

Mid-Year report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Kyrgyzstan

MAAKG001

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This report covers the period from
01/January/2011 to 30/June/11.



The Red Crescent Society supports polio immunization campaign through social mobilization in target areas.
Photo: **Kyrgyzstan RC**

In brief

Programme outcome: The Kyrgyzstan National Society programmes are aligned with the strategic aims of Strategy 2020 of the Federation to save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises; enable healthy and safe living; and promote social inclusion and culture of non-violence and peace. The capacity-building efforts are in line with Enabling Action One to build strong National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Programmes summary:

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan (RCSK) is committed to provide timely and relevant quality services to the vulnerable people. In order to progress in that direction the National Society chose to develop a model of partnership through applying an operational alliance (OA) approach. The Kyrgyzstan operational alliance encourages the shift from ad-hoc projects to a long-term programme approach, enabling joint programme planning and performance management in order to achieve greater impact and eliminate any undesirable duplication of efforts.

When the OA concept was launched in the Kyrgyz Red Crescent, it triggered a wide-ranging process of the organisational change in order to accommodate new and different ways of working. This change process has become an integral part of the National Society organisational development (OD) work. As a result, the Red Crescent has embarked with a clear progress on such processes as:

- Development of the human resources (HR) management system, practices and mechanisms. The Mid-term Review¹ conducted by the British Red Cross at the end of 2010 contributed to the revision of the 2011–2012 work plan on HR management

¹ Click [here](#) to see the report of the Mid-Term Review “HR development process for Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent.”

development.

- Financial management development (FMD). The process involves all aspects of financial management, such as financial planning, monitoring, control, accountancy, and auditing. In 2011 the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent made efforts to prepare an organisational annual financial plan that will allow for greater transparency and better decision-making when allocating resources and developing internal policies. One of the financial management development (FMD) outputs already apparent is the development of a unified budgeting template and guidance on calculating transport and other expenses that have indirect costs.
- Development of the integrated programming. While the initial aspiration of the Kyrgyzstan National Society was to develop an operational alliance (OA) around the organisation-wide integrated programme, it has proven difficult to achieve in a short span of time. Instead, a different model of integration has emerged: development of integrated programmes at the level of regional branches with a pilot in Issyk-Kul branch; development of comprehensive disaster management, TB and HIV prevention and social care programmes including key cross-cutting elements and funded by contributions from all multilateral or bilateral partners through application of OA tools.

As a result of the OA development and change management processes, the following arrangements have been made:

- Establishment and development of the senior management team;
- Establishment of the planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) unit;
- Establishment of the security unit;
- Revision of the National Society structure;
- Further development of the National Society governing board.

The disaster management programme of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan ensures institutional capacity building by improving the staff and the volunteers' knowledge and skills in disaster management, planning for disasters, maintaining technical resources (including communication equipment and transport), and strengthening partnerships with public authorities and other stakeholders.

In the first half of the year 2011, the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent provided assistance to people affected by small-scale disasters, namely floods and mudslides. The National Society also continued the response operation in the south of the country under the emergency appeal addressing the consequences of the 2010 civil unrest.

The National Society Tuberculosis (TB) prevention programme provides services to people with TB, and disseminates information about the disease among the patients family members and the general population. Within the HIV prevention programme, the Kyrgyzstan National Society has been using peer education approach in their work with most at risk populations and young people. The Red Crescent continues to provide harm reduction services targeting injecting drug users. The start of 2011 saw the move of CBHFA from being a separate project to being mainstreamed across all NS programming areas as an approach. The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent also contributed to the national polio immunization campaign through community mobilization in target areas.

The principles and values programme reached partners and the general public with key messages through campaigns on calendar dates. The information and education centres for migrants and mobile teams of the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent provided services to 3,070 migrants.

Financial situation: The total 2011 budget is CHF 1,227,137 of which CHF 623,603 (51 per cent) covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). The overall expenditure during the reporting period was CHF 430,001 (68 per cent) of the funding. For the disaster management and health and care programmes the implementation level is lower because the funds arrived only in May-June 2011.

[Click here to go directly to the financial report.](#)

See also [Final report on Kyrgyzstan Civil unrest emergency appeal](#)

No. of people we have reached: 44,499 people benefited directly from secretariat-supported programme interventions during the reporting period.

Programme/ project	Target group	Number of people reached	% of Women	% of men
Disaster management	People affected by floods in Batken province	700	61.5%	38.5%
Health and care:				
TB prevention	People with TB, MDR TB Family members Migrants General population	817 927 800 35,000	35%	65%
HIV prevention	IDUs Communities reached through peer education, of these:	550 10,200	54.4%	45.6%
	<i>IDUs</i>	51	57%	43%
	<i>Vulnerable Women</i>	305		
	<i>Truck & taxi drivers</i>	484		
	<i>Migrants</i>	357		
	<i>Sex workers</i>	539		
	<i>Youth</i>	7063		
	<i>Vulnerable children</i>	891		
	<i>Army recruits</i>	510		
CBHFA	General population Community volunteers	1,129 71		
Principles and values	Migrants, community leaders, authorities	3,870	62%	38%
Organizational development*	Street children, children with disabilities, orphans Older people	580 55	53% 62%	47% 38%
Total:		44,499		

* Given the nature of the OD and OA work, the reach is wide-ranging and involves people who benefit from the programme as a result of improved and more coordinated services and improved staff competency levels. Children and older people mentioned in the table benefited as a result of fundraising work.

