

# 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

## MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

6 July 2006

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### In Brief

**Appeal No. MAA81001**

**Programme Update no. 1**

**Period covered: January to May 2006**

**Appeal target 2006/2007: CHF 5,499,033 (USD 4,539,778 or EUR 3,527,282)**

**Appeal coverage 2006/2007: 27% [Click here for the interim financial report to date](#)**

**Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:**

**Middle East Regional Programmes Annual Appeal 2006/2007. For details, please go to the website at [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?annual06/MAA81001.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual06/MAA81001.pdf)**

**Annual Appeals 2006/2007 for Middle East and North Africa region. For details please see the website at <http://www.ifrc.org/where/mena.asp>**

**Programme Summary:**

In the Health programme, thirteen National Societies (NSs) have completed mapping the health services to identify the availability of key health programmes and resources. The findings are expected to reveal opportunities for scaling up community based health programmes related to HIV/AIDS and psychological support.

To enhance quality and accountability in disaster management, a preliminary plan of action was prepared with the Organization of Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Secretariat to train trainers on SPHERE standards. Federation facilitated three SPHERE training sessions organized by Yemen RC for male and female volunteers/staff.

Federation support to strengthen NS information capacity is yielding results. The recent pioneering initiative by Egyptian RC to hire information officers in nearly all its branches has led to an active information/communication network which will play a pivotal role in enhancing the image of NS within and outside the country.

Twelve NSs had youth/volunteers in their delegations at the 5<sup>th</sup> MENA conference (Marrakesh, 15-18 May 2006). The need to include youth/volunteers in NS governance and management at all levels was highlighted in the final recommendations by the conference.

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Support from the Federation for greater coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships between NSs is steadily contributing to improved NS performance and profile- extremely significant in view of the persistent humanitarian challenges in the region and the need to scale up NS response capacity.

The appeal coverage to the end of this reporting period, for the whole 2006/2007 Appeal, stands at 27 per cent. There was a considerable opening balance at the beginning of the year and this was added to by contributions from DFID, British Red Cross and Danish Red Cross. In addition to the contributions listed in the interim financial report, a substantial contribution of CHF 367,156 was announced by the Swedish Red Cross. Part of the DFID contribution is earmarked to facilitate implementation of Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) activities in organizational development (OD), disaster management (DM) and dissemination of humanitarian values. The support is channeled through the Regional Office, as the 2006/2007 appeal launched for PRCS is for Federation representation only and not including the PRCS programmes. However, following the deteriorating security situation, the PRCS could not implement the activities within the January-May time frame in which DFID contributions are expected to be used.

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*This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning. 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>*

## Health and Care

**Overall goal:** Contribute to improved general health and well being status of the public at large in the MENA region.

**Programme objective:** Strengthened capacities for National Societies in MENA region to address health promotion, disease prevention, psychosocial support, public health priorities, and first aid in the community.

**Expected result 1:** MENA National Societies were enabled to build capacity and sustain programme development and implementation through networks, shared information, skills and best practices.

To monitor and follow-up the direction NS health activities are going in, quarterly reporting formats were developed and used in covering Psychological Support Programme (PSP), community-based first aid (CBFA) and HIV/AIDS. Six NSs used one or more of the formats, while others used other formats for their reporting. The information gathered was used to produce the Health@MENA bulletin, an electronic bulletin published in English and Arabic circulated to MENA NSs and participating National Societies (PNSs), ICRC, WHO and UNICEF. This monitoring process will continue and the NSs will be increasingly encouraged to share their experiences with their partners.

Printed material and CDs related to HIV/AIDS, CBFA and Avian Influenza were mailed to all the 17 MENA NSs as part of the process of sharing new information, tools and updates.

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The three NSs who had been sponsored to participate at the Global Health Forum contributed positively through poster presentations- HIV/AIDS (Jordan RC), CBFA (Emirates RC) and Avian Influenza (Egyptian RC).

A quantitative mapping of health services and activities of MENA NSs was launched in February to determine the availability of key health programmes and resources within the NSs. Thirteen NSs completed the mapping, while the remaining four are in the process of data collection. A special report will be presented as soon as data collection is completed. The findings of the mapping are expected to reveal opportunities for scaling up community based health programmes, related to HIV/AIDS and psychological support. The findings will be shared with NSs to facilitate sharing of experiences and resources as needed.

