

Mid-Year report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Kyrgyzstan

Appeal No. MAAKG001

31 August 2010

This report covers the period 01/01/2010 to 30/06/2010.



In June the Red Crescent distributed urgently needed humanitarian aid to people affected by violent clashes in southern Kyrgyzstan.

Photo: Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent

In brief

Programme outcome: The National Society programmes are aligned with the strategic aims of the Strategy 2020 to save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises; enable healthy and safe living; and promote social inclusion and culture of non-violence and peace. The capacity-building efforts are in line with the enabling action one to build strong National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Programmes summary: Within the disaster management programme the National Society built its own capacities to respond to emergencies by improving the staff and volunteers' knowledge and skills in disaster management, building emergency stocks, strengthening partnerships with public authorities and other stakeholders and establishing effective mechanisms for emergency response and recovery assistance. Also, the programme strengthened the coping capacities of the populations living in disaster prone areas by increasing community awareness on actions to take in case of disaster.

The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent requested funds from the International Federation's Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) to provide humanitarian assistance to people affected by mudslides and civil unrest in the southern provinces of the country in June.

The National Society Tuberculosis (TB) prevention programme has been supporting people with TB and disseminating information about the disease among their family members and general population. Within the HIV prevention programme, the National Society has been using peer approach in work with young people and key populations at a higher risk of infection. The Red Crescent harm reduction services target injecting drug users. The community-based health and

first aid (CBHFA) programme provides health education to rural communities through trained volunteers from the target communities. The education included information about Influenza A (H1N1) to better prepare communities for the pandemic. Public campaign focused on personal protection. No activities have been implemented under the blood donation component as no funding was received; the component was excluded from the Country plan 2010-2011.

In June the DREF allocated CHF 81,579 to support the National Society's community mobilization and monitoring activities during the immunization against poliomyelitis in response to a polio outbreak in the neighbouring Tajikistan.

The National Society's general assembly in March re-elected president for the second term, approved the Red Crescent's strategy for 2010–2018. A request has been submitted to the Europe zone to move to a cash transfer system and development of fundraising strategy has started to guide fundraising activities.

The humanitarian principles and values were promoted among vulnerable communities, decision-makers and the public. The position of the information officer had been vacant in the National Society from November 2009 till April 2010. As a result, there was no proper coordination and many planned activities were not implemented. The information and education centres and mobile teams that are part of the regional labour migration network continued to render assistance to more than 1,000 migrants and their families. Tolerance, respect for diversity and the need to oppose xenophobia, discrimination and social exclusion were promoted through public campaigns, information materials, publications in media sources, debates and round tables for partners and the general public.

The civil unrest that ousted the president of the country in spring and further violence in the southern provinces in June negatively affected the programmes implementation as they caused government staff reshuffles and serious security concerns.

Financial situation: The total 2010 appeal budget is CHF 1,225,826 of which CHF 828,498 (67 per cent) covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). Overall expenditure during the reporting period was 51 per cent of the funding. The disaster management programme budget was revised to accommodate excessive contribution. Late arrival (in April) of funds for the organizational development programme resulted in a lower implementation rate. Delays in implementation of the principles and values programme, including the migration component activities, resulted in lower implementation rate of this programme as well.

[Click here to go directly to the attached financial report.](#)

See also:

[Mudslide DREF Operation Bulletin \(MDRKG005\)](#)

[Poliomyelitis DREF Operation Bulletin \(MDRKG006\)](#)

[Civil unrest Emergency Appeal \(MDRKG007EA\)](#)

No. of people we have reached: In total, 72,395 people benefited directly from the secretariat-supported programmes during the reporting period with the funds provided by the donors.

Programme	Target group	Number of people reached	% of women	% of men
Disaster management	Populations in disaster prone areas	37,200		
HIV prevention	Key population at a higher risk of HIV, youth, general public	11,025	52	48
TB prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clients with TB • Family members • General population 	678 1,456 11,500	34	66

CBHFA	Rural populations	9,036	61	39
Principles and values		1,500		
Total:		72,395		

Our partners: The donors supporting the programmes multilaterally through the International Federation are the British, Finnish, Japanese, Norwegian and Swedish Red Cross Societies, the European Commission, and the UK's Department for International Development.

The total number of partnerships between the Federation regional representation, the National Society and community-based, national, government-based, international organizations, UN and developmental agencies exceeded 10.

