

# 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***

*12 December 2003*

*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 178 countries. For more information: [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)*

*Appeal N° 01.84/2003*

*Appeal Target: CHF 5,837,438*

*Programme Update N° 3;*

*Period covered: 1 July – 31 September;*

*Last Programme Update no.1 issued 6 October 2003*

### ***IN BRIEF***

*Appeal coverage: 80.7% at date of report issue. For live update, click below:*

*[http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?annual03/1-2-3%20-%20ap018403.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual03/1-2-3%20-%20ap018403.pdf)*

*Related Appeals: 01.82/2003 CHARP (Chernobyl Humanitarian Assistance and Rehabilitation Programme in Belarus, Ukraine and Russia)*

### **Operational Developments •**

During the reporting timeframe, the International Federation continued to support the Russian Red Cross (RRC) in accordance with the objectives outlined in the Annual Appeal 2003. The Strategic Plan of Development 2010 was adopted by the RRC in February 2003. Core activities remain the elements of the health and care programme, in particular TB. The Federation Delegation and Russian Red Cross continue to raise the profile of the Red Cross and to promote the humanitarian values and Fundamental Principles of the Movement.

### **Disaster Management •**

**Programme objective:** The organisational and management capacity of the RRC at all levels is strengthened in all disaster management areas through closer integration of the Federation's logistics and relief experience. The transfer of Federation's experience to the RRC in these regards and via the realisation of projects entailing hands-on service delivery, are carried out by the regional committees of the RRC and coordinated by its headquarters.

The disaster preparedness component of this appeal has been reduced due to lack of funds received. RRC in cooperation with the International Federation will focus on the following projects during the remainder of 2003: Population Movement (funded by British and Swedish Red Cross); Children's Playrooms in Ingushetia (funded by British Red Cross); Food Security (funded by Japanese Red Cross, due to start in October 2003); Disaster Preparedness (funded by British Red Cross). The RRC and International Federation continue to seek funding for all programmes within the framework of the annual appeal 2004.

Although disaster response and preparedness capacity remain minimal, RRC in cooperation with the Federation Delegation continues to manage and coordinate disaster response operations and assist vulnerable people affected by natural and manmade disasters throughout the Russian Federation. Ongoing activities in the regions maintain and build upon existing capacities, through training of staff and developing closer cooperation with RRC Headquarters and Federation Delegation Relief and Logistics experts. Efforts continue in the regions to sustain existing programmes while further funding is sought.

### **Children's playrooms in Ingushetia**

Camps in the Republic of Ingushetia continue to provide the most basic shelter for people displaced as a result of the Chechen conflict. While living conditions are harsh, camp residents are very reluctant to follow government wishes and return home due to ongoing security issues in the Chechen Republic. To assist vulnerable children in the camps, Russian Red Cross together with the Federation operates playrooms in 2 camps in Ingushetia Republic providing the only psychological and educational support available to children of pre-school age (3-6 years). RRC operates two more playrooms in the region in coordination with the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC).

The children's playrooms project was begun in December 2000 and was based on the knowledge of professional psychologists and specialists in children's education and upbringing. It takes into consideration that games are the most appropriate type of activity for pre-school children who are very receptive and flexible with regard to learning. The project is directed towards the following needs:

- Correction of behavioural problems
- Preparations for school entrance
- Development of humane and peaceful behavioural patterns
- Reducing psychological suffering

For further programmes information and details on the work of psychologists and RRC educators, please refer to previous programme updates at: [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?annual03/018403.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual03/018403.pdf)

### ***Activities specific to the reporting period:***

During the reporting period, project implementation continued to meet the established goals and objectives (as demonstrated by psychologist and playroom educator reports) in a timely and expedient manner. The model of psychological service activities with pre-school children living in the tent camps continues to be developed in response to feedback from children, parents, playroom staff and RRC psychologists. RRC accumulated experience of work with children from areas of armed conflict has been analysed and results show the Ingushetia playroom project to be a successful model for implementation in other regions.

During the reporting period, all children attending playrooms in Bella and Sputnik camps were re-registered, and playroom attendance figures were recorded as below:

**Table 1. Number of Children attending playrooms in "Sputnik" and "Bella" camps**

<b>2003</b>	<b>Number of children attending the playrooms</b>		
	<b>"Sputnik"</b>	<b>"Bella"</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>July</b>	1343	2388	3731
<b>August</b>	2118	3702	5820
<b>September</b>	1924	3530	5454
<b>Total</b>	5385	9620	15005

During this reporting period playroom staff focused on preparing children for entry to school. The Red Cross programme recognises that motivation to attend school is particularly important if children are to benefit from education. Psychologists and playroom teachers worked to convince children of the importance and enjoyment of school.

Ongoing correctional-development training conducted to encourage children to attend school continues to have successful results. Children who have participated in such training sessions in the past demonstrate high levels of motivation for attending school, are able to cooperate with their peers, and respond positively to teachers requests. Overall development as a result of activities conducted in the playrooms help children to meet the demands of a school education and has produced noticeable reduction in aggressive behaviour.

Playroom activities include learning the Russian language, developing motor skills and literacy and numeric skills. Playroom staff emphasise the importance of using different “thinking” methods – analysis, synthesis and comparison. This is encouraged in children through a variety of games and word exercises, which include compiling sentences, finding the opposite of words, personal expression etc. and are all designed to act as an introduction to school work.

In addition, the following activities took place during the reporting period:

- A children’s “send-off” to school was arranged at the end of August 2003. Children leaving for school received special school kits. RRC purchased a total of 314 school kits, including 154 kits for children in Bella and Sputnik camps, and 163 kits for those attending playrooms in Alina and Bart camps. New children were registered at the playrooms to fill the places of those moving on to school.
- Redecoration of playrooms and playgrounds was conducted during July 2003.
- A recount of children living in camps was conducted to assess how many people have left the camps. The results are shown in the table below, and indicate that a number of families may have left camps for the Chechen Republic in order to receive entitled resettlement payments.

**Table 2. No. of children living in Bella and Sputnik camps**

<b>Name of settlement</b>	<b>No. of children prior to recount</b>	<b>No. of children after recount</b>
<b>Bella</b>	262	165
<b>Sputnik</b>	360	328
<b>Total</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>493</b>

The programme objectives demand ongoing work and continuing participation of children in playroom activities. Observations of Red Cross staff, school teachers and parents of school children indicate that those children who attended playrooms find it significantly easier to adapt to school life. In order to maintain this level of success, the current cooperation between playroom staff, parents and schoolteachers must continue. At present, there is frequent dialogue between the groups to facilitate information and experience exchange. Teachers, playroom staff and parents assist in developing and implementing recommendations on how to improve activities.

Parents of children are becoming more involved in playroom work, and recently helped to organise a graduation ceremony and a staging of children’s stories. This support is invaluable to playroom staff and strengthens relationships between children and their parents. In cooperation with parents, Red Cross psychologists study children’s emotional needs and problems and provide appropriate support to both children attending the playrooms and other family members. This is especially important as parents do not necessarily recognise the degree of certain psychological problems.

Drawing, dance, music, storytelling are all methods used to reach the programme objectives. Results of these activities are used to analyse the success of playrooms in reducing stress and increasing ability to express emotions.

