

Report 2006-2007



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo (Focus on Kosovo)

Appeal No. MAACS001

This report covers the period of 01/01/2006 to 31/12/2006
of a two-year planning and appeal process.

In a world of global challenges, continued poverty, inequity, and increasing vulnerability to disasters and disease, the International Federation with its global network, works to accomplish its Global Agenda, partnering with local community and civil society to prevent and alleviate human suffering from disasters, diseases and public health emergencies.



Elderly beneficiaries in Kosovo who have no family support benefit from the winter assistance activities supported by the Federation and partners. International Federation/S. Emini

In brief

Programme Summary:

The major issue determining the level of programme implementation in 2006 has been an invariable and significant lack of funding. In June the funding level for the year 2006 was still only at 33%. In response to the low funding level the Federation revised its 2006-2007 Appeal in July in order to better streamline and focus the planned programme activities and adjust the budget to the funding reality. The budget for 2006 was reduced by 30%. Following this revision, the Federation Office in Kosovo worked very hard to achieve a funding level of 75% by the end of the year (of which 12% were earmarked for project implementation in 2007 – thus the real level of funding was 63%). However, the constant uncertainty about how much funding will be available also meant that the implementation of the various activities in the different programmes could only start when it was apparent that a minimum of funding was available to cover the associated expenses. This meant that a significant level of programme implementation could only be started during the second half of the year. Nevertheless, working within the framework of these severe limitations, it can be said that the Federation Kosovo Office successfully implemented those activities which had a sufficient level of funding.

Goal: The strategic goal as set out in the Kosovo strategic priorities document developed in 2006 is to strengthen the local RC in a context of change to achieve the highest possible degree of self-sufficient sustainability in terms of organizational functioning and in the provision of quality services to the most vulnerable. **[Click here to go directly to the Kosovo strategic priorities document.](#)**

Needs: The Kosovo budget is part of the Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo Appeal, which is CHF 5,863,653 (USD 4,847,875 or EUR 3,572,005) for 2006-2007. The total 2006-2007 budget for Kosovo

is CHF 1,782,083 (USD 1,473,330 or EUR 1,085,850) (out of which 37% is covered). [Click here to go directly to the attached financial report for Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo Appeal.](#)

No. of people we help: In total, 5,290 people benefited directly from the Federation programme support provided to the local RC organisations in Kosovo in 2006.

Programme	Target beneficiaries	Total # of people we help
Organisational Development	RC staff, RC volunteers	84
Youth Development	RC volunteers, youth	230
Health and Care	Women in rural areas, youth	4,400
Social Welfare	Single female-headed households, youth, elderly without family support	490
Disaster Management	RC staff, RC volunteers	86

However, it is important to mention that the priority of the Federation in Kosovo is to support the local RC structures to continuously develop and be able to fulfil the humanitarian mandate and assist the most vulnerable.

Our Partners: The Federation Office in Kosovo works and/or coordinates with a total number of 46 community-based, local, government-based, non-government-based, international, UN, other development organizations and agencies as well as partners within the Red Cross/Red Crescent (RC/RC) Movement.

Current context

Kosovo has been under direct UN Administration since the 1999 conflict although it is still formally part of Serbia. Despite large investments from the international community in the past eight years, it continues to face a vicious cycle of low growth, significant trade imbalance and fiscal constraints. High unemployment and increasing poverty remain major issues of concern and affect more than half of the population. Combined with weak governmental institutions which are not in a position to even cover the basic needs in the sectors of health, social welfare and employment, this has resulted in an extremely high degree of structural socioeconomic vulnerability of the population. Among the groups which are disproportionately affected by this situation are children, the elderly, female-headed households, the disabled and non-Serb ethnic minorities.