Context

Violent unrest in early April ousted the president and an interim government is currently in power.

Kyrgyzstan faced the destructive effects of mudslides resulting from heavy rains in the south of the country in early June. The Disaster Relief Emergency Fund allocated CHF 100,044 to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to affected people and to replenish the emergency stocks.

Later in June ethnic violence flared up in southern Kyrgyzstan and caused a massive population movement from Osh and Jalalabat to Uzbekistan. As the situation in the south had stabilized Kyrgyz refugees returned back. The total number of internally displaced persons and returnees in Kyrgyzstan is estimated at 375,000 people, the majority of them staying with relatives and host families who are already poor. Some 2,000 families are yet to return home as their houses are still damaged or uninhabitable.

The interim government requested international support to cope with the humanitarian consequences of the violence in the south of the country: Kyrgyz officials estimate it caused some US Dollars 71 million worth of damage. The UN launched a Flash Appeal for Kyrgyzstan in June to address the needs of more than one million people that seeks 71,145,639 US Dollars for urgent humanitarian support.

The Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement response to the humanitarian crisis in Kyrgyzstan has been prompt and comprehensive. The ICRC provided medical supplies to hospitals in and around Osh to help them cope with the large number of wounded people and launched a preliminary appeal¹. The International Federation allocated CHF 171,625 from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund to support the National Society efforts to provide assistance at transit-points near the border with Uzbekistan.

In the end of June the provisional administration held a referendum on a new constitution restoring powers to parliament that also approved a caretaker president until 2011. President has formed a caretaker government that will run the country until parliamentary elections in October 2010.

The country budget has come under pressure following the spring unrest and further turbulences. Retail trade has undergone a sharp downturn and collection of value-added tax has suffered. Despite the reversal of utility price rises by the provisional government, prices are likely to continue to rise later in the year as the government attempts to raise prices to cost-recovery levels in the electricity sector. Prices for food and consumer goods will suffer from the inflationary impact of border closures in mid-2010, preventing imports from Kazakhstan.

¹ The ICRC launched a full Budget Extension Appeal in mid-July. Complimentary to the ICRC Budget Extension appeal the IFRC supported the activities and operations of the National Society through IFRC emergency appeal on amount of CHF 965,069.

An outbreak of poliomyelitis provoked by a wild poliovirus of type I was reported in Tajikistan in March. As the polio outbreak in the region can have severe adverse impact on public health it was a signal to introduce a higher state of anti-epidemic preparedness in all neighbouring countries. To address the situation and based on the plan agreed between the Kyrgyz health ministry, WHO, UNICEF and the Red Crescent the National Society engaged itself to assist the planned National Immunization Days in summer through community mobilization in Bishkek city with a focus on migrant communities and in Jalalabat province. The Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund allocated CHF 81,579 to support the response provided by the National Society.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster management

Programme component 1: Disaster management planning

Component outcome: Improved ability to predict and plan for disasters to mitigate their impact on vulnerable communities, and respond to and effectively cope with their consequences.

Achievements: Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent continued to work with OCHA as a convener of the shelter cluster in the development of the country and regional inter-agency disaster preparedness and response plans. It was also part of the inter-agency contingency planning on possible energy, water and food insecurity in winter 2009-2010.

Following the civil unrest in April the National Society reoriented the contingency planning work to conflict preparedness and participated in the elaboration of a civil unrest response plan coordinated by OCHA. From June UNHCR had the cluster lead role in the conflict response operation in the country.

The Red Crescent also re-signed the memorandum of understanding and cooperation with the emergency ministry that stipulates the auxiliary role of the National Society and responsibilities of both parties. Although the emergency minister changed twice over the period the memorandum remains valid. However, draft contingency plans for area specific disasters presented by all of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan branches to the authorities at the end of last year, have not yet been commented by the emergency ministry.

Programme component 2: Organizational preparedness

Component outcome: Strengthened capacity of the National Society in disaster preparedness and response through increased skills and knowledge of Red Crescent staff and volunteers, strengthened financial and technical resources, effective mechanisms for emergency response and recovery assistance.

Achievements: Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent Society focused on strengthening the National Society response mechanisms, including the development of the disaster response teams (DRTs) and maintenance of the existing technical and material resources to be able to respond effectively when disaster strikes.

