

# Plan 2009-2010



## Ukraine

### Executive summary



The second largest country in Europe, Ukraine is a republic that gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. After a difficult transition period to the market economy the country remains one of the poorest in Europe, despite the ostentatious wealth that one sees in the large cities. Currently, the main humanitarian challenges in Ukraine, due to the political, economic and social situation, are related to poverty, health and disasters. Over a quarter of the population live below the poverty line and lack adequate health and social care. The most vulnerable are elderly people living alone, multi-child families, street children, people with disabilities, and marginalized people such as migrants, homeless people, people living with HIV, alcoholics and drug users. The increase in TB and

the most severe AIDS epidemic in Europe add to the challenges for the society and the government, and as these diseases prey on the poorest and most vulnerable both outbreaks are spreading and converging. Ukraine is also prone to natural and man-made disasters such as frequent flooding, harsh winters, storms, the threat of avian flu, road accidents, mine disasters and the legacy of the Chernobyl disaster (see separate plan).

These humanitarian challenges in Ukraine define the Ukrainian Red Cross priorities. The overall goal is to ensure that the programmes and services of the Ukrainian Red Cross are focused on the needs of vulnerable people, and that these activities are responsive, sustainable and of acceptable standards in performance, accountability and integrity. The society's mission is to protect lives, prevent and alleviate human suffering during natural disasters and technical accidents, as well as assist the health authorities and the medical services. The National Society's partners include the German, the French and the Italian Red Cross Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

The International Federation secretariat plan 2009-2010 envisages support to the Ukrainian Red Cross in key areas. It directly corresponds to the Global Agenda goals to reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters; to reduce deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies; to increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability; and to promote respect for diversity and human dignity, and reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion. The outcomes to be achieved by the end of the programme period will include:

- ♦ By strengthening its disaster preparedness the society will contribute to the elimination of the impact of natural and other disasters and socio-economic crisis on communities, especially the most vulnerable populations.
- ♦ The National Society will significantly contribute towards health education of youth and improve the life quality of people with disabilities and people living with HIV.

- ♦ The society will build its capacity, including the development and promotion of the youth volunteer movement, strengthening civil society by improving the quality of services offered by the Visiting Nurses Service.
- ♦ The Ukrainian Red Cross will contribute towards raising humanitarian values, particularly in fighting stigmatization of people living with HIV through access to the necessary knowledge to change perceptions, attitudes and behaviour towards them and eliminate all forms of discrimination.

Activities will include protecting the rights of irregular migrants detained in accommodation centres.

It is expected that the implementation of the current plan will directly target 924,000 people per year, and about 5 million people through mass information campaigns. Programme implementation will directly benefit residents of high-risk communities, people affected by man-made and natural disasters, elderly people living alone and people with disabilities, teachers, students, schoolchildren, people living with HIV, victims of human trafficking, National Society staff and volunteers, migrants and the general public, particularly through mass information campaigns as mentioned.

The total 2009-2010 budget is CHF 1,265,085 (USD 1,156,385 or EUR 805,787).

[Click here to go directly to the summary budget of the plan.](#)

## Country context

Ukraine is the largest country entirely within Europe. Its population represents 7.3 per cent of the population of Europe and 1 per cent of the world population. Originally the seat of the first Slavic state, Kievan Rus in the 10<sup>th</sup> century, it was subsumed first into Lithuania, then Poland and finally into Russia. It became independent in 1991 after the collapse of the Soviet Union, although it had a brief period of independence in 1918, the year the Ukraine Red Cross was first established, before being assimilated into the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR).

The country has a pronounced east-west division running approximately along the course of the Dnieper river. The west is generally more rural, Ukrainian-speaking and has closer ties with western Europe, bordering Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania and Moldova. The east is the Russian-speaking industrial heartland, bordered partly by Belarus but mostly by Russia. In the middle is the capital Kiev, scene of 2004's Orange Revolution that signaled a westward shift in Ukraine's aspirations.

The southern peninsula of Crimea, gifted to the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic in the 1950s is predominantly Russian-speaking, and home to the Crimean Tatars – 250,000 of this group have returned to Ukraine following their expulsion to central Asia by Stalin in 1944.

The country is deeply scarred by the two man-made famines in the 1920s and 1930s which killed up to eight million people. The Second World War, or "great patriotic war", also looms large on the collective consciousness. It claimed millions more lives, as did Stalin's repressions that both preceded and followed the war.

Ukraine is home to the Chernobyl nuclear power station which exploded in 1986 leading to the contamination of vast tracts of some of Europe's most fertile land in Ukraine, Belarus and Russia, and sending radioactive material as far away as northern Scandinavia. Some observers maintain that the disaster – and the Soviet authorities' casual response to it – hastened the breakup of the USSR. Since 1991, the International Federation has been running the Chernobyl Humanitarian Assistance and Rehabilitation Programme (CHARP), which continues to provide thyroid gland screening and psychological support to 90,000 people in the affected regions via six mobile diagnostic laboratories. A separate plan has been produced for CHARP.

