

# ANNUAL REPORT



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

## TAJIKISTAN

May 2002

*This Annual Report is intended for reporting on the Federation's Annual Appeals only.*

*Appeal No. 01.63/2001*

*Appeal Target: CHF 6,361,778*

### *Operational Developments*

In spite of Tajikistan's recent slight economic recovery and three consecutive years of real GDP growth<sup>1</sup>, the effects of the civil war, destroyed or damaged infrastructure, and continuous drought over the past two years, have exacerbated the widespread poverty of the population.

Water and sanitation structures, the health care system and social welfare have virtually ceased to exist. A significant increase in communicable diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, anthrax and brucellosis, has been noted in recent years. Contrasting climatic conditions, as well as the lack of adequate sanitary services add to a steady increase in outbreaks of diarrhoeal, dysentery and waterborne diseases.

In May 2001, the President of Tajikistan requested international assistance in response to the second year of a devastating drought in the country. Following assessments carried out by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, the World Food Programme and the International Federation's Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT), in August the Federation launched a food deficit appeal to assist 130,000 people affected by severe food shortages over a period of nine months. In recent months needs of the most vulnerable in the Tajik population increased even further with the onset of a harsh winter. Shortages of electricity and gas supplies reached critical levels for both the rural and urban populations. In this context, most activities of the Federation and the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) concentrated on successfully managing this large-scale operation. However, in spite of the broad spread of activities, which stretched the capacities of both of the delegation and the RCST to their fullest extent, the programmes outlined in our appeal 2001-2002 were implemented as planned, in line with available funding.

The RCST and the Federation participated in an inter-agency nutritional survey which was carried out in October-November 2001. The Federation and the RCST had two field groups on the survey, both of which had been trained by a consultant from Action Against Hunger. The survey included anthropometrics data (height and weight), as well as casual analysis, for which the information was collected through household interviews. The result of the survey indicated that the rates of malnutrition in all regions, among both children under five and their care-givers (particularly pregnant and lactating women) showed a worrying nutritional situation. In some areas, more than 43 per cent of children suffered from global chronic malnutrition, 20 per cent from moderate acute malnutrition and up to 5.6 per cent from severe acute malnutrition. On average, 10 per cent of care-givers suffered from

<sup>1</sup>Source: Economist Intelligence Unit: Country Report Tajikistan, July 2000

acute malnutrition. These figures reached alarming proportions amongst lactating and pregnant women.

### ***Objectives, Achievements and Constraints***

#### ***Disaster Response***

##### **Food Assistance to the vulnerable in Tajikistan**

***Objective 1*** To distribute food to 25,000 people in four districts of the capital Dushanbe over a 10-month period.

##### **Achievements**

The initial objective was set in accordance with the ongoing European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) support to the food aid programmes in Dushanbe and Finnish Red Cross donations in kind, which started in August last year. Each beneficiary received a standard ration of 50 kilograms of wheat flour, 10 litres of oil and 2 kg of iodized salt, in two distribution rounds. A total of 40,000 people in Dushanbe and *rayons* around the capital, were provided with supplementary food. In August, ECHO and the Finnish Red Cross announced new donations which allowed the Federation to target approximately the same number of people in four districts of Dushanbe with supplementary food rations (wheat flour, oil and iodised salt), as well as seeds and fertilizers to 3,000 beneficiaries in rural RRS. The first round of distributions was carried out in December. A total of 34,500 beneficiaries received their rations - 10,000 of them were supported through the Finnish Red Cross donation, and the remaining 24,500 by ECHO.

In addition, the national society with direct assistance from WFP implemented a school feeding pilot project in the Gorno Badakhshan Autonomous Region from September 2001 to 31 May 2002, covering all primary and secondary schools, as well as kindergartens. The total number of beneficiaries was 63,594 persons, including teachers and staff.

***Objective 2*** To distribute agricultural inputs to 10,000 beneficiaries in three rural *rayons*, close to the capital Dushanbe.

