%	46,300
Organizational development	866,554	1,217,152	40%	24,000
Total	5,410,693	6,339,896	17%	12,175,300

Operational development

Bangladesh remains one of the least developed and most vulnerable countries in the world. A densely populated country, it is largely dependent on an agrarian economy and a mismatch of resources which leaves 63 million people below the poverty line. According to a progress assessment published jointly by the Bangladesh government and the United Nations (UN) in February 2005, many of the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) will not be achieved in Bangladesh without specific policy intervention and increased funding. The continued deterioration in standards of governance in the country acts as a deterrent to sustained funding. For the last five years, Bangladesh has been at the bottom of the corruption perceptions index published by Transparency International, an international NGO addressing corruption. Despite this, over the past decade, several positive aspects of governance explain Bangladesh's success in accelerating growth and reducing poverty.

Though ongoing political disturbances in the form of general strikes and sieges, and occasional social disturbances in public agitations and labour demonstrations have repeatedly hampered the effective and timely implementation of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) programmes, overall, most programmes were carried out as planned during the reporting period. During this period, BDRCS and the Federation provided support to the population affected by floods in three districts of southwestern Bangladesh, by distributing food and non-food relief items, and coordinating interventions with other organizations.

With the assistance of the Federation and its partner national societies, the BDRCS continues working towards its aim of becoming a well-functioning national society. In spite of the challenges ahead, particularly with regard to the poor financial situation of some of its programmes, it continues to progress to improve and increase its service delivery to vulnerable communities. The quality of programme activities was not as successful as they might have been, given the difficulty in sourcing for suitably qualified personnel. Plans are underway to review the BDRCS human resource structures and systems. Details are provided in the organizational development programme section.

There were significant revisions to the planned activities and budget for 2007. These were primarily due to the changing needs of the population (risk of avian influenza and increase in the number of polio cases), over-ambitious plans developed in 2005 for 2006-2007 (evidenced in an internal review process), and delays in conducting activities planned for 2006 (especially under the disaster management programme). Coupled with these changes were frequent political and social disturbances, limited human resource capacity of the BDRCS with the deployment of key staff for emergency operations, and a need to reduce the high percentage of administrative costs.

A new secretary general and deputy secretary general of BDRCS were recruited during the reporting period, after the BDRCS managing board came to a consensus on resolving these long outstanding appointments.

Efforts are now being made to mobilize resources and implement activities and programmes in a coordinated way, in order to assist the most vulnerable in a more efficient manner. This includes better interaction and cooperation between the Bangladesh delegation and the BDRCS. There has been a significant scaling-up of programme activities during the reporting period, particularly in the areas of disaster management and health. Figures demonstrating income and expenditure of programmes up to September 2006 are shown in table 1 attached as annex I.

The continued support of traditional donors (British, Hong Kong, Japanese and Swedish Red Cross Societies) ,to the Bangladesh annual appeals has ensured continuity in implementing the various programmes and made possible the progress and impact described below, including steps towards strengthening the national society, particularly in the areas of disaster management and organizational development.

Health and Care

[<click here for revised health and care logframes>](#)

Overall Goal: The health status of the most vulnerable population is addressed and improved through preventive, promotion and curative interventions.

Programme objective: Capacity of BDRCS health department and selected existing health programs are supported to ensure more appropriate health services to the most vulnerable and contribute to reduce the burden of HIV through community based, integrated intervention.

Overview

By addressing and improving the health status of the most vulnerable communities, BDRCS seeks to contribute to the implementation of the national health policy. BDRCS provides preventative and curative health care mainly through a network of 57 mother and child health (MCH) centres and four general hospitals, five maternity hospitals, three outdoor clinics, two eye clinics and five blood centres. Most of these health care facilities are situated in the remote areas of the country.

During the reporting period, the HIV and AIDS project was started in two places after having been delayed previously due to difficulties in recruiting an HIV and AIDS coordinator. The first national level public health in emergencies training workshop was conducted successfully by BDRCS. In addition, the national society organized a number of awareness raising activities to celebrate world blood donor day and world first aid day. Continued support was provided to the health and water and sanitation components of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) development project under the disaster management programme.

Progress/Achievements

Project 1: HIV and AIDS project

Project objective - BDRCS has contributed to the fight against HIV and AIDS through strengthened local responses, community based prevention, care and anti-stigma activities implemented in collaboration with other partners in the country and South Asia.

Expected results

1. Knowledge, attitude and practices of young people related to HIV and AIDS/STIs are understood, and their needs are reflected in programme design and advocacy.
2. Young people are empowered with relevant knowledge and life skills for HIV/STI prevention.
3. PLWHA and their networks are involved in various programmes.
4. Stigma and discrimination against PLWHA are reduced in BDRCS programme areas.
5. Status of PLWHA in high-prevalence areas are prioritized and assisted.
6. Voluntary non-remunerated blood donation is enhanced in the blood centres of the programme areas.
7. BDRCS community unit midwives (trainees) are trained in STI/HIV and AIDS, and standard infection control precautions.
8. Standard infection control measures (universal precautions) are introduced in the BDRCS health care facilities.
9. National Society's HIV programmes are well coordinated with national programmes and programmes of other key players.
10. National Society's contribution to the HIV response is viewed as significant by other key players.

Jessore district and Dhaka city have been selected for implementing the HIV and AIDS prevention project, through youth peer education (YPE) and life skills approach. The selection was made, given the vulnerability of the population in these areas, the existence of a network of positive people (*Ashar Alo* network), as well as the presence of a large BDRCS volunteer force, blood centres and a commitment from the concerned branches. The selected communities of Jessore district in particular, face a problem of adolescent girls being trafficked across the Indian border and sold to brothels. Many of the young women who did manage to return, were found to be suffering from an advanced stage of AIDS and all of them passed away.

For implementation of the project, 20 schools, 20 colleges and six communities were selected and their representatives were briefed about the project, including the importance of targeting youth and issues surrounding HIV and AIDS including stigma and discrimination. A training of trainers for the selected teachers and community leaders started in November. BDRCS community unit midwives (trainees) will be trained on HIV and AIDS, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and standard infection control precautions during the coming months and in the first quarter of 2007. A baseline survey is planned to assess the existing knowledge, attitude and current practices of youth and the community regarding HIV and AIDS and STIs, as well as the attitude, behaviour and understanding of young people and community members regarding stigma and discrimination towards people living with HIV and AIDS (PLWHA).

The BDRCS together with the Federation is in regular contact with the network of PLWHA (*Ashar Alo* network). The network has conveyed its willingness to participate in the BDRCS HIV and AIDS project, including in the youth peer education aspect, through involvement in dissemination and awareness raising activities. The government's national AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases programme, UNICEF and the *Ashar Alo* network were consulted before finalizing the youth peer education component of the project, to ensure that the project objectives are in line with the national programme. They confirmed their support to the BDRCS project through their representation in the project steering committee (including the presence of one positive person in the committee) thereby involving them at the policy making level.

Under the voluntary non-remunerated blood donation component of the project, World Blood Donor Day (14 June) was celebrated with great enthusiasm in four out of five blood centres, despite a country-wide strike. Regular blood donors (especially youth), blood donation camp organizers and other stakeholders (ministry of health and family welfare, government of Bangladesh) were acknowledged for their commitment. The blood centres organized a procession with about 400 BDRCS youth volunteers taking part. This was followed by voluntary blood donation camps where close to 200 donations were recorded. These activities aimed to create awareness about voluntary non-remunerated blood donation, world blood donor day and visibility of BDRCS safe blood activities. Between April to September, five BDRCS blood centres collected a total of 13,946 units of blood. This exercise benefited 2,790 thalasseemics who received safe blood through the BDRCS blood centres.

