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Bosnia and Herzegovina Annual Report

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAABA002

30 April 2014

**This report covers the
period
from 1 January 2013
to 31 December 2013.**

RCSBiH Active Aging 2013

Photo: Emina Mesic.

contest winner



Overview

The Red Cross programs in Bosnia and Herzegovina are aligned with the aims of the IFRC's Strategy 2020 to save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises; enable healthy and safe living; and promote social inclusion and culture of non-violence and peace. The capacity-building efforts are specifically linked with Enabling Action One to build strong National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Economic recession coupled with the global financial crisis has severely and disproportionately affected the country and its people. Many of the middle class workers, pensioners, older people, single parent families and Roma minorities are struggling to make ends meet. Lack of opportunities, political instability and economic depression have caused large-scale emigration of skilled and educated individuals primarily youth amplifying population depletion and aging process of the country's demographics.

2013 was characterized by yet another institutional blockade caused by political divisions. Hence, the adoption and implementation of country's reforms were put on standby. The voices expressing efforts of separation became more frequent, making leverage on diffused dissatisfaction of the population. The complexity of the country's socio-economic environment in conjunction with the economic crisis, resulting in a reduced financial support received from abroad, did not allow for rapid solutions. Similarly, the National Society experienced extremely difficult period reflecting the overall tensions in the country. However, despite the difficult situation, the National Society found a way to stretch its capacities in order to cover the growing needs of the vulnerable population, making the most out of its donors' support. With the support of its branches and volunteers' network, the RCSBiH was able to keep alive its key programs.

One of the key lessons learnt during these challenging periods is that all international components of the Movement working in Bosnia and Herzegovina can play a positive and significant role in supporting the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina (RCSBiH) by promoting the seven Fundamental Principles and the Code of Conduct as a flag for all our activities.

The IFRC Country Representation has been focusing on fostering cooperation between the three different constituent people present in the National Society, proving that the cooperation, integration and celebration of differences are indeed possible. The IFRC Country Representation continues to maintain dialogue and coordination between the Movement partners, supporting RCSBiH projects/programs and facilitating tailored organizational development support to the RCSBiH with an aim to strengthen its governance and management, resource mobilization and human resource capacities. Inclusion of the capacity building elements such as exchanges of experiences and trainings into the IFRC supported projects remains high priority and is underpinned in all areas of achievement as a means of enhancing National Society's service delivery in empowering the most vulnerable communities.

Programs:

In order to grow Red Cross services for the people affected by natural and man-made disasters, the planned Disaster Management programme was supported with a focus on strengthening organization's capacity in disaster response and contingency planning for various emergencies (including the development of standard operative procedures) in 2013.

The IFRC Office provided technical and financial support to the National Society for the following projects: "Social integration of Roma minorities", "Active aging", "First aid at work" and Disaster Management as well as for NS's cross-cutting programmes. The implementation of the projects was in a steady progress throughout the year, with the Active aging project spiralling beyond the expected results.

In terms of organizational development, the focus was on building resource mobilization and PMER capacities through project workshops and programs reviews. The National Society has seen a continuous improvement in skills of its management, governance and staff members in the past years.

Working in partnership

Operational Partners	Agreement
Austrian Red Cross	Bilateral
International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC)	Multilateral and bilateral
Italian Red Cross	Multilateral and bilateral
Spanish Red Cross	Multilateral and bilateral
Swiss Red Cross	Multilateral and bilateral

Progress towards outcomes

Business line 1: Raise humanitarian standards

Output: 1.3.1. Assist RCSBiH in becoming familiar with the OCAC process as well as taking part in the process.

Output: 1.4.1 Red Talks awareness promoted among the RCSBiH and IFRC country office staff.