##### **Achievements**

By the end of June, also within the framework of the ECHO-funded programme, 12,000 beneficiaries in *rayons* were provided with food and fertilizers, as part of a three-year food security cycle. Of these, 10,000 people received supplementary food parcels, containing 25 kg of wheat flour, 5 litres of oil and 1 kg of salt, as well as fertilizers. The remaining 2,000 beneficiaries received only fertilizers, since they belonged to the groups selected one year earlier and were thus in the final year of the food-security cycle.

To better plan the future programme cycle, it was clear that an evaluation of the overall performance of the programme was necessary. To this end, the Federation organized an external assessment of its food-security activities. The evaluation was carried out in April, and a number of findings emerged. A review of the beneficiary selection process was recommended, with priority given to beneficiaries with access to irrigated plots of land, thus ensuring that sowing would be successful. In addition, beneficiaries needed a higher level of technical support and guidance prior to and during the growing season. The main findings of the evaluation were used in the development of the ECHO-funded proposal for the year 2001-2002.

A new round of funding was approved by ECHO for the summer of 2002. The food security component targeted 3,000 beneficiaries, and provided them with seeds and fertilisers. The items were distributed in November, in time for the planting season.

***Objective 3*** To continue strengthening the capacities of RCST throughout the operation.

RCST was actively involved in all aspects of operational planning and implementation, in tandem with the Federation. Through its previous partnerships, the national society has developed skills and

knowledge in areas such as beneficiary selection, monitoring and distribution. On-the-job training, as well as specific workshops for volunteers on warehousing, distribution and monitoring, enabled the Federation to further build the overall RCST disaster-response capacity.

### **Public Canteens**

***Objective 1*** To provide supplementary food of good nutritional value to some 2,000 vulnerable elderly people in urban areas.

RCST runs 15 public canteens throughout the country, with minor technical and financial support from the Federation. Some 2,000 people received hot meals three times a week. The canteens produced up to 39,600 meals per month, addressing the increasing needs of the urban vulnerable in Dushanbe, Leninsky, Kofarnihon, Tursunzade, Gissar, Chkalovsk, Kurgan-Tube, Kulyab and Khujand.

### **Constraints**

Since the beginning of 2001, the national society has faced serious financial constraints, stemming from the planned phasing out strategy of the Swedish Red Cross, the main donor of the programme. In order to maintain the canteens with the existing number of beneficiaries despite limited funding, RCST was forced to decrease the composition of meals served, and to base them mainly on rice, vegetable oil, beans and salt.

***Objective 2*** To further build the capacity and sustainability of RCST in the management of the project.

### **Achievements and Constraints**

The public canteens programme was entirely managed by the national society. The Federation only provided technical support and encouraged RCST to develop a more aggressive fund-raising strategy. At the end of the year, the Swedish Red Cross confirmed additional funding to run the programme, throughout 2002, which will give the RCST more time to further develop its own fund-raising strategy, rationalise costs and ensure more in kind local support.

### ***Disaster Preparedness***

Since this was one of the core areas of interest for the Federation and RCST in Tajikistan, in view of the country's high susceptibility to natural and other disasters, a number of objectives were identified in the annual appeal. Unfortunately, an almost total lack of funding to date has prevented the Federation from achieving its objectives. However, a number of initiatives were undertaken as part of the drought emergency appeal, mainly in the field of training of branch staff and volunteers in areas related to disaster response and preparedness, such as nutritional early warning systems and rapid assessment.

### **Disaster Mitigation in the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region (GBAO)**

The first phase of the three-year disaster mitigation programme, funded by the Finnish government through the Finnish Red Cross, was completed. Of the four objectives outlined in the appeal 2001-2002, most activities focused on implementing the first one, related to the construction and rehabilitation of irrigation canals. A technical assessment team identified three villages vulnerable to potential landslide disaster, and designed projects for each specific location. A quadripartite agreement between RCST, the Federation, the Ministry of Emergencies and the local administration was concluded, stipulating the roles and responsibilities of each party during the implementation of the programme, and ensuring good cooperation with the local authorities. In order to ensure a high level of community participation in the implementation of the project, an agreement was reached with WFP for provision of food as part of the 'food for asset rehabilitation' (FFAR) project. According to the agreement, skilled labourers each received daily rations of 2 kg of wheat-flour, 100g of vegetable oil and 25g of iodised salt for the period of programme implementation.

