

# 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

## CENTRAL ASIA

*Appeal No. 01.52/2002; Appeal target: CHF 8,263,482; Appeal coverage: 52%*

### Overall analysis of the programme w

The health situation in Central Asia is also strongly linked to the prevailing socio-economic crisis. Inherited ecological disasters, namely those relating to the Aral Sea and Semipalatinsk, aggravate the poor health situation despite health and social welfare reforms in all five countries. Tuberculosis and increased HIV/AIDS infection rates are the major health challenges resulting from poverty, malnutrition, lack of access to free and quality services and medicines. Open Afghan borders aimed to facilitate rehabilitation in the country and the presence of foreign military forces to control terrorism led to increased drug trafficking from Afghanistan, reduced drug prices, their increased access and related growth of consumption and increased incidence of HIV/AIDS.

The region is considerably susceptible to a diversity of natural disasters: earthquakes, droughts and floods, landslides and fires. Scientists predict major earthquakes in the region referring to a hundred-year old cycle since the latest destructive earthquakes in three Central Asia capitals (Almaty, Ashgabad and Tashkent). All these factors exacerbate social tensions, increase vulnerabilities of the communities to disasters and require continued external assistance.

The International Federation continues to support capacity building of the Central Asia National Societies (NSs). The overall strategy of concentrating on individual country programmes was maintained to allow a greater local focus to suit the specific needs of individual communities and operating environments. Provision of direct relief assistance was gradually scaled back to allow greater focus on other core areas of the Federation's regional assistance strategy, namely disaster preparedness, health, organizational development, population movement, information and advocacy. At the same time, Central Asia National Societies were encouraged and assisted in assuming direct initiative and seeking bilateral support for their relief activities. To support them in building a higher level of independence in their individual relief efforts, the Federation continued training and guidance on financial management and accountability - most notably structure and statutes; key prerequisites for accountability, logistics support, fund-raising and media exposure.

### Disaster Response w

**Objective 1:** To improve knowledge and skills within the National Societies (staff and volunteers).

Implementation of a drought response operation in Uzbekistan allowed the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan (RCSU) to enhance its operational skills and capacities through regular training in logistics, visibility, monitoring and reporting for staff and volunteers. As a result of the operation the

RCSU reinforced its volunteer base and built up technical knowledge and expertise. The operation received good funding coverage and in kind contributions from various donors. However, the contribution by the Canadian Red Cross was not used during the operation period and therefore will be returned to the donor.

**Objective 2: To support National Societies in their efforts to facilitate post-disaster rehabilitation and increase the population's resilience by mobilizing community resources.**

The Uzbek RC established an early warning system (EWS) in five drought-stricken regions of the country with the aim to track dynamics of slow-onset disasters and the continuous impact on the population. Based on results of the EWS, the society identified three main areas of future intervention: disaster management, community based health education and capacity building to address long term recovery needs.

**Objective 3: To improve logistics management within the National Societies in Central Asia.**

The staff of newly established logistics departments of the NSs went through a five-day logistics workshop and exchanged knowledge and experience. Apart from that, 70 non-logistics staff of Central Asia NSs (health, information, DP, and first aid) were trained in logistics procedures during two disaster management workshops as were an additional ten people at the regional logistics workshop in December in Tashkent. These activities improved knowledge and use of the Federation's logistics standards.

Other activities included setting up of strategic warehouses in three National Societies (Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan) from funds available from the Afghan Crisis contingency plan for the Central Asia region. In Turkmenistan, a prefabricated warehouse will be installed on a plot of land donated by the Turkmen Government. The RCSU is making efforts to buy a building for a warehouse. The process is carried out in compliance with local and Federation standard procedures for warehouse construction and purchase. This important step improved logistics management within the respective NSs and contributed to an increase of their operational capacities.

## **Disaster Preparedness w**

**Objective 1: To develop disaster preparedness plans of National Societies in the region with clear policies and operational guidelines and procedures.**

The Central Asia NSs started development of disaster preparedness (DP) plans in order to have country specific disaster preparedness policies, incorporated into operational guidelines. This process needs a comprehensive approach and is not limited to one year. The NSs are currently at different stages of the process. The Kazakh Red Crescent and Red Cross Society (Kazakh RCRCs) already finalized its DP plan with clear roles and responsibilities of the headquarters and branches, has a national plan and its role vis-a-vis the government is clear. The RCSU has prepared an implementation timetable for the development of the plan, while the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan has drafted operational procedures and guidelines. The Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan (RCST) obtained permission from the government to run the disaster information system in order to facilitate development of the DP plan. All these contributed to the improvement of the future preparedness and response mechanisms of the NSs.

