



RAPORTI VJETOR ANNUAL REPORT



ABBREVIATIONS

Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia
- Red Cross of RNM

Republic of North Macedonia - RNM City Red Cross of Skopje - CRC Skopje

First Aid - FA

Psychological First Aid - **PFA** Psycho-Social Support - **PSS** Ministry of Health - **MoH**

Ministry of Education - ME

Crisis Management Center - CMC
Protection and Rescue Directorate - PRD
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent
Societies - International Federation of RC/RC
International Committee of the Red Cross - ICRC
Institute of Transfusion Medicine - ITM

The Employment Service Agency of the Republic of North Macedonia - ESARNM

Ministry of Labor and Social Policy - MLSP

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY

75th anniversary of the foundation of the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia

This year we proudly celebrate dies natalis, the 75th birthday of the Red Cross of RNM, 75 years in the service of humanity. We are proud that our organization has always been a spark of hope for thousands of citizens who needed help and support during emergencies, disasters, epidemics, migrations, refugee crises, or services to overcome social and health challenges. But we are also pleased that many citizens of the Republic of North Macedonia recognize the Red Cross as a place for new friendships, for learning and sharing knowledge, for volunteering, for membership, for dedicating part of their life to humanity.

We are especially pleased with the fact that over the years, the Red Cross has always been attractive to young people who are interested in learning and sharing humanitarian values and principles, to help and build their capacities, developing into socially responsible individuals who make a special contribution to local communities in which they live. With us are of course the older ones also who are always ready to share their experiences and knowledge and to show that at any age of human life there is a place and time for humanity and solidarity and a helping hand to the people who need it.

Undoubtedly, our success is due to the constant support and commitment and hard work of our volunteers and employees but also the partners and donors who recognize the values of the Red Cross of RNM. Many thanks to all of them. For their desire and trust to walk together, to work together, to contribute, to help, to reduce someone's suffering, to bring a smile. In the past, the Red Cross of RNM has grown into an organization that is constantly developing and modernizing and is an important segment in the crisis management system in the country, making a modest contribution, in cooperation with its partners, in dealing with various emergencies, and providing support for various target groups of the affected population.

This year we were facing an extremely big challenge, the COVID-19 pandemic, which unfortunately still takes human lives around the world. The Red Cross has adapted its work and its programs in accordance with the newly created situation in the country. We have worked tirelessly, together with our partners and institutions, in an effort to make a modest contribution to alleviating the consequences from the pandemic. Our volunteers were at the border crossings, with the people in isolation, distributing aid and medicines, providing psychological support. Our activities have been partially modified and adapted to the conditions caused by the pandemic. But our goals remained the same. We continue to mobilize support to address the consequences and challenges of the pandemic.

We end the year with positive results in all our program activities. Gratitude to our volunteers, partners and beneficiaries who were covered by our services. We remain committed to working in accordance with the fundamental principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. New challenges, new tasks, and the obligation to be even better in conditions of climate change, disasters, social and health challenges, but also the desire for continuous development await us on our journey to be ready to meet the demands and needs of our beneficiaries. On the pages of our Annual Report 2020 we talk about our achievements and results, which oblige us to continue to work even harder, on the path of humanity, to be innovative and ready for new challenges that will arise in the period ahead.



ABOUT US

The Red Cross of the RNM was founded on March 17, 1945 within the Democratic Federal Yugoslavia. After the break-up of Yugoslavia in 1992, the organization operates as an independent national society. The Red Cross of the Republic of Macedonia was recognized as a national Red Cross Society by the International Committee of the Red Cross on November 1, 1995, while on November 27, 1995 it became a full-fledged member of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

We are part of the world's largest humanitarian network, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, which has over 17 million volunteers in 192 countries. In this way the Movement is able to mobilize financial, material and human support to respond to the humanitarian crises that are occurring in the world. We are guided by seven fundamental principles: humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity and universality. In our work they oblige us to make our care and support for people more important to us than anything else. The work of the national society is regulated by a special Law on the Red Cross of the Republic of Macedonia. The organization consists of 33 Red Cross branches and CRC Skopje. The programs are implemented with the support of 10,500 members and 7,500 active volunteers and 393 staff.

Our role, above all, as a national society is to nurture the power of humanity, to be where needed, to provide support for the various target groups of the population that we serve. We perform an auxiliary role and provide support to state authorities in carrying out various humanitarian tasks, in accordance with the needs of the population. In cooperation with institutions and partners, we work on disease prevention, improving health and alleviating human suffering through our own programs in the field of education, health and social care, for the benefit of communities.

We organize emergency operations to provide humanitarian assistance, and we provide other services to assist victims of armed conflict, in accordance with the Geneva Conventions. We provide assistance to victims of natural disasters and other emergencies. We work to disseminate international humanitarian law, and we share and promote the principles and ideals of the Movement and work to raise awareness on protection of the Red Cross and Red Crescent emblems. Internationally, we provide assistance to victims of armed conflicts and natural disasters and other emergencies around the world.

LEADERSHIP IN TIMES OF CRISIS

In times of great uncertainty in which we faced complex crises that arose in sudden and unpredictable ways, the leadership of the Red Cross of RNM undoubtedly played an important role in creating preconditions that provided an effective response to challenges and at the same time promoted entrepreneurship, innovation and agility. The ability of management and staff to anticipate challenges, and offer new solutions, to experiment quickly, to seek and form new alliances and partnerships, to learn quickly and to adapt to new situations was essential to ensure an effective response to these challenges in 2020.

The crisis situation often required bold decisions to be made to ensure compliance and the application of new approaches, which of course need to be analyzed in terms of their long-term implementation. Through our services we have tried to bring the entrepreneurial spirit and to transform at all levels of the organization to be in step with the new times. We have tried to foster innovation and leadership in our organization by trying to avoid the bureaucratic set-up that is often dominant in the humanitarian sector. Our experience and collective knowledge and ability to learn and adapt quickly were essential to anticipate ever-changing trends and challenges in order to be ready to take

advantage of every opportunity to remain a fastgrowing organization always accountable and

transparent in our work in the interest of the target categories of the population we serve.

FINANCING IN TIMES OF CRISIS

As a result of the global recession and the economic consequences of COVID-19, the organization faced a major challenge in securing funding for the Red Cross of RNM humanitarian response to deal with the aftermath of the pandemic. The ability to find new and innovative ways to mobilize alternative sources of funding was extremely important for the Red Cross of RNM to meet the needs of pandemic service users. We have worked

with our traditional partners but also with new stakeholders and built new models of cooperation, which provide greater opportunities in terms of scope of work and activities in order to be able to deal with very complex vulnerabilities of individuals in the community, such as existential issues, health, social and activities to improve mental health and much more.

AUXILIARY ROLE OF THE RED CROSS OF RNM

In accordance with the Geneva Conventions and the Law on the Red Cross of the RNM, our organization performs an auxiliary role to the authorities in the country in several key areas, such as disaster preparedness and response, restoring family links and providing support and assistance for health and social care for vulnerable categories of the population in crisis situations. Undoubtedly, the newly created situation as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in increased vulnerability of the population as a result of the social and health challenges of the population. Our work through the health and social programs was certainly a great challenge for our organization but also enabled us to strength-

en our support role before the institutions in the country. We have had good results in the field of advocacy for the needs and priorities of our beneficiaries by mobilizing new sources of funding to help address some of the priority needs of vulnerable target groups. We have also been proactive in areas we have not been to before. We had roles which we haven't had before. We have introduced new services that will further strengthen the place and role of the Red Cross in the country. In addition to the auxiliary role, we also promoted the civic role. To be always closer to our citizens, to achieve the best results in the interest of the vulnerable people.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

The Red Cross of RNM made an impressive breakthrough in adapting to the new work reality that required virtual coordination and management of activities as well as virtual provision of some of its services. We have used various platforms, and digital systems for hiring and training volunteers, and digitally and virtually coordinating some of our activities. Remote operation has become the norm along with providing support and tackling the challenges people face. We witnessed a rapid adaptation to the new situation in the entire Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. We participated and organized virtual workshops, webinars, conferences and workshops. Digital transformation has been widely accepted, teaching us what can be achieved virtually, but also what we still



need to do in direct contact with our service beneficiaries. For us, of course, this will remain a challenge to continue to develop this system of work in the years ahead and to make sure that the benefits of digital transformation are incorporated into everyday work even when things return to normal.

We are at a crossroads between technology and the future of humanity. It changes the way we think, our views on the world, our experiences and our contribution to a better tomorrow. If we want to be better people, we need to take better care of our planet. To be the voice of humanity. To work together, for a future where humanity will be our most enduring technological trend.

TRUST AND COMMUNICATIONS

We are witnessing a time when it is important to provide clear, consistent and reliable information that is crucial to ensuring secure and effective communication with the population. The Red Cross of RNM invests great efforts in timely communication and transmission of messages that have contributed to the protection and prevention of the population from COVID-19. We did this through our traditional forms of direct communication with beneficiaries but also by incorporating sophisticated forms of communication through social and digital media. We have witnessed a significant increase in communications and engagement through the social media of the national society.

But in order to trust our messages, one must also trust the one who conveys the messages. The contribution and engagement of the Red Cross of the RNM gave us the right to believe that our reputation in the local communities is even greater. Trust in us allows us to be even more efficient. We are especially proud that in the years behind us we managed to grow into a successful organization that is part of the overall crisis management system of the country. We continue where we left off, to be the center of attention of those who need our support.

