

**Proposal for
Establishing the
International Campus
of Eastern Iran
Higher Education
Center of the Iranian
Red Crescent**

Title: Higher Education Center and Research Center of the Iranian Red Crescent International Campus of Eastern Iran

Implementer: Research Unit of the Education, Research, and Technology Deputy of the Khorasan Razavi Branch of the Iranian Red Crescent

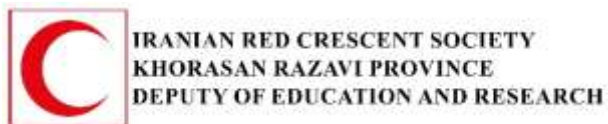
Prepared by: Ashkan Boustani

Date Prepared: December 2023 / January 2024

1 Details of the Implementer/Project Collaborators

1-1 Implementer

Research Unit of the Education, Research, and Technology Deputy of the Khorasan Razavi Branch of the Iranian Red Crescent



Ashkan Boustani – Research and Technology Expert

Dr. Alireza Miri – Deputy of Education, Research, and Technology

Affiliated Organization: Khorasan Razavi Branch of the Iranian Red Crescent

Section: Non-Governmental Public Benefit Organization

Address: Iran - Khorasan Razavi – Mashhad – North Bozorgmehr 1 – Peace Building – 6th Floor

Phone: +98 5137638286 **Mobile:** +98 9151331104

Email: amuzesh_khr@rcs.ir

1-2 Details of the Project Collaborators:

- Deputy of Education, Research, and Technology of the Iranian Red Crescent
- Iranian Red Crescent Higher Education Institute
- Relief and Rescue Organization of the Iranian Red Crescent
- Representative of the Red Cross Federation in Iran

2 Main Issue

Education encompasses the evolution of knowledge, individual awareness, and the enhancement of ethics. It is an experience based on learning, aimed at creating lasting changes in individuals that enable them to work effectively, increase their abilities and skills, improve job performance, and alter social behavior and attitudes. Alongside education, research is the most fundamental requirement for achieving comprehensive national progress and development. The power and independence of any country are built upon research and the production of knowledge, and the level of research activities is considered one of the main indicators of development and progress. Research leads to better education, as new knowledge and educational programs complement each other.

The establishment of academic and university centers for higher and specialized education contributes to the growth of human capital and the enhancement of individual and professional abilities within society. A university, as a research center, facilitates the application of modern scientific achievements in various fields of society. In today's dynamic world, the rate of change is so high that without adapting to it, the survival of entities becomes impossible. With the increasing demand for knowledge in society, higher education and universities have gained significant importance and value. The mission of universities, which includes intellectual, social, cultural, and economic advancement, and the improvement of local, national, and international conditions, highlights the special role of universities.

2-1 Necessity of the Project Implementation

The primary focus for disaster preparedness, after planning, is education. Education has always been a critical need for humanity, enabling individuals to better understand issues such as resilience and adaptability to hazards and to respond correctly and promptly to emergencies. Training in relief skills is one of the key tools for disaster preparedness. During disasters, the public often serves as the first responders, aiding the affected individuals; therefore, knowledge of relief skills is crucial in providing effective assistance. This underscores the necessity for enhancing public education and expanding specialized and professional training.

As a grassroots organization, the Red Crescent considers it its duty to provide essential pre-disaster training through academic centers to strengthen preparedness and response capabilities for delivering humanitarian aid, ensuring that challenges do not undermine community support. This highlights the significance of education within the Red Crescent's structure and underscores the need for a dedicated university center for teaching essential relief skills, particularly to improve the general and specialized knowledge of its staff and those interested in relief activities.

Iran and neighboring countries have experienced 32 out of the 43 possible global natural disasters. This high frequency of incidents emphasizes the need for academic training in relief skills in the region. The importance of education, especially in the disaster management field, is also recognized in higher-level documents. For example, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies has set its focus for the upcoming decade on supporting and promoting positive change for humanity, along with humanitarian principles and values. Emphasizing values, the culture of peace, and improving access to education for those affected by disasters, wars, or displaced migrants is crucial. Consequently, research activities and the application of modern technologies should be focused on expanding and strengthening these fundamental principles to support individuals.