Eight staff members of the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent were participating on regional disaster response team (RDRT) training in Kazakhstan in February. Later six of them facilitated the national DRT five-day training based on the harmonised RDRT course that covered 41 people, 37 of them were trained for the first time. Participants improved skills and knowledge in needs assessments, SPHERE standards, elaboration of an action plan, Federation disaster response tools, emergency planning, tracing in emergency, safer access, and first psychological aid. The National Society updated database of NDRT members that currently includes 111 trained staff and volunteers available for deployment.

With support from the health ministry the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent also trained 24 staff and volunteers in psychosocial support (PSS). Trained people conducted PSS needs assessment among 86 families that lost their relatives during the civil unrest in April and violence in the southern province in June. As a result 53 families were referred to the health ministry for further specialised psychological support.

In February the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent head of disaster management department attended the shelter workshop in Dushanbe (Tajikistan) organized by UNHCR jointly with the IFRC. The National Society started adapting the workshop materials for their shelter training module.

In May the National Society conducted a national workshop on promotion of International Disaster Response Laws (IDRL) to build a common understanding of IDRL among the Red Crescent and the emergency ministry staff from the provinces. The event was timely as the civil unrest in June required international assistance.

Disaster management organizational preparedness has been emphasised during the emergency response operation on civil unrest in southern Kyrgyzstan, which started in mid June. This enhanced the response capacity in case of renewed civil unrest and conflict in the southern provinces of the country. Building capacity to promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace will be pursued.

The National Society has replenished the emergency stocks of its five provincial branches (Chui, Issyk-Kul, Naryn, Osh, Talas) that were used to respond to small-scale disasters at branch level over the year with bedding and hygiene supplies for 1,000 people. In addition, the Osh branch emergency stock was replenished with medical supplies, kitchen sets and blankets from the Turkish Red Crescent within the framework of the regional cooperation programme (outside of the secretariat Plan 2010-2011). However, the National Society reports that additional emergency stock supplies have been distributed to address the humanitarian consequences of recent violence in Osh.

Programme component 3: Community preparedness/Disaster risk reduction
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Component outcome: Strengthened capacities of communities in disaster-prone areas to respond to future disasters through community-based disaster preparedness and the implementation of mitigation projects.
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Achievements: The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent Society started 20 community-based disaster preparedness projects in Chui, Issyk-Kul, Naryn and Talas provinces only in May as new branch staff had been hired in disaster management at the end of April.

The lists of local disaster committees (LDCs) were updated in 15 communities and new LDCs in 5 communities were established. Training for trainers-volunteers from the involved communities, leaders of LDCs and new branch disaster management coordinators targeted 30 people. The participants improved their knowledge on participatory rapid assessment, basic first-aid skills and rules of behaviour in case of disasters, learnt how to develop risk maps and response plans for their communities and even divided further responsibilities and areas of expertise so that community representatives from different provinces would assist each other in preparedness to different kinds of disasters. Further training for LDCs members and mitigation have been postponed until the security situation becomes more stable.

Within the framework of the winter preparedness project, National Society continued providing daily hot meals to the most vulnerable people between January and May. In total 297 elderly people, people with disabilities and with low income have been served.

Programme component 4: Recovery

Component outcome: Increased capacity of the National Society to restore or improve pre-disaster living conditions and reduce the risk of future disasters.

Achievements: The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent included the standard presentation on early recovery session and reached more than 40 members of the disaster response teams at the national training in March-April.

Osh and Jalalabat province branches incorporated early recovery elements, like restoring and strengthening livelihoods through skills and vocational training and distribution of shelter construction tool kits, and promoting tolerance, respect for diversity and non-discrimination in the emergency response operations on mudslides and civil unrest.

Constraints or Challenges: At branch level the implementation of the programme was challenged because the disaster management staff of all four branches covered by the programme resigned in the middle of last year and it took time until May 2010 to find replacement due to low salary support under the disaster management programme. Volatile security situation resulting from civil unrest and violence in the south of the country negatively affected the programme implementation. In particular, the recovery, shelter, IDRL, and climate change adaptation knowledge were not filtered down as was planned and the coverage of community based disaster preparedness project was quite limited. Besides, no information campaigns were carried out.

Health and care

Programme component 1: HIV and AIDS

Component outcome 1: Vulnerability to HIV and its impact reduced through preventing further infection.

Component outcome 2: Vulnerability of PLHIV is decreased through expanding HIV support.

Component outcome 3: Vulnerability of PLHIV decreased through reducing HIV stigma and discrimination.

