

PROGRAMME UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

CENTRAL ASIA

31 December, 2002

This Programme Update is intended for reporting on Annual Appeals.

Appeal No. 01.52/2002

Appeal Target : CHF 8,263,482

Programme Update No. 2; Period covered: March - July, 2002

"At a Glance"

Appeal coverage: 40.1% (at the end of the period covered by this report)

Related Appeals: N/A

Outstanding needs: While this appeal received only limited support in 2002 preventing a number of planned activities from being implemented, donors are encouraged to turn their focus to supporting the Federation's 2003 Annual Appeal for Central Asia (no. 01.87/2003).

Operational Developments

The first Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA), initiated by the President of Kazakhstan at the 47th session of UN General Assembly in 1992 took place in Almaty, Kazakhstan. CICA set an objective to strengthen mutual relations and cooperation between Asian states with a view to stabilize and safeguard the region. All 16 Asian states participating in the meeting signed the Almaty Declaration and committed to comply with the document, and elaborate a common approach to address threats and challenges to the security in Asia, such as terrorism, extremism, drug trafficking, international crime and ecological problems.

The quarter saw positive developments in Afghan refugee situation in the region, as reported by the international sources. Relief efforts in neighbouring Turkmenistan, a major staging post for humanitarian assistance into Afghanistan, are scaling down. According to UNHCR 10,000 Afghans, have been assisted in returning home from the northern Central Asia states, including Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. To facilitate the process of repatriation Kazakh and Uzbek migration authorities provide free, safe and unimpeded passage.

The CANS and the Federation are closely monitoring the situation in the context of Humanitarian Crisis programme, which along with relief and health assistance include vocational education for Afghan refugees, planned by Kyrgyz Red Crescent, Turkmen Red Crescent, Tajik Red Crescent and Uzbek Red Crescent population movement units. Tajik Red Crescent together with the Federation delegation are considering procurement of HF radios to improve the communication network and monitor the refugee situation in the country Kyrgyz Red Crescent/UNHCR are looking into opportunities for cooperation in the repatriation process, and defining possible role for the Kyrgyz Red Crescent.

Excessive rains in some parts of the region (mainly Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and partly Uzbekistan) resulted in local scale disasters, such as floods, debris floods and landslides, affecting people, destroying houses and belongings. CANS responded to the disasters, distributing basic need items, water purification tablets, tents and hygiene kits.

Disaster Response

Objective 1: To improve knowledge and skills within the national societies (staff and volunteers)

All staff and volunteers of the Uzbek Red Crescent, involved in drought response operation, received regular comprehensive training in operation implementation by Uzbek Red Crescent/Federation DP staff. Programme implementation allowed Uzbek Red Crescent to reinforce its volunteer base and build technical knowledge and expertise within the organisation. Another important training for the Uzbek Red Crescent volunteers was conducted jointly with Counterpart Consortium and was focused on data collection for early warning system, including a wide range of other issues, such as needs assessment, participatory rural appraisal, etc..

As an immediate follow-up to the Regional Disaster Management workshop, Uzbek Red Crescent conducted camp management training and exercise for youth volunteers in Karakalpakstan Republican Committee.

Objective 2: To support national societies in their efforts to facilitate post-disaster rehabilitation and increase the population's resilience by mobilising community resources.

The CANS initiated vulnerability and capacity assessments (VCA) in order to get deeper insight into the needs of the communities and revise priorities, based on the existing organizational capacity. Building on the experience of Kazakh and Kyrgyz Red Crescent, Turkmen Red Crescent and Tajik Red Crescent are initiating similar process. VCA training is scheduled for August to train staff and volunteers to conduct field studies and data collection.

Addressing the long-term drought Uzbek Red Crescent installed early warning system (EWS), covering five drought-stricken regions in the North. The system allows to monitor development of situation and assess possible needs for further interventions. It is planned that the disaster EWS in nine most affected regions of Karakalpakstan (with a population of 350,000 people) - will be run by a network of trained volunteers.

