

Appeal 2005



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

CENTRAL EUROPE REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

Appeal no. 05AA066

Appeal target: CHF 2,260,819

The International Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. The Federation is the world's largest humanitarian organization, and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.

Please click on programme title to go to relevant

Programme title	2005 in CHF
Strengthening the national society	
Health and care	392,996
Disaster management	368,556
Organisational development	985,898
Coordination and implementation	513,369
Total Please click here to view the total budget for this appeal	2,260,819¹

Related appeals: Central Europe Regional Programmes Annual Appeal 2004
(01.75/2004) [please click here to go to the appeal](#)

¹ This amount corresponds to USD 1,794,085 or Euro 1,463,180

Context

The countries of Central Europe have been challenged over the past decade by the new and increasing needs of their populations, whilst simultaneously adapting their political, economic, and social structures. Reflecting national socio-economic realities, the national societies of Central Europe have also struggled to adjust their programmes to respond to the new and increasing needs of the most vulnerable in their populations, while adapting their structures and ways of working. They have often been ill-equipped to deliver all the health and social services required or to take on new responsibilities involving complex problems, such as HIV and TB, drug abuse, migration and trafficking in people, when they are faced with serious financial difficulties and structures inherited from the previous political system. The Federation's regional delegation, based in Budapest, has been supporting the national societies to build capacities to manage this difficult transition, providing technical expertise in the fields of health and care, disaster preparedness and communications/public relations.

May 1st, 2004, was a key date in the region, and saw eight Central European countries (Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, and Slovenia) join the European Union. Although the transition pains continue to exist in these countries, they will now be faced within the frame of EU membership and the funding and development opportunities that may bring. For the Red Cross national societies of the countries which joined the EU, 2004 also saw the recognition that they would meet the challenges that they face with the same support as that offered their sister EU societies. This change of direction will, from the start of 2005, see them looking to the secretariat's Europe department in Geneva / Brussels RC/EU office for the support they may need, rather than being supported through the regional delegation. The programme planning and management tools, partnerships and confidence the national societies have been developing over the past decade have been decisive elements in ensuring a successful transition.

Of the seven countries that remain, three (Bulgaria, Croatia and Romania) are on the road to EU membership, having signed Accession Agreements and are striving to meet the requirements that must be met. The remaining four countries, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia and Serbia & Montenegro have experienced considerable turmoil in the past decade and a half, of a socio-economic origin and / or as a result of tension between ethnic groups.

As the northern societies of Central Europe turn towards Brussels and Geneva, and the Federation country presence in the southern part of the region reduces, the regional delegation will act as an "umbrella" for the southern societies. Specific organisational development support will continue to the Latvian and Polish RC in the frame of the long term change processes the national societies are undergoing. The RD will also continue to change its role and way of working, moving from direct programme support to promoting networking, partnerships, advocacy, and knowledge sharing and using regionally based consultants, in response to national society strengths and priorities. These future directions are spelled out in the Central Europe Regional Strategy 2004-2006, developed in consultation with national societies and based on the Europe department's implementation plan. [Please click here for the strategy](#)

The formal and informal relationships and networks that have been built up over the past 12 years, often under the umbrella of delegation's work, will now be instrumental in ensuring that new funding sources (particularly EU-linked) can be tapped into effectively for the ultimate benefit of vulnerable communities. Already many Central European national societies are active members of Europe wide networks such as the European Red Cross Red Crescent Network on

AIDS and TB (ERNA), Platform for European Red Cross Red Crescent Cooperation on Refugees (PERCO) and the European Youth Network.

In the Balkans, which experienced a succession of conflicts over the last decade, the situation is becoming more stable, translating into improved security and modest economic growth. Many refugees and internally displaced persons have been returning to their places of origin, but still large numbers of people remain vulnerable and poor, and the refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) continue to need humanitarian assistance. In Kosovo a final political solution has yet to be found.

Key Indicators for National Societies covered by the regional delegation

Countries	Total Pop-n (million)	GNI per capita (US\$)	Life expectancy at birth (years)	Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	Child malnutrition (% of children under 5)	Incidence of tuberculosis (per 100,000 people)
Albania	3.2	1,380	74	23	14	29
Bosnia Herzegovina	4.1	1,270	74	15	4	91
Bulgaria	7.9	1,790	72	13	-	41
Croatia	4.4	4,640	74	7	1	59
Latvia	2.3	3,480	70	12	-	118
Macedonia	2.0		73			52
Poland	38.6	4,570	74	8	-	36
Romania	21.8	1,920	70	18	-	135
Serbia and Montenegro	10.7	1,400	73	12	2	45

Source: <http://www.worldbank.org> - At a glance (2002)

Red Cross Red Crescent Priorities

National Societies

Following the accession of eight countries in Central Europe to the European Union on 1 May 2004, the Regional Delegation will focus from the beginning of 2005 on supporting the national societies of South Central Europe – namely Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Romania and Serbia and Montenegro, including Kosovo. The Federation will continue to have separate offices in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, and a delegation in Serbia and Montenegro, to provide additional support in these individual contexts. In addition to the seven countries, organizational development support will continue to the Latvian and Polish Red Cross in the frame of change process plans, which are supported by multi-year grants from the Secretariat's Capacity Building Fund.

