

Report 2006-2007



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Appeal No. MAABA001

This report covers the period of 01/01/2006 to 31/12/2006 of a two-year planning and appeal process.

In a world of global challenges, continued poverty, inequity, and increasing vulnerability to disasters and disease, the International Federation with its global network, works to accomplish its Global Agenda, partnering with local community and civil society to prevent and alleviate human suffering from disasters, diseases and public health emergencies.



Red Cross Society BiH Mobile Technical Team doing a home visit in Novi Grad, Sarajevo. International Federation/E. Krehic

In brief

Programme Summary:

During 2006 the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina (RCSBiH) has made major changes to its statutes. The focus of Federation support has been, besides supporting programmes, on strengthening the new structure of the society through the Organisational Development programme. This is essential, not only for effective functioning of the RCSBiH but also for future funding possibilities.

Programme support has been concentrated on Health and Care – Home Care, Population Movement, HIV/AIDS, TB - and Disaster Management programmes. The Home Care programme was evaluated during the autumn and this evaluation will serve as the basis for future support to the programme and also for the Population Movement programme.

The overall financial situation for Federation support to RCSBiH is still quite good. The major donors are Norwegian and Swedish Red Cross Societies. During 2006 the Federation also received considerable support for the Home Care programme from the Italian Red Cross.

Goal: To improve the quality of life for people in need living in BiH.

Needs: Total 2006-2007 budget CHF 2,482,990 (USD 2,055,665 or EUR 1,513,760) (out of which 43 % covered). [Click here to go directly to the attached financial report.](#)

No. of people we help:

Year	Project Title	Target Population	Total # of people we help	% Women	% Men	% Children under the age of 18	% Elderly
2006	OD	3,200		20	80	10	5
2006	H&C	150,000	60,000	55	45	17	10
2006	HCP	10,000	5,000	65	35	0	100
2006	PM	5,000	3,750	60	40	20	20
2006	DM	200		10	90	0	0

Our Partners: Besides the natural partners within the Red Cross Movement, the Federation Representative Office in Sarajevo works with around 20 partners; community-based, national, government-based, international organizations, UN and developmental agencies.

Current context

The most significant economic event to affect the programme and its beneficiaries in 2006 was the introduction of Value Added Tax (VAT). Starting on 1 January the authorities introduced a general VAT of 17 % in the country. In an already poor country with an overall unemployment rate of 40 % this has had a severe effect on people's lives; for people who had problems making ends meet before 2006 this problem became even worse during 2006. The effect on the Red Cross programmes was also strong because less commodities (hygiene and food parcels) could be distributed to vulnerable people.

The Federation Representative Office managed this situation quite well since through the status agreement it is exempted from paying VAT. However the VAT regime means a lot more administrative work in order to get refunded the already paid VAT.

The RCSBiH was not exempted from paying VAT which meant that this was an extra cost for the society. Italian Red Cross during the first part of 2006 was going to do a major procurement for RCSBiH Home Care programme. In order to avoid the VAT problem the procurements were done through the Federation system and consequently the Federation appeal for 2006 had to be revised.

Progress towards objectives

Health and Care

Objective: The RCSBiH capacity to provide public health education campaigns is increased. This is done through active TB, HIV/AIDS, reproductive health as well as voluntary non-remunerated blood donation campaigns. Besides this the programme has a First Aid component.

The RCSBiH receives very limited funds from international donors to carry out the Health and Care programme. With these limited funds the society manages to organise campaigns regarding **reproductive health, TB and HIV/AIDS** all over the country that have very good visibility and, possibly, an impact. The reason for this is that most of the activities are carried out by very committed youth members of the Red Cross. Especially for the anti-stigma campaign the participation of youth is important. RCSBiH does a lot with small funds available but they should do more and be even more visible. In order to try to increase the funding base RCSBiH has involved themselves as partner in a Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) application and if this is successful the possibilities will increase.

The most traditional activity of the RCSBiH, besides Home Care, is the **blood donor programme**. RCSBiH does not receive any international funding for this programme but the fact that the society manages to carry out many activities in order to attract blood donors shows that it is possible to carry out an important activity if only the commitment is there. The programme is carried out in cooperation with national health institutions.

