

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 جمعيات الصليب الأحمر والقمر الأحمر

TAJIKISTAN

Appeal No. MAATJ001
14 July 2006

The Federation's vision is to strive, through voluntary action, for a world of empowered communities, better able to address human suffering and crises with hope, respect for dignity and a concern for equity. Its mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 183 countries.

In Brief

Programme Update no. 1, Period covered: 1 January to 31 May 2006;
Appeal target: CHF 2,527,000 (USD 2,047,190 or EUR 1,618,530);
Appeal coverage: 33 % [Click here for the interim financial report to date](#)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:

Tajikistan Annual Appeal 2006/2007. For details, please go to the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual06/MAATJ001.pdf

Central Asia Annual Appeal 2006/2007. For details, please go to the website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual06/MAA70001.pdf

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

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

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

Programme summary:

During the period from January to May 2006, Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) and the Federation, with the funds carried over from last year, finalized the activities targeted in 2005 and were at the initial stage of implementing objectives planned for the current year.

In 2006, the RCST/Federation requested CHF 2,527,000 for two years (2006-2007) to implement its activities targeting three core programmes (health and care, disaster management & organisational development). For 2006, CHF 1,422,000 was requested and in addition to the Norwegian Red Cross funds transferred from last year, contributions have been received from DFID, Finnish, Netherlands and Swedish Red Crosses. In general, the response to the appeal was poor and all the programmes were under funded. As a result, most of the planned activities were reduced.

Apart from the appeal, the Geneva Global health project contributed CHF 10,000 for harm reduction programme in Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast. In addition, ECHO thematic funding project allocated EUR 47,000 for contingency planning. *For more details please refer to related programme sections.*

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

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

Operational developments

Tajikistan remains the poorest country among the former Soviet republics and one of the poorest countries in the world. With its seven per cent arable land – the rest of which is mountains – it has to feed 6.8 million people. The main commodities for export in the country are aluminium and cotton. Production of cotton went sharply down from 11 per cent in 2004 to 3.1 per cent in 2005, due to lack of inputs (fertilizers, machinery and irrigation water). About 62 per cent¹ of the population live beyond the poverty line. Though, in February 2006, the government raised the minimum monthly salary from 12 Somoni to 20 (USD 6.13) and also boosted pensions, the prices for foodstuffs and services also rose immediately. The real GDP growth scaled down sharply from 10.6 in 2004 to 6.7 in 2005. Social welfare, water and sanitation and overall health services are not functioning properly or non-existent. The poor socio-economic conditions caused population movement between the countries of the former Soviet Union, which consequently created favourable conditions for an increase in the rate of TB and HIV/AIDS/ Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs). The situation is further worsened by the location of the country in one of the most disaster prone areas. It suffers nearly 500 disasters per year according to the Ministry of Emergencies. Due to the widespread poverty the communities are not prepared to cope with the problems independently.

The RCST/Federation tried to get involved in the areas where the communities were most vulnerable and where it could make a difference. Through its programme activities, the RCST strengthened the capacity of its branches and most vulnerable communities of the country, making them able to prevent threats of diseases and to respond to disasters themselves. Thus, during the year the country operated in 27 disasters, affecting 1,736 people and their property. The most destructive disasters occurred in January-February due to abundant and unusual snow showers resulting in landslides and avalanches in the northern and southern parts of the country. The RCST/Federation – through its network of volunteers and trained community members on site – conducted disaster situation assessment, provided first aid support and distributed non-food items to the affected people.

In March 2006, the United Nations disaster assessment and coordination (UNDAC) mission conducted evaluation of the national disaster management system capacity and its executive level in the areas of disaster preparedness and response in Tajikistan. The Federation representative took part in the mission as a team associated member. Several RC branches were visited by the team and the National Society (NS) was recognized as one of the key players among disaster response and preparedness systems of the country. *For more information please refer to www.untj.org.*

In order to increase the efficiency of activities and services provided to the vulnerable through the National Society the RCST commenced elaboration of the Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS). This aim of streamlining the support around a comprehensive plan which gives a clear idea to the increasing number of partners of what the NS is aiming to achieve in line with the Global Agenda and the national plan to reach the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

¹ Source: Economist Intelligence Unit: Country Report Tajikistan, June 2006

Health and care

This programme is made up of two components- Improve Health and Water Sanitation. The overall total requested for 2006 was CHF 474,000, of which 78% was received to date.

Overview

During the first three months of the year, all activities under this programme were implemented to finalise the previous appeal objective. The NS/Federation faced the same problem as last year – the funds were delivered later than expected, in mid-April 2006. Therefore, the implementation of activities planned under this year's appeal started later. The CHF 272,000 budget of the Improve Health programme for 2006 is supported by transfer of last year's Norwegian allocations and DFID and Swedish contributions in 2006. In addition to the appeal, the Geneva Global health project allocated funds for harm reduction project in Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO). Due to under-funding, most of the planned activities were reduced. Despite this a lot has been done. Some 40,105 people from communities benefited from basic health care education offered by Red Crescent volunteers. As a result, the target community knowledge on prevention of such diseases as HIV/AIDS and TB increased. A trust point for intravenous drug users (IDUs) in the most vulnerable village of GBAO was established and preparation for implementation of harm reduction project started. The Red Crescent helped the population of five rayons in Rasht valley to become more independent and self sufficient in regard to their health and risk reduction through CBFA activities. Volunteers and communities have already demonstrated better awareness of first aid in car accidents by applying aid to victims.

