

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

BELARUS, MOLDOVA & UKRAINE

**Appeal No. MAA67001
9 November 2006**

The Federation's vision is to strive, through voluntary action, for a world of empowered communities, better able to address human suffering and crises with hope, respect for dignity and a concern for equity. Its mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 185 countries.

In Brief

Programme Update no. 1, Period covered: 1 January to 31 May 2006;

Appeal target: Revised from CHF 6,291,868 (USD 5,037,650 or EUR 3,940,945) to CHF 6,002,404 (USD 4,806,355 or EUR 3,760,760)

Appeal coverage: 27 % [Click here for the interim financial report](#)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:

Belarus, Moldova & Ukraine Annual Appeal 2006/2007. For details, please go to the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual06/MAA67001.pdf

Chernobyl Humanitarian Assistance and Rehabilitation Programme (CHARP) Annual Appeal 2006-2007. For details, please see the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual06/MAA67002.pdf

Severe Weather DREF Bulletin. For details please go to the website at: http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual06/MDR67001.pdf

Annual Appeals 2006/2007 for Europe/Central Asia region. For details please see the website at: <http://www.ifrc.org/where/europe.asp>

The programmes herein are aligned with the Federation's Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission:

- 1. Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.**
- 2. Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.**
- 3. Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.**
- 4. Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.**

Programme summary:

In the reporting period the National Societies of Belarus, Moldova, and Ukraine continued to implement projects—primarily funded by DFID - aimed at preventing HIV/AIDS, strengthening disaster preparedness, developing the organizational capacities of the National Societies, and increasing efforts in anti-trafficking and promoting humanitarian values. However, the response to the Annual Appeal has been low, and it appears that interest for humanitarian programmes in Eastern Europe and former Soviet Union from major international donors is steadily declining. In response, the Federation has restructured to enable continued support to the societies, taking into account declining funding trends, available technical resources, as well as analysis of the Federation supporting role towards the National Societies over the past several years. The result is an agreement with the member societies to create a Regional Office in Moscow, while maintaining a Federation presence through offices in Minsk and Kiev.

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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 quality and accountable 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>

Operational developments

General developments

In Ukraine, the beginning of the year started with a major dispute with Russia over prices of gas supplies from Russia to Ukraine. The Ukrainian Parliamentary elections took place on 26 March 2006 – the first since the Orange revolution. The previous Presidential candidate, Viktor Yanukovich's party came out on top in the parliamentary elections, while Yuliya Tymoshenko's party took second place, and President Yushchenko's third place. Since the elections and throughout June, no political agreement could be made concerning the key positions and the composition of the Parliament. Eventually, the Socialists agreed on a coalition with Viktor Yanukovich's Party of Regions and the Communists, as opposed to a previously agreed Coalition with the political bloc of Yuliya Tymoshenko and President Yushchenko. This resulted in the Coalition's nomination of Mr Yanukovich as prime minister, creating another major disagreement over future of the Parliament in Ukraine. In April 2006, the World Bank decided to suspend a \$60 million programme to reduce growing TB and AIDS in Ukraine due to its ineffectiveness and improper distribution of funds.

In Belarus, in the February and March run-up to the elections, dozens of opposition demonstrators were arrested in Minsk. President Lukashenko was declared an overwhelming winner of the Presidential elections with an over 82 per cent majority vote. The elections took place on 19 March 2006, during which time further opposition arrests were reported. Following the elections, the EU imposed a visa ban on President Lukashenko and numerous ministers and officials.

Moldova: Similarly to Ukraine, when Moldova refused to pay twice the previous price for Russian gas, the supplier cut off gas during the severe cold weather in January. In March 2006, the Moldovan officials introduced a new regulation on Transdnistria, requiring goods entering Ukraine from Dniester to have a Moldovan customs stamp. Moldovan officials stated that the new regulation, backed by the EU, USA and OSCE, are designed to stop smuggling. Chisinau protested against the Russian decision to suspend imports of Moldovan wine on health grounds, saying the move is politically motivated.

Federation restructuring process (Belarus, Russia, Ukraine and Moldova)

Following on a number of changes during 2005, both in terms of funding of the regional activities, as well as in positive developments in the region with regards to a stronger technical capacity of the Federation, a series of consultation meetings were held with the leadership of the National Societies of Belarus, Russia, Ukraine and Moldova. The aim of the meetings was to design and agree on the optimal structure that would enable continued support to the societies, taking into account declining funding trends, available technical resources, as well as analysis of the Federation supporting role towards the National Societies over the past several years.

As a result, the Federation agreed with the member societies to create a Regional Office in Moscow, while at the same time keeping its offices in Minsk and Kiev in a slightly adjusted form. The newly formed structure is designed to provide technical services in the following areas: HIV/AIDS, TB and work towards addressing the structural vulnerability of socially excluded groups, with the particular focus on migrants, older people and children (from Moscow) and anti-trafficking, youth and building capacities in disaster prevention and response - from Minsk. Chernobyl Humanitarian Assistance and Rehabilitation Programme (CHARP) will continue to be facilitated from Kiev. Overall financial management and partnership coordination continues to be maintained respectively by all three offices (Moscow in relation to Russia, Minsk and Kiev for Belarus and Ukraine).

Belarus Red Cross (Belarus RC): On 25 May 2006, the Belarus RC Congress took place, where the Chair of the Society was re-elected. The Congress also elected the new Secretary General, previously the First Deputy of the Health Minister. The new Secretary General is expected to assume his responsibility around July 2006. The Congress also adopted the newly revised draft Statutes, following the recommendations provided by the Joint ICRC/International Federation Commission for National Society Statutes. A commission consisting of three persons from the Society provided further work to incorporate these recommendations into the new Statutes. The current Statutes are waiting for an approval from the Ministry of Justice of Belarus.

Moldovan Red Cross (Moldovan RC): The majority of the programme under the extension from 2005 budgets has been completed. A visit to Moldova is planned by the Federation Head of Regional Office and Federation Acting Head of Delegation for Kiev/Minsk to discuss the modalities of support to the National Society as part of the newly established regional set-up, as well as to establish modalities for better cooperation and more effective support to the Society's implementation capacities.

Ukrainian Red Cross: The Society has been very active in participation at a number of Chernobyl-related meetings and conferences, remaining one of the key advocates for humanitarian issues there. The changing political scene poses major difficulties for the National Society's dialogue with the authorities related to priority humanitarian agenda – which includes the fight against TB and support to Chernobyl programme. The Ukrainian RC Congress No. 19 took place on 12 April, where the current leadership was re-elected for the fifth term.

Funding trends

A number of discussions were held between the Federation and the leadership of the National Societies in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine, providing the Federation's forecast for current and future funding trends. It is clear that the interest for humanitarian programmes in Eastern Europe and former Soviet Union from major international donors is steadily declining.

In case of the Federation's support, with the termination of the second DFID partnership, the funding of activities of the National societies, especially in Belarus and Ukraine, will be severely affected although the partnership with DFID for a few programmes was extended until the end of 2006. The funding would be used in line with the criteria established for the third global partnership – that will focus on developing integrated programmes, knowledge-sharing, measuring of impact – largely focusing on Disaster Management and Africa.

Overall, there are still a number of donors present, but their focus is also in line with the above criteria – and on supporting programme approaches that bring about change and long-term impact on target beneficiaries. In line with these funding trends, the delegation is working on a further Appeal budget revision as well as developing programme approaches to better position the National Societies for different funding opportunities.

Health and Care

Overview

TB: Despite the strong involvement of the National Societies in the TB control programme, which took place during the nineties, and in recent times in Moldova (with the support of a Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria- GFATM- grant) presently there is a relatively limited involvement of the Red Cross societies in fighting TB. Ukrainian RC participates in a partnership with an American NGO "Path", while there are currently no programmes in Belarus. At the same time, fighting TB is seen as one of the top priorities in this region. A number of discussions

were held between the Health Department from the Russia delegation to identify the potential role of the Red Cross Societies in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine in fighting TB.

It is anticipated that the positive experience of implementing the TB control programme in Russia could be replicated in the rest of the region. The model developed by the Red Cross in Russia is recognized internationally, and it has been recently incorporated as a tool within the Global Fund programmes in the Russian Federation. During the second half of 2006, training seminars will be organized with the purpose of introducing the National Societies of Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova to the best practices established by the programme. The training would provide greater knowledge of global and regional TB 'non-medical' intervention, with the purpose of enhancing the Red Cross understanding of mechanisms and principles for effective TB control intervention.

This will be particularly relevant to the Belarus RC, who is expected to play a major role in TB control programme in Belarus should the country's funding application to GFATM be successful. Similarly, in case of Ukraine, once the situation with regards to a national DOTs (Directly Observed Treatment Short Course) strategy is clarified, this will be an important tool to support the role of the Ukrainian RC. Finally, there is a need for continued advocacy for a strong role of the Red Cross in Moldova in supporting the TB control implementation.

HIV/AIDS: All three National Societies continued to be active in their activities oriented towards fighting HIV/AIDS. Belarus RC is supported by the Federation with Peer Education grants, mainly involving Youth Department. The National Society is also active with harm reduction programmes (needle exchange points), as well as home-based care to HIV+ persons—programmes funded by the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria. The Ukrainian RC works on a programme that targets HIV prevention in prisons, as well as home-based care to patients using their Visiting Nurses Service network. Moldovan RC is active in peer education and harm reduction. All three societies are operational in a number of activities on anti-stigma.

The delegation continued to support the societies with regional trainings, including hosting HIV regional workshops in Saint-Petersburg in February and in Syctyvkar in April. The existing experience demonstrates the clear need for the Red Cross to play a strong role in prevention of HIV/AIDS and in care for people living with HIV/AIDS. The delegation will support the societies in developing a holistic approach in defining their role, priorities and target groups, as well as aligning them with national HIV/AIDS plans and increasing the link between the Red Cross staff and volunteers and People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) across the region.

BELARUS

Programme Objective - HIV/AIDS: The Belarus RC significantly contributes towards raising awareness on HIV/AIDS, developing healthy life styles, fighting stigmatization and discrimination of people living with HIV/AIDS among the younger generation.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: The number of youth volunteer trainers able to provide peer education training is increased.

During the reporting period, new teams of volunteer peer educators were trained in Mogilev (30 participants), Slonim (25 participants), Borovliany settlement (25 participants) and Baranovichi (25 participants). The number of project peer educators increased by 105 people.

Expected Result 2: The number of young people equipped with appropriate knowledge and skills to change risk behavior regarding HIV/AIDS is increased.

Educational sessions were held in 14 cities of six regions, covering 8,100 teenagers aged 14-24. 480 educational sessions for the target group are now taking place in the 14 cities: Minsk, Bobruisk, Lida, Baranovichi, Pinsk, Borisov, Mogilev, Gomel, Grodno, Vitebsk, Molodechno, Brest, Novopolotsk, Slonim. The total number of peer educators working at a given time is 254.

Expected Result 3: Reduced stigma and discrimination among youth towards people living with HIV/AIDS.

The review of pre- and post- seminar questionnaires completed by participating teenagers shows a clear change in the attitude towards people living with HIV/AIDS. The percentage of participating teenagers showing tolerance towards HIV-positive people has increased to 91 per cent, compared with just 58 per cent of teenagers before the educational sessions.

Public actions dedicated to the World AIDS Memorial Day took place in six regions of Belarus. The event themes covered prevention measures as well as fighting stigma and discrimination of PLWHA. As planned, more than 5,000 youth (both as participants and the target group) were involved. Mass media highlighted the events.

Impact

A public event in recognition of World AIDS Memorial Day is held in Minsk, Belarus

Monitoring was carried out by the Belarus RC' regional and headquarters programme coordinator through the use of field visits and questionnaires. The questionnaires were distributed to selected representatives of the target group before and after peer education sessions.

According to the evaluation of the previous year's questionnaires filled in by the target group, prior to the educational sessions, 13 per cent of schoolchildren found it difficult to estimate the HIV situation in the country, while 67.3 per cent estimated it as unfavorable but do not feel they are at risk of contracting HIV.

Evaluation of post-session questionnaire results shows that the Red Cross educational sessions significantly raised the level of knowledge of HIV/AIDS and related

issues for participants. After the educational sessions the target group showed good knowledge of methods of HIV transmission and a higher level of concern for their personal health.

Attitudes expressed towards PLWHA have also improved. Before the educational sessions, approximately 58 per cent of the schoolchildren expressed discriminatory or negative attitudes towards PLWHA. After the sessions conducted by Red Cross trainers, 91 per cent of the target group representatives expressed positive or accepting attitudes towards PLWHA.

Constraints

N/A

Programme Objective - First Aid: The Belarus RC further develops an effective community-based first aid programme.

Progress/Achievements**Expected Result 1:** The number of instructors on First Aid increased.

