

# OPERATIONS UPDATE



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

## IRAN: BAM EARTHQUAKE

23 June 2004

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.

### In Brief

**Appeal No. 25/03; Operations Update no. 13; Period covered: 1 May to 31 May, 2004; Appeal coverage: 64.2%; (click below to go directly to the Contributions List)**

([http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?03/1-2-3%20-%20ap2503.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?03/1-2-3%20-%20ap2503.pdf))

#### Appeal history:

- Preliminary Appeal Launched on 26 December 2003 for CHF 15,409,300 (USD 12,350,000 or EUR 10,190,000) for 6 months for 200,000 beneficiaries.
- Revised Appeal launched on 8 January 2004 for CHF 51,913,000 (USD 41,607,000 or EUR 34,329,000) for 6 – 8 months for 210,000 beneficiaries.
- Final Report is therefore due on 26 November 2004.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: N/A

**Outstanding needs : CHF 17,390,885 (USD 13,935,000 or EUR 11,502,500)**

#### Operational Summary:

Economic activity in Bam is increasing visibly day-by-day, despite the overwhelming heat and frequent sandstorms. Rubble is being cleared and there are signs of reconstruction – both on an individual basis and as part of the overall reconstruction plan, which is being supported by the Federation and a number of Participating National Societies (PNS). Many people have now moved from tented accommodation to the temporary prefabricated housing settlements. However, slower than anticipated progress in the completion of some water/ sanitation facilities, coupled with a psychological preference to remain close to the emplacement of their original houses, seems to be hampering the complete transition into prefabricated housing. All relief distribution has been completed and the emphasis is now on the replenishment of depleted Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) stocks. With the official hand-over of the Emergency Response Unit (ERU) Field Hospital and the remaining Water/Sanitation ERUs, all operations have been transferred to the IRCS. As a result, the number of Federation Delegates in Bam has been drastically reduced. The Federation continues to seek donor support for the IRCS stock replenishment plan, reconstruction projects - including IRCS Bam Chapter warehousing and relief facilities - and specialised disaster management training.

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

- Mehrdad Eshraghi, Acting Director General of International Affairs Department, Iranian Red Crescent Society, Tehran; email: [intdep@rcs.ir](mailto:intdep@rcs.ir); mobile: 98.912 384 7050; tel: 98.21.8849 077/8808 155; fax: 98.21.884 9079
- Mohammed Mukhier, Head of Delegation, Tehran; email: [ifrcir05@ifrc.org](mailto:ifrcir05@ifrc.org); mobile: 98.912 314 4250; tel: 98.21.8890 567/8911 271; fax: 98.21.889 5346
- Evgeni Parfenov, Regional Desk Officer, Geneva; email: [evgeni.parfenov@ifrc.org](mailto:evgeni.parfenov@ifrc.org); tel: 41.22.730 4325; fax: 41.22.733 0395

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

## Background

A major earthquake registering 6.5 on the Richter scale devastated Iran's south-eastern city of Bam, Kerman province, at 05:28 (local time) on 26 December 2003. The authorities estimated that more than 26,000<sup>1</sup> people were killed, 30,000 injured and up to 75,600 left homeless. About 85 percent of the housing and infrastructure have been destroyed. The United Nations (UN) estimates that the number of people affected by the loss of economic activity and damage to property and infrastructure is as high as 200,000.

## Operational developments

**Overall objective: The basic living conditions of some 155,000 people in tent camps and/or pre-fabricated housing are maintained and a strategy, led by IRCS with support from the Federation, is prepared to integrate relief operations into longer-term recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes.**



**The vulnerable are trying to rebuild their life despite the overwhelming weather conditions**

During May, Bam began to feel the impact of the fierce heat and sandstorms, which characterise the summer months in south-eastern Iran. Conditions are particularly difficult for the estimated 30% of the city's population still living in tents; either in the camp compounds established early in the emergency operation or in tents erected on the ruins of their homes. Although substantial progress has been made in establishing prefabricated housing camps, mainly on the eastern outskirts of the city, some of these locations are still lacking access to water and utilities; the Federation/IRCS programme to install water and sanitation facilities in several camps has taken longer than anticipated, but much has been accomplished and every effort is being made to finish the work as rapidly as possible.