Additionally, Article 3, Clause 3 of the Iranian Red Crescent Society's charter emphasizes planning and action for disaster preparedness, public education in this field, and training relief personnel and human resources. Moreover, the analysis and forecast section of the Red Crescent Society's ten-year strategic plan on organizational principles and values has specifically addressed the growth and development of knowledge, education, and skills in the coming years.

2-2 Project Objectives

The specialization of scientific research, the rapid growth of modern technologies, and the exchange of knowledge, in light of globalization factors and the need for international collaboration among individuals in similar fields, are driving universities toward internationalization and attracting foreign students. Additionally, in shared contexts with neighboring countries, training specialized personnel benefits both nations mutually.

The presence of neighboring countries with a shared language and culture with Iran facilitates the transfer of knowledge, particularly with Afghanistan, a nation that has become one of the largest sources of migration due to prolonged social, economic instability, and wars. For instance, the number of Afghan

migrants legally registered in the foreign nationals census in Iran has reached half a million. Of this group, 98% reside in the four-million-strong metropolis of Mashhad. Given these educational goals for migrants, there is a clear need for planning in this regard. Furthermore, the current political situation in Afghanistan has restricted educational opportunities for women and girls. These individuals expect suitable and accessible conditions for university education in neighboring countries, aiming to enhance their knowledge and apply their acquired expertise within their communities.

The geographical location of Khorasan Razavi Province, which borders the Persian-speaking countries of Afghanistan and Tajikistan and is the second most populous province in Iran, along with other existing facilities and capacities such as an international airport, a railway network, an extensive transportation fleet, tourism capacities, abundant mines, the presence of universities and world-renowned academic centers, and distinguished university professors, provides the necessary potential to become a regional hub of knowledge. The Khorasan Razavi Red Crescent, leveraging its rich experiences and resources, is well-positioned to host and conduct educational courses that meet international standards.

2-3 Implementation Background

In this context, since 2011, the Khorasan Razavi branch of the Iranian Red Crescent has established a Scientific-Applied Training Center, operating under the Comprehensive University of Applied Science and supervised by the Iranian Red Crescent Higher Education Institute. Alongside this, the establishment of a specialized field training center has provided practical tools for students and trainees. To date, this center has graduated 622 students with associate degrees in Disaster Relief and Pharmacy Assistance, and 420 students with bachelor's degrees in the fields of Natural and Non-Natural Disaster Management and Disaster Relief Operations Management. Over the years, 140 visiting professors have collaborated with the center.

This valuable experience illuminates the path toward establishing and managing an international university center focused on disaster relief, healthcare services, modern technologies, interdisciplinary fields, and more. With the provision of student funding through scholarships from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies using humanitarian resources, the establishment of the proposed educational and research center will be made accessible to domestic applicants, migrants, and nationals of neighboring countries.

3 Project Implementation Phases

Row	Project implementation steps	Duration	Time to do the plan (2025)								
			January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
1	Submitting a proposal and sending administrative request letters to the Higher Education Center of the Iranian Red Crescent and the representative of the Red Cross Federation in Iran.	1 months	✓								
2	Obtaining a license from the Ministry of Science regarding the establishment of the International Campus of the Iran Red Crescent Higher Education Center.	1 months		✓							
3	Obtaining admission permits for foreign students from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the parent university in the eastern region of the country.	2 months		✓	✓						
4	Obtaining approval and confirmation of financial support from the representative of the Red Cross Federation in Iran.	1 months		✓							
5	Drafting and planning of programs and obtaining admissions for programs from the Ministry of Science and Research.	3 months			✓	✓	✓				
6	Equipping and providing necessary facilities, preparing the educational environment and dormitories.	3 months				✓	✓	✓			

7	Completion of the student admission process for domestic and international students.	3 months						✓	✓	✓	
8	Beginning of the process of education and research	1 months									✓

Note

In the first phase of establishing the International Campus in the Eastern Region, the primary goal is solely to obtain the necessary permits for the establishment of the Higher Education and Research Center and to admit both domestic and international students with scholarship opportunities in the targeted fields using the current facilities. After achieving the objectives of the first phase, the second phase will focus on expanding and developing the university center in all aspects.

