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# Tajikistan Annual Report 2014

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

**MAATJ002**  
30 April 2015

**This report covers the period  
from 1 January 2014  
to 31 December 2014.**

*Potential migrants receiving  
certificates of attendance on  
completion of computer and language  
courses. Qurgantube RCST migration  
education and information center  
Photo: RCST*



## Overview

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan is building its capacities and scaling up its services to assist the most vulnerable people in the country. The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan's (RCST) programmes are also in alignment with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC) Strategy 2020 (S2020), its strategic aims and enabling actions. The emphasis of the current programmes were on community mobilization, good governance and civil society development through active participation of beneficiaries in design and implementation of the activities and prevention and combating of trafficking in drugs and human beings.

In the field of disaster management, the National Society with support from the International Federation enhanced the disaster preparedness and response capacity of its Emergency Response Centers and branch offices. The vulnerability of communities in high-risk areas to disasters has been reduced as a result of increasing people's awareness via public awareness printing and distribution of information materials, conducting contests, competitions and educational campaigns.

Disaster Law promotion and international legislation on the response to disasters was introduced to governmental bodies, CoES and REACT representatives in targeted areas through round tables and workshops and participants were introduced to IDRL guidelines in Tajik language and informed about international law on disaster response, IFRC activities and achievements, challenges and recommendations.

With the support of the IFRC, the RCST has continued implementation of "Empowering Central Asian migrants and returnees to improve living and protect dignity" project activities through its seven information and education centres for migrants in 2014. The implementation of migration project enabled RCST to play its auxiliary role to the government in combating the trafficking in human being and advocating for the rights of the migrants and their families.

In March 2014, the RCST with the support of the IFRC Secretariat's Country Representation and donation of the Russian public organization "AIDS Infoshare" started the implementation of a new

migration project “Improvement of sanitary and hygienic and legal awareness of labour migrants on prevention of HIV/STD/Hepatitis B and C and tuberculosis” in Kurgan-Tube city. In the framework of the project activities, a new information and education centre for migrants was established in Kurgan-Tube city, which was properly staffed by qualified specialists and equipped by necessary office equipment.

In November 2014, the RCST with the technical support of the IFRC launched and further started implementation DG DEVCO “Rights of migrants in action” project in Tajikistan.

DIPECHO VIII project procedures and its management, reporting and monitoring system issues, as well as involvement of and cooperation with target beneficiary communities, partners and other stakeholders were discussed at the induction workshop and training for trainers on community based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) conducted from 4 to 8 August 2014, in Kyrgyzstan and brought together disaster management experts from Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of Austria, Germany, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Switzerland, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, as well as IFRC specialists. Representatives of the Chinese and Switzerland Red Cross Societies took part as observers and benefited from the information provided to them about current DRR initiatives being implemented in the region.

## Working in partnership

Operational Partners	Agreement
<b>Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan</b>  <b>Norwegian Red Cross</b>  <b>Finnish Red Cross</b>  <b>DIPECHO VIII (German Red Cross)</b>  <b>European Commission (EC)</b>  <b>“AIDS Infoshare”</b>  <b>DEVCO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Project contracts/Memorandum of Understanding for DREFs.</li> <li>➤ Norwegian Red Cross supported Disaster Risk Reduction project;</li> <li>➤ Finnish Red Cross supported Disaster Management and Risk reduction programs.</li> <li>➤ Building sustainable community resilience through strengthening Disaster Risk Reduction systems in Central Asia</li> <li>➤ Empowering Central Asian migrants and returnees to improve living and protect dignity</li> <li>➤ “Improvement of sanitary and hygienic and legal awareness of labour migrants on prevention of HIV/STD/Hepatitis B and C and tuberculosis”</li> <li>➤ “Rights of migrants in action”</li> </ul>

## Progress towards outcomes

### Business line 1: To raise humanitarian standards

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

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

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

### Comments on progress towards outcomes

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) as an integral part of its events, conducted educational and informational sessions on fundamental principles and humanitarian values to raise the awareness of the targeted population. Fundamental principles were promoted during workshops, campaigns, competitions, and contests dedicated to the Red Crescent Month were organized aiming to promote humanitarian values especially targeting the youth, students, and schoolchildren.