Medical officers in two blood centres (Jessore and Dinazpur) attended a one-week workshop in June, arranged by the safe blood programme, Government of Bangladesh. This enriched their knowledge on practical issues and the rules and regulations of blood safety. Blood centre medical officers in Dhaka and Jessore attended the regional meeting on voluntary blood donor motivation in Kathmandu in September. It is planned to conduct a similar meeting for other blood centre medical officers, donor motivators and blood donation camp organizers of BDRCS.

The aspects of the project related to reduction of stigma and discrimination against PLWHA and prioritizing and assisting the status of PLWHA in high-prevalence areas have been integrated into other parts of the project (see the section on revisions being made to the structure of the programme in 2007).

BDRCS active involvement in the implementation of the HIV and AIDS project has created anticipation among stakeholders, although it will take some time yet to gauge the impact of the project.

Project 2: National measles immunization support project

Project objective - BDRCS has contributed to the government's efforts to reduce morbidity and mortality due to measles and polio in Bangladesh by actively participating in measles catch up campaigns and national immunization days and other health emergencies, avian influenza in particular.

Expected results

1. BDRCS is part of an interagency coordination committee at national and district levels for the measles catch up campaign.
2. Well trained Red Crescent youth volunteers are involved in social mobilization, door-to-door tracing services, and provide support to immunization teams during measles immunization activities according to government norms.
3. Reports from the districts are collected and consolidated at national headquarters level.
4. Capacity of the BDRCS health department is improved to handle the threat of avian influenza.

There was no measles catch up campaign in Bangladesh after March 2006. However, there were three rounds of national immunization days during the reporting period where health personnel in the mother and child health (MCH) centres extended their routine support to the government health workers. Assistance was in terms of support during the use of the MCH centres as immunization booths, door-to-door visits, and awareness raising/motivating community participation. The health personnel at the MCH centres act as a link between the government and the communities.

The BDRCS health department is in the process of preparing a brief plan to train 50 volunteers to disseminate the avian influenza message among a larger number of volunteers.

Project 3: Health sector strengthening project

Project objective - Capacity of BDRCS health department is enhanced to respond to health and water and sanitation (watsan) needs of the most vulnerable communities appropriately during emergencies in coordination with DM department

Expected results

1. Efficiency of BDRCS health department is improved to respond to public health needs during emergencies.
2. Capacity of BDRCS health and disaster management departments is strengthened to address water and sanitation issues during emergencies.
3. Support is provided to the CHT watsan programme.
4. Support is provided to the CHT traditional birth attendants (TBA) training.

BDRCS, supported by the Federation, conducted its first national level public health in emergencies workshop from 11 to 14 September. The 19 participants included 16 doctors, 2 field officers who support the mobile medical teams during disaster response, and the newly recruited Federation watsan officer. Through practical hands-on exercises, participants were trained in how to provide health support during future disasters. They also learned about the key concepts, principles and best practices of public health in emergencies and disaster management. The workshop was facilitated mostly by the six health personnel from BDRCS who were trained at the regional public health in emergencies workshop in Dhaka from 7 to 13 May. A similar workshop is planned for a group of 25 to 30 paramedics in the coming months.

World First Aid Day was celebrated on 9 September by BDRCS headquarters and by units across the country. To create awareness about first aid and to strengthen the spirit of non-discrimination among those trained by BDRCS in providing first aid to communities, the following activities were carried out:

- Human chains were formed by volunteers in Dhaka and other cities;
- A meeting was organized to discuss the various issues of first aid and a first aid competition was held.
- Four first aid booths were set up at strategic locations in Dhaka to provide first aid, disseminate information on first aid, as well as create awareness about the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.



Human chain by Red Cross youth (RCY) volunteers on World First Aid Day

Appointment of a new Federation watsan officer in July has helped to strengthen the capacity of BDRCS in addressing watsan issues during emergencies. In the water logged areas of Jessore district, 20 tube wells and 50 slab latrines have been installed to provide safe drinking water and sanitation facilities to the people displaced by the water logging situation. In addition, 250 kilograms of bleaching powder and 175,000 water purification tablets, along with 500 leaflets describing methods for use have been distributed among these displaced persons. It is also planned to procure water purification plants, position these in strategic places and train BDRCS staff and volunteers in operating them.

An assessment was conducted on the condition of all watsan facilities provided by BDRCS under the CHT development project. Essential maintenance work on these facilities was carried out, with the involvement of the local communities, thereby providing an opportunity for hands-on training for community members. So far, 48

tube wells have been repaired and another 20 to 22 tube wells are planned to be repaired by the end of the current year. In addition, it is also planned to install 144 tube wells and 1,500 slab latrines in the project areas by the end of the year. A training for watsan organizers and field officers on maintenance of watsan facilities has been planned during October and November, to provide them with the necessary skills to carry out timely minor repairs to ensure the provision of continued safe drinking water to the community. The communities themselves are taking part in the regular maintenance of the watsan units, using their own resources.



Meeting with traditional birth attendants (TBAs)

In July, a visit to three *upazillas* (sub-districts) was conducted to review the project and to plan for 2007. Discussions held with traditional birth attendants (TBAs) and community members brought out a need for refresher training and replenishment of delivery kits with necessary materials. Following this, a refresher training for TBAs was organized. A total of 215 TBAs from nine *upazillas* (in three districts) are being trained by the government family planning department in September and October. Also, new delivery kits will be provided to train TBAs, and the existing kits will be replenished. In 2007 it is planned for regular refresher courses for the TBAs and the emphasis will be more on timely referral of cases and record keeping.

Impact

Meetings on youth peer education promoted an interest among schools and colleges, as well as volunteers from the community, to implement the YPE programme based on a felt need.

Adequate quantities of safe blood continued to be available to the needy through the BDRCS blood centres. The symposiums and discussions arranged in relation to World Blood Donors Day created a lot of awareness among the general public, especially among the youth. Awareness-raising was focused on the need for screening blood for transfusion, and the necessity for safe blood. As a result of recognition given to voluntary donors during the world blood donor day celebrations, many young donors, mostly BDRCS youth volunteers, felt encouraged to donate blood and more than 300 units of blood was donated on that day.

The repairing and installation of tube wells under the watsan component of the programme in CHT, will lead to safe drinking water for approximately 8,500 to 9,000 families (40 to 50 families per tube well). In addition, the installation of tube wells will help to reduce the distance women have to walk to get safe drinking water, resulting in an increase in the amount of water used per family. An increase in the quantity of water used leads to an improvement in hygiene practices and levels. This constitutes a small step in achieving the UN Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 7, target 10 that aims to provide sustainable access to improved water sources.

This is also related to MDG 4 that aims at reducing child mortality. Of the 90% of children who die below the age of five from diarrhea related conditions, 20% are caused by unsafe drinking water.

Under the CHT TBA training, the replenishment of TBA kits will encourage them to follow sterile delivery practices that in turn will reduce the maternal and infant morbidity and mortality rate. This will also encourage them to report on a regular basis to BDRCS, the number of deliveries conducted by them, complications faced and referrals made.

Constraints

Programme activities had to be postponed or cancelled several times due to continuing political uncertainties that led to repeated upheavals in road blocks and strikes. The lack of a focal person at the BDRCS also delayed the planning and implementation of the programmes as planned.

Health and Care: outlook 2007

HIV/AIDS (Project 1)

The structure of the HIV and AIDS project has been revised, with all aspects related to particular issues being merged into a few common components. As a result, the number of expected results and their indicators, means of verification and activities, have been consolidated. The main reason is to simplify project implementation, monitoring and reporting. It is based on the experience of the past six months and refines the project restructuring made in April. The project coverage has also been increased with interventions being replicated in three new districts.

Public health (Project 2)

'Contributing to the government's efforts to reduce morbidity and mortality due to measles in Bangladesh' has been dropped. At present, the Bangladesh government has no plan to take up a mass measles immunization campaign during the year 2007.