In the area of HIV/AIDS and TB, the RCST/Federation implemented all their activities in close cooperation and coordination with other actors working in the country. Key organisations in addition to RCST/Federation include Republican and City Centres to combat TB (RCCT, CCCT), DOTS cabinets in pilot rayons and Project HOPE – on TB, and HIV/AIDS centre, Agency for drugs control under the President of Tajikistan, Zdrav Plus, UNAIDS, Global Fund and PSI – on HIV/AIDS. RCCT, CCCT and DOTS cabinets provide RCST with a list of TB patients, while the NS refers the people with TB signs to the centres. Through Project HOPE food distribution programme the RCST volunteers disseminate health messages on TB among TB patients in Dushanbe and Rudaki. The NS is preparing and conducting small-scale actions funded by UNAIDS and HIV/AIDS centre. Being a member of Technical Working Group (TWG) on TB and HIV/AIDS of the National Coordination Committee on HIV/AIDS and TB control in Tajikistan, RCST/Federation participate in all related meetings. The RCST FA programme proved to be needful and a lot of international organisations and embassies requested to provide trainings for their staff.

The RCST/Federation made a good effort to reduce the population vulnerability to greatest global threats (HIV/AIDS/STD and TB). However, this is only a step in the overall efforts to achieve the goal of the Global Agenda. More progress is needed, as the situation in the country remains critical.

Overall Goal: The population vulnerability to diseases is reduced through preventive health education and awareness around HIV/AIDS, TB, and other communicable diseases.

Programme Objective: By the end of 2007, a strengthened Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan has contributed to prevention of TB, HIV/AIDS/STD, drug abuse and communicable diseases among targeted communities of Tajikistan.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: The spread and morbidity of tuberculosis in Dushanbe and Khujand cities as well as in Rudaki and Mastchoh districts is reduced through the implementation of DOTS strategy, covering 200 TB patients at a time, and through health education of TB patients' families and population at large.

It was planned initially to implement the TB programme in two cities (Dushanbe and Khojent) and two rayons (Rudaki and Mastchoh), but pressure for money hampered the realization of the plans. As a result, only Dushanbe city and Rudaki rayon were covered with the project activity. The RCST volunteers provided psychological support to 194 TB-patients at a time to convince them to complete their treatment in accordance with the DOTS

strategy. The TB-patients were visited three times a month by RC volunteers. In addition, the volunteers conducted health education activities among TB-patients' families and general population.

?	Activities	Number of covered people/activities
1	Supported TB patients	194
2	TB patients who completed their treatment	155
3	Defaulters	3
4	Interrupted the treatment (left the country)	1
5	Returned to treatment	18
6	Referred to dispensary for examination	321
7	People covered by health education activities through home visits	2,945
8	Distributed information materials (posters, booklets and leaflets)	1,569
9	Conducted monitoring	39

In March, the National Society conducted small-scale actions dedicated to World TB day at the community level in five regions (RRS including Dushanbe, Sughd, GBAO, Kulyab and Kurgan-tube) of the country, under the motto "Actions for life, towards a world free of tuberculosis" and included art competitions, performances, quizzes, conversations and musical events. About 4,789 people (TB patients, children, jobless, drug addicts, migrants, schoolchildren and poor people) participated and increased their knowledge on the topic.

In view of the fact that HIV infection is the single most important factor in increasing the risk of developing TB, it was decided to link closely the TB control project with HIV/AIDS. As a result, a project proposal on prevention of co-infectious HIV/AIDS and TB was prepared. The implementation period of the project is from 1 May to 31 December 2006. Thereby, the following activities are planned until the end of the year:

- Conduct two two-day workshops for 17 volunteers and three nurses on providing psychological support to patients with co-infectious HIV/AIDS and TB.
- Conduct four seminars on prevention of HIV/AIDS and dissemination among the population for 40 activists from communities in the pilot rayons.
- Print informational materials (posters, booklets, T-shirts and caps) on HIV/AIDS prevention for People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), their families and general population

Expected Result 2: The RCST effectively contributed to HIV/AIDS/STD, TB and drug abuse prevention among the risk and marginalised groups and general population of 30 border districts in five regions of Tajikistan, as well as to promotion of tolerance towards people living with HIV/AIDS.

RCST volunteers continued to disseminate knowledge on HIV/AIDS/STD prevention among 6,456 people (youth, truck drivers, labour migrants and military personnel) from all regions of the country through lectures, discussions and small-scale actions. 1,798 information materials and 1,986 condoms were distributed. The action conducted by RCST regional committee in Kurgan-tube city was highlighted on Tajik TV.

In March a two-day training of trainers (ToT) seminar for five regional health coordinators and five regional youth coordinators was conducted. Specialists from HIV/AIDS and TB centres were invited to facilitate the seminar on increasing the knowledge of the regional coordinators on HIV/AIDS/STI prevention as well as on co-infection of HIV with TB. The participants also acquired skills on interpersonal communication which could help in implementing the programme at community level (jamoats² and villages).

² Local authorities at village level



A trainer is conducting a harm reduction seminar for NS staff and representatives of two NGOs working in the same area

In April, the RCST, with Federation support, launched a harm reduction project in Porshinev village of Shugnan district in GBAO. A trust point was set up by RCST. It is run by a nurse, her assistant and three outreach-volunteers, one of whom is IDU. A one-day seminar on harm reduction was conducted for four RCST staff, two trust point employees and two representatives of local NGOs working in the same area. A quadripartite agreement between the RCST regional committee, the regional health care department, the internal affairs department and the Government office (Hukumat) was signed in GBAO. In addition, a round table with local authorities and agencies involved in the same activities was organised.

Booklets on HIV/AIDS and harm reduction (in Tajik) were prepared and are awaiting prepublication review result. A notebook “Stop AIDS. Keep your promise” was prepared and is in the process of printing.