Measurement			
Indicators	Baseline (BL)	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1.3 a # Of meetings held to familiarize RCSBiH leadership with the OCAC process	N/A	N/A	Accomplished in 2012
1.3 b RCSBiH applied for OCAC	N/A	N/A	Accomplished in 2012. RCSBiH will reapply in 2014
1.3 c First phase of the OCAC finalised	N/A	No target set for 2013	
1.3 d Second phase of OCAC finalised	N/A	No target set for 2013	
1.4a #Introductory seminars to RedTalks organized with the IFRC support, and attended by over 50% of staff coming from the RCS BiH and IFRC county office	0	N/A	Accomplished in 2012
1.4b Document mapping learning needs and learning plan for RCSBiH HQ produced	0	No target set for 2013	
1.4 c # # of people from RCSBiH and IFRC country office attending Red Talks (live/online).	0	6	Postponed until 2014 elections
Comments on progress towards outcomes			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2013, the IFRC's Country Representative held a series of meetings with the National Society in order to endorse Long Term Planning Framework (LTPF) planned activities. Output 1.3.1: "Support RCSBiH in taking the part in OCAC process" planned for 2012/2013 has been postponed until elections of the new NS leadership in 2014. The National Society's leadership was familiarized with the importance and benefits of participating in the Organisational Capacity Assessment & Certification (OCAC) process. The IFRC Country Representation supported the RCSBiH's application to take a part in the OCAC self-assessment exercise. For the National Society applying and participating in the process is a testimony of its commitment to fully develop their Society into a modern and well-functioning National Society. In addition, a focal person was nominated for the OCAC process from RCSBiH HQ. The IFRC country representation continued to facilitate tailored support to the National Society according to the RCSBiH priority needs particularly focusing on strengthening governance and management, recourse mobilization, project implementation support and human resource development. 			

Business Line 2: Grow Red Cross Red Crescent services for vulnerable people

Output: 2.1.1 Provide full support to the RCSBiH in reaching the agreement with the Ministry of Security BiH on the role and tasks of the National Society in Disaster Management.

Output: 2.1.2 Work with the NS in developing contingency plan at country level.

Output: 2.1.3 Support RCSBiH in creating functional Disaster Management database.

Output: 2.2.1 Support the RCS BiH in becoming familiar with the Minimum Security Requirements.

Output: 2.2.2 Promote the inclusion of climate change and environmental issues in the RCSBiH strategy.

Measurement			
Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
2.1a Finalized and signed agreement with the Ministry of security together with all relevant documents précising the role of RCSBiH in DM	N/A	Not applicable for 2013	Indicator accomplished in 2012
2.1b relevant documents signed within the RCSBiH structure	N/A	Relevant documents signed	Accomplished
2.1c # of warehouses equipped for disaster response in case of natural disaster (floods in particular, as the most frequent in the country)	0	2	Accomplished
2.1 d# of workshops on implementation of SOP	0	1	Postponed until 2014
2.1e # of discussion meetings on SOP	0	2	Accomplished
2.1f #of contingency plans developed	0	1	Not completed: Plan for intervention with main characteristics has been drafted. However, drafting SOP has become a part of the newly developed/approved project in RCSBiH DR programme starting in 2013
2.2a # of responsible persons from RCS BiH trained on Minimum Security Requirements (MSR)	0	1	Postponed until 2014, given the HR difficulties at the RCSBiH HQ
2.2b Activities related to climate change and environmental issues planned in the strategy or in the operational plan	N/A	Done	Done

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- In close cooperation with the IFRC Country Office, support was provided to the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina in profiling their leading role in managing disasters and crises. The Red Cross has defined role at the national level in disaster management, agreed and formalised with the Ministry of Security and Rescue and by legislation which makes this organization's position undisputed in the country.
- Red Cross engagement in the Disaster Response has evidenced the need of developing contingency plans. Project was developed and approved in 2013 within the scope of Disaster Management program. A risk map of potential at risk areas together with identified storages and key local RC branches was produced. In addition the first draft of standard operative procedures was developed. The selected local

branches are following:

In Republika Srpska entity

1. Warehouse RCRS Pale – contact and authorized person for reception of reserves (stock) for DPP Program: Gordana Ostojić, Program DPP associate

