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# Tajikistan Annual Report

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

**MAATJ002**

**30 April 2013**

**This report covers the  
period 01 January 2012 to  
31 December 2012.**

*The historical Month of the Red Crescent  
Society of Tajikistan was celebrated at the  
national level.  
08/05/2012/RCST*



## Overview

The annual report for the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 2012 in Tajikistan was prepared together by the IFRC Country Representation in Tajikistan and the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan and highlights the top-line achievements and constraints during the reporting period. Below, the most significant events are highlighted, and a more detailed summary is provided throughout the report.

### RCST manages disasters

In 2012 Tajikistan faced about 200 disaster events that significantly affected households and the livestock of the residents. Four Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) operations were implemented in 2012 covering a total 2,834 families (17,004 people) affected by different emergencies, from floods and earthquake to food insecurity and civil unrests. In total 605,610 Swiss francs (CHF) were allocated from the DREF to assist affected population with food, non-food items, and provision of psychosocial support. Taking into account that the country is located in an area geographically prone-to-disasters, the Red Crescent Society supported by the IFRC continued increasing the capacity and knowledge of communities to reduce the risk of vulnerability and to overcome challenges during emergencies'. This was done through conducting different disaster risk reduction activities, such as simulation exercises, trainings and workshops, establishing and equipping Local Disaster Committees (LDC) and National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT), developing the necessary contingency plans and documents, providing access to water and sanitation, and mitigation actions. Additionally, the IFRC pays serious attention to increasing awareness of the national level stakeholders and decision makers on international disaster law. Significant steps were taken during 2012 through specialized workshops for authorities and media coverage of the issue. The fruit of these efforts were the amendments to tax and customs legislation adopted in the end of 2012, which freed international humanitarian assistance from fees during disasters.

### RCST goes international and increases its image

In May 2012, for the first time in the region Tajikistan pioneered conducting the Month of the Red Crescent at the wide national level involving the top official structures. Tajikistan also played a significant role in bringing the Europe Zone closer to other IFRC Zones establishing contacts and signing agreements on cooperation with Afghanistan Red Crescent, Chinese Red Cross and Iranian Red Crescent societies. The governance capacity of the organization was strengthened through conducting trainings, educational sessions, and workshops for managers. An appraisal system, as well as HR policy and procedures are developed and are currently in use. The Strategic Plan 2013-2015, Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) and Fundraising Policy are under revision now. The official web-page of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan is continuously updated with latest news. In 2012 five issues of RCST newsletter were prepared, printed and disseminated among stakeholders.

### RCST cares for population health

RCST special trust points for injecting drug users provided advisory and psychological support, and exchanged syringes. More than 2,000 condoms were distributed by these centres and in total 6% of injecting drug users participated in the informational sessions of these centres. Conducting informational sessions and developing informational materials are an important part of RCST health and care related projects. But due to funding shortages, only 52% of targeted population was covered by these sessions and materials in 2012. During the reporting period, some 118 cases with suspected TB were referred for testing by volunteers out of whom four cases were detected (SS+). As part of the improvement of project sustainability, the TB component was revised in Vahdat district: main focus was shifted to community-based multi-drug resistant direct observation treatment (MDR DOT) monitoring and control. Five water supply systems were constructed in the country providing access to safe water to some 8,502 people. Water committees were established to ensure further sustainability of the constructed systems. The targeted population raised its awareness on water and sanitation, climate change adaptation and energy saving issues. The vulnerable communities were actively involved in the process and 35%-55% of the whole costs of the constructions were provided by the communities themselves. Some 432 trees were planted in four communities, three of them in the territory of schools.

### RCST pays attention to migrants

Challenges with funding resulted in provision of less service to the potential labour migrants in RCST educational centres. Due to financial difficulties, teachers were supported on irregular basis. In 2012 some 2,150 migrants were informed on their specific rights, duties, welfare and labour market (mostly in Russia), as well as improved their knowledge on Russian language and computer literacy. Some 45 rural communities from 5 targeted districts are trained and able to combat discrimination, intolerance, violence and respect for diversity during 5 workshops in 2012.