Field visits and support to regional health activities:

- The Regional Health Delegate and the Health and Planning staff on loan carried out a field visit to the Lebanese RC to follow-up on the implementation and recommendations of the health assessment made in September 2004.
- The Health Delegate participated in the North Africa Middle Managers Planning meeting in Tunis, together with Algeria RC, Morocco RC and Tunisian RC. The Health Delegate supported the Health focal points in the preparation of the country Plans of Action and the sub-regional plan. He also presented the activities of Iraqi RC regarding the Avian Influenza.
- The Health Delegate participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> MENA Conference, formulating recommendations from the working groups in line with Federation's Strategy 2010 and Global Agenda. The related documents including case studies on CBFA and Avian Influenza and a concept paper for HIV working group were prepared, translated and sent in advance to the steering committee and the conference coordinator.
- The Health and Planning staff on loan supported the implementation of the CBFA training of trainers' workshop in the Palestinian Occupied Territories.

There was continuous use of the Staff on Loan model as a tool for sharing knowledge and experience and to promote networking. Four Staff on Loan were recruited in the fields of health and planning, HIV/AIDS, psychological support and CBFA. In order to maximize networking and sharing knowledge and experiences, the health and care department assigned facilitators from several NSs for CBFA trainings implemented at country level.

The Health Delegate held meetings to discuss the Federation's health programme in MENA, NS needs and priorities and effective methods of cooperation with representatives from Norwegian RC, British RC, Swedish RC, Danish RC and French RC, together with other officials from the PSP Resource Centre, Secretariat/Geneva and UNICEF.

**Expected result 2:** MENA NSs are capable to monitor and manage awareness and stigma related to HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases in accordance with country priorities and defined mandates.

The HIV/AIDS Network with 12 NSs and participants from the Jordanian Ministry of Health and UNICEF discussed partnerships, NS experiences related to HIV/AIDS, Avian Influenza and other infectious diseases, peer education and planning and developed a set of recommendations to guide work in the field of HIV/AIDS in 2006 and beyond. The HIV/AIDS coordinator monitors the implementation of the recommendations with NS focal points. Efforts are being made to strengthen NS focus on HIV/AIDS in cooperation with the UNICEF.

The HIV/AIDS coordinator visited the Syrian Arab RC and met with the HIV/AIDS focal point in order to support the development of their plan of action and to prepare for the training of trainers on HIV-AIDS peer education. The coordinator also updated the Palestine RC – Lebanon branch on the outcomes of the Regional Network meeting and to follow-up on the branch's plan of action for 2006. The 'Come Closer' campaign was translated into Arabic with some cultural modifications and is being prepared for printing.

The Health and Care department shared with all MENA NSs and country delegations the Federation's documents on Avian Influenza as well as those of WHO. Furthermore, during the CBFA and HIV/AIDS Regional Network

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meetings, the health delegate encouraged NSs to coordinate with their Ministries of Health. The NSs of Iraq, Syria, Egypt and Emirates published brochures on Avian Influenza and launched public health awareness campaigns.

The Secretariat mapping questionnaire to identify NS activities in Avian Influenza preparedness and response was translated into Arabic and sent to all the MENA NSs, with twelve NSs responding. The health delegate followed up on the Iraqi RC activities regarding the registered fatal cases of Avian Influenza. Similar coordination took place with the North Africa Office of the Federation regarding Avian Influenza preparedness and response in Egypt.

**Expected result 3:** Strengthened capacities of MENA NSs to meet community health needs guided by the harmonized CBFA manual, certificates, kits and training material.



Field training on CBFA – Tunisia RC

Eight CBFA ToT workshops were organized by several NSs-Yemen (3), Syria (2), Tunisia, Palestine and Lebanon. The Federation sponsored five workshops and supported the remaining three by providing training material. All workshops included sessions on disaster management, public health in emergencies and psychological support.

Five additional optional CBFA modules in water safety, war/mine injuries, mother and child health, HIV/AIDS and health in emergencies were assigned to NS working groups and should be ready by September. Publishing will depend on whether funding is available.

The CBFA framework was translated into Arabic and disseminated to all MENA NSs (forty copies for each NS). Iran RC received English copies and NSs of Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia received 25 copies in French. Palestine RC also received 20 copies for each of its branches in Lebanon and Syria.

**Expected result 4:** MENA NSs have integrated and formalized psychosocial support services with relevant programmes and structures

The Health and Care department, together with the Jordan RC, held a PSP training course for Jordan RC volunteers and staff to increase disaster preparedness.

