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# Kyrgyzstan Annual Report 2013

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

**MAAKG001**  
**30 April 2014**

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

*RCSK community based work.  
Photo: Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent*



## Overview

Within the timeframe between January and December 2013, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan (RCSK) continued the implementation of its programmes in the following directions: Disaster Management, Health, Social Programmes, and Organizational Development.

Being preliminarily selected as a candidate for the position of principal recipient (PR) of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) in Kyrgyzstan, the capacity building is the top priority for the National Society. The country plan to handover the position of principal recipient to the national agency/ies in order to build and reinforce national potential to fight AIDS and TB is a long-term process and requires many steps and approvals. Moreover, the portfolio manager of the GFATM was changed for Kyrgyzstan and potentially it may influence on the overall process. The expected technical appraisal of the National Society to be done by the Local Fund Agent (LFA) is postponed and it depends on the implementation of the current phase on TB to be completed by the end of 2015 as well as decision of the Country Coordination Mechanism (CCM). This evaluation will be directed to estimate capacities of the organizations to act as PR of the GFATM in the country. However, the delay in appraisal of the RCSK gives more time and opportunities for the National Society to focus on its capacity building and prepare for handover process.

The Kyrgyzstan RC was supported by the American RC in a form of a 100-day plan on improvement of Monitoring and Evaluation System and Financial Management within the small STAR grant. Moreover, the project on Organizational Development including PMER, Financial Management, Human Resources Management and Communication was developed and supported by the American RC.

The trans-border project on Disaster Management between Kyrgyzstan RC and Tajikistan RC was developed and supported by the German Red Cross. It was focused on vulnerable communities in both countries, Moreover, the Kyrgyzstan RC actively engaged in development of the regional project proposal for DIPECHO VIII.

In September 2013, the RCSK participated in the annual conference of the ERNA (European Red Cross/Red Crescent network on HIV/AIDS and TB) conducted in Minsk, Belarus. The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent won the position to host the Secretariat of ERNA for 2014-2016.

The RCSK initiated and conducted Central Asia Leadership Forum in Bishkek. The leaders of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan National Societies took part in the event to discuss current and potential cooperation in the region.

In November 2013, the delegation of the RCSK (President, Vice-President, Director General and Deputy Director General) participated in the Statutory Meeting (General Assembly, Council of Delegates and Youth Forum) conducted in Sydney, Australia.

Moreover, the Kyrgyzstan RC took part in the regional meeting on migration conducted in Astana, Kazakhstan. In September 2013, the representative of RCSK participated in OCAC follow-up meeting in Budapest.

Within the country, the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent is an active member of the DRCU (Disaster Response Coordination Unit) mainly represented by the UN agencies. The structure is regularly gathered to discuss joint preparedness and response to disasters. In December 2013, the National Society initiated discussion to take the main role of preliminary assessment of the situation in the first 24 hours after disaster. The majority of the DRCU members agreed with this position of the National Society.

At the end of 2013, the British Red Cross terminated its long-term support of the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent on organizational development, programme on support of vulnerable women and TB prevention programme. The many years contribution of the BRC was very important for the National Society to help thousands of beneficiaries as well as to build capacity of the RCSK.

## Working in partnership

### Central Asia National Societies Leadership Forum and Movement Coordination Meeting

To ensure continuation of the regional cooperation between the National Societies and RC/RC partners present in Central Asia region, the RCSK initiated, organized and hosted the Central Asia NS Leadership Forum. The Forum was held in April 2013 and integrated participation of the Central Asia NS leaders from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan as well as the representatives from the IFRC, ICRC, American RC, German RC, and Saudi Arabian RC. The discussions were held around the issues of the regional cooperation and coordination, resource mobilization, legal base development, partnerships development, IFRC role in coordination and promotion of the NSs, and preparation for the IFRC General Assembly and Council of Delegates. The MoU that stipulates major principles of cooperation and coordination was suggested for the participants' attention, and the feedback incorporated into document. The MoU was then signed later in 2013 by four Central Asia NS.

The Movement Coordination Meeting was incorporated into the Forum, and allowed all participants to share on the developments, challenges, plans and perspectives.

Traditionally, the partners of the National Society are categorized as Red Cross / Red Crescent Movement partners and non-Movement partners.

### Movement partners

Operational Partners	Agreement
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	Signed
International Committee of Red Cross	Signed
American Red Cross	Signed
British Red Cross	Via integration agreement with the IFRC. Bilateral cooperation.