## Working in partnership

Operational Partners	Agreement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan</li> <li>• Norwegian Red Cross</li> <li>• Finnish Red Cross</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Project contracts/Memorandum of Understanding for DREFs.</li> <li>➤ Norwegian Red Cross supported disaster management; water and sanitation; HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis prevention and awareness-raising; youth; migration; as well as organizational development projects and programmes.</li> <li>➤ Finnish RC supported disaster management programme.</li> <li>➤ Italian RC supported HIV prevention</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Italian Red Cross</li> <li>• Japanese Red Cross</li> </ul>	<p>programme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Japanese Red Cross supported an income generation project on beekeeping.</li> </ul>
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## Progress towards outcomes

### Business line I: To raise humanitarian standards

**Outcome 1.1:** Develop and keep updated a Europe Zone regional trend report on key humanitarian and development issues, review of the interpretation of humanitarian principles

**Outcome 1.2:** Promote the fundamental principles and humanitarian values and mainstream those in other programmes

**Outcome 1.3:** Strengthen the professional qualifications through policy, research studies, IDRL

Measurement			
Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
% of trainings during which participants are informed on fundamental principles	30%	100%	100%

Comments on progress towards outcomes
<p>During the year the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) carried out educational and informational sessions on fundamental principles and humanitarian values to raise the awareness of the targeted population. Campaigns and competitions dedicated to the Red Crescent Month were organized; a contest for the best article on humanitarian activities was announced among local journalists. Also, the charity concert, competitions between university students and National Society volunteers, sports competitions were conducted during that month.</p> <p>In June 2012, the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan organized a special event and rewarded the winners of the competitions for the best primary organization, the best drawing, the best article on humanitarian activities, and the best fundraising initiative.</p> <p>For the first time in its recent history the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan initiated and organized an international youth camp within the country. A group of young volunteers from the Red Crescent Society of Iran joined their Tajik peers to share the knowledge and experience in the summer camp organized in Varzob, 15 kilometres from Dushanbe, from 14th July 2012 to 21th July 2012. Some 60 active young volunteers from both societies had an opportunity to share their knowledge and skills. During the reporting period, the RCST conducted staff meetings with branches, carried out the Presidium and quarterly Plenums, provided practical support to branches of RCST including Qurghonteppa (Khuroson, A. Jomi, Bokhtar, D. Rumi and Panj).</p>

### Business Line II: To grow Red Cross/Red Crescent services for vulnerable people

**Outcome 2.1:** Complete trends analysis (in Disaster Management (DM), H&C, migration, etc.)

**Outcome 2.2:** Deliver timely quality disaster relief assistance to National Societies and to people affected

**Outcome 2.3:** Create fully operational regional disaster response teams

**Outcome 2.4:** Develop and continuously update comprehensive disaster management database

**Outcome 2.5:** Enable Plan of Action for strategic engagement with civil defence/civil protection actors

**Outcome 2.6:** Follow the Code of Conduct – security management

**Outcome 2.7:** Advocate for climate change, scale up awareness and adaptation

**Outcome 2.8:** Target advocacy and support to promote IDRL

Measurement			
Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
% of DM staff educated on new trends and policies in DM field	60%	100%	100%
# of DM staff members of Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT)	8	-	-
% of DM staff who are in roster and are stand-by	5%	100%	100%
% of ERC included to database	0%	100%	100%
% of staff who are informed on Code of Conduct and Stay Safe-Security issues	50%	100%	100%

### Comments on progress towards outcomes

In 2012, Tajikistan faced about 200 disaster events that significantly affected households and the livestock of the residents. Four Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) operations were implemented in 2012 covering a total of 2,834 families (17,004 people) affected from different emergencies, from floods and earthquake to food insecurity and civil unrests. In total 605,610 Swiss francs (CHF) from DREF were allocated to assist affected population with food, non-food items, and provision of psychosocial support:

- Supplementary food parcels were provided to 500 families (3,000 people) in remotest and most vulnerable district of Tajikistan – Murghob. (March 2012);
- Non-food items assistance was provided to 156 most vulnerable households (936 people) affected by the natural disasters throughout the country. (March-April 2012);
- Non-food items and psychosocial support were provided to 558 earthquake-affected families (3,348 people) in Rasht and Tavildara districts hit by earthquake (May 2012);
- Food and non-food items were delivered to 9,720 beneficiaries (1,620 families), as well as psychosocial support was rendered for some 7,000 people affected from military operations and civil unrest in Badakhshan region. (June 2012).

