

# OPERATIONS UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## IRAN: BAM EARTHQUAKE (FOCUS ON RECONSTRUCTION) JULY – AUGUST 2006

Appeal No. 25/03  
31 August 2006

*The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 185 countries.*

### In Brief

Operations Update No. 27; Period covered: 1 July to 31 August 2006; Appeal target: CHF 53,288,000 (USD 40,893,875 or EUR 33,742,485); Appeal coverage: 97 %

Outstanding needs (revised according to plan): CHF 1,651,928 (USD 1,268,180 or EUR 1,046,090) – Please note that the Federation is not seeking new cash contributions. All planned projects implemented through multilateral support and included in the revised plan of action have received sufficient support. The balance shown above represents the budget provision for the project which was planned to be implemented through bilateral cooperation, but later cancelled ([please click here to go directly to the Contributions List available on the website](#)).

#### Appeal history:

- Preliminary Appeal launched on 26 December 2003 for CHF 15,409,300 (USD 12,290,337 or EUR 9,886,505) for 6 months for 200,000 beneficiaries.
- Revised Appeal launched on 8 January 2004 for CHF 51,913,000 (USD 42,006,534 or EUR 33,119,207) for 6 – 8 months for 210,000 beneficiaries.
- Revised Plan of Action presented on 29 September 2004, to reflect on-going programming into 2005, under the overall Emergency Appeal. A revised appeal budget for the period from December 2003 to December 2005 reflects the revised Plan of Action, and totaling to CHF 53,288,000 (USD 45,231,315 or EUR 34,324,335).
- The Final Report for the Emergency Operation Phase of the Bam Appeal, covering the period from 26 December 2003 to 31 August 2004, was issued on 8 December 2004 with Operations Update No.19.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: N/A

#### Operational Summary:

The construction of standard and special schools in Bam is nearing the completion. Five standard schools and two special schools are expected to be completed before 24 September 2006 when the new Iranian school year begins and the remaining two special schools in mid-November 2006. A final inauguration ceremony of the schools has been re-scheduled for the end of November 2006.

Projects for psycho-social support programme (PSP), disaster management (DM) and community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP) have been implemented in line with the initial plan of action to enhance the Iranian Red Crescent Society's (IRCS) DM capacity at all levels.

The International Federation undertakes activities that 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".

#### Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.

- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

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All International 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.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

The IRCS maintains a website ([www.rcs.ir](http://www.rcs.ir)) both in English and Farsi which also provides the latest information, operational updates, reports, interviews and news on the Bam operation to the public.

## Background

On the morning of 26 December 2003, at 05:28 (local time), a major earthquake measuring 6.51 on the Richter scale struck the city of Bam, Kerman Province, south-eastern Iran. According to seismologists, the earthquake was one of the shallowest ever recorded, with a focal depth of only 10-12 kilometres and the epicentre directly underneath the Bam city. Bam is located on a main earthquake fault line. In Iran, which is ranked as the fourth most disaster prone country in the world, this was the worst earthquake to hit the country in more than a decade. According to the latest estimates, more than 26,000 people were killed, approximately 30,000 injured (of which some 10,000 were evacuated out of the area).

In Bam, more than 85 percent of the buildings were completely destroyed. For more information and details of the human loss, financial and material consequences of the disaster, please refer to Operations Update No. 21 at [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?03/250321.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?03/250321.pdf).

## Objectives, activities and results

### 1. Bam Reconstruction Programme

#### Objective:

**In close cooperation with the Iranian Authorities and the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS), to contribute to the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the education, health and social infrastructure of Bam.**

#### 1.1 School construction

A delegation from the Iranian Ministry of Education, headed by its Deputy Minister, visited the Federation Secretariat in Geneva during 13-17 August 2006. The delegation met with Markku Niskala, Secretary General of the Federation, and other senior officials of the Secretariat and discussed the issues related to the completion of the school construction programme and a final inauguration ceremony. During the discussion it was agreed to have the ceremony at the end of November when the construction of the last two schools is completed. The tentative date for the event has been set for the 25<sup>th</sup> of November, 2006.