Component outcome 4: The capacity of the National Society to deliver and sustain scaled up HIV programmes strengthened.

Achievements: The National Society continued implementation of the HIV prevention programme in Bishkek, Takmak, Karabalta, Karakol, Balykchi, Cholponata, Naryn, Talas, Osh, Jalalabat and Batken cities. The target groups of the programme are sex workers (SWs), injecting drug users (IDUs), schoolchildren and students, military personnel, truck drivers, labour migrants. The 148 Red Crescent volunteers have provided peer education in the form of training, education and information sessions to a total of 7,525. Public actions are estimated to have reached another 3,500 people through candle march and a memorial garden marked the International AIDS Candlelight Memorial day, while a concert was dedicated to the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. At the self support groups meetings, organized in cooperation with the TB prevention programme, 50 people living with HIV received limited social support and information on HIV/TB co-infection issues and prevention by Isoniazid.

Around 78 per cent of the targeted population aged 15-49 correctly identified ways of preventing sexual transmission of HIV and rejected major misconceptions about HIV transmission. Besides, 81 per cent of targeted SWs, IDUs, and military men who have sexual contacts with more than one partner or with irregular partners reported that they had always used condoms.

The Red Crescent harm reduction point in Karabalta exchanged syringes, distributed condoms, disseminated information materials, and provided consultations. The point served 721 IDUs and 34

SWs, out of them 58 people are permanent clients. Outreach services also available for SWs and IDUs targeted 76 people. About 3,000 syringes had been distributed among the clients of the harm reduction points and 63 per cent were returned.

In April HIV coordinator and health coordinator of the National Society participated in the training on harm reduction held in Villa Maraini (Italy) to share their experience and learn the best practice from the sister National Societies.

Programme component 2: Tuberculosis
Component outcome 1: Clients with TB received support from the Red Crescent.
Component outcome 2: TB awareness increased and stigma associated with TB reduced through communication and social mobilisation.
Component outcome 3: Participation of community members in the Red Crescent TB programming increased.

Achievements:

The TB prevention programme is implemented in Bishkek, Karabalta, Osh and Jalalabat cities, and Alamedin and Karasuu districts. Alamedin district of Chui province has been targeted since April because of increased internal migration to the province.

The programme aims improving treatment outcomes by encouraging treatment adherence in clients with TB. Over six months the National Society reached 678 clients with TB and visiting nurses provided direct observation of treatment (DOT) to 105 (15 percent) of them. DOT has been provided only for those clients who are unable to come to clinics for medicines – older people or people with disabilities, etc. Besides, beneficiaries under DOT received social support – food parcels – on monthly basis while other clients received parcels only to stimulate timely check-ups. The treatment success rate among the clients under DOT, whose treatment outcomes were defined over the period, was 89.6 per cent. The default rate did not exceed five percent.

Red Crescent Society managed to reach 11,500 people with key messages on TB transmission and early detection in secondary schools and organisations. The visiting nurses also referred people with suspicion of TB to health facilities for medical check-up. The monitoring revealed that 78 per cent of targeted population is aware about the signs and measures to prevent TB and that TB is curable. A range of actions including sport and drawing competitions and round tables with stakeholders was organized to mark the World TB Day and covered 31,500 people.

The National Society attracted former beneficiaries of the programme who successfully completed the treatment and people reached with information activities as volunteers. 28 former beneficiaries and 150 schoolchildren volunteered in the TB service and helped visiting nurses.

Programme component 3: Community-based health and first aid
Component outcome: Population health improved through diseases prevention, health promotion, trauma reduction and basic first-aid training.

Achievements: The National Society community-based health and first-aid programme targets rural population in Chui, Issyk-Kul, Naryn, Talas, Osh, Jalalabat provinces and people living in the outskirts of the capital city of Bishkek. It focused on health education in the communities that have limited access to health services because of their remote location. The educational sessions were conducted by trained volunteers from the communities and contributed to raising awareness of the communicable diseases and ways to prevent them, promoting hygiene practices and building first-aid skills to 5,694 people. Among them 76 per cent were familiar with symptoms of the most common diseases and prevention measures and 85 per cent had basic first-aid skills.

In February-March the National Society conducted an informational campaign on prevention of Influenza A (H1N1) pandemic. The campaign titled “Your best defence is you” focused on personal protection. Information about the influenza and measures to prevent the disease was disseminated through information/education/communication materials and within the CBHFA education sessions for the population. The National Society trained 65 volunteers who reached 3,342 people with information on pandemic preparedness.

