

Annual report

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Kazakhstan

MAAKZ001

30/April/2011

This report covers the period 01/January/2010 to 31/December/2010.



A lesson on disaster preparedness for schoolchildren in Aktobe city. Kazakhstan Red Crescent

In brief

Programme outcome: The National Society programmes are aligned with the strategic aims of the Strategy 2020 to save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises; enable healthy and safe living; and promote social inclusion and culture of non-violence and peace. The capacity-building efforts are in line with the enabling action one to build strong National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Programmes summary:

The disaster management programme strengthened the coping capacities of people living in disaster prone areas by increasing community awareness of actions to take in case of a disaster. The Kazakhstan Red Crescent continued to build its own capacities to respond to emergencies by improving the staff and volunteers' knowledge and skills in disaster management, building emergency stocks and maintaining technical resources, strengthening partnerships with public authorities and other stakeholders. In order to facilitate improving the national legal base in case of the international disaster response the National Society promoted the International Disaster Response Laws (IDRL) in front of the government.

The National Society provided assistance to people affected by small-scale disasters. Besides, the International Federation's disaster response mechanism was activated once to provide funds from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to the most vulnerable people affected by floods in the southern Kazakhstan.

Within the HIV prevention programme, the Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society disseminated information about HIV among sex workers (SWs), injecting drug users (IDUs), people living with HIV (PLHIV), clients of SWs and general public. The tuberculosis (TB) prevention programme targeted people with tuberculosis on the continuation phase of treatment, their family members, and general population. The services provided include direct observation of treatment, social support to the clients with TB and raising awareness of TB. The National Society also provided services for the people with multi-drug resistant forms of tuberculosis (MDR TB) and TB/HIV co-infection. There was

no funding received for the National Society community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) programme. However, the Kazakhstan Red Crescent received a contribution to support Influenza A (H1N1) pandemic preparedness. This component implied raising awareness of the infection among the populations through relevant educational sessions and information campaigns.

As for the organizational development, the National Society governing board approved amendments to the statute done in line with recommendations from the Joint Statutes Commission. However, final feedback is awaited from the Commission before the National Society further process the statute with the justice ministry. In November the Red Crescent Society re-opened regional offices in Atyrau and Aktau cities thus revitalizing its presence in Atyrau and Mangystau regions.

The position of information officer in the National Society, who covers the principles and values programme, was filled only in July 2010. As a result, there was no proper coordination and many planned activities were not implemented. Tolerance, respect for diversity and the need to oppose xenophobia, discrimination and social exclusion were promoted at public campaigns, information materials, publications in media sources, and during round tables for partners and the general public within the migration component. The three Red Crescent information and education centres for migrants and their families rendered humanitarian assistance, provided diseases prevention and first-aid sessions, and consulted on legal, social and psychological issues.

Financial situation: The total 2010 budget is CHF 1,911,609 of which CHF 1,675,160 (88 per cent) covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). Overall expenditure during the reporting period was CHF 1,176,741 (70 per cent) of the budget. The implementation rate appears low because the regional DIPECHO grant was booked to the Kazakhstan disaster management programme. Besides, the operating timeframe of the Norwegian RC pledge for the country plan does not follow the calendar year: the pledge is meant for the period from September 2010 to November 2011.

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

See also Kazakhstan Floods [DREF Operation Bulletin](#) (MDRKZ003)

No. of people we have reached: In total, 174,663 people benefited directly from the secretariat-supported programme with the funds provided by the donors.

Programme/ project	Target group	Number of people reached	% of women	% of men
Disaster management	populations in disaster prone areas	26,030		
HIV prevention	young people sex workers IDUs military men track drivers migrants general population	21,763 1,756 3,100 9,015 2,065 4,163 35,000	53.5	46.5
TB prevention	people with TB family members general population	1,312 3,768 42,375	35	65
CBHFA	schoolchildren, students, labour migrants, refugees, families with many children	13,658	51	49
Principles and values	migrants	4,000		
Total:		174,663		

Our partners: The donors supporting the programmes multilaterally through the International Federation are the British, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian and Swedish Red Cross Societies, Ely Lilly, the European Commission and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Also, the UK's Department for International Development (DfID) covers some regional level expenditures of the disaster management programme, mostly born in Kazakhstan. The total number of partnerships between the Federation regional representation, the National Society and community-based, national, government-based, international organizations, UN and developmental agencies exceeded 10.