So far, no outbreak of epidemic disease has been reported in Bam, despite the coming of the hot season. The city's water supply appears adequate in both quality and quantity, although there is an urgent need for the authorities to complete the rehabilitation of the piped water system and to continue close monitoring of the water supply to ensure early detection of any deterioration in quality.

During the month, the final handover of the former Norwegian Red Cross/Finnish Red Cross ERU field hospital to the IRCS was completed; three Norwegian Red Cross/Finnish Red Cross health delegates remain in Bam for monitoring and quality control purposes, but the hospital appears to be efficiently run by the National Society and many of the management problems encountered earlier in the handover process seem to have been solved. The IRCS hospital, with Federation support, continues to provide the only comprehensive treatment facilities in the area. Plans are moving forward to transfer the hospital from its present tented location to a containerised complex to be constructed as soon as possible on an adjacent site. Meanwhile, the IRCS continues to operate basic health units throughout the city, with equipment donated to it by departing basic health care ERUs. To care for those traumatised by the earthquake and its aftermath, a Psycho-social Support Programme (PSP), funded by the Danish and Icelandic Red Cross Societies, got formally underway during the month.

The final distribution of non-food items was carried out by the IRCS in early May – mainly hygiene kits and tents intended to replace accommodation tents lost or damaged in fires, sandstorms or other accidents. As the relief operation winds down, Rubb Hall warehouses and equipment are being transferred to the IRCS in order to enhance its disaster

---

<sup>1</sup> At the end of March, Iran's official statistics centre announced the final and definite death toll as 26,271. The discrepancy with initial official estimation of up to 43,200 people being killed is claimed to be mainly due to the double counting of bodies during the chaos caused by the disaster.

response capacity. Arrangements for procurement both within and outside Iran, intended to replenish depleted IRCS disaster stocks, were completed during the month. The Federation is discussing with the IRCS its needs in terms of further training in disaster management and reconstruction of some of its Bam infrastructure. In addition, broader reconstruction needs have been identified and agreed with the IRCS, and the Federation is hoping to access expert advice in the construction field in early June to further refine and cost reconstruction projects.

## **Coordination**

The number of Federation delegates in Bam has declined dramatically, due to the end of the emergency phase of the operation and the increasing role of the IRCS. The present small team has, as its priority task, to monitor and provide technical support to the IRCS during the transition to recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes. At the end of May, Federation delegate numbers in Bam stood at six and by the end of June they should reach three – a Programme Coordinator, a Health Coordinator and a Construction Delegate. Locally-recruited staff are being trained and inducted to carry out the tasks formerly performed by delegates in the areas of logistics, administration and finance. Simultaneously, the bilateral delegate presence in Bam has held steady or increased, with several PNSs represented. Whilst this brings in additional resources, it also poses a challenge in terms of coordination and capacity on the part of the IRCS. Two Tehran-based delegates have been recruited and will arrive in June: a Reporting Delegate to replace the out-going delegate until the end of August and a Disaster Preparedness/Disaster Response (DP/DR) Delegate on a 12 month mission.

Both the Federation team and bilateral delegates now operate out of a hotel near Bam city centre, and since mid-May the Federation has also had access to an office in the provisional IRCS headquarters building. Surplus vehicles from the Federation operation will be returned to the Federation fleet base at Abu Dhabi during June and July.

In Bam, the Federation and the IRCS continue to attend the weekly general meeting of relief agencies hosted by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), as well as the specialist coordination meetings - such as the weekly health sector meeting chaired by World Health Organisation (WHO). They also attend the bi-weekly meeting of the overall government coordination body, the Bam Task Force, and the Federation team holds a weekly coordination meeting with bilateral delegates and IRCS counterparts. In Tehran, fortnightly IRCS/bilateral PNS and Federation meetings continued during May (two meetings were held during the month). The focus was on administration, finance, logistics and overall organisation and coordination issues. The earthquake in Northern Iran was also discussed (several updates were prepared and shared with Geneva), and support was offered to the IRCS, but was not required (please see the website for details). The Federation is in the process of establishing service agreements with the various PNSs represented bilaterally. The objective is to rationalise services offered by the smaller Federation team in Bam, ensure overall coordination with IRCS - specifically in areas requiring legal status - whilst still meeting overall expectations and PNS requirements. A draft Service Agreement has been prepared and circulated (based on a survey carried out in May, regarding the expectations/resources of the 10 PNSs currently in Iran), taking into account services rendered to date, as well as future services required.