Our partners: The donors supporting the programmes multilaterally through the International Federation are the British, Finnish and Norwegian Red Cross Societies, the European Commission and the Japanese Government.

Context

Kyrgyzstan is widely considered to be economically and politically fragile. Its already weak economy was further shaken by the world financial crisis and by the powerful political cataclysms of 2010 – a revolutionary change of government and civil unrest.

The unstable political situation in the country contributes to high staff turnover within governmental organisations and local authorities, which in its turn affects the established partnerships and frequently requires the Kyrgyzstan National Society to build up relations from scratch. One third of Kyrgyzstan's economically active population works abroad, and the country is largely dependent on remittances. Labour migration deprives communities of an entire bulk of the active population usually involved in disaster mitigation actions. Despite increased motivation in communities that have already benefited from the Red Crescent disaster management projects, the general motivation levels within communities remain insufficient. The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent is considering new approaches to address this issue.

Building on experiences and lessons learned from the 2010 response operations, the National Society identified new areas requiring attention, such as strengthening volunteering in emergencies work, security and safety of staff and volunteers during response/relief operations, and the development of a contingency plan based on a civil conflict scenario. Since January 2011 the Kyrgyzstan National Society has been implementing the programme "Volunteering in Emergencies" that has become part of a wider organisational change within the transition programme framework. In the first half of the year, the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent responded to floods in Batken province targeting 137 affected families and completed the civil unrest response operation in the south of the country targeting a total of 5,265 beneficiaries (1,053 families).

Since the beginning of 2011, the Kyrgyzstan National Society HIV prevention programme has been implemented within the frameworks of the Global Alliance on HIV. The Global Alliance aims at bringing together Movement partners and utilising collective resources in order to tackle the whole spectrum of HIV and AIDS-related issues. The Global Alliance aims at significant scale up of HIV prevention, care and support work in Kyrgyzstan. Alliance members are the American RC, British RC, and Finnish RC through the IFRC.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster management

Programme component 1: Disaster management planning

Component outcome: Improved ability to predict and plan for disasters to mitigate their impact on vulnerable communities, and to respond to, and effectively cope with, their consequences.

Achievements

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan took an active part in testing the revised regional disaster response/ contingency plan (DR/CP) of the Central Asian National Societies in March 2011. All DR stakeholders in the region (including the ICRC, partner National Societies, the UN agencies, and the Kazakhstan Emergency Ministry) attended the test and provided feedback that was later used to refine the plan. The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent also signed two regional Memoranda of Understanding between the IFRC and the National Societies: on mutual assistance in case of an emergency and on the RDRT deployment.

The Red Crescent of Kyrgyzstan, with direct advisory support from the German Red Cross and with input from the Netherlands Red Cross, the ICRC and the IFRC, elaborated a draft of the national contingency plan based on the scenario of a complex emergency resulting from a civil unrest and affecting different parts of the country and a mudflow in Jalalabad province – a situation that requires the mobilization of resources at district, province, national and global levels. The plan was discussed and tested with stakeholders; the final version will be ready for adoption by the end of July 2011.² The National Society has also been making preparations to take over the role of the shelter cluster convener in the country from the UNHCR³.

² The national CP was supported by the German RC within the DIPECHO-funded project.

³ UNHCR took the leading role in shelter cluster after the violence in the south of the country in June 2010.

In April 2011, the Kyrgyzstan National Society became a member of the recently established Kyrgyzstan National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) that aims at enhanced coordination of disaster risk reduction at all levels. The same month the Red Crescent actively participated in the consultation meeting on procedures for admission of humanitarian assistance in the event of emergency situation, which was organized by the UNDP.

Programme component 2: Organizational preparedness

Component outcome: Strengthened capacity of the National Society in disaster preparedness and response through increased skills and knowledge of Red Crescent staff and volunteers, strengthened financial and technical resources, effective mechanisms for emergency response and recovery assistance.

Achievements

Five new members of the RDRT from branches and headquarters of the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent successfully passed the regional DRT training that took place in Tajikistan in May 2011. The participants obtained knowledge and skills needed for effective response and were added to the list of the RCRC staff and volunteers that can be deployed on RDRT missions.

The Kyrgyzstan National Society's DM officer attended the Global Community Safety and Resilience Forum held in March 2011 in Damascus (Syria) and participated in the development of practical recommendations and measures to improve delivery, impact and accountability of disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation programmes. The forum also provided a chance to exchange best practices in DRR among different National Societies at the global level.

The staff members who participated in the above mentioned events share their knowledge with colleagues during trainings in the country.

Within the frameworks of strengthening National Society capacity in disaster management, including security of personnel and efficient and quick communication channels, the NS started to focus on the improvement of their communications infrastructure, including radio equipment and its functioning. To support the National Society efforts, the IFRC radio specialist carried out a technical assessment of wireless communication equipment and re-mounted a radio station for communication in the event of a disaster in Bishkek. Three HF radio stations in branches require repairs that will be ensured in the second half of the year.