For the next reporting period the RCST envisages the following:

- Conduct a one-day training for RCST health staff and chairpersons from eight districts of Sughd and Khatlon oblasts (Isfara, Istaravshan, Chkalovsk, Kairakum, Kulyab, Hamadoni, Farhor and Baljuvan)
- Conduct a training on prevention of HIV/AIDS/STD and co-infectious HIV/TB for 80 volunteers from pilot districts.
- Organize round tables for local authorities and other organizations working in this area.
- Pre and post-test will be conducted to check the level of population’s awareness on the topics.
- Conduct actions, in June and December 2006, dedicated to the International day against drug abuse and HIV/AIDS in 16 pilot projects of Kulyab and Sughd oblast (two Jamoats in each district).

Expected Result 3: Knowledge and skills of 600 RCST volunteers and 54,000 people from five districts of Rasht valley on first aid, health promotion and response to local emergencies have been improved through Community Based First Aid (CBFA) trainings

During the reporting period, the RCST volunteers continued to disseminate health messages among the people from five districts (Rogun, Nurobod, Rasht, Tajikabad and Jirgital) of Rasht valley, through house-to-house visits. 45,915 people (housewives, children, teachers, old folks and unemployed) were educated on prevention of water-borne diseases (diarrhoea, typhoid), acute respiratory infections, hygiene and sanitation, tuberculosis prevention and other health promotion and first aid topics.

The RCST medical instructor of Rasht district committee conducted a follow-up monitoring of the volunteers’ activities. 157 villages were visited and 2,334 randomly selected people were interviewed. The monitoring showed that the population is well aware of first aid topics but further trainings are needed on health promotion. Therefore, a refresher course on CBFA for 20 instructor-volunteers from five rayons of Rasht valley was conducted. The trained instructor-volunteers, in turn, trained 400 volunteers (each instructor covered 20 volunteers). The aim of this course was to further increase their knowledge and practical skills on health promotion in order to better inform the population.

In the coming period the RCST/Federation are planning to conduct the following activities:

- Conduct a two-day ToT training for 15 instructor-volunteers and a two-day training for 150 volunteers
- Conduct a contest among the volunteers from five rayons of Rasht valley
- Promote the first aid programme either in local mass media or on TV
- Re-print informational materials on CBFA

Impact

The effectiveness and value of TB health education dissemination activities implemented by RCST volunteers was proved by active involvement of people from the communities in the activity. During a small-scale action in Rudaki rayon, a teacher from Nilkon village made a speech, telling that his son went to Russia to earn money but came back with TB. As a result he infected three members of his family, who died of the disease. By the end of the story he appealed to the audience to take care of their health, to eat good food and regularly visit a doctor in case of any sign of TB. A few days after the small-scale action six people with signs of TB visited the RCST office and were referred to TB centre for examination.

The activities under HIV/AIDS project are at the initial stage. Therefore it is still too early to mention any impact.

The RCST volunteers trained on CBFA topics managed to put theory to practice during the car accident in Kabujar village of Nurobod district. They applied first aid to 14 injured people.

Constraints

Owing to lack of funds only seven per cent instead of 20 per cent planned TB patients were observed on a monthly basis. Some other planned activities were also cut by half. Late delivery of funds hampered timely printing of information materials.

Water and sanitation programme

Overview

A total of CHF 202,000 was appealed for in 2006 to implement activities planned under the water and sanitation programme. The programme had good coverage, due to the funds carried over from the last year plus contributions into the current year. The main contributors were the Norwegian and Swedish Red Crosses. Up to date, the funds were used to finalise the previous year activities and to initiate the current year projects. Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) trainings were conducted in the targeted communities to teach the population rational and safe utilization of water and better hygiene practices. The main activities under the current year objective were assessment and selection of project sites. The remaining funds are planned to be used to construct spring water supply systems in three selected villages of Sughd oblast and to improve the sanitary conditions in rural school number 1 of Matcha rayon (Sughd Oblast). Accent will be put on the community involvement with a cost-sharing approach in order to increase their sense of initiative and ownership of the implemented projects.

The RCST/Federation coordinated all its activities with its partners within and outside the Movement. Within the Movement the NS/Federation coordinated their activities with the Spanish Red Cross, which is planning to commence a bilateral project with the NS on providing the vulnerable population of Rarz and Urmitan villages in Aini rayon (Sughd Oblast) with access to potable water through construction of spring water supply systems. Being a member of Water and Sanitation Working Group, established by UNICEF, the RCST water sanitation department coordinates its activities on a monthly basis.

Programme Objective: By the end of 2007, the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan has strengthened its capacity to improve the health status of targeted vulnerable population in Tajikistan in terms of preventable communicable diseases

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: 30,000 inhabitants from rural villages of Sughd oblast and RRS have got access to potable water through the construction of spring water supply systems using sustainable low-cost techniques and through community mobilization

Three villages (Soro, Havotak and Dehmoi) were selected through prompt assessment of water supply systems in Matcha, Ganchi, Asht and Dj.Rasulov rayons of Sughd oblast. The assessment was conducted by RCST water and sanitation staff, local authorities and local engineers. The assessment in Matcha rayon revealed that the NS branch and school number 1 (1,214 schoolchildren) did not have access to drinking water. The nearest water source is as far as 300 m from the school. This project is essential in a way that it ensures safe water to the school and promotes the hygiene education among children. At the same time it is very important for the image of the RCST not to have a branch within a school yard where the hygiene situation is not acceptable.