The capacity and needs of each of the seven national societies in South Central Europe are quite different – depending on the internal national society dynamics and the external environment. There are a number of regional programming trends which the regional delegation has sought to capture in the make up of the formal and informal networks it supports in health, disaster management and organizational development areas. However, individual national society capacity building needs cannot be streamlined into one regional programme. The regional delegation is seeking to structure its work in a way that each national society will benefit according to its need and at its own pace, with the delegation providing targeted technical support in the areas presented in the programming and country matrix below. Further details about the type of support and strategic background can be found in the individual Health and Care, Disaster Management and Organisational Development sections.

Three national societies have engaged in comprehensive change processes (Latvia, Poland, Romania), while four national societies have specific capacity building needs in programming and/or organizational areas. The Central Europe Regional Strategy 2004-2006 also includes an annex of country plans.

Planned Support by Country and Programme for 2005

	Health and Care	Disaster Management (DM)	Organisational Development	Coordination
Albania	Health education HIV/AIDS, European RCRC Network on AIDS/TB (ERNA) member Psychological support programme (PSP) in First Aid (FA) and social welfare Voluntary Blood Donor Recruitment (VBDR) Anti stigma	National DM plan and NS role National logistics and relief capacity Local disaster intervention capacity Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA)	Volunteer management, Resource development Interest in Participatory Community Development (PCD) Youth	Knowledge and experience sharing Active Networking in DM Coordination with bilaterally funded health programmes Researching in trafficking
<u>Bosnia and Herzegovina</u>	VBDR Peer education: reproductive health and anti stigma Tuberculosis (TB) Substance abuse FA Basic life support Home Care ERNA member	Population Movement: mobile teams Asylum seekers National DM plan and NS role Emergency response teams Disaster communication network	Strategic planning Resource development Legal base Youth	Knowledge and experience sharing Active networking in DM
Bulgaria	Social welfare, home care, HIV/AIDS, ERNA member, TB FA, VBDR PSP fully integrated in health progs Anti stigma	Risk analysis National DM plan and NS role	PCD Youth Finance and resource development	Knowledge and experience sharing – victims of trafficking Active networking
Croatia	HIV/AIDS, ERNA member, FA PSP fully integrated in health progs Home care	National DM plan and NS role Branch level training VCA	Youth Possible interest in PCD	Knowledge and experience sharing – harm reduction and trafficking Active networking

	VBDP Harm reduction Anti stigma			
<u>Latvia</u>			Change process: Governance and Management (G&M) Branch development Fundraising Project Planning Human resource development	
<u>Macedonia</u>	HIV/AIDS, TB, ERNA member Social Welfare FA VBDR Anti Stigma Harm reduction PSP	National DM plan and NS role National response units Crisis communication DM manual	Financial management Resource development Governance and Management (G & M) training PCD Youth	Knowledge and experience sharing - PCD Active DM networking Researching to initiate work related to trafficking
<u>Poland</u>			Finance management Resource development Branch development Communications Project Planning	
<u>Romania</u>	HIV/AIDS, TB, ERNA member FA Anti stigma	Updating DM plan and NS role VCA Branch level training	OD change process Structure and legal base HR management Strategic planning Communications Finance and resource development PCD limited to 1 branch Youth	Knowledge and experience sharing – change process Networking Researching in work on trafficking
<u>Serbia and Montenegro</u>	Home Care Social Welfare Health Promotion FA HIV/AIDS, ERNA member	DM system and teams NS role in national/regional plan Soup kitchens Vocational training for refugees Asylum seekers	Financial management development - branch level Communication Volunteer modular training system Branch development Commercial FA training	Knowledge and experience sharing Active Networking Roma project Knowledge and experience sharing -
<u>Kosovo</u>	HIV/AIDS Substance abuse reduction Health education Volunteer based social welfare, PSP FA	DM plan / national role Volunteer DR teams	Strategic planning G&M training Financial management Volunteer management Youth PCD	

Albanian Red Cross [Please click here for country plan](#)

The Albanian Red Cross (ARC) is a developed national society with a well functioning network in a country, where the official social welfare system is in a state of collapse and enormous strain has been put on a fragile infrastructure by a refugee influx in 1999 and economic hardship. The

ARC is developing a new strategic plan 2005-2009, building on its Strategic Plan 2000-2004, which has given clear guidance to the national society's restructuring and programme development in the four core areas over the past five years. The ARC has solid health and disaster management programmes. However, there are significant differences between the capacity of the headquarters and levels of activity among the branches, particularly in volunteer and resource mobilization. In addition, the national society is financially not self-sustainable. The Federation will be focusing on supporting the building of branch capacities and resource development work, as well as capacity building in health and disaster management

Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina *Please click here for country plan*

The regional delegation will be supporting the Red Cross in Bosnia and Herzegovina under the regional umbrella but the Federation also has a separate appeal programme. *Please click here for Bosnia and Herzegovina Annual Appeal 2005*

Bulgarian Red Cross *Please click here for country plan*

The Bulgarian Red Cross (BRC) is confronted by extensive local needs, compounded by a growing brain drain and ongoing economic hardship. In addition, competition within and expectations from civil society are high and local opportunities for funds are limited. The national society is, however, well placed to meet these challenges with a functioning branch network throughout the country, good communications and logistics capacity. Although the BRC is not self sustained, effective public relations, fundraising and income generation activities are being developed. The BRC is also a leader in terms of its work with the victims of trafficking, building on its pioneering work with refugees during the 1990s.

Croatian Red Cross *Please click here for country plan*

The Croatian Red Cross (CRC) is a developed national society well supported by its Red Cross law, statutes and government. The CRC has good logistics capacity and communications network. In a country continuing to face the challenges of reconstruction and economic development following the conflict of the 1990s, the national society is still somewhat dependent on external funding, although progress has been made on in-country fundraising. The CRC has developed a leading role in the region in harm reduction and working with the victims of trafficking, which will be further supported in 2005.