Despite the efforts made by the contractor and the Federation to speed up the construction process, the progress in the reporting period has been slow because of various factors. Problems in delivery of ordered materials by the sub-contractors, chronic lack of the skilled manpower in Bam, shortened working hours because of the extreme heat in June – August, as well as continuous security incidents at construction sites have attributed in one way or another to delaying the construction process. At the same time, it is worth while to note that these delays have not had any effects on the budget of the schools construction programme: its costs will not exceed the initially established contracts' price.

In a meeting with the managing director of the contractor, Sanati Fajr Industrial Company, on the 16<sup>th</sup> of August 2006, the Federation Delegation made it clear that the construction progress made so far was unsatisfactory and ran counter to the terms and conditions of the contracts signed by the two sides. The general contractor was warned that the Federation would apply a penalty to the company for the delays caused by the company's failure to implement the contractual obligations. A formal written warning letter was sent to the company on the 19<sup>th</sup> of August, 2006.



**Farhangian primary school is one of the five standard schools that has reached its final stage of completion and will be at the disposal of students in September, 2006**

The first seven schools are still expected to be completed by the end of September, i.e. by the start of the new school year. Completion of the last two special schools will be delayed until mid-November for reasons outlined above.

The first shipment of furniture and school equipment arrived in Bam on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August, 2006 and was delivered to the Jihad school. Next shipments will be delivered to the Farhangian, Kafi, Monthazeri and Shamsaddini schools.

### 1.1.1 Standard Schools

The construction of the five standard schools has reached its final stage of completion. In July-August 2006, the contractor has done the following works:

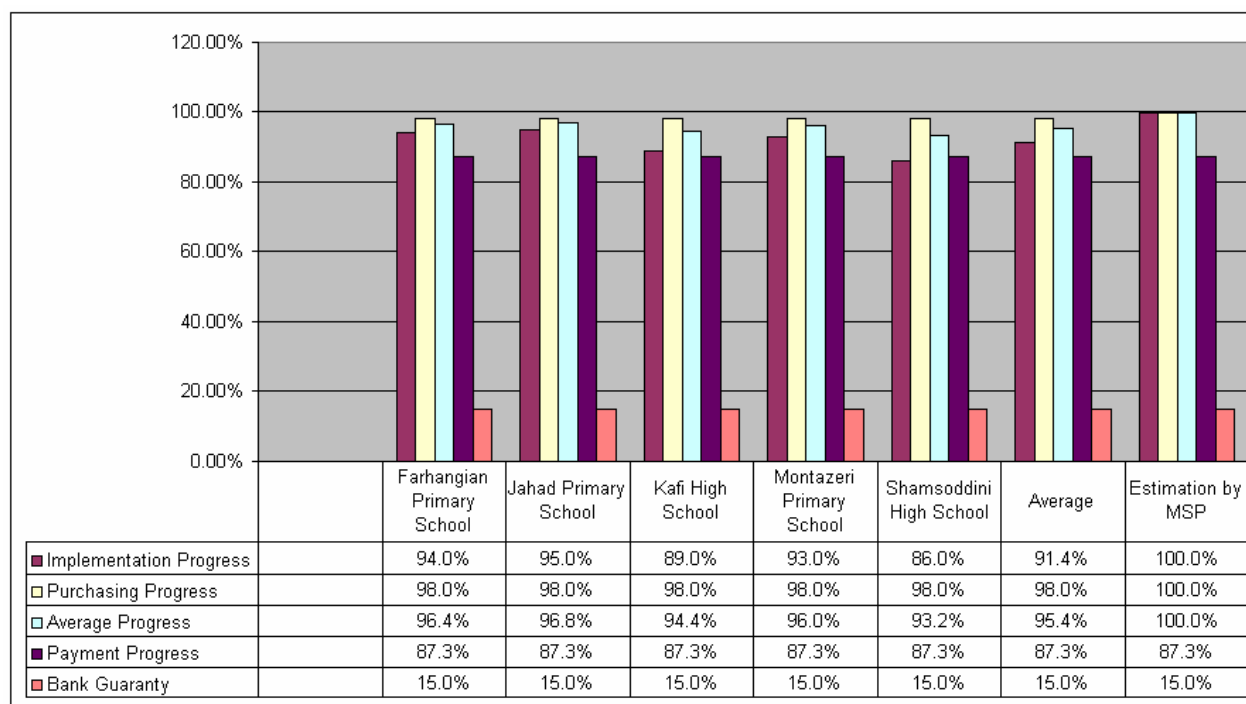
- Stone works, pavement and wall skirting,
- Plastering at all levels and sites,
- Staircases at all sites,
- Façade works with partial corrections,
- Roof isolation,
- Electrical works, wiring and channelling,
- Air-conditioning - channelling, fixing, isolation, connections,
- Mechanical installations,
- External masonry fencing,
- Guard houses and WCs.