Ukraine's current humanitarian challenges result from its geopolitical position and its recent and medium-term history. The break-up of the Soviet Union caused massive financial instability and socio-economic dislocation. Old diseases like Tuberculosis (TB) re-emerged with a vengeance, and new diseases like HIV climbed to reach the highest rates in Europe on the back of an explosion of injecting drug use made possible by dramatically increased supply of heroin from central Asia and the opening of borders.

The opening of some borders has led to a surge of migration through Ukraine into the new EU nations; migrants from China, Iraq, Afghanistan and many more countries mass on Ukraine's western borders. Meanwhile the bright lights of the EU tempt many Ukrainians to leave the country. Many are seduced by the promise of easy work and fall prey to people traffickers. Both men and women are exploited for their physical labour, particularly in the sex and construction industries. Huge stigma attached to the perceived "failure" of the trafficked makes reintegration into their home communities difficult if not impossible, particularly for women who escape or are rescued from sexual slavery.

Development Indicators		UKRAINE	
<i>Population, geography and environment</i>		<i>Economy and labour</i>	
Total population (millions)	46.6	GDP per capita (PPP in USD)	6,800
Surface area (square km)	603,700	GDP real growth (%)	7.1
Carbon dioxide emissions per capita (metric tons)	7	Unemployment total (% of labour force)	6.8
Population growth (%)	-0.8	Inflation (%)	16
<i>Social indicators</i>		<i>Health indicators</i>	
Adult literacy rate (% aged 15 and older)	99.4	Mortality rate (per 100,000)	15
Gender-related development index rate (GDI)	68 (2005)	Life expectancy at birth (female/ male)	74.1/ 62.4
Human development index value (HDI)	0.778 (2007)	HIV prevalence (% aged 15-49)	0.5- 1.7 (2003 est.)
Human development index rate (HDI)	76 (2007)	People living with HIV aged 15-49	130,000- 416,000 (2003 est.)
Population below PPP \$ 1 per day (%)	37.7	Prevalence of Tuberculosis (per 100,000)	114 (2006)
Gender empowerment measure rank (GEM)	75	Health spending as % of GDP	6.5

Sources: World Health Organization; World Bank, Economic Intelligence Unit.

**Table 1:** Selected development indicators for Ukraine

Ukraine's transition from a Soviet state to an independent European nation has been vastly more difficult than for its western neighbours or for the Baltic States. Russian leaders from Peter and Catherine the Great to Stalin and Gorbachev understood that there could be no Russian empire without Ukraine.

Country disasters			UKRAINE		
Type of Disaster	Date	Affected people			
Flood	June 1995	1,700,000			
Flood	July 1993	300,000			
Flood	March 2001	300,000			
Extreme temperature	January 2006	59,600			
Storm	July 2000	39,010			
Flood	December 1993	25,000			
Flood	November 1998	24,570			
Flood	April 1996	10,000			
Flood	February 2005	8,340			
Storm	July 2007	7,552			

Source: EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database

**Table 2:** Natural disasters in Ukraine since 1990 including dates and the number of people affected

The Orange Revolution of 2004 was a remarkable lurch from centuries of Russian domination, and sudden demands for market rates for Russian gas, the switching off of supplies in the middle of 2005's freezing winter showed the rocky path that independent Ukraine must tread.

The collapse of the former command economy also hit Ukraine particularly hard as traditional markets disappeared. Ukraine's heavy industries were chronically unfit for restructuring, focusing as they did on steel, shipbuilding, weaponry and machine-tool manufacturing – all of which relied on outdated technology, cheap energy and big subsidies.

Humanitarian challenges are likely to remain high in Ukraine as its economy slows and inflation remains high. The extension of the “Schengen curtain” to all the new EU member states effectively means that once the Ukrainian border is crossed illegal migrants have passport-free access to almost 30 countries; Ukraine’s long western border makes it the preferred entry point.

The use of injected drugs shows no signs of slowing, and while the level of education on HIV transmission is quite good, harm reduction and drug substitution therapies could be more widely available.

## National Society priorities and current work with partners

The Ukrainian Red Cross Society is the largest voluntary humanitarian organization in Ukraine with a clearly defined authority and scope of multilateral humanitarian activities and social services in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable people. Working closely with the International Federation, the National Society receives assistance from sister societies and other donors to implement its programmes.

