

Plan 2009-2010



Georgia

Executive summary



The Georgia Red Cross Society was established in 1918 and recognized officially by the Soviet authorities as part of the Soviet Red Cross Red Crescent Alliance. After Georgia gained its independence in 1991, the Red Cross was recognized by a presidential decree in 1993. The parliament adopted the Law on the Red Cross in 1997, making the National Society an auxiliary to the government, with a statutory obligation to help people in need. In the same year the Georgia Red Cross Society was recognized by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and became a member of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. It is the oldest humanitarian organization in the country with a network of local branches in most of the regions.

In 2001, due to uncertainty over the leadership of the National Society, the International Federation reduced its presence in Georgia. In 2003, guided by the results of an assessment that confirmed that there were pressing humanitarian needs on the ground and opportunities for change, the International Federation restarted cooperation with the National Society anew; the process of rebuilding the organization has been ongoing since then. The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners have been supporting the process from the beginning with advice, guidelines and best practices. Institutional reform encompasses new levels of transparency and an improved image for the National Society. A review was commissioned on its organizational capacities in 2006, initiated, resourced and conducted jointly by the International Federation, ICRC and the Norwegian Red Cross. The review identified several areas where significant progress has been made.

The National Society has improved its legal base by revising and approving new statutes which secure compliance both with the national legislation, as well as with the minimum requirements of the International Federation. Significant progress was made in 2007, the statutes implementation process started in the branches and central level elections were held. Financial management was improved by establishing finance units at the local level, developing and revising guidelines, tools and procedures. An external financial audit was conducted and the recommendations provided by the audit company were consolidated in the 2007-2011 long-term strategic plan.

The 2007-2011 long-term development plan of the National Society has been approved, including respective strategies according to its priority areas. The Georgia Red Cross youth has become more active and its capacities have been developed through organizing and conducting different kinds of Red Cross activities.

Despite the achievements recorded, challenges remain. The National Society has limited financial resources of its own and programme funding mainly depends on the International Federation's appeal. Currently, the majority of the National Society's income is generated from membership fees, and through multilateral and bilaterally supported programmes.

However, the economic situation in the country does not lend itself to developing local partnerships and successful fund-raising. Despite government changes in 2003 during the so-called “rose revolution” and efficient democratic and economic reform, economic and social conditions in the country remain dismal. Basic services function poorly or not at all, the unemployment rate is very high and prices are rising. The socio-economic crisis and structural reforms that the country is going through affect all groups, but it is the elderly people that are most severely affected. Furthermore, growing numbers of people are at risk from HIV and Tuberculosis (TB); both diseases are spreading at an alarming rate. Again poverty, combined with poor public awareness and inadequate health and care, exacerbates the threat.

In August 2008 conflict erupted in South Ossetia and soon widened with fighting also reported in Abkhazia and air strikes including near Tbilisi. The conflict, which ended after approximately a week, resulted in tens of thousands fleeing the areas. Still several thousands have not been able to return home and are in need of assistance for the upcoming winter.

Taking into consideration the context of the country and the priorities established by the Georgia Red Cross Society, within the planning process for 2009-2010 the International Federation will provide support in the fields of disaster management, health and care, organizational development and principles and values. Capacity building efforts within disaster management, first aid and psychosocial support will be further pursued, as these were particular focus areas for funds allocated from the International Federation’s Disaster Relief Emergency Fund to meet the humanitarian needs following the recent conflict in the country.

Furthermore, support will be provided in accordance with the International Federation’s Global Agenda Goals, the Federation Strategy 2010 and the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), commitments and outcomes of the VII European Red Cross Red Crescent Conference in Istanbul and decisions of the 16th session of the International Federation’s General Assembly whilst taking into consideration the New Operating Model (NOM) of the International Federation.

The disaster management programme will focus on the National Society’s organizational preparedness, community-based disaster prevention and preparedness and disaster risk reduction. The programme will establish mechanisms for efficient institutional preparedness and coordination during disasters. It will also work to increase community awareness of what are effective actions to take during disasters, while at the same time reducing the vulnerability of communities in disaster-prone areas through timely information and capacity building activities.

The health and care programme focuses on expanding people’s knowledge about prevention, transmission and treatment of HIV and TB, developing community-based health promotion, social care to elderly people living alone and increasing the activities of the National Society in the field of first aid and voluntary non-remunerated blood donor recruitment. Furthermore the National Society aims to build basic capacity within psychosocial support.

By implementing the organizational development programme the Georgia Red Cross Society will contribute to achieving Global Agenda goal three, through improved capacities at the headquarters and local branch level, strengthened volunteer and youth management, and improved services to the communities by using the participatory community development (PCD) approach.

The priority of the principles and values programme is disseminating the Fundamental Principles of the Movement and promoting humanitarian values in the communities and among the staff, members and volunteers of the National Society. The programme will promote the culture of non-discrimination among people from different ethnical backgrounds, decrease stigma against people living with HIV (PLHIV) and reduce social isolation of vulnerable children and elderly people living alone.

The total 2009-2010 budget is CHF 1,277,421 (USD 1,167,661 or EUR 813,644).

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

Country context

Georgia is situated in the central and western parts of the Caucasus with a small transition economy and a population of around 4.4 million people. After independence in 1991 its relatively strong economy collapsed under the impact of civil war and the loss of its preferential access to former Soviet Union markets and the large budget transfers from Moscow. Georgia's first separatist challenge broke out in 1989 in the autonomous region of South Ossetia. Although a ceasefire was agreed in 1992, the conflict remained unresolved and conflict over Abkhazia, another breakaway republic, is also ongoing. After a period of growing tensions, open conflict again broke out in South Ossetia in August 2008 involving Georgian, Russian and South Ossetian forces. The conflict widened with fighting also reported in Abkhazia and air strikes including near Tbilisi. The conflict, which ended with a peace agreement brokered by the European Union presidency after approximately a week, resulted in tens of thousands fleeing the areas. Still several thousands have not been able to return home and are in need of assistance for the upcoming winter.

The country's economy has been buffeted by internal fragmentation, droughts and the financial crisis of 1998 in Russia. It took the country a long time to start recovering. However, since the government change in 2003 the economy has grown, with agriculture the largest sector of the economy, ahead of other industries that have high growth rates, including construction, financial services, communication, hotels and restaurants.