Context

Over the year the Kazakhstan Red Crescent responded to 355 small-scale and 1 mid-scale emergencies – gas explosions, wild fires, floods and severe weather conditions – in 11 regions of the country. The International Federation's disaster response mechanism, DREF, was activated to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to the most vulnerable people affected by floods in southern Kazakhstan in spring. In total, more than 10,740 disaster affected people received humanitarian aid from the National Society pre-positioned emergency stocks, through local fundraising and DREF operation (4,500 people).

In April 2010 the government of Kazakhstan decreased the period provided for migrants in residence permit. This concerns citizens of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. In the past citizens of these countries were allowed to stay in Kazakhstan up to 90 days following the registration, now the period is limited to 30 days. In this situation migrants have to cross the border every month to get a new entry (migration) card and consequently the registration. It is costly and occupies their working time. Thus, many migrants stay at their work places without prolonging the registration, which makes their status completely illegal.

Kazakhstan is the major recipient country of labour migrants from neighbouring countries – it is purported to have more than 1 million of irregular labour migrants. Their lack of legal status and fear of discovery and subsequent removal puts irregular migrants at serious risk of abuse and exploitation. Irregular migrants also have little or no access to basic medical, social and educational services. The Kazakhstan Red Crescent services to migrants within the Central Asian labour migration network project aim to improve the situation of migrants. In 2011 the National Society will scale up programming for migrants by expanding the coverage and range of services for this vulnerable group of the population.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster management

Programme component 1: Disaster management planning

Component outcome: Improved ability to predict and plan for disasters to mitigate their impact invulnerable communities, and to respond to and effectively cope with their consequences.

Achievements: By the end of the year the first draft of the revised national disaster response/contingency plan (DR/CP), based on the scenario of floods in eastern Kazakhstan, was developed¹ and commented by relevant stakeholders.

The disaster response/ contingency plans for east, west and central zones (sub-national level) were also elaborated for the first time but should further be adopted by the national governing board. As the work advanced the Red Crescent consulted relevant government bodies to improve their plans and to have them recognised by local governments. Moreover, three branches started developing branch plans based on relevant zone plans.

¹ The revision of the plan was supported by the German RC within the DIPECHO-VI project.

The Kazakhstan Red Crescent contributed to the revision of the regional DR/CP of the Central Asia National Societies that started from the regional workshop organized for that purpose in November. The National Society experience in country level plan revision was helpful for panel discussions at the workshop.

Programme component 2: Organizational preparedness

Component outcome: Strengthened capacity of the National Society in disaster preparedness and response through increased skills and knowledge of Red Crescent staff and volunteers, strengthened financial and technical resources, effective mechanisms for emergency response and recovery assistance.

Achievements: In order to maintain a regular pool of well trained disaster responders the National Society paid special attention to educational materials for the training and regular DRT trainings at all levels. Thus, the National Society elaborated two standard curricula for staff and disaster response teams (DRT) members (induction and basic) and a plan of action for two years to introduce the educational standards. The induction course was completed with training materials.

Following the regional DRT training in February the National Society filtered down the knowledge during the training events and field exercises in the regions. In total, 335 staff and volunteers were targeted at the regional and zone levels. Training in first psychological aid and psycho-social support covered 19 new volunteers from branches of the central zone. Members of the NDRT from the southern Kazakhstan assisted effectively to Almaty region branch during the emergency relief operation following the spring floods.