SHARING INFORMATION WITH OUR PARTNERS, BENEFICIARIES, SUPPORTERS AND THE PUBLIC

The weekly editions of the electronic newspaper of the Red Cross Info, are a successful tool for informing our volunteers, partners, collaborators about the activities we realize on local, national and international level. In 2020 108 issues of the Enewsletter "Info" were published with total of 809 articles. The E-newsletter was regularly shared to 83.161 email clients.

The traditional weeks defined in the Law on Red Cross, as well as a number of project activities and strategic documents within the publishing activity of the national society were regularly supplement-

ed with brochures, flyers, posters, manuals, additional post stamps and other publications. Carrying the humanitarian messages, significant results were achieved among the target groups, and at the same time had a positive impact on raising the image of the national society. All editions are prepared in Macedonian and Albanian, and some of them in English language.

In frames of the activities of the Red Cross of RNM, over 50 press releases were made, conferences and public appearances on the electronic media and information agencies.

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY

We have been striving for sustainable community change by providing relevant services. For that purpose, we have constantly worked on strengthening the capacities of our Red Cross branches and the City Red Cross of Skopje by implementing various activities to develop into strong and responsible organizations. In 2020, we started an evaluation of the work of the Red Cross / CRC Skopje, in order to gain relevant insights on how we can strengthen the impact of the integral parts of our organization in order to deliver the required quality of services and meet standards of work based on the needs of target categories of service beneficiaries. This process was partially interrupted as a result of the pandemic, but we continue to work on this plan by adapting the format and implementation methodology.

In 2020, through the Development Fund of the National Society, project support was provided for the Red Cross branches of Probishtip, Kochani, Krushevo, Chair, Kisela Voda and Skopje. These projects have enabled activities for structural development, strengthening of material and technical capacities and development of new form and/or services to support vulnerable target groups. Special emphasis was placed on the development

of the capacities of the Red Cross branches for planning and preparation of project initiatives. A total of 30 staff were trained for preparation of project applications for various donors. Support was also provided in form of mentoring for project work and project implementation, with 20 meetings held for various project initiatives of the Red Cross branches.

This year, three meetings were held with the secretaries of the Red Cross branches and CRC Skopje in order to provide coordination guidelines for the action of the national society at all levels, primarily in terms of harmonizing activities with the normative framework, acting in pandemic conditions and providing comprehensive and timely support for service beneficiaries at local level. During the year, a total of 5 sessions of the Governing Board and one session of the Assembly of the Red Cross of RNM were held. The impact of the pandemic during the year reflected on the actions of the grass-root organizations, which led the Assembly of the Red Cross of RNM to make a decision to postpone the regular elections scheduled for 2021 for a period not exceeding 12 months, i.e. until the creation of conditions for conducting the elections.

DISSEMINATION OF THE VALUES OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT

Dissemination activities as a basis for promoting the humanitarian action of the national society took place through the use of digital technologies and tools at all organizational levels in order to share the values and ideals of the Movement in everyday life of citizens and

to mobilize humanitarian support for the most vulnerable and to recruit new human resources in the organization, to promote the work of the Red Cross and to highlight the advocacy efforts of the organization before the responsible stakeholders in the country.



5 years where needed

PARTNERSHIP IN THE MOVEMENT

During the year, several online meetings were held with partner national societies for mutual support, cooperation and exchange of experiences. The Red Cross of RNM was visited by a delegation of the Austrian Red Cross and a delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross as part of the implementation of partnership programs

and projects. The year was marked by a series of online meetings, workshops and webinars on various topics of interest organized by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and the national Red Cross societies of Italy, Switzerland, Bulgaria, Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, Albania and the Turkish Red Crescent.



With the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and partner national societies, humanitarian assistance was provided to the most vulnerable families affected by the pandemic in the form of food parcels, hygiene kits and protection kits (protective masks, protective gloves and gels for hand disinfection). The International Federation has contributed additionally for capacity building of the national society in the development of a report for establishment of a center for psychological first aid and psychosocial support, preparation of electronic applications for mobilization of funds, first aid and volunteer management, development of concept for rapid mobilization of volunteers in case of disasters and conducting a hygiene promotion campaign.

OUR SUPPORT FOR RESPONDING TO HUMANITARIAN CRISES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND INTERNATIONALLY

Humanitarian aid for Albania. Red Cross of RNM provided humanitarian aid to the population affected by the earthquake that struck the Republic of Albania on 26.11.2019. A total of 313,009 euros was raised, and the funds were transferred to the Albanian Red Cross to provide support to the affected population. The Red Cross of RNM also provided material assistance to the Albanian Red Cross in the amount of 20,478 euros, which consisted of clothes, boots, raincoats, winter clothing sets, blankets and toiletries.

MATERIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ALBANIA	quantity	Value/euro
Clothes	3 pallets	1800
Boots	1 pallet	4620
Raincoats	1 pallet	6000
Winter clothes (scarves, caps, gloves)	1 pallet	2500
Winter set of clothes for children	1 pallet	1350
Hygiene material (cleaning sets, wet tissues, shampoo, dishwash- ing liquid)	3 pallets	2408
Blankets	2 pallets	1800
	Total	20.478,00

Humanitarian aid for Lebanon. Humanitarian aid in the amount of 500 euros was sent to the Lebanese Red Cross to mitigate the consequences

and provide assistance and support to the affected population from the explosions at the port of Beirut on 04.08.2020.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

Solidarity. The contribution of volunteers meant a significant step forward for communities to help tackle the corona virus. As everywhere in the world, so in RN Macedonia the interest of the volunteers to help was great..

The Red Cross of RNM quickly adapted its work and programs to mobilize a significant number of motivated volunteers who helped distribute food packages, provided help with testing and psychosocial support, which significantly helped alleviate social and health challenges and meeting the needs of the most vulnerable communities. Solidarity was expressed in many ways. We participated in various online workshops, think tanks and technical groups, shared, learned and established new collaborations.

Volunteering and volunteer service, as a founding principle and driving force of the model and ethos of the organization, represents the direct and closest link with communities around the world and enables us social, development and humanitarian action to an extent that is not otherwise possible. Volunteers were an essential element of the national society's response to dealing

"In response to an unprecedented humanitarian need, we have witnessed an unprecedented level of humanity and kindness,"

said Francesco Roca, President of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

with the effects of the pandemic. From the first day of the pandemic, our volunteers were "where needed." Phones were ringing, messages were arriving on our website. A huge number of citizens of our country were ready to wear the uniform of the Red Cross and help deal with the pandemic.

The volunteers were at the border crossings and assisted in surveying the citizens arriving in the Republic of North Macedonia. Volunteers distributed aid to the most vulnerable population on a daily basis. They helped people in isolation and provided them with the necessary groceries. They bought medicine. They were by the phones. They bought medicine for the sick. They helped the elderly who could not leave their homes. Volunteers helped us mobilize the power of humanity. To show the strength of our Movement that



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allows us to get where we need to be. We could have done a little on our own, but together with our volunteers we did a lot.

The volunteers were a driving force in the implementation of all our other programs.

"When I put on the Red Cross T-shirt, my heart became bigger, my mind and soul wider. "I just always feel better by helping other people."

Volunteer of the Red Cross of RNM.

Marking December 5 International Volunteer Day

The Red Cross of RNM marked the International Volunteer Day on December 4, under the motto "For all our volunteers", by organizing an online webinar focusing on the contribution of volunteers in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Several Red Cross branches of RNM and CRC Skopje participated in the event by calling and presenting video content. The President of the Red Cross of RNM, Prof. Dr. Romel Velev addressed the present and spoke about the importance of volunteering in society and the contribution of Red Cross volunteers in responding to the pandemic. The President of the Republic of North Macedonia, Mr. Stevo Pendarovski, also addressed the Red Cross volunteers and thanked them for their

Red Cross members and volunteers allow us to be closer to our communities.

They have the knowledge, competencies and contribute assets and time to people in need.



overall contribution in dealing with the pandemic of COVID-19. President Pendarovski awarded the Red Cross of RNM volunteers with the award "For All Our Volunteers" for their contribution for overcoming the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

THE PRESIDENT OF RNM, MR. STEVO PENDAROVSKI VISITED THE RED CROSS

On April 11, 2020, the President of the Republic of North Macedonia visited the Red Cross of the RNM, where he was introduced to the activities of the Red Cross in response to the pandemic of COVID-19. President Pendarovski stressed the importance and contribution of thousands of Red Cross volunteers in responding to the pandemic. He pointed out that the will and desire of the volunteers to provide services voluntarily and to help the vulnerable citizens in solidarity is especially important.

"Huge thanks for all the efforts you have made so far in this crisis. I would ask you, because it is more difficult for you than all other citizens to continue your work because you are setting an excellent example for all of us, how we should position ourselves when it is difficult for all of us. You are a shining example ",

said the President of RNM, Mr. Stevo Pendarovski to the Red Cross teams.



ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic, also known as the coronavirus pandemic, began in late 2019 and is caused by severe acute coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) respiratory syndrome. In January 2020, the World Health Organization declared a public health emergency internationally, and in March 2020, a pandemic was declared. As of December 22, 2020, more than 77.3 million people have been infected with the virus, with more than 1.7 million deaths worldwide attributed to COVID-19. COVID-19 directly affected the lives of millions of people around the world. The pandemic has affected all countries of the world and everyone is at risk, but the pandemic has further exacerbated the vulnerability ("crisis upon crisis") of people who were already at risk, be it armed conflict, violence, disaster, migration, health condition, limited access to health care, socio-economic status, etc. In addition to the immediate health effects of the pandemic, the crisis will have long-term consequences for the most vulnerable population, and at the same time will create new vulnerabilities.