Development Indicators		GEORGIA	
<i>Population, geography and environment</i>		<i>Economy and labour</i>	
Total population (millions)	4.4	GDP per capita (PPP in USD)	4,200
Surface area (square km)	69,700	GDP real growth (%)	9.4
Carbon dioxide emissions per capita (metric tons)	0.8660	Unemployment total (% of labour force)	13.6
<i>Social indicators</i>		<i>Health indicators</i>	
Adult literacy rate (% aged 15 and older)	100	Infant mortality rate (per 100,000)	17
Gender-related development index rate (GDI)	-	Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000)	41
Human development index value (HDI)	0.754	Life expectancy at birth	74.3
Human development index rate (HDI)	96	HIV prevalence (% aged 15-49)	0.09
Population below PPP \$ 1 per day (%)	6.5	People living with HIV aged 15-49	0.2
Population below national poverty line (%)	31	Prevalence of Tuberculosis (per 100,000)	138
<i>Refugees and IDPs</i>		* Does not include additional IDPs after the August 2008 conflict. However, estimates indicate the number of new IDPs in need of longer-term assistance to between 20,000 and 30,000.	
Number of refugees	1,300		
Number of internally displaced people (IDPs)	275,000*		
Sources: World Health Organization; World Bank, Economic Intelligence Unit.			

Table 1: Selected development indicators for Georgia

Large-scale infrastructure rehabilitation programmes, an overhaul of the education system, and new legislation intended to liberalize the economy, root out corruption and engender sustainable growth have accompanied this upturn. The country has used its advantageous geographical location in order to develop the trade sector. The government has been committed to improving the business environment and to attracting foreign investors. Such efforts led Georgia to being named top reformer in 2006 according to the World Bank's *Doing Business* survey, vaulting from 112th place in 2005 to 37th place in 2006. The country's rank improved further to 18th place in 2007. In 2003, the European Commission included the southern Caucasus in its European Neighbourhood Policy, although there is no promise within the policy of eventual EU membership. Even so, enhancing bilateral trade and economic relations with the EU are expected to have a positive impact on the country. The government achieved another milestone when NATO began a phase of intensified dialogue in September 2006.

Economic growth has recovered since the collapse of the immediate post-Soviet period and the Russian financial crisis of 1998, with real GDP growing by an average of 9 per cent in 2003-2006 according to the Economist Intelligence Unit. In the first half of 2007 the GDP growth rate saw 12.5 per cent increase in comparison to the same period in 2006, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In recent years the economy has been driven in part by strong growth in construction, initially reflecting building work on the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline and the south Caucasus gas pipeline project. Construction growth has moderated more recently, but is still strong.

Its growing economy has led to it becoming a *Lower Middle Income Country* in the latest classification exercise of the OECD Development Assistance Committee published in January 2006. However, major challenges lie ahead. The government is now entering the second phase of reforms, focusing on deeper institutional change, enhanced social protection, and the essential infrastructure needed to enable economic growth, job creation and a reduction in poverty.

Translation of economic growth and many of the declared priorities into social sector investments remain a challenge, impeding the process of the country's sustainable development. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), despite improvements in Georgia's economic and business climate, little progress had been made on poverty reduction. High levels of poverty still prevail, with about one third of the population living below the poverty line. Economic growth outside the capital and two port cities remains slow, creating wide regional differences in living standards, as well as a growing disparity in education standards between rural and urban areas. Poverty is aggravated by factors such as high unemployment rates, fluctuating around 13.6 per cent, and inefficient social services.

In addition to the socio-economic hardships faced by many, the situation in the country is dominated by two long-simmering conflicts in the breakaway regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, dislocating many people from their permanent residential places. The conflict in August 2008 resulted in an immediate displacement of tens of thousands of people. Many have been able to return, but estimates indicate that additional 20,000 to 30,000 people needs to be resettled. The number of internally displaced people (IDPs) is supplemented by international migrants residing in the country, both groups being particularly vulnerable and in need of assistance.

Since the end of 2007 the national goal of the country has become the eradication of extreme poverty. The objectives behind the announced slogan of "*Georgia without poverty*" are to halve the proportion of the population living below the poverty line, to halve the proportion of the population eating an unbalanced diet, and to ensure the socio-economic rehabilitation and integration of the population affected by conflicts and natural calamities.

The rise in food and energy prices has resulted in consumer price inflation. Due to the anti-inflationary economic policy of the government, inflation fell to 7.3 per cent in June 2007. Agriculture, employing more than half of the population, has performed erratically in recent years owing to bad weather in early 2006 and the effects of the Russian embargo imposed on Georgia in 2006. Traditionally Georgia has exported most of its goods throughout the former Soviet Union and to Turkey; however the recent deterioration in relationships with its main market, Russia, has seen the export of most agricultural goods including wine and mineral water halted on health grounds. This has led to a rapid attempt to diversify.

Its once-extensive hydroelectric power complex is in need of rehabilitation, and the country still depends heavily on imports from Russia, Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan for most of its energy requirements. Georgia also plays an important role as a route for oil and gas pipelines from the Caspian Sea to the West, therefore providing Georgia with much-needed transit revenue and an increased supply of energy, which can help reduce the country's dependence on Russian energy imports.

After 1991, war and economic collapse devastated the healthcare system. Owing to a significant decline in socio-economic conditions in the 1990s the health status of the population deteriorated seriously. There have however been some positive trends recently. The main issue of concern continues to be poverty, which is the single most important contributor to ill-health. Tuberculosis (TB), malaria, sexually transmitted diseases and HIV and AIDS are still problems for the Georgian society. In

the recent period the cases of infectious diseases has increased, particularly those of AIDS, partially due to the increased number of HIV and AIDS cases in these countries, the migration of the population as well as the increased number of injecting drug users; inadequate access to the medical services, incomplete social protection, as well as low awareness of the population about infectious diseases. Hepatitis B and C have also become serious health problems. It has been estimated that as many as half of the population cannot afford, or finds it difficult to gain access to, even basic healthcare services. Although state budget spending on healthcare was nearly doubled in 2007, access to services and healthcare facilities is still insufficient. Improvement of access to healthcare is a major challenge in addressing the vulnerability of the population.

Although Georgia has made significant progress in achieving universal access to HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support, further work needs to be done in this area, especially in increasing the coverage of prevention interventions among key populations at higher risk. As a consequence of widespread injecting drug use, there is a risk of a similar epidemic as in the Russian Federation and Ukraine developing in Georgia.