There is a general agreement among the members of the international community that the economic and social stagnation in Kosovo is to a large extent linked to the current lack of a permanent political status. As the UN Administration has always been perceived to be a temporary measure, a process to define the final status of Kosovo was started in February 2006. Unfortunately the political situation and related developments in Kosovo have been dominated by the status process to such an extent that little or no progress was made on other important issues and thus there has been no improvement of the critical situation in the sectors of health, social welfare, economics, etc. Consequently the two local RC structures in Kosovo, the *Red Cross of Kosova (RCK)* and the *Red Cross of Kosovo and Metohija (RCKM)*, were - and still are - required to continue playing an increasingly important role in the assistance to the most vulnerable.

However, while the local RC organizations still struggle to maintain their own operational capacity to implement programmes and assist the most vulnerable, they are at the same time challenged to change their organisational structures and systems to adapt to the new realities created by the process of transformation from socialism to economic and democratic liberalism and the effects this has had on the economic, political and social systems. To undergo such a process of change and at the same time continue providing critical services to an increasing number of most vulnerable people is a huge

challenge. Thus there is a continued need to provide a stable level of support to the local RC structures in Kosovo and ensure that they can fulfil their humanitarian mandate while at the same time progressing towards becoming *one* modern and well-functioning RC organisation.

Progress towards objectives

Organizational Development

Objective: To improve the management skills and structure of RC organizations with increased volunteer and programme capacity at all levels of organisation.

The support provided by the Federation resulted in improved management capacity of the local RC structures by means of enhanced office infrastructure, and improved skills in planning, monitoring and evaluation, and English language. A particularly important issue that was given highest priority was the development of a better finance management system, a process which was started in 2006. It is important to note that despite the inability to implement all of the planned activities (due to a shortage in funding), the progressing close cooperation and systematic coaching provided by the Federation has contributed notably towards improving the management capacity of the local RC structures.

A Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) process was initiated by assisting the local RC in developing a four year strategic development plan and by organizing a meeting for all RC/RC partners active in Kosovo (bilaterally and multilaterally). The goal of the meeting was to define a common way forward in the support of the priorities of the local RC organisations.

Despite the efforts of the Federation and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to support the evolving of *one* RC organization in Kosovo, no progress can be reported. This is due to the fact that because of the unresolved status of Kosovo neither side was willing to engage in a dialogue before the final status is resolved on a political level. However, this sensitive issue remains a matter of concern for the Federation and the ICRC.

One particular constraint encountered during the implementation of the OD programme was the fact that there is only very little or no expertise available in Kosovo which can provide professional management training support to the local RC organisations. Thus no local partnerships can be developed in this respect and this much needed expertise would have to be sourced from outside of Kosovo, which exceeds the available budgeting.

Even though the **Youth Development programme** is one of the most important Federation-supported programmes in Kosovo, it was one of the least funded in 2006. Despite these constraints, the Federation managed to provide support to the local RC organisations to strengthen the competent involvement and active participation of youth not only in the implementation of humanitarian activities, but also in the decision making processes of the organisations. A long-term plan to develop the youth and volunteer management structures and systematically enhance their capacity to better contribute to the RC work in Kosovo on both management and governance level was developed together with the Youth Commission and youth volunteers. The implementation of this plan started by training a total of 172 RC branch youth leaders from both RC organisations, who in turn will lead and train other youth volunteers in their branches. Another positive outcome of the work of the Federation Office was the establishment of a new partnership between the Finnish Red Cross and the local RC organisations which will start in early 2007. This partnership will complement the Federation's Youth Development Programme, which will continue to focus on the development of the youth and volunteer management structures, while the Finnish RC will focus on capacity development of youth volunteers in the local RC branches.

Health and Care

Objective: To increase the awareness of the population in Kosovo on family health issues, HIV/AIDS prevention and risk behaviour.

