

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

MONGOLIA

Appeal No. MAAMN001
30 June 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 183 countries.

In Brief

Programme Update no. 1, Period covered: 1 January to 31 May 2006;
Appeal target for 2006-2007: CHF 1.7 million (EUR 1.1 million or USD 1.4 million);
Appeal coverage: 29%
Outstanding needs: CHF 1.2 million (EUR 0.7 million or USD 1 million)
(click here for the interim financial report with the latest income and expenditure)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: [East Asia Appeal 2006-2007 \(MAA54001\)](#)

Programme summary:

The convening of the Mongolian Red Cross Society's 11th General Assembly during the first week of May was one of the highlights for the national society during the reporting period.

Although most of the MRCS efforts in the first half of the year have concentrated on preparations for the General Assembly, progress continues to develop their capacity at the community-level to implement health and care and disaster management activities. This takes forward their national plans and those laid out in the Appeal, which ultimately serve to support vulnerable communities in Mongolia. Expenditure to date has been relatively consistent with income levels, reaching almost 70 percent of total income.



Herders like Togtuur Togmid, 52, are part of the targeted communities supported by Mongolian Red Cross Society programmes.

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Operational developments

The first five months of 2006 have been a period of social turmoil in Mongolia. On 13 January, the government of Mongolia announced its resignation, once again igniting demonstrations and protests in Sukhbaatar Square, with protestors at the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party's gates, declaring that the crisis had peaked and that the lives of the people were in a state of decline. Over 1,500 people demonstrated in the streets of Ulaanbaatar demanding the resignation of the country's president. A new government was established shortly thereafter with the chairman of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, the former mayor of Ulaanabaatar, elected as the Prime Minister of Mongolia. Although stable now, the period of political uncertainty has adversely influenced efforts towards poverty alleviation, business, and foreign aid and assistance.

A 50 percent raise in the price of public transport has proven to be a tipping point in a country where 74.9 per cent of the population is struggling to support themselves on less than USD 2.00 per day, as a decade of economic instability and natural disasters have led to widespread migration of former herders from the vast steppe to the country's increasingly crowded urban areas. With Mongolia's harsh weather and long distances, and with most people unable to afford their own vehicle, access to public transportation to get to work and school is essential for those people who are trying to establish new lives for themselves in the cities. Since 1 January, protests and strikes including hunger strikes have continued in the country's capital Ulaanbaatar, with the hope that the decision to increase the price of public transport is rescinded.

Mongolian Red Cross Society

In addition to their regular tasks, Mongolian Red Cross Society (MRCS) staff were occupied during this period preparing for the Society's 11th General Assembly held during the first week of May. Preparations for the conference included conducting a review of all activities implemented by the society over the period 2002-2005; the identification of priorities and trends for the next four years; and, the development of a draft plan of action for 2006-2010. Preparatory conferences also took place at MRCS middle-level branches who reviewed their activities implemented over the period 2002-2005.

On the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the society's cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), general staff from the Mongolian armed forces and the MRCS held an "International Humanitarian Law in Mongolia" theory and practicum meeting on 19 April, with representatives from Mongolia's ministry of foreign affairs, ministry of defense, ministry of education, culture and science, ministry of justice and domestic affairs, general staff of the Mongolian armed force, and the Mongolian National University.

The conference included an open discussion within the national committee on IHL, where a working group was appointed to develop recommendations for the government. Additionally, over the reporting period a "Mongolian Red Cross Society-Humanitarian Deeds Theory and Practicum" meeting was held with representatives of various government and non-governmental organizations.

This programme update reports on the progress made by the MRCS towards achieving several of the expected results under each of the overall programme objectives. Activities relating to other areas will be carried out in the latter part of the year.

Health and Care

Overview

An estimated 50-60 per cent of the population over 15 years of age are possibly carriers of, or have contracted sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Although the prevalence of AIDS and HIV remains under one percent of the general population, the number of reported cases of HIV has steadily increased since 2005, with cases now being reported from among previously classified low-risk segments of the general population and in the rural areas.

The country's minister of health has recognized the importance of taking action to reduce the risks of the outbreak of a widespread epidemic. Over the last few months, the ministry of health (MOH) has intensified public

education campaigns promoting condom use and HIV screening. According to the MOH, the number of young people coming to STI/AIDS centres for HIV testing has tripled, with some 1,000 people tested every day, a substantial number especially given the country's total population is 2,646,000.

Collaboration and support from international agencies such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Global Fund AIDS project, as well as the active involvement of mass media have played an important role in raising public awareness about HIV/AIDS, according to the minister of health. At the end of April, the government cabinet endorsed a new "Healthy Mongolians" programme where the MOH is planning to organize outreach and preventive campaigns in all of the country's *aimags* (provinces) and *soums* (prefectures).

Overall Goal: The health and psychosocial well being of the most vulnerable is improved through the support of MRCS initiatives that promote community health, health awareness and safe behaviour.

Programme Objective: The MRCS and local communities are better prepared in addressing threats to the public's health and psychosocial well being.