The "Model Act for the Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance" introduced to the RCST key staff and Disaster Management coordinators for further

dissemination and promotion in local level to assist local authorities to strengthen their legal preparedness for international disaster cooperation.

A Disaster Law introduction meeting was conducted in Khatlon province with the participation of 46 governmental bodies, including CoES, Border and Custom service representatives, and REACT representatives in September as part of the broader DM workshops. Participants were informed about international law on disaster response and IFRC activities under DL promotion achievements, challenges and recommendations. In total, 196 decision-makers (local administration, relevant government departments), stakeholders (media representatives, local NGOs) and community leaders improved their awareness on integrated disaster risk reduction and international disaster law during the reporting period;

An internal evaluation under the migration project “Empowering Central Asian Migrants and Returnees to Improve Their Living and Protect Their Dignity”, co-funded by the European Commission, was conducted in Tajikistan from 9 to 13 June 2014. A team consisting of IFRC, Kazakhstan RC, and Kyrgyzstan RC staff visited information and education centres in Tajikistan. The result of this evaluation was presented and shared with all involved NSs in August 2014 during the regional technical meeting within the project framework. On June and July 2014, the IFRC Secretariat’s Country Representation’s migration project coordinator, the RCST migration project coordinator and the RCST Asht Centre administrator were involved in the internal evaluation of migration activities in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan.

On 12-13 May 2014, two IFRC Secretariat Country Representation’s staff, one RCST staff, and two representatives from the Tajikistan government participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> Conference on HIV/AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia in Moscow, Russian Federation.

On 20-21 November 2014, the RCST Secretary General jointly with the IFRC Secretariat Country Representation’s Migration Project Coordinator, RCST information-education centre administrator from Asht district and representatives from Ministry of Labour and TB centre of the Republic of Tajikistan took part at the second regional meeting with governmental bodies under migration project “Empowering Central Asian migrants and returnees to improve living and protect dignity” co-funded by European Commission, conducted in Kyrgyzstan. The RCST Secretary General along with other CA Countries involved into the action, Russian RC and the IFRC sign the final version of the Framework Agreement, during this meeting.

## **Business Line 2: To grow Red Cross/Red Crescent services for vulnerable people**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Comments on progress towards outcomes**

In total, CHF 252,357 was allocated to assist population affected from floods throughout Tajikistan in April-May under three DREF funds to support the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan in delivering immediate assistance to some 7,945 with special needs affected from floods consequences. In Shurobod district, some 192 families were provided with non-food items such as hygiene kits, mattresses, bed linen sets, blankets and pillows, plastic buckets, water cans, cooking sets, shovels, and hoes. Additionally, some 500 families, including those who received non-food items, were covered with informational materials in Shurobod district. IFRC assistance in Khuroson district covered 172 families, out of which 90 families were provided with food parcels and non-food items and 82 families received food items. In Rudaki and Ghonchi districts, some 917 families (4,585 people) were targeted under the third DREF operation. Out of them 250 families (1,250 people) were provided with non-food items and 100 families (500 people) with hygiene kits. All of the targeted population received hygiene promotional materials. For more information please visit [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org) appeals.

The RCST Emergency Response Centres, as well as Local Disaster Committees and local community capacities in Disaster Response and Risk Reduction (DRR) in most disaster prone communities in the country were assessed at the beginning of 2014 by RCST HQ DM coordinators and branch DM officers. The

assessment revealed that the local communities, and RCST new staff and volunteers in the branches are in need of refresher courses, equipment's need to be replenished and cooperation and coordination need to be enhanced with Governmental bodies and REACT partners.

Following the assessment results and according to RCST Disaster Management 2014 action plan following activities were implemented:

Community DRR and Local Disaster Committee (LDC), DRR plans in Khatlon province were developed. A three-day DM and FA refresher workshop followed by practical simulation exercises, including elaboration of Community Disaster Response plan, was conducted for LDC team leaders in Khatlon province, Qurghonteppa region. Practical simulation exercises conducted with participation of regional disaster management commission representatives, local authorities, community members, CoES and REACT partners. In total 293 people were involved in both activities. Uniforms were procured for 60 Local Disaster Committee (LDC) team leaders of Kulob and Qurghonteppa regions. The Government, local authorities, NGOs, community leaders and other stakeholders were briefed about the project during the DRR project introduction meeting which was conducted on 6-7 March 2014 in Kulob city of Khatlon province.