In the disaster management sphere the latest activities included humanitarian assistance for people affected by flooding in Crimea, harsh winter and hurricane in Ukraine, and mine blasts in Donetsk supported by the International Federation’s Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF). In late July 2008, just as this plan was being finalised, heavy rains brought flooding to western Ukraine and Moldova killing over thirty people and washing away the homes of scores more. A response operation by both National Societies, supported by an emergency appeal launched by the International Federation, is underway at the time of writing, focussing on emergency food aid, ensuring affected populations have bedding and blankets, and providing psycho-social support to people who need it in what were already poverty-ravished regions. The resources of the International Federation will again be drawn upon in supporting the National Societies with an internationally recruited operations manager working closely to ensure that key personnel from the National Societies develop their skills and experience, which are subsequently shared widely through ongoing training and a post-operation workshop.

Unfortunately from mid-2007 there were no funds available for ongoing disaster management programmes and the society had to scale down its activities. As Ukraine is prone to natural and technical calamities disaster preparedness will remain among the highest priorities of the Ukrainian Red Cross in 2009-2010, aiming to provide efficient delivery of emergency response and recovery assistance for at high-risk communities. The key areas of recovery are new issues for the Ukrainian Red Cross and require even more attention. This will include increasing capacity in livelihoods, shelter, public health in emergencies, water and sanitation and new approaches to early recovery such as cash distribution for communities as well as assisting the community in effectively restoring or improving their pre-disaster conditions. Besides, special attention will be paid to the promotion and dissemination of International Disaster Response Laws (IDRL) by conducting seminars and trainings for Red Cross workers and volunteers involved in disaster management activities. The National Society initiated the creation of an inter-ministry group which will update local legislation to be in conformity with IDRL.

The increase in incidence of HIV and AIDS in Ukraine, which is officially marked as the most severe epidemic in Europe, with the estimated prevalence rate being 164.2 per 100,000 of the population, is another challenge for the population that the National Society is trying to address. Certain experience has been gained on the prevention of HIV through projects implemented between 2002-2007 in the main cities of Ukraine with funding from the UK’s Department for International Development (DFID) through the International Federation and from the Netherlands Red Cross on a bilateral basis. Unfortunately, in 2008 there were no funds available and the society had to scale down these activities. The plan for 2009-2010 envisages replicating the projects, but this time in rural areas of six selected regions. It includes training of staff and volunteers to conduct AIDS awareness campaigns and peer education aiming to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS.

The Ukraine Red Cross was one of the first European Red Cross National Societies that joined the Global Alliance on HIV. Membership of the alliance means the Ukrainian Red cross has the possibility to scale up its anti-AIDS activities by introducing best experiences and through cooperation with other

members. The National Society is also hoping to get additional funding for its HIV programmes. As a member of the Global Alliance on HIV the society is at present working on a detailed plan regarding these activities, to be adopted in mid of September.

Some pilot activities on harm reduction have started and will be further developed. The project aims to decrease the spread of HIV among injecting drug users (IDUs). Since 2005 the French Red Cross and the Italian Red Cross have been implementing together with the Ukrainian Red Cross this project and as a result IDUs have been regularly visiting the Red Cross exchange point. Harm reduction is recognized as one of the priorities at the level of Ukrainian Red Cross governing board.

The home based care for people living with HIV is another service provided by visiting nurses. This service, supported by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria via the International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine has been provided in cooperation with the People Living with HIV Association so far only in 12 regions including Kiev and Odessa where the needs are the greatest and capacities of the National Society most adequate. However there is still room for more activities in this area and the National Society is planning to increase it in 2009-2010.

In 2008, the Ukraine Red Cross together with other interested organisations including UNAIDS, USAID, UNICEF, PATH, WHO and the International Foundation's "Alliance" again took an active part in preparing an application from Ukraine to the Global Fund seeking a grant for activities on combating TB, with the Ukraine Red Cross as the principal recipient. The Global Fund informed Ukraine that the application had been accepted.

At present a lot of organizations in Ukraine are working in the field of HIV, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and chemical dependences prevention, however, their efforts remain isolated and poorly coordinated. In such circumstances the priority for the Ukrainian Red Cross is to build partnership with leading HIV and AIDS NGOs and international agencies. It could be achieved with support from the International Federation and other National Societies from across the world.

Over recent years Ukraine experienced outbreaks of avian influenza in several regions of the country. The National Society through support from the International Federation and in close cooperation with the ministries of emergency, agriculture and education implemented a few projects to withstand the avian influenza pandemic. The society is planning to further improve its capacity for human pandemic response.

In 2009-2010 the Ukraine Red Cross will develop and strengthen the capacities and structure of the National Society to establish strong youth and volunteer recruitment/ retention systems as a form of civic participation. This will help address social problems in local communities, by involving youth in the training of the population in first aid and in HIV prevention activities.

The Ukraine Red Cross will also continue addressing the needs of elderly people living often alone and isolated in their homes. In doing so it puts great emphasis on further developing its Visiting Nurses Service (VNS). This service involves at present 3,200 trained nurses. The government allocates money for nurses' salary but the National Society provides all other elements for the programme, such as medical kits, funds for transport, training for nurses and information materials. In recent years significant support has come from DFID, the Lars Amundsen Foundation and the International Federation's Capacity Building Fund (CBF) which allowed the modernization of about 50 per cent of the service. The National Society and the International Federation will seek assistance to improve the rest of the service.