German Red Cross	Signed bilateral agreement
Finnish Red Cross	Via integration agreement with the IFRC.
Norwegian Red Cross	Via integration agreement with the IFRC.
Spanish Red Cross	Bilateral agreement
Swedish Red Cross	Via integration agreement with the IFRC.
Turkish Red Crescent	Bilateral cooperation

**Non-Movement Partners**

Operational Partners	Agreement
Ministry of Health	Signed
Ministry of Emergency Situations	Signed
Ministry of Education, Science and Culture	
Ministry of Youth, Labour and Migration	Signed
Ministry of Justice	Registered the Statute of the RCSK
International Business Council	Signed

**Participation at the RC RC Statutory Meetings**

In November 2013, four representatives of the National Society (President, Vice-President, Director General and Deputy Director General) participated in the RC / RC Statutory Meetings conducted in Sydney, Australia. There were three consecutive events – Youth Conference, General Assembly and Council of Delegates. The RCSK delegation took active part in the sessions of mentioned events as well as managed to organize meetings with the delegations of key partner National Societies. Moreover, the election of the IFRC President and Governing Board was held during the General Assembly.

**Relations with the Government and the business sector**

The most significant governmental partners are the ministries and the local authorities of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, in particular the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Emergency Situations, the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, and the Ministry of Justice.

There are many business organizations in Kyrgyzstan rendering support to the vulnerable parts of the population. In most cases, support is provided to the lonely elderly people, people with disabilities, or children located in special children crisis centres. However, in practice, the charity assistance rendered by businesses for the vulnerable population is distributed irregularly and unevenly - some relevant centres receive assistance in full value, others receive almost nothing. Thus, the challenge that should be resolved is the addressed and structured distribution of the assistance among these vulnerable groups. From another angle, the majority of business companies have their own policies, plans and strategies to render charity, but because of lack of unified database there is no unified and universal distribution system. It is currently made in an unbalanced way. Obviously, charity allocations should be made according to objective, fair, needs-based and transparent principles.

In this connection, the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent continued a dialogue between the Kyrgyz Ministry of Social Development that is responsible for the social support of the population and the business sector. The dialogue is focused on the optimization of charity and humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable population of the country. The RCSK is an associate member of the International Business Council based in the country to have an access to platform for discussion between the Government and the businesses and try to take a leading role in humanitarian issues in the country.

**Meeting on migration in Moscow**

In June 2013, the International Federation jointly with the ICRC organized a meeting on migration in Moscow. The invited participants of the meeting were representatives of the National Societies of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Russian Federation. Moreover, the representatives of the Russian Federal Migration Service (FMS) and the concerned Embassies participated in the event. During the meeting, the issues of joint actions and interactions were discussed between all parties. Every actor fully understands the necessity of cooperation in the field of labour migration.

## **Relations with the Global Fund**

In March 2013, the Red Crescent Society was preliminary selected as a nominee for the position of principal recipient (PR) of the GFATM in Kyrgyzstan.

Currently, the principal recipient (PR) of the GFATM in Kyrgyzstan is the UNDP, that is responsible for TB and HIV components. However, there was a plan to handover the position of principal recipient to the national agency/ies in order to build and reinforce national potential to fight AIDS and TB. It is supposed two-channel management model - state and non-governmental on both directions - TB and HIV. Thus, the CCM (country coordination mechanism) is decided to announce tender for the position of PR in December 2012. The RCSK being a national structure and having many-year experience in TB and HIV programmes decided to prepare its application and submit it to CCM. After the preliminary selection done by the CCM, three organizations were selected as potential principal recipients in Kyrgyzstan - Ministry of Health, AIDS Foundation East-West (AFEW) and Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent. The National Society is now considered as potential PR on TB representing civil sector. Actually, the handover process is long and requires many steps. One of the steps is the technical appraisal to be done by the Local Fund Agent (LFA). This evaluation will be directed to estimate capacities of the organizations to act as PR of the GFATM in the country. This appraisal is very important because in case of fail the organization can be rejected from the position of the PR. Factually, the preliminary assessment was already done by two experts from the UNDP and GIZ. Moreover, the RCSK passed through self-assessment within the OCAC conducted in 2012 and STAR conducted in 2013.

As a result of both processes following areas were identified as requiring further development and improvement: Monitoring and evaluation; Electronic database of beneficiaries; Financial procedures; Procurement process; Sub-recipient management; Communication.

