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Moldova

Annual Report 2012

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAAMD002
30 April 2013

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

*Moldova Red Cross volunteers distributing relief items during the extreme cold winter to the most affected people.
Photo : Moldova Red Cross*



Overview

In line with Strategy 2020 of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the Moldova Red Cross Strategic Plan 2010-2015, the priority directions that the National Society established for 2012 were the following:

- Disseminate humanitarian values and fundamental principles of the Movement.
- Implement anti-trafficking programme, including promoting social cohesion and addressing discrimination and exclusion.
- Increase preparedness and response capacities to respond to disasters, working with authorities and local communities.
- Provide social and health support to older people (visiting nurses program).
- Enhance volunteer capacities.

It was recognised that the Moldova Red Cross needed to further improve the sustainability of its programmes, mainly through building closer partnership relations with state authorities, national state enterprises and corporate sector, and through promoting commercial First Aid training courses as the obvious means to reduce the dependence on external donors.

The year 2012 was important for Moldova Red Cross in terms of strengthening the National Society's legal basis. The new governance bodies have been elected by the XIX General Assembly in August 2012. The General Assembly adopted the Strategy for the next 5 years and amended the

Statutes of the Moldova Red Cross which as later registered at the Ministry of Justice of Moldova Republic.

The main challenge that the country faced in 2012 was the combined impacts of poor rainfall and extremely high temperatures. The State Hydro-Meteo Service (SHS) reported that temperatures in June-July were 3.7-5.1 C° higher than annual averages and the number of days with maximum air temperature higher than 30 degrees was 39-62. (the norm is being



Maize field affected by the drought during the summer in 2012 in Moldova.
Photo: IFRC

8-27 days). The surface water flow reduced by 30-50 % compared to the multiannual average. As a result Moldova suffered one of the most severe droughts in the recent history which caused huge reductions in yields and crop failure. Maize yields declined by 59% and sunflower yields declined by 53% compared to the multiannual average.

Although at the aggregated national level, the impact of the 2012 drought seemed to be less severe than the one of 2007, the impact of the 2012 drought appeared to be more intense in the southern and central parts of the country.

In September 2012 the Moldova Red Cross Society requested the Federation Europe Zone Office to support in assessing the situation caused by the drought. The International Federation assisted the Moldova RC in organising a drought assessment in early October 2012. The main objective of the assessment was to verify whether and to what extent the drought would affect the poorest and most vulnerable sectors of the society.

The needs of the target vulnerable groups were addressed by the National Society through the implementation of several humanitarian projects, supported by the International Federation and the Swiss Red Cross during 2012.

Working in partnership

During the reporting period Moldova Red Cross continued its cooperation with the International Federation through the Europe Zone Office in Budapest and with the International Committee of the Red Cross through its Moscow Regional Delegation.

The established and well functioning partnerships with international organisations: UNHCR, IOM, WHO, UNICEF, UNDP Moldova, as well as the Swiss Red Cross and other sister National Societies have continued to facilitate access to the international resources and experience.

The European Union, UK's Department for International Development (DfID) provided support to the Moldova country plan through the Federation's coordinated programmes. Support and cooperation also came from the Japanese Red Cross. Moldova Red Cross was also working closely with the Centre for Civil Protection and Emergency Situations, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Social Protection, local authorities and NGOs "Credinta" and "La Strada".

The Swiss Red Cross (SRC) has been collaborating with the Moldova Red Cross (MRC) since 2004, supporting its winter assistance programme and supplying food / non-food items collected during the SRC's "Twice Christmas" campaign.

Progress towards outcomes

Business line 1: To raise humanitarian standards

Outputs:

1.1.1 Contribution to trend reports through providing support to the country vulnerability mapping and risk assessment.

1.2.1 Disseminate the Fundamental Principles and values among staff, volunteers, and general population through branches.