Macedonian Red Cross *Please click here for country plan*

The Macedonian Red Cross (MRC) is working in a highly challenging environment, where huge needs continue to exist as a result of the influx of refugees from the recent Balkans conflict in 1999 and internal conflict in 2001. The MRC has strong DM and health programmes but continues to face the challenge of expanding fundraising amid limited local opportunities. The MRC has modernised its financial management systems at headquarters and now faces the challenge of bringing the same improvements to branches.

Romanian Red Cross *Please click here for country plan*

The Romanian Red Cross (RRC) embarked on a far-reaching change process in 2002, addressing both legal and organisational issues. Having adopted new statutes, the newly elected leadership and management are committed to strengthening the national society. The plan, which at present covers 2003 to mid 2005, focuses on four areas: organization, staff and volunteers, financial structure and communications. It is supported by a multi-year grant from the secretariat's capacity building fund. The regional delegation is supporting implementation and monitoring, ensuring linkage between new processes and systems and ongoing national society programme activities and needs. The human resource capacity remains limited and the national society knows it needs to strengthen and expand quality service provision in priority programme areas.

Serbia and Montenegro Red Cross [Please click here for country plan](#)

The regional delegation will be supporting the Serbia and Montenegro Red Cross Society under the regional umbrella but the Federation also has a separate appeal programme. [Please click here for Serbia and Montenegro Annual Appeal 2005](#)

Kosovo

The regional delegation will be supporting Kosovo under the regional umbrella but the Federation also has a separate appeal programme for Kosovo contained within the Serbia and Montenegro appeal. [Please click here for the Kosovo programme within the Serbia and Montenegro Annual Appeal 2005](#)

Polish Red Cross [Please click here for country plan](#)

The Polish Red Cross (PRC) faced a financial crisis in 2003, which posed a serious threat to its integrity and future. The development of a recovery plan has been incorporated into a longer term change process 2004-2006, which has received multi-year assistance from the secretariat's capacity building fund. The programme focuses on four areas: human resource management and development, financial management and resource development, programme management and communications. The regional delegation is supporting implementation and monitoring and ensuring that contributions from external consultants are provided at the appropriate time. Federation support in other national society programming areas will continue from the secretariat's Europe Department from January 2005

Latvian Red Cross [Please click here for country plan](#)

The Latvian Red Cross (LRC) embarked on organizational development planning in 2002, with the new leadership realizing the need for change. A multi-year programme was developed and granted funding by the secretariat's capacity building fund in 2004. The adoption of new statutes in April 2004 and the separation of governance and management roles have added impetus to the change process. The initiative focuses on resource and programme development over three years. The Federation is supporting the process and ensuring that contributions from external consultants are provided at the appropriate time. Federation support in other national society programming will continue from the Europe Department from January 2005.

International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Context

The Federation structure in Europe continues to evolve. During 2004 a number of review processes were initiated including the Europe review, the Tufts university study into cooperation models and the Federation of the Future process. All will have an impact on the set up of the Federation in Europe, and how the support set out in the Central Europe Regional Strategy will be delivered.

As the situation stabilizes in the Balkans, the Federation presence continues to be reduced. The Macedonia delegation and the Zagreb sub regional office in Croatia, focusing on population movement, closed in 2003. The Federation maintains a country delegation in Serbia and Montenegro, focusing on three areas: relations with government and civil society; governance and management and related OD-issues; and service development and delivery. In addition, the Kosovo office is maintained, because of the delicate political situation, as well as the office in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) regional delegation for Central Europe, also based in Budapest, will continue to work with 11 countries in the region, focusing its work with national societies on the following areas: international humanitarian law (IHL), including the exploring humanitarian law programme, dissemination, tracing, conflict preparedness / safe access and legal issues. Coordination between the Federation and ICRC is good.

A large number of partner national societies either support or are present in Central Europe through multilateral or bilateral activities or partnerships. Central European national societies have increased their confidence in managing partnerships, initially brokered and nurtured by the Federation. This confidence should ensure that many of these cooperative bi- or multi-lateral partnerships for the eight national societies in EU member countries continue in January 2005. The Nordic-Baltic partnership, which saw the coming together of the five Nordic and three Baltic national societies in a variety of programmes since the mid-nineties, is one example. The Austrian Red Cross has initiated new partnerships with its neighbours, and the German Red Cross supports a number of national societies in the region. The American Red Cross regional office in Sofia is set to close in 2004. The Nordic national societies continue to support the regional health, disaster preparedness and OD programmes. The Spanish and the French Red Cross have bilateral programmes in some countries.

Strengthening the National Society

1. Health and Care *[Please click here to return to the title page](#)*

Background and Achievements

Key achievements within the regional health and care programme during 2004 were the setting up and continued support to regional networks and capacity building in HIV/AIDS & TB prevention, harm reduction, psychological support, safe blood supply and first aid. National societies have shown their growing confidence, competence and commitment, even with limited financial and human resources, in prioritising and dealing with key health issues. In addition to the global issues of HIV/AIDS, TB, the region of South Central Europe also faces the growing menace of trafficking. The victims of trafficking and their families often count amongst the most vulnerable groups who need to be considered in national society health and care initiatives linking with current HIV/AIDS, drug prevention, social welfare and psychological support programmes. The regional delegation will act as a broker to share Red Cross experience and strengthen effective collaboration with other partners – such as the International Organisation of Migration IOM, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, UNODC, national societies in Ukraine and Moldova, the origin of many people who are trafficked – to provide accurate information to communities and raise public awareness against trafficking.