Over the reporting period, ten new First Aid instructors have been trained in the Gomel Red Cross regional branch. The ten candidates successfully completed a training course for instructors, which included modules on the methodology of FA education, development of the FA course and adapting the course to meet the needs of different target groups, the use of teaching aids and mannequins, and the requirement to follow Belarus RC teaching standards. After completion of the training and exams, instructors will be able to teach the course for two years. After that, they will have to participate in refresher training.

Total number of instructors in the project has increased to 60 persons.

Expected Result 2: First Aid courses have become operational in three regions of Belarus and Minsk City.

Over 650 individuals have participated in 65 First Aid trainings in Brest, Gomel, and Vitebsk regions and in Minsk City.

Expected Result 3: Public awareness on FA and the Red Cross FA training increased.

As a result of First Aid trainings held by the Belarus RC for employees and members of different governmental and non-governmental institutions, cooperation has been strengthened between the Belarus RC and these organizations, among which are chapters of the Ministry for Emergency Situations, Ministry of Internal Affairs (Road Police), educational institutions, health institutions and youth organizations. The level of public awareness on First Aid issues has been raised through participation of representatives of the target groups in the trainings, and also through public events (Days of Health, regional competitions, Red Cross month) during which representatives of the Belarus RC made presentations of the FA programme and conducted trainings.

Impact

Expertise of the Red Cross branches in the field of First Aid training in Brest, Mogilev, and Vitebsk regions and Minsk city has been further improved. Cooperation between local Red Cross committees and various governmental institutions and organizations, such as police departments, rescue departments, schools, and health institutions has been strengthened. Public awareness about the importance of First aid training has been raised through various public events and the involvement of volunteers in First Aid training.

Constraints

N/A

MOLDOVA

Programme Objective - HIV/AIDS: Moldova Red Cross effectively addresses the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the areas of prevention, harm reduction, stigma and discrimination among the target groups.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: The target groups in Bender, Balti, Soroca and Ungheni are equipped with the necessary knowledge, attitude, support and skills to change their risk behaviour to prevent HIV infection (youth peer education)

In January, the “Rotation” youth club was created within the needle exchange counseling centre. Members of this club gather with regularity and plan activities. Outreach workers visit not only educational institutions, but also houses where children live. They also visit places frequented by at-risk youth that are commonly the site of drug use, including a canal where poor children gather. The Red Cross branch in Bender decided to take care of 13 children from vulnerable families, placing them under observation in order to change their high-risk behavior. These children were invited together with their parents to visit the centre.

The following peer education seminars were held during the reporting period:

March 23-25, 2006 – peer education seminar for 19 upper class pupils from Bender.

April 8-9, 2006 – peer education training for trainers for 21 outreach workers from Bender.

April 20-22, 2006 – peer education seminar for 18 upper class pupils and college students from Bender.

A composition contest on the topic “HIV/AIDS – A challenge for humanity” was announced among educational institutions. The Red Cross received around 150 works where youth shared their interesting and original point of view. Six compositions were awarded and four received honorable mentions. The Moldovan RC also reedited 28,220 copies of the booklet “Sexually transmissible diseases”, created in cooperation with Republican AIDS Centre, and distributed them in all Red Cross branches.

Expected Result 2: Increased access of high-risk group (IDUs) in Bender and Sorooca to good quality syringes, condoms and counselling services and reduced risk behaviour among IDUs (harm reduction).

The Norwegian Red Cross-funded needle exchange centre in Bender has registered 68 permanent beneficiaries. Each month, the centre registers an average of 500 visits, and distributes 600 syringes and 100 condoms, as well as antiseptic and informative materials. Every Saturday, experts (psychologist, narcologist, and legal adviser) perform counseling work with project beneficiaries. The majority of beneficiaries are men aged 25 years or older who realize the risks of their behavior. Unfortunately, the number of youth IDUs registered in the programme (16-18 years old) is very small.

Building on the experience in harm reduction gained at the needle exchange centre in Bender, the Moldova Red Cross Society, with the financial support of the Swedish Red Cross, opened an additional needle exchange centre in Rezina in August 2005. At present, 27 drug users visit the centre, averaging 55-63 visits per month. The majority of beneficiaries are men aged 25-35 years. The Moldovan RC also operates a third harm reduction project in Sorooca, financed on a bilateral basis by the British Red Cross.

In January, the Moldovan RC organized a seminar "How to work with IDUs?" for staff and volunteers working in harm reduction. The seminar "Community and drugs" was also organized in Chisinau, where participants included Moldovan RC staff from the harm reduction projects in Rezina, Sorooca, and Bender; the chief narcologist; two drug users; and representatives of press and radio.

Expected Result 3: Reduced stigma and discrimination of people living with HIV/AIDS and their relatives/partners (advocacy).

During the reporting period, the Moldovan RC organized a series of radio, TV and mass media informative campaigns highlighting activities in the field of harm reduction, modes of HIV/AIDS transmission, and issues of stigma and discrimination toward PLWHA. The Moldovan RC also organized public events in schools, lyceums and cultural clubs across the country. These events took the form of concerts and discos where contests and quizzes were held with the purpose of evaluating the level of knowledge and disseminating information.

Impact

The level of confidence in programme activities and the number of outreach workers that are actively involved in all actions and seminars have increased. As a result of the harm reduction centres operated by the Moldovan RC, 119 drug users (including those at the British Red Cross-funded site in Sorooca) have permanent access to high-quality new syringes, condoms and antiseptic materials. All beneficiaries of these centres were asked to complete questionnaires in order to estimate their level of information and to discover their needs. The questionnaires revealed that the level of risk awareness among IDUs has increased.

The Moldovan RC also increased counseling and education activities during the reporting period, with the center's experts organizing 74 individual and group consultations with drug users and children with high-risk behavior. Each Saturday there are round table meetings for IDUs, volunteers and, recently, for children from vulnerable families. Training in peer-to-peer education was given to 58 young people in Moldova, who went on to perform 45 information sessions for 675 beneficiaries.

Constraints

N/A

Programme Objective - Home Based Care: Improved quality of assistance for 190 vulnerable families and their sick members in the selected regions of Moldova, through quality home based services provided by a strengthened Visiting Nurse Service (VNS).

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Moldovan RC Visiting Nurses are equipped with knowledge and skills to provide high quality care and social support for disabled and chronically ill patients

In January and March 2006, the Moldovan RC conducted two workshops in home based care and marketing and fundraising for visiting nurses and volunteers in Chisinau and Balti. The Moldovan RC also procured dressing material and medicines for nursing kits in the medico-social centres. In total, 50 kits for visiting nurses were procured.

Expected Result 2: Disabled and chronically ill patients and their families take benefit from nursing care, social and psychological support, and families are able to provide basic nursing care to their sick members

Nine round table meetings for the family members of patients were organized at Red Cross medico-social centres: Balti branch (25 persons), Hincesti branch (27 persons), Orhei branch (19 persons), Glodeni branch (13 persons), Rezina branch (14 persons), and Ungheni branch (22 persons). The family members received training on caring for patients with chronic diseases. Round table meetings provided a platform for collaborative thinking and experience exchange.

During the reporting period, the home based care programme involved 14 Red Cross branches. Out of 195 beneficiaries, 51 are bed ridden. In total, 253 family members were involved in the training organized by the Moldovan RC.

Impact

The programme outlined in the appeal focuses on support of 19 visiting nurses providing assistance for 195 vulnerable patients and their families in 14 regions. All activities in this programme have been successfully realized according to implementation plans.

Constraints

Taking into consideration the difficult economic situation in Moldova and the high number of vulnerable and poor older people, the existing need for VNS services is very high. However, the VNS continues its activity on a larger scale outside this programme without salary support from Moldova Government or other organization (practically on volunteer basis).

UKRAINE

Programme Objective - Youth against HIV/AIDS: To enhance the capacity of the Ukrainian RC to manage HIV/AIDS/STI related activities in the large scale response to the spread of HIV-infection, STI and drug abuse.

Expected Result 1: Selected regions have a functioning team of young peer education trainers (14 trainers in seven regions).

A Standard Operational Contract was signed between Ukrainian RC National Committee and Federation in January. The Ukrainian RC has employed seven persons in the positions of local coordinators in target regions and provided them with job descriptions. Ukrainian RC National Committee prepared an implementation plan and agreed it with the local coordinators. The local coordinators have submitted candidates for future trainers (two per region).

Expected Result 2: Each project RC branch has a working team of two trainers and 20 youth peer educators.



The Ukrainian RC trained 140 new youth peer educators in April 2006

In March, the Project Manager held a meeting with local coordinators to clarify objectives, target groups and methods of implementation. Also in March, the Ukrainian RC organized a three-day training to educate the 14 trainers on how to conduct local trainings and manage implementation of project activities among volunteer groups.

In April, the 14 trainers held three-day workshops for 140 Red Cross youth volunteers (20 per each oblast on average) to train (or retrain) them as volunteer peer educators for further peer education activities. Cooperation with the Moscow Delegation of the Federation has been established and Ukrainian RC has the opportunity to adapt and modify the Federation training modules for its own needs.

From April-June, the newly-trained Red Cross volunteers organized and conducted AIDS-awareness sessions in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and other chosen pilot regions. In total, by June, the volunteers conducted 360 peer sessions. At the end of May, the Project Manager participated in a 30-country training on peer-to-peer education and event planning in Syktyvkar, Russian Federation.

Expected Result 3: Effective youth-oriented events on HIV awareness, anti-stigma, and tolerance towards PLWHA were carried out in selected regions

Beginning in late March, the regional Red Cross branches held events dedicated to HIV awareness among youth. In all of these regions, the Red Cross has been working closely with the All-Ukrainian Network of PLWHA. The event "Ridni diti" (Dear children), started on May 14th on Mother's Day and lasts to 1 September. This event is the first step of the Ukrainian RC bringing attention not only to the problems of children from underprivileged families but also to children born with HIV. The Kirovograd newspaper "Narodne Slovo" (People's Word) published an article in April about the educational work of the project "Youth against HIV/AIDS in Ukraine". Several other events were conducted during programme implementation including a red ribbon leaflets giveaway, "Youth against stigma and discrimination" on 3-5 April in Poltava, and the exhibition of children's drawings "Chervonii Hrest - za zdorovya ta miloserdyia" conducted from April to May.

Impact

The first six months of the project have seen many positive steps. During sessions offered by Red Cross volunteers, beneficiaries could discuss their own attitude to PLWHA and listen to HIV-positive people share their life and experiences. Ukrainian RC branches have conducted conferences and round tables with mass media, school administration and governmental bodies. The Ukrainian RC has significantly scaled up its capacity to manage HIV/AIDS/STI related activities as a response to the spread of HIV-infection, STI and drug abuse.

Constraints

There were no major constraints in implementation of the project.

However, due to limited funds and a very short period of project implementation, it was difficult to conduct the project as succession of consecutive HIV/AIDS preventive events. More funds are needed to conduct wider-scale events on stigma and discrimination. Better funding for public events would allow volunteers to specialize and focus their attention exclusively on HIV/AIDS prevention.

Programme Objective - Improving Living Conditions of Imprisoned Youth in Ukraine: To organize the supply of vitamins for teenagers staying in penal institutions, to establish adequate sanitary conditions and to extend the detainees' knowledge about personal hygiene and healthy lifestyle (including prevention of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases)

Expected Result 1: Immunity of 300 imprisoned teenagers is strengthened owing to vitamin therapy; hygiene kits are distributed among the beneficiaries. Sanitary conditions in penal institutions meet the required standards.

During the reporting period, the Ukrainian RC worked closely with the central and local authorities and the administrations of the training and consultation centre at Mykolajiv juvenile detention facility and the trade school of social rehabilitation for teenagers in the village of Jakushnytzi (Vinnitsa region). Together with these administrations, the Ukrainian RC identified the necessary quantity and range of hygiene items to meet the needs of 300 boys, taking into account the specifics of each correctional institution. After a tender process, the multivitamins were purchased and delivered to warehouses at the correctional institutions; the hygiene kits are to be delivered to warehouses at the correctional institutions during the next stage of the project implementation in the amounts detailed in table 1 below.

Table 1. Procurements of multivitamins and hygiene kits

Relief items	Mykolajiv	Vinnitsa
Hygiene kits*	250 kits	550 kits
Multivitamins**	250 boxes	550 boxes

* Hygiene kits for young detainees contain: toothbrush, toothpaste, laundry soap, toilet soap, coal-tar soap, shampoo, razors and shaving cream.

** Multivitamins: Undevit №50

Beneficiaries are currently taking the vitamins in the course of their meals (mainly at lunch). Hygiene kits are planned to be distributed among the beneficiaries in the next stage of the project. As there are some funds remaining, an additional procurement of multivitamins and hygiene kits is planned to be arranged later in June.