During the next reporting period the RCST will procure and deliver the construction materials (PVC pipes, steel pipes, cement and other materials) to the selected villages. After the completion of the project, the RCST water sanitation staff will conduct a monitoring of the impact of the project on the population of the villages by interviewing the beneficiaries and collecting health data on registered communicable water-borne diseases from the local health centres.

Expected Result 2: Sanitary conditions in the project area have been improved through the construction of latrines in 40 schools, 60 health institutions and 60 households in RRS, Khatlon and Sughd oblast

Insufficient funding was the main challenge to achieve the expected result. With the funds available, the RCST, with involvement of local authorities, was able to conduct assessment of sanitary conditions in RRS and Sughd oblast. Rural school number 1 (1,214 schoolchildren) in Matcha rayon was selected for the construction of an eight-pit latrine. During the selection process the contribution from local authorities and communities to the project was also taken into consideration. The list of construction materials (cement, bricks and reinforcement) was compiled for further procurement and delivery to the school. It is planned to start and finalise the construction works in July 2006. A Parents and Teachers Association will be established at the school for further control and maintenance of the constructed latrine.

Expected Result 3: Education level of communities involved in the construction of water and sanitation facilities has increased and hygienic behaviour has changed on a household level

Nine PHAST trainings for 92 people (school directors, teachers, health workers, local engineers, housewives) were conducted in nine most vulnerable villages of three rayons (Asht, Matcha and Ganchi) in Sughd oblast. These rayons were selected using the water-borne diseases' database, available from Oblast NS branches. Three villages in each rayon were selected by the NS branches.

Oblast	Rayon	Village	No. of trainings	No. of volunteers
Sughd	Asht	Soro	1	10
		Gulshan	1	10
		Dusti	1	10
	Matcha	Dehkonobod	1	10
		Nasosnaya	1	10
		Kuruksai	1	12
	Ganchi	Havotak	1	10
		Gazantarak	1	10
		Kalai Mirzoboi	1	10
TOTAL:			9	92



During the PHAST training, the director of the rural school in Kuruksai village is showing the drawing where the villagers are collectively digging the pipe trench

The participants were selected by the community leaders from the villagers. They were trained on seven steps of PHAST methodology: (1) identification of problems, (2) analyzing of the existing problems, (3) planning of actions to solve the problems, (4) identification of solutions to the problems, (5) planning of new projects to meet the water and sanitation and other problems, (6) discussion of topics on change of hygiene behaviour of the population and (7) planning of joint monitoring and evaluation of the planned project. The issue on collecting of the maintenance fund was also discussed to assure sustainability of the projects.

Impact

The impact can be measured after the completion of the programme activities. 9,554 people, including school children, are expected to get access to potable water. That will help to prevent water and hygiene related diseases, such as typhoid, dysentery, scabies and TB. The target population behaviour to hygiene and sanitation issues will be changed and they will be convinced to follow the basic sanitation norms.

The experience of setting up a maintenance fund to maintain the installed water supply systems showed its benefit. According to the results of monitoring of projects finalized three months ago, the population of Kulpista village in Rudaky district collected money and used it for prolongation of the pipeline to the nearby village and installed two more water taps; thus providing 12 households with access to safe water.

Constraints

Due to acute shortage of funds the planned construction of latrines in 39 schools, 60 health institutions and 60 households in RRS, Khatlon and Sughd oblasts was cancelled. 9,554 inhabitants from rural villages in RRS will not access pure water for the same reason. Another challenge was poor communication between the RCST HQ and branches, which sometimes hampered timely implementation of planned activities.

Activities outside the Appeal objectives

Due to several requests from the Khatlon Oblast branch and local authorities, the evaluation of water supply systems in Kulyab city (Khatlon Oblast) was conducted. The situation with water in the Ambulance Centre was found to be in very poor condition. The project was selected and rehabilitation works are ongoing and planned to be finalised by the end of June 2006.

Disaster management

Overview

The RCST disaster management department continued its activities in the most disaster prone areas of the country thanks to the Norwegian Red Cross funds carried over from the last year. CHF 552,000 was requested for the programme in 2006 and to date, 64 per cent of the requested amount was covered. RCST managed to finalize the activities planned under 2005 Appeal. The response capacity of 12 LDCs from most vulnerable communities of Kurgan-Tube region (Khatlon oblast) was enhanced by provision of basic disaster response tools. The capacity of

32 Local Disaster Committees (LDCs) in Rasht Valley was boosted through refreshment courses. Two additional topics - SPHERE project minimum standards and safer access – were included in the training programme to further strengthen their DR capacity. The Finnish and Swedish Red Crosses' contributions were received several months after the start of the year, and generally the response to the appeal was poor, hampering the timely implementation of the programme activities and resulting in reduction of activities. However RCST was able to implement a small-scale mitigation project in Navdy village of Nurek district, making the population less vulnerable to the risk of landslides. The Federation concluded a global agreement with ECHO on disaster preparedness thematic funding. Tajikistan was chosen to be one of two pilot countries to promote contingency planning. The funds were received and used to establish two RCST DRTs in Panjakent district and Rasht valley, initiate contingency planning process and standardize the DRT uniform.

The activities were implemented in close cooperation and coordination with its partners. RCST/Federation shared information and coordinated its DM activities through disaster management partnership framework – Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team (REACT) – coordinated by UN Disaster Risk Management Project (DRMP). In case of emergency situations the partnership, which involves around 65 disaster response stakeholders, local and international organizations and entities, works closely together, coordinates response and assistance. Collaboration with bilateral PNSs was also established. *For bilateral cooperation please refer to the table under cooperation and coordination section.*

Tajikistan goes through a lot of disasters. Due to the widespread poverty in the country and underdeveloped system of disaster preparedness/response and awareness the communities are not prepared to cope with aftermath of disasters independently. There is an urgent need to scale up the activities in this area to reduce the impact of disasters on vulnerable population.