The prevalence of malnutrition in Bangladesh is amongst the highest in the world. Millions of children and women suffer from one or more forms of malnutrition, especially anaemia and vitamin-A deficiency. For this reason, the project will contribute to the government's efforts to reduce morbidity and mortality due to anaemia, through community based interventions and behaviour change communication. The existing volunteers under other programmes (DM volunteers) will implement this component, thereby integrating different programmes. This component will be implemented in three areas of the CHT as well as four areas in other districts.

Community health care and watsan (Project 3)

Besides some rephrasing of the objective and expected results under this project, a few new elements have been taken up by this project. The new added elements are as follows –

1. (Expected result 2) Providing life-saving first aid to road traffic accident victims at selected spots. Road traffic injuries are a major but neglected public health problem, and most deaths occur outside healthcare facilities. Medical evidence suggests a 'golden hour' that exists immediately after accidents during which road crash victims stand a greater chance of survival, and a reduction in the adverse consequences of their injuries.
2. A new component on provision of support to community organizers (COs) in delivering essential service packages to the community. COs, many of whom are female, are trained volunteers from the communities covered by the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) development project under the disaster management programme. This new element is closely linked to the CHT development project based on field visits by the health team.
3. Traditional birth attendants (TBA) in the CHT project and COs support each other in delivering services to community members. The services provided by the TBAs are often under-reported and COs can play a major role in improving this. Hence some of the activities related to this aspect have been included in this project

Disaster Management

[<click here for revised disaster management logframes>](#)

Overall Goal: The vulnerability of people in Bangladesh, particularly of women, to disasters is reduced.

Programme Objective: BDRCS disaster management programmes are capable of rendering effective services to reduce vulnerability and achieve the characteristics of a well-functioning national society.

Overview

The overall programme implementation during this reporting period was satisfactory, partially achieving its planned objectives despite political constraints (strikes, rallies and blockades) and delays in transfer of funds to the

branches due to the various administrative processes at the national headquarters.

To maintain integrity and proper financial management, the delegation has been closely monitoring the financial management of the programmes, which has caused some delay in transferring funds while carrying out thorough checks.

The BDRCS and the Federation were active in strengthening the disaster preparedness and response mechanisms of the national society through a number of measures. Key initiatives were to develop a rapid response plan, criteria for proper and appropriate interventions, preparation of inventory lists for project equipment and disaster preparedness stock procurement. The programme has progressed well with significant scale-up, particularly in community based disaster management (CBDM) in flood-affected districts, and increased capacity in reporting, planning and human resources. Disaster management programme mapping has been developed to effectively undertake disaster monitoring.

During the reporting period, close cooperation and coordination was maintained with the ministry of disaster management and relief, ministry of health, disaster forum (a network of international organizations, NGOs and donor organizations active in disaster relief and preparedness), disaster emergency response group (jointly chaired by UN and the ministry of disaster management and relief), international organizations and NGOs to implement activities more efficiently and effectively. The BDRCS is represented on disaster management committees from national to grassroots levels. These committees operate as coordination cells, thereby providing opportunities to play a productive role in national disaster preparedness planning, coordination and advocacy. The disaster management departments of the Bangladesh delegation and the BDRCS have been in close contact with the World Food Programme, the British government's Department for International Development (DFID) and the European Community Humanitarian Aid department (ECHO), and are drawing up plans with these organizations for upcoming disasters.

Progress/Achievements

Project 1a: Community based disaster management - flood

Project objective - High risk communities, especially women at household level in flood-prone areas, are prepared to manage impacts of severe floods.

The CBDM project covers 80 communities in the ten most flood affected districts of Bangladesh. It focuses on building local community capacities to prepare for and respond to disasters through trainings, awareness-raising, and standardization of policies and training methodologies. In order to strengthen community capacity for disaster management through improved systems and mechanisms and to ensure effective disaster management at all levels, BDRCS has already organized more than 3,500 volunteers in all flood-prone districts covered under the CBDM project. Awareness raising and community training in disaster preparedness are ongoing activities.



Information billboard on flood preparedness

The target group is the general population with a special focus being placed on the community disaster management committee, disaster health volunteers and members of the community disaster response team and unit disaster response team. The training includes community based first aid (CBFA), basic training in disaster management and leadership training. The CBFA training for community volunteers is a major tool in preparing them to combat the effects of disasters. Regular volunteer meetings help preparedness for deployment of local volunteers and other available resources.

Planned activities for the next reporting period:

Monthly meetings of community disaster management committees (CDMC), income generation motivational workshop for community people, disaster management (DM) coordination meeting at community and unit levels, trainings, skill development for micro groups, training of trainers on various DM activities, TBA and leadership training for CDMC members, community to community exchange visits, procurement of equipment/first aid kits, distribution of saplings/community forestry.

Project 1b: Cyclone preparedness programme

Project objective - High-risk communities, especially women at household level, in 11 coastal districts are prepared to respond to cyclones



Awareness raising rally on cyclone preparedness

A total of 90 awareness raising rallies on cyclone preparedness took place in 30 *upazillas* covered under the programme, with banners, festoons and posters. Local volunteers and approximately 20,000 community people participated. The rallies were organized before the cyclone season to remind the targeted coastal communities about the threats of cyclones and tsunamis, early warning systems and the preparedness measures to combat the two disasters. About 100,000 community people observed the rallies. An assessment format for repair and maintenance of cyclone shelters has been prepared and will be circulated to all the units after it is translated into the vernacular, Bengali.

Project 1c: Cyclone preparedness programme

Project objective - To enhance and sustain the capacity of the coastal population through improved early warning systems for cyclones.

Routine inspections and maintenance of the wireless network and other warning equipment through repair work and replacements (depending on availability) were carried out to ensure the smooth running of the wireless network. Eight VHF radios and four “deep cycle” batteries were replaced, with another 21 batteries to be delivered in a few weeks time.

The volunteers attended regular committee meetings at the *upazilla* level (30 meetings with approximately 300 participants), union level (166 meetings with approximately 1,500 participants) and unit/village level (1,289 meetings with approximately 14,000 participants). In 30 *upazillas* covered under the programme, 124 meetings (day-long orientation sessions) took place. About 36,300 students and teachers from schools and colleges, as well as local volunteers participated in these meetings. In addition, 30 day-long orientation sessions were organized among 15,000 fishermen in the 30 *upazillas* before the start of the cyclone season. Refresher training (62 courses) on basic DM, humanitarian values, first aid, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and gender sensitization were carried out for existing volunteers in 31 *upazillas*, in which 2,160 volunteers participated.

Several severe storms influenced by depression over the Bay of Bengal affected the coastal districts between 19 to 21 September. The BDRCS put its cyclone response plan into action, raising warning signal flags, mobilizing volunteers for rescue operations, relief distributions and to help the affected people to build temporary houses.

Planned activities for the next reporting period:

Refresher training of trainers in DM and basic first aid for community trainers (officers and volunteers), evacuation drills, staging of dramas and field demonstrations, radio operators’ training, upgrading workshop facilities, revising volunteer guidelines, *upazilla* and union level committee meetings of volunteers, coordination meeting with other actors, annual review and planning exercise of the programme, observance of the national day for disaster reduction.

Project 1d: Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) development project

Project objective - Nine high-risk *upazillas* (sub-districts) of CHT are brought closer together, through joint participation in, and access to, DP, humanitarian values (HV) and primary health care activities.

Health activities

A consolidated list of basic medicines to be procured and provided for the community people in the programme areas has been finalized.

Watsan activities

Survey for taking up various watsan related activities (installation, repair and maintenance) in the different programme areas was carried out during August. The majority of damaged water wells were repaired in the two districts of Khagrachori and Rangamati.

Planned activities for the next reporting period:

Provision of essential health service packages, refresher course for field staff and community organizers (COs), CBFA training for CDC members, DM basic training for CDCs, annual lessons learned workshop. The regular activities by TBAs and COs will continue as usual.

