

# Programme Update

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Kyrgyzstan

Appeal No. MAAKG001

31 August 2009

This report covers the period 01/01/09 to 30/06/09.



The new project aimed to serve migrants and their families was presented during a press-conference dedicated to the World Red Cross Red Crescent Day. Photo: Kabar agency

## In brief

**Programme purpose** The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent programmes are aligned with the Global Agenda goals to reduce the number of deaths, injuries, and impact from disasters; to reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies; to increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability; and to reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

**Programmes summary:** The disaster management programme strengthened the coping capacities of the populations living in disaster prone areas by increasing community awareness of actions to take in case of a disaster. Besides, the National Society built its own capacities to respond to emergencies through 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. Over the period, the Kyrgyzstan National Society provided assistance to people affected by small-scale disasters, namely floods, landslides and mudslides. Two trained members of the regional disaster response team from the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent participated in the emergency relief operation of the Tajikistan Red Crescent assisting people affected by mudslides and floods.

The National Society Tuberculosis (TB) prevention programme has been targeting vulnerable people with TB and disseminating information about the disease among their family members and general population. It has been underfunded with only 25 per cent of the budget covered; the losses on the 2008-2009 income caused reduction in spending on social support, staff training, monitoring and transport. Within the HIV prevention programme, the National Society has been using peer approach in work with key populations at higher risk and young people. The Red Crescent harm reduction services target injecting drug users. The community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) programme focuses health education on rural communities that have limited access to health services because of their remote location. The sessions are provided by trained volunteers from the target communities. No funding has been received for the blood donation component and consequently no specific activities have been implemented.

The promotion of humanitarian principles and values reached vulnerable communities served by the National Societies and decision-makers and public alike. New Red Crescent volunteers got knowledge about the fundamental principles as well. Two information and education centres and five mobile teams have been established by the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent to render social assistance to migrants and their families. The centres are part of the regional labour migration network, and first trainings for target community leaders have already been held. Messages on gender-based violence and discrimination have been spread as part of the National Society's promotion activities.

In the organisational development area the National Society used the expertise of a local consulting company to seek recommendations with respect to further human resources management systems development; a clear salary grading system has also been provided. In April 2009, the National Society held a partnership meeting within the framework of the operational alliance development. The logical framework matrix, work plan and budget for the transition period until the end of 2010, produced with support of a consultant, were presented to the participants. There has been no specific funding allocated for the youth project this year so only major youth activities will be covered from the organizational development funds. To date a training module on work with disadvantaged and orphaned children has been developed by the National Society and piloted in branches.

**Financial situation:** The total 2009 budget is CHF 1,190,433 (USD 1,096,799 or EUR 780,755), of which 61 per cent covered. Expenditure overall was 50 per cent versus funding.

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

**No. of people we help:** In total about 53,710 people benefited directly from the secretariat-supported programmes with the funds provided by the donors.

**Programme Update  
January-June 2009 –  
Kyrgyzstan**

Programme	Target groups	People reached	% of women	% of men	% of children under 18	% of older people
Disaster Management	Members of communities in disaster-prone areas	18,200	55	45	11.2	7.5
Health and Care	TB People with TB Family members, general population	650 22,000	39	61		
	HIV Key populations at higher risk of HIV, youth and general public	7,100	68	32		
	Community-based health and first aid Rural communities	2,200	55	45		

Organizational Development	National Society staff, members and volunteers*	1,600*				
Principles and Values	Partners, street children and children with disabilities, migrants	3,560	55	45	10	15
<b>Total number of people reached</b>		<b>53,710</b>				

\* National Society staff, members and volunteers are not counted as people reached and are not included in the total figure.

**Working in partnership:** The donors supporting the programmes multilaterally through the International Federation are the British, Finnish, Norwegian and Swedish Red Cross Societies, the European Commission, the UK's Department for International Development and the Capacity Building Fund. The total number of partnerships between the regional representation, the National Society and community-based, national, government-based, international organizations, UN and developmental agencies and media exceeded 15.