During the second year of its implementation, the Family Health Education (FHE) project managed to significantly reinforce the position of the local RC as an important partner in the field of health education and considerably strengthened the capabilities of the RC branches to deliver qualitative health education services. The target beneficiaries are women living in rural areas and the project aims to educate them on family health issues such as prenatal and natal care, family planning and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and to empower them by using this knowledge in their daily lives. The increase of awareness among women has resulted in more frequent visits to the family health centres (FHC) and thus has strengthened the network between beneficiaries and FHC. In total 3,944 women (direct beneficiaries) were trained in 182 courses which means that at an average family size of five people, a minimum of 19,729 people (indirect beneficiaries) benefited from this activity implemented by the local RC branches. In addition, the involvement of the governmental health institutions in monitoring and evaluation of the project has contributed towards the RC providing higher quality health education services to the vulnerable communities and has further enhanced institutional relationships between the RC and the health authorities. As a direct result, the Ministry of Health is planning to provide some further funding to the project. Unfortunately, the limited funding available for the Health and Care programme meant that only a reduced number of FHE courses could be held and only very limited support could be provided to the First Aid and HIV/AIDS awareness activities of the local RC organisations.

One of the main aims of the two pilot projects in **Social Welfare** was to apply and incorporate a participatory methodology as the basic way of working in community development. The two projects focus on building up professional skills of unemployed youth through vocational training and on improving the socio-economic situation of single female-headed households through sustainable income generation. In the course of the ongoing project implementation, the cooperation between the RC branches with the local institutions and other organizations has significantly increased, recognizing the local RC as a serious partner in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable. Another positive output of the projects is the integral involvement of the beneficiaries in all stages of the project thus mobilizing and empowering them to make the changes they want to see in their daily lives. However, the final impact of the project can only be measured at a later stage as the projects will only be completed in mid-2007.

The Social Welfare programme suffered from the same major constraint as the other programmes, a lack of funds, which meant that no home care activities for vulnerable elderly could be implemented by the local RC organisations. In addition, this also meant that special extra efforts had to be made to find some limited funding for winter assistance to elderly beneficiaries without family support. By the time minimum funds could be secured and relief assistance could be provided, winter had already started.

Disaster Management

Objective: To increase the capacity of the local RC organisations to plan and manage effective disaster preparedness and response initiatives based on the national plan.

The Federation Office was only able to provide limited support to the local RC organizations in their efforts to improve and strengthen their capacity in disaster preparedness and response due to a significant lack of funding for the DM programme. Nevertheless, with additional support from the Regional Delegation, the planned DM Needs Assessment trainings for both RC organizations could be held, resulting in enhanced capabilities of RC staff and volunteers to effectively assess the needs in emergency/disaster situations and use the information to plan effective response activities. However, these trainings were only the first step in developing an adequate level of DM capacity for the RC structures in Kosovo which would enable them to effectively respond to any emergency/disaster.

Humanitarian Values

Objective: During 2006 the Federation in Kosovo neither received funding for the Humanitarian Values Programme nor any indication of interest from donors to support the programme in the future. Consequently, during the appeal revision in June 2006, the Humanitarian Values Programme was frozen for 2006 and at the end of the year taken out of the appeal programme for 2007.

Working in partnership

In 2006 the Federation Office in Kosovo significantly increased the level of partnership development compared to the previous years. These partnerships are contributing towards achieving progress through: a) ensuring a constant exchange of information and analysis which complements the view and expertise of the RC in assessing the needs and implementing programmes for the most vulnerable, b) providing funding and capacity building support to the local RC organisations and thus enhancing their programme implementation ability and quality, and c) allowing for better focused planning and activity implementation through an increased level of coordination and cooperation with other actors.

While the Federation Office in Kosovo has been rather successful in assisting the development of new or enhanced partnerships particularly for RCK, this has been more challenging to do for RCKM. Due to the fact that RCKM is neither recognized nor registered by the Kosovo authorities in Pristina, there exist no opportunities to develop institutional links for the benefit of the vulnerable population in the areas covered by RCKM. In addition, there has been no progress in developing even the most rudimentary level of partnership between RCK and RCKM which could ensure a basic coordination and thus allow an essential covering of the needs of the most vulnerable in Kosovo.