### **Disaster preparedness**

The following activities took place during the reporting period to meet the programme objective and expected results as outlined in the annual appeal 2003. *Please refer to the International Federation website for further details: [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?annual03/018403.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual03/018403.pdf)*

- RRC prepared procedures for identifying regional and headquarters levels of responsibility for Disaster Preparedness/ Disaster Management programmes in case of emergency situations.
- A DP/DR response system has been established at the central level to ensure coordination of relief activities in emergency situations at the headquarters level. Details of this coordination system will be disseminated throughout regional RRC branches to initiate preparation of regionally coordinated response mechanisms.
- The plan of mobilization and training of RRC personnel and volunteers to ensure effective response to disasters is in the final stage of development.
- A First Aid training programme for rescue teams, volunteers and the general population has been developed.
- A four day workshop for 23 participants on the themes “disaster preparedness and response; RRC disaster response; effective coordination between RRC and State organizations in disaster preparedness” took place in Western Siberia. Participants included representatives from RRC and the International Federation: 4 facilitators (including RRC and International Federation representatives); 5 RRC branch chairpersons, 6 RRC employees and 1 RRC volunteer; and 7 people from Russian Federation State structures: 4 from Emercom (Russian Ministry of Emergencies), 3 from the State Disaster Medicine Service.
- RRC headquarters staff provided practical, methodical and advisory help to regional branches on questions of disaster preparedness
- Instructions on tender and procurement procedures of disaster preparedness promotion materials have been prepared and distributed among RRC branches of Western Siberia
- RRC prepared and distributed to the regions job descriptions for Western Siberia branch employees responsible for disaster preparedness operations.
- RRC analysed disaster management systems developed at the regional branch level. This included analysis of agreements on interaction with structures of the Ministry of Emergencies, First Aid workshop training programmes, warehouse preparation for accommodation of disaster preparedness promotion materials.
- Recruitment procedures for the new Moscow delegation disaster preparedness officer are underway.

The DP/DR department of RRC continues to experience financial constraints. Furthermore, permanent staff members are overworked while further recruitment is hampered by the absence of qualified potential employees at local and central committee level. Training is organised in a haphazard manner and as a result staff members do not have the opportunity to develop skills in a structured manner. RRC chairpersons' reluctance to delegate responsibilities further restricts information sharing and skills building.

Due to reorganisation and departure of key staff members at headquarters level, RRC has lost a substantial amount of institutional knowledge. As a result, analysis of the role rescue teams play in the DM programme is required and expected to take place during the next reporting period.

### **Population Movement**

During the reporting period Russian Red Cross, with support from the International Federation, continued implementation of the following population movement projects in eight regions of the Russian Federation:

Swedish Red Cross funded programmes (implementation began in July, six month programme):

1. RRC Regional Reception Points for involuntary migrants in Nizhny Novgorod and Voronezh oblast.

2. Emergency Legal Counselling Points for involuntary migrants at Orenburg railway station.
3. Summer health-improving camps for children of involuntary migrants in Orenburg, Belgorod and Ivanovo regions.

British Red Cross funded programmes (implementation began in April 2003):

1. Regional reception points for involuntary migrants (in 3 regions of the Russian Federation – Omsk, Novosibirsk and Altai Krai oblasts).
2. Emergency legal counselling points for involuntary migrants at railways stations (at railway station in Novosibirsk)

The **overall goal** is to assist integration of involuntary migrants into civil society. RRC regional branches work with involuntary migrants on the basis of Cooperation Agreement between Federal Migration Service and Russian Red Cross Society dated 11.08.1998 aimed at providing assistance to involuntary migrants. On the basis of this Agreement RRC regional branches by their own initiative have signed or intend to sign respective Agreements with territorial Ministry of Interior Migration Departments. This programme expands upon population movement activities that came to an end in eight regions of the Russian Federation in April 2003. For further details on this please refer to programme update no. 2 at:

[http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?annual02/01490202.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual02/01490202.pdf)

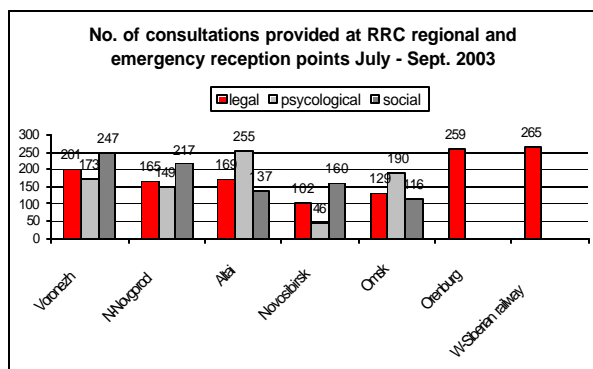
**Objectives** remain the same for all population movement programmes in 2003 and are detailed below :

1. Provide professional, legal, psychological and social support to involuntary migrants and vulnerable groups of local residents free of charge
2. Participate in implementation of the Russian Federation Federal programme “developing ways of tolerant perception and extremism prophylaxis in Russian society” by conducting tolerance training at schools.
3. Strengthen coordination between RRC and governmental structures working the migration sphere (Russian Federation Federal migration service; Ministry of Interior passport-visa service; Ministry of Labour and Social Development; Ministry of Health)
4. Attract attention of civil society to the problem of forced migration
5. Strengthen organizational capacities of RRC regional branches and clearly show action of RRC mandate as neutral and impartial organisation.

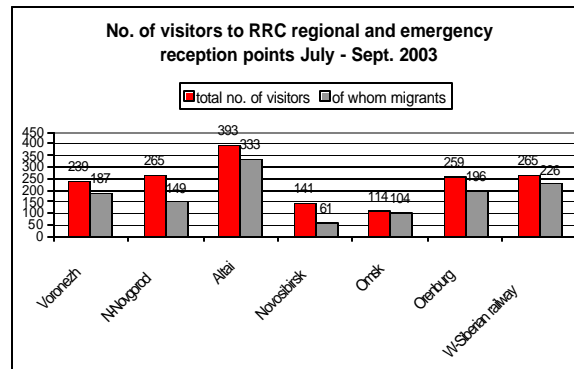
**Beneficiaries** are selected based on the same criteria as in other population movement projects in 2003. They are: forced migrants; refugees; asylum seekers; internally displaced persons; labour and economic migrants; ecological migrants; migrants without documents. Migrants come primarily from instable zones within the Russian Federation (Chechnya) and CIS countries. Regions for programme implementation were selected according to the number of migrants living in any region and the corresponding needs.

During the reporting period:

**Table 3.**



**Table 4.**



### ***Psychological support***

The most important role of RRC and government agencies working with forced migrants is to assist their adaptation to new social-cultural circumstances. In addition to social and material assistance, professional psychological support is necessary. The majority of internally displaced people have experienced chronic stress and RRC psychologists provide assistance in coping with symptoms of post traumatic stress. During the reporting period, RRC psychologists continued to meet the programme objectives and further strengthen the regional psychological network already established, using the following methods:

- dissemination of information amongst forced migrants about possibility and importance of psychological assistance (via local mass media and at RRC regional reception points- information leaflets about RRC activities)
- discussion on basic psychological problems of forced migrants – lectures, discussions, seminars with forced migrants
- using different methods of psychological support aiming to provide psychological assistance to involuntary migrants to overcome crisis situations and enable easier social adaptation.

These activities were carried out among adults and children using different methods depending on specific problems:

- individual consultations
- family consultations
- group training sessions
- educational activities (used to implement the project “tolerance as a way of mutual adaptation of local residents and involuntary migrants”)

In addition to providing counseling at reception points, RRC psychologists participated in field trips to areas with a high proportion of migrants. They conducted educational talks and lectures, organized group work and training, and raised awareness about the existence and benefits of psychological assistance.