## Context

Kyrgyzstan has had difficulties in ensuring a stable power supply to the population in the last two years, especially in the cold winter period. The worsening global economic situation, together with domestic power problems, saw businesses closing down this year, with construction and real estate hardest hit. The damage to the water supply system caused by the power cuts were reported in rural areas of the country throughout the winter-spring period until May.

Migrant workers, who have started to return from Russia and Kazakhstan owing to the decline in construction activity in those countries, increase the competition for existing jobs in the country. The level of internal migration from rural to urban areas has also intensified.

The local currency weakened since last year and the prices kept rising. This affects the National Society's capacities to cover core costs and support programming: higher overhead costs in the headquarters and branches can lead to reduction of staff; increased prices for goods and communal services also mean shrinking salaries of the staff.

Kyrgyzstan also faced the destructive effects of landslides, floods, mudslides resulting from heavy rains in Jalalabad, Talas and Chui provinces in April-June 2009. Besides, a series of earthquakes measuring 5-6 on Richter scale was recorded in Talas, Osh, and Jalalabat regions in April. The Red Crescent Society was the first non-governmental organization to respond to these disasters. Over the period the National Society assisted more than 1,500 disaster affected people with humanitarian aid from the pre-positioned emergency stocks; some of them received psychological support. Also, in January 2009 the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent finalised the earthquake response operation in Osh region funded by the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF).

## Progress towards outcomes

### Disaster management

**Outcome/Expected result:** Improved ability to predict and plan for disasters to mitigate their impact on vulnerable communities, and to respond to and effectively cope with their consequences.

### **Achievements:**

At the regional UN OCHA Humanitarian Action Training to strengthen the capacity of the humanitarian country team members to lead and coordinate effective humanitarian action the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent made a presentation on their role in the shelter cluster. The National Society has engaged in building a common understanding among the key Red Crescent staff of the importance of key partnerships in humanitarian response, of the roles and responsibilities of the humanitarian country team and cluster lead agencies in humanitarian response, and the principle tools for humanitarian action and how to access them.

The National Society was part of the inter-agency contingency planning on energy, water and food insecurity in the 2008-2009 winter. As a convener of the shelter cluster the National Society conducted several coordination meetings with cluster members to revise the relevant part of the UN flash appeal, based on the inter-agency contingency plan on energy, water and food insecurity. An extended shelter cluster coordination meeting held in May discussed and agreed on the required shelter contingency planning process for 2009-2010 and on the roles and responsibilities of cluster partners, next steps, and support required from the global shelter cluster. The meeting brought together representatives of the International Federation's Geneva shelter department, the Europe zone office, regional and Tajikistan country representations, Red Crescent Societies from Central Asia and Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent branches. The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent will continue working with OCHA throughout 2009 in order to develop country and regional inter-agency disaster preparedness and response plans.

All branches of the Red Crescent started elaborating their contingency plans. In April a national workshop on contingency planning was held in Bishkek where the principal issues and the content of the plans, standard operational procedures adapted to provincial level and stages for contingency planning process were discussed. The National Society expects that by mid-December draft contingency plans will have passed cross-checking by neighbouring provincial branches and testing before they are presented at the national workshop in the end of the month.

**Outcome/Expected result:** 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:**

The disaster management programme continued reinforcing the National Societies' 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.

In February two disaster management staff from the headquarters took part in the eight-day harmonised regional disaster response team (RDRT) training in Macedonia and later shared their knowledge with colleagues during trainings in the country. In the first half of 2009 the Red Crescent Society conducted four trainings at national level targeting about 90 members of their DRTs from all provincial branches to improve their skills and knowledge in disaster management including needs assessments, SPHERE standards, elaborating a plan of action, International Federation's disaster response tools, emergency planning, tracing in emergency, safer access, and first psychological aid. During one of the trainings the Turkish Red Crescent facilitated a psychosocial support session that the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent will make part of their DRT education as an important element of disaster response.

Two members of the national DRT were deployed to assist the Tajikistan Red Crescent emergency operation. The Tajikistan Red Crescent considered the work of the regional team successful.