The national workshop on climate change adaptation (CCA) component in the vulnerability and capacity assessment was conducted in September for 26 key National Society branch staff. It is expected that the knowledge gained during this workshop will help to manage the community-based DRR activities in the field and integrate the CCA component in the ongoing DM programme.

Aiming to strengthen the mechanisms for effective emergency response and recovery assistance the Kazakhstan Red Crescent, with support from the IFRC regional representation and Geneva secretariat, facilitated the process of improving the national legal base through International Disaster Response Laws (IDRL) promotion activities. Based on the completed study on legal preparedness for disaster response operations in Kazakhstan the task force committee – including representatives of relevant state bodies and UN agencies – developed preliminary recommendations on how to improve the current situation².

To improve the Kazakhstan Red Crescent material capacity for disaster response, the emergency stocks of basic relief supplies in five branches were partly replenished with bedding, buckets, and hygiene supplies.

Programme component 3: Community preparedness/Disaster risk reduction

Component outcome: Strengthened capacities of communities in disaster-prone areas to respond to future disasters through community-based disaster preparedness and implementation of mitigation projects.

Achievements: The community-based disaster preparedness projects of the Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society targeted 16 rural communities in Pavlodar, Eastern-Kazakhstan and Akmola regions and 4 urban communities in Karaganda and Akmola regions. The projects included the establishment of local disaster committees (LDC), training, distribution of information materials and basic equipment to support their possible response actions as well as simulation exercises of the population. After relevant training for 20 committees and 260 community members, all communities developed risk

² The recommendations suggest development of models for incorporation of international rules, guidelines and principles into national laws and policies, provision of technical assistance to governments on application of relevant international laws and promotion of discussions and debates on IDRL to improve awareness and implementation. In January 2011 proposals were also made for a new consolidated law of the Republic of Kazakhstan on civil protection, to be developed by the Ministry of Emergency.

maps, worked out response plans for their communities and conducted simulation exercises. The trained people further shared information on disaster preparedness among other community members; the population of target communities makes about 72,000 people. The National Society's 3 risk reduction projects benefited 3,420 people in 5 settlements of Karaganda and Akmola regions.

Over the year four disaster awareness campaigns were dedicated to the World Civil Defence Day, the World Red Cross Red Crescent Day, World Disaster Risk Reduction Day and the Federation World Disasters Report launch. These and other thematic disaster awareness campaigns included television and radio broadcasts, round tables with local authorities and relevant government bodies in the regions, contests on disaster preparedness and photo exhibitions for more than 20,000 people. It is estimated that the disaster awareness events reached around 283,000 people indirectly.

The youth preparedness project provided integrated disaster preparedness and first-aid training to children in 20 target secondary schools in Aktobe, Karaganda and Semey cities. Between September and December the National Society reached directly 2,610 children. Messages about the risks of disaster were also spread among schoolchildren over the year; thus, out of the 9,000 people covered with disaster preparedness trainings and sessions, drawing and poster competitions and radio quizzes 5,000 were young people.

Programme component 4: Recovery

Component outcome: Increased capacity of the National Society to restore or improve pre-disaster living conditions and reduce the risk of future disasters.

Achievements: The Kazakhstan Red Crescent included standard presentation on early recovery in the obligatory disaster response team training last year. In 2010, 37 members of the disaster response teams were targeted with the early recovery session.

During the response operation in spring Almaty region branch carried out the agricultural recovery project in the areas affected by floods. The funds for the implementation of this project were raised from local donors.

Constraints or Challenges

There is a lack of disaster management staff in disaster prone regions, as currently there are only four staff supported by the programme at the branch level with the funding available.

The disaster management programme of the National Society was not fully covered and because of that the stocks were only partly replenished.

Health and care

Programme component 1: HIV and AIDS

Component outcome 1: Vulnerability to HIV and its impact reduced through preventing further infection.

Component outcome 2: Vulnerability of PLHIV is decreased through expanding HIV support.

Component outcome 3: Vulnerability of PLHIV decreased through reducing HIV stigma and discrimination.

