

PROGRAMME UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والقمر الأحمر

TAJIKISTAN

4 January 2005

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 183 countries. For more information on: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal coverage: For live update click on the link below:

http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual04/018304ar.pdf

Appeal No. 05AA074

Appeal Target: CHF 2,319,414

Programme Update No. 2;

Period covered: June-November, 2005

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The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 183 countries. All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For more information please access the Federation website at: www.ifrc.org

Operational developments

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST), with Federation support, continued to implement the activities planned under Appeal 2005. The RCST staff and volunteers made efforts to reduce vulnerability of the population in the country to serious public health threats (TB, HIV/AIDS), disease outbreaks and disasters. As a result, during the reporting period, 63,261 people benefited from different activities: awareness campaigns and trainings on HIV/AIDS, TB, first aid (FA), sanitation, disaster preparedness/response, TB treatment, construction of water supply systems and other activities.

Initially, the RCST, with the Federation support, appealed for CHF 3,670,610 for its activities. Later on the Appeal budget was revised to CHF 2,319,414 as the new ECHO funded programmes were shifted to bilateral implementation with RCST. Until November 2005, the revised Appeal budget was covered by 54.5%. This was achieved thanks to the Department for International Development (DFID), the Swedish and Finnish Red Cross' contribution and Norwegian and Canadian Red Cross' funds carried over from last year. In November 2005, the Delegation received CHF 493,750 allocated by the Norwegian Red Cross and Norwegian Government earmarked for organisational development (OD), disaster management (DM) and health and care (HC). As the funds were received later than expected, some important activities planned under Appeal 2005 were not conducted within the year and the remaining money will be carried forward to complete the planned activities. *Please see the details on financial issues under each programme.* With the Norwegian contribution, the total coverage of the Appeal budget reached 79.4%. *For details please refer to the table below.*

Programme	Initial Appeal	Revised Appeal	Opening Bal 01.01.05	Income Cash /In Kind	Due Pledges /Allocations	Total Income 30.11.05	Total Expendit. 30.11.05	Revised Appeal coverage %
OD/Youth	500,000	500,000	15,959	271,335	20,000	307,294	172,430	61.5%
Disaster management	569,000	569,000	-3,433	394,656	1,233	392,456	208,253	69.0%
DIPECHO	283,140	129,216	-33,777	121,880	49,927	138,030	131,665	106.8%
ECHO Food	955,185	120,247	-206,851	309,643	0	102,792	102,791	85.5%
Relief	50,000	0	-11,539	30,372	0	18,833	0	n.a
Water & Sanitation	400,000	400,000	85,236	237,650	0	322,886	249,799	80.7%
Improve Health	220,000	331,112	-466	299,408	0	298,942	208,448	90.3%
ECHO Health	693,285	269,839	59,072	150,252	52,078	261,402	234,643	96.9%
	3,670,610	2,319,414	-95,799	1,815,196	123,238	1,842,635	1,308,029	79.4%

Close coordination and cooperation relations were established with governmental and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working in the fields of TB, HIV/AIDS, water-sanitation and disaster preparedness/response. This was achieved through active participation in meetings, workshops, discussions and events. A good example of this collaboration was that Project HOPE invited RCST/Federation to participate in Strategic Tuberculosis Communication Programmes Planning, thanks to which they automatically were included in the list of members of the National Coordination Committee on TB.

Strengthening the national society

Health and care

Goal: The health status of targeted vulnerable population in Tajikistan on TB, HIV/AIDS and preventable communicable diseases has improved.

This section includes two programme components: 1) Health and Care; 2) Water and Sanitation

Objective: By the end of 2005, a strengthened NS will contribute to the improved health status of the population through: community based health promotion and first aid, provision of medicines and medical supplies, as well as focus on TB and HIV/AIDS activities.

Progress/Achievements

Financial analysis of the programme: Thanks to the funds allocated by DFID, the Swedish Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross and Norwegian Government, the RCST managed to accomplish the health

projects under the appeal 2005. All the activities planned from June to November 2005 were achieved. The only problem was late delivery of funds from the Norwegian RC resulting in improper monitoring of health activities and delay in printing of information materials on HIV/AIDS, TB and community based first aid (CBFA).

Expected result 1: The RCST has contributed to TB reduction through promotion and support in implementation of DOTS strategy in Dushanbe and Rudaki rayon covering 200 TB patients at a time, and through health education, targeting 32,000 people and TB patients' families.