Progress/Achievements

The Mongolian Red Cross 2006 Federation supported health and care programme comprises four distinct projects reported on below. The four projects are:

- Health and first aid
- HIV/AIDS
- Blood donor recruitment
- Social care

Health and First Aid

Project objective: The health vulnerability of the population is minimized through the provision of health services, water and sanitation and first aid education.

At the request of the MRCS, the Finnish Red Cross and the Federation's regional health delegate will work with the national society on an evaluation of the health programmes and conduct refresher training on the existing standard first aid training in the second half of 2006. Original plans to revitalize the community-based first aid (CBFA) programme have been postponed until after the programme evaluation. Findings from the evaluation will be used to renew and reassess the current strategy of the CBFA programme.

A new link was established on the Mongolian Red Cross Society official website www.redcross.mn with first aid programme information, and training registration. The link to the webpage is an opportunity for online dissemination of information.

Refresher training of first aid trainers and orientation meeting with existing trainers

Over the period 22-25 March, a representative from the Finnish Red Cross facilitated a four-day training of first aid trainers using a new system. Seventeen people, including first aid trainers from nine district and three mid-level Red Cross branches who were originally trained in 2003 attended the March training.

The training was beneficial for the trainers from the mid-level Red Cross branches and provided them an opportunity to exchange experiences and best practices among each other. Experienced MRCS trainers presented a report on their activities and shared skills and methods to properly manage first aid training. The trainers gained increased knowledge about the proper ways to administer first aid, for example learning a new technique for CPR.

During this participatory training, MRCS first aid trainers engaged in group discussions and participated in presentations about issues such as the definition of the CBFA, the role of first aid volunteers, understanding about

what defines a “community,” and the differences between the needs and the dynamics of communities in rural and urban areas. At the close of the training, the trainers concluded an agreement with the MRCS first aid programme manager at headquarters to continue to carry out training.

Training of first aid trainers from the western region

Training of first aid trainers was provided to trainers from Uvs, Bayan-Ulgii and Khovd provinces' mid-level Red Cross branches. The Bayanzurkh districts' trainer facilitated the training in the Ulaangom *soum* of Uvs province. The five day training of trainers was held from 20-25 April for 18 participants, including eight attendees from Uvs aimag, five from Khovd and five from Bayan-Ulgii. The training method, curriculum and facilities are similar with the training of trainers, which was conducted in Ulaanbaatar.

Training of first aid trainers in the eastern region

Training of first aid trainers was given to trainers from Dornod, Khentii and Sukhbaatar aimags mid-level Red Cross branches. The MRCS Dornod province's trainer facilitated the training in the Choibalsan *soum* of Dornod aimag. The five-day training of trainers was held 19-23 April for 19 participants: eight from Dornod province, six from Khentii and five from Sukhbaatar. The training method, curriculum and facilities were similar to the training of trainers which was conducted in Ulaanbaatar.

Over the reporting period, the MRCS first aid programme was further strengthened with certificates for FA trainers renewed with registration code (ID number) as well as trainer registration. First aid training manuals and teaching files will be revised following the outcome of the review.

Health and first aid (FA) services

The Chingeltei and Bayanzurkh district MRCS branches coordinate first aid volunteer club activities. Revenue from these clubs is around USD 250 (CHF 303) per month. Dissemination activities carried out by these MRCS branches include the history and principles of the Red Cross Movement as well as an overview of the Federation and the MRCS.

First aid volunteers frequently use a mobile message board containing information about first aid, road safety, hygiene and other safety tips. The two primary branches were provided with a mobile message board, first aid kits for volunteers and information education and communication (IEC) materials by the MRCS to increase the effectiveness of first aid activities. Branch volunteers are cooperating with MRCS social care programme volunteers to develop a joint plan of action. Mobile dissemination campaigns about injury prevention and first aid were conducted twice a week, involving more than 200 people primarily living in the ger district. The Chingeltei district branch established one new FA team among the communities.

Cooperation with the department of traffic

Three first aid and information posts are running in three districts of Ulaanbaatar working towards reducing the number of children injured by traffic accidents, and to raise awareness of drivers and the community. First aid posts in Chingeltei, Bayanzurkh and Khan-uul districts provide training and dissemination activities by trained police staff and volunteers. The branches also display and develop information boards. The branches have produced materials such as brochures and calendars for distribution to drivers. In addition, the Chingeltei, and Bayanzurkh mid-level branches established a new first aid post in Bayanzurkh district. Dissemination and information activities conducted by the branches in an effort to reduce the number of road accidents to children and increase the overall level of road safety are incredibly inexpensive considering the value of the messages and the lives that are being saved with running costs for the first aid post at about USD 120 (CHF 145) per month.

HIV/AIDS

Project objective: MRCS is a key player in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Mongolia by mobilizing the power of humanity and working in partnership with those most vulnerable to HIV/AIDS, especially people living with HIV/AIDS.