1.3.1 Enhance capacity, knowledge, and professional skills of staff on DM, Health, IT and modern technologies.

1.3.2 IFRC online Learning platform is promoted.

1.4.1 Moldova Red Cross participates in the Organisational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) mechanism.

1.4.2 Improve the implementation of FWRS-databank.

Measurement		
Indicators	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
Work with volunteers and youth	250 volunteers and youth	281 volunteers were trained and involved in implementation of the NS activities
Training in IT	5 staff members	5 staff members completed the ICDL online training in five NS branches
Number of subscribers to IFRC Learning platform	100 subscribers	82 (3 new registration in 2012)
OCAC self assessment	Completed in 2012	Postponed to 2013
FDRS is regularly updated by the National Society	The IT platform is updated in 2012	IT platform was updated for 2011 and for the year 2012 the update will be entered to the system in the first half of 2013.
Comments on progress towards outcomes		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moldova Red Cross completed implementation of the Digital Divide project in 2011. It enabled the national society to establish an up to date IT system and to redesign its website. The website is still functional and five branches were connected to the internet that facilitated more frequent communication with the HQ. Twelve computers were also provided to the National Society. During September-December 2012, a total of 126 volunteers from 6 branches have been instructed and a range of activities for different categories of population were carried out in the framework of the prevention of violence against children project. Volunteers and youth were also involved in the project on anti-trafficking to identify and refer victims of trafficking to the relevant services and assistance. In April, Glodeni Red Cross branch organised a meeting as a starting event to support social dialogue between elderly and volunteers (students). 		

Business line 2: To grow Red Cross Red Crescent services for vulnerable people

Outputs:

2.1.1 Enhance the capacity of the National Society on timely disaster response to the most vulnerable population, affected by disasters and emergency situations through an ensured system of trainings for staff and volunteers.

2.2.1 Establish well prepared branches based on the results of vulnerability mapping.

2.5.1 Develop and update Code of Conduct and management rules and regulations in all humanitarian programs.

Measurement		
Indicators	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
Provide training for volunteers in Disaster management	50 volunteers	100 RC staff and volunteers
DM vulnerability mapping and plan of action for implementation	Documents developed	Study conducted

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- In cooperation with the Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Situations the Moldova Red Cross Society conducted a study about **the vulnerability of localities in Moldova**. The study shows localities that are most prone to various natural hazards. As the principal result and conclusion of the study, it became obvious that coordination of actions was required from the Red Cross and other partners, including the involvement of vulnerable communities from risk areas to develop and implement measures to reduce risk and consequences of possible of disasters. Establishment of working groups in 20 communities has been recommended to increase the public awareness of risks. The National Society developed a project proposal that is available on the following link: <http://adore.ifrc.org/Download.aspx?FileId=27868>
- A total number of 346 emergency situations, including 201 local, 30 territorial and 4 national (417 persons have been affected, including 182 victims (13 children) were registers in Moldova in 2012.. According to the Service of Civil Protection and Emergency Situations, the total number of emergency situations in 2012 increased by 21% (from 286 to 346) compared to 2011. Therefore consolidation of Moldova Red Cross capacity in the field of **disaster management** and reduction of the risks of possible natural and man-made disasters and their consequences continues to be a priority on the national society's agenda.
- UNDP initiated the establishment of the UN Disaster Management team in Moldova which the Moldova Red Cross became part of. . The first training aiming at elaboration of the inter-institutional plan of action during emergency situations was organized in May 2012. Moldova Red Cross was invited to participate at the elaboration of the concept of the National Strategy on Disaster Risk Reduction.
- During 2012 Moldova Red Cross intervened in reducing the effects of **two natural disasters: severe winter and drought** (affecting the central and southern parts of the country), action realized in cooperation with the Service of Civil Protection and Emergency Situations, UNDP, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, IOM, Swiss Red Cross, local public authorities and other partners.
- Both interventions have been possible with the financial support of the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) for the total of CHF 295,000. Moldova Red Cross delivered assistance to more than 1,000 families (4,000 beneficiaries) affected by extreme winter conditions. In October 2012 the Federation assessment team was deployed to Moldova to review the effects of the drought. This assessment had revealed that the impacts of drought could be direct and indirect. Direct impacts mainly affected rural households whose income depended mostly on agriculture:
 - Very low crop production in rural households and reduced fodder availability
 - Reduced availability of agricultural labour
 - Reduced income arising from leased land (particularly for the rural elderly or unable to work the land) as companies may cut back on lease payments and reduced food reserves as in many cases lease is paid in kind.
 - Higher indebtedness as low crop production prevents debt repayment