Activities: RCST continued to implement tuberculosis (TB) control activities in Dushanbe city and Rudaki rayon to reduce the spread of TB through various activities. Thus, the RCST volunteers observed an average of 189 TB patients at a time. Out of the totally observed TB patients 185 completed their treatment, 148 were cured, 27 were defaulters and six died. In addition, the volunteers delivered health education to 7,206 people (schoolchildren, TB patients, their families, friends and neighbours) on TB, its preventive measures and DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment Short-course) strategy. The improved knowledge of the beneficiaries enabled them to prevent TB and to communicate with TB patients without fear; thus reducing stigma and discrimination towards them. During the dissemination activities, in accordance with the DOTS strategy, the RCST trained volunteers traced people who were suspected to have TB. As a result 492 people were referred to the dispensary for examination. In 31 cases diagnosis as confirmed.

In June 2005, to motivate the TB patients to complete the full treatment on DOTS strategy RCST City Committee delivered second hand clothes to 100 of the most vulnerable TB patients. The beneficiaries expressed their satisfaction with the social support.

Cooperation is well established between RCST and Project Hope and other actors involved in TB in the country. The RCST programme coordinator regularly participates in coordination meetings organized by Project HOPE. The objective of the meetings is to improve cooperation and interrelation between MoH, international and local NGOs as well as to share experience and data on TB activities. In November 2005, the RCST/Federation representatives took part in the Communication Strategy Design Workshop organized by the Project HOPE. The participants of the workshop automatically became members of the Technical Working Group (TWG) on TB that is part of the National Coordination Committee on HIV/AIDS and TB Control in Tajikistan. This workshop was the first step towards development of the National Information and Education Communication/Behaviour Change Communication (IEC/BBC) plan of action. Also, the RCST volunteers disseminated health messages on TB among TB patients in Dushanbe and Rudaki rayon during food distribution conducted by project HOPE.

In order to disseminate health messages to as many people as possible, 40 additional activists from Dushanbe and Rudaki rayon communities were selected and trained to help the RCST volunteers to disseminate the information on TB among the population.

Expected result 2: By the end of 2005, 50,000 people from marginal groups (commercial sex workers, injecting drug users, in and out school youth) have increased their knowledge and skills on responsible behaviour to prevent HIV/AIDS/STI and to reduce discrimination towards people living with HIV/AIDS.

Activities: During the reporting period, 100 RCST volunteers conducted meetings, conversations, discussions and small-scale actions on HIV/AIDS/STD prevention to improve knowledge and to reduce discrimination towards people living with HIV/AIDS.

In November 2005, all the implemented activities (competitions, quizzes, panel game, public health campaigns, round tables, establishment of information stands and health corners) were dedicated to the World



Young people from technical college in Kurgan-Tube gained knowledge on HIV/AIDS and pledge to fight stigma and discrimination

HIV/AIDS day. The RCST, jointly with Healthy Lifestyle Centres, Global Fund, UNAIDS and other organisations, conducted these activities under the slogan “Stop HIV/AIDS. Keep the promise”. The events were broadcasted on Tajik TV and highlighted in several local newspapers.

In total, during the reporting period, 16,065 people were covered through health dissemination activities and 8,351 information materials and 26,396 condoms were distributed. The most active participants were awarded with prizes. As a result of these activities the awareness level of the participants on consequences of drug addiction and sexually transmitted diseases increased; they ceased to hesitate to discuss this topic openly and tolerance towards people living with HIV/AIDS was developed.

Expected result 3: Communities are less vulnerable to the effects of disease outbreaks, emergencies and disasters through community based health promotion and first aid to 1000 volunteers and 30,000 households.

Activities: 420 RCST volunteers and the targeted communities in five districts of Rasht valley are better prepared to respond diseases outbreaks, emergencies and disasters through seminars and health education. In accordance with the plan of action, a three-day training of trainers (ToT) on community-based first aid (CBFA) for 20 instructor-volunteers was held. The trained volunteers, in turn, held 20 seminars on CBFA for 400 volunteers. All the volunteers successfully passed the tests conducted after the trainings. The trained volunteers managed to reduce theory to practice. For example, they helped 15 victims of road accidents and saved the lives of two children during avalanche.

The trained volunteers also shared their new knowledge among 9,006 people (1,988 households). A follow-up monitoring of their work was conducted by RCST health staff. 810 randomly selected people were interviewed. The interview showed that 87.9% of the respondents knew about the most common diseases, while 83.9% knew the basic symptoms and preventive measures.