In order to align the existing procedures to the requirements of the GFATM, the RCSK needs technical support by the expert knowing procedures and requirements of the globally-recognized organizations, like World Bank, GFATM, USAID.

## **Progress towards outcomes**

### **Business line 1: TO RAISE HUMANITARIAN STANDARDS**

#### **Programme component: Promotion of humanitarian principles and values**

**Outcome:** Fundamental principles and humanitarian values of the Movement are promoted.

#### ***Achievements:***

The National Society continued its work on the promotion of fundamental principles and humanitarian values of the Movement. Throughout 2013, the following major events with focus on public awareness about RC/RC and its activities were carried out by the RCSK: World TB Day, World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (World RC/RC Day), World AIDS Day, Promotion campaign on voluntary, non-remunerated blood donation, and 'Let's Bring Joy to the Children' charity event.

Dedicated to the World TB Day, during the month of March 2013, the RCSK conducted informational educational campaign under the logo "STOP TB" that covered all regions of the country. The campaign was a result of the cooperation with following partners: the National TB Centre, National Health Promotion Centre, TB facilities, USAID, TB CARE I, Project HOPE, Dialogue on HIV and TB Project (USAID), TB REACH, AIDS Foundation East-West (AFEW), Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, Medicines sans Frontiers, ICRC, WHO, etc.

The World RC/RC Day was conducted jointly with the ICRC Country Delegation. Within the celebration dedicated to the 150th anniversary of humanitarian activity, there were sports activities among volunteers and staff of both IFRC and ICRC with dissemination of relevant information among the population through the mass media. A reception was organized to gather all counterparts of the National Society and have an opportunity to make presentation on RCSK activities and discuss further cooperation.

'Let's Bring Joy to the Children' charity event was conducted in Bishkek in August 2013, aiming at providing support and bringing the joy to vulnerable children. About 500 children at the age of 6-14 years old from Chui oblast, partners, representatives of state structures and mass media participated at the event. This action facilitated to attract greater public attention to the problems of vulnerable children, and to reinforce the RCSK's image as a key humanitarian actor in the country.

In September 2013, the Promotion of voluntary, non-remunerated blood donation charity event was conducted in Bishkek as part of the Blood Donors Day. The organizers were the RCSK and Republican

Blood Centre of Kyrgyzstan. Participants: local population, representatives of the Ministry of Health, local authorities, deputies, WHO, UNDP, VCS, Club 25.

In December 2013, the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent took active part in organizing of the World AIDS Day jointly conducted with other counterparts – Ministry of Health, Republican AIDS Centre, UNAIDS, UNFPA, USAID, Y-PEER, AFEW, local NGOs. There was a series of public events to raise awareness about HIV.

The draft of the RCSK Communication Strategy was developed as a document for the staff and volunteers to guide them on internal and external communication. Currently, it is being elaborated to make the final version of the document.

### **Constraints & Challenges**

The lack of permanent financial support within the component impedes further promotion of fundamental principles and humanitarian values. Every public event requires resources – financial, material, technical, human. However, it is important because it helps to upkeep the positive and reliable image among the population and counterparts. It is also important for a further extension and development of RCSK humanitarian activities.

## **Business line 2: TO GROW RED CROSS RED CRESCENT SERVICES FOR VULNERABLE PEOPLE**

### **Programme Component: Disaster Management**

**Outcome 1:** The capacity of local communities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from, disasters is improved.

**Outcome 2:** The capacity of schoolchildren to prepare for and respond to disasters is improved.

**Outcome 3:** The NS's response capacity has been improved.

**Outcome 4:** The capacity of the National Society to support the recovery process in communities has been improved.

### ***Achievements:***

In the first half of 2013, five new local disaster management committees (LDMC) in five new communities have been selected and approved by the local authorities. To be more effective, all LDMCs consist of the most active and respected community people such as teachers, physicians, head of communities, members of local authorities, farmers, etc. By the end of 2013, the total number of LDMCs in targeted communities covered by DRR programme including new and previously established teams was equal to 20. Totally, 200 LDMC members (10 per community, 20 communities) received training on regular basis, and practiced their knowledge and skills during simulation exercises.

The 100 LDMC members (in 10 communities) from previously and new established LDMCs have been trained and practiced their knowledge and skills in DRR and FA during simulation exercises. The training for local disaster management committees and their communities includes first aid, rules of behavior in time of a disaster, disaster risk mapping, development of community disaster response plans and simulation exercises.

