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Information bulletin

Iran: Earthquake

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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| Glide n° 2018-000415 | Date of issue: 26 November 2018 |
| Date of disaster: 25 November 2018 | Point of contact: Mr. Davood Pourkhanali |
| Operation start date: 25 November 2018 | |
| Host National Society(ies): Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) | |
| Number of people affected: 716 people | |
| N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation (if available and relevant): Government and non government actors | |

The situation

A 6.3 magnitude earthquake hit Sarpol-e Zahab, Kermanshah, at 20:07 (local time) on Sunday, November 25. The epicentre of the earthquake was registered at 34.38 degrees latitude and 45.7 degrees longitude, reported at a depth of 7 km. The earthquake was felt in western provinces of Ilam and Kurdistan provinces. To date, 161 aftershocks have been registered.

According to latest figures, 716 people were injured, with 33 people requiring hospitalisation. Assessment highlights some damage to infrastructure, mainly damage to roads by fallen debris. Power is still operational in the affected areas and water was quickly restored. Assessments continue today, into more remote villages and towns.

Kermanshah is still recovering from a devastating 7.3 magnitude quake that struck in November 2017, killing at least 620 people in the province. Morteza Salimi of Iranian Red Crescent told state TV that since the area was reconstructed after last year's earthquake, officials hope there won't be casualties.

The ongoing IFRC 2018 operational plan supports IRCS relief and recovery from the deadly 2017 Kermanshah earthquake. The response and ongoing work of the Iranian Red Crescent in terms of preparedness and disaster risk reduction has doubtless contributed to the low number of casualties. The IFRC operational plan for 2019 will continue to support affected people in Kermanshah through the provision of health services, including psychosocial support as well as physical rehabilitation for the disabled, livelihoods and disaster risk reduction. For contributions to either the 2018 or 2019 plans, please contact the Partnerships and Resource Development Team (contact details below).



IRCS volunteers despatch emergency life-saving supplies to Kermanshah after the 6.4 magnitude earthquake.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

In immediate response to the earthquake, the Iranian Red Crescent deployed 5 relief helicopters to the affected region, as well as mobilized 87 assessment relief and rescue teams, including sniffer dogs' teams to the affected regions. Additional provincial operational teams are on standby for possible additional interventions.

According to Dr. Ali Asghar Peyvandi the IRCS President, the Red Crescent has dispatched basic items, including blankets, mineral water and tents to the affected areas. In addition, one-month food supplies have been dispatched to the affected regions.

As of this morning, IRCS have assessed 150 villages. The operation continues today with ongoing coordination of authorities and Government.

IFRC's Middle East and North Africa (MENA) regional office is working in close coordination with the Iranian Red Crescent leadership. At this stage, IRCS are not requesting additional support, either technical or financial. A GO Platform update was posted on 25 November, to advise the international community of the disaster.

IFRC will continue to monitor the developing situation and provide IRCS support as required.



Iranian Red Crescent provides emergency triage to people injured by the 6.4 magnitude earthquake in Sarpol-e Zahab, Kermanshah

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