**Objective 2: To strengthen the capacity of the National Societies in the region to respond to disasters effectively and on time.**

In total, 21 workshops (three in Turkmenistan, eight in Uzbekistan, nine in Kazakhstan, one in Kyrgyzstan) covering training in community based disaster preparedness (CBDP), DP volunteers, first

aid (FA), rapid response teams and four disaster response field exercises were run during the year for more than 500 participants (staff and volunteers). Disaster simulations were conducted jointly with local state emergency structures. The regional disaster management department initiated exchange visits for DP officers to share experiences in disaster management, disaster information systems, community-based disaster preparedness and mitigation projects. Disaster preparedness officers from the NSs in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan visited the Kazakh Red Crescent and Red Cross Society to observe its disaster preparedness work in three *oblasts* for 10 days and share experiences.

The Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan focused on formation of rapid response teams in two branches (Dashoguz and Lebap) and CBDP training. The community DP committee, represented exclusively by volunteer instructors, conducted 29 meetings/workshop for 300 community members to train them in survival techniques and reduction of vulnerabilities through awareness.

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan, with the support of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), ran training sessions on first aid in emergencies for Osh, Djalalabad and Batken *oblasts*. The project is expected to increase coping mechanisms of the local communities in areas prone to earthquakes, debris floods, landslides and conflicts.

Kazakh RCRCs conducted advanced DP training for three out of four DP centres in the country (topic: disaster response teams) and used questionnaires for pre- and post- training test. Together with the state committee for emergencies, the Kazakh RCRCs conducted three field exercises during the year with focus on relief distribution, conflict preparedness and coordination of response activities to strengthen NS capacities on effective and timely response.

**Objective 3: To link different elements of disaster management such as early warning, risk mapping, prevention and mitigation to address the gap between the community's vulnerability and the existing capacity.**

Kazakh RCRCs finalized a vulnerability assessment in the country to plan mitigation activities to reduce vulnerability. Community based disaster preparedness projects were conducted in four cities and six rural areas covering 127,000 urban and 12,000 rural members of the population. The project resulted in development of 18 risk maps for urban areas and 15 risk maps for rural area as well as 11 community based disaster preparedness plans. As a result of the new initiatives of the society, 15 billboards appeared along main streets in two big cities with high rates of road accidents (Almaty and Taraz) to remind both drivers and pedestrians of safety rules. Complementary to these risk reminders the project anticipates training schoolchildren on traffic rules.

The National Society in Kyrgyzstan successfully finalized a mitigation project in Osh province on cleaning of the drainage system and riverbank reinforcement in the Uzgen area to reduce the impact of seasonal flooding and the threat of malaria and typhoid. The community and local authorities contributed to the implementation of the project with material and human resources.

The Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan runs two mitigation projects in Karakala and Seidi (Karakum desert) to protect local communities from seasonal floods and sandstorms through constructing a water collector and planting trees. The flood mitigation project aims to have a sustainable impact for the area in the future allowing use of the water from the collector for agricultural irrigation. Local authorities and communities committed to maintain the project after its finalization through delegation of responsibilities among other organizations and also provided around 50 per cent of the supplies and equipment needed for the project. Both projects received acknowledgement by the local governments as they address the real needs of the communities and had good visibility. Local authorities donated premises for both branches: Karakala city branch received a two-story building and Seidi was donated an office.

Landslide mitigation projects in three provinces were successfully finalized by the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan. Similar to previous countries, local authorities and communities of Uzbekistan undertook the commitment to sustain the project after its finalization through distribution of responsibilities among other organizations. One fourth of harvest from planting 30,000 fruit trees will belong to the RCSU, giving the opportunity for income-generating activities.

All of the above-mentioned activities extensively involved youth volunteers and contributed to reduction of vulnerabilities through risk prevention and mitigation projects. Community participation and commitments of local authorities will ensure further sustainability of the projects.

**Objective 4: To increase awareness in communities at risk and in selected disaster prone areas.**

Kazakh RCRC implemented planned activities on:

- a public awareness campaign on International Risk reduction day;
- development and distribution of disaster-related material in disaster prone areas;
- radio quizzes and crossword tests; and
- maintaining the National Society's web site, which contains a disaster information system (updated by the state agency for emergencies) and information about DP activities.

Turkmen RC focused its activities on raising awareness through an increased number of volunteer clubs. Two more clubs, in addition to the existing five, were established in Turkmenistan. A field exercise was organized to train response to a chemical disaster and to test communities and RC/RC preparedness skills.

The National Society in Kyrgyzstan carried out public awareness campaigns during celebration of Mountaineering Day to draw public attention to the lives of vulnerable people in mountainous areas exposed to numerous disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, avalanches and landslides and during the launch of the *World Disasters Report* through a performance staged to convey the RC message and distribution of disaster-related information in at-risk areas.

The RCSU, along with similar activities, conducted earthquake and floods response simulations to demonstrate disaster preparedness skills of the communities at risk.

All these activities contributed to reducing vulnerabilities through raising awareness about specific disasters among communities most at risk. The specific impact of these projects was manifested in establishment of rural disaster management community groups with clear responsibilities (in information, assessment, response, relief) in times of disasters in Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. In Kazakhstan, similar community disaster management structures are functioning at the city level.