Based on the assessment results and in response to the impacts of poor rainfall and extremely high temperatures that resulted in major losses in the national crop production at the end of November 2012 Moldova Red Cross requested a DREF allocation to address the identified needs and provide assistance to the most affected population (5,800 beneficiaries) in eleven regions. This operation was completed on 30th April 2013.

Business line 3: To strengthen the specific Red Cross Red Crescent contribution to development.**Outputs:**

- 3.1.1 Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence targeting the most vulnerable especially addressing the needs of elderly and youth.
- 3.1.2 Implement the program to address the violence against children.
- 3.2.1 HIV/AIDS preventive activities for young people.
- 3.3.1 Establish First Aid training Centre and promote its activity at national level.
- 3.3.2 Develop and improve Strong support mechanisms for other health and care priorities such as road safety, violence against children, psychosocial support, and emergency health activities.
- 3.4.1 Strengthen its operational capacity by Project Planning Process trainings at HQ and branches level.
- 3.5.1 Enhance Social mobilisation involving youth and volunteers in programme implementation.
- 3.5.2 Increase capacity of local community and civil society through the promotion of volunteering.
- 3.5.3 NS actively engaged bridging the gap between youth and adult volunteers in the branches.

Measurement		
Indicators	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
Moldova RC is effectively running anti-trafficking programmes thus promoting social cohesion and addressing discrimination and exclusion.	50 women will be assisted	200 beneficiaries assisted
New strategies developed to reduce violence against children	In 10 branches reaching approximately 2,000 beneficiaries	The project was implemented in 6 branches and reached approximately 4,500 persons with awareness raising sessions.
NS staff participates on project planning training and follows measures of the project management cycle	Training planned for 2013	No training organised
NS has further developed its youth and volunteer units	Volunteer trainings organised	155 volunteers were trained
Training of volunteer managers	5 volunteer managers trained	Training of trainers organised training 105 volunteers as trainers

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- During the reporting period Moldova Red Cross continued the implementation of the **anti-trafficking programme (implemented at the regional level with the participation of IOM, Belarus and Ukraine Red Cross societies and funded by the European Union)**, During the implementation of the activities Moldova Red Cross provided medical and social assistance to victims of trafficking (VoTs) to help them to restore their psychosocial balance and health status., Comprehensive reintegration assistance was designed to ensure reintegration of VoTs to the society. 200 beneficiaries got assistance through this project. Thanks to this project, Moldova Red Cross consolidated its potential in combating human trafficking, especially in the identification of victims of human trafficking, increased the number of volunteers and strengthened the partnership with relevant authorities and other NGOs.
- Moldova Red Cross is working in the field of humanitarian assistance to the vulnerable people and is providing a wide range of services related to disaster response, health and social services, and the promotion of humanitarian standards. In 2011, the National Society (SOS Project) produced the manual "10 steps in preventing of violence" that was widely disseminated. This manual was planned to be used by staff and volunteers. In order to follow-up on this tool the National Society developed a project proposal for **prevention of violence against children**; the activities were conducted during