Since early 2011 the National Society has been implementing a Volunteering in Emergencies project which aims at creating a system for preparing a wide range of volunteers who could be deployed to respond to an emergency. The first few months of the year were devoted mainly to studying the existing tools and experiences and to planning a thorough approach to strengthen National Society volunteering in emergencies practice. A system of establishing a layer of volunteers-leaders was designed and a five-day workshop was developed for the volunteers-leaders that provide strong orientation into the National Society as well as practical skills in disaster preparedness and response. The first workshop will be provided in July. Since June 2011, the NS has also carried out regular two-day general orientation seminars, training 150 volunteers in a condensed version of the above-mentioned workshops. A regular exchange of experience between provinces as well as with other National Societies also contributes to strengthening knowledge and skills and to creating a community of volunteers in emergencies.

To understand and respond to the needs in the most relevant manner, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan conducted an analysis together with its Disaster Management Department as well as with volunteers and representatives of the Kyrgyzstan Ministry of Emergency Situations (MoES) throughout the country. The National Society is also planning to undertake an evaluation of its disaster management programme, which will include a revision of volunteer profiles, an analysis of the National Society capacity, and new requirements stemming from the changing nature of disasters. This analysis, which is expected to take place in the second half of 2011, will serve as a basis to re-design the National Society disaster preparedness and disaster response capacity.

Programme component 3: Community preparedness/Disaster risk reduction

Component outcome: Strengthened capacities of communities in disaster-prone areas to respond to future disasters through community-based disaster preparedness and implementation of mitigation projects.

While it was not possible to implement any activities under this outcome through multilateral IFRC support due to the late arrival of funds - in June 2011 - the National Society continued to actively involve communities who live in disaster-prone, mainly rural, areas to plan and implement community-based disaster preparedness and disaster risk reduction projects within the frameworks of DIPECHO-VI; and started a new project with support from the American Red Cross focusing on preparing Bishkek's urban population to earthquakes. Please also see section Working in Partnership of this report.

Programme component 4: Recovery

Component outcome: Increased capacity of the National Society to restore or improve pre-disaster living conditions and reduce the risk of future disasters.

No activities were implemented under this outcome because the funds arrived in June 2011.

Constraints or Challenges

The Kyrgyzstan National Society was unable to implement many of the planned activities because the funds were allocated only in mid-June.

The Red Crescent does not have enough technical expertise in shelter cluster coordination and will need support from the IFRC secretariat in this field.

Health and care

Programme component 1: HIV and AIDS

Component outcome 1: Vulnerability to HIV and its impact reduced through preventing further infection.

Component outcome 2: Vulnerability of PLHIV decreased through expanding HIV support.

Component outcome 3: Vulnerability of PLHIV decreased through reducing HIV stigma and discrimination.

Component outcome 4: The capacity of the National Society to deliver and sustain scaled up HIV programmes strengthened.

Achievements:

This report represents the overall achievements of the HIV prevention programme funded bilaterally and via the IFRC which are based on the Global Alliance programme and principles.

In the framework of the Peer Education programme, the NS conducted 510 peer sessions on HIV, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), and drug use, covering 10,200 most at risk population individuals (MARPs), such as sex workers, injecting drug users (IDUs), people living with HIV (PLHIV), labour migrants, vulnerable children, truck and taxi drivers, and members of the armed and security forces. Results of the pre- and post-tests, with 80% of right answers in average for the latter, showed that the trainings had increased participants' knowledge. This is a significant improvement in comparison with previous years, which is due to the implementation of a new, more interactive approach, development of key messages relevant to different target communities and revision of targeting with greater focus on most at risk populations. This change in approaches was the result of the findings and recommendations of the 2010 Evaluation of the National Society HIV Prevention Programme.

The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent harm reduction point operating in Karabalta served 550 beneficiaries. Among them 160 are regular customers of the points. Over the period 5,016 syringes were distributed, a return rate made 73 percent. Information activities were conducted directly in the syringe exchange/distribution point, as well as through outreach-workers in the places where drug users gather. The National Society involved two volunteers from IDUs in the programme. In the second half of 2011, self-support groups will be introduced to the programme based on the TB prevention programme model. Several meetings have already been held with representatives of the IDUs environment as part of preparatory arrangements.

The RCS of Kyrgyzstan provided PLHIV with legal and social support. In the consultative centre, a lawyer, a psychologist, and a social consultant provide information on living with HIV and ARV therapy and redirect beneficiaries to specialized institutions or partner organisations. During the reporting period, the centre provided support to 160 beneficiaries, among who were 130 PLHIV and 30 relatives of PLHIV. Another 31 persons received psychological support while 16 received legal and 68 social support. 43 beneficiaries were referred to the partner medical centres for consultations with medical specialists.

The RCS of Kyrgyzstan developed a policy on HIV/AIDS in the workplace aiming at facilitating the integration and work of PLHIV within the National Society. The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent also signed cooperation agreements with the NGOs “Arysh”, “SOS Kyrgyzstan”, as well as with the adaptation and rehabilitation centre for PLHIV “Lotus”, and organised a joint major event during the World Day for PLHIV. During the reporting period, the NS trained 83 PLHIV on their rights, in an attempt to decreasing the discrimination they face.

As a follow-up to the regional training on minimum standards of peer education held in 2010, the National Society HIV prevention programme arranged training for staff involved in implementation of peer education in HIV, CBHFA and other programmes. After the training, HIV branch staff adjusted peer education activities in accordance with the standards and CBHFA programme developed an integrated module on HIV and CBHFA that includes methods of community work. The standards will also be included in the standards for volunteers of the National Society.

Programme component 2: Tuberculosis
Component outcome 1: Clients with TB granted support from the Red Crescent.
Component outcome 2: TB awareness increased and stigma associated with TB reduced through communication and social mobilisation.
Component outcome 3: Participation of community members in the Red Crescent TB programming increased.