Although the health and social situation varies from one country to the other, depending on the socio-economic situation of vulnerable communities such as Roma population, elderly people, families with many children, unemployed persons, and the standard of health care provided by the government, there are a number of shared areas of concern. The regional health and care programme seeks to draw on current levels of national society expertise and knowledge to enable effective forums for networking and further capacity building in shared priority areas.

One of the main health concerns in Central Europe is the increasing prevalence of HIV infections and tuberculosis (TB), with the vast majority of new HIV infection occurring amongst the under 30 age group with a persistent high level of risky behaviour – injecting drug use and unsafe sex. Through their prevention programmes, anti-stigma campaigns and harm reduction activities for

IV drug users, the national societies in the region are well placed to influence public awareness of the health risks involved, to fight against stigma and discrimination and to act at a local level. The ERNA (<http://www.erna.sk>) network (European Red Cross Red Crescent Network on AIDS & TB), now numbering 34 national societies, provides one forum for best practice and experience exchange in this area, and has linked up with the global anti-stigma campaign *PassItOn* to promote anti-stigma issues among ERNA members.

The Croatian Red Cross has a leading role in the field of harm reduction activities for intravenous drug users within HIV/AIDS prevention programmes. Following the establishment of the Secretariat's Plan of Action for Harm Reduction programme in Eastern Europe, in early 2004, seven national societies (Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, and Poland) from Central Europe will participate in the programme, financed by the Italian Red Cross. The aim is for national societies to implement drug prevention programmes and establish harm reduction activities, according to the legislation in their respective countries. Initiatives, such as the Voluntary Confidential Counselling and Testing (VCCT) of HIV/AIDS projects in Macedonia and Croatia have been well received by the population and the authorities, and further support to scale up RC HIV/AIDS and TB prevention programmes in collaboration with local authorities will continue in 2005.

Closely linked with HIV/AIDS prevention programmes is the issue of TB - the leading killer infection among young people and adults in Europe, and particularly prevalent among the poor and their families, including the homeless, alcoholics, ex-prisoners and the malnourished. In the region, Estonia, Latvia and Romania report the highest rate of new HIV infections and the highest rate of multi-drug resistant (MDR) form of TB. The dual challenge (MDR and HIV/AIDS) adds urgency to the need to expand effective TB control programmes. In 2005 the regional delegation will support national societies to strengthen collaboration with other NS and their national authorities, to open up funding opportunities for example through the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria (see <http://www.theglobalfund.org/en>). The countries of Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Macedonia, Romania, and Serbia & Montenegro are engaged with, and their governments have received funds, for HIV/AIDS activities. However, as not all national societies in these countries are members of, and represented on, the individual national country coordination mechanisms (CCM), they have not yet been able to benefit from the fund. To date the Croatian and Macedonian RC are on their respective CCMs for HIV/AIDS, and Romanian RC for TB.

A major problem in combating HIV/AIDS and TB is the heavy stigmatisation, leading to social exclusion, under diagnosing of HIV and unsatisfactory treatment compliance in TB. Working in the heart of the community, the Red Cross is ideally placed to work against stigmatisation, to provide information, understanding and ultimately change behaviour. Support for national society anti-stigma advocacy campaigns will continue in 2005, building on the close cooperation with the regional Red Cross youth initiatives, using regional publications (for example *The Bridge*), and cooperation with existing partners, such as GNP+ (Global Network on People Living with HIV/AIDS), and new partners. In 2004, a key achievement was the production of a CD Rom with resource material for the Candle March linked to World HIV/AIDS Day put together with input from ERNA, RC youth representatives and participation from the People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) network.

Vulnerable persons – indeed all persons – should have a basic right to be involved in decisions that directly affect their lives. The Red Cross can be instrumental in this, acting through local branches to enable participation and to change behaviour – both within a community and with regards to a community. The Participatory Community Development (PCD) programme focuses

on this, using a participatory methodology to facilitate community action and to strengthen branch capacity to identify and meet the needs of the most vulnerable communities. This multi-faceted programme will be crucial in developing national society health and care programmes. National society social welfare personnel in the region have been introduced to PCD methodology through shared workshops with NS PCD coordinators. The regional health and care delegate will work closely with the regional PCD coordinator to foster a more integrated and participatory community-based approach to health and care in 2005-2006.

Safe Blood Supply through non-remunerated blood donor recruitment remains a priority in South Central Europe as there are, still countries where blood donors are paid or the number of family blood donors is relatively high. However, the scale of blood programmes depends on the role of a particular national society in the national blood programme. A regional task force, formed in 2002 by national societies from the region, will be strengthened to develop and coordinate best practice and expertise in blood donor recruitment issues, using a focused web site, supported by the Austrian Red Cross. (See: <http://blood.ifrccee.org> or <http://www.ifrccee.org> named “blood program”). Regional collaboration will be strengthened through seminars where the Federation manual *‘Making a Difference’*, translated into local languages, will be introduced to national blood donor recruiters. The Bulgarian Red Cross has organized the first seminar in the region and the experience will be utilized among other national societies.

National societies have prioritized Psychological Support (PS). As a result of joint seminars with disaster management departments in 2003 they have committed to develop integration with other activities, such as disaster preparedness, community based first aid, HIV/AIDS & TB and social welfare. In 2004 a task force for psychological support was established by six national societies to coordinate and develop this area. In 2005 the regional delegation will support, in co-operation with the Reference Centre for Psychological Support in Copenhagen, national societies to scale up PS.