2. Warehouse OORC Gradiška – contact and authorized person for reception of reserves (stock) for DPP Program: Dragana Stević, Secretary

3. Warehouse OORC Trebinje – contact and authorized person for reception of reserves (stock) for DPP Program: Brane Dursum, Secretary

In Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina entity

1. Warehouse RC Bihać – contact and authorized person for reception of reserves (stock) for DPP Program: Husein Kličić, Secretary

2. Warehouse Visoko – contact and authorized person for reception of reserves (stock) for DPP Program: Faiz Hadrović

3. Warehouse RC Tuzla - contact and authorized person for reception of reserves (stock) for DPP Program: Admir Lasetović

4. Warehouse RC Mostar - contact and authorized person for reception of reserves (stock) for DPP Program: Alen Kajfaz, Secretary. With the support of IFRC EZO.

- Inclusion of at least one climate change related activities to the National Society's plans was discussed with the international relations coordinator. It is worth to mention that the climate change activities are mentioned in the RCSBiH strategy, however, no concrete activities were taken by the NS in this regard so far. The RCSBiH fully shares the opinion that the climate change related topics/actions are receiving more spotlight and attention by the donors. The international coordinator has agreed to further investigate which kind of relevant activities could be initiated by the RCSBiH.
- Training in Minimum Security Requirements was not a priority for the RCSBiH at this stage, as HR capacities needed to be optimized. The activity was postponed until 2014.
- CHF 39,512 was allocated on 6 August 2013 from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina in delivering immediate assistance to 400 beneficiaries / patients affected by the fire outbreak at the Hospital "Dr. Irfan Ljubijankić

Business Line 3: Strengthen the specific Red Cross Red Crescent contribution to development

Output: 3.1.1 Support the RCSBiH in: developing capacities that will enable NS to provide European First Aid Certificate (EFAC) courses to the population; having EFAC trained staff; performing at least one awareness campaign with the Local Authorities on EFAC standards.

Output: 3.2.1 Advocate, provide technical support and make resources available for the RCSBiH for implementing projects aiming to promote culture of peace, integration and tolerance.

Output: 3.2.2 Advocate, providing technical support and make resources available for the RCSBiH projects involving Young Roma and their further integration into the mainstream aspects of the BiH society

Output: 3.2.3 Active aging concept promoted within the RCSBiH Home Care program

Output: 3.3.1 Provide full support to the NS in developing three year operational plans based on the RCSBiH strategy with the participation of 3 structure components adopted by the Presidency and shared within the whole structure.

Output: 3.3.2 Provide support to the NS in performing program reviews, updating programme planning according to the recommendations of the reviews

Output: 3.3.3 Promote events where exchange of experiences and discussion on Organizational Development can take place within the RCSBiH leadership with possible counterparts from neighbouring National Societies

Output: 3.4.1 Provide technical and financial support to the RCSBiH in conducting a study (proposal) on optimization of the RCS BiH structure, finalizing a relevant documents outlining clear recommendations on roles, tasks and responsibilities of different structure components and encouraging revision of the NS structure accordingly

Output: 3.4.2 Support RCS BiH in developing strategy for 2011-2015 in line with strategy 2020; provide technical and financial support in publishing the document

Output: 3.6.1 Youth camps promoting culture of peace, non-violence and integration organized within the country

