

# Annual report

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Afghanistan

Appeal No. MAAAF001

This report covers the period 1 January  
to 31 December 2009.

24 April 2010



A young child is using the newly constructed well as a safe drinking water source in Shortepa district of Balkh province, northern Afghanistan. Photo: International Federation

## In brief

### Programme purpose:

- Improve the health status of vulnerable people in targeted areas.
- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Promote respect for diversity and human dignity, and reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion.
- Enhance the service delivery capacity of Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) at all levels.

### Programme(s) summary:

The major activities during the reporting period include the following:

**Disaster management:** The ARCS disaster management programme through its 34 branches, volunteer network and the support of the International Federation achieved some progress during the reporting period. Coping capacities of vulnerable populations in targeted disaster prone communities were strengthened through the conduct of community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP) training workshops, refresher courses and follow-up visits. A total of 555 new CBDP volunteers, including 40 women, were recruited and trained, 14 local disaster preparedness (DP) committees were established and the people in disaster prone provinces were educated about the risk of natural hazards thus increasing their awareness.

An emergency operational centre (EOC) was established at the headquarters to improve the ARCS disaster response capacity. A disaster response unit (DRU) consisting of 12 staff and volunteers was established in the eastern region and two existing DRUs have been equipped with the required operational kits and a stand-by vehicle. Construction of a regional DP warehouse in Herat branch is now 60 per cent complete. Its construction was only made possible with the financial support from the Danish government through the Danish Red Cross.

The skills of ARCS staff and volunteers in the area of disaster management have been strengthened and the national society partnership with government authorities, Movement components and other national and international stakeholders improved. Furthermore, a contingency plan for a major earthquake in Kabul city and flooding contingency plans for 21 provinces (81 districts) were finalized and approved by the ARCS management. The annual plan for 2010-11 including logical framework, plan of action and related budget were developed.

Afghanistan experienced severe winter conditions, including heavy snowfall and avalanches, early in January 2009 in the central, north and north eastern regions. Subsequently, in mid-March following heavy rains and increased snow melt, flash flooding occurred. In addition, on 17 April 2009 an earthquake with a magnitude 5.6 on Richter scale struck Shirzad district of Nangarhar province. While the earthquake damage was localised and devastating, both flooding and earthquake events caused widespread damage to infrastructure and livelihoods in the western, south-west, northern and eastern parts of the country as well as the central highlands. A total number of 9,651 families (57,906 individuals) were affected and over 80 people killed and 130 more were injured.

**Health and care:** 2009 was a successful year for the ARCS and the International Federation as the national society was able to implement over 90 per cent of the proposed activities and utilized 100 per cent of the budget received through International Federation. One of the major achievements for the ARCS health programme was the successful completion of external evaluations for two of its major health activities: the basic health centre (BHC) and community-based first aid (CBFA) programmes. The evaluations were undertaken by external consultants with the support of the International Federation and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Afghanistan. The evaluations resulted in some key recommendations potentially affecting future directions and the sustainability of the programmes. In order to address the recommendations, the national society prioritized and developed specific strategies to address them.

The outbreak of Influenza A (H1N1) was a major public health emergency affecting 950 people, including 411 foreign military personnel. A total of 17 people throughout the country died. In order to implement preparedness and response activities to the pandemic, the ARCS, with the support of the International Federation, developed a proposal as part of the humanitarian pandemic preparedness (H2P) programme which was approved by the Geneva Secretariat. So far, the ARCS has trained 90 master trainers and 1,357 CBFA and youth peer educators on the basic facts of H1N1. Similarly, 400 volunteers were trained in avian influenza in addition to 415 CBFA volunteers as per needs identified in central and northern regions.

The emergency mobile units (EMUs) did a remarkable job to provide emergency medical assistance to the victims of floods in western and northern provinces, as well as during the earthquake in the eastern region of the country. The EMU teams were equally involved in response activities to the pandemic with the Herat EMU team establishing a camp in the district hospital of Herat city taking care of acute respiratory infections (ARI) and probable cases of H1N1. In addition, the EMU teams in central, northern and eastern regions provided emergency medical services to acute watery diarrhoea outbreaks.

The HIV and AIDS prevention project was further expanded to Jalalabad city where the national society conducted a baseline study on knowledge and attitudes in regard to HIV and AIDS among school youth.

The comprehensive community-based health intervention (CCBHI) project continues successfully with ARCS constructing 77 sanitary latrines and 20 wells which benefit around 8,400 individuals in the project areas. The target population were also trained in community-based disaster preparedness in addition to hygiene promotion and first aid.

**Organizational development:** The second harmonized and operational plan has been developed following a participatory approach and implementation of the same will be continued up to March 2010. The harmonized planning approach is now well established with the ARCS and good progress is being made on the development of the 2010-2011 plan with branches now included in the process.

An external audit company studied the financial management system and provided a report with recommendations to the ARCS leadership. An agreement is ready to sign between the ARCS and the Bakhtar University (BU) to engage BU to assist the national society to develop a policy in human resource and finance areas.

Governance is an area that has also been addressed in 2009, but progress has been slow due to the presidential election process that occurred over a three-month period. Regardless, a two-day orientation training workshop was conducted for the ARCS governance board members. The membership programme, carried out in all 34 branches of the national society, has increased the recruitment of new members as well as prepared them for the establishment of branch-based governance bodies. The information, education and communication (IEC) materials have been printed in order to motivate and encourage volunteers and new members in the membership programme. Two local (district) level governance boards have been established in Panshir and Bamyan provincial branches. Plans have been made to strengthen the membership base at branch level so that branch boards are then viable and the process of working towards convening a national general assembly can move forward with a degree of confidence.

Through a restructuring process, five new regional offices were established to decentralize the headquarters functions to heads of the regional offices. This intermediate line of delegated management needs an appropriate level of authority, resources and support to succeed and branches need to understand the benefits to the organization of a much more manageable link with the field. Movement coordination has become an established part of the planning process and the field is now engaged in the harmonization of inputs, thus providing a greater degree of collaboration and transparency in planning.

The first draft of the volunteers' policy has been finalized under the auspices of the integrated programme project. Youth activities in the national society have expanded with the establishment of two new youth clubs in Bamyan and Kapisa provinces and 12 youth corners in all five regions. As it is the activities of the youth groups who take the messages of the Movement into the community, youth involvement in programme areas of the national society also ensures visibility, understanding, growth and continuity particularly in the areas of health and disaster preparedness.

**Humanitarian values:** Humanitarian value as a concept is carried out through the action of the national society staff and volunteers while participating in the operations and normal daily life. The ARCS strategic plan highlights humanitarian values as a strategic area along with the other seven and as such has been included with the ARCS social welfare programme where the destitute, homeless and war traumatized people of the community are targeted. During the implementation of the ARCS programmes, it was determined that the incorporation of humanitarian values into the behaviour and actions of the ARCS staff and volunteers was vital. As a result, all ARCS programmes adopted some components of humanitarian values while developing their operational plans for 2009. Advocacy on a range of issues from gender to the rights of those most vulnerable in the community is developing into another priority area where the national society is attempting to focus.

**Financial situation:** The total 2009 budget was CHF 5,791,886 (USD 5,600,895 or EUR 3,892,919) based on the programmes' workplan and funding situation. Coverage is 119 per cent while expenditure from January to December 2009 is 97 per cent of the total 2009 budget.

[Click here to go directly to the attached financial report.](#)

**No. of people we have reached:**

Programme title	Total number of beneficiaries		
	Male	Female	Total
Health and Care	561,831	791,167	<b>1,352,998</b>
DM	49,049	63,890	<b>112,939</b>
OD	19,120	8,300	<b>27,420</b>
HV	1,900	1,950	<b>3,850</b>

**Our partners:** Our partners, including the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, key government ministries, United Nations agencies, international organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are recognized under the government's national disaster management plan.

On behalf of the Afghan Red Crescent Society, the International Federation would like to thank all partners for their support.

## Context

The security situation during the reporting period has remained volatile throughout the country. However, one trend that has been attributed to the election process mainly in the lead up to and immediate following the presidential election held on 20 August, was the marked increase in insecurity particularly in Kabul. Following several challenging months of campaigning, not only for the involved parties and individuals but also for the people of Afghanistan, the incumbent Hamid Karzai was controversially selected for a second five-year term as president. The election period was accompanied with various acts of violence including intimidation, attacks and bombings resulting in many casualties throughout Afghanistan.

In a serious incident which occurred on 28 October at one of the commercial guesthouses used by the United Nations in the heart of the Afghan capital, a group of suicide bombers gained entry to the compound killing security guards and five UN expatriate staff. The emphatic statement by the Taliban who claimed responsibility for the attack and that they had clearly targeted the United Nations, prompted a relocation of some 600-700 UN personnel to safer locations out of the country or in Afghanistan until such time as security arrangements had been improved. Other humanitarian organizations were forced to undertake similar reviews and it is likely that there will be an impact on the continuation of their operations in Afghanistan.