Contributing to longer-term impact

During the revision of its 2006-2007 Appeal, the Federation in Kosovo not only strengthened its programme focus but also aligned its programmes better with the Federation's Global Agenda (GA) Goals. Each of the five programmes currently implemented in Kosovo contributes to at least one of the GA Goals. For example, by training the local RC organisations to apply the participatory community development methodology in its programmes, the RC structures in Kosovo are strengthening the local communities and civil society to be able to identify and address their most urgent situations of vulnerability. In addition, many of the programmes have a strong gender focus: e.g. the FHE project is focussing on women in rural areas enabling and empowering them to better support the health situation of their families (which also corresponds to a number of the UN Millennium Development Goals); the youth development programme actively promotes gender equality among youth leaders and within the governance structures of the local RC organisations. However, the most important aspect of the current work of the Federation in Kosovo is to assist the local RC organisations in a context of change with their organisational and capacity development to enable them to better fulfil their humanitarian mandate in the future. By helping them become well-functioning, fully accountable and transparent organisations which work in an inclusive and participatory manner, promoting respect for diversity and human dignity, the Federation is providing a significant contribution to longer-term development of civil society in Kosovo.

Looking Ahead

As mentioned above, to undergo a crucial change process while at the same time having to maintain critical support to the most vulnerable poses a huge challenge to the local RC structures in Kosovo and requires stable support for a few more years in order to create a minimum self-sustainable situation. The Federation Office in Kosovo has developed, in consultation and cooperation with the local RC organisations, a strategic priorities paper which outlines the necessary support required from all partners in such a situation in order to achieve the desired level of stability. Unfortunately, the continuing decline of funding support to the Federation Office in Kosovo has already resulted in a support to the local RC

organisations that is not nearly as stable as required, and no longer able to guarantee a continuous implementation of critical assistance and development programmes. In fact, if the current deterioration of funding continues, it will quickly threaten the presence of the Federation in Kosovo. With the imminent possibility of a final status being defined for Kosovo by the UN Security Council and the pervasive climate of political, economic and social stagnation, the departure of the Federation Secretariat from Kosovo during such a critical time would result in leaving the current and future RC structures in Kosovo without any coordinated or substantial support in an extremely difficult situation.

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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAACS001 - MONTENEGRO, SERBIA & KOSOVO

Annual Report 2006

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/12
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAACS001
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	3,496,539	809,033	2,674	1,097,011	458,396	5,863,653
B. Opening Balance	792,418	183,066	2,674	167,209	86,424	1,231,792
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>British Red Cross</i>	821,582					821,582
<i>Danish Red Cross</i>	74,702					74,702
<i>German Red Cross</i>	26,735	5,346	2,672	18,713	6,630	60,096
<i>Icelandic Red Cross</i>	29,375					29,375
<i>Norwegian Red Cross</i>	198,235	375,375		200,750	6,630	780,990
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>	42,344			50,959		93,303
<i>Swiss Government</i>	250,000					250,000
C1. Cash contributions	1,442,972	380,721	2,672	270,422	13,260	2,110,047
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
<i>British Red Cross</i>	-15,706					-15,706
<i>Danish Red Cross</i>	-70,000					-70,000
<i>German Red Cross</i>	-26,738	-5,348	-2,674	-18,716		-53,476
<i>Swiss Government</i>	-250,000					-250,000
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	-362,444	-5,348	-2,674	-18,716		-389,182
<u>Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)</u>						
<i>British Red Cross</i>		69,300				69,300
<i>Japanese Red Cross Society</i>		5,228				5,228
<i>Netherlands Red Cross</i>		57,796				57,796
<i>USAID</i>		840				840
C3. Reallocations (within appeal or		133,164				133,164
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
<i>Danish Red Cross</i>	72,333					72,333
<i>German Red Cross</i>					102,000	102,000
<i>Norwegian Red Cross</i>					102,000	102,000
C5. Inkind Personnel	72,333				204,000	276,333
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Miscellaneous Income</i>	21,845	2,332		10,641	37,095	71,913
<i>Service Agreements</i>					46,815	46,815
C6. Other Income	21,845	2,332		10,641	83,910	118,728
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	1,174,706	510,869	-2	262,347	301,170	2,249,090
D. Total Funding = B + C	1,967,124	693,934	2,672	429,556	387,594	3,480,881