4 Academic Programs, Specializations, and Courses

Given the experience of offering programs in Disaster Relief and Pharmacy Assistance at the associate degree level, as well as programs in Disaster Relief Operations Management and Natural and Non-Natural Disaster Management at the professional bachelor's level at the Khorasan Razavi Red Crescent's Scientific-Applied Training Center, and the integration of graduates into the administrative and operational systems, along with the enhancement of knowledge and rank of many Red Crescent staff members in the province, these programs can be considered the primary options for introducing academic disciplines at the Eastern International Campus of the Higher Education Center.

Additionally, there is sufficient academic potential in the region across various fields such as social services, cultural studies, technical and industrial fields, healthcare, and interdisciplinary sciences, as outlined in the table below. To facilitate access for international students, some of these courses can be offered online. For other programs, theoretical courses could be partially conducted online, with international students only needing to be physically present at the university for practical courses.

Row	Field/Specialization Name	Educational level	Method of holding	Academic department	Job opportunities for domestic/international students
1	Disaster Relief / Natural, Unnatural	Associate Degree - Bachelor's Degree	In-person	Social services	The Red Crescent Society, organizations related to crisis management, municipalities, fire departments, and medical centers in the respective country.
2	Rescue and relief operations	Associate Degree - Bachelor's Degree	In-person	Social services	The Red Crescent Society, organizations related to crisis management, municipalities, fire departments, and medical centers in the respective country.
3	Crisis Management	Associate Degree - Bachelor's Degree	semi-attendance	management	Red Crescent Society, organizations related to crisis management in the country of origin.
4	Crisis Management in Climate Change/Water and Drought	Associate Degree - Bachelor's Degree	semi-attendance	management	The Red Crescent Society, organizations related to crisis management, municipalities, and fire departments in the country.
5	Support in Disasters	Associate Degree	semi-attendance	Social services	The Red Crescent Society, organizations related to crisis management, municipalities, and fire departments in the country.
6	Construction of artificial limbs	Bachelor's Degree	In-person	Therapeutic	The Red Crescent Society, welfare organizations, and public and private rehabilitation centers in the country – creating employment for women in gender-restricted communities.
7	Passive defense	Bachelor's Degree	semi-attendance	Social services	The Red Crescent Society, organizations related to crisis management, municipalities, and fire departments in the country.

8	Social work	Bachelor's Degree	online	Social services	The Red Crescent Society, welfare organizations, and public and private rehabilitation centers in the country – creating employment for women in gender-restricted communities.
9	Pharmaceutical assistance and health services	Bachelor's Degree	In-person	Therapeutic	The Red Crescent Society, medical centers, and pharmacy staff in the country of origin – creating employment for women in gender-restricted communities.
10	Pharmacy/Pharmacology Executive Affairs in Emergencies	Associate Degree	In-person	Therapeutic	The Red Crescent Society, medical centers, and pharmacy staff in the country of origin – creating employment for women in gender-restricted communities.
11	Nursing in Emergency Situations / Nursing Assistant	Associate Degree	In-person	Therapeutic	The Red Crescent Society, medical centers, and pharmacy staff in the country of origin – creating employment for women in gender-restricted communities.
12	Midwifery	Associate Degree	In-person	Therapeutic	The Red Crescent Society, medical centers, and pharmacy staff in the country of origin – creating employment for women in gender-restricted communities.
13	Psychology in Crisis/Psychological Support in Disasters	Associate Degree - Bachelor's Degree	semi-attendance	Social services	The Red Crescent Society, medical centers, and pharmacy staff in the country of origin – creating employment for women in gender-restricted communities.
14	Public health	Associate Degree	In-person	Therapeutic	The Red Crescent Society, medical centers, and pharmacy staff in the country of origin – creating employment for women in gender-restricted communities.
15	Kindergarten Teacher Health	Associate Degree	semi-attendance	Social services	Kindergartens, welfare, centers for supporting orphaned children, and charitable organizations in the country - creating employment for women in gender-restricted communities.
16	Information Technology	Associate Degree - Bachelor's Degree	In-person	Technical and industrial	Government organizations, private companies, personal businesses
17	Business/Marketing	Associate Degree - Bachelor's Degree	online	Management	Private companies, personal businesses, charitable organizations
18	Family Management	Associate Degree	online	Management	Charitable organizations - Creating employment for women in gender-restricted communities.
19	Safety Engineering, Health and Environment (HSE)	Associate Degree - Bachelor's Degree	semi-attendance	Technical and industrial	Private companies, personal businesses, charitable organizations
20	Physical Education	Associate Degree - Bachelor's Degree	In-person	Management	Kindergartens, welfare, centers for supporting orphaned children, and charitable organizations in the country - creating employment for women in gender-restricted communities.
21	International relations/country relations	Bachelor's Degree	semi-attendance	Cultural	Red Crescent Society, international organizations, and charitable organizations in the home country.
22	Translation: English .translation	Bachelor's Degree	semi-attendance	Cultural	Kindergartens, welfare, centers for supporting orphaned children, and charitable organizations in the country - creating employment for women in gender-restricted communities.