Psychologist reports and beneficiaries themselves noted a reduction of psychosomatic symptoms; improvement of client’s mood, sleep patterns, vitality, self confidence, and increased optimism following visits to RRC psychologists; increased client motivation to find a way out of current crisis situations. One of the main reasons for psychological problems amongst the migrant is the attitude of the local population, which is often intolerant and hostile towards migrants. In many cases one session with a psychologist increases beneficiary’s self confidence to the extent that he/she is motivated to find solutions to problems.

Furthermore, the increased number of visitors to reception points in Omsk, Novosibirsk and Altai Krai (shown in table 6 below ) indicates that the RRC psychological network disseminated information about the project among the beneficiary community and successfully convinced forced migrants of the benefits of psychological assistance.

The level of training and experience of psychologists in this sphere of work is an important factor in providing the best service possible. For this reason, RRC hopes to conduct training of RRC psychologists during the next quarter. In addition, Red Cross hopes to contribute to further studies in the sphere of migrants’ psychological problems through their consultant/client reports.

Red Cross psychologists have also recognised the need for a publication providing details on how to find a job, accommodation etc. where details are specific to the region. In addition, further education of the general public on the reason for involuntary migration is needed to relieve some of the pressure faced by migrants and motivate locals to support these vulnerable groups.

Throughout the programme implementation the RRC worked in cooperation with Moscow State University faculty of psychology, scientific and practical centre of psychological assistance, social services, and the Russian Federation Ministry of Education and State migration service.

***Nizhny Novgorod, Voronezh, Orenburg***

- **305** people visited RRC psychologists
- **322** visits in total
- **14** field trips

The psychologist working at Voronezh RRC reception point pays particular attention to work with children.

#### *Omsk, Novosibirsk, Altai Krai*

- **352** people visited RRC psychologists
- **491** visits in total
- **16** field trips

In Altai Krai, the Red Cross psychologist conducted a tolerance training session for children, entitled “Tolerance will save the world”. In addition, a tolerance centre for teenagers was established at the RRC Regional reception point, where the RRC psychologist organised **23 tolerance training workshops** for **278 people**. RRC staff gained experience in assessment of the needs of the most vulnerable population and the most effective methods for providing support.

In Omsk, a new professionally trained psychologist has joined the RRC branch.

#### *RRC legal network*

Within the population movement programme, RRC legal counsellors continued to provide support (via personal and group consultation) to beneficiaries in the following fields:

- Status of forced migrants – rights and responsibilities; housing issues; allowances and loans for property purchase/construction
- Procedure of application for Russian citizenship
- Appeal procedure against State officials
- Job placement
- Pensions and restoration of lost documents, exit visas from Russian Federation

#### *Nizhny Novgorod, Voronezh, Orenburg*

During the reporting period, **625** visits were paid to RRC regional branch reception points, of whom approximately **35%** are undocumented migrants.

#### *Omsk, Novosibirsk, Altai Krai*

- programme personnel continue to demonstrate strong organisational skills, efficiency and competence in assisting beneficiaries
- RRC headquarters programme coordinators met at Novosibirsk branch to discuss implementation of the programme and related issues, including reporting requirements and legal and methodological materials.
- **665** people visited the RRC legal advisers at regional and emergency reception centres
- the majority of beneficiaries are internally displaced people and labour migrants

#### *Social assistance*

Social assistance was provided in the following forms:

- social consultations on medical, social, educational and job placement issues.
- Humanitarian aid (second hand clothes and shoes collected locally)
- Free of charge medical assistance

Most visitors to the reception centres apply for humanitarian aid. Procurement and distribution of this aid is not provided for within the programme budget, and local branches conduct local fundraising activities to collect and distribute humanitarian goods. All branches worked in close cooperation with territorial Ministry of Interior Migration departments, and other local NGOs providing assistance to undocumented migrants. All RRC activities were widely broadcast in the local mass media.

#### *Nizhny Novgorod, Voronezh, Orenburg*

**373 people** received professional advice from RRC social workers during **464** counselling sessions. **395 people** received humanitarian relief items. During field trips conducted by RRC staff and representatives of

the State Migration service, RRC consultants provided legal, social and psychological support in areas heavily populated by migrants.

- In *Nizhny Novgorod*, RRC distributed locally collected goods – foodstuff, clothes, footwear, furniture, bedding, medicines, hygiene kits.
- In *Voronezh*, RRC collected and distributed food and hygiene kits, second hand clothes and footwear, medicines. The social worker (a senior visiting nurse) completed medical prescriptions and measured blood pressure. Informational booklets on legal and psychological issues, specifically designed for migrants, were published and continue to be distributed in Voronezh oblast via local RRC branches.
- In *Orenburg*, RRC branch distributed clothes, shoes and food parcels.

### ***Omsk, Novosibirsk, Altai Krai***

During the reporting period, **377** persons visited the RRC regional reception points during **413** visits.

- In *Altai Krai*, all vulnerable people visiting the reception centre were provided with warm clothes. Altai Krai RRC branch staff organised local collections of donated second hand clothes and shoes, via appeals advertised in local media. Also during the reporting period, Altai Krai RRC branch received foodstuff donations- 1,700 cans of beef – which were distributed to the needy population at the reception centre and during field visits. A large consignment of clothes, footwear and foodstuff was delivered to a social support centre in Kosikhinsky region of Altai Krai. Novosibirsk RRC branch did not organise such local fundraising activities during the reporting period.
- In *Omsk*, humanitarian aid (warm clothes and food parcels) was provided to 17 migrant families. Omsk RRC regional branch also organised summer camps for migrant's children to help improve their health status. Funds from the programme budget were used to cover the costs of summer camp for 50 migrant children.

### ***Summer health camps***

During the reporting period, summer camps for children of involuntary migrants were held in Orenburg, Ivanovo, Belgorod and Omsk. Participation in the camps was aimed towards social and psychological adaptation and improved health of migrants' children. Red Cross staff and volunteers - among them social workers, psychologists, First Aid trainers, medical workers - provided psychological assistance and rehabilitation through a variety of methods: psychological counselling; tolerance training; medical assistance to children suffering from chronic diseases; conducting educational and play activities; providing additional nutrition and vitamins; raising awareness of the Red Cross movement and preparing children for voluntary work with Russian Red Cross. All children in the camps were also examined by the medical workers who also measured their weight and height every week. The majority of children had gained weight by the end of their stay in the camps. Psychologists also worked individually with migrants' children to discuss and resolve any issues or problems they were experiencing in their personal or school life.



*For many migrant children summer camps provide a welcome break and the chance to meet new friends in an otherwise foreign environment*

Each camp had an original feature designed to encourage children to actively participate in camp life. In **Belgorod** there was a small zoo where children were happy to take care of animals and birds. Everyday contact with animals contributed to the quick adaptation of migrants' children among their peers. In **Ivanovo** there was Red Cross shop. Red Cross currency was designed as additional incentive for children to partake in camp activities. As a reward for their success in sport events and amateur art activities children earned Red Cross currency and could buy sweets, souvenirs etc. in the Red Cross shop. In **Omsk** camp there was a special premises for Red Cross activities – named by the children 'Red Cross' house. Here, Red Cross personnel organized First Aid training, International Humanitarian Law (IHL) classes, and an art studio.