Achievements

The Kyrgyzstan National Society continued its TB prevention programme at six sites of the country – Bishkek city, Alamedin district (Chui province), Karabalta, Osh, Jalalabad and Kara-Suu district (Osh province). The programme aimed at improving treatment outcomes by encouraging treatment adherence in clients with TB. Over the reporting period, the programme served 801 TB clients.

Visiting nurses of the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent selected TB clients in cooperation with TB dispensaries, made home visits, raised awareness of the disease, provided psychological support to clients and members of their households, developing a commitment to treatment. Those clients who had difficulties reaching health facilities due to their health status received direct observation of treatment. In total 114 clients received direct observation treatment (DOT) and treatment success rate among these clients was 89.2 percent. Since May 2011, a pilot project for clients with MDR-TB has been implemented in Bishkek: visiting nurses provided 16 people with DOT.

Together with partner organizations, the National Society held a one month-long campaign aimed at raising public awareness about tuberculosis and dedicated to the World TB Day. The activities all over the country included drawing contests, distribution of information, education and communication materials in public places, sports activities for students, entertainment events for youth, video and audio clips broadcasts on public television and radio. Also, articles about TB and

about Red Crescent activities were published in the most popular newspapers of the country. An estimated coverage of the campaign is 35,000 people. Also, in cooperation with the national physiology centre a free x-ray examination was organized among migrants. About 800 migrants were tested, among them 42 people were suspected of having TB and referred for further examination and 2 people with complicated forms of TB were hospitalized.

Stigma and discrimination are the most significant barriers to preventing the spread of this disease. The National Society works to create a friendly environment and reduce stigma – through advocacy, social mobilization and community awareness initiatives aimed at overcoming fears and promoting the DOTS strategy. Attracting volunteers from former beneficiaries and forming self-support groups of clients receiving treatment help advocate their interests vis-a-vis the government agencies as well as the society as a whole, help oppose discrimination and create favourable environment. At present there are 28 former clients volunteering for the programme.

TB clients are entitled to some benefits from government including coal, flour and coverage of transportation expenses. Many of the TB clients do not know about their rights and NS visiting nurses raise their awareness in that relation. Moreover, local authorities in many cases are not aware of particular TB clients, and this information is also provided by the Kyrgyzstan NS which is collaborating with local authorities and the department on social protection of the population at the project sites.

In May 2011, the National Society's visiting nurses passed refresher trainings on the DOTS strategy, DOTS Plus, psychosocial support to TB clients and their families and on CBHFA tools. The training also introduced a change of programme approach. Namely, the programme focused on community mobilization: with support of the CBHFA programme groups of TB knowledge promoters were created in the communities, whose task is to support early detection, referral and treatment follow-up. 8 groups were established, each group included 2 TB promoters in Bishkek, Chui oblast' and South region. TB modules were also developed for TB knowledge promoters.

Volunteers assist visiting nurses in carrying out information dissemination activities. The number of young volunteers who conduct peer education increased to 150 students. Around 14,000 people were reached by those 150 students.

In cooperation with the principles and values programme, migration component, visiting nurses reached migrants with information dissemination and referral services. The number of people referred for further diagnostics amounted to 467, including 38 people whose diagnosis was confirmed.

Programme component 3: Community-based health and first aid

Component outcome: Population health improved through diseases prevention, health promotion, trauma reduction and basic first-aid training.

Achievements

In January 2011, the programme teams were conducting information sessions on CBHFA for active volunteers and the population in Osh, Jalalabad, Batken, Talas, Issyk-Kul, Chui, Naryn provinces. Totally, 1,129 people from the communities were trained.

Since February 2011, the CBHFA has been mainstreamed as an approach in the majority of the NS programming areas and is no longer regarded as a stand-alone programme. To facilitate such integration, three training courses on CBHFA approach were arranged for staff of the HIV and TB prevention programmes and the programme for vulnerable women. These training courses reached 54 NS staff in total. Information sessions on CBHFA approach have also been conducted for 71 active volunteers of these programmes, who will be training the target groups. The key topics of these courses included CBHFA in action, Volunteering, Social Mobilisation, situation analysis in the community, and health promotion. A CBHFA approach is now being applied every time the National Society selects a community and identifies issues within that community.

CBHFA guidelines for trainers have been adapted to the context and standards of the Kyrgyz Republic, and have been approved by the Kyrgyzstan Ministry of Health. Separate modules on CBHFA approach for HIV and TB programmes have been developed and published.

The CBHFA Coordinator and CBHFA trainers were actively involved in preparing and conducting a baseline assessment of the NS's Programme that targets vulnerable women and that is supported bilaterally by the British RC. The British Red Cross Health Advisor supported the baseline assessment, which focused on maternal, child, and neonatal health at six sites: Osh, Jalalabad, Chui, and Talas provinces, as well as Bishkek and Tokmok cities, and included a total of 655 people. The results of the assessment are currently being processed. This was an important step for the NS's newly recruited CBHFA personnel, who have been technically and financially supported by the IFRC since December 2009 and have now developed such skills as training in, and promotion of, CBHFA, preparing and conducting CBHFA-related assessments, and promoting community ownership and community mobilisation practices. To strengthen these achievements, further capacity building support will be required.