A road safety awareness campaign was conducted jointly with the Traffic Police Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Tajikistan in secondary schools of Dushanbe City on 8 May 2014 devoted to the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day. Around 700 schoolchildren received informational materials and posters. Additional 1,200 pieces of information materials were handed out to the school administration for further distribution. The schoolchildren also received caps with the RCST logo.

Simulation exercises involving all DRR stakeholders were conducted on August, 2014 in Khatlon province, Qurgantube region. These exercises targeted to create a pool of disaster responders in the framework of RCST National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT), to develop the skills and knowledge of staff and volunteers who will be deployed on NDRT missions and to enhance the collaboration in time of disasters between the RCST, governmental agencies and the communities. Two NDRTs from Khatlon region of Tajikistan alongside with RCST volunteers in "affected villages", CoES forces, local police, rescuers, soldiers and medics learned how to be prepared to a disaster and to respond it and how to coordinate all actions internally and externally. In total more than 700 people were involved in each of the events.

Disaster Law was introduced to CoES and REACT representatives in Kulob and Qurghonteppa cities in two separate site events in August and September as part of the broader DM workshops.

Disaster Management department annual meeting involving RCST DM officers, coordinators, leadership and in country Partner National Societies, REACT secretariat and CoES representatives conducted on 22 to 23 December 2014 to discuss 2014 implemented activities and 2015 DM plans and cooperation. The meeting resulted in agreement between all stakeholders in coordination of all DRR actions in the region. It was agreed to cooperate and coordinate DRR planned activities through the National Platform, a supreme governmental body related to disaster management, through REACT, a UN founded body to coordinate disaster related issues, as well as through MoU between RCST and CoES

The baseline survey under the CBDRR project was conducted in both countries, in Turkmenistan from June to November 2014, and in Uzbekistan from June to October 2014.

An induction workshop and a training for trainers on community based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) were hosted by Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent Society from 4 to 8 August 2014 where disaster management experts from the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of Austria, Germany, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Switzerland, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, as well as IFRC Secretariat staff participated.

The representatives of the Chinese Red Cross and the Swiss Red Cross are also benefited from the events as observers. The induction workshop was also attended by Mr Srdan Stojanovic, Head of the DG ECHO Regional Office in Central Asia.

The project agreement between IFRC Secretariat, Turkmenistan Red Crescent and Uzbekistan Red Crescent was developed, negotiated and accepted, translated into Russian and signed.

The project sites selected and the Local Disaster Management Committees and School Disaster Management teams are established.

As part of enhancing disaster awareness of the targeted communities and schoolchildren, the information materials and brochures on the DRR and climate change topics were developed, designed and distributed to the target population.

### **Business Line 3: To strengthen the specific Red Cross Red Crescent contribution to development**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### **Comments on progress towards outcomes**

In 2014, the RCST with the support of the IFRC continued implementation of *“Empowering Central Asian migrants and returnees to improve their living and protect their dignity”* project co-funded by European Commission through its seven education-information centres in three regions of Tajikistan. During the reporting period, some 7,451 migrants and their family members have been served through seven information and education centres and outreach work and got knowledge on legal issues such as: exit of country of origin, legal entrance, stay and employment, as well as access to social services, computer literacy, Russian language and legal consultancy. About 10,238 copies of visibility and informational materials have been distributed among targeted people, through seven centres and outreach work during January-December 2014. In addition to this some 7,200 copies of TB prevention leaflets printed in the framework of “Provision of support to the countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia in the fight against infectious diseases” project supported by RPO “AIDS Infoshare” were also disseminated among targeted group of beneficiaries.

On 9 August 2014, the second national technical meeting was held in RCST HQ premises in Dushanbe. Seven centres’ administrators including Dushanbe centre staff, the RCST and the IFRC project Coordinators attended the meeting. Participants of the meeting shared information on project implementation in their respective regions (experience and achievements to date), discussed possible problems during the implementation of the project activities, evaluation conducted by the Regional staff, outreach modules and activities.