Project 1e: Earthquake preparedness and response programme**Project objective - High-risk population in four cities (Dhaka city, Chittagong city, Sylhet and Rangpur) is better prepared in case of an earthquake.**

Besides regular activities under the EPRP programme, the BDRCS carried out a number of significant events during this reporting period. The BDRCS regularly maintained liaison with the government and other national and international agencies involved in earthquake related activities. In collaboration with the government and other international organizations, BDRCS organized a workshop on preparation of programme guidelines and a training module. A draft framework emerged from the workshop which is now being finalized. The BDRCS prepared an earthquake response plan with the assistance of the Federation.

20 volunteers attended a training of trainers in community leadership in earthquake preparedness. The volunteers will be able to carry out trainings efficiently in the future. In July, BDRCS members of the earthquake programme visited the Nepal Red Cross Society in order to share knowledge on earthquake preparedness and response. The exchange visit was very useful for the BDRCS team since it was a hands-on opportunity for practical knowledge and experiences.

Planned activities for the next reporting period:

Reorganize Red Crescent (RC) squads at branches, skill development training on basic DM and CBFA, finalize vulnerability and capacity assessment documentation, orientation workshop for community volunteers, regular meetings, training on RC Movement and earthquake response and preparedness, awareness raising campaign.

Project 2a: Strengthening the response capacity of BDRCS units/branches**Project objective - The response capacity of RC units is further strengthened.**

Ten units disaster response teams (consisting of 25 members each), formed earlier in the year, are functioning well. The teams have been holding bi-monthly meetings, assisting in assessments for emergency relief operations, distributing relief materials, visiting community schools to disseminate 'disaster response' messages and developing linkages with other stakeholders in their respective units.

In order to respond faster to the upcoming floods in the monsoon season (late June to beginning September) the BDRCS, with the support of the Federation, organized a one-day workshop with the participation of the unit level officers of the national society and executive committee members of the units from the 10 most flood-prone districts of Bangladesh. Preparedness and faster response mechanisms were disseminated. Guidelines for needs assessments and operational procedures to be followed during emergencies were also disseminated.

Planned activities for the next reporting period:

One-day orientation for unit disaster response teams (UDRT) on disaster response, UDRT bi-monthly meeting, procurement of apron with emblem for UDRT and CDRT members, organizing a DM coordination meeting with other stakeholders at the district level, quarterly coordination meeting, publication of quarterly newsletter by UDRT members at field (unit) level.

Project 2b: Strengthening the response capacity of BDRCS national headquarters

Project objective - To further strengthen the response capacity of BDRCS national headquarters (NHQ)

The BDRCS provided effective and rapid response to a number of small-scale disasters such as tornados, tropical storms ('norwesters'), fires, cold waves and river erosion during the months of May to September. The national society assisted more than 15,000 families with various non-food relief materials through its emergency response projects. BDRCS trucks were utilized for transporting relief materials.

All the vehicles to be used for emergency response purposes have been checked regularly and found to be in good condition.

In order to renovate the warehouses, the BDRCS and the Federation have developed a plan for the existing warehouses located in strategic locations in the country. Planned activities will start after the current rainy season and will be finalized by the end of this year.

The DM delegate and the finance manager from the Bangladesh delegation participated in the regional disaster response team training conducted by the South Asia regional delegation in Sri Lanka.

Project 3: Effective management of the overall DM programme

Project objective - The DM programme is effectively coordinated, monitored, reviewed, documented, evaluated and the lessons learned distilled for future replication.

The BDRCS DM division regularly organized and coordinated meetings with the support of the delegation. The BDRCS officers of each of the concerned programme/project departments attended these monthly coordination meetings. During the meetings various problems, constraints, challenges, solutions and opportunities of all the programmes/projects and their ongoing activities were discussed and resolved. Issues relating to the appeal process, implementation of activities, funding and the placement of funds from the Federation to BDRCS were also discussed.

Representatives from the BDRCS DM division continued to attend many of the meetings, training sessions, workshops and seminars organized by other departments. This further strengthened and enhanced cooperation and coordination among all BDRCS services rendered, to address the common goal of helping the risk-prone vulnerable population.

Resource persons from different stakeholder organizations working in the field of disaster management in the country were invited by the DM division from time to time to provide their expertise at seminars, workshops and training sessions. This has enhanced cooperation and coordination among stakeholders.

Impact

In the last three months branches have been increasingly involved in joint assessments and relief operation with local authorities. The workshop on flood response emphasized the importance of speedy response to disasters, and helped the branches to be better prepared to face the upcoming floods more efficiently.

The units and communities have been better able to cope on their own with smaller scale disaster (i.e. tropical storms and tornados) through proper disaster preparedness measures ensuring minimal casualties and damages. .

Women volunteers trained in primary health care and reproductive health are assisting to conduct sessions for micro group members on health issues. They also helped in contributing knowledge to the community people, especially women at household level, in terms of family level preparedness.

The units report that over 100,000 community people were expected to indirectly benefit from the dissemination meetings on disaster preparedness in schools and colleges at the community level under CPP among the targeted coastal population. Awareness of the Movement and its fundamental principles was also increased.

The orientation on the operational guideline for the community development committee members under CHT disaster preparedness project will enable them to lead their respective community people better and be a more

effective mediator between the Unit and their communities while planning and implementing programmes.

The services provided by TBAs trained in anti-natal and post-natal care under CHT DP are becoming well known. Field visits have demonstrated that the people are well aware of the TBAs and do rely on them for proper care before, after and especially during delivery, reducing the risk of infant mortality in the project areas.

In CHT DP community people are now able to carry out minor repairs and maintenance of tube wells (water source) and sanitation facilities helping to reduce the rate of water borne diseases.

Awareness-raising campaigns, the regular duties carried out by community organizers and TBAs, and CDC and micro group meetings have all provided a good way to communicate to people in the community other aspects of the Red Crescent work and the fundamental principles of the Movement.

Regular meetings helped the volunteers of the EPRP programme to keep on track of timely activities that include mobilization of local volunteers and other available resources, and at the same time, strengthened the coordinated response and preparedness capacity for disaster at Unit level and community level.

The meetings were organized to remind the targeted coastal community people through the students about the threats of cyclones and tsunamis, the early warning systems and the preparedness measures on how to combat the two disasters.

Constraints

In general, due to some recent instability (strikes, rallies, blockades and unrest by garment workers) in the country, a few constraints were faced on the meeting of deadlines and transfer of resources. There were also some delays in implementing programme activities due to human resource related issues in the field, which have now been resolved. The disaster management focal point (deputy secretary general of the BDRCS) is new and is in the process of understanding the organizational procedures and programme activities. The CBDM in-charge returned from his six-month tsunami mission in June. Some delays in programme implementation were encountered due to the slow administrative system of the BDRCS, including delays with respect to finance/gaps in compliance with financial regulations, which hindered the smooth transfer of funds.

Activities under the cyclone preparedness programme were slightly delayed because of the uncertain political situation and unfavourable climate situation. Similarly, implementation of the CHT development project was hampered at times due to the tense security situation in the hill tracts.

Moreover, the areas covered under the project are in remote hilly locations, resulting in occasional delays in information flow from the field to the BDRCS unit office and NHQ. Also, as some pending vouchers of the project were being settled during this reporting period, a few of the activities were slightly delayed.

Despite these constraints and difficulties, programme activities are moving in the right direction. BDRCS and the Federation are confident of meeting the deadlines and keeping up the quality of work, through joint action for problem resolution.

Disaster Management: outlook 2007

The structure of the disaster management programme has been revised, with elements previously grouped under eight projects being consolidated into five projects. The earlier restructuring made in April has been further refined based on the experience of the past six months. This restructuring is working towards a more holistic approach to disaster management, and to allow for better alignment with the disaster management activities of the BDRCS disaster management division. This revision will also allow for more comprehensive monitoring of the programme, as the revised logframes contain more specific and detailed expected results, indicators and means of verification as compared with the original logframes. Lastly, it is expected that this new programme structure will allow for better integration with the delegation's other programmes in health, organizational development and humanitarian values.

