

# 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

## TAJIKISTAN

29 December 2004

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### In Brief

**Appeal No. 01.83/2004; Programme Update No. 2; Period covered: June – November, 2004; Appeal coverage: 80.3 %**

**Appeal Target: CHF 4,627,098 (USD 4,082,855 or EUR 2,997,795)**

#### Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:

**Tajikistan Annual Appeal 2004 (For details, please see the website at [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?annual04/018304.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual04/018304.pdf))**

**Tajikistan Annual Appeal 2004 Programme Update no.1 (For details, please see the website at [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?annual04/01830401.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual04/01830401.pdf))**

#### Operational developments

In 2004, the RCST/Federation launched an appeal for CHF 4,627,098 and the appeal was covered by 80,3%. The received funds were used for the implementation of three main programmes: Health and Care (including water and sanitation), Disaster Management (including relief) and Organizational Development. Thanks to the support from the donors – European Commission Humanitarian Aid Department (ECHO), the Norwegian Government, the Finnish Government, the Norwegian Red Cross, the Finnish Red Cross, the Swedish Government, the Netherlands Red Cross, the Swedish Red Cross and the Canadian Government – the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) was able to achieve the planned objectives.

The health and care programme was covered by 99.5%. The funds allowed the national society (NS) to conduct the activities on Tuberculosis (TB), HIV/AIDS, stigma and discrimination, Community Based First Aid (CBFA), provision of medicines and medical supplies to primary health care institutions all over the country, training of health staff in Khatlon and Rayons of Republican Subordination (RRS), rehabilitation of boreholes, and on construction of spring catchments and individual latrines in rural areas.

According to the RCST, more than 14 disasters such as floods, land slides and hurricanes occurred in Tajikistan from June to November 2004. One of the most catastrophic disasters happened on 12-16 July 2004, as a result of the torrential rainfalls. It caused damages to water supply systems in all four districts of Dushanbe city and negatively affected livelihoods of the population. Almost 60% of the city population remained without access to drinking water, resulting in a serious threat of water-borne diseases. The RCST responded to the disaster through the distribution of purification tablets and conducting information campaigns to avoid the spread of water-borne diseases.

The disaster management programme was covered by 128%, due to the integration of the new DIPECHO (disaster preparedness ECHO) project into the Federation appeal. By the end of the reporting period, 107,8% of funds were used for RCST capacity building, for reduction of threats and affects of landslides and floods, and for assistance to vulnerable people through the distribution of supplementary food. All planned activities were implemented in line with the scheduled timeframe.

Regarding the organisational development programme, a total of CHF 375,525 was earmarked. By the end of the reporting period, 81% of funds were used to support activities on Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA), fundraising, volunteers' management, branch development, visibility and promotion of fundamental principles and humanitarian values.

Due to late delivery of funds, some activities under the water and sanitation and organizational development programmes were not implemented within the scheduled timeframe and will be continued through the coming year.

On the whole up to date, 79,7% of received funds were spent. The remaining amount will be partially used in December 2004 and partially carried forward to the next year. During the reporting period, about 479,673 people benefited from the activities conducted by the RCST/Federation under the Annual Appeal 2004.

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*This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning. All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>*

## **Strengthening the national society**

### **Health and care**

The programme is covered by 100%. Thanks to donors' contribution, the activities are going in line with the budget.

**Goal:** The general health of the targeted population in Tajikistan is improved (This section includes two programme components: Health and Care; and Water and Sanitation).

**Objective:** By the end of 2004, the health status of the population is improved through: preparing volunteers and communities to respond to disease prevention and outbreaks; responding to health emergencies through first aid training; providing medicines and basic medical supplies to selected primary health care institutions; focusing on TB, HIV/AIDS; and providing social support for vulnerable people through the visiting nurses programme.

### **Progress/Achievements**

**Expected result 1:** The Red Crescent observes 200 TB patients in Dushanbe/Leninsky rayons to ensure they complete their directly observed treatment short course (DOTS) and provides health education to families (20,000 people) on tuberculosis (TB) prevention and control.

**Activities:** In June, the RCST, in cooperation with the Project HOPE, organised a seminar for 20 TB volunteers. TB prevention and control measures, directly observed treatment short course (DOTS), objectives of visiting nurses and disease transmission were discussed during the seminar.