In April-May 2011, the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent Society supported the polio immunization campaign and targeted 30 districts located on the outskirts of Bishkek city. The living conditions in these districts are extremely poor and often lack basic utilities, such as running water and electricity. These districts are populated by internal migrants who, due to their status, have limited access to health and other services and who moved to Bishkek from rural areas in search for work. The National Society involved 180 volunteers who conducted social mobilization activities in communities.

As of March 2011, following the mainstreaming of CBHFA as a cross-cutting activity of the NS, salary payments and other personnel related expenses of CBHFA professionals in the Kyrgyz RC are being absorbed by a number of NS programmes, including bilateral, that apply CBHFA. This puts CBHFA on a more sustainable footing in the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent Society and significantly reduces the financial burden on one single programme.

Constraints or Challenges

Because funding from the main donor was delayed the National Society had to postpone some activities in HIV prevention and CBHFA that required significant expenditures.

The process of moving from a project-oriented CBHFA to an approach-orientated CBHFA is complex and longer-term and requires significant technical input. The aim is to develop a strong skill and knowledge resource base within the Kyrgyzstan National Society, to ensure that CBHFA as an approach adds value to the programmes and allows better to understand communities, to develop appropriate key messages, and to identify areas where the National Society may advocate for improved services and improved access to these services.

Organizational Development/Capacity Building

Programme component 1: National Society organizational development and capacity building (headquarters and branches)

Component outcome 1: Management and governance effectively support the delivery of the National Society programming.

Achievements:

As part of the governing board and senior management development plan; two National Society governing board members and the secretary general visited the Swedish and Norwegian Red Cross Societies in April 2011. The visit aimed at studying the governing board structure, functions and role in setting strategic directions and promoting externally the interests of the National Society. Practical examples of the governing board involvement in different areas, including resource mobilization, are to be adapted by the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent governing board and management back home. As a result of the visits, the National Society governance also started playing a more active role in settling the internal crisis that has been affecting the management since 2010.

A senior management team (SMT) was established with the primary goal to identify strategic directions of the Kyrgyzstan National Society and assist in implementation of these directions to attain the organizational goal. The idea of the SMT stemmed from the necessity to promote a more consultative and wider decision-making process within the National Society and clarify the delegation of authority in the absence of the secretary general to foster efficient decision-making process. The terms of reference for the SMT have been developed with bilateral support from the British RC and through the IFRC. The SMT met twice to develop – among other things – a crisis management plan for the National Society and approve a business plan while establishing a planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER) unit.

In March 2011 the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent participated in the forum of leaders of the five Central Asian National Societies held in Dushanbe (Tajikistan). Strengthening the National Societies auxiliary status through a well-planned humanitarian diplomacy (HD) and developing strategic partnerships with traditional and non-traditional donors through a well-planned fundraising were among key decisions of the Leadership Forum concerning development. The first step in this direction was a workshop on HD and fundraising for the regional National Societies organized by the IFRC in Almaty in June 2011. As a result of this workshop, a road map for promotion of HD, including training and coaching for the governing board members, was developed. The Kyrgyzstan RC currently works on a plan to introduce a fundraising position and analyses its financial plans and gaps to improve and target their fundraising efforts accordingly.

Component outcome 2: Increased capacity for programme development and management.

Achievements:

While the initial aspiration of the Kyrgyzstan National Society was to develop the operational alliance (OA) around the organisation-wide integrated programme, it has proven difficult to achieve this goal in a short span of time. Instead it was proposed to first develop integrated programmes at the level of regional branches. Issyk-Kul regional branch was selected a pilot. As a result of two five-day workshops and intensive follow-up facilitated by the IFRC Senior Advisor, the first draft of the integrated programme has been developed. The workshops brought together branch and headquarters staff from all departments with local partners and allowed for an in-depth problem and stakeholder analysis leading to the development of the programme's objectives, indicators and activities. The programme has been later complemented with a financial plan and a budget. This is the first time that the Red Crescent develops a branch-level programme that does not only include all key activities relevant to the context of the province, but also uses a common set of working approaches and tools towards programme management. The draft programme is yet to be endorsed and shared with partners.

As part of a concept of integration with partners, the IFRC initiated a dialogue with the HelpAge International to identify areas of possible cooperation within the integrated programming approach in Issyk-Kul region. The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent was included as an implementing partner in the HelpAge International's concept note in response to the European Commission call for proposals. The identified activities fit perfectly into the scope of work with older people within the Issyk-Kul region's integrated programme.

In the next stage, the National Society, with significant support and guidance from the IFRC, is developing a four-year comprehensive TB prevention strategy supported by a two-year proposal that includes all aspects of the TB-related work, builds on the changing pattern of TB in Kyrgyzstan and considers key recommendations of the 2008 TB Review and subsequent developments by the IFRC TB working group of the model and indicators of the TB programme. The process involved wide-ranging and intensive consultations with all major stakeholders in TB in the country. This TB strategy and proposal also incorporates elements of integration with HIV, CBHFA approach and aspects of organizational development. The first draft of the strategy and proposal will be ready in September 2011. The development of the HIV prevention and disaster management programmes is being planned.

All these integrated regional and comprehensive sectorial programmes will be supported by tools offered by the OA, which means there will be one programme document, to which multiple partners will be able to contribute.

The operational strategies have not yet been developed but the basis for those has been laid during the four-year planning within the IFRC long-term planning framework. Each area of the National Society activities has been analysed to identify a baseline with long-term objectives, challenges and the areas of required support.