Component outcome 4: The capacity of the National Society to deliver and sustain scaled up HIV programmes strengthened.

Achievements:

The National Society's HIV prevention programme runs in Almaty, Aktobe, Astana, Taldykorgan, and Ust-Kamenogorsk cities. The target groups of the programme are sex workers (SWs), injecting drug users (IDUs), people living with HIV (PLHIV), and clients of SWs – schoolchildren and students, military personnel, truck drivers and migrants. Peer education, provided by 342 peer educators, reached 1,756 SWs, 3,100 IDUs, 21,763 young people, 9,015 military men, 2,065 truck drivers and 4,163 migrants. In addition, information, education and communication activities covered 35,000 people from general population.

Around 87 per cent of the targeted population aged 15-49 correctly identified ways of preventing sexual transmission of HIV and rejected major misconceptions about HIV transmission. Besides, 85 per cent of targeted SWs, IDUs, and military men who had had sexual contacts with more than one partner or with irregular partners reported that they had always used condoms.

The number of Red Crescent harm reduction points increased to four in November 2010. The points in Almaty, Pavlodar, Taldykorgan and Ust-Kamenogorsk exchanged syringes, distributed condoms, disseminated information materials, and provided consultations; outreach services were also available for SWs and IDUs. In total, 420 permanent clients visited the points and 1,370 people were targeted by out-reach activities. Out 89,000 distributed syringes 55 per cent were returned.

In line with the plan of trainings for the National Societies health staff a regional training on minimum standards of peer education was held in October. The training aimed at developing a better understanding of the standards and ability to apply them in HIV programming in Central Asia in order to strengthen the quality and relevance of services.

Programme component 2: Tuberculosis
Component outcome 1: Clients with TB received support from the Red Crescent.
Component outcome 2: TB referral among people living HIV increased.
Component outcome 3: TB awareness increased and stigma associated with TB/HIV reduced through advocacy, communication and social mobilisation.
Component outcome 4: Participation of community members in the Red Crescent TB programming increased.

Achievements:

The National Society TB prevention programme tackles TB, MDR TB and TB/HIV co-infection. The Red Crescent served clients with TB in Kokchetav, Semey and Ust-Kamenogorsk cities, clients with MDR TB – in Almaty, Kyzylorda and Taldykorgan, and clients with TB/HIV– in Almaty, Karaganda and Temirtau. The programme aims at improving treatment outcomes by encouraging treatment adherence. To achieve this, visiting nurses of the National Society provided programme beneficiaries with direct observation of treatment (DOT) in clinics, with education and social support (food parcels and hygiene kits). Clients with MDR TB also received psychological support from professional psychologists individually or in a group. The National Society reached 745 clients with TB and MDR TB over the period. Out of them 597 benefited from DOT and the treatment success rate among these beneficiaries was 97 per cent. Out of 200 served clients with MDR TB 67 completed the treatment; others continue and there was no default registered over the period.

The TB/HIV co-infection programming comprised services provided by multi-disciplinary teams of social workers, psychologists and lawyers, social support and educational activities. In total, 567 clients with TB/HIV co-infection were targeted; default rate was about 1.1 per cent. Psychological support was also rendered through five self-support groups facilitated by the clients of the programme volunteering in the Red Crescent TB service and a psychologist. Twenty one former beneficiaries of the programme volunteered in the Red Crescent TB services basically assisting with outreach work.

The Red Crescent visiting nurses and volunteers delivered information and education sessions in secondary schools and organisations. The sessions included information on tuberculosis symptoms, measures of prevention, treatment, and where to refer in case TB is suspected. According to the monitoring results 85 per cent of targeted population was aware about the signs of TB, measures to prevent the disease and that TB is curable.

Following the training on advocacy in Geneva the Kazakhstan Red Crescent TB coordinator and the IFRC regional health officer shared their knowledge with colleagues from the Central Asia National Societies during the regional training that aimed to develop advocacy skills in the area of TB and HIV prevention and the CBHFA. Later in the year the Kazakhstan National Society finalized advocacy plans for the year 2011 and further training plans.