RCST prepared seminars on water-management systems in project villages, aimed at encouraging communities to assume direct responsibility for the rational utilisation of irrigation water.

### ***Health and Care***

#### **Medical Relief Programme**

***Objective 1*** To assist 180 dispensaries and 250 health posts in the Khatlon region, southern Tajikistan, with supplies of essential medicines and medical equipment.

In the first half of the year, as part of the ongoing ECHO-funded programme, medicines and medical supplies were procured and imported into the country by *Pharmaciens Sans Frontières* (PSF) according to the cooperation agreement signed between the partners. Distribution were carried out in January and February. The remaining period was used to conduct regular monitoring of health institutions, and provide health staff with guidance and ad-hoc training on the case management of the most common diseases and the rational use of drugs. Thanks to savings realized in the procurement process, an additional quantity of medical kits for primary health care units was purchased and distributed in July to some 500 health posts. The programme will continue in 2002, with a similar scope.

After the completion of the ECHO-funded medical programme in July 2001, a new contract was signed with ECHO in August. A total allocation of 550,000 EUR was approved for a programme that will last nine months, and which includes distribution of medical supplies, first-aid training of Red Crescent volunteers, as well as public health training and campaigns. While the relief component of the programme was implemented in the southern region of Khatlon and areas around the capital Dushanbe, the remaining two components were expanded to other parts of the country.

***Objective 2*** To assist the RSCT in promoting the shift to the primary health-care system through training of medical staff and general education of the population.

The training component of the new ECHO-funded contract was expanded to cover the whole country, in contrast to last year, where it focused only on the southern region of Khatlon and areas around Dushanbe. It included training of Red Crescent volunteers in first aid, prevention of acute respiratory infections and diarrheal diseases. The training material, curricula and the information material was approved by the Ministry of Health. The final phase of training within the current ECHO-funded project, which ends in March 2002, will tackle issues related to safe pregnancy and breast-feeding.

***Objective 3*** To assist RCST in strengthening its organizational capacity and increasing its cooperation with the Ministry of Health, as well as other agencies active in the field of health.

The national society has a strong base of trained and experienced staff in the management and implementation of first-aid training, monitoring of health institutions and the production of public health materials. Their skills were further developed through training in project planning, through designing of projects jointly with the Federation, and through improvements in monitoring and in the training curricula. As external partners became more aware of the RCCT's activities, a number of organizations (UNHCR, PSF) approached the national society for first-aid training courses, within the framework of their ongoing contingency planning for the Afghan crisis.

#### **Tuberculosis pilot project**

RCST and the International Federation's TB pilot project was not implemented in 2001 since the WHO-recommended DOTS programme had not yet been fully implemented in Tajikistan. In anticipation of the implementation of the tuberculosis pilot project, the International Federation and RCST included it in the 2002-2003 appeal. In the meantime, RCST visiting nurses were trained to start implementation as soon as the project commences. To date, WHO, Project Hope, the Ministry of

Health and the national TB centre are involved in designing an anti-tuberculosis programme which is expected to be operational in 2002.

### **Water and sanitation programme**

An almost total lack of funding for the water and sanitation programme prevented RCST and the Federation from meeting the objectives set in the appeal. However, some results were achieved within the framework of the 2000 drought emergency operation, the disaster mitigation project in GBAO, and the 2001 food deficit emergency appeal. Activities mainly focused on the rehabilitation of existing supplies of drinking water, sanitary facilities and small scale irrigation systems in selected communities. For more information on those projects, please refer to operation updates on the appeals 26/00 and 26/01. Water and sanitation remains one of the priority areas for the national society and the Federation in the coming years, and financial and other support has already been pledged by a number of donors.

### ***Organizational Development***

Since confirmation of funding for this programme was received only late in the year, the Federation was unable to support the RCST in achieving all its planned objectives. However, a number of significant achievements were made in spite of financial constraints.