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	792,418	183,066	2,674	167,209	86,424	1,231,792
C. Income	1,174,706	510,869	-2	262,347	301,170	2,249,090
E. Expenditure	-1,516,419	-307,045	-2,672	-320,609	-224,187	-2,370,933
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	450,705	386,889	0	108,947	163,407	1,109,949

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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)		3,496,539	809,033	2,674	1,097,011	458,396	5,863,653	
Supplies								
Construction Materials	18,730							18,730
Clothing & textiles	50,458		52,283				52,283	-1,825
Food	215,902	61,812					61,812	154,090
Medical & First Aid	18,570	11,570			150		11,721	6,850
Teaching Materials	28,954	7,524	347		931		8,802	20,153
Utensils & Tools	43,507							43,507
Other Supplies & Services	102,241	5,472	822				6,294	95,946
Total Supplies	478,363	86,378	53,453		1,081		140,912	337,451
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Land & Buildings	4,298							4,298
Computers & Telecom	115,125	993			71,760	16,976	89,729	25,396
Others Machinery & Equipment			4,298				4,298	-4,298
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	119,423	993	4,298		71,760	16,976	94,027	25,396
Transport & Storage								
Storage	228	348	720			97	1,165	-937
Distribution & Monitoring		242					242	-242
Transport & Vehicle Costs	316,860	131,399	4,307		12,794	-5,695	142,804	174,056
Total Transport & Storage	317,088	131,989	5,027		12,794	-5,598	144,210	172,877
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	482,400							482,400
Delegate Benefits	269,571	155,889	7,941	2,498	14,426	203,944	384,699	-115,128
National Staff	820,976	233,796	57,806		99,758	3,249	394,609	426,367
National Society Staff	484,582	378,800	48,581		9,214	16	436,612	47,970
Consultants	24,500	3,294	4,292		4,075		11,662	12,838
Total Personnel Expenditures	2,082,029	771,780	118,621	2,498	127,473	207,209	1,227,581	854,448
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	1,445,924	191,678	71,943		26,343	413	290,377	1,155,548
Total Workshops & Training	1,445,924	191,678	71,943		26,343	413	290,377	1,155,548
General Expenditure								
Travel	260,237	17,449	6,789		13,731	-11	37,958	222,279
Information & Public Relation	270,468	62,512	2,938		8,619	65	74,134	196,334
Office Costs	266,272	55,392	2,951		12,587	72,307	143,239	123,034
Communications	62,017	5,250	1,778		5,836	30,639	43,503	18,514
Professional Fees	59,844					6,510	6,510	53,334
Financial Charges	18,126	15,563	2,322		-684	-8,142	9,059	9,067
Other General Expenses	102,725	79,174	16,968		20,229	-109,890	6,481	96,245
Total General Expenditure	1,039,688	235,340	33,746		60,319	-8,522	320,883	718,805
Program Support								
Program Support	381,137	98,262	19,958	174	20,840	13,710	152,943	228,194
Total Program Support	381,137	98,262	19,958	174	20,840	13,710	152,943	228,194
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	5,863,653	1,516,419	307,045	2,672	320,609	224,187	2,370,933	3,492,720
VARIANCE (C - D)		1,980,120	501,988	2	776,402	234,209	3,492,720	