23	Translation: German language translator	Bachelor's Degree	semi- attendance	Cultural	Kindergartens, welfare, centers for supporting orphaned children, and charitable organizations in the country - creating employment for women in gender-restricted communities.
24	Persian Language and Literature	Bachelor's Degree	semi- attendance	Cultural	Kindergartens, welfare, centers for supporting orphaned children, and charitable organizations in the country - creating employment for women in gender-restricted communities.

5 Short-Term Courses

Short-term courses are designed to train workforce and shorten the path to employment in each of the mentioned fields. This is particularly crucial for preparing road rescue personnel needed by the Red Crescent Society. Rescuers must first complete general training courses, including hazard preparedness, volunteer skills, and first aid. They then advance through specialized courses in pre-hospital care, radio and telecommunications, navigation principles, psychological support, and road rescue to achieve rescue certification. Following this, they can collaborate with the Red Crescent Society. Currently, this process can take years, leading many trainees to drop out along the way. By defining targeted short-term courses, it is possible to prepare the required rescue personnel within a six-month module. Examples of such modules are outlined in the table below.

Row	Module	Academic department	Gender	duration	Job opportunities for domestic/international students
1	Rescuer for transportation accidents	Social activity	Male	133 hr	The Red Crescent Society in the .country of origin
2	Rescuer/Relief Worker in Tourism	Social/Cultural Services	Male- female	45 hr	Tourism tours - Creating employment for women in gender-restricted .communities
3	Elderly assistance	Social services	Male - female	120 hr	Private companies, personal jobs
4	Computer skills	Technical and industrial	Male- female	90 hr	Private companies, personal jobs
5	English conversation	Cultural	Male- female	80 hr	International organizations, tourism industry
6	German conversation	Cultural	Male- female	80 hr	International organizations, tourism industry

6 Admission Requirements

Applicants for the International Campus of the Red Crescent Society in Eastern Iran, including domestic students, migrants, and foreign nationals, must have a high school diploma. All applicants must demonstrate mental health, no criminal record, and in most cases, good physical health relevant to the job requirements of their chosen field.

Foreign applicants must have their documents verified by the embassy or one of the consulates of the Islamic Republic of Iran in their home country before applying for a student visa.

To increase access to education for a larger number of migrants and Afghan nationals, permission could be sought from the Ministry of Education to establish a college for those who have not completed the 10th and 11th grades and thus do not have a high school diploma.

7 Human resources

In alignment with the goals for the first phase of establishing the International Campus of the Red Crescent Society in Eastern Iran, with an anticipated annual intake of approximately 400 university students and about 400 participants in short-term courses, the following human resources are required.