Another important concern of the Ukrainian Red Cross is raising humanitarian values, particularly in fighting stigmatization of people living with HIV through access to knowledge that may change perceptions, attitudes and behaviour towards these people. The National Society implemented projects with support of the Swedish Red Cross through the International Federation and the Empress Shoken Fund. The positive experience obtained from implementing these projects can be replicated in future activities. Besides it is important to respond to other forms of discrimination in Ukraine, in particular xenophobia. The Ukrainian Red Cross has enough human resources to carry out national information campaigns. This will help to improve the existing cooperation with partner organizations and to create

new ones. It will also raise the trust of civil society towards the Ukrainian Red Cross and help to form positive attitudes towards the most vulnerable.

Another activity will be to protect the rights of irregular migrants detained in accommodation centres. According to UN statistics, Ukraine occupies fourth place in international migration, at the epicentre of international migration processes as a result of the expanding eastwards of the EU. The cohort includes those deported from Poland, Romania and new member states as well as undocumented migrants from south and central Asia, China and the Middle East. This target group needs to receive humanitarian, psychological and legal support.

The Ukraine Red Cross in cooperation with the regional ICRC delegation provided assistance to the undocumented migrants detained in accommodation centres. Besides the society has concluded an agreement with the authorities for regular visits to migrants in penitentiary institutions by Red Cross personnel. This has allowed them to run limited programmes in favour of migrants living with TB and HIV, among other activities. Coordination meetings with the state archive authorities, the ministries of interior, the state committees on nationalities and migrations, and the state security services are regularly held.

Tracing, International Humanitarian Law and information programmes are implemented also with support from ICRC. Recently, ICRC announced the closure of its regional delegation in Kiev by the end of 2008. Coordination of programmes in the region is planned to be handed over to the ICRC office in either Moscow or Tbilisi. However at the same time the International Committee has expressed a willingness to continue the cooperation between the International Federation and the National Society, including support to tracing services and to the *Education of Humanitarian Law* programme.

## Secretariat supported programmes in 2009-2010

### Disaster Management

#### a) The purpose and components of the programme

<b>Programme purpose</b>
To reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.

The disaster management programme budget is CHF 318,060 (USD 290,732 or EUR 202,586).

<b>Programme component 1: Organisational preparedness</b>
<b>Component outcome 1:</b> The Ukrainian Red Cross has strengthened its material resources for emergency relief.

To achieve this outcome, the National Society will strengthen its disaster preparedness capacity through reinforcing the disaster centre and replenishing its disaster relief fund and emergency stocks in each region. The International Federation's representation in Kiev and the zone office in Budapest will help define the role of the National Society as auxiliary to the government in the national disaster management framework, in particular in the area of disaster preparedness and response and civil protection. In close cooperation with the Ministry of Emergency the current Ukrainian Red Cross disaster management plan will be updated and recognized by the government.

<b>Component outcome 2:</b> The skills and professionalism of the National Society disaster response staff and volunteers are improved including the understanding and application by the National Society of the International Federation's standardized guidelines for effective response.
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The society will take necessary measures to ensure that a sufficient number of trained staff and volunteers are ready for action in case of disaster through regular participation in the regional disaster management working meetings and workshops on psychosocial support, shelter and relief and/ or lessons learned from relief operations. In the coming year the National Society is planning to include new components in its disaster response educational courses – psychosocial support (PSS), avian flu

and issues of recovery. It is planned that at least 75 per cent of National Society trained staff who can be involved in disaster operations will understand and apply SPHERE standards and the International Federation's standardized guidelines for effective response.

<b>Programme component 2: Community preparedness</b>
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<b>Component outcome:</b> Communities prone to disasters have raised their awareness on hazards and strengthened their disaster preparedness and response skills to respond to disasters effectively.
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The National Society will ensure that at least five community-based disaster preparedness programmes targeting high-risk communities are in place. At least five per cent of target communities will be covered by community disaster preparedness and response programmes. Disaster affected populations, including those, who live in avian flu-prone regions, especially people with disabilities, elderly people living alone, homeless people and multi-child families will have access to reliable information, and will receive social and humanitarian assistance. These activities will be closely linked with other programmes of the National Society. Trained young volunteers and Red Cross visiting nurses will be actively involved in raising the awareness of communities on hazards and strengthening their abilities to respond to disasters effectively.

The National Society will develop a case study based on the experience obtained in the field of disaster management with a special emphasis on such innovating areas as psychosocial support, and the use of cash distribution during relief operations. Lessons learned will be shared internally in the above-mentioned community-based disaster preparedness programmes and more widely with other partners.