While some parts the region were continuously suffering from drought, others were affected by excessive rains this spring, that resulted in local scale debris floods, flash floods and landslides. Localized disasters were covered by the societies own resources. Uzbek Red Crescent responded to the debris floods, which resulted in heavy damage of 70 houses in a village in Navoi oblast, by delivering mattresses (50), blankets (75), bed linen (50 sets) and chlorine tablets (75 packs). Kazakh Red Crescent responded to 33 emergency situations including floods, fires, traffic accidents and supported 658 affected with food and non-food relief items. Similarly, Turkmen Red Crescent assisted 273 families, affected by floods in 7 villages in Lebap oblast with tents, mattresses, and other basic needs items during the reporting period.

Objective 3: To improve logistics management within the national societies of central Asia

Logistics department is in the process of revision/update of the previous plan of action for the CANS logistics development, which will include on the spot training and coaching and a workshop in October. The budget for these activities is currently under development.

Disaster Management Workshop was a great asset in training the Federation logistics standards to non-logistics staff, building their skills and enhancing capacities in effective disaster response.

With funds available from the regional DP programme Turkmen Red Crescent initiated a process of constructing of a warehouse on land, donated by the Government. The entire process, from market survey, to the construction will be carried out by the Turkmen Red Crescent itself under supervision of the Federation Logistics Coordinator. This project is a perfect Logistics Planning Exercise for the CANS to work according to comply with the Federation Standards and Donor Requirements. Similar warehouse project is in the pipeline for the Uzbek Red Crescent, although there is no appropriate land plot so far.

Population Movement

Objective 1: To improve the social status for vulnerable groups of population

To improve the desperate situation of the Afghan refugees in Central Asia, the Afghan Refugee Women were assisted to target both the refugee and host community with a monthly publication, to advocate for and discuss

with all the problems and needs the refugee community face in refuge. These activities aim to maintain a refugee's dignity, socio-psychological status and to increase the local community's tolerance towards the refugees. Three editions of the monthly magazine was produced in Dari, Pushtu and Russian languages during the reporting period.

Raising awareness and advocacy activities were organized jointly by Kyrgyz Red Crescent, UNHCR and refugee communities in Kyrgyzstan. Tajik, Afghan and Chechen refugees demonstrated their cultural experiences (drawing, dancing, music, drama and cooking national food dishes) at celebration of the New Year, Nowroz ceremony, International Women Day and World Refugee Day. These events were highly attended by local media, international organizations, government and local communities

With joint UNHCR / Kyrgyz Red Crescent efforts in Bishkek the social rehabilitation centre for the Afghan Refugee Women resumed and developed its activities. The Kyrgyz Red Crescent supported the centre with computer, handicraft, music courses and provided other support.

Objective 2: To improve the nutritional status of the most vulnerable families in the displaced communities and reduce their reliance on humanitarian food aid.

Nothing has been done so far due to lack of funding during this period.

Objective 3: To improve the social and economic status and increase self-reliance of displaced communities in the region.

Nothing is to report on due to lack of funding during this period.

Disaster Preparedness

Objective 1: To develop disaster preparedness plans of national societies in the region with clear policies and operational guidelines and procedures.

CANS continued development of disaster preparedness (DP) plans in order to have formulated country specific disaster preparedness policies, incorporated into operational guidelines by the end of the year. While the Kazakh Red Crescent has already finalised its DP plan, which clearly defines roles and responsibilities of the headquarters and branches, Uzbek Red Crescent prepared an implementation timetable for the development of DP plan. Kyrgyz Red Crescent has organised working groups at headquarters and branch level to look into definition of roles and responsibilities and has drafted DP operational procedures and guidelines. Turkmen Red Crescent held negotiations with government for data collection in order to establish a disaster information system, which would facilitate the development of the DP plan. These activities will improve future preparedness and response mechanisms during the year.

Objective 2: To strengthen the capacity of the national societies in the region to respond to disasters effectively and on time.

The highlight of the reporting period was an eight day Regional Disaster Management Workshop, held in Kyrgyzstan, May 13-21. The training for the CANS disaster preparedness/response, health, information and first aid staff was facilitated by the Central Asia regional delegation (CARD), Moscow Delegation, Belarus Red Crescent and ICRC/Tashkent. The participants had undergone training on Regional Disaster Response Teams (RDRT), in line with the concept of disaster management. This included the idea of multi-sector teams working together in disaster preparedness and response.

