

# PROGRAMME 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

## RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Appeal No. MAARU001  
31 August 2006

The Federation's vision is to strive, through voluntary action, for a world of empowered communities, better able to address human suffering and crises with hope, respect for dignity and a concern for equity. Its 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

Programme Update no. 1, Period covered: 1 January to 31 May 2006;

Appeal target: Revised from CHF 6,108,000 (USD 4,993,000 or EUR 3,878,575) to CHF 6,177,716 (USD 5,050,190 or EUR 3,922,660)

Appeal coverage: 52 %<sup>1</sup> [Click here for the interim financial report](#)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:

Russian Federation Annual Appeal 2006/2007. For details, please go to the website at [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?annual06/MAARU001.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual06/MAARU001.pdf)

Severe Weather DREF Bulletin. For details please go to the website at: [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?annual06/MDR67001.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual06/MDR67001.pdf)

Toxic Spill in Khabarovsk Region DREF Bulletin. For details please go to the website at: [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?05/05ME071.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05ME071.pdf)

Koryakia Earthquake DREF Bulletin. For details please go to the website at: [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?06/MDRRU001.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?06/MDRRU001.pdf)

Annual Appeals 2006/2007 for Europe/Central Asia region. For details please see the website at <http://www.ifrc.org/where/europe.asp>

The programmes herein are aligned with the Federation's Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission:

1. Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
2. Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
3. Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
4. Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

#### Programme summary:

In 2006, the Moscow Delegation has continued to push for development and innovation in addressing the four core Global Agenda Goals. Particularly it has focused on four objectives:

- To assist regional authorities in developing an effective **TB control system** where care and support is provided to the most vulnerable patients thereby increasing adherence to treatment.

<sup>1</sup> USAID pledge/income for the second half of 2006 and the whole of 2007 is not calculated in the coverage percentage.

- To counter the spread of **HIV/AIDS** and promote care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA).
- To promote the **social inclusion** of marginalized groups through facilitating improved access to services and information.
- To provide timely **relief and support** to victims of man-made and natural **disasters**.

In meeting these objectives the Delegation has supported a deeper understanding of contemporary vulnerability through research and needs assessments; it has disseminated best practice through workshops and trainings, and promoted effective service delivery through monitoring visits and technical assistance. Of particular note during the reporting period is the development of a TB Protocol Handbook to help NS support and promote treatment adherence among TB patients: the handbook was piloted during a visit to Russia from the NS of Serbia/Montenegro and Macedonia. During the first half of 2006 the Delegation and Russian Red Cross (RRC) began outlining the preparation for Multi-Drug Resistant (MDR) TB programming in three territories.

The foundations were also laid to expand the existing TB programme to a fifth territory – Adigea. The HIV team initiated research in penitentiary centres to deepen the levels of knowledge of HIV prevention and transmission. The findings were used to develop a four fold approach to HIV interventions in prisons – prevention through awareness raising, support groups for people living with HIV, training in preparation for treatment for prisoners and staff, and social support on release for PLWHA to ease the process of adapting to civilian life and adherence to treatment. Support through training was also provided to 13 territories implementing peer education programmes and two territories running harm reduction programmes. The social development team continued to focus on promoting the participation of vulnerable groups in programme design and advocacy. Research reports were released reflecting the situation of children and migrants. Trainings were held in advocacy techniques and impact monitoring forms were disseminated to promote the collection of qualitative information on changes in lives of vulnerable people.

The budget has slightly been adjusted from CHF 6,108,000 to CHF 6,177,716, due to increased funding received for the peer education and capacity building projects.

***For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:***

- *Russian Red Cross: Raisa Lukuksova, Chair person, Phone +007 495 126 7571; email: [mail@redcross.ru](mailto:mail@redcross.ru)*
- *Russia Delegation: Alexander Matheou, Head of Delegation; Phone + 007 495 126 15 66; email: [alexander.matheou@ifrc.org](mailto:alexander.matheou@ifrc.org)*
- *Geneva Secretariat: Miro Modrusan, Regional Officer, Secretariat; Phone 41 22 730 4 324; Fax 41 22 73 03 95; email [miro.modrusan@ifrc.org](mailto:miro.modrusan@ifrc.org)*

*All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering quality and accountable assistance to the most vulnerable.*

*For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.*

## Operational developments

The Russian Federation hosted the first Eastern European and Central Asian AIDS Conference, which was held in Moscow from May 15-17. Coming in the wake of increased government commitments to funding the fight against the spread of HIV, Federal AIDS Centre director Vadim Pokrovsky acknowledged problems with current government policies. This admission and President Vladimir Putin's commitment to making HIV part of the G8 agenda are seen as positive steps.

During the reporting period, the Russian Federation government continued to receive criticism as their hosting of the G8 meeting in St. Petersburg in July drew nearer, with particular scrutiny on the government's restrictions on press freedom and NGOs. As of April, the new law placing stringent controls on NGOs and allowing the government to seek their closure if they do not meet extensive mandatory reporting requirements has come into effect. In response to what is criticized in some quarters as being a step away from democracy, NGOs organized a two-day forum—the "Civil G8 2006"—in the run-up to the G8 summit. The leaders of the G8 were called on to

meet commitments to health issues and scale up efforts to fight potential global pandemics such as avian flu. The Federation Delegation was invited to contribute to the letter addressing issues to the G8 leadership and to take part in the Civil G8 forum.