Work is continuing on the Arabic PSP Training of Trainers' manual and on mainstreaming psychological support into the core programmes of the NSs. This process has been welcomed, as there is a general need for coordination and integration of the different programmes and activities.

### Impact

Integrating CBFA, PSP, and HIV/AIDS into other NS programmes provides the basis for longer-term sustainability and impact.

### Constraints

Some NSs were late in replying to the questionnaires mapping health activities and services, causing additional costs and wasted time. It showed that some NS focal points do not have adequate authority to plan and implement activities. Better coordination with NS leadership is therefore needed, but again this is problematic as availability/access often poses a challenge. Additionally, there was a lack of funding for some activities, including PSP and CBFA.

## **Disaster Management**

**Overall goal:** MENA NSs are effectively supporting increased resilience and reduced vulnerability of populations exposed to natural and man-made hazards.

**Programme objective:** MENA NSs have well functioning DM capacities based on optimal use of human and technical resources to implement integrated programmes.

In the first half of 2006, work focussed on meeting expected results three and four.

**Expected result 3:** Strengthened capacities of NSs in MENA in relation to human resource development and utilization of DM tools.

A regional working group representing eight NSs held a meeting to develop a practical guide for establishing and managing national intervention teams (NIT) that are able to perform during disaster response and intervention. A staff member on loan from the Syrian Arab RC is working with the Federation to finalize the guide.

A workshop on disaster preparedness was held for twenty five volunteers from the southern and northern regions of Jordan, in line with the strategic plan of the NS to form a NIT. Similarly a NIT training camp was organized for more than 190 staff and volunteers participated from the Qatar RC. The camp was facilitated by the Federation and also welcomed six participants from the NSs of Syria and Yemen. NIT uniforms are being designed and produced for Qatar RC in Syria under the supervision of the logistics unit of the Syrian Arab RC.

In a forum organized in May in cooperation with the Syrian Arab RC, the Federation facilitated a workshop for NIT and RDRT (regional disaster response teams) on developing team leadership skills, drawing largely on the experiences of the 80 participants from the NSs of Syria, Jordan, Yemen, Palestine, Libya Lebanon, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Algeria, Bahrain and Iraq. ICRC facilitated a discussion on safer access, water/sanitation and mine action programmes and there was a review of the Federation's DM policies and procedures and their implementation within the MENA context.

Twelve staff /volunteers from the NSs of Syria, Jordan, Palestine, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, Lebanon, Yemen and Iraq participated in a follow up meeting of the Regional Working Group on Assessment to unify the assessment tools in the region and provide guidance and training on assessment for the emergency guidelines. The second edition of the assessment booklet was printed and 450 copies were distributed to the NSs of Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Yemen. A further 1000 copies of the Assessment booklet have been produced.

To enhance quality and accountability in disaster management, a preliminary plan of action has been prepared to train trainers on SPHERE standards in cooperation with the Arab Secretariat. To this end, three SPHERE training sessions were organized by the Yemen RC for male and female volunteers/staff from HQ and branches; a two-day introductory training was given to Yemen RC leadership; and twenty eight volunteers/staff from the Syrian Arab RC attended training on SPHERE standards.

**Expected result 4:** DM planning and implementation of projects by MENA NSs has become more responsive to vulnerabilities and capacities of their respective communities.

Heavy rainfall in February resulted in floods causing extensive damage in terms of human life and loss of material in Jordan especially in the governorate of Aqaba. The Jordan RC, in cooperation with the Federation, mobilized immediate assistance including 13 water tanks. Volunteers/staff worked around the clock for two days and provided up to 3,500 cubic meters of water which was distributed according to SPHERE standards. Also in February, the

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Yemen RC, supported by the Federation through DREF funding (Disaster Relief Emergency Fund), effectively responded to the victims of a major flash flood in Mabbar –Dhammar governorate 100 Km South Sana'a in Yemen.

Future plans of action for the DM programmes in Syria and Jordan have been developed, based on the lessons learnt and recommendations of the DM review which evaluated the relevance and effectiveness of the programmes. The future plans are expected to cover a period of about three or four years starting in 2006 and detailed budgets have been developed.

The Federation facilitated the analysis and synthesis of the final reports of Vulnerability Capacity Assessment (VCA) studies conducted in Syria and Jordan. Eighteen Syrian Arab RC volunteers who participated in the data collection (representing all the 14 branches) participated in the analysis. The final VCA document is expected to be ready shortly. The Jordan RC is also finalizing the VCA report highlighting the main findings which will be presented to the steering committee established by the NS. The Palestine RC finalized the second VCA study and the Federation is disseminating the results.