Certain steps have been made in the human resources (HR) development process. The Kyrgyzstan National Society organigram was updated to reflect changes in the organizational structure – new positions of coordinator and assistant of the Volunteering in Emergencies project, restoring family links assistant, etc. – were included. The Red Crescent Society also developed a workshop preparation manual which provides practical guidance to all staff on organising events (like workshops, seminars, meetings). With support of a consultant, the HR action plan 2010-2012 was revised in accordance with the recommendations of the Mid-Term Review, which was conducted by the British Red Cross at the end of 2010. A job description of the PMER manager was finalized; the position is expected to be filled by September 2011. A position of logistics officer has already been filled. The Kyrgyzstan National Society also drafted a job description for the security officer as a first step in introducing a new system of ensuring proper working conditions for staff and volunteers. Drawing from the response operations during and after the last year inter-ethnic violence in the south, the RC deemed urgent to strengthen its security framework. The introduction of a performance appraisal system was postponed until the third quarter in accordance with the Mid-Term Review recommendations. Preparations will be made prior to the introduction through discussions, workshops and posters.

A financial management development action plan for 2011-2012 was produced with support of a financial consultant, supported by the British RC and the IFRC, who also helped to evaluate the Naryn and Issyk-Kul branch financial systems to introduce temporarily a centralized accountancy. The development of a draft financial manual and financial procedures update are in process, as is the development of a unified planning and budget cycle. The first draft of the income and expenditure coding system has already been completed. External audits of the 2009 accounts are complete, and those of the 2010 accounts are in progress.

Component outcome 3: Volunteer capacity improved through relevant training and participation in core activities.

Achievements:

In 2010, civil unrest and violence in the south raised humanitarian needs in the country. The Kyrgyzstan National Society, in order to be able to respond to those needs, had to identify, mobilize, train and engage much more volunteers in all their activities immediately. The events highlighted the need to develop and strengthen volunteering in emergencies in the Red Crescent Society ensuring that the volunteers' profile, skills and availability match the response needs. This year the National Society started a project that aims to develop knowledge and practice in volunteering and volunteer management in emergencies, crisis, conflicts and disasters. The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent established five resource centres for volunteers across Kyrgyzstan and it has been conducting induction courses regularly for all newly recruited people. The volunteering strategy and handbook for volunteers are being developed.

The headquarters HR manager and assistant and volunteering in emergencies project coordinator attended a Volunteer Management workshop organized by the American RC in Almaty in May 2011. The workshop helped the National Society work on developing the volunteering strategy and amending the Code of Conduct that will include a separate section on volunteers.

Constraints or Challenges:

Throughout 2010 and 2011 the Red Crescent has been shaken by an internal crisis that acquired a significant international resonance. It has been challenging to keep up the morale and for the

Kyrgyzstan National Society staff to concentrate on their daily work. Yet, a crisis brings new opportunities. One of those, triggered by the crisis, was the National Society decision to establish the SMT. The challenge for a fairly inexperienced newly-built SMT will be to keep it going, to ensure good communication with staff about the SMT and their role, to promote a culture of joint decision-making and for the partners to liaise with the SMT as a decision-making body of the National Society.

Some of the developments described in this report were to be shared and discussed with partners during the partnership meeting scheduled for mid-May 2011. However, due to the internal crisis, this event had to be postponed until the acute phase of the crisis is over. Instead, different ways of communicating the developments and involving partners into the discussion and decision-making will be offered in the second half of 2011.

The internal crisis has also taken away the attention of key programme staff from endorsing and piloting the integrated programme and lead to some delays in the process which will be addressed in the second half of 2011.

Principles and Values

Programme component 1: Promotion of humanitarian principles and values

Component outcome: Fundamental principles and humanitarian values of the Movement promoted.

Achievements:

The Red Crescent reached partners and general public with key messages through campaigns on calendar dates – the World Red Cross Red Crescent Day, the World TB Day and others – and mass media. In total 33 media sources, including periodicals, web-based media, TV and radio channels, highlighted the Red Crescent activities.

Thirty new Red Crescent volunteers in the headquarters and branches received knowledge about the fundamental principles and humanitarian values and used it while rendering humanitarian assistance and delivering services to vulnerable people.

In January 2011, the results of the fundraising campaign held at the end of 2010 to support vulnerable children were published in the national newspapers and on the National Society's website to demonstrate how the funds were used, ensure transparency and support the image of the Red Crescent.

In March 2011, the Kyrgyzstan National Society organised a press-conference where staff from the headquarters and southern branch as well as representatives of local authorities of the southern Kyrgyzstan explained what kind of humanitarian assistance had been rendered by the National Society in response to violence and population movement in the south of the country in 2010, and according to what humanitarian principles. Eight mass media agencies – TV channels, radio, newspapers and information agencies – attended the press-conference.

In June the results of the Red Crescent competition for journalists titled "Helping people we help our society!" were announced and 26 winners received symbolic prizes. The competition aimed at highlighting the problems of migrants, their needs, issues of discrimination, xenophobia and the role of the Kyrgyzstan National Society in tackling those issues.

In cooperation with the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) programme, the information officer of the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent started shooting a video reel about the Red Crescent Society to present it to partners and communities. A story from Osh city, included in the video reel, covered issues of the emblem and the principle of neutrality and a story from Karabalta town – assistance to older people, vulnerable people in a hospice and a shelter for street children. Interviews of people from Osh city affected by violence last year will be part of the video reel to help promote non-

discrimination and tolerant attitude among local citizens of different nationalities and prevent conflicts.