Overall Goal: The risk and impact of disasters on the lives of people living in disaster-prone areas is reduced

Programme Objective: By the end of 2007, the disaster preparedness and response capacity of RCST staff, vulnerable communities and secondary schools has improved through community based DP/DR and first aid trainings, small-scale mitigation works, increased network of RC volunteers, disaster awareness and strengthened partnerships with the government and relevant humanitarian organizations

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: The capacity of vulnerable communities has strengthened through a community-based disaster preparedness intervention



The LDC members from Garm rayon are refreshing their knowledge on rendering first aid in case of disaster through simulation exercises

RCST continued its community preparedness participatory approach activities commenced in 2004. In January 2006, twelve previously established local disaster committees (LDCs) in Khatlon oblast and Kurgan-Tube region were furnished with disaster response equipment.

A total of 32 refreshment courses for 640 LDC members were conducted in six rayons (Rogun, Nurabad, Garm, Tajibad, Jirgital and Tavildara) of Rasht valley. The following topics were covered during the course: disaster preparedness response, situation assessment, coordination in case of disaster, SPHERE project minimum

standards, safe access and first aid.

In the coming period RCST is planning to conduct a further 32 DP and FA refreshment courses for 32 LDCs in Kurgan-Tube region. The refreshment courses will be followed by simulation exercises.

Expected Result 2: The capacity of secondary school students and teachers to respond to future disasters has strengthened through integrated disaster preparedness and first aid trainings

A disaster awareness poster contest between all schools in the country was announced at the beginning of January in order to increase the disaster awareness among the schoolchildren. Four posters – sent from Sughd and Dushanbe city – were chosen as winners. 4,000 (1,000 of each) copies of posters will be printed and distributed among schoolchildren living in the most disaster-prone areas, at the beginning of September.

A new disaster preparedness education project in schools of Rudaky rayon and Dushanbe city was initiated during the reporting period. The process of selection of schools for the project is ongoing. The schoolchildren and teachers from the selected schools will be trained on disaster preparedness, first aid, evacuations and appropriate behaviour during disasters. The trainings are planned to be conducted at the beginning of September.

Expected Result 3: The effects of disasters and their impact on vulnerable communities have been mitigated

During the reporting period, RCST conducted a tree planting mitigation project in response to a request from the population of Navdi village, Hukumat and Red Crescent branch of the Nurek district. In advance of implementing the project, DM staff, jointly with local authorities, conducted an assessment in the village. Outcomes of the assessment confirmed the need and appropriateness of the above mentioned activity. One of the important prerequisites for decision making and choosing the Navdi village as a project area was the existence of a RC volunteer network, and willingness of local experts and LDC members from the community to participate in the project. The tree planting project was initiated and finalized in March with a total 4,000 young trees planted to reduce the risk of landslides. About 1,200 people will benefit from the project.

Expected Result 4: The capacity of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan to mitigate the effects of natural disasters has strengthened by enhancing their capacity to respond adequately to emergencies

A database of RCST staff and volunteers trained in disaster preparedness/response and first aid was created and 1,451 people were recorded. This database will be utilized to ensure timely and effective response to disasters.

Establishment of two RCST Disaster Response centres and disaster response teams – one in Rasht rayon of Rayons of Republican Subordination (RRS) and another in Panjakent rayon of Sughd oblast – commenced over the reporting period. The team members were selected and training workshops for them were conducted in April and May. In total 24 members (12 in each) were trained on disaster preparedness/response and first aid topics.

The RCST response and preparedness capacity assessment format was elaborated and assessment of RCST DP centres started. According to the preliminary assessment conducted in seven RCST disaster preparedness (DP) centres, the standardizations of RCST Disaster Response Teams' equipment and uniforms started.

Revising and re-printing of DM training materials is ongoing.

For the next reporting period the RCST/Federation plans the following:

- Procurement and distribution of DRT uniform.
- Replenishment of DP stock with non-food items
- Repairing of communication system in all nine DP centres in June 2006.
- Conduct a national DRT competition between nine RCST DP centres teams as a refreshment course

Impact

The disaster response capacity of 240 Red Crescent volunteers and community members was enhanced through their training and equipping and 1,200 people became less vulnerable to the effects of landslides through the tree planting project.

The RCST disaster response capacity was boosted by establishing two disaster response teams in Rasht and Panjakent districts.

Constraints

Lack and late delivery of funds was the main problem in implementing the planned activities. As a result 26 refreshment courses for 26 LDCs in Kurgan-Tube region and 22 mitigation projects in RRS, Sughd and Khatlon oblast were cancelled. Implementation of a disaster preparedness project in schools in Dushanbe and Rudaky district were postponed until the second half of the year.

Organisational development

Overview

A total of CHF 396,000 was appealed for 2006 to implement the activities planned under organizational development programme. The Swedish Red Cross and DFID contribution to Appeal 2006 coupled with the Norwegian and Finnish Red Crosses funds, carried over from last year, amounted to 40 per cent of appeal coverage. To date some amount of these funds have been spent on introducing the new statute and gradual shift to the new structure, hence choosing the pilot branches and closely monitoring the implementation of the aimed changes. The capacity of RCST branches and primary organizations was strengthened through orientation on programmes developed with participation of local communities hence efficiently addressing the needs at the community level. Further integration of organizational development programme activities with DM, Health, Water and Sanitation programmes' activities are planned.