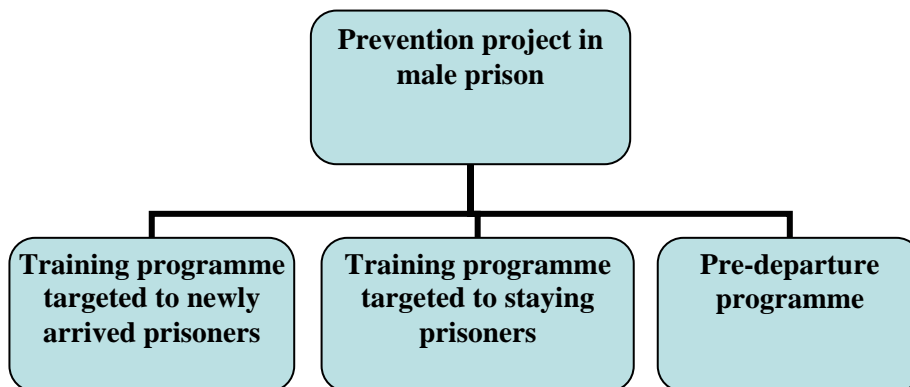
The prevention project titled “Lets go back home healthy” commenced its second phase in two male prisons located in Tuv province and Baganuur district of Ulaanbaatar respectively. Thirty people including the prison authority, guards and social workers were involved in the HIV/AIDS sensitization training on 14-15 March in Baganuur district and 22-23 March in Tuv province. The training aimed to create a better understanding of the current situation, re-establish a project support group, and increase the involvement, commitment and support of prison authorities. Participants in their training demonstrated a 35 per cent increase in knowledge at the end of the course.



The HIV/AIDS prevention project is currently being implemented in two male prisons.

One of the outcomes of the training was the development and approval of new sub-training programmes under the prevention project. This year the prison project will be comprised of the following sub-projects.

“Project structure”



Due to the high rate of mobility of prisoners, 75 percent of the project’s trained peer educators were moved to other prisons and have left the project. In order to address this situation and maintain project activities, 15 males from each prison were newly selected based on their level of education, duration of stay in the prison and credit among the other inmates. Selected prisoners attended a two-day training of peer educators held in Baganuur from 18-19 April, and in Tuv 24-25 April.

The youth peer education (YPE) project commenced activities in the western provinces selected based on the HIV epicentres within the provinces, the availability of health and social services and low health indicators. Project trainings of peer educators were organized from 24-25 April in Khovd, 26-27 April in BayanUlgii, 22-23 April in Khuvsgul, and from 19-20 April in Uvs province.

In 2006, Dornod, Selenge, Khan-uul, and railway Red Cross branches introduced YPE project activities. A training of master trainers was organized during 27-31 April involving four selected youth from each branch. The training agenda covered: peer education concept, practice and theory, the participatory approach, gender sensitivity, training and facilitation skills, and criteria for the monitoring and evaluation of the projects. From the evaluation it was found that training has successfully contributed to the improvement of the participants understanding of HIV/AIDS, personal development, and skills. Each of the branches conducts sensitization training involving the local governor, board members of middle level branches, and staff. Over the reporting period 160 people attended the training.

The MRCS has introduced a pilot project which aims at improving knowledge and awareness among women, men and adolescents in targeted migrant communities that started in Bayankhongor province and Chingeltei district. Over the reporting period, a needs assessment was organized to better understand the factors which contribute to

the vulnerability of migrants to HIV/AIDS. Many of the herders, now destitute following the death of their herds over the period 2000-2005, have travelled across the country seeking employment opportunities. In Mongolia, when herders move from one area to another it is important for them to register with the local administration in order to be eligible for employment, and receive state-supported social services such as health care and access to local schools for children. Many of these former herders, however, lack the sufficient reading skills or familiarity with the legal process to properly register. As a result unregistered migrants are further marginalized from the mainstream and the vulnerability of the community is raised, including to health risks like HIV/AIDS.

Blood donor recruitment

Project objective: The population has benefited from a blood donor recruitment programme that has resulted in better awareness, better services and enhanced national society capacities.

According to Mongolia's blood donor law passed in 2000, MRCS has been charged with organizing activities to promote and advocate for voluntary non-remunerated blood donations (VNRBD) and to encourage the donation of blood from the general public. The MRCS safe blood programme currently implements projects and activities within the law with the objective of ensuring a safe and adequate blood supply.

After long standing discussions and negotiations on the request to cover the expenses required for undertaking activities of information dissemination by the government, the ministry of health offered to submit the request to the government meeting for approval to include it into the 2007 budget.

July 2006 will mark Mongolia's 800th anniversary. In preparation for the increased number of tourists expected to visit Mongolia over the next few months, the ministry of health, blood centres and MRCS branches are establishing a database of blood and blood products, especially the cataloguing of available donors with negative blood types.