The National Society has also replenished the emergency stocks of its four provincial branches (Issyk-Kul, Naryn, Talas, Chui) used to respond to small-scale disasters at branch level over the year with bedding (blankets, bed linen) and hygiene supplies (soap, washing powder, shampoo, tooth paste). In addition, the Osh branch emergency stock was replenished with tents and blankets from the Turkish Red Crescent within the framework of the regional cooperation programme (outside of the secretariat Plan 2009-2010).

**Outcome/Expected result:** Improved understanding and application by the National Society of the International Federation's standardized guidelines for effective response.

#### **Achievements:**

The Red Crescent participated in the regional disaster management meetings aimed at capacity-building. One of the meetings built better understanding of the shelter cluster approach and inter-agency cooperation in response to a major disaster, another discussed shelter issues. Meetings to clarify the links of the disaster risk reduction programme with climate change and make an introduction to vulnerability and capacity assessment have been also arranged. The events took place in May and were facilitated by external experts and experts from the Geneva secretariat shelter department, the International Federation's Climate Change Reference Centre and the Netherlands Red Cross.

**Outcome/Expected result:** Strengthened capacities of communities in disaster-prone areas to respond to future disasters through community-based disaster preparedness.

#### **Achievements**

The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent Society has been implementing 20 community-based disaster preparedness projects in Issyk-Kul, Naryn, Talas, and Chui provinces since April. The National Society applied the following criteria when selecting communities to be involved in the projects: the community is located in the most disaster prone area, it is strongly committed to work in the disaster preparedness area, it is not involved in partner preparedness projects (no overlapping), the area is safe for Red Crescent staff and volunteers to work in. Chui and Talas provincial branches focused on disaster awareness of children and older people in the communities as these groups have limited access to such information and targeted three schools, two children's centres and a mercy house.

Twenty local disaster committees (LDCs) have been established; leaders of the LDCs have been introduced to community-based disaster preparedness through a national seminar together with branch disaster management staff and volunteers. The committees and community members received four trainings for each LDC on participatory rapid assessment, basic first-aid skills and rules of behaviour in case of a disaster. They learnt about the Red Crescent mission and services and how to develop risk maps and response plans for their communities.

The initially trained 1,000 people further shared information on disaster preparedness among 17,000 community members. All communities received the information kit with five types of informational materials: a flipchart with basic disaster definitions, a disaster preparedness manual for communities, posters, a preparedness family plan checklist and an informational booklet (pocket size). The simulation exercise for the communities and the procurement of basic equipment, such as minimal standard disaster preparedness sets to support their possible response actions will be arranged in the second half of the year.

**Outcome/Expected result:** Reduced vulnerability of communities in disaster-prone areas through the implementation of mitigation projects.

### **Achievements**

Activities under this expected result are planned for the second half of the year.

**Outcome/Expected result:** Increased capacity of the National Society to restore or to improve pre-disaster living conditions and to reduce the risk of future disasters.

### **Achievements:**

This is a new component of the National Society's programme. A three-day regional workshop on recovery was arranged by the regional representation for the programme staff of all five Central Asian National Societies in April 2009 as a start-up, which the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent disaster management staff and directors of all branches attended.

### **Constraints or Challenges**

In May-June disaster management staff in three of the Red Crescent provincial branches resigned for different reasons. This could negatively affect the programme implementation in the second half of the year, particularly the recovery and mitigation projects and contingency planning in these branches.

## **Health and care**

**Outcome/Expected result:** Vulnerability to HIV and its impact reduced through preventing further infection and reducing stigma and discrimination.

### **Achievements**

The programme aims to increase HIV awareness and promote safe behaviour among young people and key populations at higher risk – sex workers, military men, truck drivers and injecting drug users. It runs in all seven provinces of the country and there are 85 active trainers on the programme.

The beneficiaries of the programme are targeted through peer education sessions or harm reduction services. Trainings on HIV have also been carried out for migrants in the outskirts of Bishkek in cooperation with the migration project. The Red Crescent harm reduction point, located in Karabalta town, served injecting drug users; syringes were distributed and exchanged and informational materials and condoms disseminated.