It is worth mentioning that at the beginning of the reporting period, the RCST started to develop and formalize its strategy for cooperation with partners (Cooperation assistance strategy - CAS). The Federation was especially encouraging the National Society to explore ways of ensuring its financial sustainability through a wide range of partnership, including those with the Government and fundraising initiatives.

Overall Goal: The RCST capacity is strengthened through training and empowerment of RCST staff and volunteers (including youth volunteers), branch development through community-based activities and financial and logistical development of the National Society's branches.

Programme Objective: The RCST capacity in work with the vulnerable has increased through the process of organizational changes.

Progress/Achievements

Expected Result 1: The Red Crescent has shifted to the new structure with clear division of governance and management contributing to effective programme and branch management

In March, a General Assembly of RCST was held in Dushanbe HQ office. In total, 103 people – the NS representatives, including chairpersons of 69 RCST branches, the Federation country and regional delegations, PNSs, ICRC and the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan – participated. During the Assembly the President of RCST was re-elected and the new RCST statute was approved and adopted. In early April, the RCST statute was registered in the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Tajikistan.

In line with implementation of the stipulations of the new statute, two workshops on division between governance and management were conducted for 40 representatives from 27 NS branches in GBAO and Sughd Oblast. The workshops are meant to aid the smooth transition from old to new statute.

In March-April RCST prepared its budget for the next half year and plans to implement the following activities:

- Conduct a Presidium meeting, where the implementation plan for new statute will be presented for approval
- Print and distribute the new statute to all NS branches.

- Conduct semi-annual management and coordination meetings for 119 RCST staff and chairpersons.
- Organise experience exchange visit of one person from OD department to Armenian Red Cross to share experience on work with new statute.

Expected Result 2: The systems and procedures aimed at development of human resources, management of staff, finances and logistics at all levels has improved

Evaluation of NS branches statutory activities and their profiling was conducted. In May, these activities were conducted in four NS branches (Kurgan-Tube city, Sarband city, Bohtar and Djillikul rayons) and ten RCST primary organizations in Kurgan-Tube region. According to the results of the evaluation, almost all of the covered NS branches met the requirements. Nevertheless, the documentation in the primary organizations leaves much to be desired.

In order to increase the efficiency of activities and services provided to vulnerable through RCST the National Society commenced elaboration of the Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS). The workshop addressing CAS issues was conducted in February, with participation of all Red Cross and Red Crescent family members (ICRC and PNSs) present in the country. The National Society has presented its strategy for the upcoming years till 2010. The CAS was proposed as a model for cooperation. It was agreed that each party would submit its input and comments on how to strengthen the proposed strategy. The results are planned to be discussed and agreed with the partners at the beginning of June 2006.

The RCST continued to conduct seminars on “Institutional capacity building of NS primary organizations”. Five seminars were conducted for 89 people from 31 primary organizations in Gissar, Tursunzade, Shahrinav and Dushanbe city RCST rayon branches. The history and principles of the RC/RC Movement, the Red Crescent’s mandate, the NS primary organizations and members’ roles and tasks; financial management, methods of working with communities; fundraising methods and proper use of raised funds, methods of volunteers’ recruitment were discussed. According to the plan, by the end of 2006, the number of primary organizations involved in the work of RCST should reach 484, the number of members 1,694 and volunteers 3,388. Besides, primary organizations should be properly managed, prepare effective working plans and submit them to the NS branches. The fulfillment of tasks assigned will be monitored, on a regular basis, during the year.

For the next reporting period, it is planned:

- Conduct two more seminars on “Institutional capacity building of NS primary organizations” for 20 primary organizations in Vahdat and Faizabad rayon RCST branches.
- Conduct five ToT seminars for 22 RCST local and regional branches volunteer-leaders on volunteers’ management.
- Continue with the evaluation of local and oblast/regional branches statutory activities and their profiling.

Other activities were not implemented and could not be planned, due to the shortage of money.

Expected Result 3: The public awareness of the RCST has increased via greater visibility and credibility

The RCST prepared and printed 400 RCST bulletins “Nuri Shafkat”, 110 copies of RCST activity reports (34 pages) and 200 NS stickers with RCST logo. All these information materials will be used as a presentation tool and will be distributed among the local authorities and other stakeholders.

Public awareness campaigns were conducted through the local TV channels on Disaster Preparedness and International Humanitarian Law issues dedicated to the International Day of Red Cross. The First Aid and DP programmes activities were also broadcasted through a local radio.

The information for the web site is still under the process of development.

Most of the activities directed towards increasing the RCST visibility were cancelled, due to the lack of a qualified information officer. RCST is planning to recruit a person for this position in the next reporting period.

Expected Result 4: The RCST Youth Movement structure has strengthened and integration of youth into all programmes is provided at all levels

During the reporting period, 45 RCST volunteers continued to provide social support and care to 135 lonely elderly people in Dushanbe city through home visits. On the eve of the Victory Day, on 9 May, food parcels were procured and distributed to lonely elderly beneficiaries. Half of the amount spent was used from the funds raised by the youth fundraising activities.

A youth programme coordination meeting was held for all youth coordinators from district branches to present their action plans for 2006-2007. Few amendments and additions were made to the working policy of RCST volunteers. The coordinators also had a chance to discuss the RCST Youth Movement Strategy. The programme achievements, new initiatives, planned projects and reporting issues were also addressed.

To support the initiative to integrate the youth into other RCST programme activities, a three-day ToT seminar was conducted for youth and HIV/AIDS programme coordinators. The RCST youth coordinators will be involved in monitoring and HIV/AIDS program activities to be held at oblast and rayon levels.