The DM coordinator from the Syrian Arab RC and the DM officer working with the Federation attended a workshop held in India on community based risk reduction. The lessons gained from this are expected to strengthen the efforts of the NSs in MENA in the development/ implementation of effective community-based risk reduction programmes in their respective communities.

The NSs are raising awareness on climate change and its adverse consequences. The Syrian Arab RC is developing a specific intervention in the form of a project which aims to reduce some of the adverse effects.

### **Impact**

NS responsiveness to disasters is improving in terms of both timeliness and quality of delivery. The experiences, related to NS responses to the flood disasters in Jordan and Yemen during the reporting period, indicate the direct link between the on going DM capacity building and the improving NS responsiveness to emergencies.

### **Constraints**

Although NS responsiveness to emergencies has considerably increased, the main challenge remains to ensure that the process is based on strong local level preparedness to enhance community resilience in a more dynamic approach addressing the nexus of prevention, preparedness, response and rehabilitation.

## **Humanitarian Values**

**Goal:** More effective implementation of NS mission, in terms of service delivery and advocacy, with increasing commitment and behavioral change.

**Objective:** Ensure that a solid, functional regional information network is up and running in MENA.

**Expected result 1:** National Societies interested in the promotion of humanitarian values are supported in terms of training and development of information/communication skills and capacities.

In cooperation with Egyptian RC, Federation organized the Third Annual Meeting of MENA Information Network with eighteen participants. Several issues were discussed including strengthening NS information/communication network, sub-regional coordination among the NSs in the three sub-regions (Gulf, Middle East and North Africa), future regional programming, the role of information officers within NSs and contributions by NS information

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officers to Al-Ittihad newsletter. A follow-up committee and an editorial board for Al-Ittihad were formed that will be meeting three times a year.

The information officers meeting was followed immediately by a training workshop for newly appointed information officers from Egyptian RC. Twenty branch officers and five staff members and volunteers from HQ participated. Guest lecturers and speakers from media and development organizations, including WHO, the editor of Egypt's SIX October Magazine and Egyptian Middle East News Agency, played an active role in the three day meeting. The recent pioneering initiative by the Egyptian RC to hire information officers in nearly all its branches has enabled it to create an active information/communication network which will play a pivotal role in enhancing the image of the NS within and outside the country.

The Federation facilitated the necessary media link to cover 34<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Arab Organization of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. Interviews were carried out with the Deputy Secretary General and other officials of the Federation who attended the meeting.

Extensive information/communication support was given during the DM training in Qatar. Participants were trained on how to deal with media during disasters, including writing press releases, stories and preparing for press conferences. A press release was sent to all Qatari media and interviews were conducted with several news agencies to explain the purpose of the training camp. One of the main features of the camp was the large participation of women – the first in the history of Qatar according to the head of the camp and many participants. The talks with Al-Jazeera's chief-editor will help strengthen future cooperation between the Federation and the News Channel.

Work on traffic safety TV spots continues with almost all scripts approved and some have already been shot and are being edited. The first rough cut will be shown internally for possible comments and changes.

**Expected result 2:** The regional information/communication network of National Societies consolidated with more effective interaction among volunteers and staff involved in information and communication.

A meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the Information Network in MENA was held after the 34<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Arab Organization of RCRC so information officers from Red Crescent of the UAE, the Lebanese Red Cross and the Federation could draft an agenda for the network's meeting. It was agreed to establish an editing board and annual plan for Al-Ittihad, publishing six issues annually and asking the NSs to contribute financially.

**Expected result 3:** The scope and distribution of Al-Ittihad has been expanded.

Issue 18 of Al-Ittihad newsletter was printed in March with more due to more contributions from NSs but also because of a delay in production meant there was more time.

All articles in the latest issue of the RCRC Magazine were translated into Arabic and sent for proof-reading to ICRC personnel in Cairo. Almost all the case studies presented at the 5<sup>th</sup> MENA Conference were translated into Arabic

**Expected result 5:** Production and distribution of information material and TV programmes has been increased

A thousand copies of the Communications Guide are being distributed to all NSs in MENA and promotional items such as diaries, wall-clocks, key-chains bearing the name and logo of the Federation have been produced and distributed both internally and externally.

### **Impact**

The NSs are showing increasing interest in the Fundamental Principles and Values of the Movement as well as in working together on key areas of common concern.