**Objective 5: To strengthen the technical, administrative and human resources of the five National Societies focusing more on the oblast/rayon level.**

The regional disaster preparedness programme provided administrative and office support to the National Societies of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, which included:

- salary support;
- development of Internet and communication skills;
- installation of office equipment (computers and printers) in two DP centres;
- installation of HF radios in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan; and
- training branch people.

E-mail connection was made available in Kazakhstan after installation of computers in 10 out of 14 branches, however remote areas of the country are not covered. The disaster management programme aims at building up and improvement of the National Societies' communication capacities gradually,

year after year. Next year other branches in the region are expected to receive computers and HF radios to improve communication within and outside the region in time of disasters.

**Objective 6: To improve and maintain good integration/links with other programmes and other organizations.**

Disaster preparedness programme of the NSs in the region are run in close cooperation with information, youth, health, and OD programmes through joint training, involvement of youth and volunteers, coordination with the ICRC, state emergency agencies, Russian Red Cross and international organizations, through cooperation, provision of expertise, and learning from stakeholders and other partners. These activities facilitated better links, integration and coordination with other organizations and agencies for more efficient use of resources and learning from each other.

Additionally, the regional branch development fund anticipates to fund one or two projects in branches involved in mitigation activities to encourage integration and improve community participation in the branch work. The results will be reviewed and evaluated during 2004.

**Kazakh RCRCs**

- participated in DP emergency meetings, gathering representatives from governmental emergency structures, related ministries and other agencies to discuss DP issues;
- conducted a field simulation on conflict preparedness with the ICRC last autumn;
- signed an agreement with Peace Corps on cooperation in disaster preparedness response with focus on sharing skills and knowledge from each other;
- provided its officer to facilitate the DP workshop in the North Caucasus organized by the ICRC's delegation in Moscow; and
- held two meetings with Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) about funding of an earthquake preparedness project in Almaty.

**RCS of Kyrgyzstan**

- signed an agreement with Peace Corps on joint security training;
- signed an agreement with the ICRC on first aid training programme in the south of the country on the border with Uzbekistan as part of conflict preparedness activities;
- is carrying out impact analysis of mitigation projects on branch capacity building together with the DP and OD departments of the regional delegation (RD), as part of the branch capacity building process mentioned above. Findings will be available during 2004.

In Turkmenistan, the National Society's DP department actively cooperates with the youth programme. Also, its Red Crescent rescue team provides regular training for the disabled and youth.

**Humanitarian Values w**

**Objective 1: To promote the fundamental principles and humanitarian values within and outside the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.**

Despite limited funding the programme progressed well in all five Central Asian NSs with the support from other programme budgets. Among other activities planned for promotion of the fundamental principles and humanitarian values, the most significant ones include the following:

- The sixth regional information meeting held in April in Almaty discussed global action against HIV/AIDS related to stigma and discrimination and presidents of the Central Asia NSs committed to support the message. Another important practical implication of the meeting was that it was the first RC induction meeting for newly hired information officers in PR and information work.

- In Kazakhstan, diplomas and prizes were awarded to journalists and volunteers who participated in a national contest on international humanitarian law (IHL) newspaper articles. A special encouragement prize was presented to the “Panorama” paper’s correspondent for its active promotion of the Kazakh RCRC activities and humanitarian values.
- In Kyrgyzstan, two important events (the Federation’s annual partnership meeting and the regional disaster management workshop held in Issyk-Kul) were good opportunities to draw once again public attention to the role of the National Society in addressing vulnerabilities through TV and media reports highlighting these events.
- In Uzbekistan, the regional delegation organized a field visit for international and local media to the drought affected regions in February. Correspondents from BBC Radio, Reuters, a TV producer and local freelance journalists filmed the implementation of the relief operation and food distribution in Karakalpakstan. A news report was posted on the Federation’s web site.
- In Turkmenistan, the second round of polling on the National Society’s profile and image (held in the first quarter of the year) demonstrated increased awareness of the population about the RC society and its image and mission, compared to 1997. However further work is required at branch level and with youth. The RCST is increasing dissemination work and volunteer recruitment at the branch level.
- In Tajikistan, the Red Crescent Society celebrated its 75th anniversary with a series of events and a press conference held in December. A seven-minute video and photo gallery on the RC activities were produced to present the programmes visually to journalists and representatives of local partner and international agencies.

**Objective 3: To advocate on behalf of vulnerable people, promoting public support and understanding of the situation for people affected by issues, related to HIV/AIDS, TB, disasters and migrants.**

The activities to achieve these objectives were mainly run through national and international campaigns and NS publications.

An anti-discrimination campaign related to HIV/AIDS/TB and migrants was presented to the leadership of the Central Asia NSs during the Presidents meeting in April. Decision was made to initiate anti-discrimination projects in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan although these activities are not included in this appeal.