The reporting period saw a change in leadership within Russian Red Cross (RRC). In a historic Governing Board meeting, the members of the Governing Board, in the presence of media representatives, declared a lack of faith in the ability of the President to lead the organization effectively. The President subsequently resigned. The vice-president, in line with the National Society Statutes, assumed responsibility as acting president and will hold this position until the National Society Congress in November 2006 elects a permanent new leadership. Various efforts are now being made to ensure that the leadership election is transparent and fair. These include inserting the need for a secret ballot into the Statutes prior to the elections, and fixing a deadline after which candidates will not be allowed to declare candidacy.

The delegation itself went through a transition during the reporting period. Increases in HIV and social exclusion programming in Russian in 2005, plus the on-going work in countering the spread of TB, meant that the Moscow office recruited and developed a new team of technical assistance providers. Meanwhile the scaling down of some programme activities in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine meant that the regional offices in Kiev and Minsk anticipated reduced capacity for the second half of 2006. To address this balance, and to ensure that the Global Agenda goals were supported among as many National Societies as possible, the Moscow, Kiev and Minsk offices combined to form a regional office. Technical advisors and senior staff from these offices visited the National Societies of the region and put together concept notes and work plans to support all four NS in making progress towards the Global Agenda Goals. The regional office became operational as of 1st June.

## **Organizational Development**

### **Overview**

The Social Development team continued to address the challenges of structural vulnerability through promoting effective advocacy, service delivery and awareness raising in the community. During the reporting period particular emphasis was placed on training in participatory methodologies and advocacy among NS branches involved in working with older people, and on leading participatory action research with children in the North West. In addition, training was provided on impact monitoring, in an attempt to ensure that branches are collecting both qualitative and quantitative information in line with the key change indicators designed during the 2005 PAR across Russia. Promoting social development approaches is an on-going challenge in an organization that traditionally has only focused on service delivery, but the potential of the RRC as an advocate for vulnerable groups is an exciting one and is already bringing forward results.

Work with migrants proceeded slowly in 2006. Work continued as planned in target territories until April after which it was agreed that a revised strategy would be developed to include the vulnerabilities of labour migrants and victims of trafficking. These negotiations lasted weeks as various approaches and territories were considered. Participants of the participatory action research in Nizhny Novgorod, based on recommendations of migrants, did receive support in the form of legal advice and school kits for vulnerable families but other work was temporarily delayed until the strategy paper was ready. At the time of writing the revised strategy is near complete – reflecting an emphasis on the most vulnerable migrants in the North Caucasus, piloting work with victims of trafficking in Moscow and continuing traditional legal advice in territories with large migrant populations.

The Federation and RRC work closely with external partners in the course of the social development projects. Common partners to all projects include the Social Welfare Department and Ministry of Health. Within the programme to assist older people, the RRC branches collaborate closely with the Veteran's Committee, as the committee serves the same target group, representing all pensioners without regard to their veteran status. The Child Welfare programme additionally partners with the Ministry of Education and different child welfare institutions, including both public and state-run child residential care institutions and youth cultural centres. Partners contribute to the social development projects in several ways including providing premises, volunteers, and serving as research team members. For example, the Veteran's Committee provides premises for working and shares volunteers with the local Red Cross branches at a governance level. The Ministry of Health provides premises for medical rooms, and the Social Welfare Department provides staff, including consultations from lawyers and psychologists which are offered free of charge at RRC socio-medical rooms.

Donors for work with older people during the reporting period included the British Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, and Finnish Red Cross. The work with children is funded on a bilateral basis by the Norwegian Red Cross.

**Overall Goal: To promote the social inclusion of marginalized groups through facilitating improved access to services and information.**

**Programme Objective: To empower marginalized groups through the promotion of participatory approaches and advocacy within RRC programmes.**

## Progress/Achievements

**Expected Result 1:** The RRC is better able to serve, articulate, and defend the interests of older people, children, and migrants as a result of PAR and impact monitoring.

A workshop on Participatory Approaches in Working with Older People and Monitoring and Evaluation Methods was held in Moscow, February 13-17, for the five participating RRC branches (Tomsk, Chukotka region, Karelia, Samara, Ingushetiya) and RRC HQ. During the seminar, participants discussed recommendations made during PAR sessions and reviewed the projects suggested by the branches following the research. Various participatory approaches in working with older people and advocacy tools were also presented to participants within the workshop, where special attention was given to monitoring and evaluation schemes with a special focus on mid-term and long-term impact assessment qualitative tools involving older people.



**Since the beginning of 2006, four additional regions have launched projects aimed at reducing the social isolation of older people**

In April, a first round table/workshop was held in Nalchik for the newly selected regional branches (Krasnodar, Rostov-on-Don, Astrakhan) during which the branches had the opportunity to exchange their experience in working with older persons and consider the issues of reducing social vulnerability among older people. During the round table, participants became acquainted with needs assessment tools and were briefed on how similar assessments were made in 2005 in other RRC regional branches. Representatives of Kabardino-Balkarian branch and the heads of the inter-regional RRC office for the South Region of Russia also took part so that the inter-region RRC office would be able to distribute the experience of carrying out PAR research in the South of Russia in 2007.

Between March and May, five regional branches conducted monitoring focus-group discussions with older people with the participation of more than 280 older people. Monitoring in the form of focus groups is a new approach in RRC work. In June, another workshop will be held in Moscow focusing on advocacy for the five RRC branches visited by the monitoring trips in May. The aim of the workshop is to look at the strong and weak points of the work to date and to give practical advocacy recommendations.

On the whole, the work during the reporting period was held according to the planned schedule. However, there were also some delays in work: although the round table for new regional branches on participatory research approaches and tools was held in the beginning of April, the PAR sessions in these regions have yet to be held. This is due to the decision to run an additional training session for chairpersons and project coordinators of the new regional branches on PAR methods in Kiev, June 19-24. Therefore, the first PAR sessions with beneficiaries in these regions are to be held at the end of July.