National societies in the region have a proud tradition in providing community based First Aid., a life saving initiative which places the Red Cross at the heart of any community. The involvement of the eight EU accession national societies, together with the Bulgarian and Romanian Red Cross, in the EU Road Safety campaign in 2003-2004 has built NS capacity in the area of planning, implementing and reporting on EU funded programmes. Involvement in World First Aid Day and collaboration with the Reference Centre for First Aid is increasing national society confidence in this area. With further technical support in 2005, national societies should be able to strengthen their community based first aid programmes and funding opportunities.

Strategic role

The regional delegation will continue to provide support to national societies, through a regional health and care delegate, to better define their respective roles in national health strategies. The regional delegation will advocate and follow up on programme alignment with the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), in particular Goal 6, Target 8 to combat HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases including tuberculosis. <http://www.undp.org/mdg/>

The plan is to hand over the regional health and care programme by the second part of 2005 to a regionally recruited person with solid experience. Regional support will increasingly be channelled through: the promotion of networking and partnerships; advocacy and knowledge sharing; and facilitation of regional/cross-regional consultancies.

Goal

National societies in South Central Europe are viable partners of their respective authorities in improving the health and social situation of communities [Please click here to go to the project logframe](#)

Objective

The capacity of the national societies of South Central Europe to provide quality health and care services to the most vulnerable is increased.

Expected Results

- By the end of 2005, each national society will have health and care activities which integrate **HIV/AIDS and TB** (where relevant) elements and drug prevention, including harm reduction activities for IV drug users, appropriately and based on clear strategic development and funding plans, and making best use of regional networks.
- By the end of 2005, all NS will have an awareness and advocacy plan to fight stigma, social exclusion and discrimination of people living with **HIV/AIDS&TB**.
- By the end of 2005, the **Participatory Community Development** (PCD) methodology is integrated with health and social welfare activities, working with various vulnerable groups e.g. Roma, elderly people, victims and family members of the trafficking in human beings, etc.
- By the end of 2005, the regional task force has started to co-ordinate the activities on **Voluntary, Non-remunerated Blood Donor Recruitment**. The success stories (best practices) for raising the awareness for safe blood supply will be available on the web site, which is updated by the regional task force.
- By the end of 2005, all NS will have **Community Based First Aid** activities based on clear strategic development and funding plans.
- By the end of 2005, all NS have a system in place to provide **Psychological Support** services integrated with other health and care and disaster management activities (e.g. HIV/AIDS, TB, trafficking etc.)

2. Disaster Management

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Background and achievements

Red Cross societies in the region have, over the last five years, shown that they competently deal with emergencies. National societies have, based on the existence of good planning, responded consistently and rapidly to disasters. Extreme weather events (heat waves, flooding, winter cold and drought) are the most common crises. Earthquakes are also a threat as well as technical hazards and more day-to-day emergencies such as road accidents.

Despite the achievements in responding to the needs of the most vulnerable during emergencies, co-ordination, both inside the International Red Cross Movement and with governmental departments and other organisations, could be improved. One example of progress is a pilot project in Serbia and Montenegro where the Red Cross and municipal authorities have agreed roles and responsibilities during an emergency.

An important element of the disaster management programme is to ensure that national societies are recognised by their governments and broker partnerships with other agencies. The Federation's involvement in the Stability Pact Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative (DPPI) is one way of supporting this. In the immediate aftermath of the cessation of hostilities in Kosovo, the international community and the countries of South-East Europe committed themselves to make a determined effort to create conditions for peace, stability and prosperity in

this region. In March 2000 the Stability Pact launched the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative (DPPI), to offer a framework for regional co-operation by pulling together ongoing activities and identifying unmet needs which lend themselves to regional co-operation either in training or response. Although the Stability Pact's DPPI is aimed at the respective governments, the Federation was invited to take part in the process and the regional delegation in Budapest is representing the Federation in DPPI since the start of 2000. Of further importance is integrating national societies within the wider Europe by supporting and creating networks and building linkages to the RC EU Liaison office and the EU national societies for the planned and new accession countries. All national societies in the region are engaged in ongoing discussions with their respective governments regarding the future role of the Red Cross in national disaster management plans.

One part of regional disaster management planning since 2001 has been the setting up of a regional disaster response team (RDRT). A first basic training was organised in 2002 and a second took place 2003 as well as a follow-up training. Today there are 45 people on the regional roster ready to perform post-disaster assessments anywhere in the region. It is planned to expand the team to about 60 people. A planned training in 2004 did not take place because of a lack of funds. The plan for 2005 is to have a basic training for new team members as well as refresher training, and also to plan and exchange with the other RDRTs in the wider Europe region. About 15 of those already trained come from the governmental sector supported by the Stability Pact Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative (DPPI).

The regional approach to disaster management has focused on establishing a learning environment for national societies through networks. There has been close collaboration with the regional health & care and communication programmes, to ensure an integration of knowledge, expertise, learning and advocacy issues between programmes. Common assessment and project development methodologies (for example: participatory community development (PCD), vulnerability and capacity assessment, psychological support) as well as advocacy concerns regarding trafficking are shared between DM and health and care programmes. Psychological support is one area, where ensuring integration in national society health and care and DM programmes, may ensure a critical life line for the victims of one of the 'newest' disasters.