Achievements in the area of advocacy included:

- participation of NSs in the World TB Day to raise awareness among communities about health, migrant and disaster issues;
- a press conference organized by the National Society in Kyrgyzstan to highlight refugee issues and launch the first Afghan women refugee’s magazine in the Dari language; and
- Kazakh RCRC activities in support of Tajik, Chechen and other refugees were acknowledged by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in the organization’s newsletter as an example of tolerance and promotion of equality.

**Constraints:**

In some countries of the region there is limited access to the information related to TB, HIV/AIDS, and refugee vulnerabilities that limits advocacy activities of the NSs.

**Objective 4: To develop the communication capacity of National Societies and to involve volunteers in information activities.**

NSs in the region increased their contacts with local media. In Turkmenistan, the Red Crescent initiated a new publication to enhance experience and knowledge sharing between the headquarters and branches and established new contacts with an additional four newspapers and two TV

companies. In Kyrgyzstan, the Red Crescent launched a web site with technical support from the regional delegation and local service provider (ELCAT) and carried out volunteer journalists' training at the branch level to enhance communication capacities of the NS in the region.

### **Constraints:**

Due to very limited funding the planned programme activities were minimized. This affected staff and volunteer training in public relations and communication commenced in 2001 at the branch level. However, NS information officers used every opportunity to visit and refresh relations with local media.

## **Health and Care w**

### **Objective 1: To prevent the increase in the incidence of tuberculosis.**

The table below demonstrates the dynamics of TB and HIV situation during the recent decade.

		<b>TB notification rate</b>	<b>TB mortality rate</b>	<b>HIV registered cases</b>
	<b>Year</b>			
Kazakhstan	1990 / 2001	82.5 / 155.7	10.1 / 24.5	6,000 (1799 in 2001)
Kyrgyzstan	1990 / 2001	5.8 / 127.3	13.4 / 13.5	334 (92 in 2001)
Uzbekistan	1997 / 2001	55.0 / 72.4	9.6/ 12.5	2,000 (302 in 2001)
Turkmenistan	1997 / 2001	72.3/ 78.7	10.3 / 14.0	2
Tajikistan	1996 / 2001	28.4/ 56.6	1996 / 2000 3.0 / 7.1	65 ( 22 in 2001)

Central Asian NSs traditionally played a major role in basic health care through their network and in close co-operation with their respective health authorities. The network and work with communities allowed the NSs acquire a strong position in public health interventions.

All five Central Asian countries adopted national strategies to fight tuberculosis with the support of the World Bank and the World Health Organization (WHO). The programme is based on the implementation of the directly observed treatment short course (DOTS) strategy as recommended by the WHO. All five NSs initiated tuberculosis-related programmes based on the national strategies in their countries due to high needs related to poor social and economic situations.

The number of pilot projects in the region in 2002 increased from five to 11 (10 were planned), targeting regularly more than 1,000 tuberculosis patients. Red Crescent nurses served more than 1,930 patients, i.e. 45 per cent of all patients. The number of patients who completed the treatment is 699, i.e. 42 per cent of patients served by RC nurses and 18 per cent of the total number of patients in the continuation phase. As a result, according to health officials in Tajikistan, the early detection of suspected TB cases increased by around 30 per cent due to well-coordinated activities between the involved partners and health authorities. In Kazakhstan, the treatment default rate since the beginning of the programme dropped down from 15-17 per cent to 2-4 per cent. TB pilot projects in operational areas run by the National Societies influenced the increase in the number of patients (minimum 20 per cent) successfully completing treatment with the WHO-recommended DOTS strategy. This success was made possible by the joint efforts of the Ministry of Health and the Kazakh RCRCS.

### **Objective 2: To prevent the predicted HIV/AIDS epidemics in the region.**

In 2002, the National Societies of Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Tajikistan received financial support for the implementation of HIV/AIDS prevention projects. In Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan activities were included in youth programmes. The programme in Turkmenistan started relatively late, in

September 2002. Kazakh RCRCS youth was nominated and rewarded as the best voluntary organization in the country involved in the HIV/AIDS campaign in 2002.

National Societies in Central Asia have a leading role in youth peer education on HIV/AIDS and made a significant impact on young people's knowledge and behaviour change through an increased number of youth volunteers and their level of involvement in HIV/AIDS preventive programmes. Trained volunteers throughout the region disseminated the messages on HIV/AIDS prevention, stigma and anti-discrimination to thousands of young people and the general population.