The components of the Movement quickly adapted to the new reality caused by the pandemic, adapting

their programs and strengthening their response to the crisis in order to meet the new needs and challenges of preventing the spread of the pandemic. At the global and local levels, the components of the Movement strengthened mutual cooperation, as well as cooperation with states and state institutions, United Nations agencies and other organizations, in order to provide a complementary response to the pandemic. The National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies are present in all contexts and, as auxiliaries to their governments in the humanitarian field, are at the forefront of the battle against COVID-19. They are an integral part of national pandemic response efforts.

In most contexts, national societies have expanded the scope of their work to support national activities in the field of public health, focusing on epidemic control measures, crisis communication, community engagement, health and hygiene promotion, prevention and infection control, mental, health and psychosocial support services, isolation support and clinical case assistance, patient transport services providing access to health services, etc



Coping with the challenge called COVID-19

The Red Cross of RNM in cooperation and with the support of its partners starting from March 12, 2020 continuously provided support to the vulnerable population and state institutions for dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. The activities were realized through mobile teams of volunteers and staff to support vulnerable categories of citizens and provide necessary materials and donations for the Clinic for Infectious Diseases in Skopje, quarantine centers, the Army of RNM and other institutions.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the Red Cross mobile teams have been assisting in conducting epidemiological surveys in support of the Public Health Centers at the border crossings in the country. Red Cross volunteers provided free service for procurement and distribution of food, hygiene, medicine and distributed humanitarian parcels with food and hygiene, baby parcels, clothes and shoes, protective masks, gloves, spacesuits and other protective materials, disinfectants from donations and own reserves for socially vulnerable and vulnerable groups. Telephone lines for psychosocial support

were opened in the Red Cross. We also provided the necessary assistance through the Red Cross teams for support of the elderly. Special emphasis in dealing with the consequences of the pandemic was placed on providing support to the homeless, helping them with food, medicine and other forms of necessary assistance. We also worked on the distribution of chronic therapy for sick people in cooperation with the Ministry of Health. We delivered oncology therapy in cooperation with the University Oncology Clinic. We helped maintain the triage tents in hospitals / public health centers. We continuously provided support to migrants in Vinojug and Tabanovce. We worked on raising awareness on protection from the pandemic through production and distribution of flyers, posters, picture books and other information material for protection from COVID-19 and promotion of hygiene.

Support for coping with the COVID-19 pandemic provided by Red Cross of RNM in numbers:

- Assisted persons with psychosocial support: 7.001
- Assisted persons with free service for procurement and distribution of food, hygiene, medicines, etc. .: 8.130
- Distributed family food packages: 27.929
- Distributed family hygiene kits: 29.398
- Distributed disinfection packages: 12.584
- Distributed baby packages: 2.989
- Distributed protective masks: 184.974
- Distributed protective gloves: 189.772
- Medical examinations of vulnerable groups: 12.314
- Distributed hot meals to vulnerable groups: 29.610
- Distributed therapy: 3.504
- Mobilized volunteers and employees on a daily basis: 500 600 people

MLSP in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Skopje provided 658 food parcels as an emergency response and support to those most strongly affected by the COVID-19 crisis. The support was intended for 329 registered victims of domestic violence. Assistance was provided through the Ministry in form of 1.860 food and hygiene kits - a donation from UN Women, targeted for victims of domestic violence and single parents. The distribution of humanitarian aid was carried out through the Red Cross branches and the centers for social work.

During a global pandemic that marked almost all of 2020, the Red Cross of RNM harmonized its normative framework with a significant number of internal documents that regulate all issues necessary for proper organization and functioning in a pandemic, respecting all recommendations and decisions of the Government of the RNM and the state bodies responsible for crisis management.

Red Cross of RNM developed Standard Prevention Measures for COVID-19 to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 among staff, volunteers and external visitors of the Red Cross of RNM. 510 volunteers and staff were involved in the activities of the national society for dealing with the pandemic.

Now is the time for global solidarity and support, especially with the most vulnerable in our society. Only together we can overcome the intertwined health and social and economic impacts of the pandemic and prevent its escalation into a long-term humanitarian catastrophe, with the potential loss of the already achieved development benefits in the country. We all need to rethink

Financial support for responding to the COVID-19 pandemic

DONOR	Support (denars)
International Federation of RC/RC	37.833.739
International Committee of the Red Cross	2.886.261
Austrian Red Cross	611.428
Swiss Red Cross	1.501.393
German Red Cross	1.845.000
USAID	18.801.284
Solidarity Fund	241.144
Turkish Red Crescent (material aid)	1.354.845
Total	65.075.094

the future of our environment and tackle climate change and environmental degradation. Only in this way can we influence the protection of human health and well-being, the safety of food and nutrition of all people, and ensure that our "new normalities" are better.

The health and socio-economic impact will have a wider effect on the needs of extremely vulnerable communities, including in terms of access to epidemic prevention measures, comprehensive and safe health services, and will have a trophy effect on social care needs, cohesion and integration into our society. The Red Cross of RNM continues to work to limit the spread of the pandemic, providing support for vulnerable people and social cohesion in communities, primarily in the areas of providing protection, assistance and advocacy for the most vulnerable.

5 years where needed

PROMOTING COMMUNITY HEALTH

The activities in the area of health and prevention in 2020 were realized in conditions of respect for the measures for prevention and control of the COVID-19 pandemic and were aimed at improving health and reducing diseases and mortality in the population with emphasis on specific health needs of individuals and communities at the local level with priority given to vulnerable groups. We worked on raising the awareness of

the population for protection and prevention of diseases, non-discrimination and tolerance and we invested in upgrading the health-preventive capacities by establishing health services and centers of sustainable character. The Red Cross will contribute to improving the country's readiness to respond quickly and efficiently to more health challenges in peacetime and in times of crisis and disaster.

Harm reduction from drugs

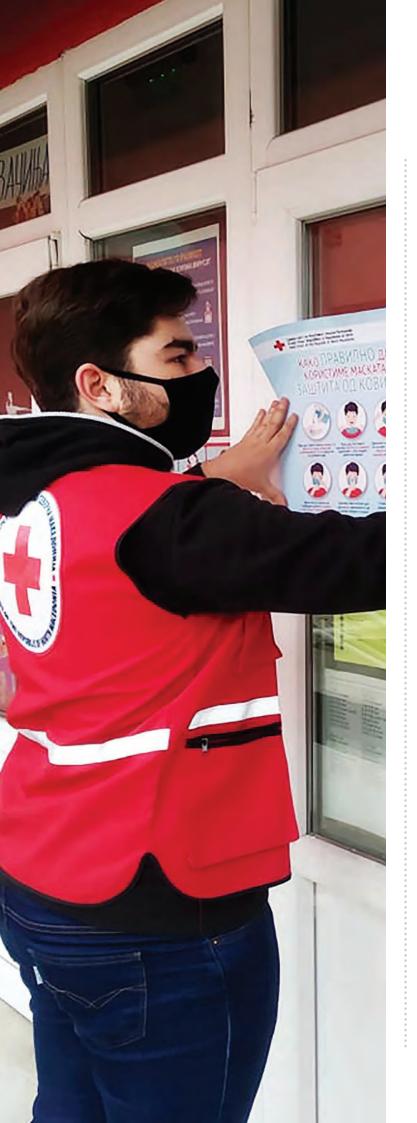
Harm reduction from drug is a project intended for persons - drug users and is implemented through Red Cross branches of Kichevo, Veles and Prilep. The centers opened in the Red Cross branches aim to offer medical, social and legal services to the users as well as to supply them with condoms and sterile injection equipment. In 2020, 645 people were covered. In cooperation with the Institute of Public Health and the NGO HERA, confidential counseling and testing was conducted in Prilep and Veles with 72 people. In Prilep, 265 services were provided in the psychological service for 82

There are no great people in this world, there are only great challenges that ordinary people rise to and solve

people (individual and group counseling, individual psychotherapy, family counseling, motivation for treatment, re-socialization). A total of 63.300 needles and 37.976 syringes were distributed sterile injection set, 5.963 condoms, 3.040 lubricants and 2272 IECs for people who inject drugs.



On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of its foundation, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia conducted a campaign for procurement of incubators for premature and sick babies under the patronage of the wife of the President of the Republic of North Macedonia, Mrs. Elizabeta Gjorgievska. The incubators were donated to the Department of Neonatology, Pediatrics and Cystic Fibrosis at the University Clinic for Pediatrics in Skopje.



MARKING TRADITIONAL HEALTH PREVENTIVE ACTIVITIES

WEEK FOR COMBATING CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES (FEBRUARY 21-28). The week for combatting cardiovascular diseases was marked under the motto "Healthy heart, Happy heart". Educational lectures were organized in primary and secondary schools, with members of Youth Clubs, pensioners' associations, companies and volunteers in the Red Cross branches, to raise awareness among the general population on the risks of cardiovascular diseases, but also prevention of the same through healthy living habits.

WEEK FOR COMBATTING CANCER (MARCH 1-8).

The Week for combatting Cancer was marked under the motto "YOU ARE NOT ALONE - Raise Cancer Awareness". Educational workshops were organized for different target groups: students and teachers in high schools, elderly and people with chronic non-communicable diseases. 450 people were covered.

WORLD DAY ON COMBATTING TUBERCU-LOSIS (MARCH 24). World TB Day was marked under the motto "It's time ... For a world without Tuberculosis" with online workshops and posting on social media to raise public awareness on the importance of prevention and timely diagnosis of the disease.

WEEK FOR COMBATTING TUBERCULOSIS (SEPTEMBER 14-21). During the week, 33 workshops were organized for target groups at risk in several Red Cross branches. 462 people were covered.