One priority for the Federation is to promote community values of safety and responsibility among youth, communities, business and political leaders. Knowing what to do in an emergency demands preparation, but knowing what capacity we have as a community to meet an emergency can bolster confidence and can be life-saving in itself. Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) is one way of taking a community based approach within disaster management, and helps local communities look at what emergencies they could face and challenges accepted perceptions of vulnerability. VCA is carried out in several steps (national, regional, local). Some national societies have already completed VCA and others will be supported to initiate or continue the process in 2005.

As of 2005 the focus will be on the countries of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Romania and Serbia and Montenegro and Kosovo, where networking is functioning and national societies are working well together. To provide technical DM support in 2005 there will not be a separate regional disaster management delegate at the regional delegation in Budapest but there will continue to be a regionally recruited DM coordinator based in Bosnia and Herzegovina, focusing support on these seven countries and representing the region in the Stability Pact DPPI. Discussions are continuing regarding the need to address the issues of DM information sharing, guidance, funding opportunities and EU Civil Protection / DM on a wider European level. The delegation is contributing to this strategic discussion, which aims to find a

model to ensure representation and guidance on DM/Civil Protection issues and opportunities, and liaison with all stakeholders including RC/EU Office in Brussels, EU NS and Stability Pact DPPI.

In 2004 the regional delegation established a similar sub-regional set up for Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to the one in the southern sub-region. With support from the Norwegian Red Cross, it was established in July and a sub-regional part-time DM coordinator was hired, based in Vilnius. Besides coordinating ongoing DM activities, the coordinator supports the Baltic countries to access more funding through e.g. the Civil Protection programme area in the EU. The initiative will be handed over directly to the three Baltic national societies in January when the regional delegation refocuses on South Central Europe.

An important issue for the regional delegation is to support the national societies in creating a Disaster Preparedness plan as mentioned above. It is equally important that the regional delegation develops a regional disaster management plan – based on regional needs, opportunities, threats and resources outlining the specific roles and responsibilities of national societies and the regional delegation and how they coordinate their activities. In addition, it is also important that disaster response mechanisms are continuously updated at the regional delegation enabling it to be ready for prompt action.

The main tasks for the regional delegation in 2005 will be to: support national societies to work closely with their respective governments; expand the use of VCA; strengthen disaster preparedness planning including contingency plans; organise sub-regional meetings for the exchange of ideas; and train regional disaster response team members and organise simulations.

Goal

The efficiency and effectiveness of national societies in their response to national natural or man-made disasters is increased. *Please click here to go to the project logframe*

Objective

Disaster response capacity of national societies is strengthened through the development of disaster preparedness plans and a regional disaster management strategy, including a contingency plan and regional cooperation.

Expected Results

- By the end of 2005, all national societies in the region have updated their disaster preparedness plans, including contingency plans, within their respective national contexts.
- The regional disaster management programme is throughout 2005 providing continued support to national societies in their work with the Stability Pact DPPI.
- The regional disaster management programme will support national societies in establishing contacts with relevant programmes within the EU (Bulgaria, Croatia and Romania).
- By the end of 2005, the regional disaster management plan – based on regional needs, opportunities, threats and resources shown in the computerised regional database, outlining the specific roles and responsibilities of national societies – is in place. In addition, disaster response mechanisms are continuously updated at the regional delegation enabling it to be ready for prompt action.
- Close cooperation with the regional health and care, and organisational development programmes continue to improve the quality of disaster management planning within national societies.

- By the end of 2005 the Regional Delegation based on a community-based approach will have established a network of trainers in the region to support the use of VCA and PCD methodologies in the NS (Albania, Croatia, and Romania).
- The regional disaster management programme is throughout 2005 supporting the national societies in developing the communities' capacity to mitigate the impact of natural and man-made disasters when they occur (all seven national societies).
- The regional disaster response team (RDRT) staffing has been refreshed through training of new members and follow-up training of old members by the end of 2005. Basic equipment has been purchased.
- By the end of 2005, all national societies have a system in place to have Psychological Support services integrated with other health & care and disaster management activities (e.g. accidents, disasters, HIV/AIDS, TB, trafficking in human beings etc.)

3. Organisational Development [*Please click here to return to the title page*](#)

Background and achievements

For more than a decade the national societies in Central Europe have been struggling to adjust their programmes to respond to the new and increasing needs among the population while simultaneously adapting their structures and ways of working to profound legal, political and economic changes. The regional delegation has been supporting the national societies to manage this difficult transition through an organisational and resource development programme.

Each national society develops in a specific context and capacity building needs and expectations can vary dramatically. Strategic and programme planning, financial management, resource development and legal and statutory issues have been key areas of support. A major lesson learnt has been the limited effectiveness of introducing elements of organisational or resource development outside a planned and comprehensive change process. Without strong commitment from governance and management and national society statutes that clarify roles and responsibilities, any organisational or resource development intervention will have a limited impact. Indeed, it may only serve to further entrench obstacles to organisational change and development.

3.1 Organisational and Resource Development

Over the past two years, internal crisis (Romania and Poland) and a change in leadership (Latvia) have been catalysts to mobilise commitment for comprehensive change processes in these national societies. Multi-year projects, supported by the capacity building fund (CBF) and incorporating elements of organisational and resource development, financial management and communications are ongoing in the three countries. The regional delegation has been supporting the process through open dialogue, fostering transparent partnerships, where other sources of knowledge, experience or funding support can be harnessed to strengthen the processes. The delegation will continue to coordinate the contribution of consultants in technical areas. This will enable the national societies to benefit from targeted and timely expert advice when needed and at the same time retain overall ownership and control of the development process. Although support to national societies in the eight new EU member states in the region will be provided directly by the Geneva secretariat from January 2005, support for these long-term change processes in the Latvian and Polish Red Cross will continue to be provided by the regional delegation.