The Federation continued to experience difficulties in the issuing and renewal of visas by the Iranian authorities. The special fast-track procedure in place immediately after the earthquake has now been rescinded and replaced by normal visa clearance procedures, which can be time-consuming. Difficulties in obtaining visas for key personnel such as Federation reconstruction and water/sanitation experts needed for short-term technical input missions have significantly delayed the initiation of some programmes.

## **Red Cross and Red Crescent action - objectives, progress, impact**

### **Emergency relief (food and non-food items)**

**Objective: Basic food and non-food item needs of 155,000 most vulnerable beneficiaries are met, enabling them to start rebuilding their future.**

#### **Progress/Achievements:**

- **Completion of relief distribution to 155,000 most vulnerable beneficiaries and return to local cash-based economic activity.**

## Iran Bam Earthquake; Appeal no. 25/03; Operations Update no. 13

With the distribution of 32,385 hygiene parcels in early May, the relief phase of the Bam Operation was completed. Efforts are now focusing on replenishment of IRCS stocks, final hand-over of operations and reconstruction projects. In addition, a targeted distribution of 2000 agricultural tool kits for farmers has been successfully completed by the French Red Cross, in collaboration with the Iranian Ministry of Agriculture and the IRCS relief network. IRCS cash coupon distribution to the earthquake-affected families continued during May.

The latest relief distribution figures, as compiled by IRCS and the Federation, are presented below.

### Cumulative Relief Distribution by IRCS between 26 December 2003 – 15 May 2004

ITEM	IRCS Total Distribution	IFRC Appeal – Goods received
<b>Non-food Items</b>		
Alcohol	150	150
Bandages	6,344 kg	
Blankets	548,449 pcs	115,150 pcs
Body bags	1,386 pcs	
Clothing (warm)	589,165 pcs	
Cool Boxes	24,937 pcs	24,937 pcs
Detectors (Rescue Equipment)	26 pcs	26 pcs
Family tents	5,074 pcs	5,358 pcs
Field showers	18 units	18 units
Gas cylinders	12,541 sets	
Gas stoves and accessories	17,248 sets	17,248 sets
Generators	30	4
Heaters (Kerosene) – and Kerosene Stoves	118,602 pcs	7,179 pcs 7,960 pcs
Hygiene Kits	157,549 kits	59,747 kits
Jerry cans	90,445 pcs	63,563 pcs
Kettles	9,176 pcs	
Kitchen sets	84,979 sets	33,917 sets
Lanterns (kerosene)	108,858 pcs	7,976 pcs
Large tents	108,454 pcs	99 pcs
Latrine plates	N/A	31 pcs
Lights (Giraff)	9 pcs	9 pcs
Masks	5,120 pcs	5,120 pcs
Moquettes	144,717 pcs	
Nail clippers	-	520 pcs
Nappies (health)	65,178 pcs	
Petroleum	134,347 litres	
Plastic sheeting / Tarps	265,847 pcs	814 pcs
Plastic water pipes	N/A	1,500
Relief ID cards	13,000	13,000
Relief notebooks	124,750	124,750
Rubb Halls	N/A	6
Soap	1,035,777 bars	
Shoes	226,004 pairs	
Shovels and picks	16,153	16,153
Stretchers	625 pcs	
Tap stands	N/A	23
Towels	N/A	22,200 pcs
Underwear	52,528 pcs	52,528 pcs
Washing basins (Dish pans)	24,960 pcs	24,960 pcs
Washing powder	909,874 boxes	
Water tanks (mobile / fixed)	88 pcs	23 pcs
<b>Food Items</b>		
Biscuit	2,211,840 boxes	
Bread	123,877 cartons	
Canned Food	4,448,300	
Mineral Water	2,083,112 bottles	
Pulses	491,839 kg	
Rice	1,813,396 kg	
Sugar	510,318 kg	

- **Continuous support on relief, logistics and procurement provided to IRCS.**

The Federation Logistics and Warehousing Delegates successfully cleared most remaining containers of relief items that were still being held by the customs authorities in Bandar Abbas Port. The process of obtaining the necessary authorizations for the return of vehicles to Abu Dhabi was undertaken and the final transfer of ERU equipment to IRCS was organized.