Every month, the Red Crescent observes on average of 200 TB patients; 48 in the soup kitchen and 152 at their home. In total, during the reporting period, 128 observed TB patients completed their treatment and out of this figure, 109 completely recovered.

The RCST volunteers continued the home-to-home visit in order to provide health education to families on TB prevention and control and to identify patients. They referred 189 people, who were suspected to have TB, to the hospitals. The diagnosis was confirmed in 20 cases. 13,335 people (families, students and schoolchildren) received information about TB prevention and control. During this activity, 500 information leaflets and 600 booklets were distributed. In addition, 220 hygiene kits were distributed to the volunteers and TB patients. According to the follow-up monitoring results, the population and TB patients' families know the main TB prevention measures and how to care of the TB patients at home.

The Red Crescent volunteers, in collaboration with the project HOPE, conducted health education and distributed 60 booklets and 40 leaflets on TB prevention to the patients who received food parcels under the project HOPE line.

During the reporting period, 237 TB patients were registered in Dushanbe and Leninsky, out of which 170 (71.7%) are new cases, whereas others were relapses.

**Expected result 2:** Red Crescent branch volunteers conduct awareness campaign on HIV/AIDS targeting 50,000 people (including 24,000 youngsters) and address issues related to stigma and discrimination through working with 20 people living with HIV/AIDS.

**Activities:** During the reporting period, five meetings with regional HIV/AIDS centre, the local non-governmental organisation (NGO) "Volunteer" and drug demand reduction programme (DDRP) were held in order to coordinate HIV/AIDS prevention activities in GBAO. The RCST headquarters (HQ) HIV coordinator and the Federation health delegate conducted a monitoring of the activities in GBAO. The monitoring results showed that all activities on HIV/AIDS were conducted satisfactorily and according to the plan.

In November, the RCST volunteers conducted 30 meetings, conversations and discussions with youth in schools and universities of four regions (Sughd, Kurgan-Tube, Kulyab and Dushanbe city). 480 people took part in the activities.

The RCST conducted six awareness campaigns on HIV/AIDS prevention, stigma and discrimination for 1,485 people from GBAO, Sughd and Kulyab. The most active participants were awarded with memorable prizes. Moreover, the Kurgan-Tube RCST branch conducted an event with the slogan "Youth against AIDS". 100 people participated in the event and 500 condoms were distributed.

From 21 to 25 August 2004, the RCST Sughd oblast branch took part in the preparation of an international tournament on close-handed fight in Rasulov district. During the tournament, the RCST volunteers conducted conversations with the participants on HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention and distributed flipcharts, badges, bands, T-shirts. The winners were handed the prizes (wall clocks) from the HIV/AIDS programme.

On 17-18 November, the RCST HQ HIV coordinator conducted a workshop on HIV/AIDS prevention, stigma and discrimination for 10 RCST health staff. The following issues were discussed: how to conduct a workshop on HIV/AIDS (basic training's framework); ways of infectious transmission and first signs of disease; treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS; stigma and discrimination of HIV infected people; formation of adequate attitude to the problem and other related issues.

The work with HIV infected people is at its initial stage. The RCST conducted several meetings with the republican HIV/AIDS centre and local NGO "Guli Surh". During these meetings, some agreements on collaboration were achieved. The RCST recruited one HIV infected volunteer to mobilise the HIV infected people and to provide peer education to them.

**Expected result 3:** The capacity of volunteers and communities to prevent disease, respond to outbreaks is increased through the training of 1,400 volunteers – who will in turn target 800,000 people – on community based first aid (CBFA).

**Activities:** In June, five seminars on training of trainers (ToT) were conducted for 32 medical instructors from Kulyab, Kurgan-Tube, GBAO, Sughd and RRS oblast, branches.

The RCST conducted 70 seminars for 1,400 volunteers on community-based health promotion and first aid (CBHP/FA). Pre- and post- test results showed that the volunteers increased their knowledge on first aid by 38% and on health promotion by 34%. Each participant received a first aid kit and a hygiene kit. The trained volunteers, in their turn, disseminated messages on diseases' prevention and on applying first aid at community level, thus covering 62,584 people.