**b) Profile of target beneficiaries**

The disaster management programme of the Ukrainian Red Cross targets different groups of beneficiaries. These include residents of high-risk communities, living in the most flooded areas and those most prone to road accidents, people affected by technological and natural disasters, elderly people living alone and people with disabilities, students, schoolchildren and multi-child families. The total number of people reached over the two years will be 44,130, with 12,870 of them being male and 31,260 female. This target group will have access to reliable information, and will receive social and humanitarian assistance as necessary.

In addition, the National Society staff and volunteers, altogether 1,100 people (300 male and 800 female), will gain from the increased capacity and skills.

**c) Potential risks and challenges**

To implement projects funded by international donors it is necessary to register all the money and other supplies with the Humanitarian Commission of the Cabinet of Ministries of Ukraine in order to be exempt from paying taxes. But sometimes this procedure of obtaining certification can last several months, which leads to delays in project implementation.

## Health and Care

**a) The purpose and components of the programme**

<b>Programme purpose</b>
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To reduce deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
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The health and care programme budget is CHF 637,286 (USD 582,528 or EUR 405,914).

<b>Programme component 1: HIV and AIDS</b>
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<b>Component outcome 1:</b> Improved health and social conditions of people living with HIV (PLHIV) due to anti-retroviral (ARV) therapy.
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The home based care for PLHIV will be provided by Red Cross visiting nurses. It is planned that within the project implementation some 70 Red Cross visiting nurses will be trained for conducting ARV therapy and social support. The activities under this component will ensure that around 500 PLHIV improve their health and social conditions. It is envisaged that the death rate among PLHIV involved in the project will decrease by 35 per cent.

**Component outcome 2:** Decreased spread of HIV in rural areas of Ukraine due to public awareness-raising and behaviour-changing activities of the Red Cross.

The activities of the Ukrainian Red Cross under this component will aim at reducing youth vulnerability towards HIV and AIDS, STIs and drug abuse in rural areas of six selected regions through preventive activities. At present a lot of organizations in Ukraine are working in the field of HIV, sexually transmitted infections and chemical dependences prevention. However, their efforts are focused mainly on urban areas, especially big cities, and therefore rural villages are left out of attention. To avoid overlapping the Ukraine Red Cross is planning to work on HIV prevention in rural areas.

The planned campaign is focused on raising public awareness of HIV and AIDS, healthy lifestyle, responsible sexual behaviour, safer sex messages, condom use, and rejection of chemical substance abuse. It is expected that the number of people seeking HIV counselling and testing as well as the number of people seeking treatment will increase.

**Component outcome 3:** Decreased spread of HIV among injecting drug users.

The activities under component outcome 3 aim to decrease the spread of HIV among injecting drug users. There will be three regions selected with the highest prevalence rate of HIV and drug usage. Harm reduction is recognized as one of the highest priorities of the Ukrainian Red Cross. Within the project implementation IDUs will regularly visit Red Cross exchange points and the intention is to decrease the spread of HIV among injecting drug users by 50 per cent.

## **Programme component 2: Avian and human influenza pandemic**

**Component outcome 1:** A National Society contingency plan for human pandemic response based on the National Society's disaster management plan have been developed and recognized by the government.

The National Society will create its national human pandemic response plan as an annex to its disaster management plan. Government structures such as the ministries of health and emergency will be consulted and the National Society's official role in the governmental avian influenza plan will also be identified. Besides, the branch response plans will be developed. Introduction of necessary amendments to the regional contingency plan and its testing is foreseen.

**Component outcome 2:** Strengthened capacity of the National Society in human pandemic preparedness and response through increased skills and knowledge of Red Cross staff and volunteers, effective mechanisms for response in six target regions of Ukraine.

Under this component the National Society will recruit, train, retain and manage a diverse, gender balanced volunteer network, conduct training for newly involved programme staff at the National Society and refresh the skills and knowledge of already existing ones. Global curricula and communications material for the target regions will be also developed and adapted. The materials and methodologies will be tested in several districts and/ or communities. Relevant exercises in a certain number of districts and/ or communities will be conducted.

**Component outcome 3:** Strengthened financial and technical resources for human pandemic response.

The replenishment of emergency stocks, including hygiene and relevant medicine supplies, falls under this component for case of human pandemic. The National Society will seek through resource

mobilization strategies to have available sufficient material and financial resources to meet its obligations.

## **b) Profile of target beneficiaries**

The direct beneficiaries receiving assistance under component 1 are PLHIV residing in the regional centres. The gender breakdown is 600 male and 400 female totalling 1,000 beneficiaries.

In 2009-2010, the Ukrainian Red Cross will aim at reducing youth vulnerability towards HIV, STIs and drug abuse in rural areas of three selected regions through preventive activities. The direct beneficiaries are people aged 15-49 living in the country. The male beneficiaries make up 12,000, and the female 24,000 of the total 36,000 people.