During 2006 RCSBiH was appointed to be the only provider of **First Aid** training at national level to new drivers in the country. In a country with very high death tolls and many injured on the roads this is a very important programme where RCSBiH really can contribute to society at large. Through this arrangement the National Society will have access to a good funding source for the future that will open up new possibilities to finance the RCSBiH. On the other hand this new possibility also is a great challenge and a risk to the RCSBiH; the demands on the National Society to deliver good First Aid training will increase and will be carefully monitored by the authorities and the general public. If RCSBiH fails to deliver the risk is that the society will lose the first aid market totally. So far RCSBiH has delivered but the issue is to follow up the quality of the training carefully all the time.

Home Care

Objective: The RCSBiH provides quality HCP services but also that the project is developed and partially implemented in a way that it will become self-sustainable.

The Home Care Programme (HCP) is the most visible of the RCSBiH programmes providing quality home care services to vulnerable elderly people. The programme reaches more than 10,000 beneficiaries per year. Unfortunately it is supposed that the needs for this type of programme will stay for many years to come. This programme has been increased during 2006 following strong support from the Italian Red Cross.

The HC programme was evaluated during October 2006 by a team from Swedish RC/Federation, Italian RC and RCSBiH. The main recommendations of the evaluation report are:

- Headquarters level to develop a detailed and comprehensive HCP strategy and procedures for its implementation;
- Strengthening of local branches;
- Stricter categorisation of beneficiaries, enforcing existing criteria;
- Streamline service provision and relief assistance.

The report clearly points out that there is a need for restructuring of the programme. The intention is that the report and the recommendations will serve as a basis for a major overhaul of the HC programme during 2007 involving all interested RC parties actively working with home care in BiH.

During the autumn the Italian RC together with the Federation produced a DVD about the Home Care programme in BiH. The film is available in one short and one longer version in Bosnian, English and Italian languages. The aim of the film is to visualise the reality that the vulnerable people in BiH face but also as feed back to donors.

The HCP programme works in close collaboration with the Population Movement programme.

Population Movement

Objective: The programme is vulnerability and advocacy-focused on behalf of minority returnees and asylum-seekers lead and managed by the RCSBiH. The programme is focused on reducing the vulnerability of communities in four priority regions of minority return.

RCSBiH is giving support to more than 4,000 beneficiaries through the population movement (PM) programme. The programme is focusing support on: assisting returnees with the help of four Mobile Social Integration Teams in BiH, legal issues, volunteers' information-networks in priority areas of return and positioning the RCSBiH in civil society vis-à-vis the government. It is important how these projects are integrated into ongoing RCSBiH programmes (i.e. a cross cutting element between health/care and humanitarian values).

The programme is running well but like the HCP it is in need of being revitalised. Therefore the programme will be restructured during 2007 using the HCP evaluation as a basis. It is also foreseen that the HCP and PM programmes will be merged during 2007 or 2008.

Disaster Management

Objective: RCSBiH capacity to respond quickly and efficiently to natural and man-made disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina is upgraded. The objective is also that a DM network in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) is strengthened.

RCSBiH has over the past five years managed to develop quite substantial capacity to respond to disasters in the country. This has been done in full cooperation with the Civil Protection authorities in both entities and at state level. RCSBiH has signed cooperation agreements with Civil Protection at entity level and they are also about to sign a similar document with the authorities at state level. RCSBiH organises joint exercises with governmental organisations and institutions on acting in the event of a disaster.

A very positive experience from the DM programme is that the entity RCs are working together as one National Society using joint experts in DM trainings and exercises and sharing information from Disaster Plans between the entity levels. RCSBiH also has agreements on acting jointly in emergency situations with neighbouring countries such as Serbia, Croatia and Macedonia.

Even if many things in the DM programme are functioning well there is still a lot to be improved. RCSBiH still does not have a central programme coordinator, the financial situation for the programme is quite weak meaning that RCSBiH on the equipment side still has a lot more to do. There is a strong need for refresher trainings for the response teams as well as simulations in the country and together with neighbouring countries. If this is not done the capacity of the RCSBiH will go down very quickly in the coming years.

BiH did not face any major emergency situations during 2006.

Organizational Development

Objective: The quality of services provided to the vulnerable population is increased through reinforced organisational capacity of the RCSBiH. It is also that the RCSBiH headquarters is reinforced through the improved legal base defined strategic priorities, increased local funding and membership.

RCSBiH has seen some major changes/achievements during 2006.