Currently, the school construction sites are busy doing the following works:

- Final painting,
- Completion phase of mechanical installations and adjustments,
- Installation of double glazing windows,
- Fire-alarm and security system installations,
- Final corrections, elimination of faults and mistakes,
- Landscaping,

By 26 August 2006, the progress of physical implementation of the five standard schools has reached the level of 95.4% of readiness.

Graphic No 1. Details of progress in each school site



The construction of the five standard schools is expected to be completed by 15 September 2006, so that they can be handed over to the Ministry of Education before 24 September 2006, when the new Iranian school year begins.



**Marefat is one of the special schools which is progressing well and expected to be completed in September, to be ready for the new Iranian school year**

### 1.1.2 Special schools

The progress in construction of each of four special schools is at different levels. While the construction of the Maharatha and Marefat schools is progressing well, there is a continuing delay at the construction sites of the Peyvand school for handicapped children and Arg-e-Bam Model School Complex. The following works have been done in July-August:

- Structural works, roofing and reinforcement at Arg-e-Bam Complex pavilion sector,
- Concrete flooring of basements,
- Erection of walls,
- Mechanical and electrical installations (piping & wiring in sector "A & B"),
- Air-condition channelling and isolations at Peyvand site,
- Plastering of walls partially in Arg-e-Bam and Peyvand site,

- Stone flooring and skirting in Arg-e-Bam sector "A",
- Sanitation facilities and guard house perimeter walls and partitions are completed at Peyvand site,