Expected Result 2: Young prisoners master basic principles of healthy lifestyle, HIV prevention; they have more regard for their health.

During the project implementation the Regional Red Cross Committees of Mykolayiv and Vinnitsa together with the administration of the juvenile penal institutions arranged lectures and consultations in small groups to ensure successful learning of HIV-related issues. The goal of the sessions was to raise awareness of the problem among the beneficiaries as well as to teach the adolescents the elements of a healthy lifestyle.

Impact

Both correctional institutions have considerable difficulties in providing the youth with wholesome nutrition. Therefore, it was highly important that the Red Cross provided beneficiaries with multivitamins to supplement the nutrition provided by the institutions.

Another serious problem is absence of appropriate sanitary conditions in the correctional institutions, in particular, the lack of hygiene items. Therefore, for every correctional institution, the components of hygiene kits were chosen with regard to the needs of target group and upon consulting the medical staff of the respective institution. During the project realization, the nutrition and personal hygiene of the imprisoned youth has improved. The general physical state of the beneficiaries, who are especially vulnerable to colds and infectious diseases, including TB, was also improved.

Constraints

So far, no constraints have been encountered. As the project implementation was approved by governmental authorities, the leadership of the respective correctional schools cooperated closely with the Red Cross.

CROSS-COUNTRY

Programme Objective - Cross-Country Programme on HIV/AIDS: Development of a regional mechanism for sharing information and joint skills development on Youth peer education and harm reduction.

Expected Result 1: Improved quality of youth peer education and harm reduction program components.

Programme activities have been focused on the prevention of HIV/AIDS through education and information sharing which was achieved by running peer education activities in the region for the volunteers from the three National Societies. Cross-country training of trainers on Peer Education on Healthy Life Style and Safe Behavior Promotion was held in Kiev, Ukraine from 18 – 25 May 2006.

24 youth volunteers from the three National Societies (Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine) participated in the training including representatives from the Ukrainian RC HQ/International Department to run sessions and share experience in youth education with regards to HIV/AIDS prevention. Nearly all the participants were directly involved in peer-education activities (had one year experience or more), planned to continue their volunteering activities for the National Society for two years, were willing to become a strong trainer, and possessed the necessary leadership qualities.

Expected Result 2: Improved project designs of Belarus, Moldovan and Ukrainian RC Societies HIV/AIDS programmes.

This result was not addressed due to a lack of funding.

Expected Result 3: Improved teaching methodology and inputs for youth peer education materials.

The agenda and methodology for Training of Trainers (ToT) were designed and adapted to meet Red Cross needs in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme in Ukraine (UNDP). Two UNDP trainers were engaged in facilitating the training in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement signed in June 2005 between the UNDP and the Delegation.

The participants received a full set of teaching modules and shared other relevant updated materials from their respective National Societies. Additional materials were provided by the Federation Health Advisor and the Ukrainian RC HQ representatives. The workshop was strengthened by an additional briefing session on sexual education (conducted by an expert) followed by questions and answers on this topic.

Impact

At the workshop in Kiev, participants from the three National Societies gained the knowledge and skills necessary for peer-education in promoting healthy life styles and safe behavior. The participants received certificates indicating they had acquired the relevant skills to become a trainer on these topics. Furthermore, participants exchanged their experiences and approaches related to peer-education and built an informal regional network of trainers.

Constraints

The harm reduction component was not addressed due to a lack of funding.

Disaster Management

Overview

Over the past several years, the Federation has been providing support to the National Societies in Disaster Management (DM). The focus of these activities was both on service delivery—such as the Chernobyl Humanitarian Assistance and Rehabilitation Programme and relief programmes for vulnerable groups of the population—as well as on building the capacities of the National Societies in disaster preparedness, including hazard and risk analysis, NS disaster response capacity assessment, standard procedures for disaster response, and other activities.

The programme delivered significant successes in its output, which resulted in several Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) supported minor emergency response operations. Furthermore, Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova NSs were recognized by local authorities and Ministries of Emergencies in their countries as organizations that can play a significant role in DM. However, a strategic national and regional role of the National Societies in disaster response, preparedness and risk reduction needs to be strengthened further.

Therefore, during the second half of 2006, the Federation will focus on further support in building the National Societies' DM systems/networks; reinforcing their human resources and establishing and updating appropriate DP/DR procedures; and agreeing on a strategic plan with the societies with regards to their disaster response auxiliary role with respective Ministries of Emergencies.

Anti-trafficking work in Belarus continued to be successfully implemented. The recent assessment conducted by International Office for Migration (IOM), with the participation of the Belarus and Danish Red Cross societies, outlined the positive role of the Belarus RC in prevention activities. The Delegation is looking for funding to recruit a regional trafficking officer to support knowledge sharing and replication of successes to the rest of the region. A number of meetings were held with IOM concerning the potential role of the Ukrainian RC in medical and social support to irregular migrants in Ukraine – in Migrants Accommodation Centres, as well as through advising the migrants on the rules and rights concerning the Assistance for Voluntary Return (AVR).

BELARUS

Programme Objective - Emergency relief: The Belarus RC is able to contribute to the nutritional status and provide social support to the lonely elderly, disabled people, TB sufferers and multi-child families in the country. Impact of disasters on vulnerable populations has decreased.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Supplement nutrition for some 10,000 most vulnerable is secured for a three-month period (February-April 2006, 2007)

Funds donated by the Swiss Red Cross enabled the procurement of 10,577 food parcels, thereby improving the plight of the most vulnerable population. The Belarus RC task force followed the standard procurement procedure as performed in previous years. The content of the food parcel met the requirements developed by health authorities and was essential in maintaining proper nutrition for those in need.

After all tender documentation was approved by the logistics department in Geneva, the contract on food parcels delivery was signed and the food parcels were distributed among eight target regions: Brest, Gomel, Grodno, Vitebsk, Minsk, Mogilev, as well as Minsk City and the Belarus RC's railroad committee. The number of parcels delivered to each region was defined on the basis of their population.

Expected Result 2: To provide social support to elderly, TB sufferers and disabled people and support them in breaking the social isolation.

This component of the programme was addressed by the Visiting Nurses Service. Social support was provided by the Red Cross nurses in addition to nursing care during their regular home visits.

Expected Result 3: Local community resources are mobilised in the target areas to support the programme.

This result was not addressed during the reporting period.

Impact

The Belarus RC provided support to those in need, alleviating the plight of the most vulnerable by providing nutritional supplements to their scarce rations through the procurement and distribution of pre-assembled food parcels. The number of targeted beneficiaries has also increased due to the fact that, by agreement with the donor and in contrast to previous years, food parcels were distributed on the basis of two items per person rather than three items per person. Moreover, close and fruitful cooperation with the local authorities and the social welfare sector enabled to improve the image of the Red Cross movement among the beneficiaries, local communities and population as a whole.

Constraints

Differences in Belarusian and Swiss legislation caused some complications while launching the tender and signing the contract. As the project is implemented in Belarus, the requirements should take into account the specifics of Belarusian legislation.

Programme Objective - Combatting trafficking in human beings: The Belarus RC has strengthened its capacity to prevent human trafficking through raising the awareness of potential victims and the general public and the provision of reintegration assistance.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: The Belarus RC has established a network of qualified staff at headquarters and five regional branches to provide better services to risk groups.

During the reporting period, Belarus RC project participants took part in educational seminars organized by IOM and Belarus RC, experience-sharing activities with the Red Cross Societies of Italy, Ukraine and Croatia, and workshops organized by AGIS European Union. All events were aimed at training and preparing instructors working in the field of counter-trafficking. Belarus RC staff taking part in the events shared their expertise with other project personnel.

Each “Helping hand” center is well supplied with modern equipment granted by IOM, thus improving the ability to assist risk groups. Also, due to efforts to increase awareness internally, the percentage of Belarus RC personnel with knowledge of the problem of trafficking has increased to 92 per cent.

Expected Result 2: An increased knowledge base is created among those who are at risk through dissemination of information and knowledge.

The Federation financially supported the publishing of 72,000 copies of informational materials for distribution to the target groups. These informational materials included bookmarks with information on the types of assistance provided by the regional “Helping hands” centers, calendars featuring drawings and posters devoted to anti-trafficking made by young people, and leaflets for people traveling abroad and potential risk groups.

Belarus RC personnel also organized a social advertisement contest among the school students of Frunzenski region. An informational video was also shown on big screens in the Minsk underground.

Expected Result 3: Victims of trafficking have been assisted to integrate in the local community.

Within the reporting period, 360 victims were identified as requiring assistance in reintegration. The needs of these victims were addressed on an individual basis depending on the person’s needs. Forms of assistance were: obligatory medical examinations, professional courses, assistance in employment, payment of welfare, emergency assistance, and psychological, legal, and social counseling.

Providing timely assistance to the victims is possible due to the efficient and qualified work of psychologists and lawyers working within the programme. All activities are based on a victim’s personal initiative to cooperate with legal authorities and health care institutions. It should be noted that while working with victims, the Belarus RC has observed the principles of individual approach and confidentiality at all times, and properly kept all necessary documentation. At the moment, the Belarus RC is pursuing the idea of attracting the victims of trafficking to participate in the Belarus RC volunteer movement.

Expected Result 4: Belarus RC has conducted public awareness campaigns on trafficking.

Achievements within the advertising campaign are as follows:

- Due to the contests and other activities, 5000 school students became acquainted with the realities of trafficking,
- Public and state organizations are well informed about Belarus RC activities in the field of trafficking,
- Cooperation with mass media and advertising companies allowed to raise public awareness and improve Belarus RC image as humanitarian organization which provides assistance to those in need,
- The informational campaign expanded the spectrum of activities.

Expected Result 5: Cooperation between the Belarus RC and major stakeholders within the country and abroad as well as with sister societies are created.

The Belarus RC has cooperated with other organizations active in anti-trafficking work by participating in workshops and experience sharing. This includes participating with sister societies at the Red Cross Societies Conference in Croatia, where the quality of Belarus RC activities in the field of trafficking was recognized by the Conference participants. The Belarus RC continues to cooperate with state and public organizations working in the field of trafficking prevention within Belarus. The close relationship with IOM continues, with the IOM supporting five counter trafficking mini-projects.

Impact

The professional aid provided at the “Helping hands” centers has yielded noticeable results: assistance in employment helps to change mental stereotypes and stigma towards victims of trafficking; monitoring the educational process makes it possible to ensure that courses are completed; qualified specialists provide assistance in compiling essential documents; and medical examinations with participation of Belarus RC personnel are strictly confidential. The number of consultations has increased by 80 per cent in comparison with the beginning of the year. The process of victim identification is carried out on a higher professional level, as project personnel are constantly improving their qualifications. An effective coordinating meeting was carried out in order to promote experience sharing and outline further activities. Future plans include expanding project activities by introducing new forms of activities designed to building high self esteem (e.g. art therapy), carrying out more workshops and experience sharing seminars, and the introduction of Youth Red Cross representatives to introduce “peer education” principles.

Constraints

Not all centres are provided with separate premises for carrying out psychological and legal consultations. Also, only some Belarus RC personnel are competent PC users, thus preventing quick information exchange; however, there is an agreement on organizing computer courses for the regional Belarus RC personnel. Currently, to carry out effective monitoring, regional staff requires separate transport. In some regions, the quality of lectures given was inappropriately low, and regional leaders were unable to analyze activities and outline further strategy in conformity with given realities. In general, there was a lack of volunteer resources available.

Programme Objective - DM Capacity building: The Belarus RC disaster preparedness and response capacities on the national and branch levels are strengthened and community preparedness improved.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: The Belarus RC has a relevant disaster preparedness/ response plan (contingencies).

The Belarus RC’s disaster preparedness/response plan has been worked out by Project Manager, but it needs additional revision in order to correspond to the demands and recommendations of the Federation.

Expected Result 2: Skilled National/Branch Disaster Response teams are established.



Reporters meet with representatives of the Belarus RC and the Ministry of Emergencies following a joint field training in Gomel region

During the reporting period, the Belarus RC collaborated with the Ministry of Emergency Situations and the Federation on a number of training and planning events. Two regional workshops on DRT training (in Gomel and Vitebsk regions, 50 participants total) and one regional workshop on activities coordination (Mogilev region, 30 participants) were held jointly with the Ministry of Emergency Situations. The Vitebsk and Gomel regional branches, in cooperation with regional departments of Ministry of Emergency Situations, started to work out disaster preparedness/response plans based on information about disaster prone areas. The project manager and regional coordinators participated in the 3-day regional training workshop “Disaster Response Planning and Management” organized by Federation. The staff personnel of Belarus RC and Federation also participated in the round table “Educational ensuring of

disaster protection” organized by the Ministry of Emergency Situations.