Consultancy coordination and coaching support will also continue for the Romanian Red Cross for the three year change process, which is due to end in mid-2005. Follow-up activities will be

discussed at the beginning of 2005 to identify where support is required. This process covers a broad range of Romanian Red Cross functions, from governance and management to financial and human resources and communication.

Where national societies have expressed a need for capacity building assistance outside of a comprehensive change process, the regional delegation has taken care to ensure that this support is clearly integrated with programme development in the national society. This will continue in 2005, with a focus on strengthening national society capacities to meet branch development needs, working with new branch governance tools developed by the secretariat. The Albanian Red Cross is seeking to build branch capacities for volunteer and financial resource mobilisation, whilst the Macedonian Red Cross faces the challenge of branch network reorganisation.

Programme sustainability – in terms of financial and human resources – remains a concern of most national societies. Financial management and resources development are essential elements of any change process, but have limited impact when implemented independently. The regional delegation promotes transparency and accountability in financial management as preconditions for resource development and successful fundraising. Winning the confidence of the public as well as other donors is crucial to national societies in an increasingly competitive civil society sector. Financial management and resource development support are elements of the change processes in Latvia, Poland and Romania and will continue to be assisted. A follow-up fundraising workshop for experience exchange for the seven national societies of South Central Europe is planned for 2005, as well as support for national society fundraisers to upgrade their skills through external training. The national societies will also be supported in accessing new funding sources – in part through the status of Bulgaria, Croatia and Romania as second wave accession countries to the EU. Programme integration and development skills will be encouraged by working closely with national society colleagues in the development of programme proposals to new funding sources.

In 2004 the regional youth networking activities, developed over the past five years, were able to respond to youth concerns and needs in the absence of a regional youth officer at the regional delegation. A 7th regional youth conference was held in April 2004, establishing how opportunities for cooperation can best continue and through which forums. In 2005, prime responsibility for promoting youth concerns and ensuring continuing support to those national society youth sections involved in regional campaigns such as Hunger Day and the Candle March will continue to lie with the network. The forum of the European Cooperation Meeting – bringing together Red Cross youth representatives from the European national societies, will also be an opportunity for regional discussion.

Overall Goal

Well functioning national societies providing quality services, based on a clear mission, and actively contributing to the development of civil society. *Please click [here to go to the project logframe](#)*

Objective

The national societies' capacity in leadership, programme management, organizational, financial and resource development skills has increased.

Expected Results

- National society governance and management have improved skills to lead and contribute to major change processes (currently Latvia, Poland, and Romania)

- Increased national society capacity to address governance and management needs at the branch level (Albania, Macedonia, and Romania)
- Independently well functioning regional youth networking providing valuable input to national societies and regional programme development (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Romania, and Serbia and Montenegro)
- National societies are actively adapting and using a variety of fundraising techniques, integrated into programme design and planning, to increase their in-country fundraising activities (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Romania, and Serbia and Montenegro)
- National societies have the knowledge, skills and confidence to access new sources of funding and to develop long term funding opportunities (Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, and Romania)

3.2. Branch and Community Development

The Participatory Community Development (PCD) programme has been running in Central Europe since 2000, initially as a two year pilot in five countries. Micro projects were developed after a preparatory phase with vulnerable people in their communities to identify their needs. Such projects that resulted were: building a community centre for vulnerable people in the community; vocational training courses for unemployed adults; renovating schools so children have better conditions; establishing a self help club and centre for disabled people; and carrying out a programme of vaccination for community members.

National societies in those countries are now more aware of vulnerabilities and how better to work with vulnerable people. They have also managed to attract new volunteers and new sources of funding through PCD. An example of this is in Hungary, where three new volunteer branches were established and one community successfully applied for a grant from PHARE, a programme financed by the European Union for applicant and new EU member countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

Now that PCD has been implemented for four years, certain things can be seen as tangible results and the basis for further development. Firstly, PCD has become recognised as a tool within national societies for working with vulnerable communities and for branch development. Secondly, the coordinators in national societies have formed themselves into a regional PCD development team that supports each other in their work. Importantly, this team is also there as a resource and bank of experience for other national societies to draw upon should they be interested in applying the PCD methodology. There has been an indication from the Albanian RC that they are interested in using this approach. Other countries have expressed cautious interest, which will be followed up with the regional delegation in 2005.

A PCD branch development tool has been designed and the full package includes: a training manual for PCD national and local coordinators; a series of booklets for local PCD team members from the community; and a leaflet about the PCD process. Again this package will be useful for those societies already implementing a PCD project and for those who are planning to apply PCD for branch development. Outside of the region there is scope for the PCD methodology to spread and interregional cooperation has taken place with the Amazonico programme in South America and with Armenian Red Cross. The Azerbaijan Red Crescent is also using PCD materials during their branch development process.

In 2005, the coordinator at the regional delegation will be taking an advisory role, encouraging incorporation of PCD with other programmes and exploring possibilities for the methodology to

be used with vulnerable people, in a wide definition of the meaning. Groups that may benefit from a participatory approach are potential and actual victims of human trafficking. The appropriateness of this will be looked at during 2005 and projects developed in the course of the year.