In the framework of the DRR Programme, the National Society uses a cascaded training approach for teacher's education. The DP and FA trainings are organized for teachers who disseminate the received knowledge and skills to the schoolchildren during the academic year. Within the reported period, the total number of school teachers trained in DP and FA is 20 (2 teachers per school, 10 schools).

Knowledge and skills of LDMC members in disaster preparedness (DP) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) obtained within the project demonstrated good level of their preparedness to act efficiently and effectively in time of emergency. Having been trained in First Aid (FA), the LDMC members are ready to use these skills whenever required.

Moreover, the awareness of the population on DRR issues is being raised through peer-to-peer information sharing, public information campaigns and the dissemination of printing materials.

National Society organized dissemination of DP and FA knowledge among schoolchildren through simple preparedness messaging. Moreover, schoolchildren (and teachers) were encouraged to mobilize their families, friends and communities into preparedness action. A cascade trainings approach for education of teachers and schoolchildren is being used. The DP/FA ToTs are organized for selected teachers proposed by partner schools, who then deliver DP/FA classes on a voluntary basis to schoolchildren in their schools.

In October 2013, the National Competition for schoolchildren was organized in Bishkek. Teams, which won the regional competitions, came to the National Competition to defend the honour of their regional

community. Totally, 5 teams consisting of 5 pupils and 1 teacher attended this event.

The first stage of the contest was to prepare an individual song, dance, or instrumental piece which is dedicated to RC/RC history and 7 Fundamental Principles. The second stage was consisting from 5 FA stations with volunteers, playing roles of victims. The third stage was DRR tests and examinations. The selected judges were taking the notes during the task performing and all mistakes were explained only after the competition. All teams received similar prizes.

The National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) is one of the key disaster response elements within the National Society. Currently, there are 7 NDRTs (1 in each region) and NDRT members in HQ. Each NDRT is composed of 6 members in each region and include DM staff and active volunteers ready to deploy to the disaster area within several hours in case of emergency. The refresh training for NDRT and Shelter Workshop was conducted in August 2013. The training included following key sessions: needs assessment, reporting, plan of action and budgeting. All theoretical information was consolidated and used in practical sessions during the training and in last day of the event which included profound simulation exercise. As a result of the training, the NDRT members refreshed/gained knowledge and skills, and had a clear vision of NDRT purpose and procedures. By the end of the year, NDRTs have been deployed several times to the areas struck by disasters and performed their duties timely and in a proper manner providing clear and efficient reports.

On 5-6 June 2013, the Annual DM Meeting was conducted in Bishkek city. Totally, 20 NS staff from all branches participated in the meeting. The discussions were focused on the following points:

- Results of DM Programme activities for the previous period;
- Future activity planning;
- Update of Work plans, considering funding delays;
- Integration of different DM Programmes
- Lessons learned (good and bad practices);
- Sharing of work experiences among different regions.

Within the framework of the programme, 3 temporary warehouses were established in the northern regions of the Kyrgyzstan. These warehouses will be used for storage of humanitarian items that could be distributed during first days after emergency. Three containers (40 FCL) have been procured and delivered to three northern branches: Issyk-Kul, Chui and Bishkek. These containers will be used as temporary warehouses for stocking non-food items. All items will be distributed in case of response to disasters to reduce suffering of the most vulnerable groups.

After elaboration of the National Contingency Plan that has proved to be effective disaster preparedness element, the RCSK decided to detail and improve disaster response mechanisms within the country by elaborating contingency plans (CP) on branch level.

A state of emergency was declared in Bishkek in December 2012 because of an extraordinarily cold winter with heavy snowfalls and extremely low temperatures. Applying for DREF assistance, the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent's National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members visited the affected districts, conducted a rapid assessment, and met with the population and local authorities. In January 2013, the National Society started the distribution of relief items. By the end of the DREF operation, 1,454 families were assisted with food products and warming items. The Kyrgyzstan RC carried out all their activities in coordination with the local administration's representatives. The ICRC contributed to the situation with blankets and sets for disasters.