**Objective 3: To improve the health of women and their children through the promotion of safe motherhood with support before and after birth, awareness raising activities and support to health facilities.**

The input of the Kazakh and Uzbek National Societies contributed to the improvement of ante-natal care of women in three pilot projects in Kazakhstan and one in Uzbekistan targeting women with limited access to health services. This was achieved through the organization of four women-support centres at the hospitals by providing care (ante-natal check up and physiotherapy) and advice (health-related information and counselling) to more than 1,700 women. In the beginning of 2003, Red Crescent Societies with support of the American Red Cross will start a five-year project with the goal to improve health and reproductive health of more than one million mothers and children in Kashkadarya and Surkhandarya *oblasts* in Uzbekistan and Khatlon *oblast* in Tajikistan, through improvements in service delivery and community mobilization.

**Objective 4: To intervene effectively in emergencies with basic first aid through establishment of youth and community networks and also through preventive measures.**

By the end of 2003, the quality of health promotion and first aid training to volunteers of Central Asian NSs and community members at the branch level improved after adoption of a common FA training curriculum. Health staff from selected branches improved their technical skills in health aspects of disaster management with the main focus on vulnerability assessment, epidemic control and first aid.

Training in first aid and health promotion for schoolchildren are part of health relief projects run by the NSs in Turkmenistan and Tajikistan. ICRC supported first aid activities initiated by the NS in Kyrgyzstan as part of conflict preparedness in the south of the country. In Tajikistan, nine trainers conducted more than 13 first aid training events on a monthly basis for an average of 260 participants. As a follow up to the first aid training, four simulation exercises demonstrated practical skills and capacities of the volunteers to cope with various emergencies. First aid training for schoolchildren is conducted in Turkmenistan as part of the health education programme, incorporated into the school curriculum.

The National Societies in the region are in the process of forming a regional disaster response team (RDRT). Eleven health experts from all five NSs took part in two RDRT workshops organized by the regional delegation to enhance their knowledge and skills in emergency health. Those trained in RDRT workshops will make up the country level response teams and at the same time will be potential candidates for the regional response team which is currently under development.

## **Organizational Development w**

**Objective 1: To improve the legal basis and image of the National Societies by 2003.**

A regional leadership workshop held in June in Almaty discussed the importance of an appropriate legal base for the NSs in the region. The discussion led to the commitment of the National Societies'

leadership to initiate change of statutes and structure as a priority for their plans and the appeal for 2003.

During the second part of 2002 the regional programme coordination unit initiated a change process to improve accountability and transparency in the NS governance and management, which requires division, and management. The process was facilitated by the regional OD delegate (who is at the same time the honorary president of the Armenian Red Cross) for six weeks and resulted in the development of plans of action for statute revision and change structure for all five NSs.

Kazakh RCRCs moderately revised its statutes, which were registered at the Ministry of Justice in February 2002. This revised version was sent to the Joint Commission (Federation/ICRC) for admission to the International Federation during the General Assembly in 2003.

**Objective 2: To promote leadership and management skills in the National Societies in order to implement effective organizational changes.**

As a result of a leadership and management workshop, with focus on governance and management and analysis of strengths and weaknesses of the present structure, the NSs of the region came to the consensus that the proposed new structure ensured better accountability and transparency. This led to the decision mentioned above to prioritize change of structure in the NSs' plans for 2003.

The regional financial management workshop held in Tajikistan for the NSs put forward a recommendation to apply standard local accounting software compatible with the Federation's accounting to the NS financial system to improve the financial management and increase transparency. Based on the successful pilot project of the Tajik Red Crescent, the financial management development will be carried out in the headquarters of the other four NSs in 2003.

Training was provided in the project planning process (PPP) for 20 people in the region to enable early start of appeal processes and to increase NS capacities for better and much more comprehensive planning both at national and branch levels, getting away from the annual appeal process as the main tool used.

**Constraints:**

The follow-up of the Central Asia 2001 institutional and resource development review took place in July-August 2002 with the view to assess two core areas: compliance of NSs with their OD priorities and capacity building progress through programmes. The process showed low involvement of the stakeholders. Inputs from the Swedish and Finnish Red Cross Societies highlighted capacity building progress in human and physical resources and in relations with governmental structures and other organizations. However, low levels of self-financing due to insufficient local fund-raising capacities continues to hinder both organizational development and capacity building.

**Objective 3: To build capacity at branch level in order to increase branch effectiveness, strengthen community participation in the RC/RC activities and build local sustainability.**

In September 2002, the regional programme coordination unit initiated a regional OD fund of US\$ 15,000 to support ten small programmes in two branches in each country of the region. The pre-condition for the grant was 15 per cent of NS financial input and no core costs. Nine branches submitted their applications and six received funding as they complied with the conditions.

**Constraints:**

Monitoring indicated limited involvement of the branches in project planning due to the strong role of the headquarters. This will be taken into account and more explicitly stated in the branch development

guidelines. These steps however led to better programme ownership and financial input by the NSs and to discussion of longer-term perspectives of branch development in the region.