The volunteers' work was monitored by the oblast health co-ordinators and CBHP/FA trainers. Interviews with randomly selected beneficiaries on knowledge revealed that 94.5% of respondents know about the common diseases and 93.6% know the disease symptoms and prevention measures. In total, 207 villages were visited and 3,480 people were reached.

The RCST city branch conducted two fee-paying CBHP/FA workshops aiming to increase the image of the NS and to raise funds. 27 participants gained knowledge on health promotion and first aid at community level.

As a step to the decentralization of responsibilities to the lowest operational level, an on-the-job training was provided to GBAO and Sughd oblast health coordinators and trainers. The participants were trained on project implementation, monthly activity planning, preparation of working advance requests and preparation of budgets for activities.

On 19 November, the RCST HQ, with the Federation support, organized and carried out a working meeting for 10 RCST health staff on the implementation of health programmes, within the decentralization process. The participants were also trained on practical use of the Del Aqua kit.

**Expected result 4:** The population's access to essential health care is improved through the: provision of medicine and medical supplies to 763 primary health care (PHC) institutions; and development of health staff in Khatlon and RRS to improve their rational use of drugs, case management and record keeping.



**The medical nurse of the targeted health care facility has received the medicines from RCST and is getting ready to serve her patients**

**Activities:** 557 health facilities, 246 rural ambulatories (SVAs) and 311 medical houses (FAPs), were selected instead of the planned 587 during the pre-monitoring visits. 464 SVA and 710 FAP kits were procured and delivered to Dushanbe through Pharmaciens Sans Frontieres Committee International (PSF CI) drugs procurement centre. In September and the beginning of November, the distribution of medicines and medical supplies to the selected PHC facilities in Khatlon region and RRS was undertaken. All 232 SVA and 355 FAP kits were delivered. 16 seminars on rational use of medicines for 330 health staff of FAPs were carried out from 9 to 26 August 2004. Experts from the World Health Organization (WHO) were invited to facilitate the teaching. The pre- and

post- test results showed that the health staff increased their knowledge by 35.5%.

15 monitoring teams conducted monitoring activities. Each facility was visited once a month, covering 94% of all targeted PHC facilities. According to the monitoring data, 750,635 patients visited PHC facilities and out of them, 294,209 (39%) patients received medicines. The monitoring teams also provided health

promotion to randomly selected households in the same catchment area, reaching 67,937 people (3-4 persons per house). 18,662 randomly selected patients were visited at home and confirmed receipt of prescribed medicines for free.

**Impact:** The volunteers' capacity to prevent diseases increased by 34%, and about 94% of the targeted communities gained knowledge on how to deal with main health problems at household level. The population's access to health care services improved through distribution of medicines and medical supplies to targeted health facilities. 39% of the patients of targeted facilities received medicines free of charge. The capacity of RCST oblast branch health staff on HIV/AIDS prevention and on programme implementation within the decentralization is strengthened.

**Constraints:** Due to the increase of cost of fuel, the monitoring of health facilities decreased to 92% in average for today. Possibly, the percentage will decrease more in the future.

Due to the hard-to-reach location of GBAO and Kurgan-Tube, some figures in the report may not reflect the real situation, but are in accordance with the most accurate information at the time being.

## Water and Sanitation

**Programme Objective:** The health condition of targeted communities is strengthened through better access to clean water, improved sanitation, use of latrines, and increased hygiene promotion via the Red Crescent network and active community involvement.

### Progress/Achievements

**Expected result 1:** 7,500 households in 25 villages of four regions have access to clean water through the construction of 25 low-cost (spring catchments) water supply systems and community mobilisation.



**140 households in Sangmila village got access to clean water after the construction of the low-cost water supply system**

**Activities:** During the reporting period, the construction of four low-cost water supply systems in Mukur, Uguk (in Sughd oblast), Sangmilla and Arpabulok (in RRS) villages were finalized. Almost 80% of community members and representatives from the republican sanitarian and epidemiological station (SES) participated in the construction of spring catchments. 4,463 beneficiaries from 764 households have access to clean water. Rehabilitation of boreholes was carried forward from last year. One borehole was rehabilitated in Khojamuso village of Gissar district (RRS) and another in Zardulobog village (Khatlon oblast). As a result, 8,500 beneficiaries from 1,220 households have access to clean water.