Programme component 3: Community-based health and first aid

Component outcome: Communities empowered through skills to prevent the most frequent diseases, to provide care to newborns and basic first-aid.

Achievements:

The programme dealt only with human pandemic preparedness: the activities increased community preparedness and mitigated the impact of potential pandemic of Influenza A (H1N1) on excess morbidity and mortality. The human pandemic preparedness targeted schoolchildren, students, labour migrants, refugees, families having many children in Almaty, Astana and Pavlodar cities and reached 6,070 people. The Red Crescent Society held round table discussions about the importance of pandemic preparedness with key stakeholders in all three project sites. Besides, public actions with sessions and quizzes covered 7,588 people. Information about influenza prevention measures was also published in local newspapers and disseminated through two radio-programmes.

In order to strengthen the National Society preparedness personal protection equipment was procured and stockpiled in the headquarters and in branches.

Constraints or Challenges

As only half of the HIV programme budget was covered in 2010 the capacity-building efforts to deliver and sustain scaled up HIV programmes were minimal. Key challenges included lack of skills in working with hard to reach group of IDUs in the new harm reduction point. To build skills the National Society arranged training sessions facilitated by specialists from AIDS centers.

Two branch officers of the health programme left their positions over the year. This was basically due to low salaries of the staff. To overcome the situation, the system of support and encouragement of the staff and volunteers should be further developed to retain the experienced people.

With no funds for the CBHFA programme key activities were suspended.

Organizational development/Capacity building

Programme component 1: National Society organizational development and capacity building (headquarters and branches).

Component outcome 1: Effective governance and management structures.

Component outcome 2: Effective and transparent human resources management and financial management systems.

Component outcome 3: Proper and effective financial management in line with clear procedures, guidelines and leadership commitments.

The National Society governing board approved amendments to the statute done in line with the recommendations from the Joint Statute Commission. Final feedback is awaited from the Commission to proceed with statute registration in the justice ministry and further implementation, including branch elections etc. This year the National Society also arranged the workshop to discuss statutory provisions, the structure and roles of governance and management, the ways to implement the International Federation's *Strategy 2020*, and in this connection – the Red Crescent current strategy and plans to develop a new strategy beyond 2011.

In November the National Society re-opened its regional offices in Atyrau and Aktau cities thus extending its presence to Atyrau and Mangystau regions. Local authorities, the IFRC, NGOs, INGOs, and corporate sector representatives – major oil and gas production companies are present in the regions – attended the opening ceremonies. This step is seen as a good opportunity for the National Society to achieve greater coverage and, in the long run, to access corporate sector funding, for instance by providing first-aid training on paid basis.

A plan of action on HR management systems improvements was agreed with the National Society after several consultancy meetings with the regional human resources manager. The plan foresees a study of the existing systems and procedures, recommendations on how to improve and eliminate the identified gaps involving a consultant.

The Kazakhstan Red Crescent was supported in attracting resources from the Empress Shoken Fund in support of its plan of action on improvements in financial management. According to the plan the accounting system was procured and adapted to the needs of the National Society. Finance management procedures were also developed with due consideration to the recommendations of the National Society audit carried out in 2009.

Programme component 2: National Society legal base development

Component outcome: Red Crescent Law developed and promoted for adoption.

Achievements: The Kazakhstan Red Crescent involved the national institute for civil and legal research in a study of a model Red Crescent law to obtain comments on its conformity to the local legislation; further support will be secured in drafting a law. Later in the year the National Society decided to include provisions on emblem in the law thus integrating two laws in one. Discussions continued on the implications and feasibility of such integration and the draft law is expected to be developed in 2011.

Programme component 3: Volunteer promotion and development

Component outcome: Nationwide volunteer profile and youth services improved through
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Achievements: Because there was no funding for this component, the National Society included the related activities in other programmes supported bilaterally and multilaterally.