**Objective 4: To establish a sustainable, vibrant RC/RC youth movement and RC/RC approach in volunteering in Central Asia.**

The youth movement in Central Asia considerably increased and integrated well into the programmes and activities of the NSs. There are: 14 youth centres (YC) with branch youth officers and permanent groups of 20-25 active volunteers in Kazakhstan; 20 YC with branch youth officers (paid by NS) and more than 30 youth clubs in Uzbekistan; seven YC with branch youth officers and permanent groups of 20-25 active volunteers in Kyrgyzstan; five YC with branch youth officers and permanent groups of 20-25 active volunteers in Tajikistan; and 12 youth centres with branch youth officers (paid by NS) in Turkmenistan with permanent groups of 25-30 active volunteers. Youth centres and clubs established throughout the region are involved in specific youth activities and integrated in all core NS programmes (see sectional reports).

Kazakh RCRC youth initiated new projects in remote and rural areas based on vulnerability capacity assessment (VCA) with local and external donor support. Tajik RC youth developed their youth structure at provincial levels to increase its volunteer base and network. The NS in Uzbekistan had successful experience in fund-raising cooperation with local and international organizations in the country. The role of its youth was recognized by the leadership of the NS in Kyrgyzstan who committed to support and promote the RC youth movement. Turkmen RC enjoys increased recognition among governmental and international organizations through its active involvement in core NS programmes and its own activities. Acknowledgement of the positive image and profile of RC youth was nomination and award of the Kazakh RCRC volunteers as the best volunteer organization in the country.

**Objective 5: To diversify the funding base of the National Societies in the region to improve their financial sustainability.**

Fund-raising issues were in focus at several meetings during the year:

- during the meeting of participating national societies, presented by an external fund-raising specialist;
- at a meeting on alternative methods of fund-raising facilitated by the NSs' fund-raising officers;
- at OD and youth meeting about the Cambodian Red Cross' experience; and
- during a knowledge sharing meeting attended by the fund-raising officer of the NS in Kyrgyzstan.

**Constraints:**

It should be noted that sometimes best practices in other parts of the world are not applicable in the context of the Central Asian region. Funding was another constraint that hindered publicity activities to increase the NSs' profile by the regional delegation.

**Objective 6: To build a strong network of people from within and outside the region who can provide technical support to further development of the National Societies in the region.**

In order to identify progress in organizational development and capacity building, three integrated programmes were introduced and analyzed:

1. mitigation project in Kyrgyzstan, by the regional DM delegate
2. preventive health project of the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan by the regional health delegate; and
3. branch development (bilateral) programme by the OD officer of the NS in Kyrgyzstan.

The analysis highlighted capacity building opportunities through different programmes and activities and the need to proceed with joint cross-sectional approach at the branch level, specifically through mitigation.

## **Regional Cooperation w**

**Objective 1: To co-ordinate the implementation of a coherent regional assistance strategy to address issues of vulnerability in Central Asia.**

During the reporting period dialogue has been ongoing with all Movement partners regarding the adherence to the regional assistance strategy (RAS). All partners agreed that the document requires an element of dynamism to incorporate changes of priorities of NS, e.g. include change of the statutes and structure and build CAS/appeal process on their updated strategies.

**Objective 2: To promote partnership in order to increase the impact of the work of the National Societies in the region by building on the comparative advantages of different components of the Movement and other organizations.**

NSs in the region have well-established relations with partners outside the Movement, local NGOs and international organizations through joint activities contributing to image raising, income-generating and impact of their work. Partnership existing within the Movement (e.g. Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan/Swedish RC/RD) aims to ensure the development and long-term sustainability of effective structures and programmes outlined in the strategic plans. The new initiative of the transfer of a staff member from the NS in Kyrgyzstan to Tajikistan facilitated by the Netherlands Red Cross was started and evaluated to see if there is value to organize similar activities in the future.

**Objective 3: To strengthen links and cooperation between the National Societies in the region at all levels and to promote their lead role in setting the Movement's agenda in the region.**

The delegation team of HoRD, disaster, health and development delegates visited the NSs in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan as part of the plan to collect data identified during regional meetings needed to revise RAS. The other three societies will be visited early in 2003. The outcome of the discussions will be two plus two years plan of action for the delegation that incorporates changed NS priorities and strategies and will be available at the end of May 2003.

**Objective 4: To increase the participation of the National Societies in the region in global activities of the Federation and wider civil society.**

NSs of the region continued taking increased responsibilities in running global events. Launch of *The World Disaster Report* and celebration of World RC Day and World TB Day were carried out by the societies' own resources and initiative. This demonstrated strong cooperation links of the NSs with other governmental and non-governmental organization in their respective countries and contributed to raising the profile and image of the Movement. World AIDS Day was also given a high priority among the five NSs. Additionally, the global programmes in health and DM were given increased emphasis during the year, most notably the international standards of implementation, monitoring and reporting are now more understood than at the beginning of the year.