In the course of Red Cross month—dedicated to the 85th anniversary of the Belarus RC—Gomel regional branch participated in training on responses to large catastrophes, specifically a chemical accident in an industrial enterprise. This training was organized jointly with the Gomel regional department of Ministry of Emergency Situations. The role of the Gomel Belarus RC branch in such a scenario would be to organize the camp for people evacuated after the accident and to provide first aid service and humanitarian assistance. This training event was covered by radio and newspapers.

Expected Result 3: The Belarus RC has limited emergency relief capacity to assist 300 people affected by disasters.

In May, 2006 the establishment of an emergency fund in the National Society and branches as well as instruction about its use was discussed by the Belarus RC Presidium. The questionnaire was used to evaluate Belarus RC branches capacity to respond is being carried out by the Project Manager.

Expected Result 4: The most vulnerable communities, living in disaster prone areas strengthen their coping mechanisms with the support of the Belarus RC.

Two workshops on community-based activities, facilitated by the project Regional Assistant, were held in the villages of Turkovo and Miori, Vitebsk region (80 participants). The aim of these workshops was risk mapping, preparation of community disaster response plans, and evaluation of basic needs. These activities were highly appreciated by communities and district administrations, and were highlighted in local newspapers and radio reports.

The competition of children's drawings "Danger is nearby. Be ready." was organized by Gomel regional Belarus RC branch among pupils of disaster prone areas. The quiz competition "Disaster relief management" was held for the "Brigantine" camping participants by Mogilev regional Belarus RC branch jointly with the Youth Department of Belinitchi district administration.

Impact

Cooperation has been organized between regional and district Belarus RC organizations and the regional departments of Ministry of Emergency Situations. As a result of project activities, the chairperson of Zhitkovitchi Belarus RC branch was included in the disaster preparedness/relief commission organized by regional authorities. It is planned that through September 2006, the chairpersons of Gomel and Mogilev region Belarus RC organizations will also be included in their respective regional disaster preparedness/relief commissions as organized by the regional authorities. An agreement on cooperation has been signed between Belarus RC Grodno regional organization and the Grodno regional department of the Ministry of Emergency Situations.

In 2006-2007, the Belarus RC plans to increase capacity through well-trained human resources (both staff and volunteers), efficient systems of disaster response delivery, and a clearly defined national society role as part of an overall government disaster preparedness and response system. People are key actors in the society's disaster management programme, so a particular emphasis will be on training national society staff in assessment, logistics, finance and reporting.

During the reporting period, the Belarus RC successfully completed a disaster response under the appeal "Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine, Russia – severe winter". 3248 people from 2260 families received assistance in the form of warm clothes, footwear, and warm blankets due to resources provided by the Federation DREF.

Constraints

During the budget planning process, some costs were not foreseen, including the costs of evaluation trips, experience exchange workshops, the creation of a technical base, Belarus RC capacity building, and printing and publishing. Budget limitations on evaluation missions had a negative impact on project monitoring. Also, due to the importance of capacity building, it is especially necessary to budget for sufficient resources in this area in the future.

MOLDOVA

Programme Objective - Emergency relief: Moldova Red Cross has the capacity to effectively reduce the impact of disasters on the communities, including those affected by the socio-economic crisis, by promoting health and nutritional status of most vulnerable groups.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Access to minimum energy/dietary and hygiene requirements is secured for some 2000 vulnerable people affected by the socio-economic crisis.

In order to ensure vulnerable people have access to minimum dietary requirements, soup kitchens have been opened in Balti, Soroca, and Chisinau (from July 2005) and Hincesti (from January 2006). The soup kitchens work daily, except Sundays. For the reported period, from January to April 2006, 9940 hot meals were provided for a total of 512 persons. The price of one hot meal is 12 lei and it includes salad, first and second dishes, meat and dairy products, cake, juice or compôte.

Location	Number of assisted people per month	Duration of soup kitchen	Number of distributed hot meals	Total number of assisted people
Balti	60	3 months	3,540	162
Bender	30	1 months	600	30
Soroca	40	4 months	3,240	160
Hincesti	40	4 months	2,560	160
Total			9,940	512

The Moldovan RC also provided food parcels and hygiene kits for the most vulnerable members of society. In accordance with the programme implementation plan, the Moldovan RC distributed a total of 1,000 food parcels with buckwheat, rice, oil, tinned fish, sugar, and pasta and 2,500 hygiene kits including shampoo, washing powder, toilet and household soap.

In addition to the funding from the Norwegian Red Cross, as of 15 November, 2005, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation has been supporting 16 soup kitchens run by the Moldovan RC across Moldova. The Moldovan RC continues to seek additional funding to continue providing assistance to the beneficiaries.

Impact

Over the course of ten months of project implementation, the Moldovan RC has offered 27,100 hot meals for a total of 1,472 people in Bender, Balti, Soroca and Hincesti. The beneficiaries (solitary elder people, families with numerous children and invalids) were selected together with local authorities. This year, Bender and Soroca Red Cross branches included children from vulnerable families in the target group.

Constraints

No major challenges occurred during the implementation period.

Programme Objective - DM Capacity building: Moldova Red Cross disaster preparedness and response capacities on the national and branch levels are strengthened and community preparedness improved.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Moldova Red Cross has a comprehensive disaster preparedness and response plan (contingencies), including standard operating procedures.

After performing vulnerability assessments in each region, the Moldovan RC began to develop the disaster preparedness and response plan. At the moment, the general part of the plan is already written and the remainder

will be developed based on information received at the Minsk Disaster Planning seminar [see the Cross-Country section]. Seven Red Cross branches have started to develop district plans.

Expected Result 2: NS staff and volunteers on the national and branch levels are on standby, trained and prepared to provide effective response to disaster and implementation of community-level DP training, mitigation and rehabilitation activities by the end of 2007.

Two regional seminars were held to form regional emergency teams— in Balti, representing Northern Moldova, and Ungheni, representing the centre—whose task is to react in case of natural disaster. The Balti and Ungheni regional teams include nine branches each. The directors and one additional volunteer from each of these 18 branches underwent appropriate training in the framework of the programme. In order to enhance and consolidate knowledge, as well as to improve cooperation between the Moldovan RC and the Department of Emergency Situations, a seminar for 14 Red Cross branch directors, four staff members from Department of Emergency Situations was organized and held in Chisinau from April 12 – 14. The representatives from the Department of Emergency Situations came from four districts where the Red Cross project “Work with the Community” is implemented.

Expected Result 3: Public awareness on hazards and community DP/DR capacity in the most disaster prone is increased.

The Moldovan RC has developed the booklet “Floods” for production and plans to distribute it to assist in disaster preparedness.

Expected Result 4: NS maintained adequate and appropriate stocks of relief items to meet the needs of those affected by disasters.

During the reporting period, existing Moldovan RC reserve stocks of relief items underwent examination for quality control, expiration dates, etc.

Impact

The intent of the programme is that the knowledge and skills accumulated will permit the Moldovan RC to evaluate the population’s vulnerability and potential in emergency situations, to react adequately according to existing requirements and standards, and to coordinate their actions with local authorities and other organizations in case of emergency situations. The Moldovan RC’s reaction to the severe frost occurring this winter can serve as a confirmation of the effectiveness of the programme. Information about the emergency situation was received on time and the Moldovan RC addressed the Federation with a support appeal. At the end of operation, all branches participating in the relief operation presented reports.

Close cooperation and contacts between the Moldovan RC and the Department for Emergency Situations at national and branch levels have been established; as a result, they organize common activities (competitions, training).

Constraints

N/A

Programme Objective - Raising Awareness through Strengthening and Broadening Capacity of the Moldova Red Cross on Combating Trafficking in Persons: A reduced number of people trafficked from Moldova through increased capacity of Moldova Red Cross in conducting preventive counter-trafficking activities.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: The Moldovan RC has established a network of qualified staff at headquarters and regional branches to provide better services to displaced people.

The Moldovan RC, in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration, organized a seminar “Preventing Human Trafficking” for staff and Red Cross branch directors from March 9-11 in Chisinau. Topics

discussed included: determining what is “human trafficking”, factors that lead to human trafficking, stages of human trafficking, systems of victim readdress, reintegration and monitoring.

Expected Result 2: Red Cross volunteers and staff are trained in running peer education sessions on trafficking in human beings prevention

Two 3-day seminars were organized in March in the cities of Orhei and Soroca to introduce peer-to-peer education methods to Red Cross volunteers. Forty (40) volunteers were trained at each session. Volunteers trained in these methods went on to perform 67 information sessions in schools, lyceums and colleges during the reporting period.

In May — in cooperation with experts from IOM Chisinau, the NGO “La strada”, and the Centre for Prevention of Human Trafficking — four trainings were organized for volunteers and branch directors from each district with the purpose of increasing the level of awareness and exchanging experience.

Expected Result 3: An increased knowledge base is created among those that are at risk through dissemination of information and knowledge

In March, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports gave permission for the Moldovan RC to organize information sessions on prevention of human trafficking for pupils from IX-XII classes. Red Cross volunteers trained in peer to peer methods performed 67 information sessions in schools, lyceums and colleges.

Expected Result 4: General public is informed of the scale and negative implications of human trafficking issues towards their own communities.

This objective was addressed through the production and distribution of 20,000 brochures and 1,000 country reports on human trafficking in Russian and Romanian, as well as through limited media coverage.

Impact

The programme has started recently and, as such, impact is not yet possible to estimate. As the number of trafficking cases continues to increase in Moldova, the programme will play an important role in the future.

Constraints

No constraints were reported in the first half of the year.

UKRAINE

Programme Objective - Disaster Management Capacity Building: Ukrainian RC contributes to strengthened coping mechanisms of vulnerable communities and provided effective response support to victims of disasters.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Ukrainian RC HQ, regional and branch organizations established disaster preparedness and response plans

The National Committee and regional organizations have completely finished and have updated disaster response plans. In February, the Ukrainian RC held a working meeting on planning (35 participants).

Expected Result 2: Skills and professionalism of NS staff and volunteers for disaster response improved.

Beginning in 2006, the Ukrainian RC has involved visiting nurses in the disaster response trainings. A seminar on disaster management was held for the heads of VNS from April 21-22 in Kiev. Regional seminars for VNS staff were prepared and held in Luhansk and Zakarpatye regions. In Luhansk there was one seminar (30 participants), while in Zakarpatye region there were two seminars (60 participants).

Expected Result 3: Public awareness on hazards and community DP/DR capacity in the most disaster prone is increased.

Planned activities for public awareness will be implemented in the second half of the year.

Expected Result 4: Ukrainian RC strengthened its material resources for emergency relief

The computer for immediate disaster response at Ukrainian RC HQ has been purchased. Warehouses of emergency rations have been created at the national and regional branch levels. There are currently 11 warehouses with a complete set of rations (100 per cent), 7 warehouses with 85 per cent of the desired stock of rations, and the eight remaining warehouses have 60 per cent ration stock. In 22 (of 26) regional branches, resources have been deposited for the purchase of necessities for the affected population in emergency situations.

Impact

The Ukrainian RC has signed cooperation agreements with the Ministry of Emergencies on disaster response and has an agreement with the youth club "Compass" on protecting the population from the consequences of the Chernobyl accident. The president of the National Society is a member of the State Commission on Emergency Situations, and the Chairmen of the regional branches are members of their respective regional Commissions.

During the reporting period, the Ukrainian RC began actively training VNS staff in disaster response. This is especially valuable as the Ukrainian RC has 3,200 staff working within the VNS system (2,500 with higher medical training).

Constraints

There were no constraints in the implementation of the project.

CROSS-COUNTRY

Programme Objective - Disaster Management: A regional response mechanism and joint skills building system for the three national societies is developed.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: National Societies' staff in three countries has improved knowledge and skills of international DM procedures and standards.

During the reporting period, the Federation Minsk Delegation initiated the process of creating the regional DM network and continued the dialogue on regional disaster response capacity. Through regular meetings, the DM officers of the three National Societies (Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus) have been able to update their knowledge of international procedures and standards and discuss the achievements, lessons, and obstacles of the programme to date.

Expected Result 2: Inputs for improvements in the quality of preventive and reintegration activities through experience exchange and information sharing

On 11-13 May, a sub-regional workshop on disaster management—with a main focus on coordination and emergency planning—took place in Minsk for focal persons from the Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus RC Societies and one representative from the Russian Red Cross. The majority of the 19 participants were heads of regional Red Cross committees or representatives of National Society headquarters from the respective countries. The main achievements of this workshop were that National Societies continued the development of the DP/DR plan: DP/DR structure and relevant annexes were approved and a description of all the DP/DR plan's topics was discussed.

This cross-country programme is supported by DFID.

Impact

The workshop on disaster management supported the Red Cross Societies of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus in identifying their capacities to effectively address disaster situations and their abilities to contribute to the regional

response capacity. All the activities implemented within the reporting period have formed the basis for creating a regional disaster management network.