On-going support is being offered to IRCS for the replenishment and procurement of Disaster Preparedness (DP) stock. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Federation and the IRCS governing this programme was signed in Tehran on 30 May 2004.

## **Health, Water and Sanitation**

**Objective: The population in Bam has adequate access to health care, water and sanitation services before the restoration of permanent health, water and sanitation infrastructure and facilities.**

**Objective (Health): People in Bam receive sufficient health services including psychological support.**

With the support of many international organizations, local organizations and agencies, the Ministry of Health (MoH) of Iran has embarked on a major reconstruction plan for the rehabilitation of the health infrastructure in Bam. This plan includes the immediate and long term reconstruction of the destroyed primary and secondary health care facilities and the reorganization of the health delivery system.

The Red Cross & Red Crescent Movement has pledged its unconditional support to the efforts of the health authorities. Various PNSs have already made official promises to contribute in the reconstruction of specific objects of vital importance. The French Red Cross has now received official approval for the reconstruction of the Bam University of Nursing (possibly in conjunction with another PNS) and a site has been identified.

It is widely expected that the coming weeks and months will witness a significant rise in the reconstruction activity throughout the devastated historical city. In the meantime, the overall health situation in the disaster zone remains satisfactory and stable. There has been a relatively mild increase in the incidence of diarrhoeal diseases – considered to be seasonal in nature and effectively controlled by the operational health services in Bam.

For some time, the quality of the potable water in the city has been under scrutiny, but the authorities confirm that the situation is under control.

The IRCS Hospital and four Basic Health Centres continue to render invaluable health care services to the population of Bam. The final and actual handover of the material assets of the hospital to the IRCS is currently underway, while preparations have begun for the construction of the temporary prefabricated hospital to replace the present tented facility - a solution which will ensure a safe and durable operational environment until the permanent District Hospital is ready to serve the needs of the local population.

### **Progress/Achievements:**

- **Gaps in the health system between the emergency and the long-term solutions are bridged through the field hospital and Basic Health Centre (BHC) ERUs**

### ***IRCS Referral Hospital:***

In the past five months, the IRCS Hospital (previously known as the ERU Field Hospital) in Bam has been a valuable and vital presence in the earthquake hit region, providing emergency medical care and surgery, orthopaedic clinics for the follow-up of earthquake victims, maternity and child care, internal medicine, and primary health care services through its Out-Patient Department (OPD). The hospital is also acting as a focal point for the stabilization of most serious cases before they are transferred to Kerman by a well organized ambulance service. Currently, the OPD serves up to 1,000 patients per day – a significant rise compared with previous months and thought to be related to the availability of free medication and well qualified specialists. The number of in-patients admitted to the IRCS Hospital on any given day has stabilised at 25-30, with an average stay of 3.5 days (30% of these being maternity cases) and referrals to the medical facilities in Kerman are running at 5-6 per day. (*See Annex 1 for detailed statistics*).

## Iran Bam Earthquake; Appeal no. 25/03; Operations Update no. 13

Today, the hospital is run by a team of highly qualified local specialists and professionals. The nucleus of the medical personnel is recruited on a permanent basis, while some specialists from the MoH provide a much appreciated support on a rotational basis. Expatriate medical teams maintain an advisory technical support and a monitoring role. With the arrival of a new hospital General Manager in early May, day-to-day functioning has improved dramatically.

In the past weeks, the management of the field hospital installed three prefabricated units for the OPD, thereby ensuring an improved environment for the reception and treatment of outpatients. An isolation tent has also been set up, although it has not been required to date.

### **IRCS Basic Health Centres:**

Due to increased migration activity among the population of Bam, some of the IRCS Basic Health Centres are scheduled to be relocated in the new prefabricated settlement camps, in order to facilitate the access of more people to these facilities and ensure a better management of their health care needs.

IRCS medical teams continue to operate four BHCs on a daily basis, by providing general medical and mother & child care in four residential sectors of the Bam city. During the reporting period, a total of 4953 patients (653 of them younger than 5 years old) were treated in those facilities.