At least 17 people have died from the Influenza A (H1N1) virus in Afghanistan. In response to a rapid increase in confirmed cases, the government declared a national emergency and launched an education campaign. Afghanistan's Minister of Public Health authorized the shutting down of schools, universities and public restrooms for three weeks. Sports clubs and wedding halls also closed their doors and people wearing blue surgical masks were everywhere in Kabul: in bazaars, on bicycles, in tea shops and taxis. Of more than 950 confirmed cases, 508 were Afghans, with the remainder being foreigners, almost all military personnel. Although the national death toll of 17 is a fraction of the number recorded worldwide by the World Health Organization, officials in Kabul in justifying their actions thought there was reason to be concerned given the vulnerable condition of much of its population.

Children continue to be the centre of concern as one of the most vulnerable groups in Afghanistan affected by the ongoing conflict. Based on data collected by the Afghanistan Rights Monitor (ARM), a Kabul-based rights group, between 1,050 children were killed in suicide attacks, roadside blasts, air strikes and in the cross-fire between Taliban insurgents and pro-government Afghan and foreign forces.

Due to the deteriorating security situation highlighted by attacks in Kabul and numerous others around the country, Movement partners were restrained from conducting monitoring and evaluation visits to the field. Although the International Federation programme managers have visited the field occasionally, they still rely heavily on the programme monitoring and evaluation conducted by the national society that enables the International Federation to produce the reports required describing the results of programme implementation for the many donors who contribute to the appeal.

## Progress towards outcomes

### Disaster Management

#### Outcome(s)/Expected result(s)

Programme component	Outcome
<b>1. Building safer communities</b>	The resilience and self-reliance of individuals and communities are increased and the impact of disasters in targeted disaster prone areas is reduced.
<b>2. Strengthening disaster response and preparedness for responses</b>	The capacity of the ARCS in human and material resources, systems and procedures to enable a more effective response to meet the needs of those people affected by disasters is improved.

## **Achievements**

### **Expected result 1:**

The Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) disaster management department organized 20 community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP) training workshops, a training session for the disaster response unit (DRU), and 12 CBDP refresher courses at headquarters, provincial and regional levels. From the CBDP activities, 555 volunteers, including 40 women, received basic training and 357 trained volunteers received refresher training. Follow-ups of the CBDP volunteers' activities were also conducted. Furthermore, seven ARCS and two International Federation staff participated in regional disaster response team (RDRT) external training. As a result, the knowledge and skills of staff and volunteers were upgraded and contributed in reducing the impact of disasters on affected population, reducing vulnerability and increasing capacity in targeted communities at branches level. This in turn enhanced community resilience and strengthened the preparedness of the ARCS and the broader community to cope with small-scale disaster at the local level.

The ARCS has improved the capacity of the communities living in targeted disaster-prone areas by establishing local disaster preparedness committees across the country and increasing the awareness of vulnerable communities to common hazards (earthquake, floods, avalanches, landslides and drought), including how to cope with the consequences of small-scale disasters using their own available resources. A total of 14 disaster preparedness committees each consisting of 10-11 members have been established in the northern, eastern, western and central regions.

With the extensive network of trained youth, CBFA and CBDP volunteers and staff, the ARCS has established stronger relationships with the communities and implemented successful disaster risk reduction and response measures. The methodologies learned by the ARCS during the training workshops can be used for the development of different training manuals for the national society staff, volunteers and communities. A total of 78 sets of community-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) training material provided by the International Federation South Asia regional office were handed over to the ARCS disaster management department. Seven volumes of CBDRR training materials are being translated into Dari language while the Dari version of the emergency assessment guidelines has now been printed.

To strengthen the ARCS human resource and institutional capacity, seven ARCS staff and two International Federation staff participated in a range of training activities and workshops organized by the South Asia regional and Zone offices. These included regional advocacy skills development, RDRT induction female group, RDRT IT & telecom, RDRT refresher, logistics and water and sanitation.

The ARCS and International Federation regularly participated in Disaster Management Coordination meetings with the government departments of Afghanistan, with other national and international stakeholders and members of different Inter Agency sectorial clusters.

### **Expected result 2:**

Construction of a regional warehouse with an area of 300 square meters began in Herat ARCS branch to further improve the ARCS logistics capacity to effectively respond to frequent disasters. The warehouse has the capacity of storing non-food items for over 3,000 families and by 31 December 2009, 60 per cent of the construction had been completed.

A five-day DRU training workshop was conducted at the ARCS headquarters from 25-29 October 2009 to train another operational disaster response team consisting of 12 staff and volunteers that had been established in Jalalabad region. The ARCS now has four DRU trained teams in Kabul, Mazar-e-Sharif, Herat and Jalalabad which are equipped with standard first aid and operational kits as well as one stand-by Land Cruiser vehicle as for each team.

The International Federation replenished disaster preparedness stocks in eight provincial branches in four regions of Afghanistan to strengthen the relief stock capacity of the ARCS at provincial level. Furthermore, 1,000 tents, 8,000 blankets and 3,115 jerry cans were despatched from the International Federation Kabul main warehouse to Herat and Mazar sub-offices to fill any gaps in case of a disaster or emergency situation to be distributed to the affected people through the responding ARCS branches in the regions.

A total of 19,000 blankets and 685 family tents were procured against the Finnish Red Cross contribution to strengthen the material resource capacity of the ARCS. These items were prepositioned in the

International Federation regional stocks in Kabul, Mazar-e-Sharif and Jalalabad to be distributed to beneficiaries in case of emergencies.

The food intervention project earmarked for Herat and Farah provinces of the western region, funded by the Italian government, was successfully completed. The International Federation procured 710,673 MT food items locally and then assessed the situation of families affected by floods, landslide and drought, as well as returnees and conflict related internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Herat and Farah provinces. Based on the agreed criteria, the distribution to identified beneficiaries was implemented by ARCS trained staff and volunteers.

The following food distribution was completed in six targeted districts of Herat province:

No	Districts	No of families covered	No of individuals	Distributed food items in MT ton/district
1	Gulran	1,130	7,910	100.57 MT
2	Kushk-i-Kohna	600	4,200	82.77 MT
3	Kushk-i-Rabatsange	932	6,524	79.92 MT
4	Chesht-i-Sharif	890	6,230	53.40 MT
5	Shindand	550	3,850	48.95 MT
6	Adraskan	320	2,240	28.48 MT
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,422</b>	<b>30,954</b>	<b>394.9 MT food items</b>

The same food packages were distributed in four targeted districts in Farah province, including Farah centre.

No	Districts	No of families	No of Individual	Distributed food items in MT ton/district
1	Jowain	700	4,900	62.30 MT
2	Balabuluk	1,163	8,141	103.50 MT
3	Pusht Rod	651	4,557	57.97 MT
4	Farah Centre	649	4,543	57.76 MT
<b>Total</b>		<b>3,163</b>	<b>22,141</b>	<b>281.53 MT food items</b>

Four rental Land Cruiser vehicles under the Danish Red Cross-funded project were provided to strengthen the ARCS DRU capacity to provide immediate response at the community level.

Due to the high frequency of disasters and an increase in the numbers of the affected populations in the country in 2008/2009, the indicator relating to the quantum holding of essential stocks to procure and replenish has been increased from 7,000 to 14,000 families. This figure is reviewed at least annually and trends analysed to establish a need to adjust this figure.

### Constraints or Challenges

The volatile and increasingly unstable security situation especially in southern, eastern and western parts of the country was a major challenge which had an obvious impact on monitoring programme activities and accessing disaster affected areas to assess and provide assistance.

The frequent turnover and replacement of disaster management staff in the ARCS as well as lack of proper human resource and financial systems at the ARCS headquarters and branches levels often impacts on the continuity and uniformity of action taken by the national society.

Constant conflict situations and recurrent natural disasters had significant impact on the implementation of programme activities and providing quality services and assistance to disaster affected populations.

## Health and Care

### Outcome(s)/Expected result(s)

Programme component	Component outcome
1. Community-based first aid	Improved health status and capacity of communities to cope with health and disaster challenges through integrated community-based

	health and first aid.
<b>2. Public health in emergencies</b>	Access to curative and preventive health services improved in target areas during disasters and normal situations.
<b>3. Basic health centres</b>	Improved access to targeted vulnerable population for curative and preventive health services. Improved maternal, newborn and child health care.
<b>4. HIV and AIDS</b>	Vulnerability to HIV and its impacts reduced through preventing further infections and reducing stigma and discrimination, as well as improved access to safe blood for children and mothers.