Constraints

DM officers reported a lack of Russian-language DM educational materials for Red Cross personnel as well as the lack of a standard DM educational course for NS HQ staff and Federation guidelines for NSs.

Programme Objective - Combatting trafficking in human beings: A regional mechanism for information sharing and experience exchange on counter-trafficking activities developed.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Inputs for improvements in the quality of preventive and reintegration activities through experience exchange and information sharing

The appeal coverage was high, however these funds were mainly directed to the anti-trafficking project run by the Moldovan RC. The cross-country activities received support of CHF 6,735 from DFID. Given the limited funds available for cross-country activities as well as the absence of a regional trafficking officer, it has been agreed to utilize the DFID contribution for the translation of a manual on best practices in response to human trafficking. The manual—highlighting cooperation between civil society and law enforcement in Europe—was first published by the Danish Red Cross in 2005. The Russian version of the manual will be soon made available to the Red Cross societies and their partners. Furthermore, support was provided to the anti-trafficking coordination meeting organized by the Belarus RC on 27 July. The meeting was attended by Red Cross teams from the five regions where the programme is running, and representatives from law enforcement agencies and IOM. The analysis of strengths and weaknesses in cooperation will enable the Belarus RC and its partners to make the anti-trafficking work more effective.

Constraints

There were no constraints in the implementation of the project.

Humanitarian Values

Overview

Fighting stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS remains one of the major advocacy activities of the Red Cross National Societies in the region and is seen as an essential step in halting the spread of HIV/AIDS in the region. During the reporting period, the three National Societies continued to build links with government and media and gain experience in holding awareness events aimed at increasing awareness of the issues facing PLWHA. The Belarus RC implemented these activities within the framework of its Youth and HIV Programme (see “Health”), while the Ukrainian RC and Moldovan RC implemented activities within Humanitarian Values programmes. All National Societies participated in the Federation’s Cross-Country Humanitarian Values programme, which supported the publication of printed materials promoting the seven fundamental principles of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement. Going forward in 2006, newly established partnerships and the skills gained in the National Societies will be valuable, especially with the approach of World AIDS Day on 1 December. Throughout the remainder of 2006, the National Societies will continue their efforts to advocate for the rights of PLWHA and create a positive dialogue on the subject of AIDS stigma and discrimination and its underlying causes.

MOLDOVA

Programme Objective: Moldova Red Cross has the capacity to promote the Red Cross/Red Crescent fundamental principles and humanitarian values.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: The General public and Moldova Red Cross partners have broader access to information on the Movement's fundamental principles and values.

The dissemination of humanitarian values represents an integral part of key programmes such as Peer Education, Disaster Management and Home Based Care. This programme successfully targets youth in Moldova. Through partnership with the Federation and the implementation of related activities funded by the Norwegian Red Cross Society, the Moldovan RC is raising the profile of both the National Society and the International Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement and increasing awareness of international humanitarian standards.

During the reporting period, the following key activities took place:

- The Moldovan RC organized four round table meetings for 120 pupils and 20 teachers from different lyceums and schools on humanitarian values and Red Cross fundamental principles.
- To address issues of discrimination and violence, Chisinau, Drochia and Cahul Red Cross branches conducted a disco with a quiz on the topic "Youth generation against violence and discrimination" that was attended in each locality by 150-200 pupils and students.
- In March, the Moldovan RC organized three seminars for mass media in Gagauzia, Balti, and Chisinau. As a result, Gagauzia branch organized three television and two radio shows and several press releases. In Balti, the local branch made a detailed presentation on Red Cross activity, and organized a meeting with volunteers and a visit to a soup kitchen.
- The Moldovan RC organized a composition contest on the topic "Humanitarian Values" for pupils from middle and upper classes.

Expected Result 2: General public in Moldova is equipped with the necessary knowledge to change their perceptions, attitudes and behavior towards people living with HIV/AIDS and all forms of discrimination.

In March, two seminars were organized for staff and volunteers on the topic "Reducing stigma and discrimination toward people living with HIV/AIDS". Participants included 35 representatives and volunteers from Red Cross branches. Seminars were conducted by experts and trainers from Association "Credinta", Republican AIDS Centre and UNAIDS. In Balti, two coordination meetings were held with the local branch of Association "Credinta" and other non-governmental organizations working in the field of HIV/AIDS prophylaxis.

In May, a radio show dedicated to International AIDS Day was organized. Three public events were organized in Calarasi, Ungheni and Bender with candle marches and red ribbons. Volunteers from the Bender Red Cross branch made a memorial quilt for HIV/AIDS victims. This was the first public HIV/AIDS memorial event of this scale in their city. In addition to these events, selected works from the national contest on the topic of anti-stigma towards PLWHA will be published in a calendar issued by the Moldovan RC.

Impact

The project had a total of 840 beneficiaries from Chisinau, Balti, Comrat, Drochia and Ialoveni. A survey collected opinions on which humanitarian values are most important in a modern community. 245 respondents revealed the most important humanitarian values: kindness, honesty, faith, and courage, with a lesser number mentioning grace and modesty. This project offered a chance to discover how youth and the general public perceive humanitarian values in a modern society.

Constraints

The Moldovan RC encountered difficulties in organizing activities in educational institutions from Drochia because they needed special permission in spite of the existing Memorandum of Cooperation between the Moldovan RC and the Ministry of Education.

UKRAINE

Programme Objective: The Ukrainian RC Society has strengthened its capacities to reduce discrimination towards marginalized groups in the country by advocating for the respect of human dignity and tolerance.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Ukrainian RC staff, members and volunteers as well as other groups of society have achieved better understanding and positively perceive Red Cross principles and values, show tolerance and understanding towards vulnerable groups.

Two seminars for Red Cross staff and volunteers were organized, designed to develop public relations and advocacy skills, respectively, to reduce stigma and discrimination towards vulnerable groups in Ukraine. The seminar participants included 15 visiting nurses from seven regions of Ukraine who are involved in “Medical home based care of PLWHA” project, as well as both HQ representatives and representatives from district branches.

Printed materials for the “Come Closer!” and “Truth about AIDS. Pass it on...” campaign jointly organized with the NGO “All-Ukrainian Network of PLWHA” were produced. The following items were prepared for printing and/or distribution: the booklet “Side by side with HIV-positive”, anti-stigma posters, anti-stigma stickers, two video productions.

Expected Result 2: Ukrainian RC has strengthened its capacity to reduce discrimination, negative behavioural practice and perceptions through education, media campaign, and distribution of printed information materials.



Ukrainian RC volunteers hold antistigma stickers

The working group on the campaign was organized and the key partners for campaign implementation were identified, namely key Anti-AIDS organizations such as the All-Ukrainian Network of PLWHA, International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine, Ukrainian Centre of AIDS prevention of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine and others. The Ukrainian RC joined the working group on Discrimination in Ukraine, where a common approach towards advocacy activities was actively discussed.

Regional activities related to the “Reducing discrimination towards vulnerable groups in Ukraine” programme and anti-stigma campaign were the following:

- Distribution of educational materials (all regions), press-conferences with mass-media;
- Discussions with experts and/or trained peer educators devoted to support and care of PLWHA (Kherson, Poltava, Cherkassy);
- Lectures on HIV/AIDS, stigma, and discrimination delivered by Red Cross volunteers jointly with regional departments of the Ministry of Education in schools and universities (Khmelnitskiy, Kherson, Kharkov, Kirovograd, Ternopol);
- Seminars/workshops, including those for mass-media with PLWHA (Poltava, Odessa);
- Questionnaires for people on attitudes towards PLWHA (Zaporozhye, Lvov);
- Distribution of red ribbons to people on the streets (all regions);
- Exhibitions of artwork related to HIV/AIDS (“You can’t get AIDS by being a friend” (Lvov), “Life goes on” (Chernigov), “My friend - HIV positive” (Chernigov), “HIV/AIDS in Ukraine. I care” (Chernigov) and others in Kherson, Kharkov, Kirovograd, Odessa);

- The mass-media campaign in regions was represented through local radio broadcasts, publications in local newspapers, thematic film screenings at regional TV channels and video productions.

Expected Result 3: The capacity of Information and Public Relations department of Ukrainian RC to disseminate information on RC work has been strengthened.

A workshop “*Regional mass-media – a factor in promoting tolerance towards PLWHA*” (12 regions involved) for regional journalists was organized. The principal objective of the workshop was to analyze the image of PLWHA in print media in order to design intervention strategies to reduce stigma and to promote an environment that is non-discriminatory and respects the humanitarian rights of PLWHA.

The slogan “You can’t get HIV/AIDS by shaking hands” was taken to new heights in Ukraine at the debut Red Cross International Arm-wrestling Tournament “*Ukraine and the rest of the world athletes against AIDS*” (18 March 2006, Lokomotyv Sport Hall, Kharkov city) brought together arm-wrestlers from Ukraine, Belarus, Russia, Poland, Germany, Great Britain. All viewers and supporters of the tournament received information RC booklets, anti-stigma leaflets, and information about methods of HIV/AIDS transmission were disseminated during the tournament during the breaks between the rounds. All money raised during the tournament was further donated to orphanages of Kharkov regions where HIV-positive children receive treatment.

The Ukrainian RC attempted to unite efforts on further developing communication tools for behaviour change among primary school children through the organization of an anti-stigma performance at the International Forum “Country of Childhood 2006” (Kyiv city, EXPOPLAZA Exhibition Centre 31 March 2006 – 2 April 2006).

Impact

The Programme contributed to closer relationships with PLWHA at National level as well as in regions. PLWHA participated fully in events and media coverage linked to the anti-stigma campaign. The Ukrainian RC organized several coordination meetings with the PR Manager of the All-Ukrainian Network of PLWHA regarding working issues of programme implementation (World Aids Day activities, mass-media campaign, printed materials). The Programme made a significant impact on journalists who are highlighting the HIV/AIDS related issues. This can be seen from the numerous publications highlighting Red Cross activities following the national media workshop organized by the Ukrainian RC National Society. The close cooperation with representatives of mass-media in terms of mass-media workshop further developed in contacts with central and regional TV stations and ensured free rotation of video clips produced by the Ukrainian RC.



Famous boxer Vitaliy Klitchko—Head of Committee for Healthy Lifestyles—addresses the press club designed to strengthen ties between media and NGOs in addressing anti-stigma

The International arm-wrestling competition anti-stigma event was highly covered within media: four video films are to be prepared about the tournament by Polish TV PAL to be further broadcast on the Satellite Ukrainian Sport Channel “Megasport”. Local media were further involved through regular information about programme activities update which was distributed through information agencies such as the National information agency “Ukrinform”.

Furthermore, the initiative of relationships with media was supported by the National Coordination Council for HIV/AIDS and Committee on Healthy lifestyle, thus a regular press-club was established. For long-term impact, the Federation should consider supporting and encouraging the Ukrainian RC create programmes that would train and support young people towards positive attitude and behaviour change and the creation of positive values, as this would contribute significantly to the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Constraints

To date much work has been undertaken defining stigma and discrimination, advocating for a reduction in both, including the implementation of campaigns, projects and programmes designed to reduce or eradicate stigma and discrimination. However, despite many years of focusing on stigma and discrimination, relatively little is known about how to influence people's perceptions at the societal level. Mitigation of stigma needs to move beyond documenting and highlighting discrimination. Some people in the field are critical of the Campaign. They find that it lacks depth and local relevance at the national level, as the Ukrainian RC National Society—as well as its neighbours in Belarus and Moldova—has yet to define and commit to medium- and long-term objectives. So the campaign in many regions is too often linked to awareness events rather than sustained programmes or projects on advocacy for PLWHA and anti-stigma and anti-discrimination efforts.

The rate of local partnership with the All-Ukrainian Network of PLWHA has been variable for a number of reasons including limited resources and fears and anxieties about such a different way of working for some within Red Cross branches. Significant progress in cooperation has been made in those regions where there are joint programmes of the Ukrainian RC and the All-Ukrainian Network of PLWHA on non-medical home-based care as well as in those regions where the programmes on HIV/AIDS prevention in Ukraine through raising awareness and peer-to-peer education are successful.

During a thorough review of the anti-stigma programme, the Ukrainian RC branches were applauded for doing their best in the field of HIV/AIDS. However, it has been noted that the impact so far is insignificant. This has been contributed to by working in isolation and occasionally in competition with other HIV/AIDS related organizations. Integration and a holistic approach were emphasized. It was said that the Ukrainian RC has the capacity to do more and should work in close collaboration with government to influence appropriate policy development. A multi-programme approach with all stakeholders in fighting HIV/AIDS was suggested. Inclusiveness is important particularly concerning PLWHA (people living with HIV/AIDS) but the concept of inclusiveness should also incorporate youth, gender and disabled people.