On June 19, 2002 CANS joined the Federation's global event, launch of the World Disaster Report (WDR), organizing press conferences, round tables for mass media, governmental and non-governmental organizations and communities. Since the subject of WDR was risk reduction, the main focus was CANS disaster preparedness programmes. Red Crescent branches in Kazakhstan demonstrated their capacities in risk reduction to country specific disasters (floods, landslides and earthquakes) through demonstrating first aid skills, participating in floods mitigation project, enhancing river dams. It was the first time this year when the national societies organised this important event themselves, manifesting their increased capacities and image.

The regional disaster management programme continued training in vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA), community based disaster preparedness (CBDP) and relief, including branches, bordering Afghanistan.

Country	Number of workshops	Number of people trained
Kazakhstan	13	325
Kyrgyzstan	1	25
Turkmenistan	8	200
Uzbekistan	3	75
Total	25	625

As part of capacity building in disaster preparedness CANS initiated CBDP programmes in their branches. As a result, CBDP committees have been set up in five branches of Uzbek Red Crescent to provide regular training and consultations; another pensioner volunteer club (additionally to five existing) was established within Turkmen Red Crescent to provide further training in the communities. Kyrgyz Red Crescent carried out camp management training for the grass root level.

Stock procurement for the current year has been completed and inventory of DP warehouses finalised in Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in order to increase capacities to respond to disasters effectively.

Objective 3: To link different elements of disaster management such as early warning, risk mapping, prevention and mitigation activities to address the gap between the community's vulnerability and the existing capacity

The CANS continue running projects, based on Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) to address the gap between vulnerability and existing capacities of the communities.

Four projects, aimed at mitigating risks and reduction of vulnerabilities were carried out by the Turkmen Red Crescent. Prior to the implementation these projects were discussed with local authorities to identify roles and responsibilities, and community participation. Uzbek Red Crescent completed the tree planting projects in three landslide areas and delegated watering tasks to the community and schoolchildren. Funds received from British Red Cross for Kashkadarya branch as response to the Humanitarian Crisis, will be allocated to the capacity building in disaster preparedness of this bordering Afghanistan Red Crescent branch. Kyrgyz Red Crescent staff, volunteers, local authorities and communities participated in the mitigation project in three oblasts, focusing on improvement of drainage system. This will protect rural communities from mudflows and increase volunteer base of the Kyrgyz Red Crescent. As a result of Kazakh Red Crescent "Water Rescue" training project, run in two provinces, more than 130 people were rendered first aid.

Objective 4. To increase awareness in communities at risk and in selected disaster prone areas.

Turkmen Red Crescent produced 4,000 posters with emphasis on earthquakes, floods, fires and debris flows. Another 10,000 painting books distributed among primary schoolchildren and their parents focused on earthquakes. Field exercise in Seidi Red Crescent branch was filmed to serve a guidance for Turkmen Red Crescent branches in the event of chemical accidents. Kazakh Red Crescent, similarly continued distribution of booklets and brochures. Uzbek Red Crescent conducted a floods and earthquake simulation in SyrDarya Red Crescent branch to exercise the communities' at risk disaster preparedness skills. Kyrgyz Red Crescent staged a performance together with professional actors conveying messages on code of conduct in emergencies, first presented at launch of WDR, which will be staged at CBDP campaigns in future.

Objective 5. To strengthen the technical, administrative and human resources capacity of the five national societies focusing more on the oblast/rayon level.

The regional DP programme maintained administrative, salary and office support, as well as internet and communication to the four CANS (Kazakh Red Crescent, Kyrgyz Red Crescent, Uzbek Red Crescent and Turkmen Red Crescent). Kazakh Red Crescent trained its staff at all levels to work with Red Crescent disaster preparedness information system. Last quarter a HF radio station was installed in Semipalatinsk (East Kazakhstan DP Centre) and next quarter another HF radio will be installed in Dzhahalal-abad Red Crescent branch, regional DP in Kyrgyzstan.