Measurement			
Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
3.1a # workshops organized by the RCSBiH to agree on roles of different structure components and modalities of implementation in provision of FA courses	0	1	
3.1b Relevant agreement signed	0	1	
3.1 c. #Press conference and demonstrative events on EFAC standards	0	1	Accomplished the RCSBiH used the opportunity of FA competition at the state level to promote the EFAC standards
3.1d Number of EFAC trainings for the NS staff	0	2	Accomplished
3.2 a # of projects developed in cooperation with other NSs on promotion of culture of peace and integration	N/A	1	1 project started
3.2 b # projects where Youth acts as agents of behavioural change	N/A	1	Accomplished
3.2.c International youth camps with participation of the Roma Youth implemented by the RCSBiH in cooperation with other NSs	N/A	1	Postponed to the summer 2014
3.2 d. # RCSBiH activities on ageing are initiated	N/A	At least 2 local branches start performing Active Aging activities based on the results of the study	Accomplished (in practice 8 local branches began the project activities, study received excellent reviews)
3.3a Operational plans developed with the involvement of the 3 structure components signed	N/A	N/A	Target set for 2014
3.3 b # Workshops organized to reach consensus	N/A	2	Accomplished
3.3c # First phase programme review finalised (preliminary collection of information, questionnaires sent to the field)	N/A	completed	Accomplished
3.3.d Second phase programme review finalised, field visit performed	N/A	completed	Accomplished
3.3e # of Finalised updated plans for programs	N/A	N/A Target set for 2014	N/A Target set for 2014
3.3f # number of workshops for updated planning with participation off representatives from the whole structure	N/A	N/A Target set for 2014	N/A Target set for 2014

3.3.3c ToR for workshop for the Governance of RCSBiH produced and agreed, background documentation(building strong national society, Governance guidelines	N/A	Done	First draft of the ToR was prepared during 2012
3.3.3 d # Of events organised	N/A	N/A Target set for 2014	N/A Target set for 2014
3.3.3e # number of entity presidency members attending workshops		20	Postponed after the election until 2014
3.4 a # Study performed (possibly after OCAC)	0	N/A Target set for 2014	N/A Target set for 2014
3.4 b document specifying roles, tasks and responsibilities within RCS BiH structure	0	N/A Target set for 2014	N/A Target set for 2014
3.4c Implementation plan for restructuring developed and approved by the presidency	N/A	N/A Target set for 2015	N/A Target set for 2015
3.4d Two preliminary meetings performed and shared agreement reached	N/A	Strategic Plan developed and shared with RC BiH leadership	Accomplished
3.4.2 d strategic plan in line with Strategy 2020 finalised		N/A	Accomplished in 2012
3.4.2 c Strategic plan in line with Strategy 2020 published on fed net		N/A	Accomplished in 2012
3.6.1 # of youth-camps		2	Accomplished (3 camps organized)

Comments on progress towards outcomes

- The "First Aid at Work" project aims to develop capacities of the RCSBiH in providing training courses for Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and First Aid (FA) according to the European First Aid Certificate (EFAC). Moreover, the aim is to guarantee the provision of the First Aid training in Bosnia and Herzegovina according to the highest standards and to provide the Red Cross of Bosnia and Herzegovina with a specific expertise that would bring forth RCSBiH as leading organization in EFAC training. Hence, the working group was established at the level of the RCSBiH HQs. The group is composed of one NS HQs representative, 2 Entity RC representatives and 1 IFRC country office representative. In 2012, the working group met three times and finalized Plan of Action (PoA) for the EFAC campaign through which the NS intends to raise awareness and advocate at the authorities for the importance of updating First aid training according to the EFAC standards. In 2013, meetings with the RCSBiH Secretary General and entity RC secretaries took place to discuss continuation of each project, and to identify and address any drawbacks. First phase of the "First Aid at Work" project has been finalized including procurements of the items for the EFAC courses.
- In 2012, the RCSBiH started the implementation of a project that aims to facilitate the integration of the Roma national minority into the mainstream aspects of the BH society. The following project locations have been chosen: Tuzla, Bijeljina, Brcko District. One of the key components of the project is to increase the Roma's competitiveness in the existing BiH employment pool. The project provides trainings tailored for the labour market to Roma beneficiaries and facilitates agreements with the local employers in hiring trained Roma workers. Furthermore, special attention is geared towards the empowering Roma women through the provision of funds and support in developing small business and income generating activities. In addition, the Italian Red Cross, the Red Cross of Montenegro and Red Cross of Bosnia and Herzegovina have prepared one joint project with an aim to organize youth camps in each country. Red Cross and Roma youth will have the opportunity to attend various workshops and discussions on topics of promotion of peace, tolerance, diversity and integration. In 2013, the project was successfully under implementation. Tuzla RC branch has requested extension for the project implementation which was granted until March 2014.