Raising awareness of youth on voluntary non-remunerated blood donation (VNRBD)

The MRCS youth programme targeting Mongolian youth for VNRBD has been extended. The rules for the MRCS young donor club were revised in January. Under the revised rules, clubs established in MRCS branches will, in partnership with the national coordination commission, be responsible for the general organization of activities. Seventeen new youth clubs were established in branches housing regional disaster preparedness centres, namely Bayan-Olgii, Gobi-Altai, Darkhan, Choir, and Arkhnagai. These new clubs have been provided with and have distributed IEC material.

In March, a campaign entitled "blood donors and youth" was organized to improve the voluntary non-remunerated blood donor movement. Representatives from the MRCS gave a live interview over FM and Ulaanbaatar radio stations. On 20-21 March, training based on the Federation's "Recruitment of Voluntary Non-remunerated Blood Donors" was given to members of the coordination council of the young donor's club. Thirty participants representing the regional centre, districts in Ulaanbaatar, and members of the press attended the training. The training covered issues such as improving the level of participation from the country's youth. A narrative plan for the young donor's movement was also drafted.

Over the reporting period, an organized survey of first time donors was conducted. One hundred donors were interviewed for this survey. A "Donor Service Club" was created to provide a comfortable environment for blood donors. The MRCS also organized an advocacy meeting within the MOH and the blood centre in March, involving ten high-level participants.

Social care

Project objective: The health and psycho-social well-being of the most vulnerable, and the people affected by internal migration is improved through direct community-based welfare-related activities, referrals, advocacy and awareness-raising endeavors.

From 14 – 29 March, volunteer training to deliver care and psychological support to seniors and the disabled took place in Khan-uul, Chingeltei districts. The training was attended by 25 volunteers representing the branches of Dornod, Dornogobi, Bayan-Ulgii, Tuv, and Zavkhan provinces. Each of the trained volunteers will deliver care to three beneficiaries from January 2007.

In the meantime, 25 trained volunteers are continuing to deliver care to 75 beneficiaries in each of the MRCS middle-level branches in Khovsgol, Uvs, Gobi-altai, Ovorkhangai, Orkhon provinces; and Khan-uul, Nalaikh, Songino Khairkhan districts. Monthly meeting of the volunteers and beneficiaries are conducted at the gers that house the MRCS social care centres in Khan-uul district, and Ovorkhangai, Khovsgol, Uvs, Orkhon, Gobi-altai provinces. The social care centres run on a daily basis, arranging for meetings of senior beneficiaries twice per month. An MRCS social care centre was established in Ovorkhangai aimag and has begun serving beneficiaries and volunteers.

In keeping with the MRCS plans to assist vulnerable migrant groups, a training on “how to register” was conducted for 220 participants who had recently migrated to Ulaanbaatar from the rural areas but had yet to register with Mongolia’s national registration. For those who have recently migrated to the cities who lack sufficient reading and writing skills, some of the paper work required to register a change in residence can often be overwhelming. The highest number of the country’s internal migrants is located in Ulaanbaatar’s Songino Khairkhan district. Critically, MRCS volunteers from Songino Khairkhan district assisted 29 seniors and disabled beneficiaries who were unable to navigate the registration process on their own. Uvs province MRCS volunteers conducted a meeting for volunteers and beneficiaries meeting for 32 beneficiaries and eight helpful group members on 12 April.

International Women’s Day was celebrated by MRCS with volunteers, elderly and disabled beneficiaries.

Impact

In the first aid component, all mid-level Red Cross branches’ trainers could potentially be trained this year through the mobilization of seventeen trained first aid trainers at mid-level branches. The further training-of-trainers contributed to the further development of the capacity of first aid trainers in each mid-level MRCS branches to share knowledge with their communities about first aid. The trainers’ role in providing first aid to their communities means that their knowledge and experience are trusted and valued. Dissemination campaigns and posts in gers on first aid and traffic safety would play a role in educating and serving the public, including groups that may have limited access to public health facilities, in order to reduce risks related to accidents and other health issues.

HIV/AIDS activities have meanwhile continued its education and support function, seen in the 35 per cent increase in HIV/AIDS knowledge among the participants from the two male prisons in Tuv province and Baganuur district of Ulaanbaatar. It was found through an evaluation of the training of master trainers in youth peer education that the training has successfully contributed to the improvement of the participants understanding of HIV/AIDS, personal development, and skills.

The implementation of the blood donor recruitment component has created better understanding of safe behaviour among youth, especially through young donor club 25 activities, contributing towards the prevention of STIs and HIV. Additionally, the comfortable environment provided to donors through the “Donor Service Club” is an added incentive for them to donate blood. At the March advocacy meeting, discussions that centred on adjusting the existing rewards system heightened the participants’ awareness on the target population for voluntary non-remunerated blood donation.

Continuing to roll out regular social care and services that particularly benefit senior citizens, the disabled and migrants from rural areas, the MRCS has carried on improving the quality of life of target beneficiaries. The social care centres motivates beneficiaries and volunteers while providing them with emotional support. Constant support is one of the features of the social care programme, which ensures beneficiaries do not just receive one-off benefits but regular care and activities that diminish feelings of neglect. Assistance in registering vulnerable migrant groups meanwhile keeps up with the arrivals of new migrants to Ulaanbaatar, while direct support to migrant seniors and the disabled ascertains the most vulnerable among the vulnerable are not left out of the government’s social security net.

