

Appeal 2008-2009



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Central Asia

Appeal No. MAA70001

Date: 14/12/2007

This appeal seeks 12,161,221 Swiss francs (USD 10,877,658 or EUR 7,370,437) to fund the planned programmes that are to be implemented in 2008-2009.

In a world of global challenges, continued poverty, inequity, and increasing vulnerability to disasters and disease, the International Federation with its global network, works to accomplish its Global Agenda, partnering with local community and civil society to prevent and alleviate human suffering from disasters, diseases and public health emergencies.



Through Red Crescent water sanitation projects people get access to safe drinking water.
Photo: Tajikistan Red Crescent

Current context

Central Asia – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan – is particularly vulnerable to both recurring and large-scale disasters resulting directly or indirectly from natural catastrophes such as earthquakes, mudslides, drought and floods. In recent years over four and a half thousand lives have been lost and extensive localized damage caused to housing and infrastructure.

Public health is also a major concern. Although considered a low-prevalence region for HIV, the disease is spreading rapidly. Fuelled by rising numbers of injecting drug users, the proximity of Afghanistan – a major drug producer – secures easy access to, and low prices for, drugs. Tuberculosis (TB) statistics reflect a stabilization of morbidity rates but the figures are still very high and the number of multi-drug resistant (MDR) TB cases is growing. Co-infection of TB and HIV also threatens the health of people in the region. Infant mortality rates are high, with acute respiratory infections and diarrhoea leading causes of under-five mortality.

The economic situation negatively affects the people of Central Asia. Unemployment is high and the state social benefits and social assistance fail to provide decent living standards, even for those that qualify for them. Rural areas are falling further behind. Limited access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities exacerbate the poor quality of life. In Tajikistan the infrastructure that supplies water is in such a poor condition that the number of waterborne diseases is increasing.

Stigma towards people with HIV and TB is common, and discriminatory attitudes about migrants, abandoned children and older people persist and in some cases appear to be growing. In addition, gender based discrimination still exists in many communities.

Programme summary

The regional appeal is based on two programme support plans – one for the Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan Red Crescent Societies and one for the Tajikistan Red Crescent Society. These plans focus on the four main areas of programming in line with the Global Agenda of the Federation; specifically disaster management, health and care, organizational development and promoting humanitarian values. The plans incorporate initiatives to put into practice the Istanbul Commitments made at the VII European Regional Conference in June 2007 in terms of health and social care and addressing the needs of people affected by migration. The coordination and management arrangements by the Federation, including mobilization of technical, material and financial resources, constitutes an integral part of the support plans.

Disaster Management

Target population: 1,843,600

Preparing communities for the type of disasters that habitually hit this region, while reducing the risk of them striking and minimizing their impact, is the major focus of this programme. It aims at communities in areas that evaluations show are disaster-prone with disaster risk awareness activities, following the ethos that prevention is more effective, less traumatic and ultimately less expensive than responding after a disaster strikes.

Disaster preparedness and response relies heavily on the skills and knowledge of Red Crescent staff and volunteers. The programme will therefore strengthen these through trainings, and also boost the financial and technical resources of the National Societies, while building effective mechanisms for emergency response and recovery assistance.

The death-rate from traffic accidents in Tajikistan is high. To address this threat to public safety, information spelling out the risks of dangerous driving, and encouraging a responsible attitude to road use will be disseminated.

To benefit from the experience that exists within the Federation, and to develop partnerships at the strategic level, this programme is aligned with the Federation's Global Agenda Goal one to reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.

Health and Care

Target population: 802,550

In line with the Federation's health and care strategy, as well as with the Central Asia National Societies' strategies, one of the main directions of the programme is reducing the vulnerability of communities to HIV. This will be done by working to prevent further infection and expanding support to people living with HIV (PLHIV). The National Societies will also strive to challenge stigma and discrimination towards PLHIV, at the same time working to minimize its destructive effect on people's lives.

Additionally, the spread of other infectious diseases, including TB, needs to be addressed to halt a regression. This component of the programme will be closely integrated with HIV prevention, as there is a growing incidence of TB/HIV co-infection. Stigma and discrimination need to be addressed in the case of TB too.

The programme focuses on scaling up health related services and building the capacities of the Red Crescent Societies to contribute to the implementation of national programmes in the health area.

There is a persistent problem of access to safe water and sanitation services in Tajikistan, especially in rural areas. To mitigate the consequences on the population's health, the Red Crescent will conduct participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation (PHAST) training with communities. Together with hygiene promotion activities the rural population will be provided with potable water from the gravity flow (spring) water supply systems that will be built and improved sanitation facilities in rural schools.

In a similar concept as the disaster management programme, the health and care work is based on the premise that prevention is more effective and efficient than treating people once they fall ill. Therefore, disease prevention, health promotion, trauma reduction and basic first aid training figure prominently in the work in the coming years. Special work will be done on reproductive health in Turkmenistan. The health and care programme contributes to Global Agenda Goal two to reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies in the region. However, there are many elements that contribute to goal four and stigma reduction.