### **Constraints**

Although the NSs have started to contribute material (articles) to Al-Ittihad, there is a need to increase their contributions to enrich the content of the newsletter with a focus on NS activities and challenges.

## **Organizational Development**

**Overall goal:** The NSs in the region, supported by the Federation, have developed stronger and sustainable institutional capabilities to provide effective and relevant services in line with their humanitarian mandate.

**Programme objective:** To strengthen NS capacities with a focus on leadership development at all levels leading to development of capacities in planning, legal base reform, resource development /utilization, gender awareness/mainstreaming and youth development.

**Expected result 1:** Leadership/management development has led to greater NS performance (in terms of service delivery and advocacy) based on improved strategic plans (five NSs), statutes (four NSs) and resource development strategies (three NSs).

**Consolidating the focus on MENA leadership development programme (LDP),** the 3<sup>rd</sup> module of the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle was conducted in Beirut with participants from Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen.

The programme focused on management of resources and partnerships and there were several presentations and discussions: *'the Federation of the Future'* highlighted the dynamic linkage between NS vision/values and the impact they make in reducing vulnerabilities; *gender awareness/mainstreaming* (based on the Iranian RC experience) underscored the need to support the NSs in their effort to improve gender balance; *RC/RC youth/volunteers development and management* (based on the Lebanese RC experience) highlighted how youth/volunteers provide a variety of services through 30 youth centres; *human resource development* focused on the critical role leaders/managers play in this respect; *resource development* (based on the Qatar RC experience) on having a resource development strategy linked to the main NS goals/objectives and effective dissemination of NS goals/objectives; *financial management* covered accountability, consistency, custodianship, non-deficit financing, integrity, transparency and standardized documentation; *image building, communication and external relations* highlighted the importance of effective image building, communication and external relations based on advocacy and behavioural change.

**To enable the NSs to work with up to date statutes,** a basic concept paper has been developed by the Federation, establishing the rationale and methodology regarding NS legal base review in line with the commitments all the NSs made in the Strategy of the Movement to have their statutes revised, according to the guidelines, by 2010. The consultation forum is planned to be organized during 2006 and will focus on the application of the Federation's guidelines for statutes based on the experiences of some of the NSs in the region in terms of legal base review.

**In view of the high level of importance attached to NS strategic/operational plans,** the Federation supported the leadership of the Yemen RC (national board members and branch presidents) in their effort to review and approve the strategic plan of the Society to cover the period of operation between 2006-2010. The strategy provides a broad framework based on the Society's priorities and the Global Agenda/Strategy 2010 goals of the Federation. The discussion was conducted in Sana'a on 15 and 16 April 2006.

Working groups are developing specific plans and budgets for 2006-2008) based on the priorities identified in the strategic plan (disaster management, health, dissemination of the Fundamental Principles and Values and organizational development). The process is expected to be completed by end September. The Yemen RC is

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planning to host a partnership meeting some time during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2006 and the successful development of its strategy, together with the detailed plans and budgets, is expected to contribute to the achievement of this objective. The NS has also been selected as one of the ten pilot NSs to launch a process of Operational Alliance which assumes the existence of a sound strategic plan with well defined priorities and directions

**Expected result 2:** Stronger NS foundation to respond to community needs with increasing focus on branch development (skills including volunteering, project planning and management.)

**To bridge the critical skill gaps in project planning and management**, identified during the MENA OD review, Sixteen participants (with equal female-male ratio of participation) from the NSs of Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Yemen, were trained as trainers on the project planning process (PPP). The ToT on the PPP aimed at developing a cadre of well selected Arabic speaking volunteers/staff to form a regional resource pool of PPP practitioners to train NS staff/volunteers.

**To strengthen OD practitioners' skills**, the Youth/Volunteering Advisor for MENA and the OD focal point for Iraq participated in the global OD course on initiating change, integrity and governance/ management development jointly organized by the Norwegian and Swedish Red Cross.

**Expected result 3:** Gender awareness/mainstreaming via increased technical support.

The Arabic version of the gender manual printed in Amman has been distributed to all the NSs in the region. The availability of this tool will encourage more capacity building and progress in terms of gender awareness and mainstreaming.

The MENA Gender Review Report, analysing the evolution and functioning of the MENA Gender Network and summarising the experiences of the Iranian Red Crescent as a focal point NS in the implementation of gender (pilot) projects was distributed to all the NSs in the region. This case study was also presented at the MENA Gender Network. The discussion of the case study will stimulate further work on gender and development in a growing number of NSs in the region.