Constraints

First aid: Lack of CBFA experience; lack of rational use of volunteer services in terms of follow up action, motivation and retention; and, implementation of behaviour changes particularly in relation to driving.

Blood donor recruitment: Misconceptions about donating blood and blood transfusions within rural areas continues to present an obstacle in promoting blood donation, as does changing the attitudes of rural target groups, particularly the decision-makers.

Social care: The MRCS branch in Orkhon province is still awaiting budget confirmation to begin operating social care centre activities for seniors and disabled people and beneficiaries. There is also a need to extend the selection criteria of beneficiaries.

Disaster Management

Overview

The main priorities of the MRCS disaster preparedness programme are:

- To train volunteers;
- To improve the capacity of the society' regional disaster preparedness centres;
- Strengthen MRCS first aid teams.

A small-scale disaster relief distribution was conducted on 14 January in Gobi-Altai for victims of a severe wind storm which occurred in November 2005. The distribution of relief items was conducted with support from the U.S. Embassy in Mongolia. Preparations have begun, pending the continuation of funding, for the MRCS's hay project, where herders work with the MRCS disaster preparedness centres to collect a sufficient amount of hay to sustain their animals through the winter.

As explained in the Mongolia (05AA060) Annual Report for 2005, a significant balance remaining from last year has been carried over to 2006 to support MRCS disaster management activities for the first half of 2006. Over the reporting period (January through May) a portion of these funds were used to support the activities described below. The remaining part of these funds will be used for the procurement of relief items for the MRCS disaster preparedness centres in June. The sections below report only on expected results that had activities in this reporting period.

Overall Goal: Disaster preparedness in the community is enhanced to better mitigate the impact of disasters, by increasing awareness and advocacy among the general public and mobilizing local resources for emergency response.

Programme Objective: Community vulnerability in times of disasters is reduced by increased MRCS capacity as well as improved disaster management through skilled staff and volunteers.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result: Disaster management capacity of 38 middle-level branches is improved, and volunteer knowledge and skills in disaster preparedness and first aid is enhanced.

Disaster preparedness training concentrating on preparing for fires, floods, drought and dzud (which are among the most common natural disasters) as well as the prevention of diseases contracted from animals was conducted in five provinces beginning in February.

A total of 152 people were trained in disaster preparedness in the first half of 2006, which included MRCS volunteers and staff from government agencies.

| Period | Location | Participants |
|--|-------------------|--|
| 16-17 February | Khenti province | 30 volunteers |
| 20-22 March | Uvs province | 30 volunteers and local government agency staff |
| 14-16 March | Khovsgol province | 30 volunteers and <i>aimag</i> -level first aid team members |
| Within the reporting period (1 January – 31 May 2006) | Selenge province | 30 volunteers |
| | Omnogobi province | 32 volunteers |

Table: Disaster preparedness training conducted to date

Additionally, 210 first aid kits were procured and distributed to MRCS first aid team volunteers.

Expected Result: The network of regional disaster preparedness centres has improved its disaster management coordination and response capacity.

The MRCS has in place a stock-recording system for the disaster preparedness materials purchased with Federation funds as part of the annual disaster management programme, which is reviewed by the delegation. Attached as [Annex 1](#) is a report of stock across all regional and central/headquarters disaster preparedness centres, depicting target stock, stock procured in 2005 and existing stock as of January 2006¹.

Expected Result: The role of MRCS in emergency health is specified and implemented as required in collaboration with the government.

A disaster preparedness programme manual was designed and 750 copies were printed. A disaster preparedness volunteer training teaching file was also designed and printed. Forty copies of this file were distributed to MRCS middle-level branches.

A series of radio programmes to raise awareness about disaster preparedness among the communities were produced and broadcasted throughout the country. Radio broadcasts are one of the most effective ways of disseminating information where most households, particularly poor and rural households rely on the radio for information.

Four programmes were broadcasted covering issues such as preparing for snow and dust storms, wild fires and human and animal diseases. A calendar was designed with easy to understand pictures. 2,000 copies were printed and distributed.

Impact

More than 300 volunteer first aid team members have increased understanding of disaster preparedness which is an important part of developing the capacity of middle-level MRCS branches to respond to disasters and support communities with preparedness initiatives.

Organizational Development

Overall Goal: The most vulnerable in society has received support from a better-prepared national society that is effective, efficient, non-competitive and can sustain its activities.

Programme Objective: The MRCS has implemented sustainable programmes through enhanced branch capacities as a result of better financial and human resource management.

Progress/Achievements

The sections below only report on expected results that have activities conducted in this reporting period.

¹ Note: This is to fulfill commitment made in the Mongolia Appeal (05AA060) Annual Report, whereby verified figures were not available at the time.

Expected Result: Staff and volunteer management is improved and guided by a human resources strategic policy that emphasizes the recruitment and retention of staff and volunteers.