*First Aid training at Orenburg summer camp*

In all camps children actively participated in the following competitions: Young rescuer; IHL contest; "Save our planet" poster contest; "Charity on the battlefield" drawing contest; Dance contest; Sport events. Under the trainer's supervision children went for a camping-trip to the woods, where they learned to make camp, to make a fire, to catch fish etc. Every day children played different out-door games. There was a children's "Model agency" and beauty salon.

Local and migrant's children took part in many group activities that facilitated better adaptation to the new camp circumstances and provided the opportunity to make new friends. Reports indicate that children were very happy during their time spent in the camp, and appreciated the opportunity to enjoy their holidays and make new friends. Furthermore, RRC staff noticed remarkably improved health status of many children participating in camps, and reduced anxiety levels and related high spirits of migrants' children. Red Cross intends to hold similar camps in summer 2004.

**Table 5. No. of children attending summer camps July – August 2003**

RRC Regional Branch	Project duration 2003	Number of children attending the camp	
		Migrants' children	Local children
<b>Orenburg</b>	3-24 July	40	20
<b>Ivanovo</b>	4-24 July	10	140
<b>Belgorod</b>	8-28 August	20	81
<b>Omsk</b>	09-27 August	50	200
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>120</b>	<b>441</b>

**Problems encountered during the reporting period:**

- No training for reception point personnel
- Insufficient number of legal and psychological materials for migrants
- Lack of funds for administrative expenses
- Humanitarian aid provided was not enough to meet needs, in particular availability of food parcels and hygiene kits
- Irregularity of field actions. Number of field trips was in any case lower due to the fact that in the summer many people are on holiday. Lack of humanitarian aid in the form of food and hygiene kits, which were the most demanded by the migrants,
- Reporting formats were criticised as being too complicated

***Omsk, Novosibirsk, Altai Krai***

- During the reporting period there was a complete changeover of staff at Altai Krai regional branch, resulting in a loss of institutional memory. The relative inexperience of new staff initially impacted the effectiveness of work at the reception centres but operations are now running smoothly.
- Lack of computers and copy machines in Altai Krai led to delays in completing reports.
- Altai Krai reception centre experienced lack of water supply and insufficient heating, which may hamper activities during the winter period.
- Lack of separate premises for Altai Krai reception point limits effectiveness of work
- Omsk RRC branch- tender for computers was not drawn up according to RRC / Federation standards
- There were no migration service representatives in rayons of Omsk oblast, which led to difficulties in organising field trips.

**Achievements :**

Analysis of RRC programme implementation during the reporting period reveals an effective network established to support the increasing flow of migrants entering the Russian Federation. However, it also demonstrates the need to increase effectiveness of regional reception points through increasing capacity in the regions and supporting the branches to overcome problems noted above.

Programme implementation has had a positive impact on the organisational development of RRC regional branches, improving RRC material and technical bases through new staff and training, and establishing of legal database and monthly reporting mechanisms. RRC image and authority in the sphere of assisting forced migrants has been increased through widespread dissemination of information on RRC activities and establishing contacts with State organisations. Strengthened links with State organisations have resulted in an improved professional level of services provided to migrants. In particular, all field trips are conducted by RRC and Ministry of Interior representatives and RRC branches have established relations with the regional departments of the following State services:

- Social protection of People – regarding pensions, allowances, accommodation for elderly
- Education – regarding childrens' schooling and admission to pre-school institutions
- Health- regarding medical issues
- Labour- regarding job placement and training

Furthermore, well publicised work of the Red Cross psychologists has led to increased recognition and the opportunity to develop working relations with non -government institutions dealing with social issues.

Throughout programme implementation improvements were made in conducting social, legal and psychological counselling for forced migrants and alleviating pressures experienced by these groups, in particular during the first months after arrival in the Russian Federation. Beneficiary reports recorded by programme counsellors indicate success in meeting the programme objectives. Forced migrants themselves comment that their adaptation to new surroundings was speeded up due to support of RRC services, and RRC counsellors indicate their satisfaction with the awareness of the RRC support network in the eight regions. In addition, the attitude of the local population towards migrants has been positively influenced by information dissemination and RRC seminars and lectures on the problem of forced migration and associated

discrimination and tolerance. This attitude change will improve forced migrants feeling of wellbeing and acceptance in their new communities.

### ***Omsk, Novosibirsk, Altai Krai***

The increase in the number of people visiting regional reception points is clearly visible in Table 6 below. The number of field visits also increased from 5 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter to 16 in the 3<sup>d</sup> quarter. These increases indicate the success of the programme in the region. RRC has apparently publicised well the benefits of its services to the target population and persuaded migrants to revisit its reception centres.

**Table 6. Total number of people receiving support/ visits made to RRC regional and emergency reception points in Omsk, Altai, Novosibirsk and Novosibirsk railway station**

	No. of people receiving support		Total n o. of visits to RRC counsellors
	total	of whom migrants	
April – June 2003	416	284	887
July – September 2003	913	724	1,510

During the next quarter, RRC plans the following activities:

- To further attract public attention to the problem of involuntary migration
- To continue to provide voluntary migrants with free daily professional social, legal and psychological services
- to broadcast information on RRC activities in the region more widely in mass media (newspapers, radio, television)
- to organise a number of field trips to areas with a large number of involuntary migrants
- to strengthen links with State departments, local authorities and other public organisations working in the sphere of involuntary migrancy
- to renew and procure new stocks of legal and psychological informational materials for distribution at reception points and on field trips
- to provide specialist training for reception centre staff
- to procure informational materials, allocate funds for procurement and distribution of humanitarian aid, and purchase computer equipment for Altai Krai reception centre.
- to prepare and print new informational material (booklet) for involuntary migrants on the new RF legislature

### **Food security**

#### ***Maintenance of food security of vulnerable groups of the population in Magadan region***

A representative of the International Federation Moscow delegation assisted the local RRC branch to complete the programme proposal for long-term food security assistance to the population of Magadan oblast. A programme coordinator has since been appointed, and the programme is due to start on October 1<sup>st</sup> for a duration of six months. Within the programme, RRC will conduct procurement and distribution of 20 fishermen sets (including addition clothing and equipment for fishermen) for needy fishermen teams, and 6000 seed sets for distribution to approximately 20,000 beneficiaries. Beneficiaries of fishermen sets are fishermen teams and reindeer breeders living in small villages and were selected by the local administration and fishermen department. Each set should last at least three years, and in return for receipt of these sets fishermen will be required to contribute a number of fish to the most needy population in their home village. Seed sets – containing fertilisers and seeds to enable food security during summer time- will be distributed to the most vulnerable population in Magadan population. Beneficiaries include multi-children families with total income below minimum income and lonely invalids and pensioners living below the poverty rate.

### **Humanitarian Values •**

**Programme objective: The institutional capacity and public profile of the Russian Red Cross in society and in governmental circles is improved through advocacy in the areas of humanitarian values, and**

**the Movement's fundamental principles, ideals and values are developed in order to assist in the formation of a strong civil society in Russia.**

The humanitarian values section of the annual appeal has been revised. The Russian Red Cross (RRC) with the support of the International Federation will focus on raising the profile of the RRC and the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement for the remainder of 2003 and has added a programme on reducing HIV/AIDS related stigma. Please see *reducing HIV/AIDS related stigma* in programme update no. 2 at [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?annual03/01840302.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual03/01840302.pdf) for further details. Although volunteer mobilisation and RRC magazine projects have been removed from the current appeal, the International Federation continues to seek funding to enable implementation of these projects within the framework of the annual appeal 2004.