WEEK FOR COMBATTING HIV/AIDS (DE-CEMBER 1-7) The Week for combatting HIV/AIDS was marked under the motto "Global Solidarity, Common Responsibility in the Fight against HIV/ AIDS". Educational workshops were organized in all 33 Red Cross branches / CRC Skopje for proper and timely prevention. 560 people were covered.

WEEK FOR COMBATTING DIABETES (OCTO-BER 10-16) The Week for combatting Diabetes was marked under the motto "Healthy lifestyle habits to combat Diabetes". Educational workshops were organized in all Red Cross branches. 250 people were covered.

Protecting the health of the population from climate change

During the summer period from July 29 to August 15, 2020, the Red Cross of RNM in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, the Institute of Public Health, the World Health Organization - Skopje Office, the MLSP and other governmental and non-governmental institutions at local and national level, conducted activities to protect the health of the population from heat waves. Volunteers of the Red Cross branches and CRC Skopje were involved in activities for prevention and reduction of the consequences of heat waves by distributing tips, flyers and bottled water to citizens in sunny and warm places in the hottest period from 10:00 to 16:00, while respecting the recommendations for protection from COVID 19. The Red Cross branches and CRC Skopje continuously shared flyers on social networks with messages for protection and prevention of heat stroke.

Now is the time to take immediate action. No organization, network or government can deal with the climate crisis overnight, but we can work together to work to prevent climate change that threatens the lives of hundreds of millions of people as a result of the disasters that occur every day.

Francesco Roca, President of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Center for Psychosocial Assistance and Support

In 2020, the National Society worked on developing a model for the establishment of a Center for Psychosocial Assistance and Support, and trained a total of 94 volunteers as trainers for dissemination of trainings for first psychological aid and psychosocial assistance and support in crisis. 10 supervision workshops were organized to support

100 volunteers who were actively involved in working with the population. Telephone lines have been opened in all 33 Red Cross branches and CRC Skopje to support the population where first psychological aid was provided, with the engagement of twenty volunteers.

Psychosocial Support (PSS) and Psychological First Aid (PFA) trainings

Red Cross of RNM organized 15 online trainings for psychological first aid and support of volunteers and staff of the Red Cross of RNM. In the period from 13.06 - 22.06. 2020 in cooperation with US-AID, 9 online trainings were held for trainers in PSS, PFA. A total of 55 volunteers and staff of the Red Cross branches / CRC Skopje have been trained. In the period of 13.11 - 26.11, six online trainings

were held for PSS and PFA service providers, with the support of the International Federation of RC/RC. A total of 40 volunteers and staff of the Red Cross branches / CRC Skopje were trained. In the period from December 17-21, 5 supervision sessions for psychosocial support were conducted for 47 staff and volunteers of the Red Cross of RNM.

We save lives with first aid skills

Everyone has the capacity to save someone's life - the basic gesture of human solidarity. We promote first aid available to every person without any discrimination. Red Cross of RNM in 2020

continuously participated in the training of the population of RNM for first aid, especially through the implementation of first aid classes for candidates for drivers of motor vehicles and organiza-

tions through the Red Cross branches and CRC Skopje. We have invested in improving the normative framework and methodology for conducting education and acquiring practical skills in the field of first aid and have actively worked on rais-

ing awareness on the importance of learning first aid skills among young people and other target categories of service users such as candidates for drivers and in working organizations.

First aid for candidates for drivers and legal entities

In 2020, with the declaration of the state of emergency in the country, first aid was provided in accordance with the Standard Measures for Control and Prevention of the COVID-19 pandemic of the Red Cross of RNM in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health of RNM. Dur-

ing 2020 in all Red Cross branches and CRC Skopje 1,221 first aid courses for drivers and 67 courses for organizations were realized. The trainings covered 14.155 candidates for drivers and 265 people from different organizations

At the end of 2020, the Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia adopted the Law on Amendments to the Law on Road Traffic Safety, which makes the Red Cross of RNM the only organization in the country, authorized to organize and implement courses for candidates for drivers of motor vehicles for administering first aid to persons injured in a traffic accident. Within the efforts of the national society for strengthening the position and enabling uninterrupted performance of its activity and mission, it is a great success and is of particular importance for the recognition of the Red Cross and its role. Analogously, the normative framework

of the national society is supplemented by a series of internal acts that regulate the issue of modernization, organization and implementation of first aid courses for candidates for drivers in accordance with the Law. The Rulebook on organizing course teaching and training of candidates for drivers of motor vehicles for providing first aid to persons injured in traffic has been revised and a new Rulebook was developed on the conditions and the manner of obtaining authorization for organizing courses for candidates for drivers of motor vehicles for provision of first aid to persons injured in traffic accidents.



MARKING THE WORLD FIRST AID DAY. The

Red Cross of RNM marked World First Aid Day under the motto "First Aid in a Pandemic" on September 12 the main objective was to raise public awareness on the importance of first aid as a life-saving skill, with an emphasis on its importance during pandemic. About 350 people were trained in first aid and 1.200 people were educated on the importance of proper and timely provision of first aid. A total of 150 volunteers and 50 staff of the Red Cross of North Macedonia were involved in marking the World First Aid Day. Promotional educational 7.000 flyers and

650 posters in Macedonian and Albanian were printed and distributed to public and private health institutions. In Skopje, billboards were set up at 4 locations with a message about the importance of first aid. An online quiz was developed to test knowledge and skills in first aid. Online educational workshops were organized for different target groups where the participants were introduced to the skills for proper first aid. Volunteers of the Red Cross of RNM Youth Club distributed balloons with messages about the importance of first aid for citizens in reducing the number of accidents.

Together we motivate positive social behavior!

BLOOD DONATION - A SMALL ACT OF HUMANITY WHICH MEANS A SAVED LIFE

The activities of the Red Cross of RNM in the field of blood donation were realized in close cooperation with ITM and MoH in conditions of the pandemic with COVID-19. Blood donation actions and all other activities were realized by following the measures and recommendations of the state institutions for prevention and protection from CO-VID-19. In 2020, the Red Cross of RNM and the Institute of Transfusion Medicine realized 46.746 units of blood or the planned obligations were fulfilled by 84.99%. In the city of Skopje, the Red Cross branches Gazi Baba, Karposh, Kisela Voda, Centar and Chair realized 15,751 units of blood or fulfilled the planned obligations with 100.76% while inside the country 31.175 units of blood were realized. In the City General Hospital "September 8" in Skopje, 1.230 units of blood were realized in the transfusion medicine service and in the Daily Blood Donation Center in DHO "Dare Dzambaz" in Skopje in 2020, 2,443 units were collected.

Planned obligations for blood donation in 2020 were fulfilled by 12 Red Cross branches: Bitola 100.17%, Valandovo 100.88%, Veles 181.94%, Vinica 182.74%, Delchevo 113.15%, Kavadarci 175.97%, Probishtip 113.86%, Sveti Nikole 165.18%, Struga 100, Shtip 125.75%, Gazi Baba 115.38% and Centar 165.62%. A total of 621 blood donation actions were organized.

CAMPAIGN FOR PROMOTION OF BLOOD DONATION WITH HIGH SCHOOL AND STUDENT YOUTH

In May and June 2020, in cooperation with the high school youth and student organizations and the rector's administrations of the State Universities "St. Cyril and Methodius "in Skopje," St. Kliment Ohridski "in Bitola," Goce Delchev "in Shtip and the State University in Tetovo, a campaign was conducted to promote blood donation for the student population. The aim of the campaign was to raise awareness among young people on the importance of blood donation and to mobilize young blood donors. The campaign met with great interest among young people despite the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

We provide blood that means life

EDUCATIONAL FORMS FOR VOLUNTARY BLOOD DONATION

In September 2020, a workshop for education on voluntary blood donation of new members of Clubs 25 from Skopje and Bitola and the Blood Donors Club of CRC Skopje was held with the participation of 24 people. The participants upgraded their knowledge regarding the motivational tools for or-

ganizing voluntary blood donation campaigns with young people, control and prevention measures for COVID-19 and the role of the Red Cross in organizing blood donation activities in crisis and epidemics, and the work of Club 25, Blood Donor Club and Daily Blood Donation Center. In October 2020, two seminars were held for education of new motivators for voluntary blood donation with the participation of a total of 49 people, of which 25 people from the student population. The contents of the seminar enabled the participants to develop skills for motivating blood donors with an emphasis on blood donation in crisis situations and epidemics.

VOLUNTARY BLOOD DONATION FORUM

Red Cross of RNM and the Ministry of Health organized the Second Forum for voluntary blood donation, which was held in the period of July 10-12, 2020 in Struga on the topic "Blood donation in crisis situations and epidemics". The Forum was attended by 21 representatives of the Red Cross of RNM, ITM, General Staff of ARNM, Blood Donors Club, Macedonian Radio and Television, and companies. The Forum discussed "Control and Prevention of COVID-19 and the role of the Red Cross in dealing with the organization of blood donation activities in crisis situations and epidemics"; and "Blood donation during COVID-19".

CONTRIBUTION TO REDUCING THE VULNERABILITY OF THE POPULATION IN THE COMMUNITIES

PERSONAL ASSISTANCE TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

For the third year in a row, the Red Cross of RNM, with the support of the MLSP, has been involved in the development of personal assistance services for persons with disabilities that were delivered during the year. Through CRC Skopje and the Red Cross Branches of Bitola, Struga, Strumica, Gostivar, Negotino, Kumanovo and Veles the service was delivered to 135 beneficiaries by 100 engaged personal assistants. Regular coordination meetings were held at the local level with representatives of the Red Cross Branches, centers for social work, assistants and beneficiaries to provide information for the preparation of plans for the implementation of the service. In the period November and December, an evaluation of the personal assistance service for the period January - October 2020 was conducted through CRC Skopje and the participating Red Cross Branches.