**Expected Result 2:** Fourteen pilot projects are designed in response to the PAR based on holistic empowerment approaches and including qualitative impact monitoring systems.

Five regional branches have currently launched projects in response to the outcomes of PAR research with older people; however, Tomsk region, which launched its project in late 2004, is the only region where the project work has been ongoing for a while. In the other regions (Karelia, Chukotka, Ingushetiya and Samara), project work aimed at improving the lives of older people began only in January. In all projects, the chairpersons addressed issues of social vulnerability and access to socio-medical services comprehensively by providing assistance to older people and working with authorities and the public.

To increase access to services for older people, participating branches increased services in existing socio-medical rooms and opened new socio-medical rooms where needed. In all branches, consultations for older people with specialist doctors (gerontologists), psychiatrists, and lawyers - are organized on the basis of RRC socio-medical rooms. During the reporting period more than 1,500 older people received consultations. In Samara, two medical rooms for long-term stay were opened within the scope of the project. In all branches, work, hobby and interest groups (needlework, history, sports, gardening) were created to enhance the quality of life and reduce social isolation of older people. In Chukotka, the regional RRC branch set up a telephone hotline for pensioners and distributed informational brochures on different issues affecting the quality of life of older people (housing problems, legal support, transport and other privileges for pensioners).

The participating Red Cross branches have continued their work advocating on behalf on beneficiaries to government representatives. Three participating regional branches (Tomsk, Chukotka and Samara) held round tables with governors. The outcome of the round table held in Samara was a set of written recommendations of the round-table members to the local administration. As a result, the government is considering state financing of the RRC visiting nurses service in Samara region. In Karelia and Ingushetia, work focused on inviting elected members and different authorities to meetings with older people held at RRC socio-medical rooms.

The work of all regional branches has been broadly covered in the media. In Karelia, on the initiative of the Karelian RRC branch, local newspapers publish information devoted to older people on the regular basis. In Tomsk, a number of broadcasts about older people were organized. On the whole, work within the scope of the projects has moved ahead according to schedule.

**Expected Result 3:** Older people, migrants and children in fourteen Russian regions are given the opportunity to articulate concerns and priorities to research teams made up of Red Cross, social welfare, NGO and government representatives.

In 2006, the RRC, with the support of the Norwegian Red Cross (NRC), decided to start Participatory Action Research (PAR) with children with the aim to learn more about the problems of the children through their eyes in order to make its programmes more effective and child-oriented. PAR work with children—with the participation of over 500 children—was first launched in January and was based upon three successive RRC sessions in the following regions: Leningradskaya oblast, Novgorod Velikiy region and Pskov region.

During the PAR sessions, the RRC heard about the following problems facing children: a lack of opportunities for leisure and self-realization; poor access to higher and secondary education; a lack of contact with parents and teachers; stigma and indifference of society towards them; and intolerance of their peers. PAR sessions with children also revealed that many of their vulnerabilities were connected with social problems of the society they live in; children suffer from adults' alcoholism and drug addiction, parents' unemployment or low salaries, ecological and transport problems, poor medical services and high prices for utilities and housing services.

As a result of the three research sessions, the following four main vulnerabilities were identified as common to all the regions:

- Lack of opportunities for self-realization and personal development;
- Poor contact with adults;
- Indifference of society towards children;
- Lack of tolerance among children themselves.

The PAR sessions mobilized local RRC branches to look deeper into the problems children encounter and to consider this information and respond to these issues when designing their programmes. It was agreed that the Red Cross can respond to these issues through organizing children and teenagers in a youth activity movement that could mobilize them to solve some of the problems by themselves, such as leisure, self-realization and isolation problems, as well as peer intolerance. A youth organization could also start an informational and awareness campaign on the rights of the child, organize a hotline for child drug-addicts, run vocational training courses for teenagers, and create a youth newspaper corner where children could talk about their problems. Through the RRC's youth organization movement, children may get a real opportunity to improve the world they live in.

In mid-July, the RRC plans to convene a round-table aimed to create a common RRC understanding on child welfare programming in order to better address the issues revealed during the focus-groups. This common understanding is essential not only to provide support to vulnerable children, but also to support their family members, work with society through the Media, and run awareness-raising and advocacy campaigns in order to address stigma and intolerance issues.

By the end of 2006, two PAR basic trainings for the RRC north-western branches are to be held, so that the remaining seven participating RRC branches will be able to conduct PAR research sessions in their territories later in 2006-2007.

## **Impact**

In terms of the RRC becoming better able to serve beneficiaries through participatory tools, it is possible to speak of short-term impact already. Branch chairpersons have begun to use participatory tools in their work as an accountability element before their beneficiaries. Thus, in Tomsk and Chukotka branches, initiative or activity groups comprised of older people were created. These groups take an active part in project realization and project monitoring.

As most projects aimed at assisting older people started in January, it is early to speak about impact from the projects in regions other than Tomsk. At the beginning of the project in Tomsk (late 2004), the RRC decided to run monitoring focus-groups with beneficiaries every three months; however, this year it has been suggested to hold monitoring sessions at six-month intervals as it is difficult to recognize visible and tangible changes across shorter periods time. Currently in Tomsk, impact has been noticed in terms of older people having improved access to medical specialists in local polyclinics. Following the launch of the assistance project, measures were taken to introduce appointment times and telephone booking to reduce waiting times and ensure more responsive medical service.

Some positive signs have been seen in other regions. As a result of advocacy efforts of the Samara RRC branch, the regional Duma (legislative body) recommended transferring state financing to the RRC visiting nurses service. In Kareliya, local authorities supported the efforts of the local RRC branch by offering premises for socio-medical rooms on favorable terms. In monitoring focus-groups in all branches, practically every participant has mentioned the work of the local branch with gratitude.