- The entity RCs as well as RCSBiH now have the legal base settled meaning that there are RC laws approved by respective parliaments at state as well as entity level. This means that opportunities to receive financial support from respective governments have improved.
- Following the merger in late 2005 of the old Red Cross society of BiH (called Presidency 91) and RCSBiH, the RCSBiH is the lawful owner of all RC properties in BiH. The RCSBiH early in 2006 started discussions on how to best use their property, especially the renovation of the old Red Cross headquarters in Sarajevo. A special commission has been set up to handle this issue and implementation of decisions could start in late 2007 at the earliest. From a financial point of view this

is a very important issue since it opens up for the possibility to safeguard some future funding.

- The RCSBiH General Assembly in May finally approved the new statutes for the society. This means that RCSBiH will have one president and two vice presidents elected for four years; RCSBiH will also have a Secretary General. Another change is that the new statutes open up better funding possibilities within the society meaning that the entity RCs will have to support their national headquarters. It is also important to underline that RCSBiH is the first organisation to take this step in BiH – the overall goal for BiH as country is to come to a situation where there is one president and not three presidents rotating every eight months.
- The financial situation for RCSBiH is very weak, especially on the headquarters level where it very much depends on international funding through the Federation and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). As mentioned above the new statutes have opened up for better national but also internal funding possibilities. In order to take advantage of this, RCSBiH has with the support from Norwegian RC started to implement a fund-raising project aiming at self-sufficiency.

Even if a lot has happened since the creation of RCSBiH 2000 the society is still very weak; there is a strong discrepancy between the entity RCs. The Republika Srpska RC has a much better funding base than the Federation of BiH RC and the two Entity RCs in turn have a better funding base than the RCSBiH itself. Before 2006 the Entity RCs did not support the RCSBiH at all. During 2006 this was changed and it can be expected that this will change even more in the future with the implementation of the new RCSBiH statutes. It can be estimated that the full implementation of the new statutes will take another year or two. Only after that will the RCSBiH have a real chance of becoming a self-sustainable and well-functioning Red Cross society.

Working in partnership

The Federation Representative Office to BiH works with many organisations both within and outside of the Red Cross Movement. Its main partners include, but are not limited to RC societies in the region, as well as the Swedish, Norwegian, Italian, Swiss, Spanish, German and United Arab Emirates RC/RC, ICRC, International Organisation for Migration (IOM), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Stability Pact Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative (DPPI) and the Civil Society Development Foundation.

In BiH the RCSBiH work in partnership with their respective Ministries of Health and Social Welfare when implementing activities targeting at HIV/AIDS and TB through the HC programme. In the Home Care programme, each community project involves stakeholders from all areas of community life such as local authorities, hospitals and local non-governmental organisations (NGOs). As mentioned above the RCSBiH in the DM programme works closely with the Civil Protection authorities both on entity and state level.

Contributing to longer-term impact

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a poor country where many people, mainly elderly, suffer from poor social and economic conditions. Under these circumstances the Red Cross contribution through their programmes to alleviate this suffering is more than important. The Red Cross has been and still is a main contributor in the fight against poverty in BiH.

The Federation goals in BiH are aligned with the Federation Global Agenda Goals, which contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. For example, HC campaigns aim to inform the general public about health risks and to tackle stigma issues thus reducing discrimination and social exclusion, while the Promoting Humanitarian Values programme aims to promote respect for diversity and human dignity, clearly contributing to Global Agenda Goals two and four.

In all programmes, gender equality is promoted, ensuring the involvement of all groups as best as possible. Furthermore, Sphere standards are followed; those involved in DM are trained in the Sphere standards and in the Code of Conduct. HC programmes follow guidelines on harm reduction and TB, and also follow HC strategy and policy.

Looking Ahead

The main priority is to improve the quality of the RCSBiH programmes as a basis for scaling up quality, quantity and outreach. To achieve better service quality and consequently a better image for RCSBiH, the society needs to improve its legal framework, increase the skills and knowledge of staff and volunteers in technical programmes, diversify its funding base more, improve the level of monitoring and evaluation and improve internal and external communication. The Federation Representative office is aligning the planning, the capacity and the working methods with these needs and also with the Federation Secretariat Support Strategy for Central Europe 2006-2009. It is foreseen that the Federation will need to be present in BiH at least throughout 2008. The crucial issue is how long it will take to implement the new RCSBiH statutes and based on those statutes how long it will take to revitalise the RCSBiH programmes.