In August 2013, a fatal case of bubonic plague was revealed in Issyk-Kul oblast of Kyrgyzstan. A 15-year-old boy, a resident of Issyk-Kul region, was hospitalized and subsequently died in Ak-Suu regional hospital. Afterwards, the local health authorities guided by the Ministry of Health undertook a range of preventive measures among the local population. Thus, 131 people (including 33 medical staff) who had contact with the boy were hospitalized and isolated. Six villages of Ak-Suu district were at the highest risk. Two villages had been totally isolated. The Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent mobilized National Disaster Response Team (NDRT), and requested DREF funds for support the Government in conducting of anti-epidemic and prevention measures. As a result, the RCSK covered 30,000 people with preventive information campaign. The threat of infection outbreak was eliminated. The National Society was the only organization supported state health authorities in the situation. It was highly appreciated by the Ministry of Health.

**Constraints or Challenges**

The deficiency of funds and financial gaps causes some impedes in smooth implementation of the DRR activities on the level of the target communities. This resulted in some gaps in the consistency of the programme. However, it stimulates the National Society to work on sustainability of the programme and empower the communities and local authorities to lead the disaster preparedness process by themselves.

**Business line 3: TO STRENGTHEN THE SPECIFIC RED CROSS RED CRESCENT CONTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPMENT**

**Programme Component: Health and Care, HIV/AIDS**

**Outcome 1:** *A comprehensive HIV prevention programme is developed and implemented at the country level.*

**Achievements**

The target groups of the programme are students, schoolchildren, truck drivers, sex workers and injecting drug users. During the implementation of the programme the NS conducted awareness raising sessions among the target groups to promote safe behaviour and safety measures (peer education sessions and trainings). The programme activities covered 5,035 people within the reporting period. The target groups are made up of students, schoolchildren, truck drivers, sex workers and injecting drug users.

**Outcome 2:** *Range of treatment, care and support services provided to people living with HIV (PLHIV) is expanded.*

**Achievements**

During the reporting period the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan continued its work with people living with HIV (PLHIV), their families and friends, providing them with comprehensive services on HIV prevention and treatment through its Information and Consultation Centre (ICC) in Kara-Balta. In particular, the RCSK provided legal and social support

Below is the table with figures on the activity:

No.	Description	# people
1	Clients received services (informational sessions, outreach work, social consultation, psychological support, legal support)	40
2	Clients received number of consultations (phthisiatry, family doctor, self supporting group)	28
3	Clients referred to other specialized facilities (HIV centre, )	9

Unfortunately, the ICC was not financially supported in 2013, but the Chui RCSK Representative decided to continue their work as long as possible for the own funds of the branch.

**Outcome 3:** *Comprehensive advocacy policy focused at stigma reduction is developed and implemented.*

**Achievements**

The National Society continued its work on reduction of stigma and discrimination towards people living with HIV.

In close cooperation with the NGO "Gender-Vector" and the Republic-level Health Promotion Centre, the National Society organised several meetings and round tables on stigma and discrimination issues among target groups and general population.

Dedicated to the World Memory Day of people died from AIDS, the Red Crescent organised a volunteers' flash mob in Bishkek central park with 50 pcs. of candles in order to pay attention to the problem of HIV and stigma among the population. The volunteers held information sessions to all people who visited the park on that day.

Moreover, the National Society in partnership with the Republican AIDS Centre, UNAIDS, UNFPA, AFEW, PSI, GFATM conducted a number of activities dedicated to the World AIDS Day. Those activities were realised countrywide and they comprised the following activities: press conference, media campaign, flesh

mob, informational sessions for population, concert “Hip Hop stronger than AIDS”, round tables with partners, “We can stop AIDS” competition among youth, drawings Competition, “Check yourself on HIV” public action, etc. The estimated number of covered population is about 100,000 people.

**Outcome 4:** *Capacity of the NS to deliver and sustain programmes in the sphere of HIV is strengthened.*

**Achievements**

The National Society uses the Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) approach as a general method in its community based activities. Thus, HIV prevention activities were included across the different health programmes as part of the training package for volunteers and staff; and they were also included in the sessions on healthy lifestyle for communities, regardless of the programmes. These principles help to make the programmes even more sustainable.

Although, there is a lack of the financial support on the activity, the RCSK's branch in Kara-Balta continued giving services to PLHIV comprised legal, psychological and social support. This case may be considered as sustainability of the programme after completion of the funding.

**Constraints and Challenges:**

Again, deficiency of funds has become a major challenge for its implementation. The programme is implemented only in several sites although there is a demand to implement the programme on the country-wide level. Moreover, there is a high programme staff turn-over and currently there are only four paid administrators of the programme (Bishkek, Jalal-Abad, Kara-Kol and Naryn). The rest of the regions are implementing the programme with the assistance of volunteers.