In 2011, the activities under this component will resume: the National Society hired a national level volunteer manager and a plan of action was already developed with support from the IFRC regional representation. Youth activities will be part of the labour migration project of the principles and values programme of the country plan.

Constraints or Challenges

The major constraint for governance and management component is that the National Society branches at the city and district levels do not see clear benefits of the division of the governance and management functions. To address the issue, the National Society held a session on the roles of both structures and involved National Society staff and members in open discussions.

Final feedback from the Joint Statute Commission is awaited by the National Society before it proceeds with the statute registration in relevant bodies at the country level and further implementation.

Principles and values

Programme component 1: Promotion of humanitarian principles and values

Component outcome 1: Fundamental principles and humanitarian values of the Movement promoted.
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Component outcome 2: The image and profile of the Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society improved.
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Achievements:

The Kazakhstan Red Crescent promoted principles and values through public campaigns, round-table meetings and through mass media sources. In Almaty, Astana and Taldykorgan cities about 2,800 people were covered by the information campaigns; volunteers from migrants were actively engaged in distribution of information among their peers during the campaigns. Besides, 182 publications about Red Crescent activities and humanitarian principles and values appeared on radio, TV and printed periodicals at local and national levels. Such intensive flow of publicity also worked to improve image and profile of the National Society.

The Red Crescent staff and volunteers strengthened cooperation with public organizations and state authorities advocating for non-discrimination, respect for diversity and anti-xenophobia. Round tables

in Astana, Almaty and Taldykorgan for representatives of state agencies, local authorities, NGOs, AIDS centres, TB clinics and other medical institutions and business sector reached 55 people.

In cooperation with IOM the Red Crescent approached the department of education and local authorities in Astana and advocated access to school education for children of migrants working in Kazakhstan. As a result, an internal order for the education and internal affairs ministries was adopted giving access to schools for these children.

Programme component 2: Operationalisation of fundamental principles and humanitarian values
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Component outcome: Fundamental principles and humanitarian values are integrated into National Society operational programmes.

Achievements:

Over the period 164 staff of different Red Crescent programmes and volunteers from labour migrants were trained on principles and values and how to distribute information about the Red Crescent services and to reach migrants as peers at their work places.

Diversity and non-discrimination elements and principles are present in all Red Crescent activities and services. In particular, the principles guide the distribution of humanitarian assistance, the National Society attracts peers and volunteers from beneficiaries like PLHIV, migrants and others. All staff of the National Society gained knowledge of principles and values and understands the necessity to involve vulnerable people in the Red Crescent programmes at planning, implementation and monitoring stages.

Programme component 3: Anti-discrimination and violence prevention

Component outcome 1: Ability of communities to combat discrimination, intolerance and violence and to promote respect for diversity enhanced.
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Component outcome 2: Understanding of the necessity to prevent and fight sexual and gender-based violence within communities increased.
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Achievements:

The Red Crescent information and education centres in the capital city of Astana, Almaty city and Taldykorgan town (Almaty region) provided services to labour migrants and their families. The centres served about 4,000 irregular migrants from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Over 1,500 most vulnerable from them got humanitarian assistance in kind of food parcels and hot meals, bedding, clothes and first-aid kits. Others were trained on first aid, HIV, TB and other diseases prevention and consulted on legal, social and psychological issues.

The National Society organized 14 information campaigns to raise awareness of the Red Crescent services for migrants. Actions of the campaigns included meetings and round tables for state agencies, local administrations, medical personnel, educational institutions and NGOs where the Red Crescent promoted its mission, principles and values, services and called for cooperation in favour of migrants. Mass media was actively attracted to voice the needs of marginalized groups through articles and television blocks. Messages on gender-based violence and discrimination were spread as part of the National Society's promotion activities within the migration project.

The regional information campaign in Astana attracted partners' attention to the Red Crescent activities for migrants and promoted the Central Asian Red Crescent Labour Migration Network. The action for partners covered about 40 people from the EU, UNHCR, IOM, ILO, Uzbek cultural centre, city AIDS centre, migration police and League of Kazakhstan Women. About 20 people, including volunteers from migrants, were covered by the action for beneficiaries that was part of the same campaign and benefited from support of the Tajik diaspora.