September-December 2012 in six Red Cross branches (Anenii Noi, Bender, Balti, Soroca, Ungheni, Chisinau). During project implementation, Moldova Red Cross aimed to build the branch capacity in prevention of violence against children through the development of volunteer network and promotion of an efficient partnership with relevant organizations and institutions. In this regard, in all involved branches have been organized trainings for volunteers (126), concluding workshops, 13 round table meetings with partners and volunteers, 125 information sessions (4,630 persons), social theatre in schools, public places, drawing contests, 5 radio quizzes at local radio stations, 20 billboards "Stop violence!" have been placed in public places, volunteers surveyed the population (1,535 persons aged 7-50) on the street, in schools, kindergartens, institutions, juvenile prisons. The survey results are the following: 25% of surveyed children recognized they are beaten by their parents if they do not listen, while only 7% of parents admit they slap children, 4% admitted they beat them with different objects. Most of the abused children come from vulnerable families. One in ten children recognized they have been sexually abused; 1/3 admit they are verbally abused by teachers and 13% children accuse permanent or occasional violence from teachers; 24% children admitted they are discriminated by teachers, especially, children from families with low income. For organized public events have been procured 1,000 pens with RC logo, 1700 balloons and 50 t-shirts with RC "Stop violence!" logos. A total of 65,000 leaflets have been printed and distributed.

A similar survey was realized at the end of the project in order to evaluate the impact of the project; the survey revealed increased awareness.

Trained volunteers will continue to promote the culture of non-violence, humanitarian values and fundamental principles of the International Movement.

- In the framework of the **visiting nurses project** funded by the Japanese Red Cross, **105** volunteers were trained as trainers and leaders in volunteer training for community based activities and social mobilisation.
- The role of Moldova Red Cross in **promoting prevention measures of HIV/AIDS** and tolerance towards people living with HIV and provision of psychological support becomes crucial. In spite of lack of financial resources branch directors and volunteers (trained in the framework of other projects according to peer to peer education) continued to work on changing attitude of civil society towards infected persons.
- Different activities were organized on occasion of the International AIDS Day and others by Benderi Red Cross branch: round table meetings, seminars, public events, concerts, drawing contest, photo exhibition, meetings with partners, media, local authorities, public survey, flash mobs "Hold me!" and "I am tolerant!", talk shows, distribution by volunteers of informative materials. The total number of beneficiaries reached 3,500 persons. All activities were widely highlighted in local media.
- During **four months of 2012**, **175 beneficiaries** from target regions benefited of consultations and health care at home in the framework of other Moldova red Cross projects. Out of the total of 175 beneficiaries, 20 persons were HIV infected and 18 TB patients, including:
During project realization, 105 Red Cross volunteers were involved in different home based care activities and promotion of a healthy lifestyle.

Business line 4: To heighten Red Cross Red Crescent influence and support for our work

Outputs:

- 4.1.1 Promote social cohesion and address discrimination and exclusion by implementing social programmes
- 4.2.1 Implement the new Moldovan Red Cross Statutes, introduce amendments on volunteer's management
- 4.2.2 An auxiliary role of Moldova RC to public authorities has been strengthened
- 4.3.1 Moldova RC benefits from tailored OD support –coordinated with EZO, HD, ICRC and GVA Governance
- 4.4.1 Improve National Society capacity at regional and HQ level to establish dialogue with local authorities and attract state funds to provide effective social service
- 4.4.2 Resource mobilisation capacities scaled up for attracting contributions to NS from National authorities and companies and from the public paying First Aid and Disaster prevention training services and contributing to specific projects
- 4.5.1 Reduce dependence on single partners while maintaining and expanding existing partnerships and establishing new and innovative partnerships.
- 4.6.1 Set up necessary legal base for commercial First Aid (based on the European certification, etc.)
- 4.6.2 NS is supported in effective humanitarian diplomacy for implementation of its strategic priorities