In total, 7,100 people benefited from the programme in the target communities, 240 drug users among them. Out of all people covered 85 per cent correctly identified ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV and rejected major misconceptions about HIV transmission.

**Outcome/Expected result:** Vulnerability to TB and its impact reduced through preventing further infection, providing social support to TB patients and integrating with HIV prevention.

### **Achievements**

The TB prevention programme works to improve treatment adherence among people with TB on the continuation phase of treatment. The programme runs in Bishkek, Djalalabat, Karabalta, Karasu, and Osh cities. The National Society targets people predisposed to interruption due to their health condition or social status: people with low income, families with many children, retired people, people with disabilities. The beneficiaries have been receiving food parcels to keep up their nutritional status and as a motivation not to interrupt the treatment. The direct observation of treatment (DOT) has been provided by the Red Crescent

visiting nurses for people with disabilities. Over the period, 646 TB clients benefited from the National Society social support programme. No clients receiving social support have defaulted the treatment. The treatment success rate among 212 clients who were under DOT was 91 per cent.

Information and education work has been carried out among the TB clients' family members and the general population. The former are reached during home visits, the latter at their work place; children are targeted at schools. In total, about 22,000 people were reached with the information work. Following the education sessions or after home visits the National Society referred 1,182 people with signs of TB for early diagnosis, in 159 cases TB was confirmed (13.5 per cent).

Twenty seven former beneficiaries of the Red Crescent programme have been supporting visiting nurses as volunteers. Facilitated by visiting nurses and volunteers, the TB clients participated in self-support groups to share knowledge and experience with each other and provide moral support. There are five self-support groups that gather at least once a week.

A series of public events – a drawing competition among college students, a race among schoolchildren, the thematic TV and radio programmes, and a round table with partners – was organized to mark the World TB Day. As usual, the National Society events were organized in cooperation with partners: the health ministry, Project HOPE, TB dispensaries and local authorities.

**Outcome/Expected result:** Population health improved through diseases prevention, health promotion, trauma reduction and basic first-aid training.

### **Achievements**

The community-based health and first-aid programme targets rural population in Chui, Issyk-Kul, Naryn, Talas, Osh, Djalalabat provinces of the country and people living in the outskirts of the capital city Bishkek. It focuses on health education in the communities that have limited access to health services because of their remote location. The educational sessions are conducted by trained volunteers from the selected communities. The provided education works towards raising awareness of the communicable diseases and ways to prevent them, promoting hygiene practices and building first-aid skills. Information on immunization have been included in the sessions.

There have been 2,200 people educated on prevention of the most common diseases, 55 per cent of them females and 45 per cent males. Among those targeted 73 per cent knew symptoms of the most common diseases and prevention measures and 54 per cent had basic first-aid skills. The health education has been provided by 125 volunteers working on the programme.

**Outcome/Expected result:** Number of voluntary non-remunerated blood donations increased.

### **Achievements**

No funding has been received for this component and the National Society did not carry out any specific activities towards this outcome.

### **Constraints or Challenges**

The TB prevention programme has been underfunded – only 25 per cent of the budget has been covered. Losses on the 2008-2009 income forced the National Society to revise the annual operational budget reducing the spending on social support, training for staff, monitoring, transport and delivery.

The head of health department in the National Society changed. Staff turnover, explained mainly by salary levels, causes delays in programme implementation as new people normally take time to get into new job.

Proper monitoring and reporting requires further attention from the National Society to make the programmes more efficient, accountable and presentable. Technical support from the regional representation will be needed to address these issues.

## Organizational development/Capacity building

**Outcome/Expected result:** Management and governance effectively support the delivery of the National Society programming.

### **Achievements:**

The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent is the most advanced in the region in terms of establishing clear structures with separate governance and management functions at the headquarters and branch levels. The interrelations between the governance and management were analysed during the two national level governing board meetings. Following the analysis, the governing board recommended to engage the board members at all levels into programme activities based on their education, expertise, and experience in the National Society projects.