The Kyrgyz Red Crescent, together with the communications team from the British Red Cross, produced a slide show and a video devoted to the 100th anniversary of the International Women's Day and highlighting the important work of the NS in addressing root causes of vulnerability of women and girls in Kyrgyzstan. The slide show can be accessed at the following link [BRCS IWD - Kyrgyzstan Women's Programme](#) The film will be available in the second half of the year.

Information campaigns to advocate for migrants' rights were conducted within the regional migration project. The Kyrgyzstan National Society and the IFRC secretariat organized events and participated in meetings of partners promoting humanitarian principles and values and increasing the awareness of migrants' needs. The regional information campaign held in Astana (Kazakhstan) in June 2011 included a conference marking the end of the EC-funded Central Asian Labour Migration Network project. About 30 participants from the Central Asian National Societies, the IFRC, the EU delegation, UN agencies, foreign embassies, ministries, police, civil society organisations, mass media and volunteers from migrants attended the event. They learnt about the Red Cross Red Crescent mission and principles, the Red Crescent activities with a focus on the labour migration project, its achievements and perspectives and discussed migrants' needs and possible ways to solve their problems. The event significantly increased the level of awareness of work and image of the Central Asian Societies including the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent.

Programme component 2: Anti-discrimination and violence prevention

Component outcome: Ability of communities to combat discrimination, intolerance and violence and to promote respect for diversity enhanced.

Achievements:

Over the reporting period, the information and education centres for migrants and mobile teams of the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent provided services to 3,070 people in 20 communities of internal migrants in Bishkek city and intending migrants in Jalalabad, Osh and Batken provinces. The services included legal consultations, psychological support, HIV, TB, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and other diseases prevention, first-aid training, tracing services. In total the National Society provided 370 training sessions and 1,000 consultations at service centres and through a hotline.

Advocacy work included two panel games on migration organised at branch level, in which community leaders, volunteers, and local authorities participated. About 800 people were involved in the debates. Messages on gender-based violence and discrimination continued to be spread as part of the National Society's promotion activities within all programmes.

Working in partnership

The wider organisational change process is supported by the Movement partners either multilaterally or bilaterally. The introduction of the position of a Senior Advisor is a clear added value, as technical expertise and support from partners is channelled in a more efficient and targeted manner. The next step identified by the Country Representative and Senior Advisor on the OA is to renew the work of the steering group to guide the process and ensure more active involvement of partners in building the OA.

Movement partners also contribute either bilaterally (British Red Cross and American Red Cross) or multilaterally (Finnish Red Cross through the IFRC) to the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent HIV/AIDS programme, in the framework of the Global Alliance (*for more information, see paragraph on Health & Care p.6*).

The Movement partners in Kyrgyzstan have initiated monthly Movement coordination meetings (MCM) that bring together representatives of the ICRC, the IFRC, the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent Society and other partner National Societies based in Kyrgyzstan. These meetings have a clear

added value in terms of coordination in different aspects including strengthening the Movement representation in contacts with the government and strategic and operational planning. The meeting minutes are regularly shared by the IFRC Representative/ Senior Adviser (OA) with interested partners that are not present in the country.

Recently, the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent, supported by the IFRC, started a dialogue with HelpAge International on collaboration in integrated programming and in strengthening the National Society capacity to fulfil the Vienna Commitments on active, dignified and inclusive ageing.

The National Society continues coordinating the disaster management activities with members of the shelter cluster in the country, led currently by the UNHCR, through regular meetings, information sharing and inter-agency contingency planning following the sector approach. Like in previous years the Kyrgyzstan National Society coordinated its DR operations with the Disaster Response Coordination Unit (DRCU), consisting of UN agencies and other NGOs. Being part of the DRCU, the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent became a member of the NPDRR established in February 2011. The role of the National Society in the NP will be to inform and mobilize the community on DRR, needs assessment and data collection but this is yet to be fixed officially.

The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent is also part of the project “Building sustainable community resilience through disaster risk reduction in Central Asia” implemented by the consortium of the American, German and Netherlands Red Cross Societies, the Central Asian Red Crescent Societies and the IFRC and funded by DIPECHO in 2010-2011. In the consortium, the Netherlands Red Cross is a lead agency and an applicant, and the IFRC has a designated role in ensuring overall coordination with other Red Cross Red Crescent projects and harmonization of approaches in the areas of the IDRL promotion, contingency planning and RDRT training.

Besides, in June 2011, the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent started an urban earthquake preparedness initiative focusing on Bishkek and supported by the American Red Cross.

The National Society is an active member of the country coordination mechanism on TB and HIV and regularly participates in the inter-agency meetings discussing the developments in the national TB and HIV prevention programmes. The Red Crescent maintains working relationships with international agencies like WHO, Project HOPE, Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, AIDS Foundation East-West, Soros Foundation, USAID, UNDP and UNICEF as well as local non-governmental organisations.

Since June 2011 the Kyrgyzstan National Society has been implementing a project supported by Project HOPE that includes distribution of food parcels to people with TB across the country. The food is provided as an incentive to continue treatment. In addition, bilateral support is coming from the Spanish RC for TB prevention and from the American and British Red Cross Societies for HIV prevention.