***Reducing HIV/AIDS related stigma***

During the reporting period, RRC and the Federation continued to promote humanitarian values and the public profile of the RRC, in particular with regard to the RRC role in improving health and reducing HIV/AIDS related stigma. Volunteers continue to support this work at branch level but ability to attract and keep new volunteers remains poor. The Federation and RRC will particularly focus on reducing HIV/AIDS related stigma on the upcoming World AIDS Day, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2003.

In preparation for the 28<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, the International Federation's Moscow delegation Information officer conducted two field trips – to Irkutsk, in Southern Siberia and to the Chernobyl zone in Ukraine. Related stories and photographs have been included into pre-conference information kits. The trip to Irkutsk took place 13-16 July and included information visits to harm reduction sites and a support centre for people living with HIV/AIDS. The trip to the Ukraine took place 28 July - 1 August, and included visits to a hospice and home for children, organised by the Ukrainian Red Cross, as well as abandoned settlements in Chernobyl zones.

During the reporting period, the Moscow delegation Information Officer and Reporting Officer in close cooperation with Russian Red Cross developed the 2+2 strategic plan of action in the field of humanitarian values. This work will contribute to the overall delegation's 2+2 strategy.

Revision of humanitarian values programmes within the current 2003-2004 Appeal took place: the delegation will continue to support the Russian Red Cross in raising its profile, particularly via assisting the Russian Red Cross to distribute the World Disaster's Report 2003. In addition, a new programme was added focusing on reducing stigma related to HIV/AIDS.

The 2004-2005 Appeal process was also initiated and finalised during the reporting period. Four programmes were submitted for the humanitarian values part of the appeal in PPP (Project Planning Process) format, two of which are region-wide (Russian, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine). Expected results of these programmes include:

- Russian government admits the need for a wider access to anti-retroviral therapy for people living with HIV/AIDS.
- General public in targeted regions of Russia, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine changes perceptions, attitudes and behaviour towards people living with HIV/AIDS and all forms of discrimination.
- Russian-speaking Internet audience has easy access to information on the Movement's fundamental principles and humanitarian values on RRC web site.
- General public and RRC partners have broader access to information on the Movement's fundamental principles and values.

Appeal budgets for humanitarian values programmes were also prepared, submitted and approved during the reporting period.

Further activities that took place during the reporting period included:

- A seminar on working with mass media was held by the delegation's Information Officer on 30<sup>th</sup> September for youth volunteers of the Moscow region branch of the Russian Red Cross.
- Eight reprints and two first prints of information materials about tuberculosis with a total circulation of 156,300 copies. A distribution plan was drafted by the Federation delegation and Russian Red Cross; delivery to the targeted regions has already started.
- A story highlighting the problem of intravenous drug use and HIV in Russia and Belarus and Red Cross action to reduce harm of this activity was prepared for the Red Cross / Red Crescent Magazine. A visit of an independent journalist to Nalchik, Russia's North Caucasus, to write a story for the Red Cross / Red Crescent Magazine was co-ordinated with ICRC, the Russian Red Cross central committee and their regional branch in the field.
- Within the frames of preliminary preparations for setting up a Federation-wide intranet, a questionnaire was filled out and submitted to the headquarters for further consideration.
- Narrative statements and photographs illustrating problems related to HIV/AIDS and migrants, as well as Russian Red Cross activities in these fields were prepared for the Swedish Red Cross fundraising campaign requesting contributions for Russian Red Cross activities.
- As of 19 October, the Delegation's Information Officer has resigned from the position. Until a suitable replacement has been found, the Moscow delegation Reporting Officer will act as a focal point for information-related activities.

## Health and Care •

**Programme Objective: The Russian Red Cross is able to provide support to the most vulnerable in the area of basic health and care through activity aimed at strengthening the capacity of the regional committees and volunteer networks of the RRC.**

The TB programme continues to run successfully in the pilot regions. Dropout rates of TB patients leaving the Directly Observed Treatment Strategy programme (DOTS) remained significantly low at the end of 2002, indicating the effectiveness of the DOTS strategy implementation. Work has begun to expand RRC activities in the sphere of HIV/AIDS. There are tentative plans to replicate existing HIV/AIDS outreach and awareness projects, depending on the outcome of an assessment to be conducted of the bilateral operation in Irkutsk (run by the RRC in cooperation with the Soros Foundation). Regarding cooperation with State institutions, the Visiting Nurses Service (VNS) Development Concept is encouraging recognition by the Ministry of Social Welfare of the role of the RRC VNS in providing social support. All health programmes continue to operate in cooperation with local, national and international organisations.

### *TB activities*

**Table 7. Donor support and implementation timeframe of TB activities**

<b>Regions</b>	<b>Donor Support</b>	<b>Implementing timeframe</b>
Oryol	WHO	September 2001 - April 2003
Tomsk, Buryatia, Kemerovo	British Red Cross/ DFID	May 2001 - ongoing
Pskov, Belgorod, Khakassia	USAID	October 2001 - ongoing

The programme complements regional TB services, particularly in health education and promotion, involving the Visiting Nurses Services of the RRC in monitoring DOTS, and using social and nutritional support as treatment incentive for the most vulnerable patients. The programme continues to strengthen diagnostic capacities by supporting trained staff, new laboratory equipment and procedures. There is also a strong focus on raising public awareness of TB and HIV.

It is important to note that although external funding for the TB programme in Oryol oblast ceased in April 2003, the programme continues to support TB patients in the region. RRC has successfully transferred responsibility of TB treatment control to Russian Federation State organisations, as was originally intended, and the three remaining visiting nurses concentrate on tracing DOTS defaulters and distributing social support to TB patients meeting the beneficiary criteria. RRC hope to reflect this result in all regions where

the TB programme is operating and eventually allow RRC visiting nurses to concentrate solely on social support, providing care at home to traditional patients and disseminating information on healthy lifestyles.

### *Achievements and difficulties*

During the reporting period all regional Red Cross branches continued the realisation of programme activities to meet programme objectives. In all regions the RRC efforts in TB control are highly appreciated by local authorities and TB services.

Target group: Adult TB patients of 1, 2, 3 categories (WHO classification) who have completed the in-hospital phase of DOTS treatment, have had smear conversion (became smear-negative) and continue their treatment as ambulatory patients. These patients are considered to be socially vulnerable if they correspond to one or several criteria of social vulnerability: average income per capita in the family less than living minimum in the region; handicapped of 1 and 2 group (not working); lonely pensioners; ex-prisoners; migrants; members of multi-child families; homeless.

### **Objective 1. To raise public awareness about TB and HIV/AIDS through providing the general public, TB patients and risk groups with public health information on TB prevention and treatment, HIV/AIDS prevention and promotion of healthy life style.**

During the reporting period the RRC branches continued education activities among the following target groups: TB patients and members of their families, students and teachers of educational institutions. The Red Cross personnel conducted lectures at industrial enterprises' staff as well.

Methodologies of pre- and post-lecture testing are used to measure the level of auditorium's awareness and effectiveness of Red Cross educational activities. Information materials printed centrally and locally are distributed to the population and beneficiaries.

#### *Buryatia*

The result of the educational and informational activities is raised awareness of the population on TB prevention and healthy life styles, especially among youth. During the summer Red Cross staff conducted lectures, various events and games about the Red Cross Movement for children and students in a summer sanatorium. These Red Cross activities were greatly appreciated by both summer camp staff and children. The chief doctor of the sanatorium was quoted saying: "I have never seen such an interest and joy in the eyes of my children."