Objective 6. To improve and maintain good integration/links with other programmes and other

organisations.

The disaster preparedness programme in the region was run in close cooperation with other programmes and organisations. Turkmen Red Crescent disaster preparedness programme involved youth and health components in three joint workshops in April. Search and Rescue Team train 10 people (youth and disabled athletes) per week in code of conduct in emergencies, physical training and mountain ascention. The American Red Cross supported Uzbek Red Crescent capacity building in disaster preparedness elaborating an earthquake preparedness plan, approved by the Ministry for Emergencies. Kazakh Red Crescent works in close cooperation with state committee for Emergencies and ICRC in the areas of disaster and conflict preparedness. ICRC is planning to organise conflict preparedness workshop in Almaty in July for the Kazakh Red Crescent. Kyrgyz Red Crescent/Rescue Service agreed to organise joint patrol during the summer swimming season and provide first aid service by the trained volunteers.

Kazakh Red Crescent disaster preparedness officer participated in the International DM Workshop in Delhi (April 2002) and was the resource person for regional DM workshop in Kyrgyzstan, in May 2002. She also took part in the International Workshop for Earthquake Response (IWER-02), conducted in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan in the framework of NATO programme "Partnership for Peace".

Humanitarian Values

Objective 1. To promote the Red Cross and Red Crescent Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values within and outside the Movement.

International Red Cross and Red Crescent Day celebration extended to branch level this year, unlike previous years, when it used to be organised mainly at the headquarters. First aid competitions, drawing contests, charity actions were traditionally held this day, strengthening the Red Cross and Red Crescent image, promoting humanitarian values and principles in provinces. All CANS invited media to provide coverage of events and campaigns. Turkmen Red Cross hold regular sessions on the history of the Movement and its own activities for the leadership of the State Civil Defense Headquarters. The Kyrgyz Red Crescent printed calendars dedicated to the International Year of Mountains, which they used as an opportunity to promote their activities.

Objective 2. To raise the profile within the region at branch and national level, as well as outside the region and in general public, of the activities and key messages in the core areas.

CANS work in close cooperation with mass media to draw attention to the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in the region and publicise the societies' activities. Kyrgyz Red Crescent invited local media to the field simulation held within the disaster management workshop, in Issyk-Kul, in May. Turkmen Red Crescent disseminated information about the society and the Movement at the national event, presentation of the President Niyazov's book "Rukhnama. The national contest on the best media coverage of the Turkmen Red Crescent activities finalised in April manifested increased media interest to the society. The second round of poll (1.000 interviewed) on the society's profile and image, conducted in five branches in the first quarter of 2002 indicated increased public awareness of the Red cross and Red Crescent activities and mission, compared to 1997.

Objective 3. To advocate on behalf of vulnerable people, promoting public support and understanding of the situation for people affected by issues, related to HIV/AIDS, TB, disasters and migration

The HIV/AIDS/TB/migrants related anti-discrimination campaign was presented to the leadership of the CANS during the presidents meeting in April. The societies expressed their commitment to develop this area at Berlin Conference. The issue was discussed at the regional meeting in May with health coordinators where it was decided that they will be involved in the project as key experts.

TB and safe motherhood projects run by Kazakh Red Crescent in Semipalatinsk and Usk-Kamenogorsk were visited by the Kaaz Red Crescent health officer and regional information officer with two purposes: monitoring and making coverage for the regional newsletter, Kazakh Red Crescent and the Federation web sites.

Objective 4. To develop the communication capacity of national societies and to involve volunteers in information activities.

CANS information officers met at regional information workshop (April 1-2) to discuss the progress and lessons learnt in public relations. The focus was made on HIV/AIDS related anti-discrimination campaign and possible interventions of the CANS. The regional workshop adopted a declaration addressed to the presidents of the CANS. The document presented a number of requirements for the improved information activities. Sufficient and stable funding was stated as a key requirement.