For further information please contact:

Sune Follin, Federation Representative to BiH; email: sune.follin@ifrc.org;
Telephone: +387 33 666 009; Fax: +387 33 666 010

Samra Campara, Finance Development Manager; email: samra.campara@ifrc.org;
Telephone: +387 33 666 009; Fax: +387 33 666 010

Erja Reinikainen, Regional Officer, Europe Department, Federation Secretariat;
email: erja.reinikainen@ifrc.org; Telephone: +41 22 730 43 19; Fax: +41 22 733 03 95

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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAABA001 - BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Annual Report 2006

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/12
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAABA001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget	1,406,758	389,304		686,928	0	2,482,990
B. Opening Balance	-2,742	36,137		23,976	0	57,370
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>Italian Red Cross</i>	404,251					404,251
<i>Norwegian Red Cross</i>	29,453	29,453		100,534		159,440
<i>Other</i>	2,763					2,763
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>	171,459	101,610		67,740		340,808
C1. Cash contributions	607,925	131,063		168,273		907,262
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
<i>Italian Red Cross</i>	-3,537					-3,537
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>	-2,057					-2,057
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	-5,593					-5,593
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>	102,000					102,000
C5. Inkind Personnel	102,000					102,000
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	704,332	131,063		168,273	0	1,003,668
D. Total Funding = B + C	701,590	167,199		192,249	0	1,061,039

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	-2,742	36,137		23,976	0	57,370
C. Income	704,332	131,063		168,273	0	1,003,668
E. Expenditure	-692,645	-153,591		-145,082	0	-991,318
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	8,945	13,608		47,167	0	69,720

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III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		1,406,758	389,304		686,928	0	2,482,990	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	49,652							49,652
Construction Materials	18,000		27,592				27,592	-9,592
Clothing & textiles	46,480	28,694	19,067				47,762	-1,282
Food	111,360	59,500					59,500	51,860
Seeds,Plants	246,456	123,167					123,167	123,289
Medical & First Aid	243,000	687					687	242,313
Other Supplies & Services	46,952	151,026			807		151,833	-104,881
Total Supplies	761,900	363,074	46,660		807		410,540	351,360
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	11,000							11,000
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.		3,972			1,220		5,192	-5,192
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	11,000	3,972			1,220		5,192	5,808
Transport & Storage								
Storage			2,526			9	2,535	-2,535
Distribution & Monitoring		73					73	-73
Transport & Vehicle Costs	101,159	16,882	17,951		7,525	-9	42,349	58,810
Total Transport & Storage	101,159	16,955	20,477		7,525	0	44,957	56,202
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	204,000					48	48	203,952
Delegate Benefits	144,000	115,388			10,291	-48	125,630	18,370
National Staff	247,148	51,632	21,987		35,780	0	109,400	137,748
National Society Staff	341,522	3,301	63,716		36,608		103,625	237,896
Consultants	32,406	2,087	244		2,863	-86	5,109	27,297
Total Personnel Expenditures	969,076	172,409	85,947		85,541	-86	343,812	625,264
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	144,507	26,299	19,443		15,644	86	61,472	83,035
Total Workshops & Training	144,507	26,299	19,443		15,644	86	61,472	83,035
General Expenditure								
Travel	57,339	26,895	1,602		9,199	40	37,736	19,603
Information & Public Relation	45,844	30,855	1,289		11,792	399	44,335	1,509
Office Costs	158,938	6,342	7,638		33,842	28,621	76,443	82,495
Communications	49,608	4,928	1,549		8,262	10,836	25,574	24,034
Professional Fees		403					403	-403
Financial Charges	22,225	3,568	23		-9,431	1,028	-4,812	27,037
Other General Expenses		34,300	6,624			-40,924	-0	0
Total General Expenditure	333,954	107,292	18,725		53,663	-0	179,680	154,275
Program Support								
Program Support	161,394	44,591	9,983		9,430		64,005	97,390
Total Program Support	161,394	44,591	9,983		9,430		64,005	97,390
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		-41,947	-47,644		-28,749		-118,339	118,339
Total Operational Provisions		-41,947	-47,644		-28,749		-118,339	118,339
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	2,482,990	692,645	153,591		145,082	-0	991,318	1,491,672
VARIANCE (C - D)		714,113	235,713		541,846	0	1,491,672	