**Programme Component: Health and Care, Tuberculosis**

The TB prevention programme of the RCSK is being implemented at seven sites (Bishkek city, Osh city, Kara-Suu district, Chui region, Jalalabat region, Batken region and Uzgen region) of the country with the main goal being to contribute to the national efforts to control the spread of tuberculosis in Kyrgyzstan and reduce the incidence of tuberculosis in the country by mobilizing communities for TB prevention. The programme is implemented across three priority spheres:

- Developing of treatment adherence among clients of the programme;
- Improvement of treatment outcomes of the programme clients;
- Advocacy and health promotion activities.

**Outcome 1:** *The quality of care and support provided to targeted clients with TB and their families has increased.*

Within the programme, 1,093 clients with TB of the 1st and 2nd categories on the continuation phase of treatment under the direct observation of treatment (DOTS) program were served by seventeen RCSK nurses for the reported period and received incentives in a form of hygienic kits on a monthly basis.

Moreover, every NS nurse visited five Multi-Drug Resistant (MDR) TB clients, and three of them were under the direct observation of treatment (DOT). Totally, 85 MDR TB clients were under the NS patronage. The programme is making efforts to apply peer-to-peer approach attracting ex-beneficiaries to the programme. Thus, 34 ex-TB volunteers help visiting nurses to provide psychosocial support to current TB clients and their families. In addition to home visits, TB clients were supported through peer groups, also facilitated by ex-TB volunteers and nurses. Due to these efforts, 87,8 per cent of TB clients have completed their treatment and 53.6 per cent of clients with MDR TB. The default rate links to the high intensity of internal migration during the summer period.

**Outcome 2:** *Awareness of the general population on the TB-related issues has increased.*

During the reporting period, the staff and volunteers working on the programme continued informational activities among the population to raise awareness about tuberculosis and reduce stigma and discrimination towards TB patients. Thus, due to the informational work through sessions and mass media, about 50,000 of general population were covered for the reported period.

The RCSK informational activities during the reporting period were mostly directed to raise awareness among the population, and reduce stigma and discrimination towards TB patients. In March 2013, the National Society conducted informational educational campaigns dedicated to the World TB Day (24 March) in all the regions of the country. This year those activities were realised under the logo “STOP TB”. The RCSK was working in association with partners: the National TB Centre, Republic Health Promotion Centre, local TB facilities, USAID, TB CARE I, Project HOPE, USAID Dialogue on HIV and TB Project, TB REACH,

AIDS Foundation East-West, Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, Medicines sans Frontiers, ICRC, WHO, etc.

The plan of joint activities was following:

1. Developed and deployed banners on central streets;
2. Developed and handed out information leaflets in public transport;
3. Short video and audio clips broadcasted on public TV and radio;
4. Informational-educational campaigns with the participation of population:
  - Sport activities among migrants in outskirts of Bishkek city, Osh city and Uzgen rayons;
  - Mass cross with participation of medical workers and students of medical universities in Bishkek;
  - Dissemination of leaflets in public places;
  - Broadcasting of a video clip on TB in the main supermarkets;
  - Broadcasting of video clips on TB in public transport (buses and trolleybuses);
  - Competition among schoolchildren for the best picture and poster on the TB problem;
  - Comedy club in schools of outskirts in Bishkek, debates among students of higher school grades;
  - Interviews of TB experts on TV and radio.

**Outcome 3:** *System of NS-based care and support provision to TB-clients and their families is sustained*

During the reporting period, the programme launched its mobilization activities in 12 communities, having enrolled groups of TB promoters (40 people) focusing their work on prevention, early detection, adherence and completion of treatment. Using the educational materials and modules developed for them, they have selected for training and trained 120 volunteers from the communities. Afterwards, these volunteers conducted informational work among 10,560 families in their communities on TB-related issues.

The programme is positively perceived and actively supported by local authorities, medical staff, TB clients and their families.

**Constraints and Challenges:**

The high trends of internal and external migration in Kyrgyzstan and its consequences (the legal residence status of migrants) remain the main challenge for TB prevention activities.

**Programme Component: Migration**

**Objective 1:** *To build up the skills of migrants and potential migrants to better manage their life and to protect themselves from exclusion, exploitation and trafficking.*

Starting from March 2013, the staff of the programme published and distributed an advertisement about the project, describing what kinds of services are provided within the activity for migrants and potential migrants. Advertisements were distributed in the outskirts of Bishkek city, Osh city, the main markets at all four sites, in hotels of Talas and Karakol cities.