TRAININGS FOR PERSONAL ASSISTANTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Red Cross of RNM through CRC Skopje and the Red Cross Branch of Strumica with the support of UNDP organized two trainings for personal assistance to persons with disabilities, which covered a total of 45 candidates. The trainings were organized with the support of EARNM through CRC Skopje and the Red Cross Branches of Strumica and Bitola. A total

of 36 candidates attended the training and obtained a state-recognized certificate for personal assistants of persons with disabilities.

CARE AND SUPPORT OF THE ELDERLY

The project for home care for elderly, which is implemented through CRC Skopje, continued to be implemented with the support of the City of Skopje, the Albiz Foundation and the Swiss Red Cross. 13 Red Cross. volunteers and 7 medics were engaged to provide social and health services for 200 elderly people at home. The program activities for the elderly continued to be implemented in the day care centers for the elderly and centers for providing homecare in the premises of DHO "Dare Dzambaz", in the Red Cross Branch Chair, as well as in the premises of the primary school in the Municipality of Saraj. Also during the year, activities continued to be implemented in the Day Center in Gazi Baba. On a monthly basis, in average 1.230 visits were realized in the day care centers. Through the clubs for the elderly, which operate in Red Cross branches of Kriva Palanka, Negotino, Veles and Prilep, activities for healthy aging were realized, primarily in terms of prevention and protection from COVID-19 and activities for procurement of groceries for the elderly through the mobile teams of the Red Cross. The Care Center of CRC Skopje provided care and assistance services for the elderly through which 6 to 16 beneficiaries were covered per month with the support of 6 to 15 caregivers. An SOS line for psycho-social support of the elderly was continuously functioning.



TRAININGS FOR CAREGIVERS FOR ASSISTANCE AND CARE TO ELDERLY AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

In accordance with the verified program of the Red Cross of RNM, CRC Skopje with the support of UNDP conducted a training for caregivers of the elderly and frail people, which covered 6 people. Training was organized through the Red Cross Branch of Ohrid with participation of 13 candidates. The Red Cross of RNM in 2020 verified a new program for caregivers for care for and assistance to elderly and disabled. The Red Cross is a verified organization by the Ministry of Education and Science as a center for adult education for conducting trainings for caregivers for care and assistance to elderly and people with disabilities in Skopje, Bitola, Prilep, Kichevo, Strumica, Kumanovo, Struga, Gostivar, Kriva Palanka, Ohrid, Negotino and Kavadarci. In cooperation with UNDP, two trainings were organized for caregivers for assistance and care to elderly and people with disabilities through CRC Skopje and the Red Cross Branch of Strumica. The training in Skopje was also supported by the Swiss Red Cross. A total of 27 candidates obtained a state-recognized caregiver certificate. With a project supported by the Austrian Development Agency and the Austrian Red Cross, a regional training center for caregivers for elderly and people with disabilities was opened. The center is managed by the Red Cross Branch of Strumica and it will be operational for the needs of the Red Cross Branches of Gevgelija, Radovish and Valandovo. Training for educators was organized for the educators who implement the training program for caregivers, to improve their skills and knowledge for the realization of the program. In December, the training for 15 long-term unemployed people from Strumica started. The project envisages organizing three more trainings that will cover people from the other three municipalities.

PREVENTION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Trafficking in human beings is a problem that requires a common approach to combat it and the joint efforts of relevant institutions. Red Cross of RNM as a member of the Secretariat of the National Commission for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Illegal Migration through the implementation of preventive activities contributes to the fight against this global problem that is reflected in our country. The Red Cross of RNM joined the marking of October 18 – the European Anti-Trafficking Day by organizing preventive activities for peer education of the young population through CRC Skopje and the Red Cross branches. The preventive lessons were aimed at rais-



ing the awareness of young people, recognizing the ways in which they can be involved in human trafficking and their self-protection.

The General Secretariat of the Government of the RNM provided support for the Red Cross of RNM project "Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings" which was implemented through the Red Cross Branches of Kochani, Kichevo, Kumanovo, Prilep, Bitola and Resen. Peer education trainings were organized which covered 42 young volunteers from the Red Cross Branches of Gostivar, Ohrid, Strumica and Kavadarci. In August, the Red Cross of RNM held a training workshop for prevention of trafficking in human beings (in the context of migration), with the support of the International Federation of RC/RC to strengthen capacities in this area through new trained trainers to ensure better response to the migrant crisis. Eleven volunteers from the Red Cross Branches on the territory of the city of Skopje and CRC Skopje, and Red Cross Branches of Bitola and Kumanovo, as well as members of the mobile teams Lipkovo, Tabanovce - Kumanovo and Vinojug - Gevgelija were included.



SUPPORT THROUGH HOMELESS POINTS

Skopje - 92 homeless people - services provided: hairdresser/barber, examination and advice from a doctor as well as medicines, hot meal and drinks, expert-advisory conversation with a social worker and psychologist, as well as distributed 20.331 pieces of clothing.

Bitola - 6 homeless people and Strumica 5 people: provided food, personal hygiene items and clothes.

We may not be able to feed thousands of people, but one means more to someone who has not eaten in days.

PROJECT "BUTTON"

- 2701 visitors, 1,078 buyers and 557 donors
- About 25 tons of clothes were collected
- 3324 pieces of clothing were distributed free of charge to 363 people at social risk.

- The volunteers dedicated a total of 527 hours of volunteer work in Button.
- Over 500 pieces of masks made.

IMPROVING SOCIALIZATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES

Educated 28 young volunteers from the Red Cross Branches of Veles, Kichevo, Gostivar, Debar, Delchevo, Prilep, Kavadarci and CRC Skopje to strengthen their capacities to support children and youth with disabilities from day care centers. Project activities supported by Komercijalna Banka enabled covering over 340 children.

MESSAGES FOR INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS

"Pandemic is not an obstacle to volunteering in the third age"

"We are aging healthily - we are aging better"

WEEK FOR COMBATTING HUNGER (OCTOBER 16-22)

Organized campaign "Think of us too"

- Provided 122.400 denars for food procurement.
- 4.590 kg of food provided
- Distributed to 450 people at social risk.
- 157 Red Cross volunteers were involved in the actions.

WEEK FOR CARE FOR ELDERLY "WE ARE ALL THEIR CHILDREN"

Action with the support of UNFPA for free service by mobile teams for procurement and delivery of food, hygiene, medicines, etc. of the elderly and lonely.

- 15 Red Cross branches and CRC Skopje were involved.
- 20 mobile teams engaged a total of 40 volunteers.
- A total of 404 elderly people were served.

"LET'S SHARE JOY"

The action "Let's share joy" was supported by EVN AD Skopje with 650 New Year packages for children from families at social risk and children with disabilities in Skopje, Bitola, Gostivar, Kumanovo, Kichevo, Struga and Stip.

PROJECT COOPERATION WITH THE AUSTRIAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, THE AUSTRIAN RED CROSS AND THE SWISS RED CROSS

In October 2020, Red Cross of RNM started a project cooperation for Integrated Care and Support of Services for Development of Business Activities of the Red Cross of RNM. The purpose of this strategic alliance is introduction of social-medical centers of the Red Cross of RNM as well as establishment of an emergency service for the elderly population in RNM (Emergency Button Service). This service in the initial phase will cover 60 beneficiaries from the elderly population and people with disabilities in Skopje. The project also aims to introduce a self-sustaining business model in the Red Cross Branch Strumica by opening a Regional Center for providing certified training and services for home caregivers for elderly and people with disabilities. The project amounts to 800.000 EU.

PROJECT SUPPORTED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION - INCARE

At the end of 2020, as part of the support for the development of inclusive care services at the local level through the participation of relevant national stakeholders, Red Cross of RNM together with the MLSP as local partners, participate in a project supported by the European Commission - InCare. The funds allocated to the national society amount to 256.764 euros for the period 2020 -2023. The aim of this project is to create common, innovative and long-term policies for the development of services for adequate, acceptable and sustainable support for older population groups in European countries. The Red Cross of RNM, together with the MLSP will work on creating and developing national policies for the elderly, and upgrading the emergency service - Emergency Button with an additional 50 people - beneficiaries of the elderly population whose needs are insufficiently met by existing services offered by the community, as well as upgrading the existing training program for an additional 60 caregivers who will gain theoretical, psychosocial and practical skills in providing and offering services to the elderly and people with disabilities.

COOPERATION WITH BUSINESS & STRATEGIES EUROPE

Red Cross of RNM signed a 6-month donor cooperation agreement with Business & Strategies in Europe to reduce and mitigate the psychological and economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, with provided support amounting to €25,000. Within the activities, 15 people, members of socially vulnerable categories will gain knowledge and will be part of certified training for caregivers for elderly and people with disabilities, and 40 staff and volunteers of Red Cross of RNM will participate in training for trainers in psycho-social assistance and support and first psychological assistance in order to be part of the support for the establishment of a National team for development of policies and strategies at local level, as well as development of a National Center for service delivery for First Psychological Assistance and Psycho-Social Assistance and Support in our country.