## Achievements

### Expected result 1:

The major achievement during the first half of the year was the external evaluation of the community-based first aid (CBFA) programme. The team leader of the evaluation team was hired by the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement to conduct the evaluation. Other members of the evaluation team included a Finnish Red Cross representative and the ARCS CBFA director. The evaluation gave the national society as well as the Movement partners (International Federation and ICRC) critical feedback on how to further strengthen the programme. This has been the first ever evaluation of the CBFA programme since its initiation in 1997.

The CBFA trainers and volunteers were active during floods responses in western and northern regions, whilst also responding to the earthquake in Nangarhar province in the eastern region. CBFA trainers, volunteers and the International Federation logistic officer from Mazar-e-Sharif participated in the second round relief distribution to 10,000 drought affected people in Balkh province.

A total of 415 new volunteers were trained in Kunduz, Sar-e-Pul, Panjsher, Bamyán and Parwan provinces. All the new volunteers were provided with first aid bags while previously trained volunteers were provided with refilling materials. In addition, 400 volunteers were trained in avian influenza in Kabul, Nangarhar, Kunar and Laghman provinces. The volunteers received avian influenza-related information, education and communication (IEC) materials which are being used in the volunteers' respective communities. Further, 200 volunteers (including 100 women) were trained in H1N1 as part of the humanitarian pandemic preparedness (H2P).

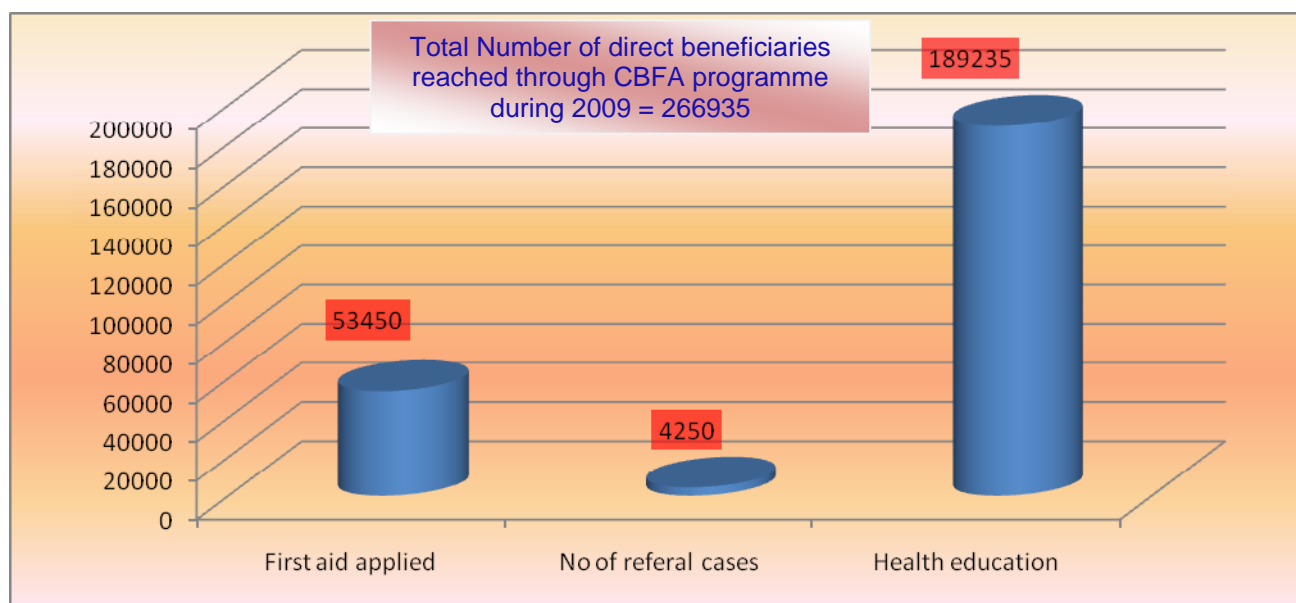
On the occasion of celebration of New Year (solar calendar), ARCS Mazar branch set up four first aid posts on the Mazar-Samangan-Mazar-Jawzjan highway and at the Holy Shrine. A total of 464 patients were examined, 82 injured people dressed and 16 seriously injured were referred to Balkh Ministry of Public Health facilities by Ministry of Public Health ambulances.

The CBFA volunteers assisted ARCS emergency mobile units (EMU) in response activities to outbreaks of severe diarrhoea (semi-cholera) in Sar-e-Pul and Nangarhar provinces. The CBFA volunteers were responsible for the preventative component of ARCS intervention which included health education campaigns (raising awareness of communities), distribution of oral rehydration solutions (ORS) and chlorination of water sources. A total of 1,375 CBFA team leaders, volunteers and youth peer educators were also trained in Influenza A (H1N1) interventions in Kabul, Kandahar, Nangarhar and Mazar regions, whilst a training of trainers session targeting 30 CBFA supervisors, trainers, regional health officers and HIV and AIDS project staff members was conducted in central region as part of the H2P project.

The translation of community based health and first aid (CBHFA) into Dari and Pashto was completed and will be printed in 2010.

A total of 822 ARCS CBFA volunteers actively participated in national immunization days (NIDS) polio eradication campaigns throughout different provinces of the country as well as playing a monitoring role during the campaigns. This involvement by the ARCS was valued highly by Ministry of Public Health and UNICEF.

The following chart shows the achievements of CBFA project during 2009.



#### Expected result 2:

The outbreak of Influenza A (H1N1) was a major public health emergency, affecting 950 people and killed 17 people throughout the country. In order to implement preparedness and response activities to the pandemic, ARCS, with the support of the International Federation, developed a proposal as part of the H2P programme which was approved by the Geneva Secretariat. In response to the successful submission, the ARCS has trained 90 master trainers and more than 800 CBFA and youth peer educators on the basic facts of H1N1. The Herat EMU team were deployed to work in the regional hospital taking care of H1N1 affected people. During this period, they provided services to around 663 acute respiratory infections (ARI) cases and of those, 42 suspected cases were hospitalized.

The EMUs were also involved in emergency response activities in their respective regions. For example, the Herat EMU teams were involved in emergency response activities to flood affected people in Ghorian, Khosan and Rabatsangi districts of Herat province. The Nangarhar EMUs actively responded to the health needs of earthquake affected people in Shirzad district of Nangarhar province where the 5.5 Richter scale earthquake resulted in the death of 22 people, injured 30 and rendered 200 families homeless. The EMU teams worked for one week in the earthquake affected area. In addition, the country faced acute watery diarrhoea outbreaks in the central, eastern and northern regions in which the ARCS EMU teams, with support of CBFA volunteers, played an active role.

The ARCS received 84 boxes of medicine that consisted mostly of interagency emergency kits and pneumonia kits from the World Health Organization. The International Federation also procured malaria kits which can cover 10,000 individuals and dispatched the kits to affected regions as an emergency medical stock. The kits will be utilized during emergencies as the teams are regularly supplied with medicine kits for their routine activities.

As part of the avian influenza awareness programme, a number of IEC materials for avian influenza were printed and distributed to the targeted audiences. The ARCS has trained 600 CBFA volunteers in Kabul, Nangarhar, Laghman and Kunar in avian influenza.

During the reporting period, the International Federation health team carried out a number of field visits jointly with Movement partners to Kandahar, Herat and Jalalabad in order to visit EMU teams and determine their major challenges/constraints in terms of programme implementation and seek to achieve greater integration between ARCS programmes at field level, such as CBFA and the DRU.

The following table shows the achievements of EMU teams during 2009.

**ARCS Emergency Mobile Units Achievement during January to December 2009**

Activity	Time Frame												Totals
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
<b>Out-Patient</b>													
Under 5 male	1870	1951	605	1803	1023	1487	1251	1118	488	1247	1453	1300	15596
Under 5 female	1686	2156	565	1708	1149	1395	1099	928	391	1171	1217	1150	14615
Over 5 male	1560	1824	1161	1358	1844	1256	1023	814	122	930	825	750	13467
Over 5 female	2241	2492	1521	2289	3109	2751	2315	1477	132	2203	1933	830	23293
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>7357</b>	<b>8423</b>	<b>3852</b>	<b>7158</b>	<b>7125</b>	<b>6889</b>	<b>5688</b>	<b>4337</b>	<b>1133</b>	<b>5551</b>	<b>5428</b>	<b>4030</b>	<b>66971</b>
<b>Dressing</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>3206</b>
Health Education Individual	8146	8806	4213	6109	7137	10229	10978	10099	1688	6787	6390	5400	85982
Health Education Group	1968	2531	637	1910	1367	1668	1539	1382	213	866	961	750	45792
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>10114</b>	<b>11337</b>	<b>4850</b>	<b>8019</b>	<b>8504</b>	<b>11897</b>	<b>12517</b>	<b>11481</b>	<b>1901</b>	<b>7653</b>	<b>7351</b>	<b>6150</b>	<b>101774</b>
<b>Immunization</b>													
Children (DPT3)/BCG/Measles/Hpt					244		84	328	656	1312	2150	1200	5974
TT (women)					114		82	196	392	784	1384	850	3802
<b>Sub-Total</b>					<b>358</b>		<b>166</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>1048</b>	<b>2096</b>	<b>3534</b>	<b>2050</b>	<b>9776</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>													<b>171,951</b>

**Expected result 3:**

The ARCS successfully completed its first ever external evaluation of the clinic programme since its inception in 1991. The evaluation was conducted by an external consultant. The evaluation team highlighted a number of key recommendations for the future direction of the programme and in order to address the key recommendations, a strategy was developed by the ARCS in coordination with the Movement partners. Some of the recommendations were addressed during 2009 including the standardization of medical kits as per the basic package of health services, rehabilitating delivery services in some clinics, and where possible the renovation of clinics.