The youth was also involved in actions on HIV/AIDS prevention conducted in educational institutions of Sarband rayon, Dushanbe, Kulyab, Kurgan-Tube and in the market of Yavan rayon. About 480 people including students and teachers participated. Informational materials and condoms were distributed during the actions.

Information campaigns on dissemination of RC/RC Movement principles were conducted in 35 schools of Sughd oblast and in four schools of Dushanbe. In total, 1,900 youngsters were covered by the activity and 300 information materials on RCST activities were distributed to the participants in Dushanbe.

On the International Red Cross Day, the RCST volunteers with the Federation and ICRC support arranged actions in Dushanbe reflecting the main RCST activities. In total, 1,000 people were covered and over 1000 information materials were distributed.

For the next reporting period, the youth programme is planning:

- a Youth Congress for 50 youth leaders from five regions of the country.
- four seminars on tolerance and discrimination for 100 youth volunteers from Rasht valley
- to set up stands and publicity boards on RCST youth activities in GBAO
- to update the RCST volunteers and members' database

Impact

The activities implemented helped increase RCST capacity in its work with vulnerable people through the process of organizational changes. NS continued to conduct workshops to develop the RCST capacity on governance and management for better practice of their role and responsibilities.

Through initiated CAS process, partners can jointly define common goals and coordinate means of support. This will demonstrate a coherent and united approach to addressing vulnerability in the country, and will help to better position Red Cross/Red Crescent action within a wider humanitarian environment.

Constraints

Some of the activities planned under the Appeal 2006 were cancelled due to the shortage in funding. Problems like the lack of skills in programme and financial management, limited material and financial resources at branch level, frequent turn over of NS personnel including information officer and lack of communication within the Movement and lack of transparency still exist.

Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

Objective: By the end of 2007, the NS has demonstrated its capacity to fully implement its mission and lessen its dependence on Federation support, gaining necessary visibility to confirm its leading role among other players

Expected result 1: The NS has become an active player at national level

The National Society is improving its capacity and plays an active role at national level. Though there are considerable achievements in the field of disaster preparedness, there is still a lot to do in other fields. The NS should focus and strengthen its role in health to meet the requirement of the global agenda. The role of branches is essential in that field. For that reason leadership trainings for the RCST staff are being conducted at branch level.

Expected result 2: Coordination of activity is optimized with the Government, UN and other international organisations

The Federation supports the NS strengthen its capability in disaster preparedness. An example is when the Federation participated in the UNDAC mission in Tajikistan, the role of the National Society was emphasized in the UNDAC mission report.

The Federation assisted the NS to start a harm reduction project in GBAO oblast. The focus is also on supporting the volunteers to address issues related to human values and tolerance and anti-violence

Expected result 3: Partnership agreements have been developed and signed with the key partners

Apart from the appeal activities, RCST implements bilateral projects with the Netherlands, Finnish, Iranian and American Red Crosses and ICRC and the table below gives information on these projects.

RC Partners	Summary of activities
ICRC	<p>RC implements a mine awareness programme in Sughd oblast, GBAO and RRS in cooperation with ICRC, UNDP and Tajikistan mine action centre (TMAC)</p> <p>Safer access programme is implemented for RCST staff, volunteers and local authorities all over the country.</p> <p>Mine victims assistance programme is implemented in four rayons of Sughd oblast and four rayons of Rasht valley. 72 most vulnerable families received seeds of potatoes, rice and peanut, free of charge.</p> <p>29 RCST staff and volunteers conduct tracing programme as well as disseminate knowledge on IHL among RCST staff, volunteers and local authorities, all over the country.</p>
Netherlands RC	<p>The NRC mainly supports OD and HC programmes in GBAO and Khatlon oblast and DM programme in Sughd oblast. The following activities were implemented during the period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A CBFA project implemented in RRS, GBAO, Khatlon and Sughd regions of the country through home visits. • SVAs and medical houses in Khatlon oblast were provided with medicines. • HIV/AIDS prevention and harm reduction activities were conducted in rayons of Kulyab and GBAO, which are not covered by Federation. • A sport club was established in Roshtkala rayon, GBAO • 38 LDCs were established, trained and equipped with basic response equipment and 6,000 young trees were planted in Ainy and Gonchy rayons of Sughd oblast.

Iranian RC	A joint policlinic is rendering medical assistance to elderly lonely, pensioners, the disabled and orphans in Dushanbe city
Finnish RC	50 RCST youth volunteers provide social and psychological support to 150 lonely elderly people in Dushanbe city through home visits. A pilot project on participatory community development in Dushanbe was initiated in May 2006.
American RC	A healthy family project is implemented in five rayons of Khatlon oblast.

Efforts are being deployed to ensure utmost coordination among the different partners. An integration agreement was signed by the Federation and the American RC. Coordination with ICRC is continuing through joint planning and cooperation in programme delivery, especially on disaster management and humanitarian values.

Coordination and cooperation with other partners is established through regular meetings. The situation is improving as far as CAS is progressing.

International representation and advocacy

The Federation role was essential in facilitating the process of approving the new RCST statute as well as in ensuring independent elections for RCST president. The support from country and regional delegations, as well as Geneva Secretariat, ensured smooth elections, taking into consideration the fact that it is still common in the region for the government to interfere in such events. The Federation sent a strong message on respecting the principle of independence, but at the same time calling for the best possible cooperation with government bodies.

Objective: To boost systemic coordination mechanisms among the different players and rationalize their intervention to the benefit of the NS capacity building process.