This programme is funded by the Swedish Red Cross. This project has been implemented as a separate project within the framework of the project "HIV/TB Prevention with Imprisoned Youth in Ukraine".

CROSS-COUNTRY

Programme Objective: Red Cross/Red Crescent humanitarian values and fundamental principles are promoted within the National Societies in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine, its volunteers and partners and disseminated to the general public.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine Red Cross Societies use information campaigns to change perceptions, attitudes and behaviour towards people living with HIV/AIDS and eliminate all forms of discrimination.

Promotion of Red Cross/Red Crescent fundamental principles and humanitarian values as well raising public awareness on HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination problems were achieved through a number of mass public/media events in the three countries (Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine) strengthened by various visibility and distribution materials. Major events included:

Belarus: A video reel promoting humanitarian values and fighting stigma and discrimination of people living with HIV/AIDS was shown on local TV during May (linked to Red Cross Day); disco dancing (Minsk) for 250 young people (featuring a wide display and visibility materials featuring the campaign "You can not get AIDS by..."); the public event "We are together if there is no discrimination" (270 people) and the workshop "HIV prevention, education of tolerance" within this event (Minsk); a round table discussion for Red Cross workers and general public representatives (Grodno).

Moldova: The seminars “Reducing stigma and discrimination” and “Stigma and Discrimination of PLWHA”; a coordination meeting with NGOs; anti-stigma public events for Red Cross Day (Kishinev); public events for the youth and general public representatives (Calarasi, Basarabeaska, Benderi).

Ukraine: A seminar for Red Cross staff and volunteers “Development of public relations among Red Cross staff as counteraction towards stigma and discrimination among the vulnerable groups in Ukraine” for 24 information officers, coordinators, heads of local RC branches and HQ representatives; distribution of educational materials (all regions); press-conferences with mass-media; discussions with experts and/or trained peer educators devoted to support and care of PLWHA (Kherson, Poltava, Cherkasy); lectures on HIV/AIDS, stigma and discrimination delivered by Red Cross volunteers jointly with the Ministry of Education (Khmelnitsky, Kherson, Kharkov, Kirovograd, Ternopil); seminars/workshops, including those for mass-media with PLWHA (Poltava, Odesa); questionnaires for people on attitudes towards PLWHA (Zaporizhzhya, Lviv); the distribution of red ribbons on streets (all regions); exhibition of artwork related to HIV/AIDS “You can’t get AIDS by being a friend” (Lviv), “Life goes on” (Chernigiv), “My friend - HIV positive”(Chernigiv), “HIV/AIDS in Ukraine. I care” (Chernigiv), and others in Kherson, Kharkiv, Kirovograd, Odessa); mass-media representation through local radio broadcasts, publications in local newspapers, thematic film screenings at regional TV channels and video productions; a one-week Red Cross campaign at the Kazantip electronic music festival (Crimea) where volunteers disseminated information on HIV prevention, healthy ways of life, stigma and discrimination as well as distributing condoms and teaching first aid.

Printed/visibility materials:

Posters (14000), notebooks (1000) and cards (2000) promoting the seven fundamental principles of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement were printed in Minsk for distribution in the three countries. The design of the printed materials was based on the best drawings selected from the drawing contest “7 principles in 7 posters” held earlier this year among youth in the three countries. The contest was held in the framework of the Cross-border Youth Integration and Cooperation Program. All the materials have been distributed to the three National Societies and were highly appreciated by them.

Printed materials to strengthen anti-stigma public events of the Moldova Red Cross included the production of calendars, bags, t-shirts, caps with slogans “Youth cannot get AIDS by...”. The Ukrainian RC produced and distributed visibility materials for the “Come Closer!” and “Truth about AIDS. Pass it on...” campaign jointly with the All-Ukrainian Network of PLWHA: 27 banners “Come closer!” (For each Red Cross regional branch), 505 t-shirts for volunteers, 60,000 Red Cross bags for distribution, Red Cross brochures – 5000 items, Red Cross fountain pens – 3000 items, 300 Red Cross bandanas, seven mobile stands on the Fundamental Principles.

Impact

Each National Society has received printed materials to support a range of public awareness events. These materials were appreciated by the National Societies and have been distributed to the general public.

Constraints

There were no constraints during the reporting period.

Organizational development

Overview

Prior to the Congress held by the Belarus RC, the Society’s Statutes were considerably revised. The support in this process was provided by the Delegation and by the Joint ICRC/International Federation Commission for National Society Statutes. The majority of recommendations that were made were adopted into another draft by the Belarus RC and submitted to the Belarus Ministry of Justice for approval. The Danish Red Cross conducted a participatory planning meeting in Minsk to develop a basis for the youth programme proposal to the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Regional workshops were conducted in Moscow and Kiev focusing on introducing and training the three Red Cross societies of Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova with the participatory research, programming and monitoring/evaluation

methodologies, aimed at addressing the social inclusion and empowerment approaches that would lead towards responsive and focused programmes designed to improve the quality of lives of the most vulnerable older people.

Support was provided to the Moldovan RC and the Ukrainian RC in their participation in the Russian-speaking Youth network forum held in Armenia in March.

BELARUS

Programme Objective - Strengthening Programme Development Capacity of the National Society: The overall operational capacities of the Belarus RC are strengthened through developed and improved planning, marketing and fundraising skills.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Results 1-3:

- The Belarus RC leadership at all levels has the skills of applying modified PPP, marketing and fundraising methodologies.
- The Belarus RC has a team of co-facilitators for modified PPP, marketing and fundraising, which can advise branches.
- Branches have a clear vision of further development of the national society and its sustainability through modified PPP, fundraising and marketing methodologies as result of a coaching process.

During the reporting period, the Belarus RC focused on creating a team of mediators/co-facilitators, which could provide consultations in project planning for subdivisions of the Belarus RC. The target group for training consisted of 14 persons from all levels of the Belarus RC: five programme coordinators from National Society headquarters and nine chairmen of regional and branch Belarus RC organizations that were interested in project planning. The seminar, originally planned for April, was conducted in Minsk from 26-29 June 2006, by two trainers – a Federation representative and a Danish Red Cross delegate.

Monitoring was conducted by the coordinator (Belarus RC Headquarters) and trainers (Federation, Danish Red Cross). A questionnaire distributed to participants in the end of seminar showed that after the training participants have received a new understanding of project planning, plan to use the PPP methodology in their work, can consult Belarus RC subdivisions on PPP and recommend this course for their colleagues. 100 manuals on “Project Planning Process” and 100 manuals on “Fundraising” were printed. Some manuals were distributed among seminar participants; the remainder would be used during other seminars on PPP and distributed among Belarus RC regional and city branches.

Impact

Training on Project Planning Process plays an important role in ensuring that the Belarus RC is better able to meet the needs of vulnerable people of Belarus through appropriately chosen and well-implemented projects. The training of co-facilitators is a positive step towards spreading this methodology throughout the Belarus RC. Due to the importance of these skills, the PPP programme should be prolonged to increase the project planning capacity of the Belarus RC by educating a greater number of employees.

Constraints

N/A

Programme Objective - Financial management: The overall operational capacities of the Belarus RC are strengthened through improved financial reporting and analysis skills.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Adjustments to the programme are coherent with the mid-term Belarus RC organizational development goals reflecting legislation changes, technical needs and emerging capacity issues.

In light of legislation changes—in particular income tax calculations—Belarus RC accountants created a list of necessary upgrades to the software. These upgrades were carried out during the reporting period. Extra software packs were purchased and installed (“Accounting in non-commercial organization” and “Project management”), which significantly facilitated the work of Belarus RC accountants.

Expected Result 2: A computer based network is established and software is downloaded; their maintenance is ensured.

During the reporting period, the Belarus RC continued the introduction of the “1C: Enterprise 7.7” software suite, significantly facilitating the accountants’ work and increasing their labour productivity. IT technicians are operational within the programme at all regional branches, monitoring computer performance and ensuring maintenance as necessary.

Expected Result 3: The financial workers of Belarus RC have increased their knowledge and professional skills.

The Project Coordinator exercises monthly control over introducing the accounting software at the Belarus RC regional branches. In the framework of the project, staff members performed several business trips and meetings with the chief accountants of Belarus RC branches where questions on the software functionality were discussed. Finally, during the reporting period, a seminar for accountants of Belarus RC regional branches was organized concerning changes to salary procedures using “1C: Enterprise v.7.7” software.

Impact

All Belarus RC regional branches were equipped with powerful PCs running “1C: Enterprise 7.7” software, which was updated in accordance with the list of updates prepared by Belarus RC accountants. Extra packs for “1C” software were purchased. Technical support, consulting, and training on the “1C: Enterprise 7.7” software is provided by IT specialists in accordance with agreements concluded by Belarus RC regional branches. Training for accountants on the software upgrades and extra packs was organized.

The work on this project was implemented according to schedule. Due to the introduction of the “1C: Enterprise 7.7” software, accountants’ work was facilitated and accounting documents were systematized. Document processing time and computing errors have been reduced. Accountants now have the valuable ability to create flexible summary reports.

Constraints

Legislative changes, especially concerning accounting procedures, and necessary upgrades of hardware and software require additional funds which should be directed to the upgrades and to corresponding trainings.

MOLDOVA

Programme Objective - National Society Organizational Management: Moldova Red Cross has adequate management capacity.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: The Moldovan RC establishes and implements effective management structure, systems and procedures.

Strengthening of the management capacity has not been achieved during the reporting period as the Moldovan RC did not follow the agreed steps on the start of the change process.

Expected Result 2: The Moldovan RC has a stable, well-trained, motivated management team and efficient support staff and volunteers.

In March, a seminar on planning and fundraising was organized in Balti for staff and volunteers from the Northern districts of Moldova. A fundraising seminar was also organized in Chisinau for representatives of Red Cross branches from central districts, and planning and fundraising manuals were developed and distributed (140 copies). Finally, 2-month computer courses have been organized for seven Red Cross workers.

Expected Result 3: The Moldovan RC has a better material infrastructure for management and programme implementation at key branches.

Six fax machines were purchased for Orhei, Glodeni, Telenesti, Ungheni, Soroca and Criuleni Red Cross branches. Office furniture and carpet were purchased for two Red Cross branches – Balti and Soroca.

Impact

As to the overall Organizational Development issues, more time is required for the Federation and Moldovan RC to develop an agreement on the model for improved management arrangements. This is seen by the Federation as the absolute priority that should contribute to an overall strengthened effectiveness of the Society and increase its profile and relevance as the leading humanitarian organization in Moldova.

The Federation has been in dialogue with the Moldovan RC to find a way to support the separation of Governance and Management and strengthen its management capacities under the current Statutes provisions.

Constraints

The change process at the Moldovan RC is pending further negotiations between the Federation Secretariat and the Moldovan RC.

The Moldovan RC's governance function needs to be fully instituted. At the same time, current management systems—in particular planning, decision making, reporting and resource mobilization policies and procedures—need to be strengthened further. The status quo within the Society and the lack of an executive position presents considerable constraints on its capacities to enhance its international cooperation and expand its portfolio of programmes aimed at assisting the most vulnerable.

Should the decision be made to continue the process, this would in effect mark the start of a major change process that should lead towards a strengthened and more effective organization with a capacity to scale up its role in addressing the humanitarian challenges in Moldova.

Programme Objective - Strengthening of quality, relevance and sustainability of the Visiting Nurses Service/Medico-Social Centres of Moldova Red Cross: Moldova Red Cross is providing high quality, relevant and sustainable VNS/MSO services to the communities.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: The Moldovan RC is equipped with a quality assurance system.

In order to improve VNS, visiting nurses regularly participate in different seminars organized by Moldova Red Cross Society and the International Federation of Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies. For example, the Federation has organized a seminar to be held in June in Kiev on “New methods in working with elder people” with the purpose of improving the activities of medico-social centres in working with older people, and providing psycho-social and moral support. This is a topic of great importance for the VNS.

Other planned seminars include:

- A seminar for visiting nurses on “Home based care and psycho-social support”. Attention will be paid to the problem of avian influenza and methods of prophylaxis. (June)

- Two round table meetings in Calarasi and Donduseni with a local NGO working in the field of social assistance and health care. Planned topics: familiarization with Moldovan RC activity, especially with visiting nurses service.

Expected Result 2: The Moldovan RC has developed and implements a midterm capacity building, fund-raising and cost-recovery strategy for VNS/MSC not meeting the standard of a well functioning VNS/MSC.

This was not addressed due to a lack of funding.

Expected Result 3: The Moldovan RC improves marketing and fundraising with regards to VNS/MSC which are meeting the criteria of "Well functioning VNS/MSC".

This was not addressed due to a lack of funding.

Expected Result 4: The Moldovan RC has strengthened the material and human resource base of the VNS.