Four legal advisers operating in the programme sites provided consultations for beneficiaries in the relevant centres as well as through outreach work and hotline call service. Thus, 5469 people received legal consultations for the reported period.

**Objective 2:** *To promote a well-managed labour migration and facilitate sustained re-integration of returnees through strengthening the Central Asia Red Crescent Labour Migration Network and community development initiatives at origin.*

Well-managed labour migration can be possible only in close cooperation between the countries of origin, transit and destination. The programme has regional nature including National Societies of the countries of origin (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan) and countries of destination (Kazakhstan, Russia). Periodically, regional meetings to discuss cooperation are conducted within the programme. Thus, two regional meetings on migration were held in Astana, in May and December 2013. The representatives of relevant state migration agencies and NSs participated from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Russia. The representatives of the IFRC, ICRC, European Commission and other stakeholders took part in the meetings. Cooperation and interaction between the countries, as well as within RC/RC Movement were in the central focus of discussions, and the draft Memorandum of Understanding between RC/RC actors was discussed.

The strengthening of the network is vital in order to address integration and re-integration needs of labour migrants and to empower them to be actively involved in their self-development. Thus, there are 70 volunteers (returnee migrants) involved in the programme. Trainer-consultants provided a 2-day training

sessions for volunteers on health issues: prevention of TB, HIV, STI, and First Aid. Afterwards, the volunteers disseminated relevant information among migrants in the communities using a peer-to-peer approach.

**Objective 3:** *To improve access to health and social services and prevent disease transmission in migrants and their families, with a particular focus on women, by community outreach, health promotion and advocacy*

The informational sessions on health issues and prevention of communicable diseases were conducted by trainers-consultants in Bishkek, Osh, Talas and Karakol cities. Totally, 2,600 beneficiaries in communities were covered during the reported period. The people were informed about the health and social services available for them in the country of origin and country of destination.

### **Business Line 5: TO DEEPEN OUR TRADITION OF TOGETHERNESS THROUGH JOINT WORKING AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

#### **Programme outcomes:**

- Management and governance effectively support the delivery of the National Society programming.
- Increased capacity for programme development and management.
- Volunteer capacity improved through relevant training and participation in core activities.

#### **Achievements:**

##### **RCSK structure**

RCSK organizational structure has been changed due to the need of the division of the Health and Social Care Department into two different divisions, as there are many different projects for one department. Therefore, according to the new structure, the NS has two departments instead of one. Now, there is a separate Health Department and a separate Department of Social Programmes.

##### **Presidium (Governing Board)**

Throughout 2013, four quarterly regular meetings of the RCSK Governing Board were conducted based upon the funding support of the Organisational Development programme. The following topics have been discussed:

- Quarterly management reports on the ongoing activities of the National Society;
- RCSK Branches' plans for 2014;
- Sustainability and fundraising of the National Society.

##### **Exchange visits**

In April 2013, the staff and volunteers of the NS participated in a FACE competition conducted in Austria. The team had the opportunity to share knowledge, experience and skills with the colleagues from other National Societies.

##### **OCAC (Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification)**

After the conduction of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) phase 1 in 2012, the NS started to develop the relevant Plan of Action (PoA) to meet the recommendations reflected in the OCAC report. In March 2013, RCSK staff members and volunteers gathered to develop the OCAC PoA. There were about 15 people, representing all levels of the NS. There were representatives from the NS Governing board, Senior Management Team (SMT), project coordinators, officers, heads of departments and volunteers. During two days, the initiative group reviewed the OCAC report and its recommendations as well as developed the plan of action to address the challenges in NS development process. After that, the draft PoA was developed. Then, the directors of all RCSK branches reviewed the draft OCAC PoA and made their comments and suggestions. Afterwards, at the end of March 2013 the main directions of the OCAC PoA were reviewed and adopted by the Governing Board. The NS translated the PoA into English and shared the document with its counterparts within the Movement. Currently, the NS is in the stage of receiving feedback from the partners.

The representative of the Kyrgyzstan RC participated in the OCAC follow up meeting conducted in EZO in September 2013. During the meeting the participants discussed OCAC process in different National Societies of the Europe Zone. Also, the key staff of the EZO shared important information with the participants related to current and future strategies and plans of the Federation.