Programme component 4:

Component outcome: The number of voluntary non-remunerated blood donations increased.
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Achievements: No funding was received for this component and the National Society did not carry out any specific activities towards this outcome. The outcome has been excluded from the Country plan 2010-2011.

Constraints or Challenges

The National Society faces the problem related to support of institutional memory. The analysis of training needs among the health staff demonstrates that they require technical training and further guidance in programme management (including planning, monitoring and reporting). Further steps on how to overcome the problem are detailed in the Looking ahead section of the report.

Political turbulences and violence in spring and summer negatively affected the programme activities. Thus, about 70 percent of HIV peer trainers and volunteers involved in the programme in Jalalabat province left for Russia or Kazakhstan. Moreover, some public activities had to be postponed because of security concerns and restrictions on public actions. The TB prevention programme visiting nurses were unable to provide DOT in Osh and Jalalabat provinces after the violence as access to TB clients was restricted. Besides, some beneficiaries moved to other provinces.

Organizational development/ Capacity building

Programme component 1: National Society organizational development and capacity building (headquarters and branches)

Component outcome 1: Management and governance effectively support the delivery of the National Society programming.

Component outcome 2: Increased capacity for programme development and management.
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Component outcome 3: Volunteer capacity improved through relevant training and participation in core activities.

Achievements: The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent general assembly in March approved the report of the secretary general on the on the activities, accomplishments and challenges of the National Society for the period since the previous assembly in 2006. Delegates re-elected the Society’s president for the second term. Also, the Strategy for 2010–2018 was approved, translated to English and distributed among partners and the statute will be sent to the Joint Statute Commission (ICRC and International Federation) for consideration and further filing.

The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent Society submitted a request to move to a cash transfer system in mid March. As soon as the request is officially approved, the National Society will start working on the development of internal mechanisms allowing smooth integration of the cash transfer system into the operational systems of the organization.

The National Society presidium (national level governing board) approved a grading system for salaries of the staff. Some comments concern the approach towards the salary calculation – they advise that clear staff job descriptions and a system of motivation including salary increments and

social benefits, should be developed. The Federation regional HR manager has been further consulting her counterpart in the National Society on the matter.

The National Society started development of the fundraising strategy to guide fundraising activities in the country. So far, the Red Crescent has approached 14 potential donors at the corporate sector and negotiations on shaping up the support are underway.

In the situation of the recent political developments in the country, like violence and increased humanitarian needs the National Society felt an acute need to recruit new volunteers and revise the current volunteer training curricula. An induction course for new volunteers on Red Cross and Red Crescent principles and values, roles and responsibilities of volunteers in emergency situations and safer access has been launched in the south and will be used to trainings in other regions as well.

On World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day a project developed and implemented by volunteers aimed at providing social support to veterans of the World War II – 37 veterans received food parcels. Volunteer certificates and first aid kits were also gifted to mothers of children born on that day. The actions were highlighted in mass media.

On the International Child Protection Day the National Society launched an appeal through text messages to collect goods for orphans, children with disabilities and disadvantaged children. All received goods were delivered to children in a tuberculosis clinic and an orphanage.

Constraints or Challenges:

The major part of the National Society transition programme was incorporated into the proposal for the Intensified Capacity Building (ICB) modality of support of the Federation, but the support has not yet been confirmed. However, the National Society revised its plans and managed to use different opportunities – actively seeking additional funds among bilateral partners for instance – to make the planned activities happen so that not to postpone the overall transition process. Still, the question of much needed ICB support remains open.

The civil unrest in spring prevented the National Society from arranging public actions to mark the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day on 8 May.

Principles and values

Programme component 1: Promotion of humanitarian principles and values

Component outcome: Fundamental principles and humanitarian values of the Movement promoted.

Achievements: About 50 new Red Crescent volunteers in the headquarters and branches received knowledge about the fundamental principles and humanitarian values and used it while rendering humanitarian assistance in Bishkek and southern Kyrgyzstan during and after the civil unrest and ethnical clashes.

The Red Crescent actions reached partners and general public through campaigns to commemorate the World Red Cross Red Crescent Day, the International Child Protection Day, and the World TB Day. Events were highlighted by more than 30 mass media sources. A video on emblems was broadcasted by 3 TV-channels and 5 banners promoting the Red Crescent activities and principles and values under the slogan “Our World. Your move.” were produced by the National Society and placed on the streets of Bishkek and regional centres of the country.