Capacity Development

Target population: 120,100

This programme, aligned to Global Agenda Goal three to increase local community, civil society and the Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability will enable the societies to build their capacities to become well-functioning National Societies and strengthen their communities. The first outcome is for the National Societies to establish effective coordination between governance and management structures, the headquarters and branches. In addition, the National Societies have a real need to develop their human, financial and material resources at different levels of the organization. Youth will also expand the range and quality of the services they provide.

It is important to note that not only will the capacity of the National Societies be strengthened, but also the local communities themselves, both directly and indirectly. The participatory community development approach, successfully used by many Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Europe will be applied at branch level across Tajikistan.

Principles and Values

Target population: 57,000

The principles and values programme promotes respect for diversity and human dignity, and reduces intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion, corresponding to Global Agenda Goal four. Communications and advocacy activities and image building initiatives of the National Societies fall under this goal as well. A primary outcome is for the Fundamental Principles and values of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement to be promoted among the general public. Connected, communities will be encouraged to combat discrimination and intolerance while respecting diversity. The links with the health and care programme are clear, and this complementarity will develop, making the programmes stronger and with a more profound impact.

Preventing and fighting sexual and gender based violence within communities will be part of the programme effort to promote gender equity in the region. In line with the commitment to address the needs and vulnerabilities of people affected by migration, and to better protect, support and assist them, the Kazakhstan Red Crescent has included campaigns to raise public awareness of refugees' needs in its plan for 2008-2009.

Needs

The table presents the financial needs to fund the planned programmes for 2008-2009. The total budget columns show the total cost of implementing each programme, while the required columns show the part of the total programme budget which the Federation is appealing for.

Programmes	2008 budget in CHF		2009 budget in CHF		Total budget in CHF	
	Total Budget	Required	Total Budget	Required	Total Budget	Required
Disaster Management	2,459,197	2,248,902	2,450,640	2,240,346	4,909,837	4,489,248
Health and Care	2,784,259	2,779,270	2,593,929	2,588,939	5,378,188	5,368,209
Capacity Development	1,009,027	953,471	950,471	944,915	1,959,498	1,898,386
Principles and Values	220,706	202,689	220,705	202,689	441,411	405,378
Total	6,473,189	6,184,332	6,215,745	5,976,888	12,688,934	12,161,221

Working in partnership

The Federation's support to the National Societies in the region has been focused on building their capacities to work in the communities. It also advocates for their needs and assists them in building partnerships. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) supports this, disseminates International Humanitarian Law and works with the societies to help people trace family members that they have lost contact with.

Partnership is extremely important for the Red Crescent Societies, allowing them to bring their experiences and resources together with those of other organizations and authorities. The British, Finnish, German and Netherlands Red Cross Societies and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Red Crescent work on a bilateral basis with the Red Crescent Societies in the region. To scale up and focus cooperation, an operational alliance of interested partners is forming in Kyrgyzstan to work with the Red Crescent in the health sphere. The main directions of the alliance are being established and are evolving. In Tajikistan, the Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) process is used to boost close collaboration with the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and with other partners.

In addition to the local authorities and governmental ministries in their respective countries, there are several major international partners. These include the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), Project HOPE, the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Asian Disaster Reduction Centre, the Swiss Development Cooperation. The National Societies also build and maintain effective partnerships with local non-governmental organizations; PLHIV organizations among them.

How we work	
<p>All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (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</p>	
<p>The International Federation's activities are aligned with its 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".</p>	<p>Global Agenda Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.
Contact information	
<p>For further information specifically related to this Appeal, please contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In Kazakhstan: Vadim Kadyrbayev; Vice-President; Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society, Almaty, email kazrcs@yahoo.com; phone: + 7727 291 81 51; fax: + 7727 291 81 72.• In Kyrgyzstan: Rosa Shayakhmetova; Executive Chairlady; Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent Society, Bishkek; email: 01@redcross.elcat.kg; phone: + 996312 663886; fax: + 996312 662181.• In the Tajikistan Red Crescent Society,: Muhabbatov Zafar; Secretary General; email: rcstj02@mail.ru; phone: + 992372 24 03 74; fax: + 992372 24 53 78.• In the Turkmenistan Red Crescent Society: Zukhra Yelliyeva, Chairlady; email: crescentinf@online.tm; phone: + 99312 351750; fax: + 99312 394349.• In the Uzbekistan Red Crescent Society: Eleonora Tajibaeva, Executive Director; email: eleonora33@rambler.ru; phone: + 99871 1394588; fax: + 99871 1531801.• In the Regional Representation, Almaty: Drina Karahasanovic, Regional representative; email drina.karahasanovic@ifrc.org; phone: + 7727 291 41 56; fax: + 7727 291 42 67.• In the Europe Zone, Budapest: Leon Prop, Deputy Head of Zone; email: leon.prop@ifrc.org, phone: + 36 1 248 3324.	

[Click here for the Budget summary;](#)

[Click here to access the detailed 2008-2009 plan for the Red Crescent Societies of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan and here for the planning and resource summary matrix](#)

[Click here to access the detailed 2008-2009 plan for the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan and here for the planning and resource summary matrix](#)