Expected result 4: Communities’ access to essential health service is improved through provision of medicines and medical supplies and training of Ministry of Health (MoH) staff on rational use of drugs, case management and record keeping in 300 primary health institutions in Khatlon and Rayons of Republican Subordination (RRS).

Activities: The drug relief component of ECHO funded health programme was handed over to RCST health staff in April 2005.

Impact: As a result of activities conducted by RCST health staff and volunteers the targeted communities became less vulnerable to the effects of HIV/AIDS, TB, disease outbreaks, emergencies and disasters. The trained RCST volunteers are able to apply first aid during disasters.

Water and Sanitation

Programme Objective: By the end of 2005, the health condition of targeted communities is improved through better access to clean water, use of latrines and increased health promotion.

Progress/Achievements

Financial analysis of the programme: The funds allocated by the Swedish Red Cross for Appeal 2005 plus the Canadian RC money carried over from last year, were used to implement water sanitation programme activities in Sughd Oblast and RRS. In November, the Delegation received more funds from Norwegian RC thanks to which the total coverage of the programme under Appeal 2005 reached 80.7%. The received contribution enables the RCST/Federation to conduct the following activities until March 2006:

- To provide four villages in Sughd Oblast and RRS with drinking water through construction of spring water supply systems, using low -cost techniques;
- To conduct community-based awareness sessions on changing the hygienic behaviour of the targeted village population using PHAST methodology.

Due to the shortage of funds construction of 600 latrines in GBAO, Sughd, RRS was impossible.

Expected result 1: 25,000 inhabitants from 20 villages of GBAO, Sughd oblast and RRS have access to potable water through the construction and/or rehabilitation of 20 water systems based on low cost techniques involving community mobilization.

Activities: Construction of spring water supply systems in two villages of Sughd Oblast (40 years Dilvarzin village, Matcha rayon and Dagana village, Asht rayon) and one in RRS (Darozi village, Gissar rayon) was finalised. As a result, 4,100 people (750 households) have access to drinking water. All the construction works (trench digging, pipe laying and construction of spring catchments) were completed through the active participation of communities. A Water User Committee (WUC) was established in each of these villages to maintain the water supply systems. To ensure sustainability of the projects the targeted villages' population, on their own initiative, established a maintenance fund. This fund will be collected by WUC on a monthly basis and used for technical maintenance of water supply systems and other social needs of the population in the targeted villages.

Also, RCST/Federation, with the assistance of International Consultant from the Swedish Red Cross, conducted an assessment of spring water supply systems in Sughd Oblast and RRS. One spring water supply system in Sughd Oblast (Madaniyat village



1,400 people from mountainous Dilvarzin village in Sughd oblast got access to drinking through the water supply system constructed by RCST.

in Kanibadam rayon) and four in RRS (Garob village in Varzob rayon, Kulpista village in Rudaki rayon, Shol village in Gissar rayon, Chuzi bolo, Chuzi poyon and Uzun villages in Shahrinav rayon) were selected.

In mid-November 2005, all the required construction materials (PVC and steel pipes, gate valves, cement, reinforcement, timbers and etc.) were delivered to all selected villages. Currently, activities on community mobilization for construction works are going on. Completion of the construction is expected by mid-January 2006. In total 8,092 people (1,085 households) will benefit from this project.

Expected result 2: Sanitation conditions in the project area are improved through the construction of 600 latrines adaptable to the local regulations and cultural sensitivity in Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO), RRS and Sughd oblast.

Activities: The activities were not implemented due to the lack of funds.

Expected result 3: Awareness on health and sanitation issues has increased by 30% among the communities involved in construction of water & sanitation facilities and hygienic behaviour has changed on the household level.

Activities: In October 2005, five two-day PHAST trainings were conducted for 70 volunteers (ten representatives from each village) from the above recently-selected seven villages in Sughd oblast and RRS. The participants were selected out of the communities and consisted of teachers, health centre personnel and housewives. During the training, the participants were informed about the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement principles and humanitarian values and discussed hygiene, gender and environmental issues. They also learned, through interactive methods, how to pinpoint the water-sanitation and hygiene problems in the area and how to write project proposals.

Impact: During the reporting period, **4,100** people (**750** households) benefited from the project through construction of water supply systems. Out of them, 70 people actively participated in PHAST training.

Disaster Management

Progress/Achievements

Financial analysis of the programme: Thanks to the Finnish, Swedish and Norwegian Red Cross' donation into the disaster management component, 69% of the revised appeal was covered. From June till November 2005, the allocated funds were spent for implementation of activities planned for the period. The remaining funds from the Norwegian donation will be used for:

- establishment, training and equipping 12 new local disaster committees (LDCs) in Kurgan-Tube region,
- replenishment of emergency stock in 7 DP centres and procurement of a vehicle for disaster response team (DRT) in Vanch rayon.