One of the areas where interventions have been merged is the cyclone preparedness project, where two projects have been brought together and now form a single project. As a result, the expected results, with their indicators and means of verification, have been merged together. One of the reasons for merging the two projects is to

simplify project implementation and monitoring and avoid duplication of activities.

The project on effective management of the overall disaster management programme has been developed as an output that cross-cuts all the other projects. The reason for this has been to have a more integrated approach in projects and activities under the disaster management programme, as well as to address and improve the administrative and managerial capacity of the national society in the overall disaster management programme.

Besides this, the CHT project has been modified to include a focus on an improved standard of living in the targeted nine high-risk upazillas (sub-districts) and an increased interaction among the various ethnic groups in the target areas. A key area under this project related to livelihood interventions in the targeted communities, to improve their living conditions and recovery capacity, has been taken out. This was done on the grounds that the communities, who have been supported through the creation of a revolving fund financial assistance to facilitate income generation initiatives, will take more responsibility in managing and utilizing this fund without external support.

Also, under the community based disaster management project, the expected result on “strengthening the livelihood security of the most high-risk households” has been taken out of the logframe as the project is at a preliminary stage, making it difficult to take up such an intervention.

Organizational Development

[<click here for revised organizational development logframes>](#)

Overall Goal: BDRCS is transformed into a well functioning national society, effective and efficient in reducing vulnerability by mobilizing the power of humanity.

Programme Objective: All departments of BDRCS are capable of rendering effective services to reduce vulnerability and achieve the characteristics of a well functioning national society, through improved programme management at all levels.

Overview

The new holistic and integrated approach in the organizational development (OD) field, especially the branch development concept, is driving BDRCS in planning and implementing the activities in a systematic manner. In the previous reporting period, the OD programme identified the weak areas of BDRCS and the ways of improvement on those areas. The OD programme until very recently was under-funded during this reporting period. Therefore, the Federation and BDRCS had to reduce activities. Another consequence of the lack of funding was a reduction of staff in the delegation.

The Federation OD team and the BDRCS middle management together revised the 2006 to 2015 vision and strategy which will guide BDRCS to achieve its goal in an integrated way. Priorities and activities have been modified accordingly. This vision will soon be adopted by the BDRCS management.

Developments to the new branch development concept have been approved by the BDRCS governance and management. Progress has also been made on developing the BDRCS capacity in effective programme management at all levels. These initiatives have included efforts towards development of systems and procedures in financial and human resource management. For better monitoring and transparency, some steps have been taken to introduce a computerized financial system in BDRCS, which should be implemented in the near future.

As with all programmes in the last six months, a conscious effort has been made to better integrate the humanitarian values programme and to place more emphasis on the importance of the seven fundamental principles of the Movement in OD work. This has helped to maintain the image of BDRCS as a neutral and impartial organization in the country by providing key humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable people of Bangladesh.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: BDRCS has increased capacity for strategic planning and effective programme management, through targeted skills development

During a workshop supported by the Federation, the heads of BDRCS departments established a proposed shared strategic vision for the national society from 2006 to 2015.

The new approach to branch development is a significant part of the new strategy and has been approved by the BDRCS governance and management. This approach will enable BDRCS to better plan and implement its programme in a measurable way, and will increase the capacity for sustainable branch development.

During the development discussions, the OD programme has worked intensively to integrate the programmes (health, disaster management and humanitarian values) and the “Central Service functions” (key support functions provide by the headquarters office) with the OD process. Information and resources will be shared among various programmes so as to maintain integration.

During the reporting period, a review meeting was held and a small working group of BDRCS and the Federation were working to address the low funding for the annual appeal by identifying the strategy and prioritizing the activities. Following this review, it was decided to by reduce staff within the delegation, allowing for the available funding to be concentrated directly on capacity building of the national society.

During the field visits to Chittagong district branch and 3 branches in Chittagong Hill Tracts, the programme coordinator held discussions with the branch governance and staff on various issues relating to branch development. Various pending issues were followed up on return to the delegation.

Expected Result 2: Members of the BDRCS governing board and branch executive committees are well informed of the Movement’s Fundamental Principles, values, systems and procedures and are highly motivated and committed to applying them to the national society work (leadership training).

The BDRCS managing board has resolved the long pending appointment of the secretary general and deputy secretary general of BDRCS, displaying an increase in commitment and motivational levels. The newly appointed secretary general and deputy secretary general have extensive experience and skills in management and leadership. They are in the process of learning about the systems, procedures and policies of BDRCS and the Movement. The secretary general will attend the Federation’s leadership development course in Geneva in November.

The treasurer of BDRCS participated in the fundraising skill-share workshop in London from 4 to10 September. BDRCS will be able to use his experience from the workshop for better fundraising and financial management.

Two managing board members of BDRCS participated in the annual meeting of legal affairs and on International Humanitarian Law (IHL) in Geneva from 9 to15 September. With their experience, BDRCS will be in a more capable position to resolve the current legal issues and can be proactive in disseminating IHL information in different sectors of Bangladesh.

Plans are underway for the organization of regional branch meetings to improve communication, and to orient the branches in their roles and responsibilities.

Expected Result 3: BDRCS volunteer base has increased and developed into a gender diverse, well trained, highly motivated, well organized network (volunteer management and development project).

BDRCS has a wide range of diversified volunteers in different programmes, but the volunteer management system is not unified. To have a common and integrated approach of managing volunteers for better achievement and to ensure the retention of the volunteers, BDRCS and the Federation have initiated the process of creating a unified and well-defined volunteers management system.

One step towards this was a two-day workshop in June, facilitated by the Asia Pacific volunteering development delegate. Participants included members of the managing board, branch representatives, Red Crescent teachers in charge of the Red Crescent youth groups in schools and colleges, BDRCS senior officials, volunteer leaders,

Federation delegates and officers. A working group has been formed to finalize the workshop recommendations and to produce a proposed volunteer management system for approval of the BDRCS managing board. Initial discussions have been held to follow up on this proposal, and a target has been set to finalize a draft of this system by the end of the year.

Expected Result 4: BDRCS has enhanced capacity to manage effectively its financial and human resources (financial resource development project)

The national society earned 382,500 Takas (6,910 CHF, 5,552 USD, 4,333 EUR) from fees for basic first aid training courses conducted by BDRCS training department for different UN organizations, NGOs and multinational organizations. The delegation OD Officer facilitated some of the sessions at these training courses.

The fundraising department has procured and placed donation boxes in different entry and exit points of the country, including important places in Dhaka city, and collected 64,191 Takas (1,159 CHF, 932 USD, 727 EUR) during the reporting period. The department has introduced different kinds of souvenirs (pens, key rings, booklets, folders, writing pads, pins, showpieces, first aid kits, mugs and ceramic plates) imprinted with the Red Crescent monogram and slogans promoting Movement activities. So far 26,000 Takas (470 CHF, 377 USD, 294 EUR) have been raised to support BDRCS activities.

In view of sustainable development and reducing the administrative support cost to BDRCS, the salary support for the seven staff members of the BDRCS training department has been withdrawn with effect from July.

Expected Result 5: BDRCS has established and leads a coordination network with NGO's, government and civil society, as a platform for communication and advocacy development (communications and advocacy development project).

The June to September issues of the BDRCS monthly newsletter were successfully published and circulated, helping to disseminate the BDRCS activities to different stakeholders.

The experience of this year has shown that the aim of this expected result is currently not realistic as a priority area for BDRCS. Therefore, this expected result has been removed from the 2007 plans. See the "outlook 2007" section below for more details on the reasons for removal of this aspect of the programme.

Expected Result 6: Red Crescent youth and volunteers (RCY/RCV) have developed skills and knowledge to effectively and efficiently raise awareness, prepare for and respond to disaster, and provide key humanitarian services at community level (youth and volunteers' development project).

The youth and volunteers department provided first aid support in various public events during the reporting period, for example in schools, at national festivals and during cricket tournaments.