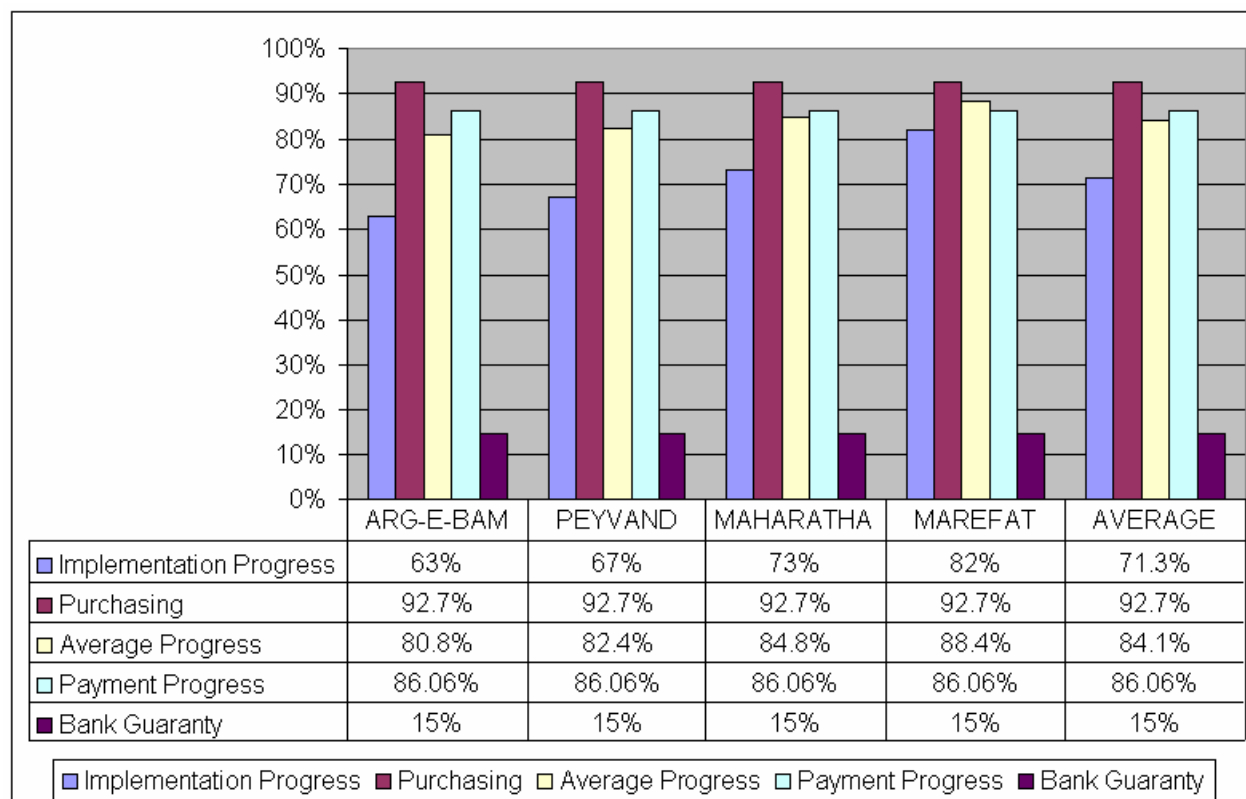
At present the contractor is engaged in the following works:

- Erection of walls and partitions,
- Plastering of walls,
- Electrical and mechanical installations,

- Erection of walls at pavilion building at Arg-e-Bam site,
- Façade stone works have begun,

By 26 August 2006, the progress of physical implementation of the project has reached the level of 84.1% of readiness.

**Graphic No 2. Details of progress in each school site**



The construction of the two special schools, Maharatha and Marefat, is expected to be completed by 20 September 2006 so that they can be handed over to the Ministry of Education before 24 September 2006, when the new Iranian school year begins. The Peyvand and Arg-e-Bam schools are expected to be completed by 20 November 2006.

## 1.2 Road Rescue Base

There has been no progress in the reporting period, largely due to the change process in the Construction Department of the IRCS, which is in charge of the project. As a result, the Hong Kong Red Cross funded part of the project still remains at the level of 95% of completion. The final completion of the project has been rescheduled for the end of September, 2006.

## 1.3 Projects in response to the revised joint IRCS/Federation's plan of action, implemented through bilateral cooperation

Some progress has been made in the projects funded by the German Red Cross. At the construction site of the IRCS branch office in Bam, superstructure of the main building has been completed and the erection of masonry walls and partitions is in progress. Besides, electrical and mechanical installations are running in parallel with other site activities. At the site of the Orthopaedic Centre, superstructure of the building has reached the second floor elevation. Erection of vertical reinforced concrete columns is in progress. At the same time, partitions are being erected at the basement level. The branch office and the Orthopaedic Centre are expected to be completed by 17 March 2007. The construction of the IRCS' rescue base with two warehouses in Bam is planned to be finished by the end of October 2006. The rehabilitation of the IRCS' cultural centre is on-going with the final completion date not being confirmed yet.

## 2. Health

**Objective:** Gaps in the health system between the emergency and the long-term solutions are bridged through the IRCS referral hospital.