Expected result 1: Communities frequently affected by disasters have enhanced their capacities to counter the effects of disasters.

Activities: The disaster response capacity of 20 communities in four most disaster-prone areas of Kurgan-Tube region (Panj, Khuroson, Jomy, Yovon) was enhanced through the establishment of LDCs. 20 LDCs (20 members in each team) were established, trained and equipped with FA kits, bibs with Red Crescent logo, fairy lights, shovels, hoes, axes, a kerosene stove, a megaphone and stretchers.

From 20 September to 16 October 2005, a refreshment course on disaster preparedness (DP) and FA for 32 LDCs (640 people) from six rayons of Rasht valley and two DRTs (40 people) from GBAO and Sughd oblast was conducted.

A DRT in Vanch rayon was formed, trained and equipped with basic disaster response tools.

The RCST disaster response capacity was strengthened through the replenishment of DP stock in Dushanbe central warehouse with the following items: plastic sheeting, bed linen, mattresses, pillows, hygiene kits, shovels, hoes, water cans. Two computers for RCST HQ DM department were procured.

As part of the disaster awareness programme 6,000 posters and 9,000 booklets were printed for RC branches to distribute to communities and schoolchildren all over the country.

Expected result 2: The effects and threats of landslides and floods in the most vulnerable mountainous areas are reduced through the implementation of eight mitigation micro projects.

No activities were implemented under this expected result due to the shortage of money.

Impact: The RCST and local communities' capacity to mitigate the most common disasters was strengthened through the establishment of 20 LDCs in Kurgan-Tube region (Khatlon oblast) and a DRT in Vanch rayon (GBAO). The response capacity of vulnerable people from most disaster prone areas enhanced through trainings on DM/FA.

Organizational development

Goal: The RCST has become a well-functioning NS, efficiently & effectively rendering services to the vulnerable of the country.

Objective: By the end of 2005, RCST capacity in working with the vulnerable will be increased through the process of organizational changes .

Progress/Achievements

Financial analysis of the programme: In 2005, the response to the organisational development component of the Appeal was poor. With funds allocated by DFID, Swedish Red Cross and delayed contribution from the Norwegian Red Cross/Government, the programme coverage reached 61.5%. Unsecured funding and delay in allocation of Norwegian funds affected implementation of activities. Thus, all planned trainings and workshops on PPP, human resources management and fundraising as well as the delivery of construction materials to repair the RCST branch offices in Aini, Penjikent, Jabor Rasulov, ShakhriNAV, Pyanj and Jilikul rayons were cancelled. Thanks to the funds from the Norwegian RC, the RCST will conduct workshops on governance and management during the next three months. In addition the Finnish RC donated CHF 20,000 for RCST capacity building. The allocated amount will be utilised to train the members and volunteers of primary organisations in RRS.

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

Activities: The process of NS statutes revision and adjustment it to International RC standards was finalized in October 2005. Final review will be conducted in December jointly with the Federation consultant.

Expected result 2: Systems and procedures aimed at development of human resources, management, financial managements and logistics at all levels has improved leading to a 5% increase of volunteers and members in the branches, efficient use of staff, finances, warehouses and the NS fleet, and improved procurement procedures saving time and money for the RCST. Financial sustainability is improved through development and adoption of a financial development plan that includes a fundraising strategy

Activities: A process of evaluation of RCST branches and primary organizations capacity and activities, initiated by RCST, is ongoing. During the reporting period, the evaluation was held in four districts of Kurgan-Tube region and 5 branches on the district and municipal level and 18 primary organizations in GBAO. The evaluation covered all the branches of Kulyab region. Results indicated that there was an improvement in financial and human resource management.

Ongoing process of registering and keeping account of members, primary organizations and volunteers revealed that currently there are 7,175 NS members, 984 primary organizations and 7,076 volunteers. Newly registered and established primary organizations were equipped with stamps and NS visibility materials.

Expected result 3: The public awareness of the Red Crescent, locally as well as on regional and republican levels, has increased via greater visibility and credibility.

Activities: The public awareness campaign held by RCST is covering a wide audience and is channelled through different types of mass communication and media. The NS posted 5 articles in local newspapers highlighting ongoing activities. A visibility campaign and video clips promoting first aid trainings, accompanied by talk shows, were broadcast through local TV companies. In total 25,000 people were reached through mass media.