In order to make the delivery services at ARCS clinics standardised and safe, five ARCS clinics in the northern region were fully equipped with delivery kits which assisted the midwives in handling deliveries and maternal problems in a more effective manner. A mother and child health (MCH) refresher training workshop was conducted with the ARCS clinics midwives and female doctors for Herat region from 22 to 28 March 2009. Similarly, two midwives from two clinics from the Balkh province participated in the emergency obstetric care training, while another two midwives from the other two clinics of the same province participated in newborn cases care. The workshops were organized by the Ministry of Public Health provincial office in the northern region.

During the reporting period, all 37 International Federation-supported clinics were functional and provided health and care services to patients in their catchments areas.

**37 ARCS clinics achievements during Jan-Dec 2009**

Category	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Category 1:													
<b>OPD activities</b>													
OPD visit under five years Male	3726	4577	5662	6216	4629	6907	5832	5850	5842	5654	6128	5491	66514

OPD visit under five years Female	3640	4302	5251	5448	4129	6446	5534	5361	4826	5371	6034	5428	61770
OPD visit over five male	5760	6490	6522	6719	4410	6598	6984	6603	5515	6134	7167	6872	75774
OPD visit over five female	13320	14757	14715	15164	11517	17516	16084	15094	12482	14420	16561	15520	177150
Re-attendance	4527	6769	5930	7043	6413	7668	7138	7804	5479	6445	7406	8146	80768
<b>Sub- Total</b>													<b>461976</b>
<b>Category 2</b>													
<b>Immunization</b>													
BCG	1516	1757	1885	1848	1404	1333	1478	1570	1283	1710	1554	1493	18831
DPT / Polio	1910	836	2037	2078	1645	2346	1812	1943	1591	2004	2195	1841	22238
DPT2 / Polio2	1828	2084	1908	2124	1652	1955	1829	1846	1538	1897	2007	1920	22588
DPT3/Polio3	1549	2040	1694	1892	1473	1654	1767	1787	1426	1739	1779	1644	20444
Measles	1550	1931	1661	1774	1310	12319	1423	1583	1220	2038	1839	1662	30310
TT women	6129	7435	6591	7629	6043	11428	7091	7087	4186	19512	7956	7160	98247
<b>Sub- Total</b>													<b>212658</b>
<b>Category 3</b>													
<b>MCH activities</b>													
Family planning	1883	2156	1803	1925	1557	2261	1786	1441	1718	2008	2067	2340	22945
Antenatal care	3375	3474	3228	3242	2657	4532	3335	2858	2668	3175	3110	3045	38699
Postnatal care	833	986	843	849	567	913	880	743	743	797	861	888	9903
Children growth monitoring	1567	1650	1507	1370	1307	1642	1152	1350	1327	1826	1859	1449	18006
<b>Deliveries</b>						<b>21</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>102</b>
<b>Sub- Total</b>													<b>89655</b>
<b>Category 4</b>													
<b>Dressing</b>	510	589	490	564	2356	2859	1989	2798	2520	2834	2652	1986	<b>22147</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>													<b>786436</b>
<b>Health Education</b>													
Group health education	11798	15975	12012	11328	14127	13153	15071	12167	10341	9349	9739	11387	146447
Individual health education	11746	11410	13551	13760	4088	29819	16677	14065	9976	11721	15185	15425	167423
<b>Total Health Education</b>													<b>313870</b>
Note: Health Education has been a part of the other activities such as OPD, MCH and Vaccination, so it is not counted in the total beneficiaries.													

### Comprehensive community-based health intervention project (CCBHI) project:

During the reporting period, 20 wells and 77 sanitary latrines were constructed in the targeted project sites (Balkh, Shortepa and Khulm districts of Balkh province). For the latrines, ARCS provided the materials and mechanics, while the labour was covered by the local communities. A total of 8,400 people have benefited from this very successful programme thus far.

As building local capacity in terms of disaster preparedness and response is one of the main activities of the project, 20 CBFA volunteers were trained in community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP) in one of the villages under the project. The process of CBDP training will continue throughout the remaining targeted communities during 2010. Similarly, 40 community volunteers were trained in hygiene promotion in Khulm and Bulk districts.

IEC materials for the CCBHI project were printed and despatched to the Mazar-e-Sharif sub-office. This helps the communities to better understand and practise good health behaviours. The IEC materials are being utilized during health and hygiene campaigns in the targeted sites.

The project sites are regularly monitored by project staff members and International Federation sub-office manager and field officer.

The British Red Cross health advisor, the South Asia regional health coordinator and the International Federation country office health team visited the ARCS comprehensive community-based health intervention programme in the northern region.

#### Expected result 4:

The ARCS started the HIV and AIDS prevention project through life skills-based youth peer education in 2006. The five-year project (2005- 2009) was supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) through the Swedish Red Cross under the South Asia regional HIV project. With no clear picture of continued funding, ARCS has included the HIV and AIDS prevention project under the 2010-2011 Afghanistan annual appeal for the health and care programme supported by the International Federation, in the hope of receiving funding through the appeal to continue with the great work carried out under the programme.

As part of the HIV and AIDS prevention project expansion, the programme was expanded to Jalalabad city in 2009. The national society conducted a baseline study on knowledge and attitude of school youth in regards to HIV and AIDS. The study was done by an external organization, HOPE worldwide.

During the reporting period, the national society has trained 40 trainers (including 25 women) and 430 youth peer educators (including 294 women). Furthermore, they have sensitized 1,372 teachers, headmasters, principals and parents (including 832 women). This has ultimately benefited 62,744 individuals. As an extension beyond the school programme, 435 women were oriented on the basic facts of HIV and AIDS and its related issues through youth peer educators (YPEs) of Kabul using mosques, universities and private courses. Commercial outlets like bakeries, tailor's shops and beauty parlours were also involved.

World AIDS Day was marked on 1 December 2009 jointly with the Ministry of Public Health and other stakeholders. The national society utilized its YPEs to hold pre-event campaigns targeting barber shops, beauty parlours and the general public. In addition, they conducted stage dramas and distributed IEC materials.

The HIV project coordinator attended a meeting with CONSTILA Future Group for the purpose of the development of the youth network on AIDS at a national level. The network has been established under the leadership of the National AIDS Coordination Programme (NACP) and is very much interested to learn from the national society's experience and has an interest in the ARCS youth peer educator focal points.

In addition, the ARCS HIV and AIDS coordinator and International Federation health officer participated in the International Congress on AIDS in Asia Pacific (ICAAP) conference, held in Bali Indonesia.

Altogether, 11 'Club 25', including six female clubs, have been established (nine in 2009) in different schools and locations in Kabul city. The 'Club 25' groups trained and mobilized 230 students in safe blood and voluntary non-remunerated blood donation (VNRBD). So far, the ARCS has recruited 177 (137 during 2009) blood donor motivators in Kabul.

Twenty-five CBFA team leaders in Kabul city were provided with a three-day training on HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections (STI) and life skills based youth peer education by the HIV department of the national society. The team leaders will train their respective groups on the issues.

The HIV and AIDS South Asia regional delegate and film crew travelled to Afghanistan to film the ARCS youth peer education programme in Kabul. It is worth mentioning that the Ministry of Education was highly supportive and gave formal approval for the filming to take place in its schools.

The following table shows the achievements of ARCS HIV and AIDS project during the reporting period.