## **Constraints**

Although all the chairpersons realize the importance of a comprehensive and balanced approach to advocacy, service delivery, and awareness-raising when addressing the issue of social vulnerability, nevertheless in their activities many branches still stress service provision above other approaches. As a result, to date only Tomsk, Chukotka and Samara regions have organized advocacy round tables with senior government representatives aimed at briefing the participants on the problems and needs of older people in their respective regions.

Chairpersons of local RRC branches have also noticed the following constraints in their project implementations:

1. Underestimation of the capacities and abilities of older people;
2. Dependent moods and passive attitude of the target group members;
3. Isolation, unwillingness to communicate and disbelief of older people that hampered their involvement in activities;
4. Complications or difficulties in working with government representatives; for example, Karelia branch.

## Health and care

### Overview

The overall programme implementation during the reporting period has been in accordance to the planned activities as defined by agreements with the National Society. The major achievements of the Federation's interventions in the fight against HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis are as follows:

Trainings in HIV interventions in prisons in Chuvasa and Orel have been carried out. The objectives of the trainings were to transfer different teaching methodologies, leading to the establishment of self-supporting groups for HIV positive prisoners, pre- and post-counselling for HIV testing, and anti-stigma activities. The audience was comprised of Red Cross branch staff members, the chiefs of the prisons, and psychologists and medical staff from the prisons. The facilitating team was made up of both NGO facilitators and People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). The outcomes of the training will be measurable after the monitoring trip planned for the next quarter.

An HIV peer-to-peer training session in Komi brought together representatives of the Federation's peer-to-peer programmes across the region. The participants of the course were Red Cross branch representatives from Novokuznetsk and Kemerovo (British Red Cross-funded programme), representatives from the north of the country (Norwegian Red Cross-funded programmes), and representatives from the region (Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine). The first outcome of the training was the development of the plan of actions to follow the training in the respective regions. The major outcome of the session is that the Federation has united trainings for Russian Federation projects sponsored by different donors as well as projects within the region, achieving time and financial savings as well as standardizing the approach in peer to peer techniques.



**A group of participants collaborate at a Federation-organized workshop for HIV/AIDS intervention in prisons. The workshop brought together many stakeholders in the project design stage to ensure that the programme can meet needs ranging from newly arrived prisoners to those needing assistance post-release**

The tuberculosis programme in Khakasia has been evaluated by the WHO-led Green Light Committee and the Federation has received the Committee's official report confirming that all the project objectives—which would determine whether the region was a suitable site to begin an intervention against Multi-Drug Resistant TB—have been met to the full extent. It is the fifth (5) among 89 regions in the Russian Federation to receive certification and a recommendation to start the fight against MDR TB. The existing tuberculosis project is fully funded until the end of 2008. The project has been recently extended and expanded to new territory: Adigea, North Caucasus, Russian Federation.

A significant achievement during the reporting period is that HIV positive persons played an active role in the trainings described under the section achievements in HIV and TB intervention. It was the first time that National Society has included PLWHA in programming. PLWHA participated in the training in the double role as both participants and facilitators. Expected benefits to the programme are a better understanding of the problems facing PLWHA and possible involvement of PLWHA as Red Cross volunteers in other areas. Funding for the existing Red Cross intervention is stable in the short term, as the HIV projects are fully funded to the end of 2006.

During the reporting period, the RRC and Federation Delegation maintained several external collaborations, including hosting a visit from the Serbian/Montenegro and Macedonian National Societies and their respective Ministry of Health representatives. The visit was fruitful, resulting in clear outcomes for the visiting National Societies in their own TB interventions and collaborations with their Ministries of Health. Delegation representatives were also members of the organizing committee for the World TB Day celebration. The press conference was attended by 23 journalists and 45 representatives of national and international partnering agencies.

During the conference, the Russian Red Cross and Federation contribution to fight against TB in Russia was mentioned several times by the USAID mission Deputy, the Ministry of Justice, and a Federal TB Institute.

Donors for the HIV Peer Education programme are the British Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross. The harm reduction programme is funded by the Swedish Red Cross. The TB programme, including joint HIV/TB interventions in prisons, is funded by USAID.

**Overall Goal: To reduce incidence rates of infectious diseases in the Russian Federation and improve access to care and support for those living with infectious diseases.**

#### **Programme Objective:**

- 1. To develop the model for TB RC intervention which will integrate activities in DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment, Short course), and DOTS+ (Directly Observed Treatment in multi drug resistance cases).**
- 2. To improve treatment compliance of TB patients in four target regions through providing them with social support.**
- 3. To reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS in Russia through an increasing portfolio of targeted peer education and risk reduction programmes**

### **Progress/Achievements**

**Expected Result 1:** Model for RC intervention in DOTS+ developed and tested in the field.

During the reporting period, the Federation has worked with the Russian Red Cross to jointly develop the tool “Integrated Protocol for Adherence to Treatment in Tuberculosis Intervention” for the Red Cross’ intervention in DOTS. Based on this protocol, a training model has been developed and tested in the Russian Red Cross branches. Going forward, the training model will be used by the Russian Red Cross as the basis of the Global Fund programme implementation in 20 territories in Russian Federation. This training model will be further developed in the future based on the response of participants involved in the training.

In some regions, local authorities have recognized the importance of the Red Cross intervention and agreed to fully fund the activities in Red Cross branches related to TB intervention.

**Expected Result 2:** The continuation of DOTS in four regions with incentives results in default rate among assisted beneficiaries falling below five per cent.