Two lessons learnt workshops were conducted in Qurghontepa and Dushanbe cities funded by the DREF operations. The aim of the workshops was to share best practices on disaster response and problems/constraints during the response operation. The best practices, such as early warning and early action in Kulob and Khorugh cities, visibility and psycho-social support experience in Rasht valley, and close cooperation with local authorities and government in Murghob district were shared among participants. Some gaps, like shortages in daily and weekly reports, in coordination and cooperation with other non-governmental organizations were identified during response operations.

The capacity of the RCST Disaster Management (DM) department was strengthened through elaboration of DM database and standardizations of core documents of Local Disaster Committees (LDC), Emergency Response Centres (ERC) and the DM department itself. The updated documents simplify reporting, decision making and other issues related to implementation of projects and for disaster response efforts.

The Khatlon Regional Contingency Plan (CP) in case of floods is planned to be completed by the end of 2013, due to challenges in funding The Khatlon Regional Contingency Plan (CP) in case of floods is delayed, and the simulation CP testing exercise was postponed.

The response capacity of DM department was strengthened through renovation of Sughd Emergency Response Center's warehouse. Currently, the warehouse meets all standards for long-term stocking and warehousing of goods. Qurghontepa Regional Emergency Response Centre warehouse replenished disaster preparedness stock for 20 households – the required stock is procured, transported and pre-positioned in warehouse;

In order to meet DM strategies agenda in delivering assistance to affected people and to improve image and visibility of RCST actions, 121 sets of National Disaster Response Teams equipment were renewed.

During the reporting period, several meetings with REACT Secretariats in Dushanbe city, Sughd and Khatlon

regions were conducted. During the meetings, the cooperation between REACT<sup>1</sup> partners was discussed.

Five meetings were conducted under Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction Preparedness (CBDRR) programme in the most disaster prone areas of Qurghonteppa region involving local population to improve capacity of vulnerable communities. Participants were informed on disaster preparedness/disaster response issues and ways of further cooperation between the RCST and the communities.

Some 23 Local Disaster Committees (LDCs) (460 people) were established, trained and equipped in 20 most vulnerable administrative centres with coverage of 15,410 people. The LDC members increased their knowledge through getting new information on raising awareness of population on disaster risk reduction, practical exercises on first aid, sharing knowledge and best practices of response based on occurred disasters.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between RCST and the Migration Service of the Republic of Tajikistan. MoU on project implementation with local governmental structures (Traffic Police Department, Ministry of Education) was revised and signed. MoU with the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defence (CoES) is currently under revision and is being negotiated. The CoES has a newly-appointed management and these changes in the management of the governmental body impacted the signing of MoU. This activity is planned to be completed in 2013.

The first meeting of the coordination group on Disaster Law Promotion in Tajikistan was held on 10 April 2012 in Dushanbe to introduce new members of the group from related governmental agencies to the IFRC recommendations on Disaster Laws, the importance of this issue, as well as to discuss the Coordination Group's further actions and steps.

A series of lectures on disaster law was organized for the staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (50 people), Customs Committee (80 people), as well as Communications Services (30 people). The sessions included an overview of the history of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the mission of the IFRC and an overview of disaster risks. Particular focus was given to disaster law, IDRL Guidelines and the Model Act.

A series of articles on Disaster Law were published by top local newspaper "Millat" in its both print and electronic versions. The articles included the information about IFRC Disaster Law programme, its importance, the current situation with Tajik legislation conformity to IFRC recommendations, the Model Act Law and etc. The newspaper is considered as one of the most famous local printed media and the issues raised by this actor attracts the attention of policy and decision-makers. Three consecutive articles were published.