- Self-sustainability and visibility trainings were promoted in all possible occasions. One of such occasions was during the “Active Ageing” workshops implemented in the second quarter of 2013. In the third quarter, the IFRC supported RCSBiH finance manager to participate in the resource mobilization training organized by the British Red Cross.
- Furthermore, Home Care programme volunteers were provided with the opportunity to attend the training organized by the Montenegro RC with the supported of the IFRC office in November. The volunteers had an opportunity to the Guidelines for training of volunteers. For the rest of the year, the National Society focused on increasing its visibility through successfully implemented media campaigns increasing its media presence by 80 per cent, promoting/advocating rights for older people as recognized by becoming a member of parliamentary extended team for development of national strategy/politics for older people.
- Within the Active aging project, over 50 per cent of the local Red Cross Home Care program coordinators and secretaries were trained in project proposal writing, resource mobilization, advocacy and “active aging” concept. After the training, five micro-projects, developed by the trained local RC coordinators and older people from their communities, were elected. The elected projects were those that best promoted the following types of activities; older people involved in decision making processes within their communities, including legislative/policy initiatives and lobbying; capacities building, older people supporting other socially vulnerable groups such as home care beneficiaries, persons living with special needs etc. Through micro-projects 2,373 beneficiaries (older people in 8 municipalities) were supported, while local RC branches witnessed over 50 per cent increase of volunteers from older people (354).
- A total of 12 program review workshops at regional/cantonal level were conducted. Approximately 140 (almost all) Red Cross local branches submitted required material for quality program evaluations. Statistical indicators were summarized. One evaluation workshop was organized in December resulting in final programme reviews report including in depth evaluation of the RCSBiH Home Care program in order to evaluate the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of the Home Care Program (for year 2006-2010) and to provide recommendations for further development of the Program. For the purpose of the Home Care Review the ItRC allocated EUR 5.000,00, through pledge earmarked to IFRC.
- Organizational Development tailored for/by the National Society remains the most sensitive and important area of the IFRC’s support. Through the meetings with the NS leadership, priority development needs in terms of improvement of the Presidency performance have been identified. In that regard, organizing workshops focusing on the roles and tasks of the NS leadership together with the events where exchanges of experience with neighbouring NSs can take place was promoted and discussed. In several occasions, the IFRC Country Representative discussed with the NS leadership representatives from different NS structure levels and ICRC Representative the scope of the event. During the movement coordination meeting in August 2013, a formal agreement regarding the content of the presidency workshop was reached with the NS leadership, and it was agreed as well to perform such event during the month of October 2013.
- Where possible, IFRC and partner National Society’s supported projects include capacity building activities such as trainings, experience exchanges and RCSBiH overall capacities to deliver services. During this year the IFRC country representation in a partnership with the British Red Cross supported participation of RCSBiH Financial manager to the Fundraising Skill share 2013 event (for more information please refer to Business line 4 progress towards outcomes section).
- The RCSBiH strategy 2011-2015 has been shared with the IFRC planning evaluation department in Geneva.

Business Line 4: Heighten Red Cross Red Crescent influence and support for our work

Output: 4.2.1 Advocate with the local authorities and support the NS in having the Red Cross law revised; Support the RCSBiH in enhancing its partnership with the Ministry of Security and rescue and other relevant Ministries by regularly attending coordination meetings

Output: 4.3.1 Support the National Society in organizing a partnership meeting in BiH by the end of 2013

Output: 4.3.2 In coordination with other PNSs and ICRC support NS in performing training on EU project proposal preparation

Output: 4.3.3 Training on resource mobilization performed with the support of EZ within 2012