**Expected result 4:** Enhanced youth participation and contribution

The 3<sup>rd</sup> MENA youth coordinating committee (YCC) meeting reviewed the progress of the YCC work since the last meeting in Lebanon (September 2005). The committee positively evaluated the participation of the youth in the General Assembly of the Federation in which nine NSs had included youth participants in their delegations. The committee also reviewed the preparations to ensure effective youth participation in the 34<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Arab Organization of Red Crescent and Red Cross Societies. Twelve NSs had youth/volunteers included in their delegations that attended the 5<sup>th</sup> MENA conference, demonstrating the need to include youth/volunteers in NS governance and management at all levels.

The Federation provided technical support to the youth section of the Lebanese Red Cross to develop a project which effectively integrates Humanitarian Values and Fundamental Principles of the Movement in activities Society carried out by the youth at branch level. The Iraqi RC was also assisted in volunteer management and planning.

### **MENA OD process and impact review – summary of findings and recommendations**

Under the guidance of a steering committee from the NSs of Egypt, Jordan and Yemen, the process and impact of the Federations' OD support to the MENA NSs was reviewed by an external consultant. Main findings and recommendations/challenges are summarized as follows:

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- increased *NS leadership awareness/skills* related to visioning /strategic planning, amendment of statutes, improvement of internal structures including youth structures and programmes.
- recommended focus on mind-set change and enhanced understanding of RC/RC principles and values, sustained push for NS independence within their auxiliary role and guidance for NS efforts in their legal base review and amendment of statutes.
- efficient and effective *mid-level NS management development* including training NS staff/volunteers on project planning process and capacity building efforts integrated with disaster management and health have improved NS capacity to plan and effectively implement their services in line with Strategy 2010.
- recommendations were for a follow up system to monitor/mentor trained staff and volunteers, more focus on branch level training, resource mobilization (fundraising), and longer term approach to training.
- NSs can be considered leading organizations in *gender awareness/mainstreaming* within MENA, with NS focal points at country level complemented by a regional gender network which monitors progress in line with the recommendations of the 3<sup>rd</sup> MENA Conference. Female volunteers constitute up to 40-60 per cent of NS active volunteers and some NSs have a system of gender balancing where if the president is a man, the vice president will be a woman and the vice versa.
- support to strengthen gender awareness/mainstreaming, especially in the Gulf sub-region, seems to be lagging, and attention should be given to strengthening skills of NS gender focal points to create a multiplier effect by training staff and volunteers at national and local levels, and cross-pollination of good practices
- in some NSs, *youth* represent up to 90 percent of NS active *volunteers*, leading the work on HIV-AIDS, first aid and other important activities. Considerable progress has been made to improve representation, structures and programmes of RC/RC youth volunteers with a regional coordinating committee, consisting of representatives from six NSs, established to coordinate planning and implementing of youth activities under the core areas of strategy 2010. Nine NSs from the MENA region had youth representatives in their delegations at General Assembly and some NSs are taking positive steps to ensure youth participation in NS governance bodies at all levels.
- more support to develop regional and NS-specific solutions for youth/ volunteers recruitment, development and retention. A positive public image that can attract youth volunteers with innovative ideas to enable the NSs to work as more dynamic organizations maintaining a leading edge in the delivery of humanitarian and social services.

### Impact

The overall review conducted in 2005 and 2006, establishes a strong link between the Federation's OD support to the NSs in the region and their increasing performance including scaling up of their services with greater quality, outreach and impact.

### Constraints

The branch level governance development support, as a follow up to the leadership development programme, was planned to be implemented with the NSs of Jordan and Syria during the reporting period. However, the issue is still under discussion, reflecting the persistent reality with a recurrent gap between ambitions at the level of planning and actual progress at the level of implementation.

## Coordination, Cooperation and Strategic Partnerships

**Overall goal:** The National Societies of the region, through the Federation, support have developed effective and strategic partnerships, networking and alliances enabling them to deliver quality services and promote advocacy on behalf of the vulnerable people.

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**Objective:** The National Societies in the region, through well structured regional cooperation frameworks, have increased and diversified the number of partners who are aware of and sensitive to the RC/RC priorities that address the needs of the vulnerable people in a coordinated manner.