Row	Responsibility	Number (people)	Type of collaboration	Required documents
1	University President	1	Faculty/Employment	PhD or master's degree in fields related to educational groups or one of the interdisciplinary areas – English language certificate IELTS or TOEFL or TOLIMO or FCE or CAE or GRE.
2	Research Deputy	1	Faculty/Employment	PhD or master's degree in fields related to educational groups or one of the interdisciplinary areas – English language certificate IELTS or TOEFL or TOLIMO or FCE or CAE or GRE.
3	Deputy of Education	1	Faculty/Employment	PhD or master's degree in fields related to educational groups or one of the interdisciplinary areas – English language certificate IELTS or TOEFL or TOLIMO or FCE or CAE or GRE.
4	Director of the Educational Group for Social Services	1	Employment/Invited	PhD or master's degree in fields related to the educational group of social services or one of the interdisciplinary areas.
5	Head of the Educational Management Group	1	Employment/Invited	PhD or master's degree in fields related to the educational group of social services or one of the interdisciplinary areas.
6	Director of Educational and Therapeutic Group	1	Employment/Invited	PhD or master's degree in fields related to the therapeutic education group or one of the interdisciplinary areas.
7	Head of Technical and Industrial Educational Group	1	Employment/Invited	PhD or master's degree in fields related to the technical and industrial educational group or one of the interdisciplinary areas.
8	Educational and Cultural Group Manager	1	Employment/Invited	PhD or master's degree in fields related to the therapeutic education group or one of the interdisciplinary areas.
9	Internal Professor	25	Employment/Invited	PhD or master's degree in fields related to educational groups or one of the interdisciplinary areas.
10	International Professor	5	Invited	PhD or master's degree in fields related to educational groups or one of the interdisciplinary areas - English language certificate IELTS or TOEFL or TOLIMO or FCE or CAE or GRE - fluent in spoken Persian.
11	Research Expert	1	Employment	Having a bachelor's degree or higher related to the field of research.
12	Education Expert	5	Employment	Having a bachelor's degree or higher in fields related to educational groups or in one of the interdisciplinary areas.
13	Information Technology Expert	1	Employment/Contractual	Having a bachelor's degree or higher in computer-related fields and its specializations.
14	Consultant psychologist for foreign nationals and immigrants	1	Employment/Contractual	PhD or master's degree in fields related to psychology – English language certificate IELTS or TOEFL or TOLIMO or FCE or CAE or GRE.
15	Security Officer	1	Employment/Contractual	Having the necessary criteria in the regulations of the Red Crescent Society.
16	Security and Physical Protection Force	4	Employment/Contractual	Having the necessary criteria in the regulations of the Red Crescent Society.
17	Service Personnel	4	Employment/Contractual	Having the necessary criteria in the regulations of the Red Crescent Society.

Note

Members of the Research Council, Educational Council, Cultural Council, Examination Department, Disciplinary Committee, and other committees will be appointed from among the personnel listed in the table above, based on the decisions and direct directives of the University President.

8 Expenses

8-1 Fixed costs

8-1-1 Location fee required

Row	Facilities	Current conditions	Second phase
1	Domain and properties	Land with an area of 1400 square meters, a building with a total area of 800 square meters, all for the price of 1.5 million dollars.	Land with an area of 4000 square meters in a suitable location for the construction of an educational center, close to the settlement of migrants, with a building area of 2000 square meters, for a total price of 5.75 million dollars.
2	Rooms	5 classrooms, 6 office rooms in building row 1, current conditions in the same table.	12 classrooms, 15 office rooms in building row 1 of phase two in this table
3	Dining hall	-	A hall with an area of 100 square meters in building row 1 of phase two in this table.
4	Library and study hall	-	A hall with an area of 200 square meters in building row 1 of phase two in this table.
5	Workshop and laboratory	Computer workshop with an area of 40 square meters, clinical skills workshop with an area of 80 square meters in building row 1, existing conditions in the same table.	A hall with an area of 200 square meters in building row 1 of phase two in this table.
6	Dormitory	-	Building with a base of 4000 square meters on the land of the 1st phase of the second phase in the same table with a cost of 3 million dollars
Total		5.1 million dollars	8.75 million dollars

8-1-2 The cost of technical equipment in the first phase

Row	Equipment	Available equipment		Required equipment	
		Quantity/Type	Price in dollars	Quantity/Type	Price in dollars
1	laptop	2	1,200	6	3,600
2	Computer	30	10,000	30	10,000
3	Scanner, printer, photocopier	9	3,750	5	1,000
4	Physical security camera	13	2,000	2	500
5	UPS emergency power supply system	1	800	1	1,200
6	Video projector	6	1,000	3	1,200
7	Smart TV	2	1,500	1	500
8	Mannequin and mollage	3	800	3	800
9	Laboratory tools	Practical room supplies	2,000	Workshop supplies	500
10	Cooling tool	Water Air conditioner	500	Cooling facilities	10,000
11	Heating tool	gas heater	500	Heating facilities	10,000
Total		-	24,050	-	39,300