### Activities:

Four regional training of trainers (ToT) workshops on HIV/AIDS with a focus on action with youth were planned to begin in July 2006 for selected HIV/AIDS trainers from different parts of the country. However, due to the busy schedule of the Treatment and Rehabilitation Department of the IRCS, they have been rescheduled as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> ToT workshop in Shiraz City (covering 7 provinces) in September
- 2<sup>nd</sup> ToT workshop in Tabriz City (covering 8 provinces) in October
- 3<sup>rd</sup> ToT workshop in Mashad City (covering 7 provinces) in November
- 4<sup>th</sup> ToT workshop in Esfahan City (covering 8 provinces) in December.

PSP activities are going on according to the plan. After the registration of the applicants in May 2006, the first round of the classes commenced at the end of May 2006. Classes for computer, sewing and embroidery are currently under way.

**Table No. 1: Psycho-social support training classes in Bam**

No	Type of classes	1 <sup>st</sup> Round	2 <sup>nd</sup> Round	3 <sup>d</sup> Round	4 <sup>th</sup> Round
1	Computer class for males	1-29 June for 20 males	1-31 July for 20 males	2-31 August for 20 males	
2	Computer class for females	1-29 June for 20 males	1-31 July for 20 males	2-31 August for 20 males	
3	Sewing class	23 May-22 June for 20 females	24 June-23 July for 20 females	24 July-24 August for 20 females	Started on 26 August for 20 females
4	Embroidery class	23 May-22 June for 20 females	24 June-23 July for 20 females	24 July- 23 August for 20 females	Started on 26 August for 20 females

A total of 240 people (180 females and 60 males) have so far attended PSP training classes which are run by eight trainers. All classes are running one after another to reach the target of 640 people by the end of 2006.

## 3. Disaster Management



**CBDP workshops cover various topics, ranging from disaster preparedness to first aid**

**Objective:** The IRCS capacity in disaster management has been strengthened at all levels.

### Activities:

Out of 389 people who had participated in the CBDP training workshops, 319 participants who had passed the relevant examinations were qualified as CBDP trainers. These trainers have to run follow-up CBDP workshops in selected communities in 18 cities of the Kerman Province. Each trainer has to run at least 5 CBDP training courses in communities.

In the Kerman City, a total of 68 people have been certified as CBDP trainers. The CBDP training workshops which started in April 2006 are due to continue till the end of September

2006. 69 training workshops have been held so far by 17 trainers. A total of 1,725 people from the selected communities of Kerman City participated in them.

The topics of the workshops varied from preparedness against earthquakes and other disasters, basic search & rescue measures, carrying the wounded, to basic life support, and other first aid matters.

**Table No. 2: CBDP training workshops in the Kerman City**

No	Venue of the CBDP training workshop	Number of workshops
1	Different Schools	9
2	Electricity Department & its divisions	14
3	University	1
4	Different city quarters on the occasion of the Red Crescent Week	24
5	Telecommunication Department & its divisions	6
6	Water Department	2
7	Transportation Department	2
8	Health Centre	1
9	Two NGOs	4
10	Basij Centre	4
11	IT Centre	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>69 workshops</b>

The CBDP training workshops which started in May in other 17 cities of the Kerman Province are scheduled to be completed by the end of September 2006.

As part of the CBDP programme, three contingency planning workshops were held in Kerman. The topics covered during the workshops included:

- Disaster management – concept, terminologies and cycle,
- Disaster preparedness and response tools,
- Contingency planning – process, contents, format & structure (based on the Federation’s new manual, “Disaster Response and Contingency Planning Guidelines” drafted in June 2006),
- Standard operating procedures,
- Planning tools,
- Experiences in different operations and in the field.