Measurement		
Indicators	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
MRC Statutes is approved and the NS is functioning on that basis	Statutes is finalised and sent to Joint Commission in Geneva	The General Assembly approved the amended Statutes in August 2012.
Number of new partners engaged and involved	At least one new partner engaged	Joint project implementation with three NGOs
NS developing operational plans and project proposals based on their strategic priorities	At least 4 project proposals developed and implemented.	5 Project proposals developed by the end of the reporting period
Comments on progress towards outcomes		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moldova Red Cross is an implementing partner in an EU project on fight against human trafficking that has been aimed at strengthening national mechanisms for the reintegration and rehabilitation of victims of human trafficking in Moldova. The National Society is implementing its activities in close cooperation with the local NGOs “La Strada”, Social centre “Resonans”, Foundation “Terre des hommes”. A total of five projects were developed and implemented in the areas of First Aid: prevention of violence against children, promoting prevention measures of HIV/AIDS, restoring family links and social services to the most vulnerable (Twice Christmas, running soup kitchens and Christmas Charity campaign) Moldova Red Cross, in partnership with the Ministry of Health, has the main role in first aid training. In this regard, during 2012, Moldova Red Cross continued to train defined target groups in first aid. Taking into consideration that the National Society did not have resources to cover training related costs, it was decided by the Presidium that some categories of population would have to cover expenses related to the organization of the trainings (training fee). With the support provided by Swiss Red Cross, during March 19 – June 30, Moldova Red Cross continued to provide hot meals for the most vulnerable people in Balti, Varnita, Bender, Soroca and Comrat (1,960 persons: orphans, lonely elderly, multi-children families with low income received a total of 36,290 hot meals estimated at MDL 1,016,120 – CHF 76,588). With the support of Swiss Red Cross, Moldova Red Cross distributed humanitarian aid to pensioners with low income, people with disabilities, homeless, orphans, multi-children families and other socio-vulnerable people. During April – July 2012, twelve Red Cross branches: Anenii Noi, Basarabeasca, Bender, Briceni, Călărași, Criuleni, Dondușeni, Glodeni, Rezina, Soroca, Telenești and Ungheni distributed humanitarian aid (food products, hygienic items, shoes, stationary materials, second hand clothes) to a total of 5,072 families (13,382 persons), including: 1,893 multi-children families, 1,124 families with members with disabilities, 1,058 lonely elderly, 232 orphan children and 765 single parent families. Total support is estimated at MDL 301,889 (CHF 22,754). Twice Christmas project contributed to reducing vulnerability of target groups, increased the potential of Moldova Red Cross as an important humanitarian actor in the country, involved new volunteers and reaffirmed the statute of the National Society as partner of public authorities in the humanitarian field. Under the “Help us to help others” slogan, Moldova Red Cross Society organized on the occasion of winter holidays, the charity campaign “Christmas basket”. The campaign was aimed at supporting the most vulnerable families from Balti and Chisinau. In this context, Moldova Red Cross signed a partnership agreement with METRO Cash & Carry Moldova on the organization of the charity campaign. During this campaign, food products and hygienic items of 284 kg for 63 most vulnerable beneficiaries were collected. 		

Business line 5: To deepen our tradition of togetherness through joint working and accountability

Outputs:

5.1.1 Set up effective partnership with different national and international agencies and attract funds for joint activities.

5.1.2 Facilitate regional initiatives among sister National Societies’ and increase participation in international cooperation.

5.2.1 NS has strengthened its operational capacities with the Digital Divide project in the NHQ and in five branches, with the support of the IFRC Secretariat (communication and IT technology).

5.3.1 Promote and implement National Society Strategy through following the agreed programme activities in line with Federation Strategy 2020.