Six Water Users Committees (WUC) have been created in the above-mentioned villages to operate and maintain the new and rehabilitated water supply systems.

Based on the request of Gissar, Vahdat and Rudaki districts' population, an assessment of spring water supply systems was conducted to plan the construction. Procurement of construction materials for the above-mentioned districts, including Dushanbe city, is in process.

**Expected result 2:** Sanitation conditions of 300 families are improved through the construction of 300 individual hygiene latrines in four regions and community mobilisation.

**Activities:** By the end of June 2004, the RCST together with the communities involved, finalized the construction of 148 individual hygiene latrines in Sughd oblast, 100 individual household latrines in GBAO and two public latrines in RRS.

**Expected result 3:** Hygiene practices are improved by 30 percent in 25 villages; using community based participative methods through the Red Crescent network.

**Activities:** A two-day training on water and sanitation participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation (PHAST) methodology was conducted for 19 NS staff and 80 volunteers of the communities from three pilot districts of Sughd oblast (Penjikent, Ganchi and Shahrstan) and four pilot districts of RRS oblast (Varzob, Gissar, Shahrnav and Tursun-Zade). All participants were acquainted with PHAST methodology, adaptations of the method during outbreaks, and a technique of work with volunteers and the population.

Three Del Aqua kits were procured and delivered after the emergency phase and distributed to Dushanbe city, Sughd and Khatlon oblasts' branches. They were used during the workshop on water testing conducted for 10 oblasts health staff on 18 November 2004. The participants have gained practical experience in testing the quality of potable water using Del Aqua kit.

**Impact:** The sanitation conditions of 248 families are improved through the construction of 248 individual and two public hygiene latrines in three regions.

1,984 households from six villages of three regions have access to clean water through the rehabilitation of two boreholes and construction of four low-cost (spring catchments) water supply systems.

Hygiene practices in eight villages are improved by 25 percent, using community based participative methods through the Red Crescent network.

**Constraints:** Lack of qualified contractors for borehole drilling, late delivery of construction materials and long procurement procedures delayed the implementation of the programme.

## **Disaster Management**

**Overall Goal:** The vulnerability of communities in high risk areas in Tajikistan is reduced.

**Objective:** By the end of 2004, the Red Crescent's capacity to reduce the risk of vulnerable communities to disaster is improved.

### **Progress/Achievements**

**Expected result 1:** National society disaster management capacity is improved through: better planning and programming via use of assessment tools; strengthened community capacity to mitigate and respond to disasters via the dissemination of 20,000 'coaching packs'.

**Activities:** Draft version of the Red Crescent disaster preparedness and disaster response plan was elaborated, printed and distributed to all Red Crescent branches for discussions. The last version of the RCST DP plan was elaborated and approved on 29 October 2004 during the RCST presidium.

The Red Crescent branch chairmen's terms of reference was elaborated, agreed and signed with the four Red Crescent branches involved in the implementation of mitigation projects.

8,200 disaster awareness booklets on four different topics (landslides, earthquakes, floods, and preventable measures for children in case of disasters) were distributed to nine RCST branches (four oblasts and five RRS rayons) for further distribution to the communities, Red Crescent volunteers and schoolchildren.

**Expected result 2:** The national society's disaster management capacity is enhanced through: a new database system; trained provincial and headquarters staff; renovated central warehouses; and replenished Disaster Preparedness (DP) stocks.

**Activities:** During the reporting period, three disaster response simulation exercises were conducted in Dushanbe, Kurgan-Tube and Khujand cities for 48 Red Crescent staff and volunteers. The main goal of the training was to evaluate the response capacity of the Red Crescent disaster response team (volunteers and staff) in order to analyze their strengths and weaknesses in responding to possible disasters. The result of the simulation exercises showed that the response capacity of three branches is improved and they are capable to respond to small-scale disasters.