Plans to implement a volunteer development policy corresponding to the Federation's volunteer policy will commence later in 2006. MRCS volunteers play a key role in carrying out MRCS core activities at primary and middle-level branches.

Although the number of active volunteers is increasing every year the MRCS is finding an increased need for volunteers possessing particular skills. Therefore in order to maintain an effective volunteer base, MRCS needs to provide continuous training to volunteers. The society has established a working group comprised of volunteers and officers from MRCS branches and headquarters to develop a national policy on volunteer management.

Expected Result: Volunteer involvement in Red Cross activities is stimulated and the local volunteer network is strengthened.

In March, the MRCS organized a joint meeting of all volunteer network member organizations and international organizations operating in Mongolia to share experiences, lessons learnt and explore possibilities for future areas of cooperation.

In two branches volunteer activity rooms were re-equipped. Volunteers have been provided with pleasant working conditions which will encourage existing volunteers to continue, and provide an area for social events for communities. Volunteers expressed their appreciation during the opening ceremony of the refurbished rooms.

The MRCS 11th General Assembly was organized on 8 and 9 May 2006 in Ulaanbaatar. Over 510 staff and volunteers selected from 37 mid-level branches and 900 primary level branches participated. During the General Assembly a working team was developed to draft a strategic policy on volunteers.

A review was conducted by the MRCS of volunteer activities and working conditions. According to the review, that majority of volunteers are themselves struggling financially. The review revealed that there are constraints to retaining trained volunteers and existing volunteers are not being used to their full potential, with 70 per cent of MRCS branches mobilizing one third of registered volunteers, and, 30 per cent of MRCS branches mobilizing two thirds of the society's volunteers.

Constraints

Due to the long distances required to reach the society's branches it was difficult to collect reports and carry out the analysis for the study on volunteering.

Humanitarian Values

Overall Goal: People's behaviour has changed, and they have an increased understanding and respect for human dignity through the promotion of the Movement's Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values.

Programme Objective: The capacity of the MRCS in promoting awareness, understanding and acceptance of the Movement's Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values has increased.

Progress/Achievements

A "Voice of Humanity – 2006" letter campaign was conducted to mobilize domestic donors and supporters for MRCS activities with the cooperation of the Mongolian small and medium business union. An 11-week campaign with the theme "Our role in humanitarian deeds" took place to increase the membership of the middle- and primary-level Red Cross branches across the country.

A cooperation agreement was signed with the Mongolian national radio and national public television for 2006. The MRCS *Humanity* newspaper was published three times covering the XI General Assembly of the Mongolian Red Cross Society. One thousand copies of a report summarizing MRCS activities over the period 2002-2005 was published.

The Humanity lottery aimed to raise funds from communities to assist vulnerable people and to contribute towards strengthening the capacity of the middle-level MRCS branches was introduced over the reporting period.

Implementation and coordination

Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

The MRCS is implementing a number of projects on a bilateral basis with various partner national societies. A summary of these projects is given below, and further information on these projects is available upon request.

Australian Red Cross

The HIV/AIDS project funded by the Australian Red Cross aims to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS and improve the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS, as well as to promote voluntary, non-remunerated blood donations, with the aim of ensuring a safe and adequate blood supply.

Over the reporting period a team from the MRCS headed by the society's under secretary general visited the Australian Red Cross (ARC). During this visit, future cooperation areas were identified, and ARC identified the MRCS as a core partner in scaling up ARC support to the MRCS' HIV/AIDS project.

A disaster preparedness project funded by the Australian Red Cross Society covers the period of June 2004 to June 2006. The main purpose of the project is to enhance the DP capacity of MRCS through supporting the regional DP centres. This project covers half of the annual appeal DP programme and budget. A review of this project will be carried out jointly by the MRCS, Australian Red Cross and the Federation. The findings of this review will form the basis of a new funding proposal to the Australian government.

Japanese Red Cross

Funded by the Japanese Red Cross Society, the international friendship project involves the Red Cross youth and junior programme for the period of 2003-2006. This project aims to improve the environments and health and sanitation in targeted schools. The project aims to promote mutual understanding and friendship between youth members of the two countries.

A second project on HIV/AIDS funded by the Japanese Red Cross Society covers the period of April 2005 to 2007. The Japanese Red Cross Society and MRCS signed a memorandum of understanding on the three-year bilateral project named "development of the diagnose and counselling centre at the railway middle-level Red Cross branch" on 15 June 2005. Currently, the project implementation has been postponed until next year to identify a branch with the capacity to carry out this project in a sustainable manner.

Netherlands Red Cross

The capacity building project funded by the Netherlands Red Cross covers the period 2003-2007. This project assists two middle-level MRCS branches to become more efficient, effective and sustainable organizations that will provide support to the most vulnerable in society through better design, implementation and evaluation of programmes, as well as better financial resource mobilization and strategic development.