### **Cumulative Statistics of Activities at the Red Cross & Red Crescent Health Facilities in Bam**

	<b>IRCS Referral Hospital</b>	<b>IRCS BHCs, No 4 (Basic Health Centres)</b>	<b>JRC BHCUs, No 1 (Basic Health Care Units)</b>	<b>GRC BHCUs, No 2</b>	<b>SA RC Hospital</b>	<b>Total</b>
Period	01.01-28.05.04	28.03-29.05.04	01.01-27.03.04	01.01-27.03.04	01.01-12.01.04	
Out-patients	83 634 8.9%<5y	9025, 11.6%<5y	8790 8.4%<5y	7279 6.8%<5y	1849	110577
In-patients	2616					
Services	Surgeries 625 Caesarian sections 107 Deliveries 658 Lab Tests 14892 X-Ray 9385 Discharges 1769 Transfers 933 Deaths 51	Basic healthcare and treatment in general medicine and mother & child care.	Basic healthcare and treatment in general medicine, mother & child care and psychosocial support.	Basic healthcare and treatment in general medicine, mother & child care. Home visits.	Surgeries 437 Lab-tests 105 X-rays 150 Cases Airlifted 400 Transfers 20 Vaccinations 270	
Comments	Ongoing Handed over by FRC & NRC	Ongoing Handed over by JRC & GRC	Handed over to IRCS on 24.03.04	Handed over to IRCS on 16.04.04	Closed on 12.01.04	
Abbreviations	FRC/Finnish RC, NRC/Norwegian RC, JRC/Japanese RC, GRC/German RC, SARC/ Saudi Arabian RC, IRCS/Iranian RC Society					

### **· ERU health facilities and equipment handed over to the IRCS by the end of April 2004.**

Since the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2004, the IRCS has assumed complete responsibility for running the health care services at the ERU hospital and the Basic Health Care Units (BHCUs). Permanent medical and non-medical specialists have now been recruited, enabling the hospital to gradually achieve optimal operational activity. With the arrival of Dr. Aghazadeh in early May as Hospital Manager, most staffing and operational problems experienced earlier on have been resolved to the satisfaction of all concerned. The Finnish Red Cross/Norwegian Red Cross team are now focusing their efforts on ensuring long-term stability of hospital personnel, the compilation of overall statistics and providing on-going monitoring of operations.

The MoU for the handover of the material and technical assets of the ERU field hospital has been signed by the IRCS and the Federation and forwarded to Europe for signature by Finnish Red Cross/Norwegian Red Cross. While the IRCS is fully running the hospital, the official and final handover of equipment is pending signature of this MoU by all partners.

The Federation maintains an important role by ensuring daily support to the IRCS hospital and the BHC units, for a better assessment of ongoing operational objectives. Internal coordination meetings are held regularly with the PNS teams and the IRCS to follow-up the course of the health activities and deal with pending technical and staffing issues. Meanwhile, close external communication is maintained with different governmental and international agencies to coordinate operational programs and activities.

- **The suffering and risks for development of severe trauma of 20,000 quake survivors are reduced (ECHO funded: Danish Red Cross/Icelandic Red Cross)**

**Progress/Achievements:**

During the project period, some 20,000 survivors in Bam and the surrounding villages have been offered and have participated in psychosocial activities. In addition, a briefing and debriefing system has been established for the 200 volunteers working with the PSP activities for survivors, and training has been conducted for both volunteers and staff working with PSP in IRCS.

A psychological-needs-analysis on the survivors of the Bam earthquake was conducted in April, in order to provide a knowledge base on which to plan and initiate relevant Psycho-social Support interventions. The preliminary report presents the main findings and recommendations from a survey that included 400 adults and 400 children.

The results reveal the extent to which families have been affected by losses of family members, injury, stress symptoms and adjustment issues and point to a high incidence of intrusive symptoms. The recommendations address the mental strains on individuals, leading to a plan for the provision of both counselling and treatment interventions, as well as recreational activities.