Implementation of DIPECHO community training project in six rayons of Rasht valley started at the end of June 2004 and was finalised by the end of October 2004. All 34 planned workshops for community based disaster preparedness (CBDP) members and representatives of Red Crescent primary organizations were conducted in Rasht valley. Out of them, two ToT workshops were conducted by RCST HQ for 32 participants. They were trained in the field of assessment, preparedness, response, coordination, reporting, first aid and ToT. The trainers, in turn, conducted 32 workshops for 640 Red Crescent volunteers and community members (20 participants per workshop). The disaster response capacity of 32 CBDP teams from Rasht valley was strengthened through provision of the following items: 700 first aid kits, 128 stretchers, 160 shovels, 160 hoes, 160 flash lights, 160 axes, 160 kitchen sets and 700 bibs.

The national society's capacity to respond to disasters is improved through the replenishment of the disaster preparedness stock with hygiene kits, cooking sets, kerosene stoves, shovels, hoes and renovation of Sughd oblast and Dushanbe RCST central warehouses. Construction of a half-house in the administration office of the Dushanbe RCST central warehouse was completed.

**Expected result 3:** The effects and threats of landslides and floods in the most vulnerable mountainous areas are reduced through tree planting, riverbank strengthening and reinforcement of mud stream ways in Sughd and Khatlon oblasts.

**Activities:** In September, after delivery of construction materials, the implementation of the three mitigation projects in Sughd oblast (Panjakent rayon, Khurammy Jamoat, Khavzak and Changal villages) started. By the end of the reporting period, all the planned activities were implemented. For details on activities, please refer to the table below.

Oblasts	Rayons	Starting date of implementation	Mud stream way cleaning (m)	Reinforcement of walls/bank (m)	Completion of project (%)
Sughd	Penjikent	08.09.04	2200	30	100%
	Vashany	10.10.04	1800	-	100%
	Ainy	08.09.04	2000	100	100%
	Shahristan	20.09.04	6000	-	100%
RRS	Nurobod	25.09.04	130	82	100%
	Garm	01.10.04	720	42	100%
	Tajikabad	26.09.04	75	12 m of bridge built	100%
	Jirgital	25.09.04	-	82	100%

**Expected result 4:** A total of 25,000 beneficiaries in four districts of Dushanbe (lonely elderly, bed ridden and large families headed by women) are provided with a supplementary food parcel (32 kg) three times a year, and 2,450 beneficiaries (vulnerable elderly people, street children and TB patients) from 13 soup kitchens located in Dushanbe (5), Gissar, Leninsky, Tursun-Zade, Vakhdat, Kulyab, Kurgan-Tube, Khujand and Chkalovsk are provided with hot meals three times a week.

**Activities:** On 30 July 2004, the RCST conducted a workshop for the representatives of local authorities and all RCST/Federation relief officers. The objective of the workshop was to introduce the upcoming programme and to share knowledge learned by experience during the implementation of previous programmes.

On 6 August, a special training was conducted for 34 monitors to familiarize them with the basics of standard monitoring procedures and requirements related to the current programme. Pre-distribution monitoring of ECHO supplementary food programme was finalized after visiting 5,454 households (5,483 beneficiaries). As a result, 237 beneficiaries have been cancelled as dissonant to the vulnerability criteria.

The first round of supplementary food distribution was conducted in October 2004. The distribution was held in four rayons of Dushanbe. 17,500 beneficiaries, under the categories of isolated elderly, bedridden beneficiaries and poorest part of the women-headed households, have received the allocated food rations. Each ration consisted of 25 kg of wheat flour, 5 kg of split peas, 2 litres of vegetable oil, and 0.5 kg of iodized salt. A total of 437,500 kg of wheat flour, 87,500 kg of split peas, 35,000 litres of vegetable oil, and 8,750 kg of iodized salt were distributed.



**A woman and her children are happy to receive the food distributed by RCST which will help to improve their daily ration for at least two months**

During the reporting period, 560 beneficiaries of eight social centres, funded by Norwegian Red Cross, received social support and food parcels, which contained: macaroni, sugar, buckwheat, vegetable oil, melted butter, black and green tea, condensed milk, salt and yellow soap. The next distribution of food parcels will take place in the beginning of November 2004.

The TB soup kitchen served six hot meals a week to 50 TB patients for 27 days under the DOTS treatment. On average, 1,350 hot meals were served to 50 TB beneficiaries per month in order to help them to recover from the disease quickly. This is being done in coordination with the Project Hope who provides the drugs.