The department coordinated the observance of World Red Cross Day. At the national headquarters' level, BDRCS observed the day, with 500 volunteers and staff members attending the rally, including the chairman and other managing board members. The department conducted a cultural competition on 5 and 6 May at the headquarters. A total of 186 participants took part in six categories of cultural events like song, dance, recitation, drawing, drama and essay writing contests. The winners were awarded in the evening at a cultural show followed by a discussion meeting on the occasion.

Impact

BDRCS's work in developing a systematic and integrated OD approach has created an increased interest in the development of the national society, leading to a heightened motivation for learning how programmes can be better implemented. The new integrated branch development approach aims to initiate a long term sustainable development process to enable branches to raise their capacity to implement the BDRCS programmes.

Initiating the cash request system and taking other steps such as conducting a demonstration on accounting software to adapt a computerized accounting system in BDRCS for better financial management yielded better accountability and transparency in the financial sector of BDRCS. One small example is that cash advances are settled more quickly as programme staff realize the importance of promptly submitting justifications for expenses made.

BDRCS has become an efficient and respected organization in the field of first aid training. The quality of BDRCS trainings attracted external organizations including UN organizations and the compliance provider in the garments sector. Feedback on the training from the UN was positive.

The Red Crescent youth (RCY) volunteers are becoming the focal group to conduct different youth programmes in schools, colleges and other organizations in the country. Regular communication on Red Cross Movement is established with all 68 BDRCS branches, including the 20 branches under the BDRCS-Japan Red Cross pilot project. The level of commitment towards the Movement increases during each camp and training, leading to branch youth leaders being confident and ready to contribute to the development of the national society.

With the guidance and support from the delegation, the Chittagong branch RCY organized a divisional level workshop on humanitarian values, demonstrating the branch's ability to organize and initiate programmes. Detailed information about the workshop is under the HV section.

The BDRCS governing board's finalization of the appointment of the secretary general and deputy secretary general demonstrates an increase in commitment and responsibility towards the national society. The appointment itself has been a very motivating factor for the development and management of the national society.

Constraints

During the reporting period implementation of planned activities was delayed and in some cases postponed due to the recent instability within the country (strikes, rallies, blockades, unrest by garment workers). Some constraints were faced in meeting deadlines and transferring resources.

Secured funding for the OD programme was low (54%) until late in the reporting period, causing difficulties in completing activities as planned. Following a review to identify priority activities based on available resources, the delegation decided to reduce staff in the OD department.

Some of the BDRCS programmes are not able to submit monthly reports, despite several reminders being made on this issue by the delegation and by the BDRCS management. The regional branch meetings could not be held due to social impact of the month of Ramadan.

Reorganization of the BDRCS has been a long pending issue hampering the smooth implementation of activities. This has not been addressed yet as the BDRCS feels that the newly recruited secretary general and deputy secretary general need time to understand their new position before taking up this process. As part of the reorganization, funds amounting to 324,179 CHF have been kept in reserve for recruitment. Although this is less than the amount required, it will help to start the process. The Bangladesh delegation is following-up on this issue.

Planned activities for the next reporting period:

In the next reporting period BDRCS and Federation will focus more on systems and procedure development as recommended in the last OD review, such as the financial management system, reorganization of the structure of BDRCS, and development of job descriptions for all staff of BDRCS. With the support of the Federation, BDRCS will also prioritize raising the capacity of the staff and volunteers in leadership development, volunteer management, report writing and office management skills.

Organizational Development: outlook 2007

In 2007, priority has been given towards the capacity building of the branches of BDRCS, enabling them to have more involvement in the planning process and the development process of BDRCS.

The main change to the programme has been the removal of the communication and advocacy development component (expected result 5) related to the establishment and leading of a coordination network, by BDRCS, with NGOs, government, civil society and other agencies.

The reason for this is based on experience since the beginning of the year, which shows that BDRCS is not in a position to take the 'lead role' to establish linkages with other agencies, NGOs, civil society and the government. Experience shows that different agencies are taking the lead role in different sectors to establish linkages with

stakeholders.

Therefore, BDRCS as an organization is not in a position to take the lead role to establish linkages, cooperation and coordination for all areas.

This can be achieved through diverse activities under different BDRCS programmes at all levels. Since all the programmes of BDRCS have different levels of linkages with other organizations and government agencies, this is an inbuilt outcome of all the BDRCS programmes. Giving more emphasis to all activities under the programme will result in establishing better communication and coordination with all stakeholders in the country. For the time being, though BDRCS is not taking the 'lead role', linkage and coordination is still continuing under the programme, through regular correspondence, meetings and day to day activities.

There have also been slight modifications in the following:

1. Framing of the programme objective, with the revised version being a more summarized version of the original.
2. The leadership training component under the programme – earlier emphasis was given on the Movement's fundamental principles, values, system and procedures but not on the BDRCS policy, system and procedures, which meant that the main objective of this element could not be effectively achieved. This aspect has now been included.
3. The youth and volunteers development aspect of the programme – keeping the same outcome as earlier, this element has been rephrased due to the fact that it covers all core areas of the Strategy 2010. Some similar activities have been incorporated and merged.

Humanitarian Values

[<click here for revised humanitarian values logframes>](#)

Overall Goal: BDRCS has effectively promoted humanitarian values and influenced change in behaviour by applying the Movement's Fundamental Principles and contributed to reducing discrimination and increasing tolerance and mutual understanding and upholding the dignity of the individual.

Programme Objective: A better understanding of humanitarian values is reflected in existing BDRCS' programmes and projects and contributes to influencing behaviour of staff, volunteers, beneficiaries and other stakeholders.

Overview

The humanitarian values (HV) programme is one of four core areas of the Federation Strategy 2010. To address the low priority given to the HV programme in the past, since 2005, the BDRCS has emphasized the importance of HV as an integrated aspect of all other programmes, focusing on an active application of the cross-cutting issues of anti-discrimination and tolerance. Potential areas for intervention are HIV and AIDS, gender and ethnic conflict. BDRCS has developed an HV training module, to be used when organizing trainings of the BDRCS programmes, both at NHQ and branch levels.

The activities under the HV programme have been carried out as planned, with a few minor difficulties that were, however, successfully overcome. Experience, knowledge and skills in the area of HV was limited to a small number of BDRCS staff, which had a negative impact on the programme. To resolve the situation, a core group of trainers in the area of HV was developed in BDRCS. Federation team continued to provide support to keep the programme moving to achieve planned activities on time.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: The core area of HV is explored, understood and practiced by all National Society staff, volunteers and members in their programme and community work.

An orientation workshop was conducted at the Chittagong branch of the BDRCS on 20 September. The workshop

was attended by 30 volunteers from 12 districts of Chittagong division. The aim of the workshop was for volunteers to receive an orientation on HV through an essay writing competition, and would further disseminate this information to volunteers from schools and colleges in their branches. This initiative has increased awareness of humanitarian values among the volunteers in the branches.

Two staff members from BDRCS headquarters participated in the regional meeting held in Nepal in July. BDRCS could not take part in the youth camp due to the delay in the administrative process of selecting candidates for the camp.

Expected Result 2: Potential stakeholders have increased awareness of humanitarian values and related issues through advocacy campaigns and motivational drives carried out by BDRCS.

A training of trainers was held from 25 to 28 September for 20 participants from various departments, with the aim of creating a core group of trainers on HV. Based on this workshop, the newly-trained staff will promote HV issues among all the other programmes of BDRCS for better integration of HV with the programmes. Through this, BDRCS will also benefit to increase the awareness on HV among potential stakeholders.

BDRCS will print posters, flyers and training materials for better promotion of HV during the next reporting period. Some workshops on reducing discrimination towards internally displaced persons will take place. In addition, essay competitions will be conducted with school/college students to motivate and communicate information about the importance of reducing discrimination, stigma and promotion of the Fundamental Principles of the Movement.