Programme component 2: Operationalisation of fundamental principles and humanitarian values

Component outcome: Fundamental principles are integrated into National Society operational programmes.

Achievements: The principles and values were promoted during the training for volunteers in other core programmes like disaster management, social programme and health and care, and were successfully applied in the response operations.

Over the period 20 volunteers, 12 chairpersons of residential area's councils and 40 leaders from 10 new communities were trained and involved in the promotion of principles and values and the Red Crescent services in the communities.

Programme component 3: Anti-discrimination and violence prevention

Component outcome: Ability of communities to combat discrimination, intolerance and violence and to promote respect for diversity enhanced.

Achievements: Two information and education centres for migrants in Bishkek and Osh cities and five mobile teams continued providing services in the framework of Regional Labour Migration Network. Over 1,000 persons in 8 communities of internal migrants in Bishkek city and 12 communities of intending migrants in Jalalabad, Osh and Batken regions have been targeted. Consultations on legal and social issues, psychological support, HIV, TB and other health issues and tracing service through the Red Crescent telephone hotlines in Bishkek and Osh cities were provided to migrants and to their families.

Awareness of the needs of migrants on their rights and other protection issues was raised and non-discrimination and respect for diversity were broadly promoted and discussed with partners and beneficiaries following the projection of 17 video films about principles and values, risks of irregular migration, by the Red Crescent mobile cinemas.

Constraints or Challenges:

The position of the information officer in the National Society had been vacant from November 2009 till April 2010. As a result, there was no proper coordination and many planned activities beyond migration, including sessions on principles and values, or information support for the society, were not implemented or reduced. The new staff that took over in April needs to be trained on distribution of principles and values.

The starting phase of the information and education centres for migrants took more time as labour migration is a new area of support for the Red Crescent Societies in Central Asia. It required more time to gain confidence of beneficiaries and to find a proper niche among other migration players. Due to this reason the regional labour migration network development was delayed till the end of 2009 and continued in the first half of 2010, when each member was ready to present needs and suggestions to other partners within the network. Consequently, some activities like the internal evaluation and the regional information campaign have been also delayed.

Because of civil unrest and violence in the country in April-June the internal evaluation of the labour migration project in Kyrgyzstan was not conducted. For the same reason the National Society did not attend the first working groups meetings focusing on the development of guidelines on work with migrants held in Almaty in April.

Working in partnership

The National Society continues to coordinate the activities with members of the shelter cluster in the country, led currently by UNHCR, through regular meetings, information sharing and inter-agency contingency planning following the sector approach.

The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent is also part of the project “Building sustainable community resilience through Disaster Risk Reduction in Central Asia” implemented by the consortium of the American, German and Netherlands Red Cross Societies, the central Asia Red Crescent Societies and IFRC and funded by DIPECHO in 2010-2011. In the consortium the Netherlands Red Cross is a lead agency and applicant and the IFRC has a designated role in ensuring overall coordination with other Red Cross/Red Crescent projects and harmonization of approaches in the areas of the IDRL promotion, contingency planning and RDRT training. The project targets southern provinces of the country – Osh, Jalalabat and Batken.

In addition, the Turkish Red Crescent assisted the National Society’s capacity building efforts by expanding the emergency stock in the south of the country (Osh province). The American Red Cross supported the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent Society to elaborate a new long-term project starting in 2011 to prepare at-risk population centres to survive and thrive following a catastrophic earthquake within the framework of the Central Asia Urban Earthquake Preparedness Initiative.

The National Society is an active member of the country coordination mechanism on TB and HIV and regularly participates in the inter-agency meetings discussing the developments in the national TB and HIV prevention programmes. Data on TB and HIV is obtained from the health ministries, local authorities often facilitate access to communities and TB dispensaries provide the National Society with information about the target group of the programme.

The National Society TB prevention is bilaterally supported by the Spanish RC. The Red Crescent Society maintains working relationships with international agencies like WHO, Project HOPE, Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, AIDS Foundation East-West, Soros Foundation, USAID, UNDP and UNICEF as well as local non-governmental organisations.

The National Society is a member of the Red Cross Red Crescent Global Alliance on HIV. Within the GA HIV programme the American Red Cross allocated additional funds for the National Society to expand HIV prevention in the country by introducing legal and psychological services to PLHIV.