Georgia saw a rise in TB morbidity in 1992–1996, reaching almost the highest level in the WHO European Region. Since 1995, efforts have been to implement the national anti-TB programme, as a result of which reporting improved significantly in 1995-1996. Although there has been a decline in TB morbidity rates, the levels are still unacceptably high, and the evolution of multi-drug resistant forms (MDR) acts as a base for the spread of the disease. In 2006 according to the WHO Global Tuberculosis database the TB prevalence rate was 84 per 100,000 people, out of which 15.4 per cent was MDR-TB according to the report on Tuberculosis cases notified in 2006 (EuroTB, March 2008). TB remains a particularly severe problem within the penitentiary system.

The government of Georgia has taken the responsibility of ensuring the safety of blood, but in most of the blood banks there is no mechanism in place to control the testing of blood. Therefore blood safety is a serious concern in the country. Voluntary blood donation is still extremely low; around 98 per cent of all blood donations in the country are paid.

Lack of food, less access to social and health care means, the threats and cases of infectious diseases, unemployment, low incomes, anti-sanitary conditions, a big number of crimes and the perspective of hopeless future make the people in Georgia rather vulnerable. The most severely affected by the present socio-economic situation are the elderly people living alone. Among the vulnerable people are also the groups of children and elderly people in general, prisoners, people with disabilities, multi-child families, or families whose members suffer from chronic or infectious diseases. Besides the people living in the mountainous regions are isolated and often deprived of any assistance in the lengthy winter months.

Country disasters		
GEORGIA		
Type of Disaster	Date	Affected people
Drought	August 2000	696,000
Earthquake	25 April 2002	19,156
Earthquake	15 June 1991	3,740
Flood	23 April 2005	2,500
Wind Storm	February 2001	900
Flood	15 April 2006	600
Flood	26 April 1997	300
Flood	01 July 1995	300
Flood	23 May 1997	200
Flood	15 July 2004	90

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

Most of Georgia is in an area of high seismic activity, often causing natural disasters such as earthquakes, landslides, floods, mudslides, and hails, therefore the preparedness of the communities to respond to the consequences of these natural disasters is crucial. The vulnerable groups, such as persons affected by conflicts, primarily refugees, IDPs, as well as other people affected by natural disasters are in substantial need of assistance. Capacity building in disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response is necessary. In addition, Georgia's position at the crossroads of bird migration routes makes it vulnerable to the emerging threat of early exposure to avian flu.

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

National Society priorities and current work with partners

The priority areas identified by the Georgia Red Cross Society in its strategic plan for 2007-2011 include health and care and social protection, readiness to respond to disasters, communication and dissemination of the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and of international humanitarian law, restoring family links, and organizational development, including the volunteers and the management of youth. In 2009-2010 the National Society will continue to address a range of vulnerabilities related to poor access to health and care, lack of knowledge on communicable diseases (HIV and TB), low levels of preparedness to natural disasters at community level, social isolation, especially among elderly people living alone, disabled children, drug users, communities at risk and youth. Several of the National Society's programme activities are integrated and complement each other.

There are different approaches in respect to identifying vulnerable people in Georgia. Some of the beneficiaries belong to the traditional group of vulnerable people such as those affected by conflicts or natural disasters. The recent conflict in South Ossetia and Abkhazia has led to a significant increase in the number of IDPs out of which the majority is located in collective centres. These will be among the groups targeted by the Federation supported programme activities. On the other hand there are vulnerable groups who have emerged during the transition period and who are affected by weakened, or sometimes non-existent welfare services, leaving them socially unprotected.

The focus of the International Federation's plan for 2009-2010 is on disaster management, health and care, organizational development and principles and values. Following the conflict in August 2008, a joint International Federation and ICRC Harmonized Operational Package was signed and funded by a Disaster Relief Emergency Fund allocation and the ICRC appeal. Priority areas were immediate and medium-term capacity building within disaster management, first aid and psychosocial support as well as to ensure visibility for the National Society. Capacity building within these components will be pursued in the International Federation's 2009-2010 country plan and adds additional integrative elements into programme activities implemented by the National Society. Subsequently the International Federation aims to support the Georgia Red Cross Society to:

- Increase the awareness of communities to take effective actions during disasters, while at the same time reduce the vulnerability of communities in disaster-prone areas through timely information and capacity building activities.
- Reduce vulnerability to HIV and its impact through expanding the knowledge of the public on prevention, transmission, treatment and reducing stigma and discrimination. Protect target communities from TB through adequate surveillance, preparedness and response measures. Raise community awareness about universal hygiene behaviour, sanitation, healthy lifestyles and community-based first aid. Increase public awareness on blood donation. Build basic capacity to provide psychosocial support in case of emergency.
- Increase the acknowledgment of beneficiaries to their rights and dignity to enhance their protection and support in order to find their active role in public life.
- Strengthen the Georgia Red Cross Society's foundation and volunteer base in providing humanitarian assistance with the headquarters and branches having greater capacity. Empower communities through improved capacities of the branches to deliver services through the participatory community development (PCD) approach.
- Promote the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values among the youth, students and staff, volunteers and members of the National Society. Reduce discrimination towards people living with HIV and TB and social exclusion of disabled children and elderly people living alone.

To implement the programmes the Georgia Red Cross Society cooperates with various ministries, particularly those of labour, health and social affairs, education, emergency and civil safety departments, refugees' accommodation and the municipality of Tbilisi. Dialogue has begun with local

authorities and non-governmental organizations to ensure coordination and support for the community work.

Additionally, the main local and international partners of the National Society in the health and care areas are the National Centre for Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases, the National Centre for HIV and AIDS, the National Scientific Research Institute on Addiction, the Cultural and Social City Service of Tbilisi Mayor, NGOs *Tanadgoma*, *Hera XXI*, *Bemoni* and *New Way*. Among the international partners are various UN agencies, WHO and Save the Children.

Taking into account the vulnerability of Georgia to disasters like earthquakes, landslides, mud flows, floods and avalanches resulting in deaths and injuries, the Georgia Red Cross Society cooperates with the Turkish Red Crescent Society to increase the knowledge of its staff and volunteers on disaster management and coordinate the efforts in disaster response.

The National Society is a member of the European Red Cross Red Crescent Network on HIV/AIDS and TB (ERNA). Recognizing the need to scale up its activities to tackle HIV in the country, in 2008 the Georgia Red Cross Society expressed interest in joining the Red Cross and Red Crescent Global Alliance on HIV. Despite low prevalence, Georgia is considered to be at high risk of an expanding HIV and AIDS epidemic due to widespread injecting drug use. In this regard the National Society is planning to build cooperation with the Italian Red Cross to develop a harm reduction programme focusing on injecting drug users.