During the reporting period the following new information materials were developed and printed locally:

- 60 posters about TB - winner of the children drawing contest;
- "TB patient's memo" (500 copies) distributed to prisoners with TB two months before release;
- Leaflet "AIDS- Through the eyes of a child" (100 copies) with verses and texts;
- Booklets "Rights and responsibilities of TB patients" (200 copies), "Psychological support of TB patients" (200 copies), "For the patient and his relatives" (100 copies) have been reprinted;

#### *Tomsk*

During the reporting period 10,000 of the following information brochures and leaflets were distributed: «For parents about early TB detection», «All about TB», «What you have to know about TB», «Attention, TB» and «Early TB detection». Distribution of these information materials took place at public events, at seminars and lectures. One TV and 5 radio spots about local Red Cross activities within the programme were locally broadcast. Five newspaper articles have been published in local newspapers. The Red Cross developed and printed 12,000 copies of postcards, bookmarks and 640,000 labels for match boxes on HIV/AIDS prevention.

**Table 8 Information activities in Tomsk, Buryatia and Kemerovo during the reporting period**

Region	Lecture topics	Audience characteristics	Number of lectures	Lecturers
Tomsk	TB and AIDS prevention	Schoolchildren of 10-14 years, parents (210 people)	3 lectures	Information Officer
	TB patient in a family	TB patients (30 people)	3 lectures	Medical coordinator
	TB prevention	TB patients, members of their families (361 people), students (210 people)	3 lectures 361 talks	Visiting nurses
Buryatia	TB is an infectious disease	Students, teachers (138 people)	8 lectures	Visiting nurses, programme managers
	TB prevention	Schoolchildren, veterinarian station's staff (53 people), TB patients	2 lectures 150 talks	Programme managers
	About the RRC TB control programme	Students and teachers (98 people)	4 lectures	Medical and social managers
	History of Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement	Students and teachers (120 people)	8 talks	Red Cross volunteers
Kemerovo	TB prevention	Schoolchildren, TB patients and others (4,000 people)	22 lectures 1,484 talks	Visiting nurses, programme managers
<b>Total</b>		5,220 people	49 lectures 1,995 talks	

**Objective 2. To improve treatment adherence among socially vulnerable TB patients through providing Directly Observed Treatment (DOT) and care at home during the ambulatory stage of treatment by the RRC Visiting nurses, combined with health education, legal and psychological counselling, nutritional and social support as incentives for patients and their families during the entire treatment period.**

The total number of TB patients covered by the RRC programme during the reporting was 1,083. The number of TB patients included into the project in July - September was 425, and 658 TB patients were transferred from the previous stages.

**Table 9. TB patient data recorded during the reporting period**

Regions		Buryatia		Tomsk		Kemerovo		<i>Total</i>	
Total number of patients	transferred from the previous stage	329	183	286	185	468	290	1083	658
	Included during the reporting period		146		101		178		425
Number of patients who received DOT and RRC social support	DOT under VNS observation	329	130	286	114	468	468	1083	712
	DOT carried out by of TB service and Feldsher points staff		199		172		0		371

Number of visiting nurses participating in the programme	covered by the programme	10	8	14	11*	17	6	41	25
	covered from other sources		2		3		11		16
Number of patients excluded from RRC social support in the reporting period	completed treatment	139	102	103	86		**	**	**
	interrupted treatment (defaulters) withdrawn from the programme		0		0		**	**	**
	died		0		1		**		**
	transferred to TB Dispensary		37		16		**		**
Number of TB patients visited in-home by RRC visiting nurses/ general number of home visits	Number of patients having problems with health / number of home visits	131/ 486	127/ 469	117/ 237	4/93	? 739	**	**	**
	Number of patients with problems of disciplinary character/ number of home visits		5/17		12/43		**		**
Number of traditional patients, visited by RRC visiting nurses		11		9		59		79	

\*five visiting nurses of 11 involved in programme receive additional payment from other sources.

\*\* RRC Kemerovo branch has experienced reporting problems. Please refer to the conclusion for further details.

Social support of TB patients remains the primary and most effective tool for improving treatment compliance of programme beneficiaries. Assistance was provided in the form of hot meals in canteens and protein kits as well as food parcels and hygienic kits. During the reporting period the following distribution points were functioning in three Siberian territories: 7 canteens for hot meals distribution (Buryatia – 2, Kemerovo - 5) and 26 points of protein kits distribution (Buryatia – 9, Tomsk -10, Kemerovo – 7).

**Table 10. Social support in Buryatia, Tomsk and Kemerovo**

Region		Buryatia		Tomsk		Kemerovo	
Number of patients receiving social support		329		286		468	
Number of patients receiving:	Hot meals	116		-		?	
	Protein kits	153		241		?	
	Food parcels	60		45		66	
	Hygienic kits	0		0		102	
	Payment of transport charges for patients / visiting nurses	26	4	-	9	?	
Number of distributed protein kits		2,970		10,560		8,059	
Number of distributed food parcels		240		120		237	
Number of the distributed hygienic kits		0		0		114	

The total number of social support beneficiaries in three regions was 1,083. The average cost of a hot meal was 29.31 rubles (under USD \$1) per day in Kemerovo and 27 rubles (under USD \$0.9) per day in Buryatia. Average cost of a protein kit was 27.59 rubles (under USD \$0.9) in Kemerovo, 27 rubles (under USD \$0.9) in Tomsk, 54 rubles (over USD \$1.5) in Buryatia. The protein kits contained products rich in protein: cheese,

yogurt, butter, cottage cheese, milk, canned fish and beef, noodles, etc. Content of kits were regularly changed.

*Hot meals:*

Kemerovo– daily (except for Saturdays and Sundays)

Buryatia – daily (except for Saturdays and Sundays)

*Protein kits*

Kemerovo– daily (except for Saturdays and Sundays)

Buryatia – once in two days

Tomsk– daily (except for Saturdays and Sundays), in one district (Kolpashevsky) – weekly.

*Hygienic kits*

Tender for procurement of hygienic kits took place in September in all the regions.

*Food parcels*

In total there were 578 parcels purchased for the programme territories.

Kemerovo– twice in a month

Buryatia – twice in a month;

Tomsk– monthly.

All distribution points are furnished and equipped. All points have a daily menu and a list of products included in protein kits. There are various informational and educational materials (posters, leaflets, booklets) on TB/HIV/AIDS and healthy life styles in the distribution points, as well as information about the programme and donors providing financial support.

D. Legal and psychological counselling

**Table 11. Legal and psychological support in Buryatia and Kemerovo**

Region	Received support	Total number of patients	Total number of TB patients receiving support		Number of non -TB patients
			Number of patients (civil society)	Number of patients (penitentiary system)	
Buryatia	Legal support	34	10	17	7
	Psychological support	68	52	0	16
Tomsk	Legal support	35	12	0	23
	Psychological support	-	-	-	-

The Red Cross specialists in all target regions continued to provide psychological and legal support to all needy people within the programme, in the form of individual and group consultations. For the most part, legal issues concern housing problems, residence registration, rights and duties of TB patients, pension legislation and allowance receipt, inheritance, extra payments to handicapped, labor legislation etc.

The main problems psychologist worked with were the following: depression as a result of disease, family problems, stress. In addition, the RRC psychologists conducted regular training sessions for visiting nurses in order to prevent the syndrome of “professional burn-out”.