The programme aims to decrease the spread of HIV among IDUs. As a result IDUs will regularly visit the Red Cross exchange point, thereby decreasing the spread of HIV among injecting drug users. Some 30 per cent of this group of beneficiaries are living with HIV. The ratio of male to female in the total number of beneficiaries is 9,192 to 9,168; roughly 50-50 per cent. The total number of targeted people is 18,360.

The direct beneficiaries of the avian influenza preparedness project will be the population of six regions of Ukraine who will receive information and knowledge on avian influenza prevention. Besides, Red Cross staff and volunteers will be trained to be stand-by workers in case of an outbreak. The gender breakdown is 420,000 male and 280,000 female of a total 700,000 people.

## **c) Potential risks and challenges**

Certain problems still exist in recruiting qualified people for programme implementation. Sometimes staff and volunteers themselves lack a positive attitude towards PLHIV. Among other challenges can be low willingness of local authorities to support harm reduction activities.

# Organizational Development/Capacity Building

## **a) The purpose and components of the programme**

### **Programme purpose**

To increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.

The organizational development/ capacity building programme budget is CHF 121,613 (USD 111,163 or EUR 77,460).

### **Programme component 1: Youth and volunteer promotion and development**

**Component outcome 1:** The Red Cross has developed and strengthened its capacities and structure through establishing strong youth movement, volunteer recruitment and retention systems.

Nowadays youth wants to participate actively in civil society. More than 80 per cent of Ukrainian Red Cross volunteers and 21 per cent of members are young people. The Ukrainian Red Cross will advocate and promote youth voluntary movement, develop youth initiatives, increase the role of young people in decision-making as a way to reach socially isolated and most vulnerable people.

### **Programme component 2: Visiting nurses services capacity development**

**Component outcome 1:** The quality of the Red Cross visiting nurses services has been improved.

In Ukraine the number of pensioners is growing each month. More elderly people live separately from their children and require assistance. In addition to social and medical assistance elderly people should have access to legal assistance as well.

The Ukrainian Red Cross Society will continue to strengthen its organizational capacity to respond effectively to the needs of these vulnerable people. Priority will be given to the Visiting Nurses Service

(VNS) which is an integral and vital part of the National Society's long-term potential. The objective is to raise the quality of services provided by the VNS through upgrading its resource and infrastructure base. It is planned that in 2009-2010 the Ukrainian Red Cross visiting nurses will be supplied with first-aid kits and trained to provide basic legal, social and psychological support to their clients, expanding the range of services offered. In addition, safety rules will be developed to reduce the number of accidents occurring at work, increasing the safety of nurses.

## b) Profile of target beneficiaries

In the organizational development programme, the direct beneficiaries are the National Society staff, volunteers, members of the headquarters and regional branches, local communities, students of universities and higher grades of schools. The youth project plans to benefit young volunteers and activists, around 84,000 male and 36,000 female out of 120,000 people.

The direct beneficiaries of the programme component 2 are 3,200 Red Cross visiting nurses, all 3,200 of them being female.

Elderly people (aged from 65) will have an access to legal information and advocacy to decrease intolerance, discrimination and social isolation of older people, and enhance assistance through the establishment of self-support groups.

## c) Potential risks and challenges

The potential challenges include the following:

- ◆ Appropriate funding is provided.
- ◆ Relevant expertise is available, preferably in-country to work with the youth.
- ◆ In the VNS it is important that the government would continue providing salaries for the visiting nurses.

## Principles and Values

### a) The purpose and components of the programme

<b>Programme purpose</b>
To promote respect for diversity and human dignity, and reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion.

The principles and values programme budget is CHF 188,126 (USD 171,962 or EUR 119,826).

<b>Programme component 1: Anti-discrimination</b>
<b>Component outcome 1:</b> The level of discrimination towards vulnerable groups in Ukraine has been reduced through the promotion of humanitarian values and changing negative behaviours.

This programme component focuses on the change of behavioural practices, which is fundamentally about building an environment of mutual understanding, tolerance – these are the characteristics of a well-functioning civil society. The aforementioned can be possible after bringing attention to the problems of discrimination through information campaigns, as well as through education and raising awareness of common humanitarian values and the Fundamental Principles of the Movement.

Stigma and discrimination remain the vital and serious problems in preventing HIV, as well as in issues concerning care and support of PLHIV. Timely and true information on this disease positively affects on the level of tolerance and compassion towards PLHIV. Therefore the promotion of humanitarian values will be closely linked with the implementation of HIV prevention projects to form tolerant attitudes towards PLHIV through public education and awareness-raising.

<b>Programme component 2: Programme for migrants</b>
<b>Component outcome 1:</b> Irregular migrants at their temporary places of residence have received

humanitarian assistance, as well as psychosocial and legal support.