The Turkmen Red Crescent established new contacts with local media - four newspapers, and two TV companies. A new Turkmen Red Crescent publication "Velayatskii vestnik" has been designed for information and experience sharing between the headquarters and branches. Kyrgyz Red Crescent opened a website in May with the technical support of the regional delegation and sponsored by ELCAT (local service provider). This is the third society in the region that has got its web site as a tool to enhance communication capacity.

Health and Care

Objective 1. To prevent the increase in the incidence of tuberculosis

Two projects in Kazakhstan, three in Kyrgyzstan and one in Turkmenistan ensure regular direct supervision of the TB patients, tracing defaulters and encouraging them to complete the treatment, increasing awareness, distributing hygiene and supplementary parcels and prescribing vitamins. Kazakh Red Crescent visiting nurses provide direct supervision of 237 people, encouraging another 30 defaulters to complete treatment. Total number of people receiving vitamins is 102, and hygiene kits - 80. In Kyrgyzstan the project provided 90 people with hot meals three times a week in Bishkek, and 210 people with food parcels and 60 hygiene kits in three oblasts of Kyrgyzstan. The number of patients under the Red Crescent supervision has been increased from 101 patients in the first quarter to 155 in the second.

In two oblasts (funded by TACIS, Spanish Red Cross and the Federation) selection of the staff and target patients was finalised and nurses trained to start the operation implementation.

In Turkmenistan, the total number of people covered by Red Crescent health campaigns increased from 87.300 to 126, 883 as well as the number of patients under the supervision of the Red Crescent visiting nurses increased from 61 in the first quarter to 81 in the second quarter. Average 24 suspected cases were referred for sputum examination, 10 of them were confirmed as a smear positive. The project coordinator was changed in the second quarter and health education activities were adjusted and diversified towards adult population as the most exposed to TB infection. The new project in Ashgabat will start in August / September with the financial support of the British Red Cross/Federation.

The Aral Sea programme, managed and supported by the American Red Cross in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, continued working on improvement of nutritional knowledge of programme beneficiaries. Nutrition Education Teams (NET) have been set up to complement existing food distribution and Visiting Nurses programmes in the Aral Sea region. Continued refinement of monitoring techniques in all components of the monitoring system was implemented in the 2nd quarter to allow for greater consistency in interpretation by the monitor teams as well as to code responses to allow for data entry. The last phase of transition will be the creation of a specialized monitoring database to analyze large volumes of monitoring data and to give the information about beneficiary satisfaction and knowledge about nutrition, hygiene and TB. This will give a deeper insight on the impact of programming and better informed management decisions. Further streamlining of program operations continued as well as increased handover of responsibilities/expectations of NS performance. The distribution this quarter was logistically the smoothest as it involved tighter organization and increased cooperation on behalf of all partners.

Objective 2: To prevent the predicted HIV/AIDS epidemics in the region

Kyrgyz Red Crescent initiated training of youth instructors in all oblast branches on HIV/AIDS and STD prevention measures. Turkmen Red Crescent prepared and submitted a project proposal on HIV/AIDS and

STD prevention to the British Red Cross. Regional health unit translated the Federation / ICRC guidelines on the First Aid and HIV/AIDS into Russian. The Russian version will be shared with all CANS to be included into their activities.

Objective 3. To improve the health of women and their children

During the reporting period the Uzbek Red Crescent with the assistance of the regional health unit undertook preparations for the project implementation. Draft training material was reviewed and recommendations made by the regional health delegate, one day session was organised for the staff of city and village medical points to explain the purpose of the programme and discuss training material. Training material was translated into local language. Since the beginning of the project Uzbek Red Crescent conducted 16 training sessions for 60 pregnant women and recruited 14 volunteers.

Recommendations were given to the Kazakh Red Crescent project coordinator after the meeting for health coordinators. Training is based on participatory, interactive methods of adult learning principles, bringing good results in planning and reporting.

Total number of trained women is 119, 44 of them were trained during May-June. Doctors from polyclinics and lawyers attend the sessions to answer the pregnant women's health related questions and provide legal consultations. Women also received 119 packs of iron contained medicine, including 44 during last three months.

Objective 4. To intervene effectively in emergencies with basic first aid.