In the framework of project, the Moldovan RC procured ten massagers in order to improve rehabilitation treatment for patients with movement difficulties. Four couches were procured for the medico-social centre.

Impact

Funding has been continued for four visiting nurses working in medico-social centres providing services to solitary elder people, invalids, vulnerable people and orphans. Visiting nurses provide medical services (massages, measure blood pressure, injections) and offer social support.

Constraints

The low amount of funding received for the programme, as well as the management capacities at the Moldovan RC, do not make it possible to address long-term sustainability issues.

UKRAINE

Programme Objective - Ukrainian RC Resource Development via Corporate Partnerships: Developed mechanisms and means of fundraising as well as improved skills of Ukrainian RC staff in fundraising and marketing.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Qualified fundraisers are trained in the National Society headquarters and regional branches. NS staff cooperates with corporate partners and conducts fundraising activities.

During the reporting period, the Ukrainian RC recruited a project coordinator and laid out the programme implementation plan. A seminar for fundraising specialists is scheduled to take place 19-20 June 2006. It is planned that 35 Red Cross workers dealing with fundraising issues will take part in the workshop. The participants will study topics including corporate partnership, marketing for charity activities, and social enterprising.

Expected Result 2: Donors identify Red Cross activities under the emblem as a trusted means of alleviating suffering and hence a credible area to fund.

In the course of the project implementation the Ukraine Red Cross undertook activities to increase local fundraising.

For example, in February 2006, there was an emergency situation caused by severe cold in most regions of Ukraine. As part of the response to the emergency situation, the Ukrainian RC raised local funds with the help of local sponsors, governmental and public organizations. These funds were used along with assistance from the Federation's DREF in responding to the crisis.

In March 2006, TB Month was held in Ukraine to raise awareness of the fight against tuberculosis. The event was used by the Ukrainian RC for raising certain funds for solving this problem. Between April and May, the Ukrainian RC recognized Red Cross Month, bringing the attention of the public community to Red Cross activities and working with existing and potential sponsors on fundraising with a focus on negotiating for long-term contracts.

Expected Result 3: A donor database and membership system are developed and information therein used for web marketing.

A notebook was purchased to develop the database and to provide assistance to the Regional Red Cross Committees. In May, a competition among the Regional Red Cross organizations for best practices in fundraising was carried out. The information materials about Red Cross activities for dissemination among possible donors have been developed. These materials will be published in June.

Impact

The project helps the Ukrainian RC to strengthen its abilities to work with available and potential donors as well as to receive practical skills on participating in tenders, writing applications for financing, and carrying out fundraising activities.

Constraints

N/A

Programme Objective - Finance Service Development of the Ukrainian RC: To enhance capacities of Ukrainian RC branches in finance reporting and analysis.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: Operational capacity of Ukrainian RC is enhanced within Ukrainian RC financial service development (technical resources and its infrastructure).

During the reporting period, the operational contract between the Ukrainian RC and the International Federation was signed, and a system administrator was employed. All regional branches were requested to give information on their implementations of the "1C-Accountancy" software (network version) in order to define the current situation. The system administrator studied the information received from the Regional Committees, and took the requests and proposals from the branches into consideration for updating the finance service's configuration. In May, the accounting processing began in the first 6 regional branches where the updated software was installed and operational (Vinnitsa, Luhansk, Kharkov, Khmelnytskyi, Chernovtsy and Kiev city). The rest of the branches will complete this work in June.

Expected Result 2: Finance specialists are trained. The Ukrainian RC improves the quality of project reporting.

During the reporting period, individual training courses on the new software for financial department staff were conducted by the system administrator. The workshop for chief accountants of regional Red Cross committees was conducted from 15-17 May 2006 in Kiev.

Impact

The implementation of the project allowed the Ukrainian RC to strengthen operational capacities, ensure regular updating of the finance service's resources, speed up the report submitting process, and improve the quality of reporting.

Constraints

During the programme implementation no constraints were encountered.

Programme Objective - Visiting Nurses Service (VNS) Development: Ukrainian RC VNS adopts and improves a new functional model, featuring introduction of legal, social, and psychological assistance as well as of quality assurance component.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Results 1-3:

- A new VNS functional model elaborated and implemented in 3 regions of Ukraine and trainers for implementation of a new VNS functional model in all 3 regions are trained.
- Regular provision of free legal, social, and psychological assistance by VNs to their clients is ensured.
- Quality of services provided by Ukrainian RC VNS is improved through strengthened material base.

In order to improve the quality of the VN service the project plan envisaged to supply 100 first aid kits for the visiting nurses in Chernigiv, Volyn and Ternopil Regions. In February, the project working group worked out proposals concerning the first aid kit content and sent them to the regional organizations for consideration. Through working visits to each region, the project working group met with local visiting nurses and conducted studies of the needs of VNS patients in the region in terms of health care supplies and equipment. Proposals of the three branches were collected, and the content of the first aid kit for the VNS nurses was defined and approved. The tender was carried out by the National Committee, the best supplier was chosen and the purchase of 100 first aid kits was made. In May the first aid kits were distributed among the three branches.

Impact

In the process of project realization the material base of the visiting nurse service was improved due to supplying the visiting nurses with high-quality medical service equipment.

Constraints

N/A

CROSS-COUNTRY

Programme Objective - Cross-Border Youth Integration and Development Programme: Established a platform for sustainable cooperation among Youth sections in the region and successfully integrated Youth sections to the National Societies to improve youth programmes.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Expected Results 1-5:

- National Societies' Youth Policy/Strategy and Regional youth plan are developed.
- Youth is participating in decision-making processes and new Youth Governance and Representative Structures (Youth Volunteers Councils/groups) are introduced within the NSs.
- Core NS staff and youth leaders are trained in skill-specific areas (leadership, volunteer management, PPP, advocacy and networking) and demonstrate the ability to use the acquired knowledge and skills in their work and disseminate it to their peers within the region.
- Local youth initiatives are developed and best practices are shared in the region by means of networking and peer support.
- Self-managed and sustainable sub-regional youth RC network is established and benefits from other European networks; joint youth-related activities based on a participatory approach are carried out in the three National Societies.

This two-year programme addresses poor youth involvement and lack of sub-regional youth cooperation in the Belarus RC, Ukrainian RC and Moldova RC. 2006 is the second year of programme implementation. During the previous year, the programme aimed to: strengthen the capacities of National Societies (NSs) in strategic planning (development of NSs' Youth Strategies/Policies); lobby for youth representation in NSs existing structures; increase youth involvement in programme management and decision-making processes; and encourage youth to take initiatives within their local communities through providing trainings and opportunities for better youth

involvement. In the first half of 2006, in addition to the above goals, the issue of volunteer management was introduced to the programme. National Societies were also able to strengthen the development of their own youth programmes due to the attraction of additional funding.

In 2006, the programme was supported by three donors: the Capacity Building Fund (CBF) with CHF 39,398, Department for International Development (DFID) with CHF 31,805 and the Danish Red Cross with CHF 29,150. Due to the fact that DFID support is ending in July 2006, the activities were mainly conducted using the DFID funds while the majority of CBF and Danish RC funds were reserved for the second half of the year, as outlined in the budget and programme implementation plan. NSs contributed their own resources, including premises, technical equipment and human resources (volunteers and staff).

Impact

During the reporting period the main programme achievements and impact were as follows:

- Youth mobilized to provide support to vulnerable people in the local communities; improved youth participation in organizational decision making of the Belarus and Ukraine Red Cross NSs

Impact: 161 youth volunteers directly involved in planning and implementation of local initiatives which target more than 5570 youth and vulnerable people; 125 youth elected to NSs Boards.

- Strengthened capacities of the Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine Red Cross NSs staff and youth leaders.

Impact: 178 NSs youth and staff members acquired knowledge and skills in volunteer management, project planning process (PPP) and leadership.

- Sub-regional cooperation has been developed further through elaboration and implementation of two joint youth activities

Impact: Through the joint efforts of youth from three NSs, two activities—the competition “Seven principles in seven posters” aimed at disseminating and promoting the Fundamental principles among youth, and “Rainbow of good actions” aimed at promoting Red Cross activities and youth involvement in volunteering—were implemented within the sub-region. More than 1,835 youth volunteers participated in the development and implementation of these activities and more than 23,818 youth and people from vulnerable groups benefited from these activities in the local communities.

Constraints

There were some delays in implementing the local initiatives (which were supposed to start in March instead of May). In Ukraine, these delays were caused by the replacement of the NS youth coordinator. In Belarus, it was caused by the complicated procedure of tax exemption of the funds allocated for youth initiatives. The selection and implementation of the youth initiatives in Moldova were postponed until September 2006 due to the absence of a Moldovan RC youth coordinator. There were also delays in electing youth to the boards of the branches in Belarus due to the reorganization of the Belarus RC NS headquarters.

Implementation and coordination

The implementation and coordination of this appeal is governed by the Federation’s Framework for Action which will orient capacity-building actions over the next five years, with the aim of building a well-functioning Federation network. The framework is a clear set of actions to reform and renew the Federation to ensure that it remains relevant and effective as an organization. This calls for collective leadership and accountability at all levels of the International Federation to succeed.

Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

Throughout the year, a number of different types of activities were conducted by the delegation, enabling the better coordination of partnerships with the three National Societies. The delegation participated in meetings with UN partners and donor organizations, such as TACIS, SDC, UNDP and UNAIDS.

With the delegation's support, a letter of interest was developed and signed outlining the commitment of the Belarusian and Moldovan RC as partners in the programme "Advocacy for the rights of children in specialized institutions in Bulgaria" - a multilateral bid application concerning Bulgaria and Germany.

Belarus:

Partnership with Consortium of Austrian, German and Swiss Red Cross societies: The delegation in Minsk continues negotiation with the Swiss Red Cross, who is representing the Consortium societies concerning finalizing the status of their delegate, as part of the services provided by the Federation under the guidelines for facilitating operational services to members (Integration Agreement). The Swiss Red Cross Programme Coordinator from Bern visited Belarus on several occasions to discuss the programme as well as the integration agreement.

In June 2006, the delegation representative participated in the national workshop to analyse problems and planning of the development of the Visiting Nurse Service, organized and facilitated by the Consortium's international consultants.

Partnership with the Danish Red Cross: As part of the regional Youth programme, the Danish Red Cross continued to provide support to the Belarus RC. In a visit to Belarus, the new Danish RC Coordinator continued the discussion on further modalities of continuation of the programme. The majority of activities are implemented using a multilateral approach, while the Danish RC plays an operational lead in coordination and technical support to the programmes.

Ukraine:

Partnership with IOM: Discussions between the Ukrainian RC, Federation and IOM were ongoing. It concerns the possible role of the Ukrainian RC as a partner to IOM in two main areas: Providing information to irregular migrants concerning the possibility of Assistance with Voluntary Return (AVR) and to provide targeted activities in the areas of health support, social-welfare, and restoring family links in two migrant accommodation centres. The need for these interventions are becoming increasingly relevant, due to the growing number of apprehended and detained migrants coupled with the extremely poor living conditions in the existing centres.

Partnership with French Red Cross and Italian Red Cross: Although the work of the French and Italian Red Cross societies on addressing the HIV/AIDS problem in two regions of Ukraine is a bilateral co-operation, the delegation supported some aspects of negotiations. In addition, the newly recruited Federation HIV/AIDS officer will be actively engaged in working on the programme. The model of the project designed by the three National Societies will serve as basis for developing HIV projects in other regions. These projects will be developed beginning in September 2006.

Moldova:

The Desk Officer of the Norwegian RC visited the Moldovan RC in February. The delegation supported this visit, after which time, a jointly prepared funding application to the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, successfully obtained financial resources for the programmes in Moldova for another year.

To resolve some challenges faced by the French Red Cross in its work with the Moldovan RC, the Federation supported discussions with the main donor of the programme, outlining the plan that should overcome the difficulties, while highlighting the continued need for the programme—which is aimed at building the capacities of several branches of the Moldovan RC.

Below is a table reflecting the activities undertaken bilaterally by Red Cross/Red Crescent partners in the region.