<b>HIV programme data</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>
Number of YPE trainers trained	15	25	<b>40</b>
Number of YPE trained	136	294	<b>430</b>
Number of Peers trained	1,400	2,900	<b>4,300</b>
Number of people sensitized	540	832	<b>1,372</b>

Number of direct beneficiaries reached through YPEs and peers	25,098	37,646	<b>62,744</b>
Number of people reached through campaigns	2,397	719	<b>3,116</b>
Number of people reached through IEC materials	1,000	5,260	<b>6,260</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>30,586</b>	<b>47,676</b>	<b>78,262</b>

### Constraints or Challenges

The main constraint faced by ARCS as well as many other humanitarian organizations within Afghanistan continues to be the high level of insecurity which vary throughout the country. During 2009, some regions which were previously considered to be stable are now unstable and the level of conflict continues to remain unpredictable. While the general situation in some regions is deteriorating from month to month, there are still areas where the situation is improving and access to the field is safe. In other regions however, the high level of insecurity remains constant.

In regions where insecurity is a significant problem, access to the field to provide much needed assistance to the vulnerable population has been a major constraint faced by ARCS. This has been particularly evident in Kandahar where the emergency medical unit team activities have been limited to some extent.. Other ARCS staff functions such as regular monitoring visits to remote areas where ARCS health projects are being implemented have also been restricted from time to time.

## Organizational Development

### Outcome(s)/Expected result(s)

<b>Programme component</b>	<b>Programme outcome</b>
<b>1. Foundation and well- functioning organization</b>	A well-functioning organization with strong legal base and sustainable systems, procedures and staff with the desired level of managerial and technical competencies is ensured.
<b>2. Financial sustainability</b>	Financial sustainability is ensured.
<b>3. Leadership capacities</b>	National society leadership capacities to develop and implement strategies, and ensure good performance and accountability at all levels are improved.
<b>4. Programme development</b>	Capacity for planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting programme development and management is improved.
<b>5. Grassroots' service</b>	A nation-wide coverage of grassroots units and services (youth and volunteers) is developed.

### Achievements

#### Expected result 1:

The Movement tripartite meeting between component heads took place and discussions were held on various issues including a cooperation agreement strategy (CAS), the harmonized planning approach, programme monitoring and evaluation as well as the need for an orientation session for governance board members. Although the Movement coordination meeting normally takes place every two months, due to unforeseen circumstances and unavailability of the key participants, it occurred only on an 'as required basis' during the period under review.

For more than a year, the ARCS has been seeking a local (Afghan) human resource professional who has a working knowledge of the government human resource policy, labour laws and human resource management systems applicable for international organizations. A meeting between the ARCS deputy

secretary general, ICRC cooperation coordinator and International Federation organizational development delegate took place to discuss the engagement of a consultant for the human resource review. Subsequently, following protracted negotiations with Bakhtar University, the university submitted a proposal to the national society which is currently under review. The International Federation human resource department in the zone office in Kuala Lumpur provided feedback to the ARCS in this regard.

The ARCS is eager to improve its planning, coordination and implementation and streamline the reporting process mechanism in its various interventions all over the country. For this purpose, the ARCS has decentralized its structure by establishing five regional offices without following a proper process and considering critical aspects. Until those issues are properly dealt with, this re-structuring will not bring a measurable change in the quality of service provision or improve programme implementation. Job descriptions have been developed and will be finalized after receiving feedback from heads of branches.

For the first time in ARCS history, a draft of an ARCS gender policy has been developed. The draft policy is under review to make it more applicable in the Afghanistan context.

The working conditions and functional facilities of the ARCS have been improved by providing necessary office equipment, stationery, IT and communications equipment to different ARCS staff at headquarters.

#### **Expected result 2:**

The ARCS financial system audit part is completed and the audit team has submitted its report to the ARCS leadership. The ARCS finance department has developed a plan of action to address the recommendations included in the report. The finance manual revision is in progress following new recommendations from the audit company to the ARCS leadership. Accounting forms have been developed and shared with the finance development delegate in the South Asia regional office for review and comments.

The last four years of accounts, the preparation of statements and the establishment of the opening and closing balances for the years 2005 to 2007 have been completed for the ARCS by Rifaqat Babar Company. Due to improper maintenance of accounts, poor record keeping and lack of sufficient information in the finance department, the auditing of books and accounts has been delayed but will be completed soon. The ARCS has signed another agreement with the Rifaqat Babar Company for the completion of a 2008 financial statement and balance sheet. The ARCS finance and organizational development departments are working on the system audit recommendations and these will be added to the outstanding works required to complete the finance development process and produce a definitive financial management system.

Although government has issued an official memo last year notifying the ARCS autonomy and independence, in practice and in reality it is different. Recently, the ARCS shared its new finance manual with the Ministry of Finance for comments and recommendations and for approval of the Controller of Audit Office, the highest finance related authority in Afghanistan. Comments and advices have been sought from the Ministry of Finance for further necessary actions. This requirement for the approval from the Controller of Audit Office clearly demonstrated the lack of independence of the national society, particularly regarding financial matters.

The Bakhtar University has submitted its proposal to further develop the ARCS finance system. The proposal was shared with the International Federation and the South Asia regional office finance development delegate for technical feedback. It is worth mentioning that several stages of the finance development process have been completed by Rifaqat Babar Company, the remainder will now be completed by the university. The proposal is still under consideration.

Various meetings between the ARCS, International Federation and Norwegian Red Cross logistics project delegate were conducted to study the recommendations provided by the Norwegian Red Cross logistics delegate, in order to cross-check against the ARCS logistics and procurement policy to ensure that it is flexible, readily applicable and simple to use.

The ARCS has established a resource management unit under the organizational development department. The next step is to determine the roles and functions of the newly established unit and provide the required training for the staff.

### **Expected result 3:**

The ARCS celebrates 'Special Week' each year from 16 to 22 October to generate funds from the corporate and commercial sectors, government departments, the wealthy and the general public. This is a popular event and highlights the profile of the ARCS in the broader community. It also gives an opportunity for members and volunteers to flag the activities of the ARCS. This year, as of the end of December, an amount of USD 65,800 (CHF 68,064) had been raised through ticket sales alone. Yet to be realised are the results of a scheme by government employees who voluntarily donate one day's salary to the ARCS as well as other initiatives.

The ARCS have recruited a new board member and she will be directly supporting the ARCS president in her work. The ARCS finally organized an induction session for members of the governance board in early June which was facilitated by the International Federation head of office and the organizational development team. A second one was planned for September but due to the presidential election process, it has been postponed.

Discussions continued between the ARCS, International Federation and ICRC on the formation of branch governing boards and the need to conduct a national general assembly. Reforms to the existing governing board at headquarter level, including strengthening its charter, were also discussed.

To this end it will be important to maintain viable membership at branch level to ensure that this process can proceed. Accordingly, initiatives have been taken to further accelerate the membership programme in the branches. In total, 350 new members (66 female) in 29 ARCS branches were recruited in 2009.

### **Expected result 4:**

The second ARCS harmonized operational plan has been finalized with the International Federation and ICRC technical support. The harmonized plan and newly designed reporting format were presented to the ARCS, International Federation and ICRC leadership. The plan includes 402 activities under seven key strategic areas drawn from the ARCS strategic plan. Key recommendations of the Kuala Lumpur mission report were incorporated into the plan, specifically in the cooperation and coordination in strategic areas. The International Federation support for the planning process was greatly appreciated by the ARCS leadership and was recognized by the presentation of a first grade appreciation letter.

A common reporting format was developed, finalized and approved in order to be used by the ARCS departments. Additionally, the International Federation and ARCS organizational development departments presented the new reporting format to all heads of ARCS departments. All programmes of the ARCS have started reporting from 21 March 2009 (beginning of the New Solar Year). In the past, the ARCS programmes were not using a common reporting format and were not reporting regularly.

A new planning format has been introduced to all 34 branches of the ARCS to help them plan their activities more efficiently. During the regional Movement coordination meeting in Kandahar, the harmonized plan, new designed reporting formats and a format for programme planning were presented to the heads of the branches.

The ARCS, International Federation and ICRC have agreed to initiate the revision process for the ARCS strategic plan document. A planning meeting will be organized at the ARCS headquarters in December or early January.

Planning and report writing capacity of the ARCS staff have enhanced through conducting planning and reporting training for the programme managers at headquarters and programme staff of branches. The ARCS annual report 2008 has been printed and presented to the government and the community. Meanwhile, the reporting mechanism at all level have been established and the programmes are expected to formulate their next operational plan following the result based approaches.

The implementation process of the ARCS operational harmonized plan has been reviewed twice in the last five months. In the review meetings, the respective heads of ARCS departments presented their programme activities highlighting their achievements and challenges. The review meetings were chaired by the ARCS secretary general demonstrating commitment to and ownership of the process, an initiative that was highly appreciated by the ARCS leadership. This process will be a feature of future operational planning development. According to the latest reports of the ARCS programmes, 75-80 per cent of the planned activities have been implemented, which is significant in terms of achieving the ARCS strategic objectives. The International Federation and ICRC were present at these meetings.