In early August 2014, seven centre administrators from the RCST attended on the second regional migration technical meeting conducted organized by the IFRC in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan

On March 2014, the RCST with the support of the IFRC Secretariat’s Country Representation and donation of Russian Public Organization “AIDS Infoshare” has started implementation of a new migration project “Improvement of sanitary and hygienic and legal awareness of labour migrants on prevention of HIV/STD/Hepatitis B and C and tuberculosis” in Kurgan-Tube city. In the framework of the project activities, a new information and education centre for migrants was established in Kurgan-Tube city and some 23,950 copies of leaflets on TB prevention have been printed and disseminated among targeted groups of population.

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

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

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

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

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

**Outcome 4.5:** Scale up Resource Mobilisation capacities

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

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

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

**Comments on progress towards outcomes**

The Red Crescent Society continued raising awareness of the related points of the law on RCST, as well as to introduce the Red Cross mission and activities. Disaster Law was introduced to CoES and REACT representatives in Kulob and Qurghonteppa cities in two separate site events in August and September 2014 as part of the broader DM workshops. In total, 196 -decision-makers (local administration, relevant government departments), stakeholders (media representatives, local NGOs) and community leaders improved their awareness on integrated disaster risk reduction and international disaster law;

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan's work on its new strategy for 2013-2020 was suspended due to the lack of financial and human resources challenges. For now, the draft is shared with the branches The Strategy is planned to be divided into three time periods, leaving some space for updates and adaptations to new national and international strategies.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Comments on progress towards outcomes**

During the reporting period, RCST delegation constantly participated at different international and regional meetings and workshops. Several Movement coordination meetings were hosted by the IFRC Secretariat's Country Representation in Dushanbe. Requested consultation and assistance was provided.

Finnish Red Cross and Norwegian Red Cross continued their support to support the growing of the capacities of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan and vulnerable communities to reduce the impact of potential disasters through the Federation.

RCST Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General attended a high-level workshop on NSs humanitarian capacity building held in Urumqi, China on 18-19 June 2014. The workshop was organized by the Chinese RC jointly with the government of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of China for the leadership of the National Societies from the neighbouring Xinjiang Republic. The workshop covered three main issues, such as humanitarian needs and response to them in Central Asia, strengthening the potential of the NSs, as well as the collaboration between the Chinese RC and the Central Asian RCs.

The by the IFRC Secretariat's Country Representation supported official web-site of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan was regularly updated with the latest news and information. In the end of December 2013, the web-site was moved into new one designed and developed also with IFRC support and launched under new URL address. The new web-site was designed by an external company and is being administered by RCST.

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan and the GRC signed a grant agreement on DIPECHO VIII project.

During the reporting period, Head of IFRC Secretariat's Country Representation in Tajikistan conducted several meetings with representatives of international stakeholders located in Tajikistan. During these meetings IFRC Secretariat's Country Representative in Tajikistan informed his counterparts about IFRC/RCST goals and objectives for the nearest future and presented RCST strategic direction and key activities focusing on the areas of the interest of the particular organization. Head of IFRC Delegation in Tajikistan also conducted some meetings with local authorities.

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

## Stakeholder participation and feedback

Through the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan's programs, the needs of vulnerable population were considered, and after the full assessment of the situation, the projects were implemented in most affected areas. Community engagement is a key to sustain projects results. The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, while developing and implementing projects, takes into account feedback received from beneficiaries of previous projects, as well as consults the further beneficiaries and involves them into the process.

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

## Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority	Recommended Action
	High Medium Low	
Natural disasters are considered as highest key risks which mostly affect projects' implementation in Tajikistan.	High	Close cooperation with the Committee of Emergency Situation and the Hydro-meteorological Service, regular coordination meetings, evaluation and preparedness for natural disaster are implemented.
Political stability	Medium	Ensure close monitoring
Economic stability	High	Ensure close monitoring
Staff turnover	High	Promote and develop skills, benefits and financial support of NS staff
Volunteer turnover (leaving for the Russian Federation for labour migration purposes, unemployment or family issues).	High	Improve volunteers' knowledge, give valuable recommendations, and develop skills and benefits.

## Lessons learned and looking ahead

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

## Financial situation

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

<https://fednet.ifrc.org/Docs/LTPF%20Process/Development%20Operational%20Plans/2014/SP570TJ14arf.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 Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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



**Save lives,**  
protect livelihoods,  
and strengthen recovery  
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**  
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**  
and a culture of  
**non-violence and peace.**

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