### **Partnership within and outside the movement**

The Middle East Regional Office initiated contacts with the Yemen Red Crescent to organize a partnership meeting to be hosted by Yemen Red Crescent during the fourth quarter of 2006. Initial invitations were sent to selected partners to book their calendar.

Regular contacts are maintained with the diplomatic community and UN agencies in Amman. During the reporting period, the HoRO briefed the Ambassador of The Islamic Republic of Iran to Jordan on the Federation's support to the Bam reconstruction and rehabilitation programme and general cooperation with the Iranian Red Crescent; and briefed the Ambassador of the Republic of Yemen on Federation support to the Yemen Red Crescent.

### **International Representation**

As part of the international representation drive/networking, the HoRO attended the Humanitarian Forum organized by the Islamic Relief Organization, UK. Representatives from Jordanian Civil Society Organizations, NGOs, INGOs, ICRC, UN agencies and the diplomatic missions discussed the promotion of dialogue between cultures, tolerance, diversity and respect for human dignity.

On Women's Day the regional delegation was represented at a function jointly organized by UNDP and UNICEF under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Bint Talal, to discuss the role of women in economic, social and political development.

The HoRO represented the Federation and made a statement in support of the Palestine Red Crescent Emergency Appeal during the United Nations Seminar on Assistance to the Palestinian people held in Cairo in April. Copies of the PRCS Emergency Appeal were distributed to the participants.

### **Coordination and support to the National Societies of the region**

The HoRO represented the Secretariat in the inauguration of the Urban Health Centre in Bam, constructed under the direct supervision of the Federation. The facilities were officially handed over to the Ministry of Health of the Islamic Republic of Iran on 11 June, 2006. The ceremony was attended by the Governor of Bam, a representative of the Ministry of Health, a representative of Kerman Medical University, WHO, and the Acting Secretary General of Iranian Red Crescent. The ceremony received wide media coverage.

During his mission to Iran, the HoRO made a courtesy call on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where he met the Director of the Department for International Social Cooperation to discuss the implementation of the Status Agreement signed between the Federation and MoFA in 2004. The HoRO additionally undertook follow up missions to the National Societies of Lebanon and Syria.

The HoRO attended various coordination meetings, the senior management meeting in Geneva, MENA team management meeting, MENA information meeting and the extended management meeting. Regular coordination meetings were also held with ICRC counterparts, including the ICRC MENA Cooperation Division and ICRC Field Communication Unit, to enhance cooperation and coordination and harmonize capacity building support to the NSs.

At the 34<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly of the Arab Red Crescent/Red Cross Organization, the HoRO presented a report summarizing the Federation's support to NSs in the region during 2005 and progress made in implementing the recommendations of the 4<sup>th</sup> MENA conference.

**Middle East Regional Programmes Annual Appeal; Appeal no.MAA81001; Programme Update no.1**

HoRO, together with Head of MENA department and Head of North Africa Regional office, visited the Federation Fleet Base/Regional Logistics Unit in Dubai to discuss future plans for the unit and its role when transformed into a Regional Disaster Management Centre supporting disaster management units in NS capacity building.

**Impact**

Federation support through increased coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships is contributing to improved NS performance and profile. The significance of this contribution can hardly be overemphasized in view of persistent humanitarian challenges in the region and the need to scale up NS response capacity.

**Constraints**

The expanding links with other agencies, through increased representation by the Federation, provide ample opportunities for the NSs to step up efforts in domestic resource mobilization for greater financial self reliance. However, the progress in this respect is not as great as expected and many NSs in the region continue to depend on external assistance even for small scale emergency operations.

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

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

MAA81001 - MIDDLE EAST

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/01-2006/05
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAA81001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**I. Consolidated Response to Appeal**

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget	1'489'218	1'331'844	677'262	1'330'895	669'814	5'499'033
B. Opening Balance	209'953	179'102	190'700	331'705	69'571	981'030
<b>Income</b>						
Cash contributions						
British Red Cross		48'836				48'836
Danish Red Cross	22'099					22'099
DFID Partnership	25'944	74'338	29'061	70'346	34'300	233'989
C1. Cash contributions	48'043	123'174	29'061	70'346	34'300	304'924
Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)						
British Red Cross		189'268				189'268
C3. Reallocations (within appeal)		189'268				189'268
Other Income						
Service Agreements					22'945	22'945
C6. Other Income					22'945	22'945
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	48'043	312'442	29'061	70'346	57'245	517'137
D. Total Funding = B + C	257'996	491'544	219'761	402'051	126'816	1'498'167