Constraints or Challenges

The position of the information officer in the National Society, who covers the principles and values programme, had been vacant from the beginning of 2009 until July 2010. As a result, there was no proper coordination and many planned activities beyond migration, including gender-based violence

training, principles and values training, or information support for the society, were not implemented. The new officer still requires continuous training on dissemination of principles and values and other core programmes.

Working in partnership

The Kazakhstan Red Crescent maintains good working relationships with the government bodies, local authorities, community and non-governmental organizations and media.

To enhance cooperation in disaster response the National Society signed an agreement with the emergency ministry in 2001 which is regularly re-signed. The Red Crescent Society maintains partnerships in the disaster management sector with UN agencies and is involved in UN and interagency training events and workshops.

Community-based disaster preparedness activities and disaster preparedness and first-aid education among schoolchildren are carried out in cooperation with the Netherlands Red Cross in Almaty city, southern Kazakhstan and Almaty regions. The activities are part of the project "Building sustainable community resilience through Disaster Risk Reduction in Central Asia" implemented by the consortium of the American, German and Netherlands Red Cross Societies, the central Asia Red Crescent Societies and IFRC and funded by DIPECHO in 2010-2011. In the consortium the Netherlands Red Cross is a lead agency and applicant and the IFRC has a designated role in ensuring overall coordination with other RCRC projects and harmonization of approaches in the areas of the IDRL promotion, contingency planning and RDRT training at regional level. Besides, by the end of the year the Red Crescent completed planning of activities on the urban earthquake preparedness initiative that is focusing on earthquake preparedness in Almaty with support of the American Red Cross.

Within the framework of bilateral cooperation with the Swedish Red Cross the National Society 12 regional branches and Almaty city branch received 260 tonnes of second-hand clothes for their prepositioned emergency stocks and further distribution among the most vulnerable populations.

The ICRC expertise was also used to incorporate tracing and management of dead bodies in emergencies in the Red Crescent contingency planning and disaster management education, as well as to plan specific activities in time of a conflict.

The National Society is an active member of the country coordination mechanism on TB in the country and regularly participates in the inter-agency meetings discussing the developments in the national TB programme. The Kazakhstan Red Crescent secured funding for information, education, communication mobilization activities in TB prevention all over the country and social support to TB clients in four sites as a sub-recipient of the grant of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria for 2008-2010. The social support services will continue through to August 2011.

The National Society is a member of the Red Cross Red Crescent Global Alliance on HIV. Within the framework of the HIV Global Alliance programme the American Red Cross allocated additional funds for the National Society to expand HIV prevention in the country and increase the range of Red Crescent services. In April 2010 the National Society opened two information and counselling centres for SWs and their clients in Aktobe and Taldykorgan.

The Red Crescent Society maintains working relationships with international agencies like Project HOPE, KNCV (Dutch Tuberculosis Foundation), Aids Foundation East-West, USAID and UNICEF. Data on TB and HIV is obtained from the health ministries, local authorities often facilitate access to communities and TB dispensaries provide the National Society with information about the target group of the programme.

The major partner within the organizational development is the ICRC that is engaged in the process of the Red Crescent Law development, mainly by providing expertise. PWC that carried out the audit can become a partner in the finance management capacity building, for instance, PWC agreed to help the Kazakhstan RC with the development of the finance procedures.

The key partners of the principles and values programme are the media, which play a great role in improving image of Red Crescent and changing behaviour towards vulnerable groups served by the National Society. The partnership with EC, IOM, UN family agencies, local NGOs and local authorities strengthened under the migration project through information sharing, participating in regional and national conferences and meetings.