The activities that have been identified for the Danish/Icelandic Psycho-social Support programme have been carefully selected according to interests expressed by the survivors, and considered for their potential to restore social support, human dignity and self-confidence. The ideas were gathered in tent-to-tent visits, and other ideas were discussed with the IRCS to ensure that the suggested activities were in line with what had been typical activities before the earthquake. The activities for the 20,000 survivors are divided into five categories and justified by the findings in the initial assessment. These are:

- Leisure (music, calligraphy, play and games and social events)
- Training (sewing by hand and by machine, computer classes)
- Sports (ball games, martial arts, yoga)
- Counselling and referrals (support, debriefing, life skills training and psycho-education)
- Public awareness (radio spots, pamphlets on issues of psychological and social recovery)

As an example, 12.3 % of respondents were found to be unable to do daily chores, thus pointing the need for activities that would encourage survivors to engage in routine daily tasks, such as cooking for women.

Psychosocial activities are being offered both in the IRCS youth centre and in mobile caravans in sectors 7 and 10<sup>2</sup>. The mobile caravans will also be the basis for the outreach counselling and tent-to-tent visits.

**Objective (water and sanitation): Outbreak of water-borne epidemics is prevented in Bam and its surroundings through the installation of adequate and safe water supply and sanitation facilities.**

The new main water pipe for Bam has become operational, in order to ensure that enough water at adequate pressure is available for the prefab camps, which are mostly on the outskirts of the town. The design of the pipeline has been based on a population figure of 60 000, with current average consumption of about 100 litres per person per day.

Discussions are continuing about water quality. Although the Ministry of Health acknowledges that there is no contamination of the piped network so far, they continue to advise people not to drink piped water, due to the potential risk of future contamination. Hence, the Ministry of Health advocates a dual strategy:

- Piped water for showers/ toilets;
- Tankered water for drinking purposes.

---

<sup>2</sup> Bam was divided into 14 sectors during the Emergency relief operations to facilitate distribution and overall logistics.

The MoH does not support the boiling of water. Currently, the water board has 18 water tankers available for delivery of chlorinated water from the well field to the West of Bam. More tankers are available from other organizations, although with the onset of hot weather many of these are being repatriated to their respective communities, causing intermittent delays. The French Red Cross is contributing to the purchase of a water tanker for the IRCS Kerman Branch, for priority use in Bam.

**Progress/Achievements:**

- **7,500 people in one selected prefabricated camp have sufficient hygiene units and increased hygiene knowledge (ECHO: French/ Spanish / Swedish Red Cross)**

Following the signing of MoUs between French/Swedish/Spanish Red Cross and the IRCS in mid-April, for the construction of 1,500 hygiene facilities (shower/latrines/washtub) in Rashestan camp, certain overlap with the plans of other NGOs came to light – which have now been resolved. Contracts with companies have now been finalised and it is expected that the project should be completed during the month of July.

It should be noted that construction of the prefab houses in Rashestan was completed by 25 May and therefore water and sanitation is now a top priority.

The Federation pursued the installation of hygiene facilities in Gulestan Camp and the water supply there has now been connected. However, the removal of waste water – which is the responsibility of the Bam Task Force - was and remains a cause for concern. A test pit dug indicated that there are no permeable soils down to a depth of 26 meters. A revised contract is awaiting signature and will include the immediate construction of pits to the necessary depths.

- **ERU water and sanitation equipment handed over and IRCS personnel well trained to maintain, install and operate it.**

Two IRCS technicians continued operating the treatment plants at the IRCS field hospital and the Khomeini Hospital. However, additional back-up staff is urgently needed and the Federation is following-up with IRCS to ensure the ongoing availability of trained personnel. During the month, approximately 1350 cubic metres specialised water was supplied through the Berkefield treatment plant to the IRCS field hospital and about 800 cubic metres were supplied by the Spanish Ceta treatment plant to Khomeini Hospital. Residual chlorine tests were done every day at the user point and the chlorine levels were always satisfactory.

The water supply for the IRCS clinics in Bam continues to work smoothly. Although the treatment plants were removed, tanks and tap stands remain there to guarantee a steady and reliable supply.

IRCS is in the process of transporting all equipment no longer needed for the Bam operation to a central warehouse in Tehran, where it will be stored properly and ready for future deployment. Hand-over of the equipment of the French Red Cross mass water ERU and of the Swedish Red Cross water/ sanitation ERU were completed on 26 May.