The areas where the Red Cross TB intervention is running experienced a default rate—the percentage of TB patients who failed or interrupted their treatment course—in excess of 30 per cent of all patients prior to the intervention. Since the introduction of the Red Cross TB intervention and assistance, the default rate has dropped to less than five per cent of all patients in these regions. Evidence has shown that the intervention is also influencing the development of multi drug resistant strains of tuberculosis, causing fewer MDR strains to be developed. The success of the interventions to date has provided the pre-conditions for the regions to officially apply for an assessment from the Green Light Committee—the WHO-led group whose members are experts from different organizations dealing with TB. Successful applications to the Green Light Committee in these regions would mean that those regions could begin fighting MDR TB.

**Expected Result 3:** Injecting drug users in four Russian regions have access to services influencing reduction of HIV and other infection risks due to RRC activities on information dissemination and syringes exchange.

The most significant activities in the reporting period were the continuation of the programme in Irkutsk region and opening of the new site in Krasnodar region. Krasnodar branch has established the necessary legal documents to begin this type of programme, including agreements with the Ministry of Health, Governmental Department for Drug Control, and the Ministry of the Interior. The Federation Delegation played a significant role in advocating for the local branch during the process of establishing the legal base for programme implementation. Although needle exchange programmes are not legally forbidden in the Russian Federation, Regional Government is not supportive of this type of programme and usually creates obstacles. For this reason, launching the programme in Krasnodar was a long and difficult process.

Beneficiaries are fully involved in the process of programme implementation, providing valuable input into decisions on where and how the programme will be implemented. Red Cross volunteers (outreach workers) are former intravenous drug users and HIV positive persons.

In the next reporting period, the Federation and RRC plan to clarify of the advocacy role of the movement when it comes to protection of the clients. The Federation also plans to work with the RRC to develop a model to deal with professional burn out to support outreach volunteers.

**Expected Result 4:** Three sites are selected for Red Cross HIV/ AIDS intervention in prisons. The programme model is designed and implementation begins.

Two trainings with the title “HIV prophylaxis intervention in the penitentiary system” have been carried out during the reporting period. Topics covered in the trainings were as follows:

- Participatory ways of learning;
- Development of trainings on prevention;
- Anti-stigma and anti-discrimination in working with PLWHA;
- Support to PLWHA;
- Pre- and post-test counselling.

Participants of the workshop were penitentiary staff members (medical staff, psychological and social workers), Russian Red Cross branch persons (program coordinators and psychological support), HIV/AIDS centre representatives, IFRC Moscow Delegation staff members, and donor representatives (USAID).

There was a strong stigma and discrimination present among workshop participants with regards to Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM), injecting drug users (IDU), and PLWHA. This will provide a foundation for developing future trainings and material for reducing stigma.

At the beginning of the reporting period, the Federation undertook research to determine the baseline for project design. Research was in the form of a survey distributed to prisoners and prison employees that was used to determine the awareness level on HIV/AIDS issues and their needs in this area. The resulting report concluded that there was both a low level of awareness on these issues and a high level of stigma towards PLWHA. The research results will also serve as the baseline for impact assessment.

In the next reporting period it is planned to develop the model of support for HIV positive inmates (for example, self-supporting groups), as well as involve prisoners in the design of the project and development of trainings and information materials.

**Expected Result 5:** Reduced HIV prevalence rate and positive behavioural change among the target population within selected regions.

Delegation has conducted two trainings for Russian Red Cross branches (Novokuznetsk and Kemerovo) on the topic of peer education and behavioural change. The objective of the courses was to learn different techniques and methodologies related to these issues.

Unfortunately, the Delegation and RRC still lack an effective tool for monitoring behaviour change among teenagers. To rectify this, the HIV team is revisiting the programme impact indicators in August with the goal of increasing the team’s ability to do impact monitoring.

## **Impact**

The TB programme continues to have a positive impact as the patient default rate in the original programme territories has dropped from 30 per cent to less than 5 per cent of patients since the programme has begun. This success has been recognized by the donor, USAID, which has extended the programme deadline to 2008 and expanded programme activities to a fifth region (the Republic of Adigea). Local government in many programme regions have also recognized the impact of the Federation/RRC programme and have agreed to finance continuing work using social support as an incentive to TB treatment.

The HIV programme has continued to see positive outcomes from peer education training sessions, harm-reduction programmes and anti-stigma activities. However, the Federation is reassessing the programme's monitoring and evaluation system to allow for a comprehensive set of indicators and improved impact monitoring.

## Constraints

There were no programme constraints beyond those mentioned in the above programme descriptions.

## Disaster Management

### Overview

The "Population Movement" programme provides forced migrants with complex psychological, legal and social assistance on the premises of both RRC Regional Reception Points and railway stations where permission has been granted to operate. All of the RRC branches participating in the "Population Movement" programme perform complementary functions in relation to governmental structures. The Orenburg Regional Branch directly sends migrants to the territorial Federal Migration Services Department in accordance with a preliminary agreement. The RRC's Western-Siberian railway committee maintains contacts with the Department of Internal Affairs for Transport on issues of the provision of passports and migration cards. Finally, the South Okrug RRC Moscow Branch, taking into account labor direction of migration, set up cooperation with Department of Federal Employment Service in Moscow, which submitted the list of companies prepared to grant employment with residence in a hostel and registration assistance in the place of residence.

From January-March 2006, 855 persons—including 556 migrants—have applied to the Regional RRC reception points and received the counseling of a jurist, psychologist or social worker. During the same period 372 persons—including 157 migrants—have applied to RRC jurists at the railway station for legal assistance and received counseling. A detailed characteristic of requests and the applied persons is presented in the table below.