Contributing to longer-term impact

The International Federation's secretariat and the National Society carried out routine monitoring of the action through field visits, observations, meetings with local authorities, community leaders, volunteers and beneficiaries, international organisations, non-governmental organisations, internal staff meetings with branch staff and progress reports. Regular field visits and monthly reports from the regional branches feed the programme management at national level. The progress and constraints of the programmes were discussed at working meetings at country and regional levels. Best practices were promoted among colleagues and exchange visits between branches and sister National Societies were encouraged, were relevant, to allow learning from experience.

The IDRL promotion project that resulted in recommendations for legal initiatives at the country level with a focus on international disaster response will strengthen the mechanisms for effective emergency response and recovery assistance.

The SPHERE standards and the Code of Conduct for Red Cross Red Crescent staff and volunteers in Emergency Relief guide the Red Crescent disaster response, and the fundamental principles and the value of respect for dignity and equality are at all times promoted in disaster management awareness materials, during training and work with the communities. In disaster response, the distribution of assistance is made on the basis of impartiality. Actions are solely guided by needs, proportional to the degree of suffering and prioritized on the basis of urgency and vulnerability.

Work through trained Red Crescent volunteers who disseminate knowledge and skills in the community-based disaster preparedness projects also helps to mobilize communities and contributes to sustainability.

A survey of the National Society TB MDR projects in Kyzylorda and Almaty was carried in 2010. The survey results fed a guide on MDR TB programming that included recommendations for programme development – with a focus on advocacy, communication and community mobilization – in the local context.

The Federation regional representation's team visited the migration project sites in April and June 2010 to evaluate the progress. Project staff also received information about the use of the Most Significant Change story method as a monitoring and evaluation tool to assess the effect and identify unexpected changes at beneficiary level. The results of the evaluation were discussed with the National Society.

Promoting and respecting the fundamental principles and humanitarian values, including promotion of gender equity, are indispensable if the Red Cross Red Crescent is to be perceived as an impartial, neutral and independent actor, and furthermore to facilitate the Red Cross Red Crescent to carry out its mandate. The National Societies do not take sides of diverging population groups and follow the principle of diversity in the composition of staff involved.

Clear division between governance and management will contribute towards the increase of the National Society effectiveness to the effect that being rooted in the communities and elevating the needs from local to national level promotes greater attention to the needs of the most vulnerable people. Finance development seeks to improve the National Society capacities in finance management as well as to position it stronger among partners.

Looking ahead

The National Society plans to continue advocacy of IDRL. A joint plan of action was elaborated in cooperation with relevant government bodies to promote the required changes in national and regional legislation and ratification of existing international or regional agreements in emergency sphere. The plan stipulates arranging round tables with stakeholders and promotion campaigns in media, monitoring of use of recommendations for the expected new civil protection law etc.

The Red Crescent Society will further develop improved understanding of climate change risks among staff and volunteers with the aim of integrating risk awareness into the programmes and addressing the related humanitarian impact. Besides, the National Society plans to develop a standard curriculum and educational materials for advanced level training for staff, volunteers, DRT members and the population.

The staff of the National Societies in the region requires additional training in humanitarian diplomacy. The Europe Zone office focal points on humanitarian diplomacy and resource mobilization will be attracted to facilitate training for the leadership and relevant staff of all Central Asia Red Crescent Societies. The Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society will be part of the capacity-building initiative.

In terms of capacity building induction courses for newly recruited staff and volunteers from the headquarters and branches are planned for 2011. Further human resources management system development implies employment and training a human resources manager as well as external consultancy. The same approach will be used in volunteer management. As for the legal base development, advocacy support from the IFRC regional representation, Europe Zone and Geneva secretariat will be sought. Financial support in conducting a round table meeting with the government and parliament members, bolstering humanitarian diplomacy and the Red Crescent law has also been provisioned; the costs will be shared with the ICRC.

A six-month extension of the EC-supported migration project without extra costs was approved in November 2010, prolonging the duration until June 2011. The Red Crescent migration services will also be expanded to four additional sites in 2011 thanks to support from the Japanese government.

All Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to:

Inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Contact information

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