On 10 October 2005, a special press conference dedicated to the international day of global disasters was held. RCST prepared a brochure about its main activities which are considered to be core areas the NS is focusing on. The brochure will be used as a presentation tool and will be distributed among the local authorities and other stakeholders.

Expected result 4: The capacity of the regional and local branches in assessing vulnerability and capacity in the local communities and needs based programming has increased.

Activities: A vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) conducted by the national society was concluded and the report was issued in Tajik language. Translation into Russian and English is ongoing. The collected information was included into a data-base, which was established in all RCST branches and will be referred to when designing the various projects covering the core-areas.

Expected result 5: RCST capacity in working with the vulnerable has increased through functioning of the improved and strengthened youth programme at all levels.

Activities: Youth department took a proactive role in attracting young volunteers. A Youth centre established in Medical University of Tajikistan consolidated the number of students, conducted trainings, and involved them in HIV/AIDS and disaster management programmes. Young volunteers are taking part also in fund raising activities. Five fundraising actions were held in Kurgan-Tube region with the assistance of youth volunteers collecting 295 Tajik Somoni (TJS) and 3 similar activities were conducted in GBAO raising 200 TJS. Country wide 810 TJS were collected by Youth volunteers. Raised funds will be used for orphans and children from vulnerable families.



A RCST Youth coordinator conducts IHL training for youth volunteers in Kulyab region (Khatlon).

In August through November 2005, 19 workshops on dissemination of International Humanitarian Law (IHL), tolerance and conflict resolution were conducted for 380 youth volunteers (aged 14 to 30) from GBAO, Khatlon and Sughd oblasts. The trained volunteers, in turn, will disseminate the obtained knowledge to the population in their areas.

Federation Coordination

Goal: Effective assistance is provided to the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan to develop into a better functioning national society.

Objective: The Federation has facilitated better coordination between the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan and partners both within and external to the Movement.

Expected result 1: Federation coordination contributes to improved and transparent communications among all partners, resulting in effective use of resources and more focused programmes.

Activities: Regular meetings, with the participation of ICRC, are held with partner NSs operating in Tajikistan on a bilateral basis with the purpose of activity coordination. Exchange of information and field coordination issues are being discussed.

Also, coordination meetings were initiated with UN bodies, to share information and strengthen planning especially in the field of disaster management. The head of delegation also attended the regional interagency meeting held in October in Almaty. The contingency planning was discussed and the Tajikistan interagency country team showed high level of coordination in the joint planning.

Expected result 2: The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, the Federation and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's profile in Tajikistan is strengthened resulting in further programme support from donors.

Activities: The Federation is promoting the strength of the NS through activities involving its nationwide network. This is appreciated by all the partners including central and local government bodies. The implementation of projects in different fields, such as projects giving community access to clean water, promotes the profile of the national society.

Expected result 3: The operational capacity of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan will be strengthened through quality financial, material and technical support from the Federation Delegation.

Activities: The Federation gave ongoing ad hoc support to RCST in different fields such as finance, logistics and IT.

International Representation and Advocacy

Goal: The national society and Federation better represent the work of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and continue to provide a strong voice and presence among influential forums on behalf of vulnerable people and the issues that affect them.

Objective: The national society and Federation better represent the work of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and continue to provide a strong voice and presence among influential forums on behalf of vulnerable people and the issues that affect them.

Expected result 1: Partnerships with other organisations are strengthened and increased in number, benefiting the national society and its programmes

Activities: The relationship with ECHO was strengthened, resulting in the inclusion of Tajikistan in the thematic funding for disaster preparedness.

Expected result 2: Networking with the government, UN agencies, NGOs and other stakeholders is increased through better coordination and exchange of information.

Activities: UNDP, in collaboration with the Government of Tajikistan, has invited the Federation to participate in discussion of the draft strategy for meeting the Millennium Development Goal in the country. The meeting took place in New York on 12 December 2005.

Expected result 3: Advocacy materials, drawing from community assessments, are produced and influence the authorities and various partners and organisations in their approach to humanitarian work.

Activities: Little progress has been made in that field due to late delivery of funds. In 2006, the situation will be re-evaluated.

Expected result 4: Government relations are strengthened leading to a reinforcement of the Red Crescent's role and mandate, enshrined in a Red Crescent Law and new national society statutes.

Activities: The Federation together with the RCST kept the government at all levels informed of their activities in order to achieve better cooperation and join efforts in addressing some issues such as TB and access to safe water.