In August, a follow-up mission to last year's regional institutional and resource development review was carried out in Tajikistan. The aim of the mission was to assess the progress made in the past year and to identify future priorities. The following positive results were identified:

- In the area of branch development, cooperation with local authorities and humanitarian organizations has improved, as well as the active participation of Red Crescent volunteers in the implementation of programmes.
- RCST has identified clear programme priorities, i.e. in disaster preparedness, health promotion and first aid training, dissemination and organizational development.
- The general management skills of RCST staff have improved, as well as internal communication.

A Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) planning workshop for 2002-2004 was conducted in November, jointly by the Federation and RCST. National society leadership from headquarters and regional branches identified RCST priorities and directions for the next three years based on current capacities and resources. The draft CAS document will be shared with partners in the 2002.

### ***Coordination and Management***

In all its programmes and activities, the Federation assisted the RCST in strengthening its capacity to respond to disasters. The ongoing food deficit emergency operation served as an opportunity to directly involve the national society in operational management, and, through on the job training and specific seminars, to strengthen its disaster response capacity, especially at branch level.

Special attention was given to raising the visibility of the national society with the government, other humanitarian organizations, as well as the general public. This was achieved through active utilisation of local and regional media, and external relations.

In October, the Federation's regional delegation for central Asia hosted a partnership meeting in Almaty, Kazakhstan to discuss priorities for cooperation. The meeting was attended by all central Asian national societies, representatives from the Federation's Tajikistan country delegation, the ICRC and several partner national societies. Discussions were held on the Tajikistan Country Assistance Strategy, as well as regional assistance strategy planning for the coming three years.

Coordination of activities with other humanitarian organizations and the government continued. In this context, the continuation of our partnership with WFP in the implementation of new emergency operation was announced. Also, senior representatives of the British Department for International

Development (DFID) visited the country between 21 and 25 August and discussed possible cooperation with the Federation and other humanitarian organizations. Agreements with relevant ministries on the implementation of all Federation and RCST programmes were successfully finalized.

### ***Outstanding needs***

In line with overall humanitarian trends in Tajikistan, the only objectives which were fully achieved were in the sector of disaster response, more precisely food assistance, as well as health. Considerable progress was also made in the sphere of organizational development. Unfortunately, despite intense fundraising efforts, RCST's priority areas of disaster preparedness, water and sanitation, have not met the same level of interest with the donor community. However, those areas will remain in the national society's focus in the coming years, since they respond to the most pressing humanitarian needs in the country, as identified by all humanitarian actors in Tajikistan. The Federation is committed to pursuing all options to ensure mid- to long-term support for their successful implementation.

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*All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.*

*For support to or for further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.*

*This operation sought to administer to the immediate requirements of the victims of this disaster. Subsequent operations to promote sustainable development or long-term capacity building will require additional support, and these programmes are outlined on the Federation's website.*

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**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES**

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**Appeal No & title: 01.63/2001 Tajikistan**

**Period: year 2001**

**Project(s): TJ001, 003, 005, 163, 500, 506, 511, 512, 519, 520, 525, 526, 528, 531, 532, 553**

**Currency: CHF**

**I - CONSOLIDATED INCOME 2001. CASH. KIND. SERVICES**

FUNDING	CASH		KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL INCOME
	Contributions	Reallocations	Goods/Services	Personnel	
Appeal budget	6,361,778				
less					
Cash brought forward	-218,024				
<b>TOTAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT</b>	<b>6,579,802</b>				
<u>Contributions from Donors</u>					
British Govt.via British Red Cross (DGNGB)	20,597				20,597
Donor unidentified (D000)	120,944				120,944
ECHO-TAJIKISTAN Food Institutions DE (DE3014)	2,480				2,480
ECHO MEDICAL TAJIKISTAN/01007 (DETJ07)	404,388				404,388
ECHO SUPPL.FOOD TAJIKISTAN/01004 (DETJ04)	1,334,499				1,334,499
Finnish Govt.via Finnish Red Cross (DGNFI)	114,187				114,187
Finnish Govt.via Fin.RC 2 (DGNFI2)	572,453				572,453
Finnish Red Cross (DNFI)	33,528				33,528
German Red Cross (DNDE)	-15,207				-15,207
Norwegian Govt.via Norwegian Red Cro (DGNNO)	37,900				37,900
Norwegian Red Cross (DNNO)	391				391
Private Donors-online donations (DPOLD)	167				167
Swedish Govt.via Swedish Red Cross (DGNSE)	462,380				462,380
Swedish Red Cross (DNSE)	101,035				101,035
Swiss Red Cross (DNCH)	8,985				8,985
USA GVT- Grant 4 (DGUS04)	-13,737				-13,737
USA PRM - PM Grant 2000 (DGUS00)	-3,892				-3,892
Finland				74,414	74,414
Netherlands				5,257	5,257
Sweden				101,354	101,354
Great Britain				114,660	114,660
Finland (Govt)			404,476		404,476
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,181,095</b>		<b>404,476</b>	<b>295,685</b>	<b>3,881,256</b>