This component envisages that the Ukrainian Red Cross will ensure that irregular migrants detained in accommodation centres have access to legal counselling. Contact with relatives through Red Cross messages and telephone calls will be also provided. The National Society will make sure that the sanitary conditions in the centres of detaining irregular migrants meet the minimum requirements, infectious diseases are prevented and first-aid is provided.

## **b) Profile of target beneficiaries**

Among the target groups of the principles and values programme are PLHIV, migrants, people with disabilities, elderly people, women, community members, teachers, schoolchildren, students and the general public. The Ukrainian Red Cross is planning to reach about 5 million people per year as a result of mass media awareness-raising campaigns, with the breakdown of 40 per cent male and 60 per cent female.

The target groups for programme component 2 are persons deported from Poland, Romania and other countries, new EU members, irregular migrants from south and central Asia, China and the Middle East. This target group will receive humanitarian, psychological, legal support and be able to call their countries of origin. The direct beneficiaries are undocumented migrants who are detained and placed in detention centres on the EU border, 850 male and 150 female totalling 1,000 beneficiaries.

## **c) Potential risks and challenges**

The potential risks and challenges of this programme are as follows:

- ◆ Availability of material, financial and human resources
- ◆ Commitment of responsible persons at regional level
- ◆ Support/ approval by the Ukrainian government
- ◆ Ukrainian Red Cross's access to migrants is ensured
- ◆ Detention centres guards are cooperative

# **Role of the secretariat**

## **a) Technical programme support**

A Federation representation was established in Kiev in 1990, and continues to assist the Ukrainian Red Cross to reduce vulnerability in the country through relief and development, fund-raising and capacity building programmes. The Kiev representation reports to the International Federation's regional representation in Moscow. It is staffed by a representative for Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova who is responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and also for wider representation issues as many international organizations, delegations, embassies and media have their Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine offices in Kiev. The CHARP programme coordinator works out of the Kiev office, and there is a finance officer, an office administrator and a driver. The representation is located in the Ukrainian Red Cross central committee premises. It has proved effective in the past in introducing the Ukrainian Red Cross to several sources of revenue, and has assisted the National Society in gaining access to international organizations. As both organizations are located in the same premises, information-sharing and decision-making is facilitated.

Further technical support is provided through combining the expertise of experienced staff with regionally/ internationally recruited expertise from the Federation regional representation in Moscow and the zone office in Budapest.

The Federation priority is to assist the Ukrainian Red Cross to become a stronger organization delivering better services aimed at preventing and alleviating suffering. Specifically, to:

- Strengthen sustainability and diversification and search for new sources of funding to ensure both the stable functioning of organizational structures and the implementation of statutory functions
- Improve financial management of the National Society
- Build volunteer-based services
- Strengthen governance and management
- Strengthen the youth participation in the Ukrainian Red Cross
- Adopt policies to promote the training, meaningful involvement and recognition of young people and volunteers and introduce required amendments to the statutes of the National Society
- Strengthening the Visiting Nurses Service and the medical-social centres as the key element of branch development
- Increase sustainability through increased local fund-raising capacity
- Build partnerships with the government, and in-country and international organizations

In the coming years, the main goal of the International Federation's support to the National Society will be to help it become a well-functioning institution capable of implementing the Federation's Strategy 2010 and the Strategy for the Movement.

## **b) Partnership development and coordination**

The International Federation provides methodological and consultative support for the Ukrainian Red Cross to strengthen the National Societies' capacity to implement HIV and AIDS and community health programmes. In 2003-2008 there were numerous seminars and trainings, guidelines, codes of practices for volunteers and staff. The preparation for the key dates (World TB and AIDS Days) has been organized in close contact with responsible staff from the International Federation's secretariat. The International Federation supports the work of *PassItOn* electronic forum, which enables to share best practices with more than 180 National Societies.

The Ukrainian Red Cross project activities were designed on the basis of a complex approach, using the considerable experience gained by the National Society and the International Federation (particularly best practices on reducing stigma and discrimination), which is reflected in the combination of various forms of work, such as seminars, discussions, presentations, briefings, round tables, and PR events, and using the motivation of local communities to participate in initiatives responding to stigma and discrimination aimed at changing negative behavioural practices.

Partnership with international organizations (the National Society is sub-recipient of a Global Fund grant, it has joint programmes with UNHCR, IOM, and partner National Societies) and access to international experience and know-how provide solid foundation for further activities. The Ukrainian Red Cross also has good cooperation with Ministry of Youth and Sport, the Ministry of Emergencies, the Ministry of Justice and Internal Affairs, and the State Penalty Committee. The Ukrainian Red Cross is a member of several commissions of the government and the president of Ukraine, such as the commission on humanitarian assistance or the commission on citizenship. It has also developed partnerships with commercial companies who have donated cash and in-kind resources.