- **20,000 people from Bam are assisted with water supply in tented camps and prefabricated camps (Federation and French / Spanish / Swiss Red Cross)**



**Youngsters like this girl feel the benefits of safe water**

The Red Cross/ Red Crescent Societies continue to concentrate their efforts on the reticulation systems in the camps. The Federation has finalized the water connections for 178 prefab units in Gulestan camp and is currently working to finalize another 250 units. The last batch of 92 units will be finalized before the middle of June.

The French Red Cross will provide water supply for Rashestan camp. Planning for water supply to 2,500 units has reached the final stage and implementation should start soon. This project is also supported by the Swiss Red Cross. The design of the network is currently being finalised and a call for tenders should be launched shortly.

The Swiss Red Cross will construct the reticulation systems in the Wahdad and Sina camps. Planning in Sina has been completed and the 500 units in the camp should be connected before 20 June. In Wahdad camp, planning has not yet been done and the number of units to be connected remains to be clarified.

## **Rehabilitation and Reconstruction**

**Objective: In close cooperation with the IRCS and the Iranian authorities to define the scope of activities which will contribute to the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the health and social infrastructure in Bam.**

### **Progress/Achievements:**

All agencies involved in the reconstruction of the health and social infrastructure of Bam await a final decision from the authorities regarding priorities and the issuing of the governmental Master Plan for the reconstruction of the city. This is said to be in the final stages of preparation, but according to some reports, may not be ready for two months. One issue which may be delaying publication of the plan is the question of whether major infrastructure projects should be undertaken in the present centre of Bam (which lies on a fault line), or moved so as to shield them from possible future earthquakes. In the meantime, humanitarian agencies are engaged in direct discussions with sectoral departments such as the Ministry of Health, and many have already committed to specific social and health infrastructure projects.

With regard to Federation and PNS involvement in IRCS implemented construction and reconstruction projects, during the month, the proposed list of tasks within the health, social infrastructure and disaster management (IRCS infrastructure) sectors was further refined and shared with PNSs. This is an updated version of the list originally provided to potential donors at the meeting held in Geneva on 20 April 2004. In the meantime, some PNSs have already committed to specific projects – the French Red Cross to rebuilding a nurse's college in the city, the German Red Cross to the reconstruction of an orthopaedic centre, a specialist medical centre and IRCS infrastructure elements, and the Swiss Red Cross to two urban health centres.

It had been planned that, during May, two Federation construction specialists would visit Bam to work with IRCS and Federation delegates to prepare technical details, costing and project implementation plans for several of the reconstruction tasks already identified. Unfortunately, delays in obtaining visas to Iran led to the cancellation of this mission. Towards the end of the month, an alternative Federation specialist arrived in Iran, where he will work with the Federation/IRCS team on priority construction projects; specifically the establishment of a semi-permanent hospital to replace the present IRCS tented facility. If time allows, he will also undertake some of the technical advisory tasks originally assigned to the two-person mission. Recruitment of a Construction Delegate is underway to ensure adequate coverage of this vital aspect of the Federation/IRCS programme during the period between June-December 2004.

## **Disaster Preparedness and Capacity Building**

**Objective: The IRCS capacity in disaster management (disaster preparedness and disaster response) has been strengthened at the national, regional, and community levels.**

### **Progress/Achievements:**

- **IRCS disaster preparedness capacity strengthened at national, regional and branch level**

The IRCS and the Federation have now signed a MoU for the replenishment of DP stocks. As per the agreement, the IRCS will be responsible for planning, implementing and reporting on the project according to Federation standards and procedures. The IRCS has prepared a comprehensive list on the nature, type and quantities of relief supplies to be procured and stored as part of the DP stock. The Federation is providing technical assistance, coordinating and facilitating implementation of the project, and as necessary, will also undertake direct procurement and delivery of the agreed disaster preparedness items. Regular coordination meetings are being held between the Federation and the IRCS for monitoring and evaluation purposes.

A number of PNSs (in particular the British Red Cross, French Red Cross and Swiss Red Cross) are in negotiations with the IRCS relief and rescue organization in logistics as well as urban search and rescue team training. These projects may

also include the provision of equipment and the establishment of urban search and rescue centres, particularly on the outskirts of Tehran.