### **STAR (System for Transformation And Results)**

At the beginning of 2012, the American Red Cross was considering a closer cooperation with a number of the NSs in the region, including Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent. To define the main needs of the NS, the American RC conducted a STAR workshop in Bishkek in April 2013. The 3-day event helped the NS conduct a self-assessment exercise and define the main priorities for further organizational development initiatives. During the process, the RCSK team decided to focus mostly on the Monitoring and Evaluation driver.

The NS developed a 100 day plan for improving its M&E system. During the ensuing negotiations with the American Red Cross, it was decided also to include the improvement of the RCSK's financial management system including procurement procedures.

As a follow-up for above-mentioned initiatives, the project on organizational development comprising PMER, Financial Management, Communication and Human resource management was developed and supported by the American Red Cross. The purpose of the projects is to build capacity of the National Society as a modern and dynamic organization operating in humanitarian field.

### **Constraints & Challenges**

The deficiency of funds and counterparts that may support capacity building of the National Society makes this programme not sustainable. The matter of sustainable support on the programme should be resolved to ensure stable implementation of the activities directed at the growth and development of the organization.

### **Stakeholder participation and feedback**

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan uses a participatory approach during its work. Regardless of the specifics of the programmes, the National Society tries to involve the representatives of the target communities by making them volunteers. Thus, the participatory approach, as well as the peer-to-peer approach, is widely applied within the RCSK activities. Community volunteers are trained and motivated to assist the National Society in its humanitarian activities on the grass-roots level.

Other principal stakeholders are the local authorities. In most cases, they recognize the efforts and activities of the RCSK since those efforts contribute to their work in the social and health areas.

The national and international organizations are also very important partners of the National Society, because only their joint efforts can efficiently help resolve problems such as tuberculosis, HIV, irregular migration, etc. There are also suggestions of the stakeholders for the RCSK to take responsibility and relevant activities in the following directions: promotion of voluntary non-remunerated blood donation, immunization of the children in rural communities, assistance to children with oncologic diseases.

With the support of the Turkish Red Crescent, the National Society started to implement a small project on the promotion of voluntary non-remunerated blood donation in Bishkek.

Sustainable development is the top priority for the current activities of the National Society. Actually, the sustainability of any programme depends on long-term commitment in conceptual and financial aspects. This issue is closely interlinked with the support provided by the PNSs. From the other side, the National Society should develop its sustainable plan to ensure permanent implementation of humanitarian programmes and activities. However, humanitarian activities have never been self-sustaining anywhere, and even the well-established organizations operating in humanitarian field depend on the support provided by the Governments and back donors.

## Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority	Recommended Action
	High Medium Low	
<p><b>Positive</b> Formal establishment of the Senior Management Team and its involvement in the discussion of the most important and principal issues in the National Society's activities will allow for balanced and optimal solutions to many emerging challenges.</p>	H	The SMT approach should be developed further and it should be implemented in practice.
<p><b>Risks</b> The RCSK is currently generating regional initiatives like the Regional Leadership Forum for Central Asia. The concept is not new, but the fact of its being initiated by the National Society makes it a challenge.</p>	H	Supportive position is hoped from the International Federation and ICRC.
<p><b>Positive</b> The new team of the National Society currently comprises experienced specialists and new people with a broader outlook.</p>	M	The National Society has to ensure the professional development of its staff and its active volunteers.

## Lessons learned and looking ahead

As a result of the global economic crisis, external financial support for the activities of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan is shrinking along with the programmes' coverage. This, however, stimulates the National Society to mobilize its internal resources and seek new funding opportunities for its programmes. As of today, the NS has a team of professionals that is capable of the development and implementation of high quality projects supporting the humanitarian mission of the National Society.

Based on the accomplishments, analysis and self-assessment conducted in 2013, the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent identified the following priorities for 2014:

- development of the legal base through revision of the draft Red Crescent Law and promotion for adoption by the Parliament;
- staff development;
- improvement of monitoring and evaluation;
- development and implementation of an electronic beneficiaries database;
- resource mobilisation;
- partnership development;
- development of relations with the business sector.

All priorities mentioned above will help the National Society to:

- increase its organizational capacities
- improve accountability among the partners
- reinforce its image among the population.

## Financial situation

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

<http://www.ifrc.org/Docs/LTPF%20Process/LTPF/2013/MAAKG00113arf.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.

[www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)  
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](http://www.ifrc.org)

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