Humanitarian aid brought to Tajikistan to respond to consequences of natural disasters and emergency situations will be freed from the customs fees and value-added tax (VAT). Tajik parliament adopted new amendments into Customs Code of the Republic of Tajikistan on 07 December 2012. According to the new amendments, 11 kinds of goods are freed from the customs fees, as well as the number of documents required for customs control is decreased to 30%. The list of 11 freed-from-fees goods includes humanitarian aid aimed to respond to the consequences of disasters and emergencies and given to state agencies or charity organizations. Also, medicines, medical and pharmaceutical equipment and medical instruments, the list of which should be defined and approved by the Government of Tajikistan, will also be freed from the customs fees. This is the second legislation related to international humanitarian aid adopted by the Parliament of Tajikistan this year. Recently, new Tax Code freed international humanitarian aid imported to respond to disasters and emergencies and given to state agencies or charity organizations from VAT. Customs Department was the first Tajik state agency hosted an IFRC lecture on international disaster law on May 2012.

More than 1,000 students, schoolchildren and teachers were covered by disaster management\first aid trainings in Qurghonteppa region. The RCST trainers taught the students on how to render first-aid in case of emergencies and road accidents. Having participated in these events, they spread the information among more than 5,000 more schoolchildren contributing to the raising of their awareness. For that purpose, information materials were elaborated, printed and distributed during "lessons learned" sessions.

One national and three regional road safety events involving the Traffic Police Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, school and university students, as well as drivers were conducted. About 4,500 pedestrians and drivers, as well as about 1,000 schoolchildren were reached through these events. During the event representatives of traffic police and the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan informed schoolchildren on road

<sup>1</sup> REACT (Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team) is a disaster response coordinating tool organized by the United Nations in Tajikistan.

traffic rules and code of conduct in the roads. The National Society's call for "Safe Roads" was broadcasted country-wide through the media, covering most of the population of Tajikistan. Two competitions among schools on road safety awareness were conducted in Dushanbe and Qurghonteppa cities with the total number over 15,000 schoolchildren as participants. Some 3,000 information materials elaborated, printed and distributed jointly with traffic police among schoolchildren, residing in areas close to most dangerous roads.

Three mini-mitigation risk reduction projects implemented having reduced the risk of natural disasters for 12,150 people. The projects were implemented in close cooperation and support from local authorities.

A ditch-cleaning mini-mitigation project was implemented in Vakhsh district of Khatlon region. In the framework of the project 1,200 meters of a water supply system in targeted vulnerable community was cleaned.

A three-day seminar on recovery was held on 02 August 2012 to 04 August 2012 in Hisor district. The workshop involved 22 people - 11 ERC (Emergency Response Centres) coordinators and 11 ERC team leaders. During sessions participants refreshed their knowledge on recovery phase of emergency response operations, as well as, were introduced to livelihood strategies and trends. By thus, the RCST aims to improve the level and quality of assistance delivered by ERCs in recovery phase of emergency operations.

The monitoring of the RCST ERCs in Khorugh, Saghirdasht and Vanj was completed on November 2012. All systems are functioning.

A competition on best fundraising initiative in district branch level on disaster management was announced by RCST Disaster Management department in the beginning of July 2012. The competition received 18 proposals from the branches. A commission consisting of RCST and IFRC representatives chose Kulob city branch initiative as the best one, which is aligned to DM strategies agenda, will positively influence and strengthen DM department capacity in delivering assistance to vulnerable people.

The implemented activities, the responded disasters, the faced challenges, as well as plans for 2013 were discussed in the annual RCST Disaster Management Coordinators meeting on December 26-27, 2012. RCST DM staff and coordinators gathered in Dushanbe to discuss regulations and reporting requirements, instructions on developing the action plans and conducting activities, disaster law, the exit strategy of the programmes/projects phasing out, etc.