Measurement			
Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
4.2a # of project proposals that reflect RC auxiliary partnership role to the authorities	0	1	Accomplished
4.3 a One partnership meeting held	0	Target set for 2014	Target set for 2014
4.3 c # of workshops focused on EU project proposals	1	1	Accomplished in 2012
4.3e # of workshops held	0	1	Accomplished in 2012
Comments on progress towards outcomes			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the support of the IFRC Country Representation, the National Society prepared one project proposal <i>“Response to the extreme winter conditions and floods”</i> aiming to support the development of the National Society’s Disaster Management program reflecting the RCSBiH partnership role to the authorities. • As an indicator of strengthening National Society’s auxiliary partnership role with the Ministry of Security, the IFRC received award from the BiH civil protection for successful cooperation and contribution in development of system for protection rescue of people and protection of livelihoods in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. • For the occasion of European Anti-trafficking day, the IFRC supported several National Societies in conducting the regional anti-trafficking campaign <i>“Red Bell”</i>. The joint action adopted a <i>“red bell”</i> logo symbolically announcing the beginning of breaking the silence as well as raising awareness of the demand side of human trafficking. • Amendments to the Red Cross law have been defined by the NS as well as discussed and agreed with the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees and Secretary of the House of Representatives of the BiH Parliamentary Assembly. The IFRC Country Representation continues to closely monitor the progress in order to identify efficient (and understand if) support in terms of advocacy can be provided. The existing law on use and protection of the Red Cross emblem and name of the Red Cross Society of BiH, adopted in 2002 by the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH, does not include sufficient number of provisions which could provide full protection of the emblem of the Red Cross in BiH. With that in mind the National Society has initiated activities aiming to ensure additional protection of the emblem by applying for the trademark rights at the BiH Intellectual Property Rights’ Institute. The Institute’s preliminary conclusion is that the trademark application does not satisfy legal security conditions, taking into account that the trademark contains the emblem of the International Organization of the Red Cross; however it is open for further considerations. Meeting with the ICRC, IFRC representatives, NS and legal team took place earlier in August to discuss further steps. Overall prospects of the emblem protection issue seem to go in favour of the expectations of the National Society. • During the period between February and April 2012, the statutory commission of the RCSBiH prepared the proposal for the revision of the law and submitted to the BiH Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees for approval. After the submission part of the RC structure has publicly raised objections thus impeding the discussion and approval of the revised law in the BiH parliament. After further discussions, the RCSBiH reached agreement and in 2013 resubmitted the law to the Ministry. • Furthermore, with the support of the ICRC, the training on EU project proposal writing was performed in 2012 and 2013. • The International Fundraising Skillshare was held on 3 to 6 September 2013 at Radisson Blue Stansted Airport, London. 158 delegates from 58 National Societies (NS), the ICRC and IFRC, attended the conference, making it the largest and most global Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) Skillshare to date. With the support of the IFRC country representation financial manager from the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina attended the event. The objectives were networking, training and inspiration within the context of the Federation-wide Resource Mobilization Strategy (FWRMS). It is widely recognized that one of the key benefits and draws of Skillshare is the opportunity for NS from all over the world to network and share knowledge with each other. There were five plenary sessions and 31 workshops delivered at the conference. The program was divided into three categories: ‘Fundraising infrastructure’, which included foundation sessions such as strategy; ‘Innovation’ which featured 			

workshops on mobile fundraising and income-generating activities; and 'Relationships' with workshops on peer to peer networking and giving circles

Business Line 5: Deepen our tradition of togetherness through joint working and accountability

Output: 5.4.2 Support the NS in developing and adopting the new unified reporting system, in line with FWRS through advocacy and provision of technical and financial support