Decision was made during the regional health meeting to review all first aid activities in the region. Two health officers from the Uzbek and Tajik Red Crescent were selected as members of the regional focal group on first aid. The estimated date to start the review is September - October 2002.

The Tajik Red Crescent started translating the CBFA (Community Based First Aid) into Russian language, which can be beneficial for all other CANS. Kazakh Red Crescent was involved in the first aid training, organized by the Central Asian Medical Group for 200 employees of Hurricane oil company.

Objective 5. To raise the profile and capacity of the national societies in the region.

CANS health coordinators participated in project design, monitoring and reporting workshop organised by the regional programme coordination unit aimed to improve overall quality of project planning and reporting, which took place before the appeal planning process.

Health coordinator of Kazakh Red Crescent participated in DM training organised by the Secretariat for South East Asia and further co-facilitated at the DM workshop in Kyrgyzstan

Institutional and Resource Development

Objective 1. To improve the legal basis and image of the national societies by 2003.

The importance of appropriate legal base was discussed at the regional leadership workshop in Almaty, on 2- 6 June. Statutes revision process was discussed with reference to the Russian and Cambodian Red Cross previous experiences and lessons learnt. The work was facilitated by Legal Officer from the Secretariat, Geneva; Legal Adviser from Danish Red Cross, Cooperation Delegate from ICRC/Tashkent, and Deputy General Secretary of Cambodian Red Cross who shared their experience and expertise in this area. As an output of the meeting Kyrgyz Red Crescent, Turkmen Red Crescent, Tajik Red Crescent and Uzbek Red Crescent committed to make steps to further improve legal base, and elaborated in groups their draft plans of action. Regional programme coordination unit will follow-up these activities with every society later this year.

Objective 2. To promote leadership and management skills in the national societies in order to implement effective organisational changes.

Regional leadership training (Almaty, June 2-6) was aimed to enhance leadership and management skills of CANS, and share ideas on appropriate structures, policies and procedures. Concept of governance and management was introduced and clarified along with issues of leadership role, financial management, appropriate legal base, structure that ensures transparency and accountability of a society.

Regional coordination unit will follow up on the change process in each CANS in accordance with their plan of actions and further training and coaching. This will be also in line with management training process in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. As there was no external facilitator available the change process has not started in Kazakh Red Crescent. Regional programme coordination unit is considering to invite local experts to initiate the process in Kazakhstan.

As part of OD efforts of the regional delegation the programme coordination unit organized training for two delegations and CANS (Kazakh Red Crescent, Kyrgyz Red Crescent, Turkmen Red Crescent, Uzbek Red Crescent) in project design, monitoring and reporting. The training was aimed to improve quality of the Federation's programming in the region, on the basis of new standards introduced by the Federation and external partners, and lessons learnt from the previous project management experience. The new logical framework approach to project planning (adopted component of the official Secretariat PPP training), as well as monitoring and reporting were introduced to the programme coordinators and staff of the national societies headquarters. Out of 65 evaluations received from the 6 seminars 60 were fully satisfied with the training received, pointing out high quality of training material, practical orientation, good timing (forthcoming appeal planning)

Objective 3. To build capacity at branch level in order to increase branch effectiveness, strengthen community participation in the Red Cross and Red Crescent and build local sustainability.

Regional programme coordination unit established branch development fund at regional level with the aim to promote branch development. According to the plan the fund will start functioning in August after development and distribution of application guidelines. Small project proposals contributing to branch capacity building and sharing best practices within one national society and the region, will be eligible to the fund.

As part of capacity building of branches the Uzbek Red Crescent undertakes regular reviews of its branches activities. This time the review was conducted in Navoi oblast to analyze strengths and weakness, progress and problems over the past year and to develop recommendations to address current problems and to develop the branch. The report will be circulated among other branches.

The CANS continued efforts to establish regional links, peer support networks and provide technical support to the Movement across the region. Youth director and Programme Officer of International Aid from the Finnish Red Cross visited the region for monitoring youth activities in Kazakh Red Crescent, Kyrgyz Red Crescent and Uzbek Red Crescent and to look into future cooperation. The agreement was to organize youth-to-youth cooperation to increase motivation and attract volunteers, share experiences between PNS / CANS Red Crescent youth and invite PNS youth to a summer camp next summer.