WE BUILD THE CAPACITIES OF THE COMMUNITIES FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

The program activities for preparedness and response in case of disasters of the Red Cross of the RNM were fully committed to providing an efficient response of the national society to the pandemic with COVID-19. The Red Cross of RNM was included in the Action Plan of the Government of the RNM, with all material, technical and human resources and with its commitment to respond to the set requirements for providing support to the population in the country and mitigating the consequences of the situation. The activities were primarily aimed at providing humanitarian support, raising awareness for protection of the population through the production of information material and organizing trainings. The National Society used the NICS information system for coordination and communication and developed protocols for dealing with the pandemic, both for those involved and for the general population. Raising the awareness for protection and self-protection in case of disasters and during COVID-19 was realized through preparation and sharing of posters for promotion of hygiene and protection from COVID-19, preparation of video materials, sharing of materials for protection during earthquake, etc. The activities were implemented through social media, internet portals, media houses, etc.

When disaster strikes, our volunteers are there - but did you know that we also help families and communities prepare for emergencies before they happen?

The National Society also actively worked on upgrading the organizational capacities by participating and organizing various workshops, seminars and conferences such as activities related to the preparation and organization of an international NATO exercise in cooperation with the CMC, trainings to promote hygiene and protection from CO-VID-19, meetings with the CMC instruction team for the use of the NICS platform, trainings for NICS in Struga, participation in a climate change workshop, regional office simulation exercise in Bitola, international regional office exercise for a major earthquake in Skopje and coordinated international response, workshops with the Military Academy, workshops on sexual and reproductive health dur-

ing COVID-19 and many other activities. As part of the disaster preparedness activities, Red Cross of RNM took part in a simulation exercise Mavrovo 2020 organized by the Directorate for Protection and Rescue and office simulation exercises organized by the Crisis Management Center.

OPERATIONAL CENTER OF THE RED CROSS OF RNM

One of the most important activities of the national society was the implementation of the project "Capacity building for communication and coordination for efficient preparedness and response in the Western Balkans" through which a modern and equipped Operational Center for Disaster Response of the Red Cross of RNM was opened in Momin Potok, Skopje where the situation with COVID-19 and other disasters were monitored and analyzed on a daily basis. The Operational Center was in charge of communication and coordination with state institutions and organizations involved in the crisis management system and also coordinated the activities of the Red Cross Branches and CRC Skopje and performed continuous communication and coordination with the Regional Office of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies-Budapest and the national Red Cross societies in the region. The Center provides support for training and mobilization of volunteers and development of educational materials for protection against COVID-19 and promotion of hygiene.

SAFE SCHOOLS AND KINDERGARTENS PROJECT

The project prepared and adapted an educational platform for disaster risk reduction, prepared a resource catalog, standardized training for disseminators and ambassadors, and also prepared recommendations for advocacy for disaster risk reduction, first aid and psychosocial support at European level and at the level of all countries participating in the project.



WATER SAFETY

The Water Safety Centers of CRC Skopje and the Red Cross Branch of Ohrid as well as the Red Cross Branches of Struga, Veles and Bitola worked on the realization of the annual program by adapting to the situation with COVID-19. Teams of trained rescuers were hired to secure 30 swimming grounds with over 80 volunteers. Over 700 interventions were registered at the water recreational places (easier and more serious interventions, active drowning, transport to a medical institution, etc.) The Water Safety Center of CRC Skopje together with its instructors, during the year organized one course for water rescuers with the participation of 5 people, and 4 people renewed their licenses. The teams participated in securing events in Skopje, Veles, Bitola, Ohrid and Struga for the Epiphany holiday, securing the Veles Marathon, searching for missing and drowned people in the Vardar River, etc.

MOUNTAIN SAFETY

The mountain rescue teams of CRC Skopje and the Red Cross Branch Bitola continuously realized over 150 days on duty during the past year with trained mountain rescuers in the premises of the rescue stations Vodno and Matka as well as within the territories covered by the Red Cross Branch Bitola, with engagement of 200 people (mountain rescuers, medics, paramedics, logistics, etc.). In ad-

dition to the regular activities, in 2020 the teams participated in providing sports and recreational events on the mountain, marathons, bicycle races, race "Gazi Baba", "First to the Top", "Pelister Ultra Trail", "Climbing the Krchin", "DOWNHILL - Pelister "," Epiphany", simulation exercises as well as 100 rescue/first aid interventions. The teams also participated in search activities and finding 5 missing persons on the mountain. Volunteers from the mountain rescue teams became actively involved in supporting the activities of the CRC Skopje and the Red Cross Branch Bitola during the Pandemic with COVID-19 in mobile teams, distribution of humanitarian aid and other activities.

The Mountain Rescue Service at the Red Cross Ohrid provided an EU grant for the project "New opportunities for safe winter adventure tourism", with a total budget of 692.000 EUR, which will be implemented in the period from 01.11.2019 to 31.10.2022. The Mountain Rescue Service through its operational center and telephone number for SOS calls was actively involved in mitigating the consequences of the COVID-19 crisis, by providing and delivering groceries and medicines to the citizens on the territory of Ohrid. In 2020, about 20 assists and 11 rescue operations were realized, as well as providing two sports and recreational events on the mountain with more than 1,300 participants.

ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FOR MIGRANTS / REFUGEES

The Red Cross of RNM provides care and material support to migrants and irregular migrants moving or residing in the RNM since 2014. In 2020, the support was provided through activities in the reception transit centers "Vinojug" - Gevgelija and "Tabanovce" - Kumanovo, the Center for Foreigners in Skopje as well as for irregular migrants in the border regions of the country (Serbia and Greece), through field activities of Red Cross mobile teams. The support was in the form of distribution of humanitarian aid with food packages, individual hygiene packages for men and women, packages for babies and diapers, water, blankets, clothes and shoes as well as distribution of hot meals and hot drinks. Food was provided through purpose-built mobile kitchens. Red Cross teams provided first aid to migrants and refugees in the field and, if necessary, transported them to health institutions for secondary health care.

- Distributed food packages 9468 / ready meals (hot meals) - 15,005
- Assistance and interventions and first aid -26,830
- Assisted persons (irregular migration) 43,319 persons
- Persons accommodated in the reception centers for refugees and migrants in Vinojug and Tabanovce - 2,937 persons

The Red Cross provided 24-hour support in the centers in Vinojug and Tabanovce, Kumanovo, with first aid teams and logistical support. Lipkovo mobile team provided 12 hours of field coverage along the border with Serbia.

The team consists of 40 people who are divided into 6 teams: medical team, logistics team, distribution team and RFL team. From the Reception Transit Center Vinojug (Gevgelija) and the Reception Transit Center Tabanovce (Kumanovo) the Red Cross mobile teams performed 594 transports to the hospital and to Western Union.

Place / Location	Number of refugees / irregular migrants
Reception Vinojug Transit Center, Gevgelija	308
Transit Center Tabanovce, Kumanovo	2629
Mobile team Lojane, Vaksince, Lipkovo	12820
Mobile team Gevgelija (irregular migrants)	30499
Reception Center for Foreigners - Gazi Baba - Skopje	230

On my way to R. Serbia, I was injured and with two broken legs I was left lying on the road, helpless and exhausted in pain. Then the mobile team of the Red Cross came by. Their doctor examined me immediately and suggested hospitalization. After three weeks I had an operation. During my hospital stay, the Red Cross did not leave me alone. They were my family in Macedonia. An additional relief was that there were Arabic translators in the Red Cross, which meant a lot to me. The Red Cross took me from the hospital, took me to the Tabanovce camp where I am still staying. I will never be able to pay back to the Red Cross for what they did for me. I will never forget the treatment I received. A treatment deserved by a man like me who found himself at a crossroads in Macedonia which was not my fault.

Zakaria Zaidi, 28 - a migrant from Palestine.



As a general practitioner, I started volunteering at the Red Cross in 2018. Then I was on the threshold of my career. I come from Jordan, here I am married to a girl who is Macedonian by mother. Together we fight to defend the colors of the Red Cross. I'm proud to do what I have learned. I am happy to help those who need help the most, but also unhappy when I witness the mistreatment of migrants in other countries. My personal thanks to the Red Cross for accepting me as part of their family.

Dr. Omar Al Yassin, from the Kingdom of Jordan - doctor in TC Tabanovce, mobile team of the Red Cross on the northern border.

Financial support for the

Assistances of the mobile teams

Place/Location	Assistances and inter- ventions
Reception Transit Center Vinojug Gevgelija, and Transit Center Tabanovce, Kumanovo	21349
Mobile Team Lojane, Vaksince, Lipkovo	5481
Reception Center for Foreigners– Gazi baba – Skopje	531

Distributed assistance in 2020

Type of assistance	Quantity
Water (bottle 0.5l)	52.750
Hot meals	9.889
Shaving sets	1.467
Washing powder	500
Tooth paste and brush	1.016
Soup and towels	2.820
Food parcels	9.468
Warm drinks (soup and tea)	5.161
Hygiene parcels for babies	346
Shampoo and wet tissues	3.009
Blankets	5.906
Clothes for adults	522
Clothes for children	907

Financial support for the program for migrants/refugees in 2020

Donor	Support (denars)
UNHCR	17.000.000
Swiss red Cross	4.000.000
Group 484	1.840.000
Church of Jesus Christ and the saints of later days	1.200.000
International federation of RC/RC	945.000
ICRC	725.000
IOM	600.000
Total	26 310 000

The Movement restores family links for more than 150 years

Everyone has the right to know the fate of their missing loved ones. Our network helps families stay together. We are helping to reunite separated families as a result of the humanitarian crisis, conflict, natural disaster and migration.