8-1-3 The cost of Office Supplies in the first phase

Row	Office supplies	Available supplies		Required equipment	
		Quantity/Type	Price in dollars	Quantity/Type	Price in dollars
1	Student chair	200	2,000	-	0
2	Teacher's desk and chair	7	500	-	0
3	Office desk and chair	8	500	2	300
4	Computer chair	40	400	-	0
5	Computer desk	15	400	-	0
6	Smart board	5	1,200	Cost of repairs	100
7	white board	7	300	-	0
8	Student's wardrobe	25	200	25	200
9	Office closet	12	300	-	0
10	Closet in the guest professor's room	27	200	-	0
11	Mobile phone	8	200	-	0
Total		-	6,200	-	600

Total fixed investment in the first phase

Fixed cost	Available	First phase	Second phase
Cost of required place/dormitory	1,500,000	0	8,750,000
The cost of technical equipment in the first phase	24,050	39,300	140,400
The cost of office supplies in the first phase	6,200	600	16,500
Total in dollar	1,530,250	39,900	8,906,900

8-2 Operating Costs

8-2-1 Current expenses per semester

Row	Consumer goods	Approximate amount	Price in dollars	Row	Consumer goods	Approximate amount	Price in dollars
1	Cost of energy consumption (water, electricity, gas, telephone)	Spending 6 months in the university building and dormitory	2,200	6	Renting a dormitory building	The building is 1200 square meters	36,000
2	Student food	in 6 months on average for 400 students	540,000	7	Consumables and current costs of the dormitory	Spending 6 months in the university building and dormitory	2,500
3	Travel expenses	in 6 months on average for 400 students	10,000	8	Environmental/media advertising	Intermittently during 6 months	2,000
4	Student health insurance	in 6 months on average for 400 students	35,000	9	Unforeseen expenses	equivalent to ten percent of the total current costs	66,770
5	Student stationery, textbooks and software	in 6 months on average for 400 students	40,000	Total		-	734,470

8-2-2 Salary and wages per semester

salary	Amount	Price in dollar
Management, training staff and contract research	5	28,000
Invited professors	30	84,600
Contractual employees	7	24,200
Service personnel	4	10,000
Total	46	146,800

Total Operating Costs per Academic Semester

current cost	Price in dollar
Current fee per academic semester	734,470
Salary cost per academic semester	146,800
Total	881,270

8-3 Research Costs

Given the nature of research projects, each project is evaluated by the University's Research Council after submission. If it aligns with the objectives of the Red Crescent Society, it will be approved and financially supported. Therefore, to support research projects, student theses, and other new ideas (including inventions, innovations, etc.), an amount equivalent to 5% of the total calculated educational costs should be allocated for this purpose. Reports on completed research projects, articles, and financial support provided will be sent to the Red Cross Federation representative in Iran at the end of each calendar year.

8-4 Total Investment Required

Expenses	first phase		Second phase
	Available	Required	
8-1 Fixed costs	1,530,250	39,900	8,906,900
8-2 Operating Costs	-	881,270	8,812,700
8-3 Research Costs	-	47,000	886,000
Total in dollar	1,530,250	968,170	18,605,600

Based on the established criteria, the average cost in the first phase and per academic semester for attracting each student amounts to 2,421 \$ Short-term course costs can also be calculated proportionally based on the duration of the course. If, in the second phase, a separate allocation for a new facility is considered, the same scholarship for each student can be used to achieve educational and research objectives for domestic students, migrants, and nationals of neighboring countries. This possibility will be facilitated through collaboration with the Red Cross Federation, in the form of scholarships for refugees and migrants. Annual reports on the implementation of the educational program and financial reports will be submitted to the Red Cross Federation representative at the end of each calendar year.

Deputy for Education, Research, and Technology
Red Crescent Society of Khorasan Razavi
Ashkan Boustani - January 2024