### **Expected result 5:**

Around 4,500 youth members (45 per cent women) are regularly attending the nine youth clubs in nine ARCS branches. Activities include building personal capacity through self paced learning in a supportive environment, strengthening the volunteering ethos amongst youth circles of their respective communities, promoting friendship and co-existence, sporting activities, promoting humanitarian values and general awareness of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement are the main focus of the ARCS youth programme. These all contribute to the capacity of the youth members to better serve their community and gainfully use their leisure time while supporting the broader ARCS programme activities.

Three youth members, one youth director and two youth volunteers (one boy and one girl), participated in the Third World Red Cross and Red Crescent Youth Meeting in Solferino, Italy. These included the journey on an idea and commemorative trip from Solferino to Geneva. The outcome of the event has been published in monthly newsletters and shared with youth and volunteers in various meetings and training sessions.

The head of ARCS volunteering programme, head of ARCS organizational development and International Federation organizational development officer participated in the volunteering development workshop in Amman, Jordan. Attending to this workshop was a very right opportunity for the Afghan team. Discussions and presentations the volunteers in emergency and volunteering management development during the workshop was very much helpful to understand the whole issues and fruitful. It helped tremendously while working for developing policy and plan for ARCS volunteering management system.

Initiatives have been taken jointly by the ICRC integrated programme volunteer management delegate and the International Federation organizational development programme to discuss the over all integrated programme project issues and determine the existing challenges facing the ARCS in management of volunteers and to enlist more substantial contribution of the Movement partners to further develop volunteer management and related policy for the ARCS. Following a three-month participatory process and joint efforts of the ARCS, ICRC and International Federation, the first draft of the ARCS volunteering policy has been developed. After review and initial feedback from the members, the revised document has been shared with volunteers and volunteer managers in the field for comments, feedback and enrichment of the follow-on draft document.

The ARCS established 12 youth corners in some selected schools in five regions. The corners are used as a gathering point for volunteers and as a first aid services post in the school. Red Crescent youth volunteers from concerned school gather in the corner and discussed Red Cross related matters and ARCS activities. The operation capacity of the youth corners have been improved by providing necessary furniture, equipment, first aid kits and recreational materials.

The functional facilities of two youth clubs were greatly enhanced through the provision of mini-buses and two other newly established youth clubs commenced their activities after the necessary furniture, fixture and IT equipment were provided. The knowledge and skills of youth volunteers were improved after attending many skills building training activities and receiving IEC and dissemination materials. The recognition and encouragement gained greatly improved the commitment and motivation of these volunteers. ARCS has been able to attract teachers and volunteers to join the Red Crescent Youth programme in schools. Significant number new volunteers join in ARCS as volunteers to work in the community based programmes.

### **Constraints or Challenges**

The main constraint in the ARCS is lack of clear job descriptions for key appointments within the organization. As a result, the leadership and management at departmental and branch level do not know the extent of their responsibility, their levels of authority and what resources have been delegated to them. Due to delays in engaging a human resource consultant, the problems of determining a clear definition of job responsibilities within the ARCS and related constraints were not resolved. As a result, problems relating to positional authorities and delegations, as well as the determination of clear boundaries between executive and operational levels and management at department and branch levels continued to hamper effective operations within the national society.

Increased tension between governance and management (president and secretary general) due to poorly defined roles and responsibilities and possibly the fallout from the Afghanistan presidential election, has resulted in a difficult situation and some new challenges leading to further conflict which is affecting the priorities established in the ARCS strategic plan and also programme implementation.

Pre- and post-election security constraints were another key factor which has slowed programme implementation at branch level. As a consequence of increased security threats at branch level, monitoring of the ongoing activities by the headquarters or the International Federation country office is a major challenge for all programmes. However, in most cases activities are usually monitored by the ARCS branches and International Federation sub-offices, with very occasional visits by International Federation teams from Kabul to those areas where there were few security restriction for expatriates and local staff.

Meanwhile, the ongoing humanitarian crises in Afghanistan including the displacement of people due to war, abject poverty, child abuse, deprivation of women from education and a range of human rights issues are well beyond the capacity of the national society and present major challenges for the future.

## Humanitarian Values

### Outcome(s)/Expected result(s)

Programme component	Component outcome
<b>1. Practical humanitarian values</b>	All ARCS core programmes practise a component of humanitarian values while carrying out their activities in the field.
<b>2. Anti-discrimination/stigma</b>	Discrimination, violence, intolerance and stigma are reduced in the targeted communities.

### Achievements

#### Expected result 1:

Humanitarian values components were raised as cross-cutting issues in ARCS workshops, meetings and seminars and this initiative has given more impetus to the programme staff and volunteers to render good services to the most vulnerable and build a trust in their communities by observing and behaving according to the Movement's Fundamental Principles. The humanitarian values component to advocate for gender issues has now been incorporated into the ARCS policy for gender, which has reflected positively on the reputation of the ARCS in schools and the broader community. Proper behaviour and attitude and anti-stigmatization orientation sessions were held for the staff of the ARCS *Marastoon* (social welfare) programme to enable them to properly manage the mentally handicapped, beggars and drug addicted people. A total of 500 people dependent on the *Marastoon* programme will benefit from this training activity.

#### Expected result 2:

A total of 3,050 youth volunteers in the ARCS youth clubs benefited from the incorporation of the concept of humanitarian values into the youth volunteers' curriculum in schools. The aim was to instil the spirit of respect for human dignity and the promotion of friendship and peace into their families and their communities.

### Constraints or Challenges

Lack of capacity to ensure the adoption of humanitarian values in action and lack of a proper mechanism to monitor the behaviour of ARCS staff and volunteers were major constraints. Involvement with the ARCS humanitarian values unit with on-the-job training partially solved this problem but the establishment of a monitoring mechanism to monitor the behavioural change of the ARCS staff and volunteers would require more intervention with ARCS senior management to progress.

The ongoing conflict situation in the country makes the humanitarian situation worse. The need for a more comprehensive humanitarian approach and promotion of respect for human dignity in the community while dealing with the range of conflict related issues still remain as challenges ahead for the national society.

## Working in partnership

The national society is working in partnership and collaboration with the Movement components (ICRC and International Federation), governmental departments such as the Afghan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) and 12 key ministries, UN agencies and non-governmental organizations; and has managed to provide assistance to the most affected people in Afghanistan through disaster response operations and coordinated action. There exists a bilateral partnership between the ARCS and the Canadian government in the area of vocational training under the disaster management department.

At national level, the national society has membership within the inter-agency emergency task force, comprising the World Health Organization, other UN agencies and government ministries for emergency preparedness and response. The national society regularly participates in the task force meetings and plays a significant role as auxiliary to the government. Other memberships which the ARCS has an active role includes the HIV and AIDS coordination committee for Afghanistan, which is represented by key stakeholders such as Ministry of Public Health, UNICEF, World Health Organization and the Swedish Committee for Afghanistan. The national society also participates regularly in the World Health Organization health cluster meetings at country level. The response to flood and acute watery diarrhoea outbreaks in Nangarhar and the H1N1 outbreak through the country was a good example of partnership with Ministry of Public Health and other relevant stakeholders.

Some ARCS programmes have been working with the departments of several ministries of the Government of Afghanistan to ensure that ARCS programmes, particularly youth, volunteers and membership, run smoothly where they are active. The national society conducts its youth programme in more than 250 schools and agreements have been signed with various ARCS departments and the Ministry of Higher Education to allow the ARCS to implement their activities. The ARCS has also developed a good working relationship with the community elders and school headmasters to run its membership and volunteer's programmes in the involved communities.

In February 2009, the Norwegian Red Cross positioned a team in Afghanistan principally to support its bilateral programmes with other implementing partners but also to support multilateral programme activity through the International Federation. The Norwegians are now a fully integrated part of the International Federation country office. The Norwegian Red Cross headquarters representatives have visited several times to oversee programme activity and discussed long-term bilateral and multilateral support to Afghanistan. In addition to the logistics development project, the Norwegian Red Cross has also contributed to health and organizational development programmes have received funding for 2009.

The ARCS programmes have been delivering adequate services to the most vulnerable people through good relations, cooperation, coordination and a harmonized approach with the Movement partners, government departments and national and international organizations and agencies. The support provided to ARCS is in accordance with the Movement cooperation strategy and coordination mechanisms.

## Contributing to longer-term impact

Trained CDBP volunteers, local disaster preparedness committees in disaster-prone communities and more recently the establishment of regional DRU have promoted the national society's image. They have also provided the capability to conduct rapid assessments at a local level and provided timely and effective humanitarian assistance to disaster affected people and those in need, as well as building community capacity with the resources available. Generally, the ARCS staff and volunteers through both internal and external training programmes have acquired better knowledge and skills which have resulted in enhanced capacity across all areas the national society.