### **Business Line III: To strengthen the specific Red Cross Red Crescent contribution to development**

**Outcome 3.1:** Promote the roll-out of S2020, where needed support will be provided for strategic planning along Strategy 2020 at country level

**Outcome 3.2:** Promote social cohesion or address discrimination and exclusion – At least two concrete pilot projects

**Outcome 3.3:** Support for Red Cross Red Crescent programs to promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence

**Outcome 3.4:** Scale-up significantly in HIV and AIDS, TB and harm reduction using the global alliance approach and implementing innovative and new partnerships in resource mobilisation

**Outcome 3.5:** Develop and improve strong support mechanisms for other health and care priorities – including first aid, emergency health, psychosocial support and road safety, prevention of infectious diseases, particularly of hazardous and non-communicable diseases and ensuring safe access to drinking water using "low-cost technologies"

**Outcome 3.6:** Strengthen NS capacities and internal development by alignment of assistance to their self-determined needs

**Outcome 3.7:** Enhance social mobilisation (inter-generational programs, Club 25, youth and volunteering)

Measurement			
Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
# of people covered by the programs on information, education and communication	0	30,000	16,000
% of people (injecting drug users (IDU), sex-workers (SW) targeted for pre-and post-test consultation	0	100	65
# of people living with HIV (PLHIV) covered by RCST support groups	0	20	12
# of campaigns to reduce stigma and discrimination against PLHIV, IDUs and other groups at high risk of HIV infection	0	3	2

Comments on progress towards outcomes
<p>52% of targeted population were covered with informational sessions and informational materials' distribution on HIV/AIDS/STI, TB and drug abuse prevention. An unexpected contribution fell through during the reporting period, therefore unexpected financial challenges resulted in incompleteness of plans.</p> <p>65 per cents of targeted injecting drug users (IDUs) received information sessions. For the reporting period 2,007 condoms were distributed.</p> <p>Some 118 cases with suspected TB referred for testing by volunteers out of which detected (SS+) 4 cases.</p> <p>Some 30 MDR patients in project district (Vahdat) receive DOTs under control of RCST volunteers.</p> <p>A global campaign dedicated to the World TB Day was conducted under the motto: "Stop TB, while I'm alive!" Every year, on March 24 the world community holds the World TB Day in order to attract attention of public on this issue and informing population about TB. On 30<sup>th</sup> March 2012, the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan with IFRC support conducted an anti-TB campaign at the children tuberculosis hospital in Dushanbe city. Representatives from the international organizations, as well as the Tajik Ministry of Health were present in the campaign. Children presented theatre and music performances on TB during this campaign. On March 17 – 24, the RCST conducted round table meetings; announced competitions for the best drawings among students of the secondary school; made a call for articles about TB and undertook an information campaigns in public places, such as parks and markets. A marathon race was also conducted. The actions were actively covered by the local media.</p> <p>11 staff members were trained on infection control program in Vahdat city, program staff also regularly participated in the medical councils. Two three-day training on strategic DOTS program, DOTS+, social, community mobilization, infection control were conducted for 30 volunteers.</p> <p>During the reporting period an agreement was signed between the UN World Food Program and the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan on the extension of the RCST food aid to TB patients and their families in Vahdat district. Community volunteers of RCST were actively involved in the food program and the project team prepared lists of patients and their families, completed the overall plan, monitored the distribution of food, and entered them into the database. Following a good experience in Vahdat district, UN WFP made an official request to RCST to start food distribution for TB patients in six additional districts. Unfortunately, this process remains unfeasible as WFP provides only with food items and the whole process requires some additional funds to cover technical implementation and monitoring.</p> <p>During the reporting period, four projects on safe drinking water access of rural population were completed. These projects provided 8,406 people with access to safe drinking water. Population of targeted communities were mobilized for construction of spring water supply systems: digging trenches and building interception ditches. The population were covered by two-day Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transmission (PHAST) trainings before the implementation of the projects.</p> <p>The implementation of a project to provide 96 elderly people residing in the Republican Nursing Home with safe water in Vahdat city was completed.</p> <p>A three-day workshop aimed at sharing experience between water committees of RCST was conducted on September 13-15 in Qayroqqum city. The event involved members of water committees of RCST, executive secretaries and responsible staff working on the project. Participants were informed on disaster</p>

management, climate change adaptation, hygiene and sanitation, prevention of infectious diseases transmitted by water and etc.