**II. Balance of Funds**

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	209'953	179'102	190'700	331'705	69'571	981'030
C. Income	48'043	312'442	29'061	70'346	57'245	517'137
E. Expenditure	-194'448	-353'086	-111'549	-248'294	-41'605	-948'982
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	63'548	138'457	108'212	153'757	85'211	549'185

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

MAA81001 - MIDDLE EAST

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/01-2006/05
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAA81001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure**

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A		B					A - B	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		1'489'218	1'331'844	677'262	1'330'895	669'814	5'499'033	
<b>Supplies</b>								
Shelter	9'653							9'653
Clothing & textiles	14'480		363				363	14'117
Food	5'000		666				666	4'334
Water & Sanitation	47'810		9'726				9'726	38'084
Medical & First Aid	5'142		1'303				1'303	3'839
Teaching Materials	11'000							11'000
Utensils & Tools	6'957							6'957
Other Supplies & Services	348		11				11	337
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>100'390</b>		<b>12'069</b>				<b>12'069</b>	<b>88'321</b>
<b>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>								
Computers & Telecom	65'896							65'896
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment			7'651				7'651	-7'651
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>	<b>65'896</b>		<b>7'651</b>				<b>7'651</b>	<b>58'245</b>
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage	730			259			259	471
Transport & Vehicle Costs	92'347	6'250	4'380	4'425	9'928	4'353	29'337	63'010
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>93'077</b>	<b>6'250</b>	<b>4'380</b>	<b>4'684</b>	<b>9'928</b>	<b>4'353</b>	<b>29'596</b>	<b>63'481</b>
<b>Personnel Expenditures</b>								
Delegates Payroll	688'992	28'794	36'951		38'292		104'037	584'955
Delegate Benefits	310'300	20'261	17'735		19'494	697	58'187	252'113
Regionally Deployed Staff	193'380	6'418			12'850		19'268	174'112
National Staff	724'928	28'575	22'824	26'539	15'543	15'622	109'102	615'826
National Society Staff	153'700	2'243	33'647		1'771		37'661	116'039
Consultants	175'400		6'903		32'676		39'579	135'821
<b>Total Personnel Expenditures</b>	<b>2'246'700</b>	<b>86'292</b>	<b>118'059</b>	<b>26'539</b>	<b>120'625</b>	<b>16'319</b>	<b>367'834</b>	<b>1'878'866</b>
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	1'266'855	64'993	52'132	3'978	61'331	250	182'684	1'084'171
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>1'266'855</b>	<b>64'993</b>	<b>52'132</b>	<b>3'978</b>	<b>61'331</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>182'684</b>	<b>1'084'171</b>
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	439'620	10'667	27'944	10'163	22'460	1'801	73'035	366'585
Information & Public Relation	598'610	2'926	26'200	33'288	6'145	1'754	70'314	528'296
Office Costs	113'418	1'088	6'309	1'228	1'259	2'441	12'325	101'093
Communications	182'850	5'862	8'829	4'814	8'181	4'553	32'239	150'611
Financial Charges	18'580	3'110	2'169	2'599	1'723	6'931	16'531	2'049
Other General Expenses	15'600	119	123	72	220	499	1'032	14'568
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>1'368'678</b>	<b>23'771</b>	<b>71'575</b>	<b>52'163</b>	<b>39'988</b>	<b>17'979</b>	<b>205'477</b>	<b>1'163'201</b>
<b>Program Support</b>								
Program Support	357'437	12'639	22'951	7'251	16'139	2'704	61'684	295'753
<b>Total Program Support</b>	<b>357'437</b>	<b>12'639</b>	<b>22'951</b>	<b>7'251</b>	<b>16'139</b>	<b>2'704</b>	<b>61'684</b>	<b>295'753</b>
<b>Operational Provisions</b>								
Operational Provisions		502	64'270	16'934	282		81'989	-81'989
<b>Total Operational Provisions</b>		<b>502</b>	<b>64'270</b>	<b>16'934</b>	<b>282</b>		<b>81'989</b>	<b>-81'989</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>5'499'033</b>	<b>194'448</b>	<b>353'086</b>	<b>111'549</b>	<b>248'294</b>	<b>41'605</b>	<b>948'982</b>	<b>4'550'051</b>
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>		<b>1'294'770</b>	<b>978'758</b>	<b>565'713</b>	<b>1'082'601</b>	<b>628'208</b>	<b>4'550'051</b>	