Regional Youth and Volunteer meeting took place in Almaty in June to bring together youth coordinators and volunteers to discuss various fundraising, anti-stigma, and volunteer recruitment and management issues. The structure of youth movement and a concept of governance and management was discussed to ensure volunteer participation in decision making process.

Objective 5. To diversify the funding base of the national societies in the region to improve their financial sustainability

Preparations are underway for a fundraising workshop, to provide training in alternative methods of fundraising, which will take place later this year. CANS fundraising officers will be involved in the workshop as facilitators. In this context, the national societies' OD and youth people had a great opportunity to learn from successful fundraising practice of the Cambodian Red Cross, shared by its Deputy Secretary General, who participated as resource person in the leadership training.

Objective 6. To build a strong network of people from within and outside the region who can provide technical support to further development of the national societies in the region.

To develop local expertise Kyrgyz Red Crescent fundraising officer will be participating in fundraising training in autumn, to be a resource person in the region.

The first issue of OD bulletin received positive feedback both from CANS and PNS. It proved to be a useful tool for sharing OD issues in the region. The bulletin will keep stakeholders informed on CANS specific and regional activities.

First regional development and youth meeting was a planned meeting to share experiences and ideas within and outside the region (volunteer management initiative in Tajikistan, fundraising in Cambodia). One of the outcomes of the meeting was the agreement to finalize the regional OD monitoring process by September.

Regional Cooperation

Objective 1. To co-ordinate the implementation of a coherent regional assistance strategy to address issues of vulnerability in central Asia.

The OD monitoring process will assess the Regional Assistance Strategy implementation in the region. This will be done through questionnaires designed for all components of the movement concerned, with results analyzed and reflected in the report.

Objective 2. To promote partnership in order to increase the impact of the work of the national societies in the region by building on the comparative advantages of different components of the Movement and other organisations.

Uzbek Red Crescent, Swedish Red Cross and regional delegation concluded memorandum of understanding for the period of 2002-2003. The overall aim of the document is to define roles and responsibilities in supporting the Uzbek Red Crescent with resources (financial, material, other) in order to ensure the development and long-term sustainability of effective structures and programmes described in the strategic plan.

Objective 3. To strengthen links between the national societies in the region at all levels co-operation and to promote their lead role in setting the Movement's agenda in the region.

Regular regional coordination meeting for the CANS leadership was held in April in Almaty to prepare for the Berlin Conference and discuss joint position of the CANS. Another important issue under consideration was the draft Programme Coordination Strategy of the Federation. The CANS presented their comments and feedback to the regional delegation.

Objective 4. To increase the participation of the national societies in the region in global activities of the Federation and wider civil society.

Important progress of the reporting period was the launch of World Disaster Report organized by the societies themselves, which demonstrated their increased capacities in promoting their activities and target communities in increasing awareness in disasters. This also manifested strong cooperation links of the CANS with other state and non-governmental organizations in their respective countries. International Red Cross day organized this year with focus on branches was aimed to raise profile of the Movement and promote Red Crescent activities also in provinces.

Coordination and Management

Objective 1. To provide efficient management, co-ordination of and practical support to the Federation

and partner national societies in their assistance to national society development and programmes in the sphere of health, disaster preparedness and response and promotion of humanitarian values.

National societies in transition survey project involving Kazakh Red Crescent, and the Mongolian Red Crescent was finalised. Kazakh Red Crescent representatives attended Consensus meeting in Yerevan .

Objective 2. To raise and maintain the profile of central Asia in the Movement and of the Movement in central Asia and establish networks for knowledge-sharing with key stakeholders.

The regional delegation and the CANS continue maintaining contacts with respective governmental (Ministries for Emergencies, Public Health Ministries etc), non-governmental organizations (UNHCR, UNAIDS, project Hope, WHO and others), media and components of the Movement through their activities in core areas. OD bulletin and the regional newsletter along with standard reports on programmes and operations (available on the Federation's website) aim to be a source of information for existing and potential stakeholders.