The transition programme of the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent is supported by bilateral and multilateral partners within the Movement through various programmes. These are multilateral programmes like organizational development, HIV prevention that tests the salary grade and disaster management that allocates some funds on agreement with the donor. The bilateral programmes involved are the Netherlands Red Cross branch development and disaster preparedness programmes. There have also been separate contributions channelled by the British and German Red Cross Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

The lack of coordination mechanisms for planning and implementation of the transition programme among partners is perceived as the main challenge by the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent. As there are a lot of parties involved it took quite a long time to achieve an agreement on the purposes of the programme.

The key partners of the principles and values programme are the media, which play a great role in improving image of Red Crescent and changing behaviour towards vulnerable groups served by the National Society. The partnership with EC, IOM, ACTED, UN family agencies, international and local NGOs and local authorities strengthened under the migration project through information sharing, participating in regional and national conferences and meetings.

Contributing to longer-term impact

The monitoring of the programmes is carried out by the National Society staff while collecting information on the progress through visits to beneficiaries, observation, meetings with the representatives of partner organisations, local communities and local authorities.

The disaster statistics and their impact on the sites are followed up with the emergency structures at local level. Regular field visits and monthly reports from provincial branches feed the programme management at national level as well.

The SPHERE standards and the *Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief* guide the Red Crescent disaster response and the fundamental principles and the value of respect for dignity and equality are at all times promoted in disaster management awareness materials, during training and work with the communities. In disaster response, the distribution of assistance is made on the basis of impartiality. Actions are solely guided by needs, proportional to the degree of suffering and prioritized on the basis of urgency and vulnerability.

Promoting and respecting the fundamental principles and humanitarian values, including promotion of gender equity, are indispensable if the Red Cross Red Crescent is to be perceived as an impartial, neutral and independent actor, and furthermore to facilitate the Red Cross Red Crescent to carry out its mandate. The National Society does not take sides of diverging population groups and follow the principle of diversity in the composition of staff involved.

Best practices were promoted among colleagues and exchange visits between branches were encouraged by the migration project to allow learning from experience.

Looking ahead

The Red Crescent Society will continue the work on IDRL promotion and advocate for the revision of relevant legislation in cooperation with UN OCHA and the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) offices for Central Asia. It will also support the government in the establishment of the national disaster risk reduction platform to ensure efficient response to major disasters.

In order to help communities recover from disasters the psychosocial support programme will be designed and set up as a permanent response tool in crises situations and as a regular activity of the National Society within the framework of the emergency response operation in the south.

Also, the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent Society intends to present the International Federation's Word Disasters Report 2010 during the information campaign marking the International Day for Disaster Reduction in October.

Following the analysis of training needs among the health staff a draft plan of trainings for the National Society staff has been developed. The knowledge gained at the advocacy training in Geneva by the Kazakhstan Red Crescent and IFRC staff² will enable the National Societies in the region to develop the advocacy component within the health programmes. The National Society HIV coordinator will also attend the HIV-related proposal writing and project management training in Strasburg in December.

Smooth integration of the cash transfer system into the operational systems of the organization implies the development of specific tools and templates. In order to secure funding for the future audits, the National Society decided to allocate a certain percentage of all programmes budgets for financial audit annually.

The terms of reference for the training in programme/project planning for the National Society will be finalised. Preliminary agreement with regional representation and the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent was reached and the training will be provided by the in autumn.

² In June 2010 TB coordinator of the Kazakhstan Red Crescent and the IFRC regional health officer participated in the training on TB, MDR TB, HIV/TB related advocacy issues and the development of advocacy conception within health programmes held in Geneva.

The staff of the National Society requires additional training in humanitarian diplomacy. Possibilities of organising a relevant training will be considered by the principles and values programme.

The funds to continue and to strengthen the services provided by the Central Asian Red Crescent Labour Migration Network will be sought at regional and national levels among stakeholders who have an interest in assisting migrants in the region. A possible six-month extension of the EC-supported migration project beyond 2010 without extra costs will be a subject of discussion with the donor this autumn. Additional funding will be sought to enhance the ability of communities to combat discrimination, intolerance and violence and to promote respect for diversity as part of the International Federation regional and global resource mobilization process.

How we work	
<p>All 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.</p>	
<p>The IFRC's vision is to:</p> <p>Inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.</p>	<p>The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises. 2. Enable healthy and safe living. 3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
Contact information	
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