Expected result 1: NS capacity has increased to lead coordination with its partners

The delegation's continuous presence has a different role as of January 2006. Big relief programmes have stopped, so the delegation is now working closely with the NS to promote its role of partner in development, the image of an organisation capable to contribute towards common national strategic goals.

Expected result 2: The profile of the Movement has enhanced in the country and the message of the Red Cross/Red Crescent is widely disseminated

A plan to enhance the image of NS is being discussed in a working group as part of the CAS process. Meanwhile the focus is on Youth volunteers to enhance the role of NS. The young generation has proved commitment in spreading the humanitarian values in an efficient manner while supporting health and DM programmes.

Expected result 3: A system has been established to ensure good practice in coordination, necessary agreements are signed with partners and ICRC

The CAS process is progressing; the second CAS meeting is planned to be conducted on 9 June. A final draft will be shared with all partners in September, before being adopted by the General Assembly.

Management of the delegation

The delegation aim is to assist the NS have better quality management of its programmes. Communication has been increased among different programmes in order to achieve utmost coordination. Special focus is on sustainability in programming and monitoring and impact analysis. The delegation is ensuring good financial management of project and efficient and transparent logistic system. Work is being done on establishing permanent coordination mechanism to align different donors supported projects into one NS wider strategy progress in CAS. This is a step forward.

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

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAATJ001 - TAJIKISTAN

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAAti001
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	884'000	947'000		696'000	0	2'527'000
B. Opening Balance	133'692	159'960		76'118	0	369'770
Income						
Cash contributions						
DFID Partnership	14'967			19'957		34'924
Finnish Red Cross		62'178				62'178
Netherlands Red Cross		1'238				1'238
Swedish Red Cross	111'906	50'235		30'129		192'269
C1. Cash contributions	126'873	113'651		50'086		290'609
Outstanding pledges (Revalued)						
Finnish Red Cross		42'756				42'756
Netherlands Red Cross	1'245	227				1'473
Swedish Red Cross	109'987	34'998		29'612		174'597
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	111'232	77'982		29'612		218'826
Other Income						
Service Agreements				1'639	5'077	6'716
C6. Other Income				1'639	5'077	6'716
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	238'105	191'632		81'336	5'077	516'151
D. Total Funding = B + C	371'797	351'592		157'454	5'077	885'921

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	133'692	159'960		76'118	0	369'770
C. Income	238'105	191'632		81'336	5'077	516'151
E. Expenditure	-185'413	-186'559		-107'965	-2'936	-482'874
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	186'384	165'033		49'489	2'141	403'047

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAATJ001 - TAJIKISTAN

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAAti001
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	
BUDGET (C)		884'000	947'000		696'000	0	2'527'000	
Supplies								
Shelter	68'464							68'464
Construction	44'324							44'324
Clothing & textiles	86'511	2'345	13'627				15'972	70'539
Food					1'966		1'966	-1'966
Seeds,Plants	28'520		4'937				4'937	23'583
Water & Sanitation	119'214	14'233					14'233	104'981
Medical & First Aid	33'440							33'440
Utensils & Tools	14'582		16'798				16'798	-2'215
Other Supplies & Services	82'245	929					929	81'316
Total Supplies	477'299	17'506	35'361		1'966		54'834	422'466
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Land & Buildings					10'038		10'038	-10'038
Vehicles	48'000		14'857				14'857	33'143
Computers & Telecom	11'350					2'194	2'194	9'156
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	59'350		14'857		10'038	2'194	27'089	32'261
Transport & Storage								
Storage	17'630	753				973	1'726	15'904
Distribution & Monitoring	5'760	71				4'352	4'423	1'337
Transport & Vehicle Costs	172'076	16'679	8'209		9'312	-5'325	28'875	143'202
Total Transport & Storage	195'467	17'504	8'209		9'312	0	35'024	160'443
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	256'800		11'842		11'842	34'166	57'850	198'951
Delegate Benefits	156'000	24'753	20'920		13'021	-35'261	23'433	132'567
Regionally Deployed Staff		1'375					1'375	-1'375
National Staff	235'110	30'869	23'005		12'426	-175	66'125	168'985
National Society Staff	202'419	8'811	3'061		10'288	175	22'336	180'083
Total Personnel Expenditures	850'328	65'808	58'828		47'576	-1'095	171'118	679'210
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	258'922	4'553	6'325		28'574		39'452	219'470
Total Workshops & Training	258'922	4'553	6'325		28'574		39'452	219'470
General Expenditure								
Travel	46'573	21'285	6'877		6'399	991	35'551	11'022
Information & Public Relation	294'550	6'511	15'895		3'621	13	26'040	268'510
Office Costs	78'610	473	305		860	18'649	20'287	58'323
Communications	45'002	323	260		239	17'997	18'818	26'184
Professional Fees					516	517	1'033	-1'033
Financial Charges	54'100	9'128	5'464		3'697	-375	17'914	36'186
Other General Expenses		20'804	14'039		9'422	-39'423	4'841	-4'841
Total General Expenditure	518'835	58'523	42'840		24'753	-1'631	124'484	394'351
Depreciation								
Depreciation	2'543					3'277	3'277	-734
Total Depreciation	2'543					3'277	3'277	-734
Program Support								
Program Support	164'255	12'052	12'126		7'018	191	31'387	132'868
Total Program Support	164'255	12'052	12'126		7'018	191	31'387	132'868
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		9'468	8'014		-21'273		-3'791	3'791
Total Operational Provisions		9'468	8'014		-21'273		-3'791	3'791
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	2'527'000	185'413	186'559		107'965	2'936	482'874	2'044'126
VARIANCE (C - D)		698'587	760'441		588'035	-2'936	2'044'126	