### Population Movement Programme: Assistance Provided, January – March 2006

	REGION	Total Migrants			Legal		Assistance				Hum. Aid (in kind) Hp
		Number Visits/ People Nv	Migrants Visits / People Mv	%	visits Lv	people Lp	Psychological		Social		
							visits Pv	people Pp	visits Sv	people Sp	
1	Orenburg	649 / 615	428 / 414	65.9	205	158	218	218	226	225	331
2	Moscow	206 / 206	128 / 128	62.1	63	63	65	65	78	78	96
3	W-Siberia R/W	372 / 372	157 / 157	42.2	372	373					2,932
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,227</b>	<b>713</b>	-	<b>640</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>3,359</b>

Donors for the Population Movement programme include the Swedish Red Cross, British Red Cross, and Danish Red Cross.

**Overall Goal: To facilitate the integration of forced migrants into society.**

**Programme Objective: To provide highly-qualified free of charge legal, psychological, medico-social and humanitarian support to involuntary migrants.**

## Progress/Achievements

**Expected Result 1:** Migrants gain access to free of charge professional legal, psychological and social counselling as well as some humanitarian support at regional reception points.

**Expected Result 2:** Migrants gain access to free of charge professional legal counselling as well as some humanitarian support at emergency reception points at railway stations.

To accomplish the above two expected results, the RRC provided services to migrants at regional reception points in Moscow and Orenburg, as well as through the RRC's Western-Siberian railway committee. Services provided broadly fell into the three categories of legal counselling, psychological counselling, and social support.

### *Psychological counselling*

In the first quarter of 2006 in Moscow and Orenburg, RRC psychologists working at regional reception points continued providing psychological assistance to forced migrants living in Moscow, Moscow Oblast and Orenburgskaya Oblast. A considerable part of the work of psychologists is oriented at children from migrant families. Experience gained in previous years of the "Population Movement" programme has contributed to psychologists' concentrating their efforts on solving problems which require more prolonged participation of a psychologist and his/her support. Rendering psychological assistance to children is an example of this type of longer term support, as psychologists take an active role diagnosing the psychological status of children, their capability to orientate in life conditions and capacities to deal with difficulties.

Psychologists use a comprehensive approach to addressing problem situations and continue to perform the following activities :

- Dissemination of information on the opportunities and expediency of receiving psychological support;
- Revelation of typical psychological problems common to forced migrants living in a specific territory;
- Direct rendering of psychological assistance using a wide range of forms and methods:
  - Individual consultations;
  - Family counseling;
  - Group trainings with children and adults;
  - Educational work;
  - Upgrading of professional skill level.

In total, between January and March, regional RRC psychologists have been visited by 283 persons.

### *Legal counselling*

From January to March 2006, the Western-Siberian railway committee of the RRC received 372 legal appeals. During the same period, the Orenburg and Moscow Regional Branches received 205 and 63 appeals respectively. Very few of the appeals pertained to people with forced migrant status; the majority of people applying for legal support are labor migrants. On the whole, Russian Red Cross jurists are quite aware of the problems of contemporary labor migration, having a comprehensive knowledge of the immigration, labor and social legislation of the Russian Federation and the practice of its realization as applied to migrants.

The basic forms of legal support for migrants remained individual and group consulting, drawing up of petitions and requests, and written replies to requests.

The most common topics of legal counseling are:

- Obtaining Russian Federation citizenship;
- Drawing up documents for departure to CIS countries, entrance to Russian Federation from these countries, and entrance-departure orders;
- Obtaining involuntary migrant's status and subsidy for housing arrangements;
- Job-placement and documentation for foreign citizens;
- Pension legislation of the Russian Federation and protection of the right to access health services;
- Succession law, children rights and guardianship.

***Social assistance to involuntary migrants***

Social assistance was rendered as follows:

- Social counselling, giving forced migrants information on social, medical, educational, and job placement issues;
- In-kind aid (foodstuffs, used clothes and footwear, medical supplies, hygienic supplies);
- Free medical assistance.

According to the reports from the regions the majority of visitors apply for in-kind assistance. As the purchase and distribution of humanitarian aid is not stipulated by the programme, the regional branches independently searched for funds for rendering assistance to beneficiaries.

- In Orenburg Branch, a social worker accepts and distributes donations from the general population. Migrants receive assistance in the form of food parcels, used clothes and footwear, first-aid kits, job-placement, ritual services. In total, there were 649 appeals with 428 of the appeals being from involuntary migrants. Six field activities were carried out in Orenburg region between January and March.
- South Okrug RRC Moscow Branch provided migrants with clothes, footwear and foodstuff worth 17,000 rubles. A total of 96 persons were covered (78 persons at the reception + 18 children).
- Western-Siberian RRC Branch provided migrants with hearing devices, medical kits, bed linen, foodstuff, clothes, footwear and other items of humanitarian aid. The branch organized the field action “The train of charity”, covering 7 railway stations up to Kemerovo section of the railway line. During this action a great number of people received medical-social assistance. From January-March, the branch provided 2,932 persons with aid amounting to 1,218,000 rubles.

In total, from January to March, 3,359 persons received humanitarian assistance under the programme.

An important element of social assistance for migrants was social counselling.

For the reporting period 303 persons visited RRC regional reception points on social issues.

*Common topics for social counselling:*

- Provision of humanitarian aid;
- Where to inoculate a child born in Russia whose parents do not have Russian Federation citizenship;
- Assistance in treatment and provision of medicines;
- Assistance in job-placement;
- Housing problems;
- Consulting on pension issues.

**Impact**

During the reporting period, the RRC strengthened links with regional government, including establishing close cooperation and scheduling joint field activities with the Regional Departments on Migration. Cooperation with the authorities is necessary to effectively solve the problems of involuntary migrants.