**II - Balance of funds**

Opening balance	-218,024
CASH INCOME Rcv'd	3,181,095
CASH EXPENDITURE	-1,508,282
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<b>CASH BALANCE</b>	<b>1,454,790</b>

**Appeal No & title: 01.63/2001 Tajikistan**

**Period: year 2001**

**Project(s): TJ001, 003, 005, 163, 500, 506, 511, 512, 519, 520, 525, 526, 528, 531, 532, 553**

**Currency: CHF**

**III - Budget analysis / Breakdown of expenditures**

Description	Appeal Budget	CASH Expenditures	KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL Expenditures	Variance
			Goods/services	Personnel		
<u>SUPPLIES</u>						
Shelter & Construction	75,870	6,818			6,818	69,052
Clothing & Textiles	106,575	791			791	105,784
Food/Seeds	1,188,449	296,659	404,476		701,135	487,314
Water	188,072	690			690	187,382
Medical & First Aid	151,683	36,569			36,569	115,113
Teaching materials	410	336			336	74
Utensils & Tools	29,285	2,076			2,076	27,209
Other relief supplies	75,932	1,933			1,933	73,999
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,816,275</b>	<b>345,872</b>	<b>404,476</b>		<b>750,348</b>	<b>1,065,927</b>
<u>CAPITAL EXPENSES</u>						
Land & Buildings						
Vehicles	51,644					51,644
Computers & Telecom equip.	86,002	3,733			3,733	82,269
Medical equipment						
Other capital expenditures	49,505	7,947			7,947	41,558
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>187,150</b>	<b>11,680</b>			<b>11,680</b>	<b>175,471</b>
<u>TRANSPORT &amp; STORAGE</u>	1,094,533	143,811			143,811	950,721
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,094,533</b>	<b>143,811</b>			<b>143,811</b>	<b>950,721</b>
<u>PERSONNEL</u>						
Personnel (delegates)	847,158	205,824		295,685	501,509	345,650
Personnel (local staff)	886,016	375,869			375,869	510,147
Training						
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,733,174</b>	<b>581,693</b>		<b>295,685</b>	<b>877,378</b>	<b>855,796</b>
<u>GENERAL &amp; ADMINISTRATION</u>						
Assessment/Monitoring/experts	124,838	342			342	124,496
Travel & related expenses	77,254	56,992			56,992	20,262
Information expenses	181,918	44,973			44,973	136,946
Administrative expenses	446,840	66,084			66,084	380,756
External workshops & Seminars						
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>830,850</b>	<b>168,391</b>			<b>168,391</b>	<b>662,459</b>
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>						
Programme management	428,975	75,108			75,108	353,866
Technical services	128,412	22,488			22,488	105,925
Professional services	142,408	24,946			24,946	117,463
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>699,796</b>	<b>122,542</b>			<b>122,542</b>	<b>577,254</b>
Operational provisions		134,294			134,294	-134,294
Transfers to National Societies						
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>6,361,778</b>	<b>1,508,282</b>	<b>404,476</b>	<b>295,685</b>	<b>2,208,443</b>	<b>4,153,335</b>

**Consumption rate:** Expenditures versus income 57%  
Expenditures versus budget 35%