The ARCS continues to contribute towards improving the health and wellbeing of the population through its various health projects. The curative services provided through the 37 clinics supported by International Federation, and also the ten EMUs, have greatly assisted targeted communities in gaining access to vital treatment for major acute and chronic diseases. In addition, antenatal, postnatal, delivery and family planning services available through most clinics continue to provide valuable information in increasing the awareness of mothers, particularly in regards to pregnancy related complications.

The commencement of a new comprehensive community-based health intervention programme within the northern region has increased access to clean drinking water and sanitation facilities, which has been effective in decreasing the number of water-borne diseases in targeted communities.

Similarly, training communities on Influenza A (H1N1) and avian influenza (AI) has contributed greatly to increasing a large portion of the population's knowledge in understanding key preventive measures to consider and promotion on safe hygiene.

The HIV and AIDS youth peer education project has contributed towards changing the behaviours of people towards HIV and AIDS as the youth peer educators have been regularly training their peers on the facts on HIV and AIDS and disseminating key messages. In addition, the ARCS has been working with parents, teachers and principals of schools who are helping the national society to easily work with

students and youth out of schools. All the mentioned activities have been ultimately continued to contribute towards reducing the number deaths and illness of the targeted communities.

The implementation of the second ARCS harmonized operational plan was a good lesson learnt and will assist the national society and Movement partners to achieve their set objectives through harmonized support in the long term. In the past, the ARCS headquarters was responsible for developing and approving the annual plans for its branches without consultation or involving them in the planning process. Now the branches have been given greater responsibility to develop their own annual operational plans for their communities. This has required the branches to work directly with their communities through consultation with membership, volunteers and youth in order to know and understand the needs in the field and prioritise programme responses and interventions.

The ongoing finance development process will assist the national society to gain greater credibility and confidence in their financial management systems. It will enable them to adopt established financial accounting practices that will give greater transparency and reliability. This will, in turn, gain the trust of donors and ultimately lead to acceptance of the ARCS as a strong and self sufficient national society able to properly, reliably and confidently manage its own resources, both financial and material.

The training which has been provided to the members of the ARCS governing board will assist them to direct the organization towards achieving its goals and help guide the ARCS leadership in setting new objectives and supporting them in their job definition and levels of authority. Members of the governing board would also fulfil the critical role of communicating with the government to help protect the organization's independence, neutrality and its auxiliary role status.

Recruitment of members to the national society is an essential step towards the establishment of provincial and district governing bodies at branch level. The development of policy on volunteers will enable the ARCS to organize and manage its network of volunteers and members in regions and branches in a systematic way. Volunteers must know and understand their roles and responsibilities while working with the ARCS, as well as their rights and conditions of service. Bringing its youth members together from different social and ethnic backgrounds can also help the national society to reduce discrimination in the community and ultimately move towards national unity, peace and harmony. Establishment of two youth clubs and 12 youth corners is giving the chance to many new youth volunteers to learn more about the national society and take part in its day-to-day activities.

In principle, the establishment of five new regional offices will assist ARCS to better implement the harmonized operational plan, provide quality and timely reporting and provide a more efficient service delivery to the people at branch level. It will also assist the ARCS secretary general through greater delegation of responsibility and decentralization of power to the regional structures. Conducting eight regional Movement coordination meetings are giving more responsibilities to the branches in both planning and implementation and will in turn be expected to bring all Movement partners closer together and involve branches in programme development, planning and implementation.

## Looking ahead

The ARCS, with the technical support and advice of the International Federation, will continue to cooperate and coordinate further with ANDMA and intends to improve the way it works with the aim to incorporate two contingency plans (Kabul major earthquake and that of floods for 21 provinces) into relevant local government plans. This will achieve effective involvement of communities and other involved actors in disaster preparedness and response and also decision making on disaster risk reduction activities.

The ARCS has a positive image and is recognized as one of the main humanitarian actors to respond to emergency situations in the country. However, the ARCS disaster management staff and volunteers still require further training in the areas of planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting to improve the quality of its service delivery, programming and accountability. Accordingly, the International Federation presence is still needed long-term to assist in building sustainable capacity to enable the ARCS to assume greater responsibility at all levels as a well functioning national society.

The ARCS strategic plan (2008-2012) and harmonized operational plan for 2010 are the two principal guidance documents to be followed by all areas of the national society. Possible expansion of the ARCS comprehensive community-based health intervention project will be explored to further provinces in the northern region, due to the great success of the project to date in promoting community ownership, and

the visible impact in influencing attitudes and behaviour of the targeted communities towards health promotion and education activities.

The ARCS, with the support of its Movement partners, will continue to contribute to the future of Afghanistan through recognition, ongoing investment and commitment towards the significant role and contribution it continues to make at national, regional and local levels in carrying out the key activities outlined in the ARCS strategic plan (2008-2012) and its harmonized operational plan. It will continue to develop a finance system considering the recommendations provided by the audit company and pursue further development in the areas of human resources, improved branch capacity and the establishment of a planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting unit to follow progress ensure compliance with the harmonized operational plan implementation process. The ARCS five-year strategic plan will be reviewed following a participatory process and the necessary steps will be taken to align the ARCS strategic plan with the International Federation Strategy 2020. Based on the lesson already learned in 2009, the 2010-2011 harmonized operational plan will be developed in first quarter of 2010.

Recruiting more members and working towards the establishment of district and provincial level governance boards will greatly assist in the move towards the conduct of an ARCS general assembly. Facilitating the development process of the ARCS harmonized operational plan for 2010 and revision of the ARCS five-year (mid-term revision) strategic plan will enable adjustments to the plan to be made as necessary. More support will be provided to the logistics development process with a particular emphasis on procurement to tighten up the procurement process and avoid delays in the procurement activities of the national society. A youth volunteer's database will be developed and youth corners will be expanded to more schools. More new volunteers in all 34 branches of the ARCS will be recruited and trained.

Training (orientation) of the ARCS governance board members is both desperately needed and important for the future of the national society. More Movement coordination meetings will take place in various regions and all 34 ARCS branch heads will meet at least twice yearly at headquarters.

The next year's plan will see emphasis on the conducting of a leadership and management workshop for the ARCS senior and middle management, programme team leaders and branch staff in order to strengthen the functional capacity of the headquarters and branches. The ARCS organizational development department will also be supported in the establishment of a fundraising capability within the national society, including recruiting, equipping and training staff in this specific field.

The humanitarian values programme remains as a strategic area for the ARCS. More support to build the capacity of the ARCS humanitarian values unit is needed as is a greater awareness and promotion of the humanitarian values components for both programme staff and volunteers. The establishment of the monitoring mechanism to measure the impact of humanitarian values on ARCS operational programmes is necessary and requires the support of senior ARCS leadership. For better coordination and partnership, the ARCS humanitarian values unit will seek the partnership of the Independence Human Right Commission of Afghanistan and the ministries of education, religious affairs and culture, and information. It is believed that collaboration with those partners will address the main humanitarian problems of the Afghan community to the ARCS staff and volunteers.

How we work	
<p>The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".</p>	<p><b>Global Agenda Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.</li> <li>• Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.</li> <li>• Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.</li> <li>• Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.</li> </ul>
Contact information	
<p>For further information specifically related to this report, please contact:</p> <p>In Afghanistan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Afghanistan Red Crescent Society: Mrs. Fatima Gailani (President); email: <a href="mailto:fatigli@yahoo.com">fatigli@yahoo.com</a> phone: +93.799.385.533</li> <li>• International Federation country office in Afghanistan: Phillip Charlesworth (Head of office); email: <a href="mailto:phillip.charlesworth@ifrc.org">phillip.charlesworth@ifrc.org</a> phone: +93.700.274.881; fax: +87.37.6304.3426</li> </ul> <p>International Federation South Asia office in Delhi:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Azmat Ulla (Head of regional office); phone: +91.11.2411 1125; fax: +91.11.2411 1128 email: <a href="mailto:azmat.ulla@ifrc.org">azmat.ulla@ifrc.org</a></li> <li>• Michael Higginson (Regional programme coordinator); phone: +91.11.2411 1125; email: <a href="mailto:michael.higginson@ifrc.org">michael.higginson@ifrc.org</a></li> </ul> <p>International Federation Asia Pacific Zone office in Kuala Lumpur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jagan Chapagain (Deputy head of Zone); phone: +603 9207 5702; email: <a href="mailto:jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org">jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org</a></li> <li>• Penny Elghady (Resource mobilization and PMER coordinator); phone: +603 9207 5775 email: <a href="mailto:penny.elghady@ifrc.org">penny.elghady@ifrc.org</a></li> <li>- Please send all funding pledges to <a href="mailto:zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org">zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org</a></li> </ul>	