Impact

Following the orientation workshop, the concept of HV has created awareness on discrimination in all spheres of life among BDRCS staff and volunteers as well as Federation staff. The management is now aware of the necessity to integrate HV in the different programmes and it is expected that the core group that has been formed will begin the dissemination of HV under all other programmes. The BDRCS governance has also shown their interest in this area and an orientation on HV for the managing board of the BDRCS. BDRCS has reappointed a focal person for HV and the previously dormant programme has been reactivated.

The BDRCS volunteers are beginning to understand HV as an important crosscutting issue for all of their activities. HV has been included as an integral part of Red Crescent youth training curriculum. This has led to an integration of HV issues in all of their activities, which in turn helps to promote the fundamental principles of the Movement. Field visits and reports from branches demonstrate that this improved understanding has led to consideration of HV during relief operations, and the BDRCS staff and volunteers treating beneficiaries with dignity and respect.

Constraints

These improvements notwithstanding, further attention still needs to be given to the HV programme. Other than the fact that the programme is poorly funded, the main constraint and challenge for the BDRCS is to further emphasize and prioritize the programme by the senior management.

Planned activities for the next reporting period:

In the next reporting period, essay competitions on HV will be conducted at the division/district and subsequently national levels. A street drama competition on HV will also be staged in 10 districts of the country and finally at the NHQ. The winners of the competitions will be awarded nationally.

In the 2007 plan, the HV programme is largely integrated with other programmes. BDRCS developed a core group of facilitators in HV from all the departments and programmes of BDRCS. This core group will facilitate HV in all the programmes.

Humanitarian Values: Revision of plans for 2007

The only minor modifications in this programme have been with respect to the framing of the overall goal, with the revised version being a summarized version of the original, and some restructuring and rephrasing of activities. There have been no major changes in the activities. The expected results also remain the same.

Implementation and coordination

The delegation is emphasizing the need to maintain close contacts by having more discussions with BDRCS counterparts. Weekly meetings and monthly review meetings were held with BDRCS to strengthen monitoring. Delegates and staff from the delegation have been on field visits to different districts. Reports have been produced and improvement measures have been proposed to the BDRCS programme personnel. The delegation has been constantly following up and advising BDRCS on necessary actions and measures to investigate and solve those issues surrounding the management of relief materials at BDRCS's Chittagong warehouse and Myanmar relief operation.

The delegation works very closely with the BDRCS in order to strengthen the capacity of the national society. Regular meetings and discussions were held between the delegation and the department. They are currently working on various management issues in order to provide efficient service delivery to the most vulnerable by taking strong measures in various aspects.

Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

During this reporting period, the BDRCS, with support from the Federation, continued its good relations with multilateral and bilateral agencies and government institutions such as the national disaster management authority and the national institute of disaster management, particularly with respect to technical knowledge-sharing. Good cooperation and communication was also maintained with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

The Bangladesh delegation continued to coordinate the support of partner national societies (PNSs) and ICRC with BDRCS. Regular coordination meetings, on a bi-monthly basis, were held with the German, Swiss and British Red Cross societies. The delegation facilitated visits by the Red Cross societies of Britain and Hong Kong. The German Red Cross society continues to support BDRCS through its long-term bilateral partnership in the health area. The national society and the Federation have also forged new bilateral relationships with the Swiss Red Cross, establishing a commitment to support its health institutions and branch development. Collaboration was also increased with local NGOs.

During the reporting period, the Federation organized an introductory, first-of-its-kind meeting between PNS and ICRC delegates in the country with the BDRCS governing board. The meetings emphasized the need for a more coordinated approach in addressing the issues related to BDRCS activities. As an introductory measure, the head of delegation organized and facilitated a meeting of PNS and the BDRCS governing board. More such meetings are planned for the future.

Regular meetings have been held with the World Food Programme (WFP) office in Bangladesh, regarding establishment of a long-term agreement for mutual support during disasters, which is in the process of being finalized. Similar discussions are under way with the British government's Department for International Development (DFID) country office.

Below is a table reflecting the activities undertaken by in-country Red Cross Red Crescent partners.

RC Partners	Summary of activities
ICRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through selected districts units, provide emergency first aid and basic necessities to people affected by internal violence. • Disseminate proper use of emblem and international humanitarian law. • Support the BDRCS in their tracing and information activities. • Carry out watsan activities
German Red Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide essential primary health care services at community level and improve the health status of women and children in unreachable rural Bangladesh • 25 MCH centers are now self-sustaining and efforts are underway to develop the other 27 MCH centers in order to make them as self-sufficient as possible, and to increase the involvement of the community in BDRCS activities. • 37 community midwives were selected by various communities for midwifery training. Upon completion of 18 months training, these community midwives will

	take care of the MCH centres and other health institutions in the country.
Swiss Red Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting BDRCS's Chapai Nawabganj district branch in northern Bangladesh, through community development and branch capacity building. The main objective of the project is to effectively improve the public health situation in 3 unions of the district. The project will address public health concerns to improve the well-being of women, children and men living in situations of extreme poverty in the target areas.
Consortium of British (managing agency), German and Swedish Red Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project, funded by the European Commission, aims at improving the lives of people living in cyclone prone areas (nine districts) in Bangladesh.

International representation and advocacy

The delegation, in all its activities, is concentrating on promoting the national society in various meetings with different organizations like DFID, WFP, Disaster and Emergency Response group (DER) and international NGO meetings. Discussions are underway with UNICEF for coordination in disaster response. The disaster operation reports are shared with various organizations through DER.

Management of the delegation

The head of delegation (HoD) participated in a meeting of HoDs at the Federation Secretariat in Geneva and visited the South Asia regional delegation in New Delhi to discuss various management issues.

Some changes took place in the human resource area. The programme coordinator took over responsibility of the OD programme, following the departure of the OD delegate. A brief review of the OD programme was conducted and a report is available on the review. Based on this, the OD department was reduced to one OD officer. The BDRCS has also adapted the future strategies and priorities of the delegation's OD programme. A new reporting officer replaced the earlier reporting consultant. A DM/logistics officer has been recruited to strengthen the DM and logistics units at the delegation. A watsan officer has also been recruited for the watsan activities.

Weekly programme meetings have been introduced to regularly discuss programme, security and administrative issues. All programme personnel, including the British Red Cross consortium project, participate in these meetings, along with some PNS delegates.

A field visit reporting format has been introduced. This has been shared with the BDRCS and has received positive feedback from the national society, as a source of information and a monitoring tool. In addition, monitoring formats have been introduced to facilitate and accelerate the fund transfer system for working advances.

In an effort to improve the physical working environment in the delegation, some infrastructural changes were made (construction of cubicles). A vehicle (land cruiser) was added to the vehicle fleet of the delegation. An inventory list of items donated to the BDRCS has been developed to help monitor the number of items donated.