**Outcome/Expected result:** Increased capacity for programme development and management.

### **Achievements:**

Within the framework of the finance management development process the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent head of finance department visited the International Federation's regional representation to work with the finance department and to discuss the finance management issues with programme managers.

The second external financial audit will be held in the second half of 2009 and will cover the 2008 fiscal year. According to the plan, the next audit is expected to evaluate the improvements made since the first audit.

The National Society used the expertise of a local consulting company to seek recommendations with respect to further human resources management systems development. The recommendations mainly concern benefits and motivation for staff; a clear salary grading system has also been provided. Besides, a new human resources development coordinator, hired by the National Society in April, already assessed the human resource practices of the south regional branch in Osh together with the organisational development coordinator. The results will serve as a basement to build on while improving the overall management capacities of the branch staff.

In April, the National Society held a partnership meeting within the framework of the operational alliance development. The logical framework matrix, work plan and budget for the transition period until the end of 2010, produced with support of a consultant, were presented to the participants – the ICRC, the International Federation secretariat, the British, Finnish, German, Netherlands, and Swedish Red Cross Societies – who expressed their overall support to the change process. The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent turned back to the idea of building its operational alliance around the health and care integrated programme in its initial phase, but with the goal of progressing to the overall integrated programming in mind.

**Outcome/Expected result:** Volunteer capacity improved through relevant training and participation in core activities.

### **Achievements:**

A training module on work with disadvantaged and orphaned children has been developed by the trainer. The National Society then carried out a pilot training for 20 volunteers and volunteer leaders from branches. The trained young volunteers, equipped with knowledge and skills, started working in social projects in branches.

The National Society youth programme hosted a meeting with NGOs working in the field of volunteering where they discussed common areas of interest, shared experience in volunteer management and agreed to coordinate public events in order to avoid unhealthy competition between organisations working in the same field.

### **Constraints or Challenges:**

The National Society lacks knowledge and experience in implementing the change process. As an ad hoc solution, a consultant has been engaged to develop the change programme.

There has been no specific funding allocated for the youth programme this year. Based on the agreement with the National Society only major youth activities are covered from organizational development funds.

## Principles and values

**Outcome/Expected result:** Fundamental principles and humanitarian values of the Movement promoted.

### **Achievements:**

Over 40 new Red Crescent volunteers and 40 newly hired Red Crescent staff in the headquarters and branches got knowledge about the fundamental principles through thematic sessions and round tables.

This year the National Society celebrations of the World Red Cross Red Crescent Day fit within the global campaign under the slogan "Our world. Your move." The National Society volunteers and staff in Bishkek and branches visited maternity hospitals and handed certificates of potential Red Crescent volunteers to 40 babies born on that day and told their mothers about the Movement, our principles and values. Public actions at the headquarters, provincial and district levels made the campaign. Thus, the Red Crescent staff and volunteers paraded the streets of Bishkek distributing information materials about the National Society and the Movement; the action involved about 1,800 people. Round tables with partners and mass media were also held in Osh, Naryn, Issyk-kul and Jalalabad provinces.

As the media has a crucial role in preventing and reducing stigma and discrimination as well as in changing the wider society's attitudes the provincial and national media sources were deeply involved in spreading information about the activities of the Red Crescent and the principles and values. The sources include main TV channels, central newspapers, radio stations of the capital city and popular web-sites. The cartoon about the seven fundamental principles got broadcast free of charge on the main TV channel for a week. The National Society estimates the overall media reach at 1,500,000 people.

**Outcome/Expected result:** Fundamental principles are integrated into National Society operational programmes.

### **Achievements:**

The programme promoted the operationalisation of fundamental principles and humanitarian values through the integration of diversity and non-discrimination elements and values into

National Society operational programmes like health and care, disaster management, social care and others. Firstly, living principles and values have been promoted through explanatory talks with staff and volunteers of the programmes. Secondly, the principles and values have been promoted during training events, meetings and simulation exercises under the programmes.