Community-based integrated health and first-aid activities are essential for the development of more self-sufficient communities, considering the poor capacity of the Georgian healthcare system. Recently, the Israeli Magen David Adom conducted first aid training sessions for the Red Cross' staff, volunteers and social workers and support was provided to establish a first aid school at the headquarters in Tbilisi. There is preliminary agreement with the German Red Cross to send volunteers to Germany for training in first aid.

Analyses of the country situation shows that elderly people over 65 living alone, who are under the poverty line, are at the highest risk of vulnerability. Indicators include low levels of healthcare, absence of food security and isolation. During the last three years, the British Red Cross has been supporting a project in Kutaisi, western Georgia that aims at breaking the isolation of elderly people living alone. However, the British Red Cross's strategy is to withdraw from Georgia after 2008.

ICRC has been present in Georgia since 1992, helping the National Society disseminate international humanitarian law and the Movement's Fundamental Principles, as well as supporting the tracing service. Currently, ICRC supports the National Society in the field of reform, mainly in statutes implementation and dissemination activities, and leadership competence building at branch level.

Despite the number of different partners and achievements recorded, challenges still remain. The Georgia Red Cross Society has limited financial resources of its own and programmes are heavily dependant on external funding. In order to continue the change process within the National Society and to assist it to build more sustainable structures, thus becoming a reliable partner to the public authorities and vulnerable communities, further support in 2009-2010 will be needed.

Secretariat supported programmes in 2009-2010

Disaster Management

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.

The disaster management programme budget is CHF 58,490 (USD 53,465 or EUR 37,255).

Programme component 1: Disaster Preparedness: Institutional Level (organizational preparedness)
Component outcome 1: Established effective mechanisms for efficient institutional preparedness and coordination during disasters.
Component outcome 2: Strengthened institutional capacities for effective disaster management at both central and local levels.

Programme component 2: Community-Based Disaster Prevention and Preparedness/ Disaster Risk Reduction
Component outcome 1: Awareness of communities about disaster hazards has increased enabling them to take effective actions during disasters.
Component outcome 2: Vulnerability of local communities to public health emergencies and disaster outcomes has been reduced through timely information and improved capacities of the Red Cross local branches.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries:

The target beneficiaries are governance and management representatives at both central and local levels, Red Cross volunteers and youth, local community members, IDPs, schoolchildren including internally displaced children and university students.

The National Society is encouraged to initiate the disaster preparedness process at community level in high-risk communities of Georgia through the evaluation of disaster risks and the integration of risk reduction into strategy formulation and planning. Promotion of good governance in disaster management, raising awareness, advocacy and strengthening early warning dissemination at family and community level are also important. Furthermore efforts will be directed towards continuing capacity building within disaster management integrated with other programme activities initiated in the aftermath of the recent conflict.

The disaster management programme plans to cover schools and universities of the most affected rural and urban areas of the country including IDPs in collective centres. The total population is 21,200 people covering 11 districts of Georgia. The beneficiaries will receive training on disaster mitigation, nutrition, first aid and humanitarian values. They will be provided with education and information materials of sustainable community-based activities in the field, social activities and disaster preparedness, as well as first-aid skills. The community-based participatory approach used will not only ensure that local needs are addressed, but will also stimulate beneficiaries and target groups to participate and show initiative.

The Georgia Red Cross Society recognizes that the integration of gender perspectives will increase the effectiveness of the organization, and takes into account gender balance in all activities within the programme, and equal mobilization of volunteers within the local communities.

c) Potential risks and challenges

- The overall socio-economic situation in the country, exacerbated by the recent conflict, deteriorates with many people not being able to access basic health services and social protection
- Low level of enthusiasm of volunteers to actively participate and cooperate with the Red Cross in project implementation
- Financial dependency of the Georgia Red Cross Society on external funding
- Lack of support from the governmental structures, local authorities and potential donors

Health and Care

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Reduce the number of deaths, illness and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.

The health and care programme budget is CHF 707,378 (USD 646,598 or EUR 450,559).

Programme component 1: HIV and AIDS
Component outcome 1: Reduced vulnerability to HIV and its impact through preventing further infection including harm reduction activities, expanding knowledge about HIV and AIDS prevention, transmission and treatment.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries:

Target beneficiaries of the HIV and AIDS programme will consist of youth, students, injecting drug users (IDUs) and people living with HIV. Among these groups IDPs will constitute a certain number. The estimated number of beneficiaries who will benefit is approximately 20,000 in Tbilisi and six target regions in 2009 and 2010. Among this group 45 per cent of the beneficiaries will be male and 55 per cent female.

Approximately 2,500 drug users, which is 1.13 per cent of the estimated 200,000–240,000 drug users in Georgia, will benefit from the programme. This target group will be mainly composed of male drug users (98 per cent). The drug users are mostly unemployed and depend on their families.

Approximately 100 IDUs, which is 0.13 per cent of the estimated 70,000-80,000 IDUs in Georgia, will be targeted by the programme. This group will be mainly composed of male IDUs (99 per cent) due to the fact that in general women practice safer lifestyle. Also because of the associated stigma especially towards women, female drug users tend to refrain from contacts.

Approximately 20 people living with HIV (PLHIV) living under the national poverty line, orphans, mothers of many children will also benefit from the programme, which is 1.24 per cent of the officially registered PLHIV (1,607 as of April 2008), as well as members of their families. 76 per cent of the beneficiaries will be male, 24 per cent female. PLHIV are mostly unemployed and depend on external support.

The geographical locations targeted by the programme will be Tbilisi and six other towns of Georgia (Adjara, Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti, Guria, Imereti, Kvemo Kartli, Kakheti). These regions are either at high risk of HIV according to country statistics or at lower risk but with the number of PLHIV growing during last year.

Programme component 2: Tuberculosis
Component outcome 1: Supported treatment referral and TB clients under directly observed treatment (DOT).
Component outcome 2: Further infection in communities in Tbilisi and in six target regions of Georgia prevented through expanding knowledge about prevention, transmission and treatment.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries:

The target beneficiaries of the TB programme will be youth, students, people living with TB and members of their families. Among the beneficiaries IDPs will also be targeted. Beneficiaries are located in Tbilisi and in six regions of the country and will be the main target group for expansion of knowledge about prevention, transmission and treatment in a period of two years.