**Impact:** The risk of floods and landslides is reduced through the implementation of activities and the capacity of the national society, its branches, volunteers and the local communities to respond to disasters adequately has been strengthened in accordance with the expected results.

During the first round of supplementary food distribution, the daily caloric intake of 17,500 beneficiaries was supplemented by 70 percent for two months, enabling beneficiaries to consume food two-three times per day.

**Constraints:** The market prices for fuel and construction materials increased significantly, which affected the expenditures of the work. Mechanical failure of the only available construction machinery (which dates back from the soviet era) caused a small delay in mitigation activities.

Beneficiary lists submitted by Social Welfare and local committees still remain a milestone. The RCST, together with the Federation, is permanently conducting monitoring to eradicate discrepancies.

Despite the aforementioned constraints, the overall budget and the scheduled completion date were not affected.

## Organizational development

**Goal:** The assistance delivered to vulnerable people is high quality, accurate, efficient, cost effective, transparent and accountable.

**Objective:** By the end of 2004, the capacity of the Red Crescent is strengthened through revised management structures and statutes, branch development, continued support in fundraising and financial management, logistics development, the promotion of humanitarian values and fundamental principles, as well as an increased volunteer base and continued engagement with youth.

### Progress/Achievements

**Expected result 1:** The Red Crescent has progressed towards the establishment of a new structure with a clear division between governance and management, contributing to effective programme and branch management. The final draft of the revised statutes is ready for adoption by the end of 2004.

**Activities:** During the reporting period, meetings with the NS regional/district branches and their primary organisations, which had started at the beginning of the year, continued in Kurgan-Tube, GBAO and Rasht valley (RRS). During the meetings, the proposed amendments to the NS statutes were discussed. The major proposals were related to the introduction of the separate chapter about volunteers, the responsibilities of the Secretary General, the introduction of the external auditing at oblast level, the chapter on “Voting”, and “Authority and rotation of the governing bodies”.

The NS July Plenum meeting has approved all motions to the statutes gathered from primary organisations. Although the point regarding blood banking was excluded, as it is a very serious issue and requires special equipment, the dissemination of volunteer blood donation, inherited from the Soviet times still remains a Red Crescent activity.

The Federation consultant assisted the Tajik NS in editing and compiling all the amendments and proposals to the new statutes. The revised draft was submitted to the RCST mandatory commission at its sitting in October 2004. As an outcome of the sitting, the proposed revised draft statutes were adopted and would be discussed further on at RCST oblast/region levels. All these upcoming discussions would end with the extraordinary congress at the end of 2005.

**Expected result 2:** Regional and local branches can better assess community vulnerability and capacity and consequently plan and implement responsive programmes, using local resources. This will lead to a nationwide assessment of communities resulting in community-based initiatives in 20 branches.

**Activities:** The results of the VCA process, which started in April in all 16 RRS rayons and cities, were finalised by the end of July.

As part of the VCA project, the training on community-based programming (CBP) took place in RRS in October 2004. 17 CBP trainers and 24 trained volunteers would apply the knowledge they obtained during the training in their respective places of living.

In accordance with the working plan, in November, another VCA ToT was held for 36 trainers from NS of GBAO and Sughd oblast. The trainers, in their turn, trained 36 volunteers on how to make an assessment and to collect necessary information. The assessment started in Sughd in late July 2004. The trained volunteers questioned 1,350 households and 45 state institutions. The process of summarising and analysing the collected information is ongoing.

**Expected result 3:** Financial sustainability is improved through the adoption of a financial development plan that includes a fundraising strategy. A guidebook is developed and is in use in 20 branches, leading to a 20 percent increase in local programme funding.

**Activities:** The draft documents, “Fundraising Strategy of the RCST” and the “Status on Fundraising”, were developed in the very beginning of the year. Due to the NS Fundraising officer’s resignation, the work in this field area was suspended. As the NS’s priority for this year is the revised statutes and the work related to it, the leadership has decided not to advertise the fundraising officer position. The NS has committed itself to focus more on fundraising in the coming year.