How we work

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

The Federation's Global Agenda

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

Global Agenda Goals:

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

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[Revised budget and interim financial report; click here to return to the title page](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAABD001 - BANGLADESH

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/10
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAABD001
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	773'187	4'277'765	71'792	1'217'152	0	6'339'896
B. Opening Balance	261'511	1'779'343	11'542	6'257	-22'688	2'035'965
Income						
Cash contributions						
British Red Cross		114'750	0	45'600		160'350
DFID Partnership			7'234	24'946		32'180
ECHO		35'915				35'915
Hong Kong Red Cross		0				0
Italian Red Cross	69'468					69'468
Japanese Red Cross Society	63'703	0				63'703
Swedish Red Cross	0	109'096		214'912		324'008
C1. Cash contributions	133'171	259'761	7'234	285'458		685'624
Outstanding pledges (Revalued)						
British Red Cross		416'941				416'941
Hong Kong Red Cross		-17'148				-17'148
Italian Red Cross	-69'437					-69'437
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	-69'437	399'793				330'356
Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)						
Italian Red Cross	9'445					9'445
Kuwait Red Crescent Society	10'555	-10'000		47'071	23'407	71'034
Norwegian Red Cross				263'692		263'692
C3. Reallocations (within appeal)	20'000	-10'000		310'763	23'407	344'170
Inkind Personnel						
Swedish Red Cross				43'400		43'400
C5. Inkind Personnel				43'400		43'400
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	83'734	649'554	7'234	639'621	23'407	1'403'550
D. Total Funding = B + C	345'245	2'428'897	18'776	645'878	719	3'439'515

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	261'511	1'779'343	11'542	6'257	-22'688	2'035'965
C. Income	83'734	649'554	7'234	639'621	23'407	1'403'550
E. Expenditure	-143'697	-1'067'314	-13'065	-152'878	-27'342	-1'404'296
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	201'548	1'361'582	5'711	493'000	-26'623	2'035'219

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAABD001 - BANGLADESH

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/10
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAABD001
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)		773'187	4'277'765	71'792	1'217'152	0	6'339'896	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	113'956							113'956
Construction Materials			301				301	-301
Clothing & textiles			112'754				112'754	-112'754
Food			92'454				92'454	-92'454
Seeds,Plants	29'486		270				270	29'216
Water & Sanitation	122'779	1'921	31'479				33'400	89'379
Medical & First Aid	92'249		2'027				2'027	90'223
Utensils & Tools	1'736							1'736
Other Supplies & Services	350'036		47'709				47'709	302'327
Total Supplies	710'242	1'921	286'993				288'914	421'328
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	157'212		33'109			-3'752	29'356	127'855
Computers & Telecom	148'437		2'194			1'058	3'253	145'184
Office/Household Furniture & Ec	4'804	13'468					13'468	-8'664
Others Machinery & Equipment	28'511							28'511
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	338'963	13'468	35'303			-2'694	46'077	292'886
Transport & Storage								
Storage	95'400	257	496		9		761	94'638
Distribution & Monitoring		1'833	22'890				24'723	-24'723
Transport & Vehicle Costs	246'459	2'069	41'689	85	4'497	2'694	51'033	195'426
Total Transport & Storage	341'858	4'159	65'074	85	4'506	2'694	76'517	265'341
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	421'459	32'346	28'993			84'227	145'566	275'893
Delegate Benefits	347'480	33'664	67'182	168	60'931	-59'003	102'942	244'538
National Staff	226'514	7'886	50'597	161	19'153	-4'355	73'443	153'071
National Society Staff	1'129'427	3'817	161'187		36'950	4'355	206'309	923'119
Total Personnel Expenditures	2'124'880	77'712	307'959	330	117'034	25'225	528'259	1'596'621
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	779'108	12'197	68'261	7'240	17'016		104'714	674'394
Total Workshops & Training	779'108	12'197	68'261	7'240	17'016		104'714	674'394
General Expenditure								
Travel	141'199	935	23'270	829	1'908		26'942	114'257
Information & Public Relation	1'188'802	5'661	50'974	436	18'741	31	75'843	1'112'959
Office Costs	204'362	3'312	15'591	1	2'428	23'971	45'303	159'059
Communications	73'930	703	11'210	6	1'678	21'319	34'915	39'014
Professional Fees	5'262				7'780	12'557	20'337	-15'075
Financial Charges	17'799		7'212		6	-7'317	-99	17'898
Other General Expenses	1'397	6'992	23'195	38	1'031	-50'562	-19'306	20'703
Total General Expenditure	1'632'751	17'603	131'453	1'309	33'571	0	183'936	1'448'815
Depreciation								
Depreciation			4'146				4'146	-4'146
Total Depreciation			4'146				4'146	-4'146
Program Support								
Program Support	412'093	9'331	69'375	849	9'754	1'777	91'087	321'007
Total Program Support	412'093	9'331	69'375	849	9'754	1'777	91'087	321'007
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		7'305	98'750	3'253	-29'002	340	80'645	-80'645
Total Operational Provisions		7'305	98'750	3'253	-29'002	340	80'645	-80'645
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	6'339'896	143'697	1'067'314	13'065	152'878	27'342	1'404'296	4'935'600
VARIANCE (C - D)		629'490	3'210'451	58'727	1'064'274	-27'342	4'935'600	

ANNEX I

Operational development

Figures demonstrating income and expenditure of programmes up to September 2006

Table 1: Appeal funding and budget analysis by programmes in CHF (as at 30 September 2006)

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organizational Development	Overall
Budget (revised)	288,002	2,274,356	47,559	395,684	3,005,600
Funding for '06	345,245	2,428,897	18,776	645,878	3,439,515
Appeal coverage for '06	119.88%	106.79%	39.48%	163.23%	114.44%
Expenses	120,862	841,364	11,515	141,720	1,133,543
Exp against Funding	35%	34.64%	61.33%	21.94%	32.96%

1. The high appeal coverage is due to donor's contributions stretching beyond 2007. 2. The funding coverage for 2. The OD has high coverage because CHF 324,170 is kept in reserve and for retrenchment.

ANNEX II

Disaster Management (DM)

Tables of DM activities carried out from May to September 2006

Table 1: Status of activities under the CBDM project

	Activities	Event	Status
1	CBFA training for community disaster response teams	80 trainings	2,400 volunteers trained
2	Leadership trainings	40 trainings	640 volunteers trained
3	Disaster health training	6 trainings	144 volunteers trained
4	Orientation on response	8 trainings	200 volunteers oriented
5	Primary health care training	80 trainings	240 volunteers trained
6	Essay competition	80 session	1,600 school children participated
7	Monthly meeting	480 meeting	3,500 volunteers participated (May-Sep 06)
8	Bi-monthly meeting	240 meeting	2,000 volunteers participated (May-Sep 06)
9	Wall painting	80 boards	80 communities covered
10	Raising of tube-wells	20 tube-wells	In four areas
11	Procurement of project items	Ongoing	First aid kits, rescue kits, aprons, GPS etc.
12	Distribution of first aid kits	64 boxes	Distributed in two areas
13	Distribution of caps, t-shirts		Among CBDM volunteers
14	Distribution of saplings		Among two communities in one area
15	Project review/coordination meeting with all unit officers	1	All 10 unit officers were present.
16	Community forestry	3	In three areas
17	Vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA)	10	Documentation is under process

Table 2: Trainings and Workshops

Month	No. of districts/upazillas	Trainings/workshops	Type of Trainings/workshops	Outcome	No. Attended
May	3 upazillas	3 trainings	Basic community first aid for field staff and community organizers	New field staff and community organizers equipped with first aid skills and knowledge.	70
August	3 districts	9 orientation workshops	Operational guideline for community development committees (CDC)	CDCs can lead community people better and be a more effective mediator between the unit and their communities.	410
Sept.	3 districts	3 refresher trainings	TBA for the existing TBAs.	TBA's request for refresher training and replenishment of delivery kits satisfied and More emphasis given on timely referral of cases and record keeping.	50

Table 3: Distribution of relief materials

Sl. No.	Districts/ units	Items				Disaster
		Family kits (pieces)	Blankets (pieces)	Clothes given by Korean Red Cross (pieces)	Sandles given by Korean Red Cross (pieces)	
1	Kurigram	200	200			River Erosion
2	Bagerhat,	350	350			Tornado
3	Khulna Dist	50		54		Tornado
4	Dinajpur	50				Fire victims
5	Sirajganj	850	850			tropical storms (norwesters)
6	Tangail	800	800			norwesters
7	Gazipur	200	200			norwesters
8	Kishoreganj	200				norwesters
9	Narail	200				norwesters
10	Magura	150				norwesters
11	Dhaka	300	300			Fire
12	Jessore	6,882				Floods (operation is to support 10,000 families in Jessore, out of which 6,882 families have already been assisted and is ongoing for the rest.
13	Khulna	1,050	1,050			1,050 families to be assisted, 910 have been assisted and is ongoing for the rest.
14	Satkhira	2,300	2,300			1,000 families received assistance, the rest is ongoing.