Contacts with the following regional institutions were also established during the reporting period:

- Health and Social Welfare Department – on issues of pension and allowance payments, provision of medical supplies to migrants, and placement of migrants in medical institutions;
- Education Department – on issues of enrollment of migrant children into school and pre-school institutions;
- Labor and Employment Department – on issues of job-placement, and acquiring new professions.

During the reporting period the programme allowed the RRC to accomplish the following:

- Increase public awareness on issues of forced migration and provide migrants and the general population with qualified social, legal and psychological services;
- Strengthen contacts of regional RRC branches with regional and local administrations, migration departments and public organizations that address migrants’ problems;
- Organize the required number of field activities with a great number of migrants;
- Provide the specialists working at reception points with necessary legal and psychological literature;
- Continue close cooperation with regional and local authorities that address migrants’ problems.

## Constraints

There were no constraints during the reporting period.

## Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

Below is a table reflecting the activities undertaken bilaterally by Red Cross Red Crescent partners in the Russian Federation.

RC Partners	Summary of activities
<p><b>Norwegian Red Cross</b></p>	<p>In 2006, in line with tripartite agreement with the NRC, the delegation invested considerable energy into promoting improvements in HIV and child welfare programming in the North West. Two workshops were held on HIV peer education in the North West and information materials were designed and disseminated. Three PAR were held with children, all revealing the stark world of broken families, drug abuse, poverty and hopelessness that the most marginalised children endure. These findings will not be used to design a development approach to child welfare that will be presented to the Norwegian Red Cross in November.</p>
<p><b>American Red Cross</b></p>	<p>The American Red Cross (ARC) and Russian Red Cross continued the bilateral 'Care and Support to People Living with HIV/AIDS' programme launched in 2003. The goal of the programme is to improve the quality of life of people living with HIV/AIDS, including HIV positive pregnant women and children born to HIV positive mothers. The ARC and RRC continue to meet the tremendous support needs of HIV positive people in Irkutsk through the "Steps" information and counseling centre, home based care, de-stigma efforts, and an HIV information 'Hotline'.</p>

## International representation and advocacy

Senior level meetings to advocate for support for RRC were held in Belgorod, Vladikavkaz and Nizhny Novgorod. Briefings were held for the US and British Ambassadors. Eight press releases were sent to international and local press. A new Advocacy and Media position was opened and filled. Representatives of IFRC attended the Civil G8 and G8 in St. Petersburg. A special press release was distributed in response to the G8 paper on infectious diseases.

## International disaster response

During the reporting period, the Federation Delegation provided support to the RRC on two disaster relief operations:

### Severe Weather: Russian Federation, Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus

Following the arrival of two waves of Arctic anticyclone cold fronts in the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus during two weeks in January (13-29 January) and one week in February (4-9 February), the regional temperatures plummeted to averages of between -25°C and -38°C. Siberia and Far East of the Russian Federation experienced temperatures as low as -57°C. Over 200,000 people (more than 50 per cent of them in Ukraine) in these territories were directly affected by the severe frosts, suffering hot-water pipe and electricity system breakdowns, heating interruptions, as well as homeless and street children's exposure to the cold.

During the operation all four National Societies have reported regularly to the Federation delegations in Moscow, Minsk, and Kiev. The Federation delegations provided continuing technical support to the National Societies at all levels. In February 22 and 28, the Federation team held coordination meetings for Ukrainian and Russian Red Cross task force groups. This operation covered a two-month period during which the National Societies of BRUM region directly assisted over 26,000 affected beneficiaries. The relief operation aimed to cover basic needs such as warm clothes, footwear, blankets, food, soap and supplies for Red Cross homeless shelters, in 45 settlements of 22 regions of Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus, as well as the capitals of Belarus and Ukraine.

### Koryakia Earthquake

On Friday, April 21, in the Koryak autonomous region of Kamchatka in the Far East of the Russian Federation, an earthquake occurred, registering 7.8 on the Richter scale. The heaviest damage occurred in the settlements of Tilichiki, Korf, and Khailino, where 4,200 people are currently living. 38 people were injured during the

earthquake; fortunately, none were killed. In total, 1,300 people (including 701 children) from 6 affected villages were evacuated. The official estimate of the damage is 2.5 -3 billion rubles (approximately 114 – 137 million CHF) to the region. Damage included structural damage to apartment buildings and facilities, including schools, kindergartens, and the local airport's runway, as well as loss of power and water supplies in several villages.

The period of the emergency situation—which had been declared up to 21 May, 2006—has been prolonged to September 2006 due to continuing earth tremors and seismic danger. In the days immediately following the disaster, the Kamchatka branch of the Russian Red Cross (RRC) responded to the emergency through the distribution of first aid kits, food supplies, and second-hand clothes. Also, the RRC appealed to the population of Kamchatskaya region for fundraising for emergency relief.

### **Management of the delegation**

The delegation contributed towards better management and accountability of programme and service delivery through the following activities:

1. Special presentations were prepared in Russian outlining Federation of Future and a revised vision for the Delegation. The RRC in turn designed a new strategy based on the Global Agenda and disseminated it to regional branches.
2. Close support was given to the transitional leadership, especially in terms of HQ structure and strategic planning.
3. The Delegation recruited a media and advocacy officer to scale up activities in public relations and advocacy for the Federation and RRC.
4. The Delegation led and published five pieces of research to deepen understanding of HIV and social exclusion issues in Russia.
5. The Delegation oversaw the regionalisation process to join the Moscow, Minsk and Kiev offices into one structure.