Approximately 300 or 4.91 per cent of the officially registered 6,100 people with TB in Tbilisi (NTP, 2007, among them 1,506 or 24.7 per cent MDR-TB) and members of their families will learn from Red

Cross volunteers about TB prevention, and the importance of continuous treatment. Most of the people with TB are unemployed and live below the national poverty line. A total number of 75 regular TB clients, which is 1.63 per cent of the 4,594 officially registered sensitive TB clients (NTP, 2007), will be supported by the Red Cross team in their treatment on a daily basis in Tbilisi. Some 64 MDR-TB clients, which is 4.24 per cent of the 1,506 officially registered MDR-TB clients (NTP, 2007), will be supported by the Red Cross team in their treatment on a daily basis in Tbilisi.

The National Society ensures equal opportunities to men and women in its programming. Below is a table on the number of beneficiaries disaggregated by gender.

Beneficiaries by gender	GEORGIA	
	Male	Female
Target group		
Youth	9,000 (45%)	11,000 (55%)
People with TB	215	85
Sensitive TB clients	54	21
MDR-TB clients	46	18

Table 3: Beneficiaries disaggregated on gender

The locations targeted by the dissemination of knowledge are Tbilisi and 6 regions: Adjara, Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti, Guria, Imereti, Kvemo Kartli and Kakheti. Support to TB and MDR-TB patients in their treatment will be provided in Tbilisi.

Specific characteristics of the target groups include their exclusion from society, absence of family care, disability, poor health, improper nutrition, information isolation, marginalization and high levels of stigma towards them.

Programme component 3: Community-based health and first aid

Component outcome 1: Local communities are strengthened and better able to cope with health challenges as a result of community based integrated health and first-aid activities.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

The Georgia Red Cross Society plans to cover directly around 2,000 beneficiaries and indirectly around 28,000 community members from the population of Tbilisi and of four rural areas in a period of two years.

The targets for 2009 are that 80 volunteers, 1,600 community leaders and 16,000 community members including IDPs will be reached, and in 2010 the total number of beneficiaries will be increased so that totally 100 volunteers, 2,000 community leaders and 28,000 community members are reached. The services provided by the programme are in Tbilisi and in 7 rural areas of Georgia: Adjara, Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti, Imereti, Shida Kartli, Kvemo Kartli and Kakheti. First-aid trainings will be conducted and healthy lifestyle will be promoted.

As the National Society ensures equal opportunities to men and women in its programming among the volunteers 70 per cent are men, 30 per cent are women. Among the community leaders 60 per cent are male and 40 per cent female, and among the community members 60 per cent are male and 40 per cent female.

Programme component 4: Psychosocial support

Component outcome 1: The capacity of Georgia Red Cross Society to provide psychosocial support, to promote the restoration of community networks and coping mechanisms, and to enhance emotional assistance to staff and volunteers in time of disaster or social disruption, is built.

Component outcome 2: Psychosocial support is increasingly integrated into a number of programmes implemented by Georgia Red Cross Society including disaster preparedness and disaster response, first aid, health and social welfare, and care for staff and volunteers.

Component outcome 3: Local communities are strengthened and better able to cope with psychosocial challenges at a time of disaster, social disruption or illness as a result of Georgia Red Cross Society activities.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

The National Society plans to cover directly around 2,880 community leaders and indirectly around 28,800 community members in Tbilisi and seven rural areas in 2009 and 2010. In addition 288 volunteer leaders and volunteers will be reached.

In 2009 totally 120 Red Cross volunteer leaders and volunteers, 1,200 community leaders and 12,000 community members including IDPs will be reached. In 2009 the services provided within the programme are located in Tbilisi and in the four rural areas of Adjara, Imereti, Shida Kartli and Kvemo Kartli.

In 2010 additional 168 Red Cross volunteer leaders and volunteers, 1,680 community leaders and 16,800 community members including IDPs are reached. In 2010 the services provided within the programme are located in Tbilisi and in totally seven rural areas including Adjara, Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti, Imereti, Shida Kartli, Kvemo Kartli and Kakheti.

As the National Society ensures equal opportunities to men and women in its programming, among volunteers 70 per cent are female and 30 per cent are males. Among community leaders 60 per cent are female and 40 per cent male, and among community members 60 per cent are female and 40 per cent male.

Programme component 5: Voluntary non-remunerated blood donation

Component outcome 1: Increased safe blood supply through voluntary non-remunerated blood donation.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries:

Among the target population the main focus will be on youth. The estimated number of students who will benefit from trainings, workshops and promotional campaigns is 1,100. Altogether it is expected that 800 blood donations will be made by students in 2009 and 2010.

The expected number of blood donors in 2009 is 300 students in Tbilisi who will donate once per year, and in 2010 200 new students. In total, 500 students in Tbilisi will donate blood in 2010. The number of youth in Tbilisi who will become members of Georgia "Club 25" and donate blood at least twice per year is expected to be 20 in the coming two years. There is a target for 2009 of 10 members of Georgia "Club 25" giving blood donations 20 times, and for 2010 of 20 members of Georgia "Club 25" giving 40 blood donations. In total the number of blood donations made by members in 2009-2010 will be 60.

The general population will benefit from the blood donation programme and as a result of the National Society's activities, the gap between the donated amount of blood and the required amount of blood has decreased.

Programme component 6: Social support of elderly people

Component outcome 1: Improved health and social conditions among vulnerable elderly people.

Component outcome 2: Changing attitudes and behaviours of service providers towards elderly people addressing the causes of elderly people's exclusion and vulnerability.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

In 2009 and 2010 the programme will be implemented in Tbilisi and Imereti, where these projects are already ongoing and in two new regions, Shida Kartli and Kvemo Kartli, taking into account how acute the issue is, the capacity of the local branches, and the desire of the local authorities to participate.

Georgia, according to its age structure belongs to the group of countries classed as “elderly people’s countries”; 1, 230,320 or 28 per cent of the general population is older than 65 years, and among them 861,224 or 70 per cent are pensioners living below the poverty line. The target group composes of 5,500 elderly people living alone without family support, living on state pension and under the national poverty line.