**Expected result 4:** Systems and procedures for development of human resources, management of staff, finances and logistics have improved, leading to: a 5 percent increase of volunteers in branches; efficient use of staff, finances, warehouses and the national society fleet; and improved procurement procedures saving time and money.

**Activities:** In July, the management meeting gathering all 69 NS chairpersons all over the country took place in Tursun-Zade. This meeting is being held once a year to meet the colleagues and to make a forum of ideas and opinions. Among the main points of the agenda were: branches’ work performance, management, new policies, discussion of the new edition of the NS statutes and follow-up of the decisions made at the previous similar meeting. At the last day of the meeting, the Tajik NS had its plenum sitting where the results of the branches’ work assessment were discussed.

As a continuation of the round of project planning process trainings, the last one planned for this year took place in GBAO. The training was meant for 19 RCST primary organisations’ chairpersons and volunteers, and was regarded as very useful and timely.

The practical support to 10 RCST Kurgan-Tube rayon branches continued during the reporting period. The last shipment of basic furniture for this year was procured and ought to be distributed by the end of the year. By this, the list of branches assisted counts all 69 RCST branches.

At the last NS Presidium sitting, the decision on development of the guidelines on proper records keeping and necessary documents, such as contracts, personal files etc. were made. As a follow up, the working meeting with the participation of the advanced branches, who are the members of the working group, took place in November. Documents would be compiled and sent out to the NS subordinate branches to have the standardised filling and records keeping system.

**Expected result 5:** Red Crescent youth have taken a lead in developing two programmes to assist vulnerable youth and have strengthened their support to other national society initiatives.

**Activities:** NS youth is continuing its support to other NS initiatives. The youth has been involved in HIV/AIDS/drug-abuse prevention, healthy life style, dissemination, first aid activities together with the medical department. Seminars and peer education activities were held in all regions of the country. 4,586 young people were covered by these activities.

The integration into other NS programmes is still continuing. Eight youth volunteers participated in DM simulation exercises. In Dushanbe, three youth volunteers have become the rescue team members and in Kurgan-Tube, 40 youth volunteers are involved in various disaster management activities.

During the reporting period, various charity activities were carried out in the form of collecting toys and second-hand clothes in Sughd and Khatlon. 72 elderly and disabled people from Khatlon and Sughd oblasts received second-hand clothes. The teddy bears and articles made by Kulyab city branch volunteers were presented to their peers suffering from TB. Also, a puppet-show and two concerts were organised for 300 children.

The International Children’s Day was celebrated by the activities for 276 orphans and disabled children. Summer camps for 60 children from needy families were working in Kulyab, Kurgan-Tube, and GBAO.

**Expected result 6:** The ability of the Red Crescent to advocate for and with vulnerable people and on the issues that most affect them is increased via greater organisational visibility and credibility. A minimum of 10,000 people are reached through various dissemination activities, and one-third of the population through the media whenever the national society is responding to a disaster or representing vulnerable people.

**Activities:** The RCST received good coverage in both local and international media for the events it conducted regarding the International Children's Day, International First Aid Day, drugs distribution in Khatlon oblast and RRS, end of food distribution in Dushanbe city, and the International AIDS Day.

The International Volunteer Day was celebrated in Dushanbe by the organisation of the "opening doors" day at the RCST HQ. The RCST leadership congratulated those visited and delivered the letters of thanks to the notable volunteers.

The most large-scale Disaster Management simulation exercises held in Gissar together with the State Emergency Committee were widely covered by national media, TV Company "Mir" and others. This was also shared with the Regional Delegation for the "Compass" bulletin. Production of film on RCST activity is undergoing.

Visibility materials, such as Red Crescent flags, RC/RC Movement fundamental principles both in Russian and Tajik and Henry Dunant's portrait were produced and distributed to all 69 RCST branches in July, during the traditional annual management meeting.

**Impact:** The youth is still actively working on establishing its primary organisations in different corners of the country. The process is firmly continuing as 12 youth primary organisations in the areas of youth gatherings were set up in Isfara, Khujand, Kulyab and Kurgan-Tube. This should be continued in the same temper and the NS leadership should keep supporting this process.

The information work has much improved as more activities and events carried out by the NS are presented in various media.