In 2020, the Red Cross of RNM provided support for restoring family links between separated family members for 66 migrants

NNUAL REPORT 2020

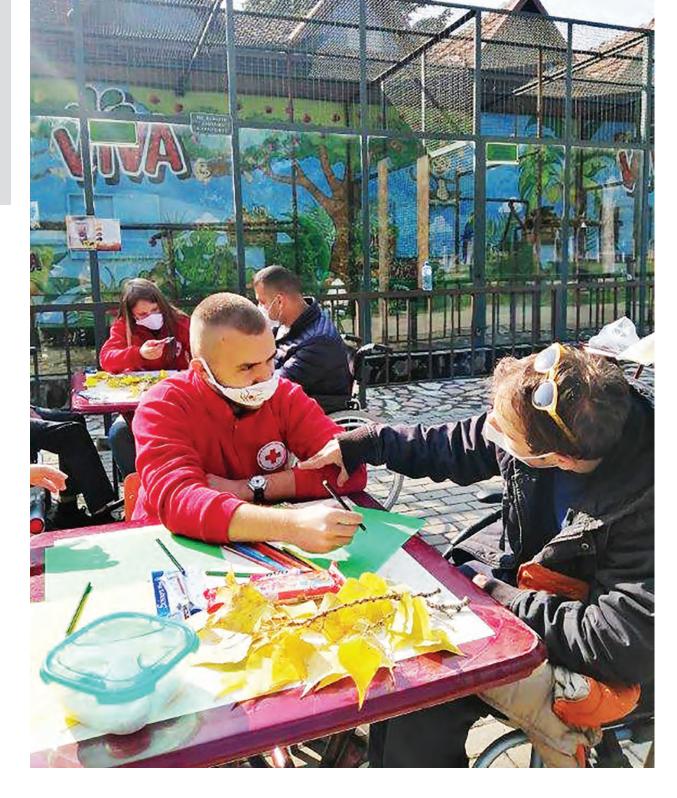
THE YOUTH OF THE RED CROSS - OUR DRIVING FORCE

The youth action in the Red Cross of RNM was marked by activities adapted to the working conditions and needs of the population in the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic. Most of the volunteers in the youth clubs got involved in supporting the activities of the disaster response teams and mobile teams for preparation and distribution of humanitarian aid to the vulnerable population affected by COVID-19. Traditional program activities for youth education and

awareness raising, were implemented through the use of information solutions and social media. With the introduction of the ban on extracurricular activities with physical presence in schools by the Ministry of Education and Science, the Red Cross school clubs had almost no activities during the year. In 2020, a total of 1,956 young volunteers were actively involved in the work of the national society.



EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS IN 2020.	Number of held workshops	Number of participants
Sexual reproductive health	61	1.125
Trafficking in human beings	56	1.143
Prevention of addiction diseases	43	963
Hygiene	8	162
First aid	46	709
Dissemination	15	438
Dental care	6	148
TOTAL	235	4.688



"We must support the most affected to endure in these difficult times"

Viktor Atanasovski - Volunteer from the Youth Club of Red Cross Branch Kumanovo, involved in the distribution of humanitarian aid to socially disadvantaged people. Through the project Social Inclusion of Students with Disabilities - supported by the Development Fund, we managed to encourage young people to develop didactic materials for their classmates with special needs. "We are developing tolerance and understanding, building a better future, expanding Red Cross activities in schools even during a pandemic, and we have gained 30 new teachers"

Magdalena Bojkovska, project coordinator in the Red Cross Branch Kisela Voda.



RED CROSS IN ACTION - PROMOTION OF HUMAN VALUES

"Red Cross in Action - Promotion of Human Values" (RCA-PHV) for more than 20 years is a national tool for recruiting and retention of volunteers in the Red Cross of RNM and aims to promote culture, peace, coexistence, tolerance and encourage volunteerism among young people. A total of 31 Red Cross branches were part of the RCA-PHV program in 2020 with the participation of 39 disseminators. The beginning of the year marked the holding of a Preparatory Workshop for RCA-PHV instructors with the participation of 30 instructors from the Red Cross branches.

In 2020, four regional workshops were organized with the participation of mentors-instructors and disseminators from the Red Cross branches participants in this year's RCA-PHV program. In January and February, 40 dissemination trainings and 40 trainings for documenting small projects were conducted in the Red Cross branches by the responsible disseminators. The trainings were conducted by two PHV instructors for a period of 4 hours. A total of 32 trainings were conducted in Macedonian language and 8 in Albanian language. The number of young people who participated in the trainings was 1.150 at the age of 13 to 17.

As a long-time volunteer in the Red Cross Branch Kisela Voda and disseminator in the RCA-PHV program I can say that I am especially proud that the number of young people who show interest in helping the community is increasing. RCA-PHV is the

program that completely changed my daily life, changed my routine and created new better quality habits.

Stefan Spasovski - PHV disseminator from Kisela Voda

In 2020, as a result of the pandemic, the scope of activities of the program was reduced and after the announcement of the pandemic in March, the program was stopped with the exception of certain online activities that are realized with the Red Cross branches.

RCA-PHV WEEK

"The Week for promotion of Human Values" was marked with online activities from September 21 to 27. The purpose of the week was to promote culture, peace, coexistence, tolerance and encourage activism among young people. Young people composed, arranged, and recorded songs that described volunteering, community help, the changes they make and the kindness they spread. A total of 30 songs have been recorded which in 2021 will be officially promoted.

FINANCE REPORT FOR 2020

The financial report of the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia presents the planned and realized income and expenditures of the organization and serves as a confirmation for the successful implementation of the programme and project activities supported by national and international partners of the organization.

The operation of the organization presented through the financial data shows successfully finished year with 194,96% realization of the Budget compared to 2019 when this figure amounted to 206,33% as a result of the implementation of the Amendments to the Red Cross Law, on basis of which the fee for registration of vehicles on the territory of the RNM are transferred to the HQ of the Red Cross of RNM and are further distributed to the Red Cross branches and the City Red Cross of Skopje.

The total realized own income amounts to 120,98% and participates with 19.54% in the overall realized income.

The realized income from organs and donors are earmarked funds and most of the funds are transferred directly to the Red Cross branches, for implementation of project activities. This income amounts to 228.97% and it is increased compared to 2019 when it amounted to 218,78%. This funds amount to 80.46% of the overall realized income in 2020.

In the area of expenditures, it can be seen that the expenses are controlled and targeted for programme activities, in compliance with the basic objectives of the organization. 84,14% of the total realized expenditures are functional programme expenditures and they are increased

in nominal value compared to the previous year. The expenditures for salaries of staff amount to 7.49% and the material expenditures amount to 8.37%.

13,75% of the total expenditures were targeted for the needs of the HQ, and they are decreased compared to the past year. 41.90% of the expenditures are direct transfers to the Red Cross branches and the City Red Cross of Skopje and these costs in nominal value are increased compared to the last year as a result of the Amendments to the Red Cross Law and the implementation of project activities related to the COVID-19 operation. The remaining 44.35% of the funds were spent by the HQ for direct implementation of programme activities of the RC branches and the City Red Cross of Skopje.

Some of the surplus of funds, that is, the positive difference between income and expenditures is for projects which will continue to be implemented in 2021.

The Governing Board of the Red Cross of RNM formed a commission which conducted internal audit on the financial and material operation of the organization. Also, an independent auditing company was hired which conducted external audit in compliance with the Law on Audit and the international standards for financial reporting and accounting regulations which are in force in the Republic of North Macedonia. The auditing company stated that the presented financial results of the Red Cross of RNM are realistic and objective.

The financial report relates only to the operation of the Red Cross of RNM Headquarters.



FINANCE REPORT FOR 2020

	Budget 2020	Realized 2020	%
TOTAL INCOME	107,220,440.00	209,036,432.00	194.96
Own sources of income	33,763,800.00	40,845,933.00	120.98
Income from organs / donors	73,456,640.00	168,190,499.00	228.97
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	107,220,440.00	166,781,303.00	155.55
Salaries and contributions for staff	14,542,000.00	12,499,646.00	85.96
Expenditures for materials and services	13,882,612.00	13,958,379.00	100.55
Functional (programme) expenditures	78,795,828.00	140,323,278.00	178.08
BALANCE	0.00	42,255,129.00	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