RC Partners	Summary of activities
Danish Red Cross	<p>Belarus: The Danish Red Cross conducted a participatory planning meeting in Minsk to develop a basis for the youth programme plan for 2007. The participants of the meeting included the representatives of the Belarus RC national committee, members of the Presidium, Belarus RC employees and the youth volunteers of oblast, city, railroad and district organisations, Federation programme officer, Danish Red Cross delegate, as well as representatives of civil society organisations and Ministry of Education.</p> <p>Key results of the meeting highlighted the priorities for the National Society that include strengthening of youth structure, improved knowledge of staff and youth volunteers in volunteer management, leadership and project planning, further development and successful implementation of youth programmes, developing the volunteers policy, support by Belarus RC leadership to youth volunteers, and leadership development of youth. One of the outputs of the meeting will form a basis for elaboration of a funding proposal of the Danish Red Cross to the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.</p> <p>Ukraine: The Danish Red Cross funds a project aimed at preventing human trafficking in Ukraine.</p>
Austrian Red Cross/ German Red Cross/ Swiss Red Cross	<p>Belarus: The Consortium of the Red Cross Societies of Austria, Germany and Switzerland have established co-operation with the Belarus RC on supporting the development of the VNS of the Belarus RC, as well as facilitating the assistance in strengthening of organizational potential of the Belarus RC. The Consortium Delegate has been in Belarus since October 2005, leading discussions and managing the programme together with the counterparts from the Belarus RC.</p> <p>Throughout June 2006, several workshops took place nationally and in two regions (Grodno and Vitebsk), with the support of the Consortium's international consultants, attended by representatives of national and local administration (the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, the Ministry of Education) and a range of institutions and organizations from the health, social protection and education sectors, local non-governmental organizations as well as the project team and Belarus RC members.</p> <p>For the workshops on strengthening the VNS, the main objective was an analysis of problems and planning of development of VNS service. The workshops discussed the basic problems connected with the implementation of community health care services and the functioning of the VNS of the Belarus RC. It aimed at identifying the main stakeholders within the community health and social care services system, analysing the problems of the VNS in the general system of home care services, defining potential VNS client groups, defining types of community health care services required, identifying steps needed to take in order to fix the position and role of VNS in the general system of community health and social care services and support the future development of VNS.</p> <p>Alongside the workshop on VNS, another workshop was organized at a national level – to identify organizational development needs of the Belarus RC and to plan the organizational development support integrated as part of the VNS project. The key issues analysed during the workshop focused on basic components of a sustainable organization, identification of the key organizational development pathways within each building block and identifying the ways in which the project can assist in the Belarus RC's organizational development.</p>

Austrian Red Cross	Ukraine: The Austrian Red Cross funds the project “Humanitarian Assistance to Street Children”. The project is designed for three years (2004-2007) and is being implemented in the Zhitomir and Luhansk regions.
French Red Cross	Moldova: Moldovan RC cooperation with FRC continues focusing on developing of First Aid, volunteering, HIV/AIDS activities, support to visiting nurses and organizational development. A number of challenges in the cooperation needed to be addressed both with the programme donor and through some support from the Federation.
French Red Cross/ Italian Red Cross	<p>Ukraine: The French Red Cross and Italian Red Cross have started the partnership with the Ukrainian RC aimed at reducing HIV transmission in Ukraine and improving the general care and management of IDUs. More specifically, the programme will focus on extending therapeutic and social interventions of the Red Cross branches of Zaporizhzhya and Kiev, and launching new actions directed to the IDUs.</p> <p>The home-based care will commence at the beginning of September 2006, together with the new project – mobile syringe exchange points. This will be a pilot RC project starting in Kiev, partnered with the NGO – Eney Club. The project in Zaporizhzhya will commence at the beginning of September with the baseline study within the target population (IDUs and commercial sex workers, MSM).</p> <p>Following this, the Ukrainian RC will implement the mobile needle exchange points with the local NGO named “Spodyvannia”, who already has extensive experience in working with the above target groups. The FRC contracted a delegate since January 2006 to prepare a programme assessment and programme proposal. The programme was agreed with the Ukrainian RC’ leadership at the end of June 2006, in discussion in Kiev with a joint delegation of French and Italian Red Cross societies.</p>
Netherlands Red Cross	Ukraine: The Netherlands Red Cross is funding a bilateral anti-HIV/AIDS project which the Ukrainian RC is implementing in Kiev, Kherson and Luhansk regions.
ICRC	Ukraine: Cooperation with the ICRC centred on restoring family links, dissemination of IHL (primarily through the Exploring Humanitarian Law programme) and, in limited medical support to first-aid posts located in remote settlements for formerly deported people and run by the Crimean branch of the Ukrainian RC Society.

International representation and advocacy

As part of their visits to participate at April’s high level international conferences on Chernobyl, the Federation President visited Ukraine, while the Federation Secretary General visited Belarus. At both conferences, they participated in high-level discussion and advocated for continued international support to address the long-term health consequences of Chernobyl, as well as for continued efforts and dialogue towards the recognition of the role played by the Red Cross societies by their respective Ministries of Health and advocating for long-term sustainable solutions. The visit also served as a good opportunity for the President’s address to the Ukrainian Parliament to highlight the humanitarian challenges in Ukraine, as well as the role of the Ukrainian RC played nationally and internationally. Both visits included the visits to mobile diagnostic laboratories (MDLs) – in Gomel (Belarus) and in Zhytomir (Ukraine).

In June, the Acting HoD made a presentation at the round-table discussion organized by the Belarus Ministry of Emergencies. The key messages to the present partners focused on the International Federation membership’s global agenda, the coordination and resource mobilization role of the Federation in the case of disasters, the auxiliary role of the Red Cross vis-a-vis the Ministry of Emergencies, as well as potential role of the Belarus RC in relation to the Ministry of Emergencies.

Continued discussions are held with the leadership of the National Societies in relation to the need for them to incorporate marginalized groups in their work. This is particularly relevant when discussing the potential funding opportunities related to HIV/AIDS grants, and the stringent criteria involving actions targeted at and implemented with intravenous drug users (IDUs), commercial sex workers and men having sex with men (MSM).

The delegation encouraged the participation of the Ukrainian RC in the annual summer music festival “KazanTip” held in Crimea. The massive attendance of the young audience to this youth festival will be an excellent opportunity for furthering of the image of the Ukrainian RC, but also a possible opportunity for training and recruiting of new youth volunteers. The Ukrainian RC will focus on provision of FA point and FA volunteers, providing support to those who may require assistance, as well as anti-stigma activities – using the Ukrainian RC’s existing banners and other visibility anti-stigma material.

International disaster response

Following the arrival of two waves of Arctic anticyclone cold fronts in the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus during two weeks in January (13-29 January) and one week in February (4-9 February), the regional temperatures plummeted to averages of between -25°C and -38°C. Siberia and Far East of the Russian Federation experienced temperatures as low as -57°C. Over 200,000 people (more than 50 per cent of them in Ukraine) in these territories were directly affected by the severe frosts, suffering hot-water pipe and electricity system breakdowns, heating interruptions, as well as homeless’ and street children’s exposure to the cold. To respond to this situation, the National Societies of all four countries, together with Federation, launched the “Severe Weather” DREF-funded operation.

During the operation all four National Societies have reported regularly to the Federation delegations in Moscow, Minsk, and Kiev. The Federation delegations provided continuing technical support to the National Societies at all levels. In February 22 and 28, the Federation team held coordination meetings for Ukrainian and Russian Red Cross task force groups. This operation covered a two-month period during which the National Societies of BRUM region directly assisted over 26,000 affected beneficiaries. The relief operation aimed to cover basic needs such as warm clothes, footwear, blankets, food, soap and supplies for Red Cross homeless shelters, in 45 settlements of 22 regions of Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus, as well as the capitals of Belarus and Ukraine.

Federation governance support

Prior to the International Conference and extraordinary General Assembly that took place in Geneva between 20 and 22 June 2006, the Delegation prepared a briefing paper and discussed with the National Societies concerning the follow-up on several important issues raised by the government delegations of Syria and Palestine during the Diplomatic Conference in December 2005, as well as additional briefing information concerning the objectives related to the recognition of Magen David Adom and the Palestinian Red Crescent Society.

Management of the delegation

Following the regionalization of the Federation offices in Moscow, Kiev and Minsk, the Head of Regional Office based in Moscow was appointed, while the Head of Delegation for Minsk and Kiev offices is still in the process of recruitment. Incumbent Regional Officer from Geneva has been Acting HOD since December 2005 and continues in this capacity until the recruitment process is finalised.

Several new staff members were appointed in the Kiev office. Regional Public Health Officer who will work closely on supporting the Belarus RC and Ukrainian RC initially focusing on scaling up the prevention of HIV/AIDS, as well as the new Administrative Officer. Both staff will enhance the capacities of the Federation in supporting the work of the office.

[Financial report below; click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA67001 - BELARUS, UKRAINE, MOLDOVA

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/01-2006/05
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAA67001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget	1'646'922	2'250'042	303'154	1'207'770	594'517	6'002'404
B. Opening Balance	222'481	342'971	31'487	98'845	65'702	761'486
Income						
Cash contributions						
Capacity Building Fund				39'398		39'398
DFID Partnership	104'772	74'837	52'386	124'728		356'723
Finnish Red Cross		9'399				9'399
Norwegian Red Cross	107'226	118'117	19'780	39'559		284'682
Swedish Red Cross	55'767	30'293				86'060
Swiss Red Cross		184'368				184'368
C1. Cash contributions	267'765	417'014	72'166	203'685		960'630
Outstanding pledges (Revalued)						
Finnish Red Cross		-9'348				-9'348
Swedish Red Cross	52'874	28'722				81'595
Swiss Red Cross		-184'368				-184'368
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	52'874	-164'995				-112'121
Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)						
Capacity Building Fund				0		0
C3. Reallocations (within appeal)				0		0
Other Income						
Service Agreements					9'950	9'950
C6. Other Income					9'950	9'950
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	320'639	252'020	72'166	203'685	9'950	858'459
D. Total Funding = B + C	543'120	594'991	103'653	302'530	75'652	1'619'945

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	222'481	342'971	31'487	98'845	65'702	761'486
C. Income	320'639	252'020	72'166	203'685	9'950	858'459
E. Expenditure	-256'407	-199'074	-58'321	-189'780	-11'935	-715'516
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	286'713	395'917	45'332	112'749	63'717	904'429

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		1'646'922	2'250'042	303'154	1'207'770	594'517	6'002'404	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	400							400
Construction Materials	43'417							43'417
Clothing & textiles	209'372							209'372
Food	498'624	1'277	32'260				33'537	465'087
Seeds,Plants	2'000							2'000
Water & Sanitation	2'840							2'840
Medical & First Aid	278'447	15'821			9'650		25'471	252'976
Teaching Materials	184'954	8'730	1'427	3'263			13'421	171'533
Utensils & Tools	8'729							8'729
Other Supplies & Services	96'081		29'977				29'977	66'104
Total Supplies	1'324'864	25'828	63'664	3'263	9'650		102'405	1'222'459
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	20'500					9'451	9'451	11'049
Computers & Telecom	106'590		1'070		3'817		4'886	101'704
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	127'090		1'070		3'817	9'451	14'338	112'753
Transport & Storage								
Storage	18'000	387	1'522		36	30	1'975	16'025
Transport & Vehicle Costs	151'972	5'362	7'013	738	6'187	27	19'327	132'645
Total Transport & Storage	169'972	5'749	8'535	738	6'223	57	21'302	148'671
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	408'000							408'000
Delegate Benefits	123'220							123'220
National Staff	243'823	10'270	11'610		12'150	2'356	36'386	207'438
National Society Staff	1'028'551	57'372	34'209	8'406	25'396	55	125'438	903'113
Consultants	130'242		1'268				1'268	128'974
Total Personnel Expenditures	1'933'837	67'641	47'087	8'406	37'546	2'411	163'092	1'770'745
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	997'066	39'318	21'451	3'493	16'617	1'464	82'344	914'722
Total Workshops & Training	997'066	39'318	21'451	3'493	16'617	1'464	82'344	914'722
General Expenditure								
Travel	87'969	2'071	764	65	3'658	727	7'284	80'685
Information & Public Relation	472'889	34'060	5'758	4'982	2'335	-1'843	45'292	427'596
Office Costs	293'892	15'804	3'707	3'887	12'565	7'909	43'872	250'020
Communications	127'548	6'562	2'298	521	4'266	7'338	20'985	106'563
Professional Fees	5'640		907			33	940	4'700
Financial Charges	62'612	4'594	4'741	1'465	1'615	-723	11'692	50'920
Other General Expenses	8'869	3'290	3'905	1'511	6'098	-13'964	841	8'028
Total General Expenditure	1'059'420	66'381	22'081	12'431	30'537	-522	130'907	928'513
Depreciation								
Depreciation						-1'702	-1'702	1'702
Total Depreciation						-1'702	-1'702	1'702
Program Support								
Program Support	390'156	16'666	12'940	3'791	12'336	776	46'509	343'648
Total Program Support	390'156	16'666	12'940	3'791	12'336	776	46'509	343'648
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		34'822	22'247	26'199	73'055		156'323	-156'323
Total Operational Provisions		34'822	22'247	26'199	73'055		156'323	-156'323
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	6'002'404	256'407	199'074	58'321	189'780	11'935	715'516	5'286'889
VARIANCE (C - D)		1'390'515	2'050'969	244'833	1'017'990	582'582	5'286'889	