Objective [Please click here to go to the project logframe](#)

National societies have the skills and knowledge to use participatory approaches in addressing and responding to new and existing vulnerabilities

Expected Results

- Where implemented, PCD is an effective tool to empower vulnerable communities in the region, including potential and actual victims of human trafficking.
- The regional PCD coordinators team is a mechanism for making best use of participatory approaches in national societies
- National Societies have benefited from twinning, networking and/or other partnership opportunities to further develop PCD

4. Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

Background and Achievements

The year 2005 will see the regional delegation focusing its support on a reduced number of national societies and with a reduced level of staffing. The delegation has also gradually moved from a primarily internationally recruited technical staff profile to a reliance on locally and regionally recruited personnel. In 2005 the challenge will be to ensure the effective coordination of resources within the region, and through the regional networks (in health, DM and OD) to ensure timely technical support to national societies. The delegation will be working increasingly with consultants from the regional roster, which continues to grow.

The annual partnership meeting, bringing together the national societies from the region with key partners will continue. Although the number of national societies covered by the delegation will have decreased to seven, it is hoped that the national societies in the eight new EU member countries will also join the meeting as potential or existing partners of their sister societies. Many partnerships in programme fields already exist and the meeting will provide an opportunity to explore others.

In focusing on maximizing its coordination and cooperation role, the delegation will also work with regional advocacy issues. Key issues for 2005 will be the threat posed by HIV/AIDS, and the accompanying stigmatisation and social exclusion experienced by the individuals affected, and the humanitarian dimensions of the migration debate, including trafficking in people. The delegation will be encouraging national societies to flag their concerns at appropriate regional and international events and forums and give a voice to the most vulnerable communities in the region. A further issue of the regional magazine *The Bridge* is also planned to focus on the issue of trafficking and its victims. These advocacy roles will entail close cooperation between the regional delegation, the Brussels EU Office, the European Red Cross/Red Crescent Cooperation in Response to Human Trafficking facilitator at the Danish Red Cross and Geneva secretariat contact persons for the various European regional agencies. The regional delegation will also explore and research opportunities for project development and new funding opportunities linking to emerging advocacy issues such as the victims of trafficking. Opportunities for cross regional cooperation with national societies and Federation delegations in the Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus,

and Russia on specific advocacy themes and health issues will be developed, to ensure maximum programme impact.

Goal

The situation of the most vulnerable communities in South Central Europe is improved.

Objective

The role of South Central European national societies in voicing and responding to the needs of the most vulnerable groups in the region is recognised, supported and strengthened.

Expected Results

- Appropriate technical expertise is made available in a timely manner responding to national society requests.
- National societies are recognised as prominent actors in the strengthening of civil society, and as dialogue partners on national and regional vulnerability issues.
- Strategic partnerships with government, UN agencies, organisations and authorities provide a basis for more effective resource management and mobilisation and benefit national society programmes
- National societies in Europe use RC partnership networks to strengthen capacity in programme delivery through experience, know-how and expertise exchange.
- Advocacy materials are made available to various partners, agencies, organisations and authorities.

For further details related to Central Europe please contact

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All international assistance to support vulnerable communities seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct (For details, please go to the website at <http://www.ifrc.org/publicat/conduct/>) and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response, according to the SPHERE Project. (For details, please go to the website at: <http://www.sphereproject.org/>)

This appeal reflects a range of programmes to be implemented in 2005, and the related funding requirements. These are based upon a broader, multi-year framework of the Federation's Project Planning Process (PPP). The PPP products (logframes) are available through hyperlinks in the text or can be requested through the respective regional department at the secretariat in Geneva. The programmes were developed with the relevant national societies, taking account of the activities of other organisations. The programmes also respect and support the wish of all countries and international organisations to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals. (For details, please go to the website at <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>)

For further information on all aspects of the Federation, please go to the Federation's official web page at <http://www.ifrc.org>

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BUDGET SUMMARY

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.: 05AA066

Name: Central Europe regional programmes

PROGRAMME:	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	Emergency	Total CHF
	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	
Shelter & construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clothing & textiles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seeds & plants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water & Sanitation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical & first aid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teaching materials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Utensils & tools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other relief supplies	0	0	0	280,000	0	0	280,000
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	280,000	0	0	280,000
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers & telecom	0	3,000	0	3,000	0	0	6,000
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other capital exp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL EXPENSES	0	3,000	0	3,000	0	0	6,000
Warehouse & Distribution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transport & Vehicules	3,495	29,300	0	3,495	13,680	0	49,970
TRANSPORT & STORAGE	3,495	29,300	0	3,495	13,680	0	49,970
Programme Support	25,545	23,956	0	64,083	33,369	0	146,953
PROGRAMME SUPPORT	25,545	23,956	0	64,083	33,369	0	146,953
Personnel-delegates	84,000	28,800	0	0	174,000	0	286,800
Personnel-national staff	56,000	126,000	0	197,960	143,190	0	523,149
Consultants	0	0	0	41,000	0	0	41,000
PERSONNEL	140,000	154,800	0	238,960	317,190	0	850,949
W/shops & Training	121,000	101,000	0	242,700	21,000	0	485,700
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING	121,000	101,000	0	242,700	21,000	0	485,700
Travel & related expenses	43,200	10,000	0	41,500	13,200	0	107,900
Information	41,710	0	0	60,700	34,000	0	136,410
Other General costs	18,046	46,500	0	51,460	80,930	0	196,936
GENERAL EXPENSES	102,956	56,500	0	153,660	128,130	0	441,246
TOTAL BUDGET:	392,996	368,556	0	985,898	513,369	0	2,260,819