**Constraints:** Unfortunately, the seven small scale community-based projects designed as a result of the VCA process held in Kurgan-Tube pilot region last year and consultations with various NS HQ respective programme departments and with the approval of the NS HQ Commission on projects were not implemented. The NS leadership revised the preliminary implementation plan of the VCA/CBP programme. According to it, the responsibility of implementing the community-based project proposals was given to the NS HQ respective programme departments. Due to their own workload, the NS HQ programme departments were not able to realize the seven small scale community-based projects.

Although the integration of the Youth programme with other NS programmes continues, there is very slight sign of it in almost all NS subordinate branches. The youth volunteers at grass-root level should be more involved into various NS activities and the local branches' chairpersons could very much contribute to it

## **Federation Coordination**

**Goal:** Effective assistance is provided to the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan to develop into a better functioning national society.

**Objective:** The Federation has facilitated better coordination between the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan and partners both within and external to the Movement.

### **Progress/Achievements**

**Expected result 1:** Federation coordination contributes to improved and transparent communications among all partners, resulting in effective use of resources and more focused programmes.

**Activities:** In December 2004, a meeting for all partners was held in Dushanbe. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) representative, the American Red Cross delegate, the Netherlands Red Cross delegate and the Danish Red Cross delegate participated. The purpose of the meeting was to coordinate activities in 2005 and to evaluate the coordination during the current year with the focus on lessons learned and area requiring further coordination.

**Expected result 2:** The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, the Federation and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's profile in Tajikistan is strengthened resulting in further programme support from donors.

**Activities:** The Danish Red Cross delegate has arrived to Dushanbe to assist the RCST on a bilateral basis. Support is provided to her by the Federation and the maximum coordination is ensured. At the same time, the new American Red Cross delegate in charge of the mother and child (MCH) programme is already in office. The service agreement regulating this programme is being finalized.

**Expected result 3:** The operational capacity of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan will be strengthened through quality financial, material and technical support from the Federation Delegation.

**Activities:** The decentralization process, where regions and branches of RCST will take more responsibility for programme planning, implementation and reporting, has started. Systems and procedures with regard to financial, administrative and logistical issues are being further emphasised to all levels of RCST. These issues were discussed during the meeting in July, involving all branches of the NS.

## International Representation and Advocacy

**Goal:** The national society and Federation better represent the work of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and continue to provide a strong voice and presence among influential forums on behalf of vulnerable people and the issues that affect them.

**Objective:** By the end of 2004, the profile of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is stronger through Federation national and international advocacy that particularly strengthens government relations and awareness of the humanitarian responsibility of the authorities.

### Progress/Achievements

**Expected result 1:** Partnerships with other organisations are strengthened and increased in number, benefiting the national society and its programmes

**Activities:** The RCST and the Federation are playing a leading role in disaster management in Tajikistan. A number of international organizations including the United Nations (UN) agencies and various government departments are working closely with the RCST/Federation on different programmes (health, water and sanitation, disaster management and food security). The disaster resulting from the floods in July has shown that RCST, with the Federation support, can take the lead in responding to emergencies. This role was recognised and welcomed by all partners: the government and the international NGOs operating in the country.

**Expected result 2:** Networking with the government, UN agencies, NGOs and other stakeholders is increased through better coordination and exchange of information.

**Activities:** The coordination with other stakeholders is continuously increasing. The RCST/Federation is sharing the responsibilities during the floods, conducting joint water testing and sharing information about diseases and strategy of responding with other NGOs.

**Expected result 3:** Advocacy materials, drawing from community assessments, are produced and influence the authorities and various partners and organisations in their approach to humanitarian work.

**Activities:** The final VCA pilot project report was approved by the governing body of the RCST (Presidium). The document is now available to the partner organizations interested in the info collected.

**Expected result 4:** Government relations are strengthened leading to a reinforcement of the Red Crescent's role and mandate, enshrined in a Red Crescent Law and new national society statutes.

**Activities:** During the reporting period, the draft version of the Red Crescent law was submitted to the legal department of Lower Palace of the National Parliament. Currently, the draft document is with the NS for further revision. The work on editing of the comments made by the Parliament officials to the draft Red Crescent Law is continuing.