The hand-over ceremony of the project to ensure access to safe drinking water through building of 1,800 meters pipeline from the well was held in Zarnisor village of Istaravshan city of Sughd region. This project provides access to safe drinking water for 3,000 inhabitants of Zarnisor. The ceremony attracted the attention of high local authorities, community leaders, RCST Sughd branch representatives, IFRC and media.

The RCST distributed 110 jackets and 40 caps with the Red Crescent logo among members of water committees. Also, 700 packages of information materials were distributed among rural population to raise their awareness on sanitation and hygiene.

Despite financial problems, the Harm Reduction/HIV project activities continue to run normally. The Project assistant participated in a working meeting with National HIV Centre to discuss future country program, the activities of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan and cooperation in monitoring and evaluation of project implementation. Promotion of care-seeking behaviour and healthy life-style remains an important aspect of the project. In average, 24 Injecting Drug Users (IDUs) every day visit the six Trust Points, where services include distribution of sterile materials, information sessions, consultations, medical referral. Approximately 8,760 visits were paid to the Trust Points in 2012.

During the reporting period the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan trained focal points in all 69 branches on volunteering management, youth policy and strategies across the country. Members and volunteers were involved in the development activities of the Red Crescent Society branches and on decision-making processes.

Some 2,150 migrants including 45 volunteers were trained and informed on their specific rights, duties, welfare and labour market (mostly in Russia), as well as improved their knowledge on Russian language and computer literacy. Some 45 rural communities from 5 targeted districts are trained and able to combat discrimination, intolerance, violence and respect for diversity during 5 workshops. These workshops also covered 45 volunteers from among labour migrants to train them on promotion of prevention ways of HIV/AIDS, TB and other infectious diseases through peer-to-peer methodology. Close collaboration is continued with the tracing service of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan to restore family links between migrants and their family members in the country of origin.

#### **Business Line IV: To heighten Red Cross Red Crescent influence and support for our work**

**Outcome 4.1:** Promote and advocate for IDRL, National Society Act, and risk reduction

**Outcome 4.2:** Respond to socio-economic crisis

**Outcome 4.3:** Support NSs to the adoption or amendment of NS legislation to develop their auxiliary role to public authorities

**Outcome 4.4:** Revitalise the EZ OD function

**Outcome 4.5** Scale up Resource Mobilisation capacities

**Outcome 4.6:** Diversify income sources – expanding partnerships (assist NS to increase public and governmental support and resources for addressing vulnerabilities)

**Outcome 4.7:** Develop a systematic approach for representation and advocacy with key partners agreed

**Outcome 4.8:** Develop a systematic approach for representation and advocacy with key partners agreed

Measurement			
Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
Resource mobilization capacity has been improved.	NO	YES	NO
Promotion and advocacy on fundamental principles and humanitarian values to raise the awareness among the population continuously conducting in all the regions at all times.	NO	YES	YES

### Comments on progress towards outcomes

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan celebrated the Month of Red Crescent in May 2012. Sport events, info campaigns and competitions dedicated to the Red Crescent Month, concert featuring Tajik pop and folk stars and famous comedy groups on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May were visited by hundreds of guests.

Educational sessions were provided by the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan in all the 69 branches across the country.

For the first time in the history of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, a branch of this organization was fully financed by the local officials. Kulob city council adopted a decree to assist in establishment of RCST city branch in Kulob and to include the full financing of the local branch of the Red Crescent into the city budget. Kulob city branch is the newest local branch of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan. This is the first experience of receiving full financial assistance – salary for the employees, administrative and office spending, and etc. from the local officials. The city officials promised to allocate an office for the city branch, as well as to allocate financial support for the city branch in 2013, too. Taking this experience into consideration the local officials of Farkhor, Shurobod and Muminobod districts of Kulob region of Khatlon province also expressed about their interest in supporting already existing branches of the Red Crescent.

