

Mid-Year report



Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Appeal No. MAAMK002

31/August/2011

This report covers the period 01/01/2011 to 30/06/2011.

In brief

Programme outcome: In line with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC) Strategy 2020, the aim of the Federation supported programmes in Macedonia is to *save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises; to enable healthy and safe living; and to promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.*

For the period 2010-2011, the Federation Secretariat's key areas of support to the Macedonian Red Cross included guiding the Macedonian Red Cross in their development process of transformation, strengthening their human resource capacities to provide quality services to the most vulnerable residents, and improving their capacities in disaster preparedness and response to address the most urgent situations.

Programme(s) summary: Limited funding meant that only activities in the Disaster Management programme were realized, while other programmes will be implemented as soon as adequate funding and support are ensured. The Macedonian Red Cross has been active in seeking other sources of funding in terms of external partners and new opportunities.

Within the Disaster Management programme, a project focusing on Disaster Risk Reduction was launched, covering primary schools in 15 municipalities of three micro regions: Prilep, Makedonski Brod and Kruševo. The project involves all the entities and actors in disaster preparedness at the local level and serves as a stepping stone for addressing the risk assessment and reduction practices at the local level, introducing new methodologies and continuing the dialogue with local and national authorities and actors regarding Disaster Risk Reduction.

Financial situation: The total 2011 budget is CHF 34,852 of which CHF 42,885 (123 per cent) was covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). The overall expenditure during the reporting period was zero of the budget. The expenditure is due to that fact that booking of the expenses of the implemented activities has been done after the reporting period.

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

No. of people we have reached:

Approximately 3,000 people benefited directly from Federation supported programmes

January - June 2011, Macedonia	Targeted groups	People reached
Disaster Management	Schoolchildren	3,000
Total number of people reached		3,000

Our partners: The Norwegian Red Cross contributed as a multilateral donor.

Context

The political situation in Macedonia has been fairly stable in 2011. However, the economy is still suffering from the effects of the global financial and economic crisis with a much slower GDP growth (1.3% in 2010, and a similar forecast for 2011), low inflation (below 2%) but also a massive unemployment (more than 30%).

A largely obsolete industrial infrastructure has not seen much foreign or domestic investment during the transition period in the 1990s. Labour force educational standards and skills are competitive in some technical areas and industries. However, without adequate job opportunities, many of the best skilled workforce are seeking employment abroad. A relatively low standard of living, high unemployment rate, and modest economic growth rate lie in the centre of the economic problems.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster Management

Programme purpose

Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.

Programme component 1: Disaster Management Planning

Component outcome 1: Contingency and response plans are updated to mitigate their impact on vulnerable communities.

Programme component 1: Organizational Preparedness

Component outcome 1: Improved capacity in skilled human resources at both branch and national level.

The activities were started only at the end of the reporting period due to the late arrival of funding. As it was done in 2010, the activities will be implemented in five steps, ensuring assessment of risks and capacities at local level in 15 municipalities of three micro regions in Macedonia (Prilep, Kruševo, Makedonski Brod). The first step is currently being taken, and it consists of the below mentioned elements:

- Vulnerability assessment of the educational institutions in the targeted municipalities;
- Selection of vulnerable schools;
- Collecting information about risks in the targeted municipalities;
- Introduction of the local population to the benefits of the project.

For this step the Red Cross of Macedonia is organizing workshops with local institutions responsible for disaster preparedness and disaster management as well as on principles of the selected schools, and also meetings with local governments.

The rest of the steps will follow in the second part of 2011:

- detailed assessment of selected schools and preparation of technical reports and studies on evacuation, rescue and protection, preparation of scenarios for practical exercises, training of staff for first aid in the workplace, training of teachers and technical staff to implement the plan for protection and rescue, training course and assessment of vulnerabilities and capacities;
- infrastructural activities in schools (panic signal, plans for evacuation, first aid kits);
- local assessment teams need to be formed to identify the types of risks, vulnerabilities and capacities in the given municipalities;
- making risk maps for each community, constructing of a database (Global Mapper), and regional simulations with the inclusion of all entities responsible for disaster management at the local level as well as practical exercises for evacuation in the targeted schools;
- producing reports on the abovementioned simulations and exercises with recommendations for further capacity building for the targeted schools.

Health and Care

Programme purpose

Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.

Programme component: Maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH)

Improved MNCH through the Macedonian Red Cross Society's community based activities, including safe motherhood and child health initiatives, vaccination and nutrition activities.

Programme component: Preventive health activities with focus on HIV and TB

Increase awareness and reduce stigma associated to TB/HIV through program advocacy, communication and social mobilisation.

Programme component: Voluntary non-remunerated blood donation

Increase awareness of the population for voluntary non-remunerated blood donation through development of Club 25.

Achievements: No funding was available for this activity in the reporting period.

Organizational Development/ Capacity Building

Programme purpose

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

Programme component: Supporting National Society OD process

Red Cross law and statutes including other documents and regulations are amended and approved.

Programme component: Volunteering and Youth development

Strengthen youth and volunteer base with aim of providing effective and quality services in all programme areas.

Achievements: No funding for this activity was available through the annual country plan, however, the Macedonian Red Cross Society has worked on these objectives using the support provided through the Intensified Capacity Building plan.

Working in partnership

The Macedonian Red Cross has been active in seeking other sources of funding in terms of external partners and new opportunities.

Contributing to longer-term impact

In connection with disaster preparedness and disaster management, many steps are underway such as a detailed assessment of selected schools, preparation of scenarios for practical exercises, training of staff for first aid in the workplace, training of teachers and technical staff to implement the plan for protection and rescue, training course and assessment of vulnerabilities and capacities.

Looking ahead

Through active capacity building, local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity will be increased to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability. Also, Red Cross law and statutes including other documents and regulations will be amended and approved, and youth and volunteer base with the aim of providing effective and quality services will be strengthened in all programme areas.

How we work

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".

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

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.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this report, please contact

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