5.4.1 Support capacity building in National Society programme monitoring and reporting.

5.5.1 A Plan of Action for a more integrated country presence is agreed and is being implemented.

Measurement		
Indicators	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
Coordination mechanism is improved partnerships established	See details below	
Regional initiatives developed and implemented with sister NSs	One project implemented on a regional basis	
NS Strategic Plan 2011-2015 finalised and adopted	NS shared its SP with EZO and GVA	Finalised and adopted
NS reporting system improved by using tools to enhance project monitoring	The use of monitoring tools	Tools were shared with NS
Plan of Action is in place and is followed	Developed Plan of Action	PoA was developed in the second half of the year
Comments on progress towards outcomes		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the implementation of DREF supported response to extreme winter condition, the National Society coordinated its activities with the UN Disaster Response Team, Caritas, UNDP, UNHCR (through the establishment of the special task force), and worked closely with the Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection. Through the support of the IFRC Moldova Red Cross is implementing the anti-trafficking programme (<i>Strengthening national mechanisms for rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of human trafficking in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine</i> (funded by EU)) jointly with Belarus and Ukrainian Red Cross Societies and with the International Organisation for Migration. The National Society Strategic Plan for 2010-15 was developed and adopted: it is available on the NS website (http://redcross.md/ro/cine-suntem/planul-strategic-20102015). <i>Translation of the document is still under process.</i> The Strategic priorities are aligned to the IFRC Strategy 2020. 		

Stakeholder participation and feedback

- Many volunteers of the National Society are retired, well-educated and respected people of their communities; while others are young people from primary and secondary schools. The diverse structure of volunteers in terms of age and background makes the National Society particularly able to address very different issues such as HIV and AIDS, trafficking in human beings, violence, stigma and discrimination.
- The survey conducted by the National Society related to prevention of violence against children served a good basis for Moldova Red Cross to address the real needs.
- The country vulnerability mapping prepared with close cooperation with the Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Situations enabled the NS to approach communities to increase the public awareness of risks in those specific areas defined as prone to natural disasters and other technological risks.
- The cooperation with stakeholders during project implementation supported the National Society to gain experiences from others and also to share their best practices with its partners in different areas, therefore meeting the needs of the different project target groups.

Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority High Medium Low	Recommended Action
The capacities of the NS branches are weak in terms of human resources and financial means	H	The National Society should focus on the building of the capacity further on in their branches, improvement of volunteers and youth networks through the new programs related to education and prevention
The country's high vulnerability to disasters and the low level of capacities addressing the needs of the most vulnerable population	H	Strengthening the DM capacities and staff is also recommended
High dependence on external support and lack of sustainable programmes due to the low level of funding	H	The Moldova Red Cross needs to increase the sustainability of its programmes, signing contracts and agreements with the authorities and national enterprises, promoting the commercial First Aid training courses

Lessons learned and looking ahead

- The volunteers and branch directors particularly committed to their work are a promising factor to contribute to the development of the Moldova National Society.
- The potential to introduce and establish Red Cross activities in local communities are especially promising in Moldova due to the fact that the presence of civil society organizations is limited or non-existent at the community level.
- Moldova Red Cross Society has the following programme priorities based on its strategic plan:
 1. In the field of disaster management the Moldova National Society will focus on community based disaster risk reduction.
 2. Within the promotion of humanitarian values component, the Moldova Red Cross is aiming at contributing to reduce stigma, discrimination and violence against children.
 3. The National Society will work to improve its image and visibility and improve coordination and its relationship with the authorities and other stakeholders.
 4. The consolidation of the first-aid training programme in six identified branches and the approval of the European first aid certificate will contribute to introduce new ideas on how to increase the resources at all levels.
 5. The Moldova Red Cross will contribute to promote volunteering and youth involvement in Red Cross activities as the National Society expands into new communities and utilizes the adapted tools.
- The National Society is planning to scale up its activities aligned with the abovementioned priorities. Despite the efforts to raise internally and externally sufficient amount of funding for the planned activities, Moldova Red Cross still needs to strengthen its financial background to be able to meet the needs arising in the country.

Financial situation

Click here to go directly to the financial report.

http://www.ifrc.org/docs/LTPF/Process/LTPF/2012/SP567MDLTPF_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.

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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

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