The key partners of the principles and values programme are the media, which play a great role in improving the image of Red Crescent and changing behaviour towards vulnerable groups served by the National Society. The partnership with EC, IOM, UN family agencies, local NGOs and local authorities strengthened under the migration project through information sharing, participating in regional and national conferences and meetings.

Contributing to longer-term impact

The integrated programming approach aims at developing the Kyrgyzstan National Society programme that addresses a complexity of community-based vulnerabilities as the Red Crescent perceives that one type of vulnerability leads to another. Within the framework of the project for vulnerable women, for instance, the National Society conducted a baseline assessment using the CBHFA approach to determine health priorities at the community level. Training was provided by the British RC to the involved personnel prior to interviews with 655 people in the country’s pilot regions. The survey results are currently being processed.

While revising the Code of Conduct, the Kyrgyzstan National Society studied different international examples of codes, including those of the partner National Societies, the IFRC and the ICRC. The HR function also looks at different examples within the Movement while developing a managerial guide.

The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent is in the process of establishing a Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER) function. A preliminary needs and gaps analysis revealed the lack of understanding of the PMER processes and their added value and demonstrated that various phases of the project management cycle were often disconnected from each other, as if they were carried out more out of an obligation than out of necessity. The introduction of the PMER function will allow for more structured and unified planning and reporting frameworks, improved monitoring and evaluation practices.

The SPHERE standards and the *Code of Conduct for Red Cross Red Crescent staff and volunteers in Emergency Relief* guide the Red Crescent disaster response. The fundamental principles and the value of respect for dignity and equality are at all times promoted in disaster management awareness materials. In disaster response, the distribution of assistance was made on the basis of impartiality.

An external evaluator hired by the IFRC visited the migration project sites in May-June 2011 within the framework of the evaluation of the regional project. The results of the evaluation will be shared with the Kyrgyzstan National Society, donors and other stakeholders. The project staff also refreshed their knowledge about reporting requirements and the use of the Most Significant Change story method as a monitoring and evaluation tool during the fifth regional technical migration meeting conducted in the end of May 2011 in Almaty (Kazakhstan).

Promoting and respecting the fundamental principles and humanitarian values, including the promotion of gender equity, are indispensable if the Red Cross Red Crescent is to be perceived as an impartial, neutral and independent actor. The Kyrgyzstan National Society does not take sides with diverging population groups and follows the principle of diversity in the composition of its staff.

Looking ahead

To provide peer-to-peer support in building leadership skills, the chief executive officer of the British RC, together with the British Red Cross vice chairman, will be visiting the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent in August 2011 to exchange experience on SMT and governing board work.

The summer months will see the finalisation of the development of a four-year HIV programme based on the evaluation⁴ conducted in 2010 and with consideration to the scale-up approach of the HIV Global Alliance initiative, of which the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent is a part. A two-year comprehensive DM programme will also be developed after an evaluation of all aspects of the DM work carried out with support from different partners. The draft of the evaluation ToR is ready and partners will soon be invited to contribute. The evaluation will be conducted by October 2011, and the first draft of the programme is expected by December.

It is planned that, after piloting the first integrated programme, similar integrated programmes will be developed in other regional branches of the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent in the next couple of years. Active involvement of the partner National Societies and the ICRC will be sought in order to progress, to have a wider degree of ownership, support and accountability.

The safety of Red Crescent volunteers and employees has become one of the main objectives of the HR strategy that will be finalized in the fourth quarter of 2011. The mechanisms will include not only security measures during relief operations, but also health and life insurance, selection criteria for service providers (such as transport), and requirements for working in potentially dangerous environment. The insurance system will first be discussed internally and externally before it is approved.

⁴ Evaluation: Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent Society HIV Programme.

The new Code of Conduct with paragraphs concerning communications with media, protection of personal information, protection against sexual harassment and security measures is planned to be presented to the governing board for approval in September-October 2011.

In the area of PMER, the Kyrgyzstan National Society will need to develop key performance indicators for the organisation as a whole that will be supported by proper reporting formats and guidance. The OA reporting format also needs to be developed, and external reports for donors will be based on internal reports. To ensure proper alignment between programmatic and financial reporting, the PMER unit will work in close cooperation with the finance department.

As the funds for the disaster management activities were received in June 2011, and the programme budget is less than 50 per cent covered, the programme plans have been revised. The scale and coverage of the community-based disaster preparedness activities have been reduced; the number of DRT trainings and field exercises at province level also decreased. However, the Red Crescent Society will continue IDRL promotion and advocacy of the revision of relevant legislation in cooperation with the UN OCHA and the UNDP.

The module for the national DR training will be adapted, based on the skills and knowledge the National Society obtained at the regional training events. Also, the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent Society intends to present the International Federation's latest World Disasters Report 2010 during the information campaign marking the International Day for Disaster Reduction in October 2011.

The Red Crescent migration services continue to be provided within the "volunteering in emergency" project. In order to scale up the Red Crescent TB and HIV programming, the IFRC will seek for TB and HIV funding from Population Services International (PSI) and for TB funding from Project HOPE. Consultancy support will be provided to facilitate the development of proposals aimed at migrants. Besides, funds will be sought from the EU and the UN Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT) for the Red Crescent migration and possibly anti-trafficking services in the next four years.

How we work	
<p>All Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.</p>	
<p>The IFRC's vision is to:</p> <p>Inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.</p>	<p>The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises. 2. Enable healthy and safe living. 3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
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