Although legal and psychological counselling did take place in Kemerovo during the reporting period, the RRC branch has experienced some problems in collecting relevant data. The RRC headquarters is investigating the matter and hopes to provide updated information in the next quarterly report.

**Objective 3. To strengthen institutionally the Russian Red Cross as part of civil society and its Visiting Nurses service as community-based, multifunctional primary health care service.**

41 visiting nurses are actively involved in the programme, 25 of whom receive full salary from the programme budget. The salaries of the remaining 16 are covered from locally raised funds.

During the reporting period 79 traditional Red Cross beneficiaries were receiving care at home rendered by visiting nurses. The majority of these people are lonely elderly or severe patients requiring obligatory extraneous care. Visiting nurses provided sanitary and hygienic care, supervised fulfillment of all medical prescriptions, insured bandaging and feeding of the patients. In some cases, they carried out functions of social workers (buying food, cooking, cleaning an apartment, etc.).

The Red Cross visiting nurses provided services in medical-social rooms (MSR), where they conducted reception not only of TB patients and members of their families, but of other beneficiaries requiring assistance as well.

Local Red Cross representatives participate in regular regional coordination sessions on TB problems. Medical coordinators closely collaborate with corresponding partners in State TB services verifying programme results and TB patients' data on weekly basis.

### ***Conclusions and recommendations***

During the reporting period local Red Cross branches continued TB programme activities, strengthening cooperation with TB services and increasing number of target group beneficiaries through more effective utilization of programme funds and local fundraising efforts. A September monitoring trip to Kemerovo and Tomsk showed that the cooperation between the RRC headquarters and local branches has to be improved, in particular regarding fulfilment of reporting requirements in Kemerovo. Activities carried out in the field need regular supervision and better coordination from the RRC administrative centre. Although new reporting standards are followed by all the programme territories, not all branches provide data in time which influences deadlines of the reporting to the donor and implies certain difficulties in overall programme coordination.

### ***Outside the appeal:***

The American Red Cross secured funding for a 3-year care and support programme for 11,500 persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in Irkutsk oblast. The programme was launched in January 2003 by the local RRC branch with management and technical support from American Red Cross delegation staff in Moscow and Irkutsk. The objectives are as follows:

- improved community support to children affected by HIV/AIDS
- improved access by HIV + mothers to interventions to reduce mother to child transmission
- improved sustainability of community based care for PLWHA
- increased access of PLWHA to appropriate care and support

During the reporting period, RRC in Irkutsk have continued to run the following activities:

- Support telephone hotline for HIV+ people, operated by RRC specialists
- Prevention of HIV mother to child transmission, including educating HIV+ mothers and provision of food kits, vitamins and milk formulas to children of HIV+ mothers.
- Peer support groups
- Information dissemination (brochures, leaflets, posters etc.)
- Visiting nurses home visits to families with HIV+ members
- Psychological and legal counselling provided by RRC specialists at the counselling centre
- Vitamins provided to HIV+ pregnant women

### ***Outside the Appeal:***

USAID granted the Federation three- year funding to support the Federation and RRC activities in the Russian Federation. The grant supports a programme that aims to develop an effective, comprehensive, sustainable and replicable model of TB control in three regions (Pskov, Khakasia and Belgorod) in partnership with the regional authorities.

The project has five objectives:

- a) Assisting regional authorities to develop an effective TB control system;

- b) Assuring access to care and follow -up for the most vulnerable TB patients, using social/nutritional support as incentives to increase adherence to treatment;
- c) Facilitating improved links between prison and civilian TB services;
- d) Increasing preventive awareness among the general population of TB, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections and promotion of healthy lifestyles;
- e) Strengthening the institutional capacity of Russian Red Cross (RRC) and its Visiting Nurses Service.

The programme complements the Appeal objective, working in cooperation with regional TB services to provide TB programming support to the most vulnerable people in the region.

**Table 12. TB activities in Khakasia, Pskov and Belgorod**

Regions		Khakasia		Pskov		Belgorod		Total	
Total number of patients	Transferred from the previous stage	156	43	163	76	68	21	387	140
	Included in the reporting period		113		87		47		247
Number of patients, receiving DOT and RRC social support	DOT provided by VNS	153*	81*	163	55	68	21	384	157
	DOT provided by TB dispensary staff and Feltcher points (FAPS) staff		72		108		47		227
Number of VNSs under the programme	Paid from the Programme funds	20	10	13	11	8	8	41	29
	Paid from other sources		10		2		0		12
Number of patients, who have been excluded from RRC social support during the reporting period	Completed treatment	39	39	71	61	11	8	121	
	Defaulters (finally withdrawn from the program)		0		9		0		
	Died		0		1		1		
Number of TB patients visited in-home by RRC visiting nurses/ general number of home visits	Transferred to TB Dispensary	37/163	0	18/590	0	30/237	2	85/990	
	Number of patients with health problems / number of home visits		21/92		8/515		19/222		48/829
Number of traditional patients, visited by RRC visiting nurses	Number of patients with disciplinary problems / number of home visits	66	16/71	26	10/75	48	11/15	140	37/161

During the reporting period the following activities took place:

- Workshops for managers and heads of the TB programme from 10 Russian Federation regions took place in Pskov in June. Regions' representatives had an opportunity for experience exchange, mistakes analysis, to discuss difficulties and drawbacks in programme implementation and to define jointly possible solutions.
- At the Pskov workshop, all participants were introduced to a new format of quarterly report and current documentation under the programme improved by the staff of IFRC (application, individual TB patient's card, agreement with a TB patient, patient's social card). A unified approach to social support model was developed, which will be disseminated among the regions after being revised by RRC Board members and IFRC staff members.
- In total, 109 lectures and 2514 talks on various subjects related to TB prevention and control and the history of the Red Cross Red Crescent movement were held during the reporting period.

- A three day workshop was conducted for visiting nurses in Pskov, to allow information and experience exchange.
- Further workshops for visiting nurses and RRC regional branch chairmen were held during the reporting period- 5 in Belgorod, and 2 in Khakasia Republic.
- International Federation staff was invited to accompany WHO and USAID on a monitoring trip to visit TB programmes in the field. This field trip provided the opportunity to discuss sustainability of TB programmes in the Russian Federation and identify potential funding sources. Who and USAID representatives are expected to accompany RRC and International Federation staff on a monitoring trip to regions of programme implementation in the near future. This
- International Federation representatives participated in a TB symposium held in Moscow by the Ministry of Health with WHO support on 3-5 June, and gave a speech on RRC activities in the Russian Federation.
- International Federation attended meetings with TACIS

*For further information on information activities, legal, psychological and social support and logistical operations, including distribution of social support in the form of food parcels and protein kits, and tender for laboratories equipment, please contact the Moscow delegation at [Moscow@ifrc.org](mailto:Moscow@ifrc.org).*

## **Organizational Development •**

**Programme objective: To assist the Russian Red Cross in developing its organizational capacity through joint planning, consultation, and coordination in the areas of strategic, legal-normative, financial management, fundraising development, and strengthening of its existing legal network.**

Projects designed to meet the objective are: RRC Strategic Development; Legal-Normative documents; Financial Management Improvement; Financial Resource Mobilisation; Strengthening of the RRC Legal Network.

In September, representatives of the Federation delegation and RRC Irkutsk branch facilitated a Project Planning Process training workshop in the Russian language for RRC headquarters and branch staff members, with the aim of improving performance quality throughout the cycle of RRC programmes.