The National Society continued tackling social exclusion of marginalized groups – people living with HIV and TB, vulnerable women and children, migrants and other served communities. The Red Crescent engaged 30 street children and 35 children with disabilities in the public campaigns like the World Red Cross Red Crescent Day charity concert. The public action “All different – all equal” piloted in 2008 proceeded with people from groups in need and journalists to highlight the humanitarian values and needs of marginalised groups. Besides, 39 female and 13 male labour migrants got knowledge about the principles and values during the meeting with communities.

**Outcome/Expected result:** 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 have been established by the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent to render social assistance to migrants and their families. The telephone hotlines have been installed in the centres. The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent centres are part of the Central Asian Red Crescent Labour Migration Network that aims to serve migrants, independently of their legal status, through information and education centres in the country of destination – Kazakhstan – and in the countries of origin – Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

This is a new area of support for the National Society. Over the period 20 volunteers and 10 leaders from migrants have been attracted to promote the services in the communities and to distribute information about the Red Crescent hotline among migrants and their families. Following the training needs assessment among staff, volunteers and beneficiaries a training programme has been developed by the National Society. Training modules on HIV and TB prevention, first aid, sexually-transmitted infections, malaria and brucellosis prevention, reproductive health, violence prevention, and children’s rights are being adopted or developed. Legal issues, including protection of migrants’ rights, human trafficking, rules of entry and stay, registration, etc. should be also included in the training modules. Negotiations with the IOM office in Bishkek are ongoing in order to obtain the existing basic modules on legal rules from a reliable source.

In June, the training of trainers covered 14 trainers-consultants and hot line consultants. Later, the first three two-day trainings for community leaders were held by the trained staff in micro districts of Bishkek city where migrants live. Over 60 self-support teams’ leaders, chairpersons of the residential committees and representatives of the local non-governmental organization “Arysh” have received knowledge on legal issues, health and care, and the Red Crescent hot line service. Migrants were also informed about the IOM-supported hotline that focuses on legal regulations that are of interest for the beneficiary group.

Messages on gender-based violence and discrimination have been spread as part of the National Society’s promotion activities. Women affected by gender-based violence are also among the beneficiaries of the Red Crescent social programme and are targeted by National Society public campaigns aiming at inclusiveness. The programme advocated for the protection of migrants’ rights, protection against exploitation and exclusion to influence the behaviour towards migrants. In cooperation with the women’s project, a round table for partners from the state committee of migration and employment, ombudsman, parliamentarians, and local administration has been conducted in Bishkek to discuss the

problems of female internal migrants related to limitations on access to basic social services. Osh branch also conducted a round table for potential partners and involved the mass media. Media campaigns at headquarters and district levels accompanied the start-up of centres and hot lines. In the first half of 2009 about 50 publications on TV, radio, in newspapers and web sources appeared. Good media coverage helps to promote the new services among potential beneficiaries and to advocate for their needs.

### **Constraints or Challenges:**

Because of under-funding the development of tailored advocacy policies for six selected communities and debate clubs to tackle gender-based violence did not take place. Also, the new information officer coordinating the work on gender issues needs additional training to be able to properly carry out the activities.

It is necessary to maintain communication with partners like the state committee on migration and employment and IOM mission in Kyrgyzstan to ensure a better understanding of the migration project and avoid a deceiving impression of competitiveness and/or duplication of activities. Meetings, round tables and distribution of information materials will help to strengthen the cooperation and make certain that vulnerable people get a complete set of services: legal, health education as well as social services.

## Working in partnership

The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent maintains good working relationships with the government bodies, local authorities, international agencies, and non-governmental organizations.

The Red Crescent has a Memorandum of Understanding with the emergency ministry, re-signed annually, that clearly defines the National Society role and responsibilities in disaster response. The National Society is also a member of the Disaster Response Coordination Unit established within the framework of the project that aims to strengthen cooperation and coordination for disaster response between the government, the UN country team, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and other major actors in the country. The coordination is done through regular meetings, information sharing and inter-agency contingency planning following the sector approach.