## **Coordination and Management w**

**Objective 1: To provide efficient management, coordination of and practical support to the Federation and partner National Societies in their assistance to National Society development**

**and programmes in the sphere of health, disaster preparedness and response and promotion of humanitarian values.**

The regional delegation continued providing service support to American Red Cross as a ‘coordinated bilateral’ participating society in the region. Issues of capacity building and directions of the new proposed health-related project in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan were discussed. An impact analysis of TB programme incentives was started to be planned in 2002 and will be continued throughout the coming year jointly by the American Red Cross, regional delegation and other partners.

A meeting of the five NSs’ presidents took place in September in Almaty to prepare for the partnership meeting and discuss the strategy and the nature of expertise delivery to the NS. Following the presidents’ meeting, the partnership meeting gathered representatives of eight partner National Societies, five Central Asia NSs, Armenian Red Cross, ICRC and the regional delegation to discuss the role of the RAS and to make commitments for future cooperation.

During the year, the country delegation of Tajikistan changed its reporting line into the RD. This has already led to synergies in staffing with sharing of specialist staff. The upcoming strategic planning for the regional delegation will also include the Tajikistan strategic planning and might lead to further synergies during 2003. These efforts will also result in placing more emphasis on better integrating the activities within the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan in order to build its capacities.

**Objective 2: To raise and maintain the profile of Central Asia in the Movement and of the Movement in Central Asia and establish networks for knowledge sharing with key stakeholders.**

Achievements in fulfilling the objective included posting TB, safe motherhood, HIV/AIDS, drought relief-related articles on the Federation’s website, organizing media trip to the drought operation’s site, numerous articles within NS countries highlighting RC/RC activities and participating in global campaigns.

**Objective 3: To mobilize resources from within and outside the region through coordinated mechanisms in promotion of humanitarian values, health, disaster preparedness, disaster response and organizational development.**

The regional delegation continued handing over more responsibilities to the NSs’ staff in running regional events. Disaster preparedness and health officers from the NS in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakh RCRCs were actively involved in two regional disaster response team training for their colleagues from other NSs. The disaster preparedness officer of the Kazakh RCRCs ran a disaster management training session at the conflict preparedness workshop organized by ICRC with Russian Red Cross. The fund-raising officer from the NS in Kyrgyzstan facilitated the regional fund-raising workshop. Organizational development officers who went through the official project planning training facilitated PPP training for branches. These initiatives contributed to building the NS ownership through mobilization of competent staff and to capacity building in specific areas of expertise.

**Objective 4: To establish an effective and efficient Federation structure in the region to maximize local capacities and to implement regional assistance strategy.**

As mentioned in other sections of the report some NSs in the region were accepted into the global country coordinating mechanisms for specific health and disaster mitigation cooperation with their governments. Apart from that two of the societies in the region are members of the Federation’s subsidiary bodies, namely the NS in Kyrgyzstan is a member of the Youth Commission and the RCS of Uzbekistan is a member of the DP and relief commission.

**Conclusions w**

On the whole, 2002 was a year for consolidation with major changes in management in both delegations. The consolidation process still will continue in 2003. The main organizational changes referred to the following:

- As part of the change strategy of the Federation's Secretariat, the reporting line of the country delegation in Tajikistan changed to the Almaty RD. The challenge in this area will be to further strengthen harmony and align the strategies between the Tajikistan country delegates and the Almaty regional delegates in order to better serve the capacity building of the NSs.
- The National Societies in Central Asia request better analysis and reflection from the regional delegation on their programming. This also coincides with the change to work in all programme areas within a capacity building and integrated framework. This will require adjustments within the regional delegation in order to fulfil this new direction of work and relevant changes can be expected during 2003.
- The two above-mentioned challenges are both results of the change strategy which on a regional level also meant a focus on strategic analysis of the needs of the regional delegation. While all the groundwork was set in 2002, the actual results will be only felt at the regional and NS levels when the delegation's strategic direction will be formulated and negotiated in 2003 (an action plan to implement this strategic direction will follow). This should also provide the necessary continuity and coherence in programming in the region and in support of the Red Crescent Societies of Central Asia.

*For further details please contact: Michaela Told, Phone: 41 22 730 44 24; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; e-mail: michaela.told@ifrc.org*

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

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

Interim report	
Annual report	X
Final report	

**Appeal No & title: 01.52/2002 Central Asia regional**  
**Period: year 2002**

Project(s): P70001, 70002, 70004, 70005, 70006, 70007, 70161, 70163, 70509, 70521, 70531, 70532, K2003, 004, 504, KG001, 003, 506, 507, 509, TM003, 005, 160, 503, 505, UZ001, 004, 504