A DP Delegate has been recruited on a 12 month contract and is expected to arrive in June.

- **IRCS capacity to manage and deploy hospital, water and sanitation and BHC ERUs used at the Bam earthquake operation established.**

Please refer to the health, water and sanitation sections.

- **IRCS Bam Branch Office reconstructed and its disaster management capacity restored.**

There are no new developments in this area. The Bam Branch was severely affected by the earthquake and has put forward a number of reconstruction projects. However at present, donor interest is focusing on community reconstruction projects and Bam Branch requirements are pending.

- **IRCS communications capacity upgraded in terms of training and equipment.**

There are no new developments in this area.

## **Communications - Advocacy and Public Information**

**Objective: The ongoing and long-term needs of the quake-affected population in Bam are advocated for through enhanced media coverage and profile of the Red Cross/Red Crescent intervention.**

### **Progress/Achievements:**

- **Donor interest in the long-term needs has been sustained and visibility and profile for Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies increased.**

In order to sustain donor and media interest, a number of innovative projects have been undertaken in collaboration with IRCS Communications and Public Relations Department.

A photo-project, entitled “*With different eyes*” was officially approved by IRCS and is being implemented. This is a unique collaboration between the Federation/IRCS communications teams and the Bam PSP team, which will enable a selected group of 50 affected children to receive training in photography from IRCS professionals and subsequently take pictures of ‘their’ Bam. A selection of photos produced by both the children and the IRCS team will be compiled into a book and form the basis of an exhibition.

In addition, the Information Delegate – who relocated to Tehran – is also preparing a photo exhibition in cooperation with the German Embassy.

Two field trips to Bam were organised in order to produce audio-visual material for the Participating National Societies (PNS), National Society (NS) and Geneva Media Service. New web-stories and press-releases were published to advocate to the international audience the current situation in Bam. The Information Delegate also met with his counterpart from United Nations in Bam, as well as with the Regional Delegation in Amman (a trip necessitated by visa renewal problems) to exchange information.

Contacts and the necessary permits were undertaken in collaboration with the German TV Channel “ZDF” for the production of four features about Red Cross/Red Crescent activities in Bam. This should be completed by mid-June.

- **Cooperation and collaboration on media activities strengthened between IRCS and Federation.**

With the relocation of the Information Delegate to Tehran, cooperation with the National Society has improved. Regular information sharing meetings are held on practically a daily basis. On the occasion of World Red Cross Day, the IRCS Communications Department and the Federation Information Delegate prepared a joint news-story. In addition, a Federation web-story was translated into Farsi for the IRCS homepage. Approval was given for a number of joint projects, as outlined above.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

The final report of the operations review on the emergency phase of the operation, jointly undertaken by the Federation and the IRCS, will be released in June, following extensive feedback received both from the field and IRCS headquarters. The report focuses on the lessons learnt from the initial response of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The recommendations will be applied for the remainder of the operation and future response.

[click here to return to the title page](#)

**ANNEX 1**

**ERU Field Hospital Admissions – 2004**

Total per month	OPD < 5y	OPD total	In-patients 7 a.m.	Adm	Disch	Opr. Incl c/s	C/S	Birth incl c/s	X-ray	Lab	Death	Trans. from wards	Trans. from OPD	Trans. total
<b>Total Jan</b>	<b>958</b>	<b>12476</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>1176</b>	<b>7</b>			<b>20</b>
<b>Total Feb</b>	<b>1791</b>	<b>19174</b>	<b>846</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>1803</b>	<b>2806</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>127</b>
<b>Total Mar</b>	<b>1445</b>	<b>13683</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>1729</b>	<b>2661</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>202</b>
<b>Total April</b>	<b>1351</b>	<b>16209</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>2122</b>	<b>3987</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>236</b>
<b>Total May</b>	<b>2357</b>	<b>25534</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>3008</b>	<b>4926</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>187</b>

**Abbreviations :** **OPD:** Out Patients Department, **Adm:** Admissions, **Disch:** Discharge, **Opr incl c/s:** Operations Including Cesarians, **C/S:** Cesarians, **Trans:** Transfers