***[Interim financial report below; click here to return to the title page and c ontact information.](#)***

**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**

MAARU001 - RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAARU001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**I. Consolidated Response to Appeal**

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget	3'402'461	815'502	0	1'521'310	438'444	6'177'716
B. Opening Balance	2'853'771	80'724	0	209'859	31'000	3'175'355
<b>Income</b>						
Cash contributions						
British Red Cross				22'950	22'710	45'660
Caltrans Group Ltd				3'763		3'763
Capacity Building Fund				40'000		40'000
Sweden - Private Donors					908	908
Swedish Red Cross	42'546	63'094		50'475		156'115
USAID	476'570					476'570
C1. Cash contributions	519'116	63'094		117'188	23'618	723'015
Outstanding pledges (Revalued)						
British Red Cross	11'400			68'580		79'980
Caltrans Group Ltd				-53		-53
Swedish Red Cross	42'054	64'965		51'972		158'991
USAID	-1'067'840					-1'067'840
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	-1'014'386	64'965		120'499		-828'922
Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)						
British Red Cross	0					0
DFID Partnership				70'032		70'032
Swedish Red Cross	-0					-0
C3. Reallocations (within appeal)	-0			70'032		70'032
Inkind Personnel						
British Red Cross					42'500	42'500
C5. Inkind Personnel					42'500	42'500
Other Income						
Service Agreements					24'819	24'819
C6. Other Income					24'819	24'819
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	-495'270	128'059	0	307'719	90'936	31'444
D. Total Funding = B + C	2'358'501	208'783	0	517'578	121'937	3'206'799

**II. Balance of Funds**

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	2'853'771	80'724	0	209'859	31'000	3'175'355
C. Income	-495'270	128'059	0	307'719	90'936	31'444
E. Expenditure	-731'178	-40'470		-153'353	-86'466	-1'011'468
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	1'627'323	168'313	0	364'225	35'471	2'195'331

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAARU001 - RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAARU001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A		B					A - B	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		3'402'461	815'502	0	1'521'310	438'444	6'177'716	
<b>Supplies</b>								
Construction Materials	5'000				234		234	4'766
Clothing & textiles			388				388	-388
Food	226'800	19'634	1'046		173		20'853	205'947
Medical & First Aid	429'300	20'701			2'038	43	22'782	406'518
Teaching Materials	12'000	-578					-578	12'578
Other Supplies & Services	3'380	2'690	23		695		3'407	-27
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>676'480</b>	<b>42'446</b>	<b>1'458</b>		<b>3'140</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>47'087</b>	<b>629'393</b>
<b>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>								
Vehicles	6'000	11'187					11'187	-5'187
Computers & Telecom	67'024	9'105	591		1'648		11'344	55'680
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment		3'798					3'798	-3'798
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>	<b>73'024</b>	<b>24'091</b>	<b>591</b>		<b>1'648</b>		<b>26'329</b>	<b>46'695</b>
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage	1'200	1'171					1'171	29
Distribution & Monitoring		169				-1'167	-997	997
Transport & Vehicle Costs	229'175	13'093	796		327	8'498	22'714	206'461
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>230'375</b>	<b>14'433</b>	<b>796</b>		<b>327</b>	<b>7'331</b>	<b>22'887</b>	<b>207'488</b>
<b>Personnel Expenditures</b>								
Delegates Payroll	382'500	64'603					64'603	317'897
Delegate Benefits	228'000	22'306				70'503	92'809	135'191
National Staff	500'268	105'321	10'597		47'470	3'963	167'351	332'917
National Society Staff	869'005	135'964	31'526		26'725		194'215	674'790
Consultants	76'860	18'395			4'955		23'350	53'510
<b>Total Personnel Expenditures</b>	<b>2'056'633</b>	<b>346'589</b>	<b>42'122</b>		<b>79'150</b>	<b>74'467</b>	<b>542'328</b>	<b>1'514'305</b>
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	689'438	89'605			29'280	1'273	120'158	569'280
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>689'438</b>	<b>89'605</b>			<b>29'280</b>	<b>1'273</b>	<b>120'158</b>	<b>569'280</b>
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	327'720	36'158	4'196		7'483	4'597	52'433	275'287
Information & Public Relation	114'820	6'284	99		833	1'165	8'382	106'438
Office Costs	104'778	17'053	5'843		5'688	31'516	60'100	44'678
Communications	151'740	8'394	1'802		1'639	12'815	24'650	127'090
Professional Fees		34				3'089	3'123	-3'123
Financial Charges	8'222	758	-106		1'741	9'810	12'203	-3'981
Other General Expenses	1'342'934	25'001			20	-64'851	-39'831	1'382'765
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>2'050'214</b>	<b>93'681</b>	<b>11'833</b>		<b>17'404</b>	<b>-1'859</b>	<b>121'059</b>	<b>1'929'155</b>
<b>Program Support</b>								
Program Support	401'552	47'527	2'631		9'968	5'441	65'566	335'986
<b>Total Program Support</b>	<b>401'552</b>	<b>47'527</b>	<b>2'631</b>		<b>9'968</b>	<b>5'441</b>	<b>65'566</b>	<b>335'986</b>
<b>Operational Provisions</b>								
Operational Provisions		72'808	-18'961		12'437	-230	66'054	-66'054
<b>Total Operational Provisions</b>		<b>72'808</b>	<b>-18'961</b>		<b>12'437</b>	<b>-230</b>	<b>66'054</b>	<b>-66'054</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>6'177'716</b>	<b>731'178</b>	<b>40'470</b>		<b>153'353</b>	<b>86'466</b>	<b>1'011'468</b>	<b>5'166'248</b>
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>		<b>2'671'282</b>	<b>775'032</b>		<b>1'367'956</b>	<b>351'978</b>	<b>5'166'248</b>	