Two educational seminars on RCST programmes and activities, history and mission were conducted for civil society in Zafarobod and Asht districts on 09 November and 14 November 2012 consequently. School teachers, local hospitals staff, media representatives and newly-involved volunteers attended the seminars and raised their awareness on the humanitarian principles of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and current activities of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan. The seminars were devoted to the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan.

Four issues of RCST/IFRC newsletters were developed in English and Tajik and disseminated among the governmental agencies and international organizations.

The official web-site of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, which is supported by the IFRC CR is regularly updated with the latest news and information.

### **Business Line V: To deepen our tradition of togetherness through joint working and accountability**

**Outcome 5.1:** Strengthen partnerships, sharing capacities and resources

**Outcome 5.2:** Enhance cooperation (leadership meetings, dialogue platform meetings, networks, etc.)

**Outcome 5.3:** Promote sharing information, mapping existing capacity gaps (databank and other global initiatives)

**Outcome 5.4:** Strengthen accountability through the Federation Wide Reporting System. (FWRS)

**Outcome 5.5:** Develop and improve up to date effective management structures that are in line with S2020 and with the country needs

**Outcome 5.6:** Modernise key business processes that impact on cost effectiveness, efficiency and accountability (planning and budgeting; human resources development)

Measurement			
Indicators	Baseline	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
Agreements on cooperation are signed and partnerships are established to broaden the scope of programs of the NS	NO	YES	YES
Key business processes that impact on cost effectiveness, efficiency and accountability (planning and budgeting; HR development) are improved.	NO	YES	NO

### Comments on progress towards outcomes

On 12th March 2012 a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Chinese RC and the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan in Beijing. Within the reporting period, on 7th June 2012, another Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Afghan Red Crescent and the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan in Kabul. The MoUs were mainly targeted at bilateral exchange and communication, improvement of capacity building, humanitarian equipment, material assistance and cooperative programs. A memorandum of cooperation was signed between RCST and the Red Cross Society of Russian Federation.

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan hosted a tri-lateral meeting of the Secretary Generals of the Red Crescent Societies of Persian-speaking countries. Abulhasan Fakeh, president of the Red Crescent Society of Iran and Fatima Gilani, head of the Red Crescent Society of Afghanistan visited Tajikistan from 16 to 20 November, 2012 to discuss future opportunities for cooperation especially focusing on bordering areas of Tajikistan and Afghanistan and the joint meeting the needs of urban vulnerable population. The visitors also met young Tajik and Iranian volunteers in the newly-opened youth camp organized jointly by Tajik and Iranian Red Crescent Societies, visited branches of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, were present on a disaster response simulation exercise, met media representatives, and opened the renovated hospital of Tajik and Iranian Red Crescents.

The IFRC Country Representation initiated regular partner meetings to discuss the current situation, achievements, challenges, planned actions, coordination of actions, etc.

The guidelines on providing assessment of staff, assessment questionnaires for members and volunteers, and other related documents for the assessment were developed and given to executive secretaries of the branches of the RCST. Application forms for volunteers and members of the RCST were distributed in all branches of RCST, in order to specify a correct number of volunteers and members.

The draft version of the financial policy and procedures is being developed to then be given to 69 governance and management boards.

Two committees on fundraising and Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) developing are established and work.

Three workshops on management were conducted for regional governing boards in Kulob, Qurghonteppa and Badakhshan.

Training on financial, tax and law matters was conducted to improve financial systems, development of financial policy.

Training on Planning, Monitoring and Reporting (PMER) was conducted for 14 RCST staff from the headquarters and the branches and continuous consultancy support is provided.

The Health Manager of the Dushanbe Office of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society, and the TB Program Coordinator of the Central Committee of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan are members in the working group at the national level, i.e. under the Tajik Ministry of Health. Program staff of Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan is also taking part in the Coordination Council named "Fight TB" as well as at the district level.

Head of OD department attended the International Youth Forum Conference "Inter-Ethnic Relations and Migration in Russia: problems and solutions", which was held from 8 to 12 September 2012 in Moscow. Event was organized by the Russian Congress of Caucasus Nation in Moscow, Russian Federation.