Discussions were held with RRC leadership and relevant departments on the Federation delegation 2+2 planning document, which reflects the priorities outlined in the RRC Strategic Development Plan 2010. As a result of this process, bi-annual activities have been identified and proposals submitted through the Federation's Annual Appeal. For further details, please refer to the Annual Appeal 2004 for Russia on the International Federation website: <http://www.ifrc.org>

The recruitment process for the positions of organisational development and health officers is ongoing. Recruitment committees, consisting of representatives of RRC and the Federation delegation, have been formed. Both vacancies are expected to be filled during the next reporting period. Following the resignation of the Russian-Nordic coordinator, RRC and Federation Delegation has also initiated a joint recruitment process for the position.

To assess sustainability of RRC programmes, RRC and Federation Delegation initiated a fundraising review. The review addressed best practises, and assessed organisational development measures as essential preconditions for resource mobilisation activities and methods practiced by other NGOs.

Funding has been sought to initiate a pilot financial management development project in selected RRC branches. The project scope shall include production of a finance management manual, training in financial management and improvement of accounting systems and skills at branch level. The project proposal is currently under discussion and activities are due to commence in the near future.

Further funding is sought to support other aspects of organisational development, however, due to limited resources and time constraints, priorities shall remain RRC strategic development and improvement of the financial management system.

## **Coordination and Management •**

**Programme objective: Support is provided to the Russian Red Cross in its development, particularly with respect to coordinating interaction with partner national societies, other donors and agencies and to providing support to the Russian Red Cross in realization of its objectives in the core areas of the Federation's strategy 2010.**

On 17-25 August, Danish Red Cross carried out an assessment to determine the relevance and possibility of implementing a programme of psychological-education aimed at children and parents in the Chechen internally displaced persons (IDP) community in Ingushetia. The overall objective was to identify the need for psychosocial support to IDP children, youth and parents, to identify the existence of similar services and assess the possibility of linking a new psycho-social project to these existing structures. Possible institutional arrangements and organizational set-ups and relevance of proposed methods of assistance were also examined. *For further details, please contact the Geneva Secretariat at the contact address provided below.*

Following the findings of the Partnership Meeting held in April, Danish Red Cross initiated a Youth Assessment, covering Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova and North-West area of Russia. The assessment aimed to review the possibilities for starting a 3-year regional youth programme addressing some of the crucial challenges of the region, which will contribute to capacity building of the National Societies with special emphasis on maintaining and increasing an active and dynamic volunteer base. *For further details, please contact the Geneva Secretariat at the contact address provided below.*

Results of the Netherlands Red Cross evaluation of International Federation support to the Chernobyl Humanitarian Assistance and Rehabilitation Programme (CHARP) were presented at the regional cooperation meeting in Brest. This meeting focused on practicalities for commencement of the new 3-year programme cycle and resulted in signing of the programme agreement.

British Red Cross conducted a review of activities implemented by Russian Red Cross in West Siberia. The assessment mission also coincided with a Project Steering Committee meeting, involving chairpeople of six Russian Red Cross branches. *For further details, please contact the Geneva Secretariat at the contact address provided below.*

The Moscow delegation reporting officer participated in a meeting in Ankara with reporting officers from the region, to discuss the Annual appeal process and other reporting issues. As a result of this meeting, the regional reporting network has been strengthened and lines of communication between the regions and Geneva clearly defined. Furthermore, methods and approaches to future annual appeal processes were discussed and forwarded to the delegations and Geneva. Following on from this meeting, the head of regional reporting unit accompanied the Moscow delegation reporting officer on a trip to delegations in Minsk and Kiev. The aim of this field mission was to strengthen relations between the regional reporting unit and the region, and for the reporting officer to establish a concrete mechanism of providing support to these understaffed delegation offices.

The annual meeting of the Nordic-Russian Working Group took place in September, combined with the meeting of the Nordic Management Directors meeting. It addressed the implementation of the General Agreement 2001-2003, as well as a review of the co-operation mechanism and the documents for Nordic-Russian Co-operation from 2004 and beyond (General Agreement and Plan of Actions). Outcomes of the discussion have been presented to the Nordic Management Directors group. *For further details, please contact the Moscow delegation at the contact address provided below.*

## **International Representation/Advocacy/Public Information •**

The Federation Delegation continued to raise the profile of the RRC through joint involvement in inter-agency cooperation. During the reporting period, meetings were held with the following agencies: World Bank (presentation of the World Bank annual appeal document), UNAIDS, TACIS (coordination of TB-related interventions) and WHO. Regular cooperation meetings with ICRC continue to take place. Further joint involvement in international and public events is foreseen to advocate for emerging needs of the country's population and promote the role of the National Society with regard to the government, non-governmental national and international organisations.

***Outside the Appeal:***

American Red Cross continues to run four of six childrens' projects within the framework of the programme "Support to vulnerable Russian Children" initiated in February 2003 in 6 regions of central Russia. These projects are as follows:

1. **Summer Camp Red Cross Rescue Force (Zhukovsky).** This project was completed in August 2003. The aim of the project was to develop a positive role model and improve coping mechanisms of at-risk and socially vulnerable children via involvement in RRC activities and comprehensive life rescue training. The main focus was a summer camp held for 76 children aged 10-14, during which participants were trained in various outdoor activities, including Red Cross training, hiking, survival skills, camping and orientation, water rescue etc. Pre- and post-camp health assessments indicated the success of the camp with regards to improving the health status of children. Beneficiaries were identified by RRC and were mostly from single parent, low income or foster families.
2. **ABC of Tolerance (Oryol).** This project was completed during the reporting period. The goal was to increase the level of tolerance in the local community towards IDPs (Internally Displaced Persons) and migrant families. Furthermore, the project aimed to improve social adaptation of migrant children and ensure personal growth of the target group through complex pedagogical and social interventions. During project implementation, 5,500 children participated in two-hour sessions on tolerant behaviour, and over 200 pedagogical staff and high school teachers and principals were trained in how to address issues of tolerance in educational establishments. All sessions were conducted by volunteers (pedagogical students) and RRC specialist staff. Contests related to the subject of tolerance were held among the children to reinforce knowledge acquired during the training sessions. In addition, a RRC Oryol held a summer camp for 100 socially vulnerable children, mainly from IDP and migrant families, with the aim towards improving social adaptation.
3. **World of Communication (Pskov).** This project aims to improve communication of disabled children (mostly wheelchair bound) via a multi-faceted approach. Beneficiaries are trained in computer technology.
4. **Open opportunity (Irkutsk).** Within this project RRC offers basic computer training to disabled children to increase their capacity and increase their accessibility to college/ university/ the job market.
5. **Early Intervention (Novgorod).** This project aims to prevent abandonment of severely disabled children aged 0-8 years, and to assist children to reach their full potential in all spheres of life. RRC staff also assists parents and families (often single parent, low income) of disabled children within the sphere of this project.
6. **Sweet Home (Krasnodar).** Within this project RRC supports foster families in order to improve family life and prevent re-abandonment of children to State institutions.

*For further details please contact:*

- *Russian Red Cross: Phone 7 095 126 5731; Fax 7 095 230 2868; email [mail@redcross.ru](mailto:mail@redcross.ru)*
- *Russia Delegation: Phone 7 095 937 5267; Fax 7 095 937 5263; email [Moscow@ifrc.org](mailto:Moscow@ifrc.org)*
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