**Currency: CHF**

**I - CONSOLIDATED RESPONSE TO APPEAL**

FUNDING	CASH		KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL INCOME
	Contributions	Comments	Goods/Services	Personnel	
Appeal budget	8,263,483				
less					
Cash brought forward	410,510				
<b>TOTAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT</b>	<b>7,852,973</b>				
<b>Contributions from Donors</b>					
American Government PRM (DGUSPRM)	229,078				229,078
American Government USAID (DGUSAID)	-8,279				-8,279
American Govt.via American Red Cross (DGNUS)	905,678				905,678
British Red Cross (DNGB)	642,705				642,705
Canadian Govt. Red Cross Aid Trust (DGNCA01)	25,726				25,726
DFID - British Government (DFID)	202,483				202,483
DFID 3- British Government (DFID03)	182,027				182,027
Donor - Capacity Building Fund (DCBF)	129,377				129,377
Finnish Govt.via Finnish Red Cross (DGNFI)	182,472				182,472
Finnish Govt.via Fin.RC 1 (DGNFI1)	26,883				26,883
Finnish Red Cross #01 (DNFI01)	7,684				7,684
Finnish Red Cross (DNFI)	91,754				91,754
Icelandic Red Cross (DNIS)	13,734				13,734
Japanese Red Cross	63,575				63,575
Kazakhstan - private donors (DPKZ)	14,728				14,728
Norwegian Govt.via Norwegian Red Cro (DGNNO)	220,788				220,788
Norwegian Red Cross (DNNO)	14,960				14,960
Red Crescent of Islamic Rep. of Iran (DNIR)	2,523				2,523
Republic of Korea Red Cross (DNKR)	54,881				54,881
Swedish Govt.via Swedish Red Cross (DGNSE)	275,500				275,500
Swedish Red Cross (DNSE)	64,420				64,420
USA PRM - PM Grant 2000 (DGUS00)	-370				-370
FINLAND				58,809	58,809
GREAT BRITAIN				5,092	5,092
SWEDEN				19,712	19,712
SWEDISH - RC			225,680		225,680
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,342,327</b>		<b>225,680</b>	<b>83,613</b>	<b>3,651,620</b>

**II - Balance of funds**

OPENING	410,510
CASH INCOME Rcv'd	3,342,327
CASH EXPENDITURE	-3,678,504
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CASH BALANCE	74,333

## Appeal No & title: 01.52/2002 Central Asia regional

Period: year 2002

Project(s): P70001, 70002, 70004, 70005, 70006, 70007, 70161, 70163, 70509, 70521, 70531, 70532, KZ003, 004, 504, KG001, 003, 506, 507, 509, TM003, 005, 160, 503, 505, UZ001, 004, !

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	28,400	24,015			24,015	4,385
Clothing & Textiles		53,674	225,680		279,354	-279,354
Food & Seeds	27,000	55,286			55,286	-28,286
Water & sanitation						
Medical & First Aid	321,800	31,569			31,569	290,231
Teaching materials	88,200	15,665			15,665	72,535
Utensils & Tools	60,200	14,623			14,623	45,577
Other relief supplies	290,000	26,024			26,024	263,976
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>815,600</b>	<b>220,856</b>	<b>225,680</b>		<b>446,536</b>	<b>369,064</b>
<u>CAPITAL EXPENSES</u>						
Land & Buildings						
Vehicles						
Computers & Telecom equip.	124,500	32,012			32,012	92,488
Medical equipment	16,700					16,700
Other capital expenditures	50,200	1,720			1,720	48,480
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>191,400</b>	<b>33,731</b>			<b>33,731</b>	<b>157,669</b>
<u>TRANSPORT &amp; STORAGE</u>	1,119,600	206,141			206,141	913,459
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,119,600</b>	<b>206,141</b>			<b>206,141</b>	<b>913,459</b>
<u>PERSONNEL</u>						
Personnel (delegates)	1,508,000	546,248		83,613	629,861	878,139
Personnel (national staff)	1,174,800	827,423			827,423	347,377
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>2,682,800</b>	<b>1,373,672</b>		<b>83,613</b>	<b>1,457,285</b>	<b>1,225,515</b>
<u>GENERAL &amp; ADMINISTRATION</u>						
Assessment/Monitoring/experts	93,400	32,277			32,277	61,123
Travel & related expenses	366,800	175,389			175,389	191,411
Information expenses	591,800	201,773			201,773	390,027
Admin./general expenses	648,900	393,524			393,524	255,376
External workshops & Seminars	844,200	11,472			11,472	832,728
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>2,545,100</b>	<b>814,434</b>			<b>814,434</b>	<b>1,730,666</b>
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>						
Programme management	557,207	207,608			207,608	349,598
Technical services	166,798	62,159			62,159	104,640
Professional services	184,978	68,953			68,953	116,025
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>908,983</b>	<b>338,720</b>			<b>338,720</b>	<b>570,263</b>
Operational provisions		308,635			308,635	-308,635
Transfers to National Societies		382,315			382,315	-382,315
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>8,263,483</b>	<b>3,678,504</b>	<b>225,680</b>	<b>83,613</b>	<b>3,987,797</b>	<b>4,275,686</b>