The Netherlands Red Cross Society-funded legal rights project goal is to help unregistered migrant people to get registered as the Ulaanbaatar city citizen and thus to get access to state health, care, education services and employment opportunities through the involvement of volunteers who are trained on legal rights. The project aims to train 120 volunteers who are at the same time the sub-district leaders of Songinokhairkhan district of Ulaanbaatar. The project is currently extended until the middle of 2007.

A new water and sanitation project for the period 2006 to 2009 was agreed to in the first part of 2006 and implementation will start in the second half of the year. The project aims to improve water supply and sanitation

conditions of the residents living in four *ger* districts of Ulaanbaatar. The components of the project include health education, creation of boreholes, construction of public sub-terrain latrines and creation of solid waste points and improvement of individual latrines.

British and German Red Cross Societies

A social welfare project funded by the British and German Red Cross Societies aims to improve the livelihood and the socio-psychological condition of the most vulnerable and elderly people through home care services carried out by volunteers.

Management of the delegation

The head of the Federation's Mongolia country delegation completed his assignment in the second half of May after almost three and a half years in the country. After a lengthy search, a new head of delegation made available by the Icelandic Red Cross will take up this post towards the end of July. Until this time, the regional disaster management delegate is functioning as the Federation's acting head of delegation.

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

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

Global Agenda Goals:

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

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

For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAAMN001 - MONGOLIA

Interim financial report

| Selected Parameters | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Reporting Timeframe | 2006/1-2006/5 |
| Budget Timeframe | 2006/1-2007/12 |
| Appeal | MAAMN001 |
| 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 | 534'353 | 781'296 | 141'184 | 285'851 | 0 | 1'742'684 |
| B. Opening Balance | 17'304 | 270'234 | 168 | 27'352 | 5'896 | 320'953 |
| Income | | | | | | |
| Cash contributions | | | | | | |
| Capacity Building Fund | | | | 50'000 | | 50'000 |
| Finnish Red Cross | 62'600 | | | | 37'665 | 100'265 |
| C1. Cash contributions | 62'600 | | | 50'000 | 37'665 | 150'265 |
| Outstanding pledges (Revalued) | | | | | | |
| ECHO | | 1'655 | | | 25 | 1'680 |
| Finnish Red Cross | 61'423 | | | | -37'823 | 23'600 |
| C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued) | 61'423 | 1'655 | | | -37'798 | 25'280 |
| Other Income | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous Income | | | | | 3'832 | 3'832 |
| C6. Other Income | | | | | 3'832 | 3'832 |
| C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6) | 124'023 | 1'655 | 0 | 50'000 | 3'699 | 179'377 |
| D. Total Funding = B + C | 141'326 | 271'889 | 168 | 77'352 | 9'595 | 500'330 |

II. Balance of Funds

| | Health & Care | Disaster Management | Humanitarian Values | Organisational Development | Coordination & Implementation | TOTAL |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| B. Opening Balance | 17'304 | 270'234 | 168 | 27'352 | 5'896 | 320'953 |
| C. Income | 124'023 | 1'655 | 0 | 50'000 | 3'699 | 179'377 |
| E. Expenditure | -71'881 | -94'258 | 0 | -39'074 | -132'304 | -337'516 |
| F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E) | 69'445 | 177'631 | 168 | 38'278 | -122'708 | 162'815 |