Community-based disaster management actions of the National Society and awareness-raising in the southern provinces are supported bilaterally by the Netherlands Red Cross. Besides, a project with a focus on earthquake preparedness in rural and urban settings is implemented in cooperation with SDC. The awareness of climatic change is raised in cooperation with the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre. In addition, the Turkish Red Crescent has been assisting in terms of the National Society response capacity-building, namely expanding the emergency stock in the south of the country (Osh province) and psychosocial support training.

For the HIV programme the partners are the Republican AIDS Centre, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (supplying condoms), UNAIDS and UNFPA (information support), Tais Plus and Podruga (agencies working with sex workers), and Population Services International (joint public actions for youth). In the area of TB prevention the National Society works closely with the National TB Institute, TB dispensaries, and Project HOPE. Besides, the Spanish Red Cross supports the TB prevention in Naryn and Talas provinces bilaterally. The National Society is a member of the Country Coordination Mechanism on Tuberculosis and actively participates in regular meetings discussing the development in the national TB strategy.

The British Red Cross supports the process of the human resources management systems development bilaterally. This partnership expands the range of capacity-building opportunities available to the National Society like hiring a human resource management systems development coordinator or requesting the consultancy on grading system development.

The key partners of the principles and values programme are the media. The partnership with the IOM strengthened under the migration project. The National Society tracing programme coordinators have been attracted to agree on how the service will be incorporated in the migration project. Cooperation with the state committee on migration and employment, ombudsman's office, the health ministry, universities, and NGOs involved in promoting of non-discrimination and anti-xenophobia plays a great role in changing behaviour towards vulnerable groups served by the National Society.

## Contributing to longer-term impact

The programme monitoring was carried out by the regional representation and the Red Crescent Societies through regular field visits, observations, interviews, meetings with local authorities and community leaders, internal meetings with branch staff and progress reports. The progress and constraints were discussed at working meetings at country and regional levels. Best practices were promoted among colleagues and exchange visits between branches and National Societies were encouraged to allow learning from experience, though these learning initiatives were subject to funds.

The disaster statistics and their impact on the sites where risk reduction projects have been implemented is 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 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.

In terms of capacity-building, the sound and effective human resources management and finance management systems will serve as the basis for successful and relevant programmes at the same time building stronger confidence with the partners and attracting more resources for quality services. The introduction of the salary grade system and of the system of staff motivation and development is expected to reduce the staff turnover and thus contribute to effective programming.

## Looking ahead

The work on International Disaster Response Law (IDRL) promotion will continue in cooperation with the UN OCHA Office for Central Asia. The review of the legal environment in the region based on case studies will be carried out by OCHA in consultation with the regional representation and Geneva secretariat. Steps to make necessary amendments to the legislation are expected to be developed later on. In an effort to help communities recover

from disasters more effectively the knowledge and skills necessary for prompt actions in the situations demanding recovery assistance will be built through training for the National Society branches. Also, the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent intends to present the International Federation's Word Disasters Report 2009 during the information campaign marking the International Day for Disaster Reduction in October.

The staff of the National Society requires additional training in planning, monitoring and reporting to improve the quality of programming and ensure proper accountability in health and care as well as in other areas. Staff turnover is aggravating the problems. Relevant training with technical support from the regional representation will be considered in the second half of the year.

The organisational development training for the National Society has been preliminary scheduled for September 2009. The training is linked to the operational alliance and change processes and is part of the working group capacity-building. Also, the Red Crescent human resources focal point will participate in the meeting of the Europe zone human resource network to learn the specifics in humanitarian organizations, the Red Cross Red Crescent in particular, and to establish links with colleagues from sister National Societies.

Funds to continue and strengthen the services provided by the Central Asian Red Crescent Labour Migration Network will be sought at the regional and national levels, in the European Commission and among other stakeholders who have an interest in migration in the region. 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 regional and global resource mobilization process.

<b>How we work</b>	
<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><b>Global Agenda Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.</li> <li>• Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.</li> <li>• Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.</li> <li>• Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.</li> </ul>
<b>Contact information</b>	
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