For 2009 the number of beneficiaries will be 4,000 out of which 2,000 are in Tbilisi, including 500 IDPs, 1,500 in Imereti, including 300 IDPs, and 500 in Shida Kartli including IDPs. In 2010 the number of beneficiaries will increase to 5,800 in total, out of which 2,500 are in Tbilisi (additional 500 beneficiaries), 1,800 in Imereti (500 additional beneficiaries), 1,000 in Shida Kartli (500 additional beneficiaries) and 500 in Kvemo Kartli (new beneficiaries at new location).

Elderly people living alone are mostly women (61.1 per cent); among elderly at the age of 65-70 and 71-80, women constitute 72.3 per cent and 80.5 per cent respectively. Specific characteristics of the target population include exclusion from the society, treatment without dignity, absence of family care, disability, poor health, improper food, information isolation and marginalization. It is estimated that 22 per cent of the total beneficiaries living in the targeted locations are from different ethnic backgrounds (including Armenians, Azeri, Russians, Ossetian, Abkhazians, Jews, and Greeks).

Contributing to component outcome 1, home visits will be conducted on a regular basis, and health and medical advice will be provided. Elderly people will receive up to date information on their rights and entitlements. Advocacy is a much emphasized element within the programme and will aim at changing policies to be more favorable to elderly people. This will require improved and strong collaboration with stakeholders, including local municipalities, on a regular basis and through advocacy campaigns.

Elderly people will also be encouraged to become active members of the society, for this purpose intergenerational activities will be organized. Their social interaction and inclusion will be ensured through participation in the activities of social centres.

c) Potential risks and challenges

- Overall socio-economic situation in the country deteriorates with many people not being able to access basic health services
- Low level of enthusiasm of volunteers to actively participate and cooperate with the Red Cross in project implementation
- Financial dependency of the Georgia Red Cross Society on external funding
- Lack of support from the governmental structures, local authorities and potential donors.

Organizational Development/Capacity Building

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Strengthen local community, civil society and Georgia Red Cross Society capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.

The organizational development/ capacity building programme budget is CHF 401,602 (USD 367,095 or EUR 255,798).

Programme component 1: Improving National Society leadership capacities to develop and implement strategies, to ensure good performance and accountability.
Component outcome 1: Strengthened organizational foundation allowing the Georgia Red Cross Society to fulfill its humanitarian mandate.
Component outcome 2: The knowledge and competence of the Georgia Red Cross Society governance and management leaders at central and local levels are well demonstrated.
Component outcome 3: Improved image through effective external communication and regular dialogue with the general public and partners.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

National Society governance and management representatives are targeted at both central and local levels. Self assessment results have shown that the National Society should continue the leadership competence building at both central and local levels in order to strengthen its organizational foundation through improving its legal base, membership and branch development.

The Red Cross ensures equal opportunities to men and women in the decision making process, programme planning and implementation. Currently, at central governance level, out of the nine general assembly presidium members, there are seven women including the president; at local branch level most of the branch chairpersons are women (approximately 60-68 per cent). At central management level there is 69 staff out of whom 42 per cent is male and 58 per cent female; at local level there are 32 staff members.

The activities planned under this component will cover the entire local branch network of the National Society, meaning 23 branches plus 10 new branches in 2009 and 2010. The latter ten branches are expected to fulfill the National Society's branch criteria during the planning period and targeted by the component. The number of beneficiaries is 85, and among them approximately 28 per cent is male and 72 per cent female. The geographical locations are Tbilisi and 10 regional areas of Georgia including Guria, Imereti, Kakheti, Kvemo Kartli, Mtskheta-Mtianeti, Racha-Lechkhumi and Kvemo Svaneti, Samegrelo and Zemo Svaneti, Samtskhe-Javakheti, Shida Kartli and Adjara.

Programme component 2: Ensuring a well-functioning organization with sustainable systems, procedures and staff with desired level of managerial and technical competencies.
--

Component outcome 1: Effective and transparent human resource and financial management.
--

Component outcome 2: Improved capacities of the Georgia Red Cross Society headquarters and its local branches in programme planning and performance management.
--

Component outcome 3: Proper and effective internal communication, accounting and reporting systems.
--

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

The programme will target Georgia Red Cross Society governance and management representatives at both central and local levels; Red Cross volunteers, youth, local community members and IDPs.

The National Society is encouraged to start working with those local branches that meet the criteria stipulated by the Charter on Georgia Red Cross Society local branches (*Branch Revitalization Project-Model Branch*) establishing the network of Red Cross volunteers and youth, demonstrating consistent service delivery to the vulnerable people. In order to improve the programme and financial management, and the quality of service delivery, the National Society plans to conduct workshops on project planning process (PPP) and vulnerability capacity assessment (VCA), financial management and accounting, resource mobilization, fund-raising techniques, volunteer and youth management and service delivery. Main attention is paid to improving the internal communication among Georgia Red Cross local branches.

Youth and Red Cross volunteers will be actively involved in all activities organized by the organizational development programme and will receive thematic trainings planned. The target beneficiaries, approximately 20-25 volunteers per topic, will be selected according to the required skills and the relevancy to the training theme.

The activities planned under this component will cover eight local branches, out of which five are urban and three rural in the pre-selected regions. The branches are Guria, Imereti, Kakheti, Kvemo Kartli, Mtskheta-Mtianeti, Racha-Lechkhumi and Kvemo Svaneti, Samegrelo and Zemo Svaneti, Samtskhe-Javakheti, Shida Kartli and Adjara.

The number of beneficiaries targeted under this component is 1,085 out of whom 32 per cent are male and 68 per cent female. Beneficiaries will include the Georgia Red Cross Society governance and management representatives at both central and local level making up 85 people, 350 volunteers, 150 youth and 500 local community members and IDPs (estimated figures).

Programme component 3: Ensuring financial sustainability
Component outcome 1: Georgia Red Cross Society core costs covered by resource mobilization and fund-raising activities performed at central and local levels.
Component outcome 2: Georgia Red Cross Society has diversified its financial resources through new partnerships established with the government, business structures, and international organizations at national and international levels.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

The number of the total population targeted by the organizational development programme under this component is 1,135, including 85 governance and management representatives at both central and local levels, 350 volunteers, 150 youth, as well as 550 local community members and IDPs (estimate figures).