**Table No. 3: Contingency Planning Workshops held in Kerman City**

No	Workshop Title	Target Group	Date
1	1 <sup>st</sup> Contingency Planning Workshop	34 RC staff from the Kerman Province including the heads of city branches, provincial deputies and directors of various offices	1-2 August 2006
2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Contingency Planning Workshop	14 persons from the provincial government including mayors, governors, and heads of departments of Kerman Province	16-17 August 2006
3	3 <sup>rd</sup> Contingency Planning Workshop	25 persons from the provincial government including mayors, governors, and heads of departments of Kerman Province	30-31 August 2006

These contingency planning workshops were jointly facilitated by the Federation Delegation and the Relief and Rescue Organization of the IRCS. All technical details of the contingency planning process were introduced and discussed in depth through presentations and case studies. The new contingency planning guidelines developed by the Federation was appreciated by the participants from the IRCS and local authorities and they agreed to use it as a comprehensive checklist for developing inter-agency contingency plans for specific disasters in their respective cities.

As part of the public awareness campaign, the IRCS is designing a pamphlet titled “Community-Based Disaster Preparedness”, which will be published in October and distributed in November 2006 amongst schools, different organizations, departments, and other educational centres in Kerman Province.

An Emergency Response Unit (ERU) Basic Health Care Unit (BHCU) training workshop was held in Tehran on 22-26 July 2006 with the support of the German Red Cross and the Federation. The German Red Cross sent a delegation consisting three people to facilitate the workshop, which was attended by 25 persons of the IRCS and covered the following topics:

- Disaster types, the sequence of disaster
- Disaster response mechanisms of the Federation
- ERUs and the ERU philosophy
- National disaster coordination and local disaster response system
- Water/Sanitation and control of epidemics
- National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) & Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT)
- Bam Earthquake – national and international view
- Epidemiology in disasters
- New emergency health kit
- Vaccination coverage - local perspective
- Basic anaesthesia
- Chronic disease pattern - local perspective
- Standard treatment protocols, surveillance and monitoring

A delegation consisting four people from the Swedish Rescue Services Agency (SRSA) and the Swedish Red Cross (SRC) visited Iran during 14-18 August 2006 to assess the search and rescue (SAR) capacity of the IRCS and design a SAR training programme for the IRCS based on its needs. The delegation met with representatives of the International Affairs Department and the Relief and Rescue Organization of the IRCS and visited its central warehouses, training centre and a sniffer dogs' base. As per the agreement reached during the visit, the SRSA and SRC will organize a central SAR training of trainers workshop in Tehran and two follow-up workshops in two provinces during the months to come.

The IRCS and the Federation are working on replenishment of some of the relief items which the IRCS distributed to the victims of the devastating earthquakes that had hit a number of villages in and around the cities of Doroud and Borujerd in Lorestan Province in western Iran, on 31 March 2006. With the fund given by the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund for International Development in April 2006, the Federation is procuring kitchen sets, blankets and family tents to support the IRCS in its replenishment efforts. 2,000 kitchen sets and 5,000 blankets have already been delivered and stored in the IRCS warehouse in Tehran. 2,754 family tents are expected to be delivered by the beginning of September 2006.

### **Other activities**

In mid-July 2006, the British Red Cross sent an evaluation team composed of two persons to Iran to evaluate the cash voucher project which had been implemented in Bam in 2004. The team met with representatives of the IRCS and the Federation Delegation and held interviews with local authorities and beneficiaries in Bam to assess the impact of the project and make recommendations to the British Red Cross.

At the request of the IRCS, the Federation made preparations for running a workshop in Tehran for key managers of the National Society with a view to helping them with strategic planning. However, due to the change process in the IRCS, the workshop was rescheduled several times and finally postponed to 2007.

### **Coordination**

The IRCS and the Federation Delegation have maintained close consultation and coordination in implementing the programmes. Regular meetings and consultations between the two sides ensure proper information sharing and effective coordination of programme-related issues, and help address the problems arising in programme implementation.

The Iran Delegation now consists of two Delegates and thirteen locally employed staff based in Tehran, Bam and Zahedan. The Delegates are Chang Hun Choe (Acting Head of Delegation) and Gyula Kadar (Programme Coordinator in Bam).

***[Please click here to return to the title page and contact information](#)***