Measurement			
Indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
5.4a % of reports containing information according to the seven proxy indicators	0%	50%	25%
5.4b number of workshop for the purpose of developing PoA for adoption of unified reporting system	0	No target set for 2013	Accomplished in 2012 (3 workshops organized)
5.4c #of IFRC supported workshops to develop new reporting system	0	No target set for 2013	Accomplished in 2012 (3 workshops organized)
5.4d number of staff trained on the new developed reporting format	0	40	Postponed until 2014 due to upcoming elections
Comments on progress towards outcomes			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In accordance with the Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER) training plan of action (PoA) for the RCSBiH, PMER questionnaire has been developed. The aim of the questionnaire was to determine what type of training is needed (if needed) in order to develop a unified and functional reporting system in the RCSBiH as well as to understand what the reporting and planning requirements are at different levels. In addition, the aim was to collect the existing reporting and planning templates used in the RCSBiH structure. In 2012, the first set of workshops at the local and regional RC organizations' level were conducted with an aim to complete the survey based on developed PMER questionnaire. The activities were postponed until after the programme reviews. The programme reviews were successfully finalized producing recommendations for each programme and setting the base for the development of a unified reporting system. The continuation of activities has been planned for 2014. 			

Stakeholder participation and feedback

The National Society's principal movement stakeholder is the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). The Federation's office is well integrated in the RCSBiH Headquarters, and, as such, is able to efficiently provide technical support and guidance to the National Society. The IFRC's office in Bosnia and Herzegovina is primarily supported by the Italian Red Cross (ITRC). The ITRC also supports the National Society's key projects (i.e. Organizational Development), as well as activities targeting Roma minorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Together with the Federation, the ITRC is a strong supporter of humanitarian diplomacy and multilateral projects such as Home Care and First Aid. During this reporting period, the National Society successfully met all its Partner National Society project proposal requirements.

Other main movement stakeholders working with the National Society are the International Red Cross Committee, the Austrian Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross and the Swiss Red Cross. The cooperation and coordination among these actors are well established. During the reporting period, a great emphasis was put on strengthening that cooperation in particular when it comes to joint

activities aiming to improve the performances of the NS board members and their capacity to work together.

In delivering humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable population, the Red Cross Society also works in close partnership with several non-movement stakeholders such as foreign Governments and UN Organizations.

Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority High Medium Low	Recommended Action
Fragmentation and division existing in the country could result in interests of single components of the structure being considered as a priority over those of the National Society as a whole	High	Enhance the capacity of the Board to represent the interests of the NS and act as a promoter of the needed actions for overall benefit of the National Society. Promote the seven Fundamental Principles and the Code of Conduct.
The long lasting worldwide economic crisis and the consequent deterioration of the already extremely low living standards in the country have exacerbated the population and could result in severe disorders. Similar situation within the Red Cross can seriously affect the NS capacities of performing.	Medium	Ensure all possible support to enable the NS to raise funds for covering its administrative and staff costs. Promote the Red Cross principles, HR rules and code of conduct.

Lessons learned and looking ahead

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a parliamentary republic, which is largely decentralized. It comprises two autonomous entities: the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republika Srpska, with a third region, the Brčko District, governed under local government. In the aftermath of the war, the country is still facing economic difficulties and social problems; its political and administrative fragmentation is an impediment to any solution to these problems. The BiH National Society aspires to become an effective organisation at national level, providing support to people in need, an organization that represents an added value to the country still fighting to abandon its administrative and political divisions in favour of a more unified government. It has become more apparent that unstable political cycles significantly affect the National Society's operations not only in terms of funding but also decision making processes, increasing the risk of pushing the interests of components of structure rather than those of the overall National Society. Therefore the need for empowering the national board plus a revision of roles, tasks and responsibilities of the three main structures has become even more eminent.

Furthermore, it is of essential importance to foster transparent and complete communication within the National Society. Adoption of the unified Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting procedures is one of the key elements in achieving such communication.

Efforts have to be undertaken by the National Society's board in promoting such changes and processes in particular when it comes to Organizational Development (OD). It is evident that the OD process can be successful if the needs of changes in direction of common interest is perceived by all structure levels and that it cannot be executed by the NS HQ technical services.

Financial situation

Click here to go directly to the financial report.

<http://www.ifrc.org/Docs/LTPF%20Process/LTPF/2013/MAABA00213arf.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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Saving lives, changing minds.



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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