Programme component 4: Developing a nation-wide coverage of grassroots units and services
Component outcome 1: Strengthened nation-wide network of local branches implementing core Red Cross activities throughout the country.
Component outcome 2: Improved delivery of quality services by enhanced volunteer and youth management at local branch/ unit grassroots levels.
Component outcome 3: Strengthened capacities of volunteers within the local communities through trainings in health and care, disaster preparedness and principles and values provided by the respective National Society services within the frame of the appropriate programmes.
Component outcome 4: Empowered local target communities (two) including IDPs via improved capacities of the local branches to deliver services through the participatory community development approach.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

The programme will target the Georgia Red Cross Society staff, volunteers, youth, IDPs and surrounding local communities participating in the participatory community development approach and other Red Cross activities.

The National Society will actively continue its work throughout Georgia in order to support the local organizations expand the network of local branches and their humanitarian activities. Attention is paid to volunteers and youth in getting them involved in the Red Cross activities as well as in governance and management structures at both the central and local level. The National Society will start discussions within the organization on the elaboration and conceptual description of the branch development strategy.

Development of cooperation between the headquarters and the local branches through effective coordination and appropriate assignment of responsibilities will strengthen the institutional capacities of the National Society. Community-based work will continue by implementing the participatory community development methodology in two target locations (one location per year) to strengthen the communication and integration of IDPs and surrounding local communities and to develop more relevant micro-projects to empower both local community members and IDPs.

The activities planned by the participatory community development approach will be implemented in two urban locations in Georgia, selected by the general assembly presidium.

Volunteer groups with approximately 25 volunteers in each of the group (in total 50) will be established. The groups will be established in two locations in Georgia where there are collective centres with a certain number of IDPs in order to increase ownership by involving beneficiaries and to reduce their vulnerability.

In total 1,930 beneficiaries are targeted by the programme component. The number of IDPs in collective centres and surrounding local communities targeted by the participatory community development approach is 1,800, approximately 900 beneficiaries in each targeted local community. The number of volunteers in the two above mentioned volunteers groups is 50, and in additional 25 staff members and 55 youth will be targeted.

c) Potential risks and challenges

The results of the country situation analysis and the Georgia Red Cross Society self-assessment have shown the following potential risks and challenges:

- Unexpected political changes in the country
- Overall socio-economic situation in the country
- Lack of support from the governmental structures, local authorities and potential donors
- Financial dependency of the Georgia Red Cross Society on external funding
- Low level of enthusiasm of volunteers to actively participate and cooperate with the Red Cross.

Principles and Values

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Promote the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values and reduce discrimination and social exclusion.

The principles and values programme budget is CHF 109,950 (USD 100,503 or EUR 70,032).

Programme component 1: Promotion of Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values
Component outcome 1: Increased awareness of Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values among students and school children including internally displaced children.
Component outcome 2: Increased awareness about the Georgia Red Cross Society, the Movement, Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values among the general public through youth mobile groups.
Component outcome 3: Increased awareness of the Georgia Red Cross Society governance, management, staff and volunteers on Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values at both central and local levels.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

The target beneficiaries are Georgia Red Cross Society governance and management representatives at both central and local levels, Red Cross volunteers and youth, school children, students, orphans and children with disabilities; as well as children from internally displaced families.

The Georgia Red Cross Society ensures equal opportunities to men and women in the decision-making process, programme planning and implementation. The active participation of women in Red Cross activities is highly appreciated, but the National Society will make special effort to actively involve men in this particular programme to make them as active as women currently are.

The essential part of the two-year programme will be implemented in four urban places in both western and eastern parts of Georgia. Herewith, youth mobile groups will provide dissemination courses for school children and IDPs in rural locations.

The number of beneficiaries is 25 staff from the headquarters of the National Society; 20 local branch staff and youth; 800 students; and 4,000 school children including children from internally displaced families.

Programme component 2: Reduction of discrimination and social exclusion and promotion of respect of diversity.

Component outcome 1: Promoted culture of non-discrimination and respect to diversity.

Component outcome 2: Decreased social exclusion of children from vulnerable groups.

Component outcome 3: Stigma and discrimination associated to communicable diseases has been reduced through advocacy, communication, education and social mobilization activities of the Georgia Red Cross Society.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

The Georgia Red Cross Society seeks to involve groups experiencing different vulnerabilities in the programme, such as orphans and children with physical and mental disabilities, children from internally displaced families as well as a variety of people with different ethnic origins through cooperation with multinational public schools and institutions of higher education.

Target beneficiaries of the component outcome are youth with a total number of 20,000. It is the same target group which goes under the health and care programme component 1 and programme component 2.

Seven advocacy teams will be established in all seven target regions, each team consisting of five volunteers and representatives from vulnerable groups of PLHIV; people with TB; IDUs or drug users; people with Hepatitis B and/ or C.

Tbilisi and six regions of Georgia will be targeted including Adjara, Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti, Guria, Imereti, Shida Kartli, Kvemo Kartli and Kakheti.

c) Potential risks and challenges

- Lack of support from the governmental structures, local authorities and potential donors
- Financial dependency of the Georgia Red Cross Society on external funding
- Low level of enthusiasm of volunteers to actively participate and cooperate with the Red Cross.

Component outcome 4: The acknowledgement of elderly people on their rights and dignity to enhance their protection and support in order to find their active role in public life has been increased.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

The beneficiaries of this component are identical with the beneficiaries for the health and care programme component 5.

c) Potential risks and challenges

- Not sufficient funding of the programme
- Recruitment and retain of volunteers for the Red Cross activities
- Frequent changes in local governmental structures.

Role of the secretariat

a) Technical programme support

The International Federation's country representation in Georgia will provide technical and programme support via the internationally recruited country representative and employees recruited locally. The

regional representation for Central Europe and Southern Caucasus and the Europe zone office in Budapest will be strategic advisors both for the Georgia Red Cross Society and for its partners, and will also provide coordination in programme implementation. The National Society will have the primary responsibility in programme implementation.

b) Partnership development and coordination

Within the frame of the new operating model and with the purpose of maximizing the cooperation between the partners and scale up in programming, the International Federation will support the National Society to go through a cooperation agreement strategy (CAS) process. Support will be provided based on the strategic plan of the Georgia Red Cross Society for 2007-2011 and the priorities outlined in the secretariat plan for 2009-2010. The development of a country-level cooperation strategy and the possible creation of an Operational Alliance will assist to align the needs of the National Society, its capacities and priorities and the support received from its partners.