Objective 3. To mobilize resources from within and outside the region through co-ordinated mechanisms in promotion of humanitarian values, health, disaster preparedness, disaster response and organisational development.

Local resources will be mobilised to provide support to the organisational development in the region with CANS staff trained in specific area of expertise (see OD section). The main idea was to build CANS ownership through mobilisation of CANS competent staff, national societies expertise and both external and local consultancies.

Objective 4. To establish an effective and efficient Federation structure in the region to maximize local capacities and to implement the regional assistance strategy.

The programme coordination unit has a new structure, with liaison officers in Ashgabat and Tashkent, and a reporting unit. Two reporting officers, one in Tajikistan delegation and one in the regional delegation were trained by the regional reporting delegate to take over the reporting functions in the region. The former logistics delegate for Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan is working as a regional logistics coordinator since May 2002.

Outstanding needs

The Regional Assistance Strategy offers a good base for well planned long term OD work., but funding is not in congruence with the RAS approach. The Population Movement programme is one of the problem areas in the region, with the number of refugees in Kazakhstan alone totaling 20,000 people, and new developments of Afghan refugees situation, with Afghans returning home from the northern parts of Central Asia. However, the population movement activities under the annual appeal for 2002 have not yet received funding this year. The programme is maintained under the Afghan Crisis Appeal and CANS field partnership with IOM and UNHCR. The information programme is also chronically lacking funds, although there is a strong need for advocacy and promoting public awareness to counter xenophobia and prejudice in many areas.

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All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

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Central Asia regional						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 01.52/2002		PLEDGES RECEIVED			30.07.2002	
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				8'263'482		TOTAL COVERAGE 40.1%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				0		
Programme support				485'600		
AMERICAN - GOVT		642'126	USD	998'955	25.04.2002	
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID				75'000	19.02.2002	D. P., HEALTH & CARE
BRITISH - RC		40'000	GBP	97'200	06.03.2002	TB PROGRAMME
BRITISH - RC		22'472	GBP	54'607	06.03.2002	TURKMENISTAN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID		5'000	GBP	11'956	16.04.2002	TURKMENISTAN LOGISTICS TRAINING
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID		44'413	GBP	106'205	16.04.2002	TURKMENISTAN STOCK & WAREHOUSE
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID		16'726	GBP	39'997	05.04.2002	KYRGYSTAN, REFUGEE WOMEN
BRITISH - RC		8'000	GBP	19'130	15.04.2002	FEDERATION REPRESENTATIVE
BRITISH - RC		22'472	GBP	53'737	15.04.2002	TURKMENISTAN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS MITIGATION
BRITISH - RC		11'252	GBP	26'264	30.05.2002	REGIONAL HEALTH DELEGATE
CANADIAN - GOVT/RC		25'050	CAD	26'390	08.04.2002	
FINNISH - RC		30'000	EUR	44'367	08.02.2002	PROGRAMME COORDINATOR
FINNISH - GOVT/RC		84'935	EUR	125'610	22.01.2002	YOUTH PROGRAMME
FINNISH - GOVT/RC		74'003	EUR	109'687	04.03.2002	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
FINNISH - RC		16'819	EUR	24'662	14.05.2002	REGIONAL COOPERATION
KOREA REPUBLIC - RC		32'927	USD	55'268	04.04.2002	YOUTH PROGRAMME
SWEDISH - RC		470'000	SEK	75'764	23.04.2002	UZBEKISTAN DEVELOPMENT
SWEDISH - GOVT		1'700'000	SEK	268'770	30.05.2002	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, INCL. DELEGATE, ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, HUMANITARIAN VALUES & INFORMATION
SWISS - RC				150'000	26.02.2002	FOR 7'200 FOOD-PARCELS
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND				95'500		P70006
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				2'944'669	CHF	35.6%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SWEDEN	DELEGATE(S)			19'712		
GREAT BRITAIN	DELEGATE(S)			62'751		
FINLAND	DELEGATE(S)			58'809		
SWEDISH - RC		1'400'000	SEK	225'680	23.04.2002	280 MT SECOND HAND CLOTHING
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				366'952	CHF	4.4%