In 2009-2010, the International Federation will continue to concentrate on encouraging the Ukrainian Red Cross to become a well-functioning organization with an increased capacity to independently design, manage and implement more focused and responsive programmes primarily based on the use of local resources.

In so doing, the Federation representation will play a role as a platform of information, communication and know-how exchange to all partners involved, raising awareness for sensitive and critical issues and bringing both sister societies and external partners to the table to discuss matters together and to try to find common complementary solutions.

In line with the Strategy 2010 and the Strategy for Change, the long-term perspective of the International Federation is to phase out of the region once the National Society is able to take over full responsibility for programme development and financing. However, due to the continuing socio-economic dislocation, the timeframe to achieve this remains undefined, and the Federation intends to

maintain its support to the Ukrainian Red Cross as long as this is considered necessary by the Federation and the National Society.

### **c) Representation and Advocacy**

The secretariat will be a strategic adviser both for the Ukrainian Red Cross and its partners. This function of the Federation representation will be complemented by its roles to represent the Ukrainian Red Cross in front of governments and international organizations and to help position the National Society. It will also continue to open doors for the Ukrainian Red Cross and other National Societies in the sub-region to international organizations in Kiev and abroad.

International representation and advocacy will be provided through the Federation zone office in Budapest, with active involvement of the offices in Moscow and Kiev. Approaching local governments, UN agencies, diplomatic missions, banks, NGOs and other organizations the Federation representations will raise the profile of the Ukrainian Red Cross and will seek new funding opportunities for the National Society in order to promote the society's capacity building and programme activities.

In recent months the Federation representation in Kiev has had high-level meetings with UNDP, the EU, IOM, Chernobyl Children's Fund International, UNICEF, and several embassies.

### **d) Other areas**

The International Federation's representation in Kiev provides technical support and advice also in designing and implementing some bilateral projects run by the Ukrainian Red Cross.

## Promoting gender equity and diversity

The Ukraine Red Cross supports civil society initiatives in formation of gender-oriented national policy though currently there are no special regulations on gender balance within the National Society. However the National Society takes into account the gender balance issue in all its projects and activities; particularly the participation of women in the decision-making process, project implementation, planning, international conferences/ workshops and equal mobilization of volunteers and educational opportunities (HIV and AIDS, TB, harm reduction activities). The National Society is starting to develop the regulations on equal opportunities, establish systems to collect and analyse gender-disaggregated data on its membership, volunteers and staff and have relevant tools to assist staff and volunteers in translating existing policies into practice. Ukraine Red Cross staff is 90 per cent female.

In all projects for Ukraine, particularly those funded through the International Federation, as far as possible, the interests of every group, gender equity, and social status are taken into consideration. Although the programmes benefit men and women equally according to their specific needs and vulnerabilities however there are projects more specifically targeting women. For instance according to the official statistics there is women's prevalence in Ukrainian population because women have the longer life expectancy. This means that there are more elderly females living alone than males. Therefore gender balance is taken for instance into consideration in designing the VNS projects and when selecting beneficiaries.

## Quality, accountability and learning

The Ukrainian Red Cross has experienced and well-trained personnel that can provide high quality and cost-effective services to the most vulnerable populations.

The Ukrainian Red Cross Society has established a reliable reporting system. The projects personnel prepares different types of narrative and financial reports. The projects are regularly monitored and evaluated by using inquiries and questionnaires.

Senior staff organize regular visits to the field to ensure the sharing of experience and communication with the branches. National Society senior management have been trained in the areas of management, mobilization, the effective use of resources, project planning process, and the development of volunteer and youth movements. National Society staff and volunteers are inducted into the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and understand the auxiliary role of the National Society.

The International Federation will continue to promote best practices and quality standards in the programmes to foster the replication of successful elements as well as exchanges between the National Societies in the region, thus building knowledge-sharing networks.

How we work	
<p>The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".</p>	<p><b>Global Agenda Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.</li> <li>• Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.</li> <li>• Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.</li> <li>• Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.</li> </ul>
Contact information	
<p>For further information specifically related to this plan, please contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>In the Ukraine Red Cross Society:</b> Alla Khabarova, Executive Director; email: <a href="mailto:national@redcross.org.ua">national@redcross.org.ua</a>; phone: +380 44 235 03 34; +380 44-288-1658</li> <li>• <b>In the Federation Representation for Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine:</b> Joe Lowry, Federation Representative; Kiev; phone: +375 172 23 63 61; fax: +375 172 23 90 60; e-mail: <a href="mailto:joe.lowry@ifrc.org">joe.lowry@ifrc.org</a></li> <li>• <b>In the Regional Representation for Belarus, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine:</b> Jaap Timmer, Regional Representative; Moscow, email: <a href="mailto:Jaap.Timmer@ifrc.org">Jaap.Timmer@ifrc.org</a>; phone: +7 495 937 52 67; fax: +7 495 937 52 63</li> </ul>	