INCOME

	DESCRIPTION	Own sources of income	Income from organs/ donors	Budget 2020	Realized from own sources	Realized from organs/ donors	Realized in 2020	%
74	TRANSFERS AND DONATIONS							
41	Ministry of Labour and Social Policy							
	- programme activities	9,075,000.00		9,075,000.00	6,078,000.00		6,078,000.00	66.98
1	Blood donation (Ministry of Health)		8,500,000.00	8,500,000.00		7,424,000.00	7,424,000.00	87.34
2	Social humanitarian programmes	1,200,000.00	1,429,472.00	2,629,472.00	877,021.00	16,640,404.00	17,517,425.00	666.20
2	Organizational development			0.00			0.00	100.00
	Fund for project development	1,728,000.00		1,728,000.00	1,816,526.00			100.00
	5% for procurement and software development and equipment	297,000.00		297,000.00	520,737.30			100.00
2	First Aid	3,350,000.00		3,350,000.00	3,201,053.00		3,201,053.00	95.55
2	Health preventive programmes		3,366,428.00	3,366,428.00		2,666,826.00	2,666,826.00	79.22
2	Development and work with youth	210,000.00	400,000.00	610,000.00		5,600.00	5,600.00	100.00
2	Disaster preparedness and response		1,696,640.00	1,696,640.00	3,846,164.00	61,339,609.00	65,185,773.00	3842.05
2	Disaster Response Fund	1,728,000.00		1,728,000.00	1,816,526.00			0.00
2	10% for disaster response programme activities	594,000.00		594,000.00	1,041,474.60			0.00
2	Dissemination and IHL	•		0.00			0.00	0.00
2	RCA-PHV		300,000.00	300,000.00		414,000.00	414,000.00	138.00
2	Public relations			0.00			0.00	0.00
2	Visibility fund	1,404,000.00		1,404,000.00	1,475,927.00		0.00	
2	Tracing service		1,905,500.00	1,905,500.00		1,409,884.00	1,409,884.00	0.00
2	Project operation and Mobilization of funds			0.00			0.00	0.00
2	Human resources, monitoring and evaluation		507,600.00	507,600.00			0.00	0.00
2	Creation of policies and management for volunteers and staff		400,000.00	400,000.00				0.00
	UNTAXED INCOME							
5	From RC branches (cotization fee)	1,770,000.00		1,770,000.00	1,288,242.00		1,288,242.00	72.78
5	Donations from natural persons	140,000.00		140,000.00	62,302.00	39,918.00	102,220.00	73.01
5	Donations from legal persons (sale of vehicles)	600,000.00		600,000.00			0.00	0.00
5	Additional post stamps (RC Law)	400,000.00		400,000.00	9,212.00		9,212.00	2.30
3	From rent of office space / other income/							
	from sale of capital assets	1,918,800.00		1,918,800.00	1,880,952.00		1,880,952.00	98.03
5	From registration of vehicles (RC Law)	5,049,000.00	54,951,000.00	60,000,000.00	8,852,534.10	47,123,127.00	55,975,661.10	100.00
5	Other income /income from rent/membership cards/							
	refund of office expenses/							
	returned deposit from bank			0.00	2,536,291.00		2,536,291.00	100.00
5	Solidarity Fund			0.00	0.00	6,054,243.00	6,054,243.00	100.00
5	From courses for lifequards	100,000.00						
5	Balance brought forward from the previous year	4,200,000.00		4,200,000.00	5,542,971.00	25,072,888.00	30,615,859.00	100.00

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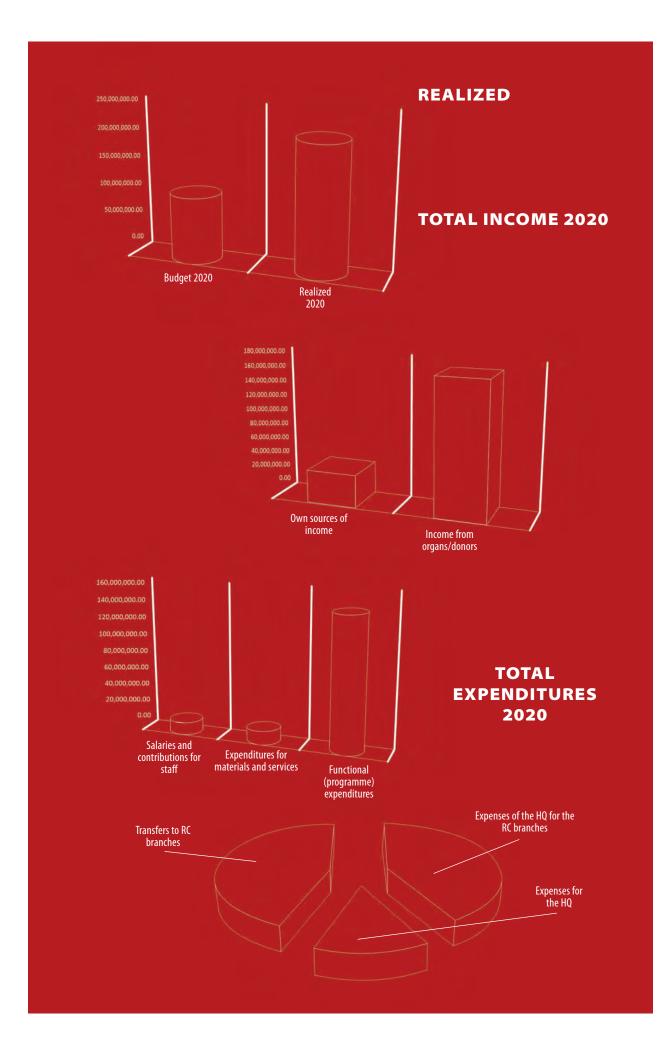
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EXPENDITURES

	DESCRIPTION	Own sources of income	Income from organs/ donors	Budget 2020	Realized from own sources	Realized from organs/ donors	Realized in 2020	%
401	BASIC SALARIES AND CONTRIBUTIONS	13,504,512.00	1,007,488.00	14,512,000.00	9,223,547.00	3,071,539.00	12,295,086.00	84.72
402	CONTRIBUTIONS ON SALARIES AND PERSONAL TAX	30,000.00	0.00	30,000.00	153,660.00	50,900.00	204,560.00	681.87
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES FOR SALARIES	13,534,512.00	1,007,488.00	14,542,000.00	9,377,207.00	3,122,439.00	12,499,646.00	85.96
420	TRAVEL AND DAILY EXPENDITURES	250,000.00	0.00	250,000.00	205,408.00	65,655.00	271,063.00	108.43
421	COMMUNAL FEES	810,000.00	0.00	810,000.00	759,919.00	280,119.00	1,040,038.00	128.40
422	HEATING	480,000.00	0.00	480,000.00	380,599.00	0.00	380,599.00	79.29
423	COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT	1,729,000.00	0.00	1,729,000.00	1,695,792.00	680,144.00	2,375,936.00	137.42
423	MATERIALS	2,339,000.00	1,776,228.00	4,115,228.00	2,644,419.00	2,191,933.00	4,836,352.00	117.52
424	RUNNING MAINTENANCE	966,000.00	0.00	966,000.00	467,097.00	589,123.00	1,056,220.00	109.34
425	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	8,701,812.00	6,520,200.00	15,222,012.00	3,899,566.00	4,999,885.00	8,899,451.00	58.46
426	OTHER OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURES	400,000.00	50,000.00	450,000.00	20,510.00	0.00	20,510.00	4.56
463	TRANSFERS TO NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS	4,167,000.00	62,101,000.00	66,268,000.00	1,348,194.00	69,880,248.00	71,228,442.00	107.49
	TOTAL RUNNING EXPENDITURES	19,842,812.00	70,447,428.00	90,290,240.00	11,421,504.00	78,687,107.00	90,108,611.00	99.80
	CAPITAL EXPENDITURES							
483	PROCUREMENT OF FURNITURE AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT	86,400.00	600,000.00	686,400.00	2,632,931.00	704,510.00	3,337,441.00	486.22
483	PROCUREMENT OF VEHICLES	600,000.00	0.00	600,000.00	0.00	1,112,740.00	1,112,740.00	185.46
481	BASIC AND SPECIAL MAINTENANCE	50,000.00	0.00	50,000.00	1,308,127.00	0.00	1,308,127.00	2,616.25
	TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	736,400.00	600,000.00	1,336,400.00	3,941,058.00	1,817,250.00	5,758,308.00	430.88
	ASSISTANCE, DONATIONS AND OTHER EXPENDITURES	1,051,800.00	0.00	1,051,800.00	86,712.00	58,328,026.00	58,414,738.00	5,553.79
	TOTAL DONATIONS AND OTHER EXPENDITURES	1,051,800.00	0.00	1,051,800.00	86,712.00	58,328,026.00	58,414,738.00	0.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	35,165,524.00	72,054,916.00	107,220,440.00	24,826,481.00	141,954,822.00	166,781,303.00	155.55

Finance Department and revision Zaklina Popovich Secretary General PhD. Sait Saiti

		%
Transfers to RC branches	69,880,248.00	41.90
Expenses of the HQ	22,935,342.00	13.75
Expenses of the HQ for the RC branches	73,965,713.00	44.35





AUDITOR'S REPORT

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of "RED CROSS OF THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA" (in the following text "the Organization"), which comprise the Balance Sheet as of 31 December 2020, the Statement of Revenues and Expenses and Statement of Changes in Funds for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

The enclosed financial statements for 2020 stated on the following pages, consist of the statements of the Organization and the statements the following projects:IFRC; Campaign for HIV/AIDS; Austrian Red Cross; Take action for social inclusion of older people; Promotion of Human Values; German Red Cross, Take action of better competivneness on the labor market and the statements of the four funds: 1) Development fund, 2) Charity fund; 3) Fund for emergency response; 4) Visibility fund, HIV Preventions for PID, Creating opportunities for new employment of women; Funds from the Red Cross law, and a separate account for online donations .The projects are financed by different donors and are realized through special accounts of the Organization. The Organization does not prepare separate annual reports for each project.

Management's responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the Accounting Law for Non-profit Organizations and the standards for reporting under the cash basis of accounting. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and far presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances..

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express and opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment



of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Auditor's opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of "RED CROSS OF THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA" give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Organization as of 31 December 2020, as well as the operating results and the changes in the funds for the year than ended, in accordance with the Accounting Law for Non-profit Organizations and standards for reporting under the cash basis of accounting.

Report of other legal and regulatory requirement

Management of the Organization is also responsible for preparation of the annual business report according the Law on non-profit organizations and foundations. Our responsibility in accordance with the Audit Law is to report whether the business report is consistent with the annual account and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020. Our work referring to the annual business report is carried out in accordance with ISA 720 and it is limited to reporting whether the historical financial information presented in the annual statement are consistent with the annual accounts and audited financial statements.

The annual business report is consistent, in all material aspects, with the annual account and the audited financial statements of "NORTH MACEDONIAN RED CROSS", Skopje for the year ended 31 December 2020...

Skopje, 04 March 2021



Certified Auditor

Zvonko Kocovski