The country representation in Georgia will scale up the coordination with ICRC, especially when it comes to the coordinated approach to the development of the Georgia Red Cross Society. Cooperation and coordination with ICRC has recently been enhanced by the signing of a Harmonized Operational Programme during the humanitarian operations following the August 2008 conflict. Thus, there will be no duplication of efforts and resources and the activities set will complement each other. The regional representation and the Europe zone office will focus their coordination with the ICRC within four areas identified at 30th International Conference: the humanitarian consequences of climate change; humanitarian concerns generated by international migration; violence, in particular in urban settings; emergent and recurrent diseases and other public health challenges.

c) Representation and Advocacy

The Europe zone office and the regional representation will arrange representation in inter-agency discussion as they take place in regions and field situations, including the coordination for emergency assistance. The International Federation through its zonal, regional and country structures will support the National Society in building and maintaining its relations with public authorities, international organizations and other humanitarian actors.

Promoting gender equity and diversity

Recognizing that the empowerment of women and the integration of gender perspectives will increase the effectiveness and the efficiency of the organization, the Georgia Red Cross Society considers the gender balance in all its projects and activities, particularly in terms of women participating in the decision-making process, in project implementation, attending conferences and workshops, in the equal mobilization of male and female volunteers. The secretariat at the headquarters ensures equal opportunities for men and women to apply for open positions, with no specific requirements set for any particular position in terms of gender.

Currently the National Society has 69 staff at the central level out of which women hold 58 per cent of the positions. At local level there is 32 staff. At central governance level out of the nine general assembly presidium members, there are seven women including the president of the Georgia Red Cross Society; at local branch level most of the branch chairpersons are women (approximately 60-65 per cent). Among youth volunteers in Tbilisi women make up 80 per cent and men 20 per cent. Social workers involved in social projects for elderly people living alone in Tbilisi and Kutaisi social projects are 90 per cent women. Gender balance is taken into consideration in the design of programmes and when selecting beneficiaries, the total balance between male and female is 30 per cent to 70 per cent.

The National Society is working on a gender policy referring to the roles, responsibilities, needs, interests and capacities of both men and women to be submitted to the presidium for adoption. The purpose of this policy is to define the main approach of the National Society on how to address gender issues in its actions. A gender perspective is required to ensure that men's and women's specific needs, vulnerabilities and capacities, set in the broader context of class, ethnicity and religion, are recognized and addressed. This policy will establish the basis for the National Society to ensure that

gender differences are taken into account and dealt with in relation to core programmes such as disaster relief, disaster preparedness, health and promotion of humanitarian values.

The majority of the beneficiaries of the health and care programme are women. This is due both to their traditionally weaker position in the society and because they tend to outlive their husbands. Also, women will greatly benefit from the care provided to their loved ones. The burden of looking after sick and elderly people in need of assistance traditionally fall on women, and so improved monitoring and care systems will ease their workload.

With regard to gender issues, the goal of the Georgia Red Cross Society is to ensure that all programmes benefit men and women equally, according to their different needs and with the input and equal participation of men and women at all levels. The National Society is committed to taking the necessary steps towards achieving this goal, in particular recognizing that natural disasters, conflicts, social and political instability may affect men and women differently and that Red Cross emergency response and long-term humanitarian assistance may also have a different impact on men and women. Although the primary task of the National Society is to ensure gender sensitivity in its existing programmes, it may also implement projects to support special groups of men or women, if local situations require so.

Within the process of planning for 2009-2010 gender equity and diversity were taken into account in all programmes developed by the Georgia Red Cross Society, especially in health and care and principles and values programmes.

Quality, accountability and learning

To improve the quality of the programmes implemented by the Georgia Red Cross Society and to ensure their effectiveness, the National Society uses its *Quality Assessment Template*, developed and introduced by the International Federation. It is a simple tool to be used by the programme managers with the aim of increasing the efficiency and sustainability of the programmes for the future.

The accountability of the National Society to its partners, donors, the public society and the beneficiaries will be ensured through various reports posted on the International Federation and Georgia Red Cross Society web-sites and submitted to donors. The National Society submits its annual report to the general assembly and shares it with international and local organizations.

Monitoring and Evaluation

In terms of monitoring and evaluation, the Georgia Red Cross Society has formed a monitoring and evaluation group that consists of five members: the respective programme beneficiary (local community member), Red Cross volunteer, respective programme coordinator, the secretary general and the Federation country representative.

Available tools and mechanisms:

- **Data collection**- both quantitative and qualitative data collection methods for monitoring and evaluation purposes: interviews with the beneficiaries and events' participants, questionnaires, surveys and case studies.
- **Field visits and meetings**- conduct field monitoring visits to check the programme implementation process, assess the achievements and challenges once or twice per month. In addition to this, organize meetings with the local community members, volunteers, local authorities, other partners and donors.
- **Reporting**- develop monthly, semi- and annual reports to monitor and update the programme implementation process, to demonstrate impact and lessons learnt, to provide feedback to donors and partners on funds received in order to be transparent to donors and beneficiaries.
- **Final evaluation** of the implemented programmes will be done jointly by the Georgia Red Cross Society management and the International Federation's representation.

One of the effective and important monitoring mechanisms is continuous collection and analysis of the information. This enables for comparison of how well a project, programme or policy is being implemented against the expected results. Monitoring should involve process monitoring to provide information on the use of resources, the progress of activities and the way these are carried out and results monitoring on the progress towards achieving objectives and the impact the policy, project or programme is having in relation to the initially planned objectives.

The evaluation mechanism is to measure the impact of programmes and operations, learn from experience, and account for actions, thereby improving capacity to fulfill the mission to improve the lives of the most vulnerable. The objectives of the monitoring and evaluation functions in general has to provide an objective basis for the assessment of impact; improve policies, programmes, projects and processes by identifying and disseminating the lessons learned from the experience and implementing recommendations drawn from monitoring data and evaluation findings.

How we work	
<p>The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".</p>	<p>Global Agenda Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters. • Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies. • Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability. • Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.
Contact information	
<p>For further information specifically related to this plan, please contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Georgia Red Cross Society: Mr Gocha Guchashvili, Secretary General; phone: +995 32 96 10 92; fax: +995 32 96 06 98; email: gguchashvili@redcross.ge • In the Country Representation: Elkhan Rahimov, Country Representative, Tbilisi; phone: +995 32 29 36 59; fax: +995 32 20 50 49; email: elkhan.rahimov@ifrc.org • In the Regional Representation for Central Europe and Southern Caucasus: Elias Ghanem, Regional Representative, Budapest, phone: +36 1 8884 518; fax: +36 1 336 1516; email: elias.ghanem@ifrc.org 	