IFRC, ICRC, Finnish RC and Iranian RC senior representatives joined RCST Central Board in its extended meeting, which was held on 02 November, 2012 in Dushanbe city. Activities of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan by the day of the meeting, the financial situation in the National Society, the results of assessment of RCST branches, the process of implementation of health, as well as the future plans were discussed in the meeting. The assessment of RCST branches showed that majority of regional senior staff are new and they need trainings. It was mentioned that many of current programmes, especially health programmes are facing funding challenges and new ways of funding should be found out.

### Stakeholder participation and feedback

Through the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan's programs, the needs of vulnerable population were considered, and after the full assessment of the situation, the projects were implemented in most affected areas. Some branches are already implementing integrated programmes, such as: community-based health promotion and first aid, water and sanitation projects and, to some extent,

disaster management and mitigation, where communities were involved in tree planting as well as in river bank reinforcement. Community engagement is a key to sustain projects results. The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, while developing and implementing projects, takes into account feedback received from beneficiaries of previous projects, as well as consults the further beneficiaries and involves them into the process.

Emergency response centres of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan branches were involved in all affected regions across the country, also trained volunteers how to provide first aid and psychological support to people during an emergency situation. Volunteers who work hard during disasters are an invaluable support to the professional disaster response teams of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan. In addition, civilians of the local communities have put their valuable effort into an effective support for people in need within their communities. Together with their support, success and confidence during disaster situations were achieved. The RCST always considers the needs, proposals and comments of stakeholders and regularly addresses stakeholders' proposals to donor organizations and their demands.

### Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority	Recommended Action
	High Medium Low	
- Natural disasters are considered as highest key risks which mostly affect projects implementation in Tajikistan.	High	Close cooperation with the Committee of Emergency Situation and the Hydro-meteorological Service, regular coordination meetings, evaluation and preparedness for natural disaster are implemented.
- Continued growth of fuel price negatively impacts farming production and causes overall price rise on food.	High	Close cooperation with local communities and officials to identify in the regions the most vulnerable population so as to response to their needs.
- Political stability	High	Ensure close monitoring
- Economic stability	High	Ensure close monitoring
- Staff turnover	Medium	Promote and develop skills, benefits and financial support of NS staff
- Volunteer turnover (leaving for the Russian Federation for labour migration purposes, unemployment or family issues).	High	Improve volunteers' knowledge, give valuable recommendations, and develop skills and benefits.

### Lessons learned and looking ahead

The assessments of the projects and operations conducted by RCST HQ and IFRC local staff showed that it is necessary and extremely important to keep conducting regular sessions, educational campaigns and trainings in all the 69 branches of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan on all subjects of RC/RC Movement activities within the country, in order to further improve volunteer management; branch development; fundraising and financial, logistic and staff management; visibility and promotion of fundamental principles and humanitarian values. For the image of the Movement, new fundraising tools, methods, charity campaigns, educational programs should be conducted.

An evaluation of DREF operations in Tajikistan conducted by IFRC Europe Zone jointly with the Netherlands RC and the ECHO found the results of the mentioned operations as effective, in-time and adequate. In the same time, the evaluators recommended to continue the tradition of organization of lessons learned sessions upon completion of operations, as well as to continue efforts in the sphere of development of framework agreements with suppliers. The evaluation also recommends furthermore paying attention to the overall strengthening of capacity of the NS staff and volunteers and developing new approaches to volunteers' motivation and involvement. As it comes in the evaluation "experience sharing sessions, exchange visits at least between branches could be a relatively modest but effective investment into the volunteers' support. Capacity building in specific areas, demanded by volunteers (PSP, water sanitation etc.) would be more expensive, but also more rewarding in terms of professional development for them as part of Movement".

## Financial situation

**Click here to go directly to the financial report.**

[http://www.ifrc.org/docs/LTPF/Process/LTPF/2012/SP570TJLTPF\\_12arf.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/docs/LTPF/Process/LTPF/2012/SP570TJLTPF_12arf.pdf)

## How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations](#) (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.



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

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

Find out more on [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)

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