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# International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAAAF001 - Afghanistan

Annual Report 2009

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/1-2009/12
Budget Timeframe	2009/1-2009/12
Appeal	MAAAF001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>A. Budget</b>	<b>2,133,140</b>	<b>2,682,833</b>	<b>835,326</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>140,586</b>	<b>5,791,886</b>
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	<b>1,672,573</b>	<b>567,462</b>	<b>217,602</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>32,211</b>	<b>2,490,173</b>
<b>Income</b>						
<b>Cash contributions</b>						
Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government)	0	416,584	0			416,584
British Red Cross		68,740	60,148		0	128,888
Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)		17,265				17,265
Danish Red Cross	80,908					80,908
Danish Red Cross (from Danish Government)	384,340					384,340
Danish Red Cross (from Denmark - Private Donors)	91,054					91,054
DFID - British Government		60,700				60,700
Finnish Red Cross	45,099	31,006	10,911		1,224	88,240
Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government)	255,562	175,698	61,830		6,937	500,027
Germany Red Cross			72,117			72,117
Italian Government	908,265					908,265
Japanese Red Cross	61,453	92,179	98,710			252,342
New York Office				2,911		2,911
New Zealand Red Cross		74,430				74,430
Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government)	0	540,399	270,199			810,598
OPEC Fund For Int-l Development	280,507					280,507
Sweden Red Cross		13,620				13,620
Sweden Red Cross (from Swedish Government)		643,784	175,148			818,931
Unidentified donor		2,500		-2,500		0
United States - Private Donors			0			0
<b>C1. Cash contributions</b>	<b>2,107,188</b>	<b>2,136,904</b>	<b>749,063</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>8,161</b>	<b>5,001,727</b>
<b>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</b>						
Danish Red Cross (from Denmark - Private Donors)	-115,471					-115,471
Finnish Red Cross	-44,897	-9,750			-3,716	-58,363
Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government)	-254,415	-55,250			-21,059	-330,724
OPEC Fund For Int-l Development	-263,685					-263,685
Sweden Red Cross		-13,589				-13,589
United States - Private Donors			-633			-633
<b>C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</b>	<b>-678,468</b>	<b>-78,589</b>	<b>-633</b>		<b>-24,775</b>	<b>-782,465</b>
<b>Income reserved for future periods</b>						
DFID - British Government		-49				-49
<b>C3. Income reserved for future periods</b>		<b>-49</b>				<b>-49</b>
<b>Inkind Personnel</b>						
Australian Red Cross					102,000	102,000
Finnish Red Cross		22,147				22,147
<b>C5. Inkind Personnel</b>		<b>22,147</b>			<b>102,000</b>	<b>124,147</b>
<b>Other Income</b>						
Services					34,961	34,961
<b>C6. Other Income</b>					<b>34,961</b>	<b>34,961</b>
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)</b>	<b>1,428,719</b>	<b>2,080,413</b>	<b>748,430</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>120,347</b>	<b>4,378,321</b>
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>	<b>3,101,292</b>	<b>2,647,876</b>	<b>966,032</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>152,559</b>	<b>6,868,494</b>
<b>Appeal Coverage</b>	<b>145%</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>116%</b>	<b>#DIV/0</b>	<b>109%</b>	<b>119%</b>

# International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAAAF001 - Afghanistan

Annual Report 2009

Selected Parameters	
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Budget Timeframe	2009/1-2009/12
Appeal	MAAAF001
Budget	APPEAL

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## II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	1,672,573	567,462	217,602	325	32,211	<b>2,490,173</b>
<b>C. Income</b>	1,428,719	2,080,413	748,430	411	120,347	<b>4,378,321</b>
<b>E. Expenditure</b>	-2,019,301	-2,641,742	-835,229	510	-136,796	<b>-5,632,559</b>
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>	1,081,991	6,133	130,802	1,246	15,763	<b>1,235,935</b>

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## III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance A - B
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		<b>2,133,140</b>	<b>2,682,833</b>	<b>835,326</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>140,586</b>	<b>5,791,886</b>	
<b>Supplies</b>								
Shelter - Relief	160,340	160,340					160,340	-0
Construction - Facilities/Infrastruc		31,230					31,230	-31,230
Construction Materials	189,801	19,488	97,688				117,176	72,625
Clothing & textiles	71,278	70,927	351				71,278	0
Food	865,219	865,219					865,219	0
Water & Sanitation	71,555		28,474				28,474	43,081
Medical & First Aid	1,024,423	1,276	976,074	26,940			1,004,290	20,133
Teaching Materials	6,000			6,282			6,282	-282
Utensils & Tools	3,551		76	3,475			3,551	0
Other Supplies & Services	76,889	9,329	37,530	792			47,651	29,238
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>2,469,056</b>	<b>1,157,809</b>	<b>1,140,191</b>	<b>37,489</b>			<b>2,335,490</b>	<b>133,566</b>
<b>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>								
Vehicles	73,582		2,784	70,902			73,686	-104
Computers & Telecom	131,437	56,180	23,068	44,126		6,318	129,692	1,745
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.	10,431		2,091			11	2,101	8,330
Others Machinery & Equipment	6,328	2,721	1,582	2,025		-6,329	-0	6,328
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>	<b>221,778</b>	<b>58,901</b>	<b>29,525</b>	<b>117,053</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>205,479</b>	<b>16,299</b>
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage	53,528	17,156	3,746	347		1,139	22,388	31,140
Distribution & Monitoring	82,286	59,882	64,069	5,040		30,418	159,409	-77,123
Transport & Vehicle Costs	280,306	107,461	123,247	23,160		-33,432	220,435	59,871
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>416,120</b>	<b>184,499</b>	<b>191,062</b>	<b>28,547</b>		<b>-1,875</b>	<b>402,232</b>	<b>13,888</b>
<b>Personnel</b>								
International Staff	459,602	44,390	168,795	156,174		103,763	473,122	-13,520
Regionally Deployed Staff				14,315			14,315	-14,315
National Staff	594,302	164,369	325,958	159,726		22,353	672,407	-78,105
National Society Staff	213,519	24,570	154,982	4,713		155	184,420	29,099
Consultants	55,236		2,456	126			2,582	52,654
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>1,322,659</b>	<b>233,329</b>	<b>652,191</b>	<b>335,054</b>		<b>126,271</b>	<b>1,346,845</b>	<b>-24,186</b>
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	231,789	55,856	98,362	78,180		221	232,619	-830
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>231,789</b>	<b>55,856</b>	<b>98,362</b>	<b>78,180</b>		<b>221</b>	<b>232,619</b>	<b>-830</b>
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	69,085	16,621	34,634	17,537		-15	68,777	308
Information & Public Relation	171,631	12,867	125,832	35,154		3	173,856	-2,225
Office Costs	119,914	13,740	46,852	32,854		28,323	121,769	-1,855
Communications	22,655	5,990	10,737	7,191		27,901	51,819	-29,164
Financial Charges	29,757	26,887	1,880	990		158,103	187,861	-158,104
Other General Expenses	209,563	102,192	70,394	55,427		-202,745	25,269	184,294
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>622,605</b>	<b>178,297</b>	<b>290,329</b>	<b>149,154</b>		<b>11,570</b>	<b>629,350</b>	<b>-6,745</b>
<b>Programme Support</b>								
Program Support	376,473	137,596	183,986	60,207	-33	2,262	384,018	-7,545
<b>Total Programme Support</b>	<b>376,473</b>	<b>137,596</b>	<b>183,986</b>	<b>60,207</b>	<b>-33</b>	<b>2,262</b>	<b>384,018</b>	<b>-7,545</b>
<b>Services</b>								
Services & Recoveries	50,853	10,853	36,578				47,431	3,422
<b>Total Services</b>	<b>50,853</b>	<b>10,853</b>	<b>36,578</b>				<b>47,431</b>	<b>3,422</b>
<b>Operational Provisions</b>								
Operational Provisions	80,553	2,160	19,519	29,546	-477	-1,653	49,096	31,458
<b>Total Operational Provisions</b>	<b>80,553</b>	<b>2,160</b>	<b>19,519</b>	<b>29,546</b>	<b>-477</b>	<b>-1,653</b>	<b>49,096</b>	<b>31,458</b>

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**III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure**

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure						Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	
A		B						A - B
BUDGET (C)		2,133,140	2,682,833	835,326	0	140,586	5,791,886	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	5,791,886	2,019,301	2,641,742	835,229	-510	136,796	5,632,559	159,327
VARIANCE (C - D)		113,839	41,091	97	510	3,790	159,327	