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAAMN001 - MONGOLIA

Interim financial report

| Selected Parameters | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Reporting Timeframe | 2006/1-2006/5 |
| Budget Timeframe | 2006/1-2007/12 |
| Appeal | MAAMN001 |
| 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) | | 534'353 | 781'296 | 141'184 | 285'851 | 0 | 1'742'684 | |
| Supplies | | | | | | | | |
| Shelter | 1'246 | | | | | | | 1'246 |
| Clothing & textiles | 123'816 | | | | | | | 123'816 |
| Medical & First Aid | 13'775 | | 2'728 | | | 2'728 | | 11'047 |
| Teaching Materials | 44'740 | 14'625 | 4'895 | | | 19'520 | | 25'220 |
| Other Supplies & Services | 61'077 | | | | 6'273 | 6'273 | | 54'803 |
| Total Supplies | 244'654 | 14'625 | 7'622 | | 6'273 | 28'521 | | 216'132 |
| Land, vehicles & equipment | | | | | | | | |
| Vehicles | 49'827 | | | | | | | 49'827 |
| Computers & Telecom | | | 1'036 | | | 1'036 | | -1'036 |
| Total Land, vehicles & equipment | 49'827 | | 1'036 | | | 1'036 | | 48'791 |
| Transport & Storage | | | | | | | | |
| Storage | | | 91 | | | 1'061 | 1'152 | -1'152 |
| Distribution & Monitoring | | | | | | 6'680 | 6'680 | -6'680 |
| Transport & Vehicle Costs | 13'329 | | 178 | | | 11'583 | 11'762 | 1'567 |
| Total Transport & Storage | 13'329 | | 269 | | | 19'325 | 19'594 | -6'265 |
| Personnel Expenditures | | | | | | | | |
| Delegates Payroll | 288'000 | | | | | 49'330 | 49'330 | 238'670 |
| Delegate Benefits | | | 450 | | | 16'280 | 16'730 | -16'730 |
| National Staff | 40'280 | | | | | 8'736 | 8'736 | 31'544 |
| National Society Staff | 38'945 | | 3'950 | | | 3'950 | 3'950 | 34'995 |
| Total Personnel Expenditures | 367'225 | | 4'400 | | | 74'346 | 78'747 | 288'479 |
| Workshops & Training | | | | | | | | |
| Workshops & Training | 392'668 | 21'913 | 15'429 | | 8'719 | 167 | 46'228 | 346'440 |
| Total Workshops & Training | 392'668 | 21'913 | 15'429 | | 8'719 | 167 | 46'228 | 346'440 |
| General Expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| Travel | 20'172 | | 1'365 | | | 12'959 | 14'324 | 5'848 |
| Information & Public Relation | 481'718 | 22'885 | 10'586 | | 3'437 | 661 | 37'570 | 444'148 |
| Office Costs | 48'145 | 6'054 | 3'425 | | | 1'574 | 11'053 | 37'091 |
| Communications | 11'672 | | | | | 2'701 | 2'701 | 8'971 |
| Financial Charges | | | 22 | | | 11'971 | 11'993 | -11'993 |
| Total General Expenditure | 561'707 | 28'940 | 15'398 | | 3'437 | 29'866 | 77'641 | 484'066 |
| Program Support | | | | | | | | |
| Program Support | 113'274 | 4'672 | 6'127 | | 2'540 | 8'600 | 21'939 | 91'336 |
| Total Program Support | 113'274 | 4'672 | 6'127 | | 2'540 | 8'600 | 21'939 | 91'336 |
| Operational Provisions | | | | | | | | |
| Operational Provisions | | 1'731 | 43'975 | | 18'104 | | 63'810 | -63'810 |
| Total Operational Provisions | | 1'731 | 43'975 | | 18'104 | | 63'810 | -63'810 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D) | 1'742'684 | 71'881 | 94'257 | | 39'074 | 132'304 | 337'516 | 1'405'168 |
| VARIANCE (C - D) | | 462'472 | 687'038 | 141'184 | 246'777 | -132'304 | 1'405'168 | |

Annex 1: Stock report of MRCS disaster preparedness centres that includes target stock, stock procured in 2005 and existing stock levels as of January 2006

| Name of disaster centres | Stock type | Boots | Children's boots | Clothes (set) | children's clothes (set) | Blanket | Tent | Canvas | Ger | Ger curtain/felt | Mattress | First aid kit |
|---|----------------|-------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|------------|---------------|
| Orkhon-Selenge | Target stock | 200 | 200 | | | 200 | 3 | 20 | 1 | 15 | | |
| | Procured 2005 | 200 | | 200 | | 200 | | | | | 25 | |
| | Existing stock | 282 | 90 | 218 | 150 | 132 | 1 | 1 | | 7 | 47 | 53 |
| Khangai | Target stock | 200 | 200 | | | 200 | 1 | 20 | 1 | 1 | | |
| | Procured 2005 | 200 | | 200 | 200 | 200 | | | | | 25 | |
| | Existing stock | 268 | 50 | 218 | 150 | 161 | 1 | 9 | | 7 | 64 | 120 |
| Eastern | Target stock | 200 | 200 | | | 200 | 3 | 20 | 1 | 15 | | |
| | Procured 2005 | 200 | | 200 | 200 | 200 | | | | | 25 | |
| | Existing stock | 230 | 50 | 201 | 150 | 138 | 1 | 13 | 16 | | 25 | 72 |
| Gobi | Target stock | 200 | 200 | | | 200 | 3 | 20 | 1 | 15 | | |
| | Procured 2005 | 200 | | 200 | 200 | 200 | | | | | 25 | |
| | Existing stock | 200 | 50 | 340 | 150 | 170 | 1 | 10 | | | 155 | 40 |
| Western | Target stock | 200 | 200 | | | 200 | 3 | 20 | 1 | 15 | | |
| | Procured 2005 | 200 | | 200 | 200 | 200 | | | | | 25 | |
| | Existing stock | 212 | 37 | 170 | 119 | 114 | 1 | | | | 44 | 84 |
| Altai | Target stock | 200 | 200 | | | 200 | 3 | | 1 | 15 | | |
| | Procured 2005 | 200 | | 200 | 299 | 200 | | | | | 25 | |
| | Existing stock | 261 | 40 | 137 | 102 | 117 | 1 | 10 | 6 | | 28 | 120 |
| Central (Ulaanbatar) & MRCS headquarters | Target stock | 200 | 200 | | | 200 | 3 | 30 | 1 | 38 | | |
| | Procured 2005 | 200 | | 200 | 200 | 200 | | | | | 50 | |
| | Existing stock | 352 | 39 | 150 | 15 | 250 | 6 | 9 | | 20 | 150 | 40 |
| Total existing stock as of January 2006 | | 1805 | 356 | 1434 | 836 | 1082 | 12 | 52 | 22 | 34 | 513 | 529 |