

EMERGENCY APPEAL



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

Preliminary Appeal
no: 32/01
21 September, 2001

***THIS PRELIMINARY APPEAL SEEKS CHF 8,675,000
IN CASH, KIND AND SERVICES
TO UNDERTAKE CONTINGENCY PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS
MEASURES TO ASSIST APPROXIMATELY 300,000
BENEFICIARIES FOR AN INITIAL PERIOD OF 2 MONTHS***

The Situation

In the aftermath of the 11 September, 2001 tragedy in the U.S., the humanitarian plight of hundred of thousands of people has been brought into focus. The International Federation is preparing not only to assist those who are moving to safer areas by supporting current National Society relief operations, but also other Red Crescent Societies whose countries border Afghanistan and other areas at risk. It is unclear how the situation will evolve, but a strong readiness capacity is the best way to respond to any emerging needs.

The Response so Far

Clearly, the area of most immediate need today is in Afghanistan where, thousands of Afghans, fearing an expected military response, are reported to be leaving the major cities. Many are heading for the safety of smaller villages in rural areas, while thousands more are heading for border crossing points with neighbouring Pakistan. Pakistan is already home to an estimated 2.4 million Afghan refugees, 1.2 million of whom are registered and sheltered in refugee camps situated close to the border town of Peshawar in the North West Frontier Province (NWFP). Citing economic reasons the Government of Pakistan has publicly stated its reluctance to shelter further Afghan refugees. While accurate information remains difficult to confirm or obtain, according to UNHCR more than 15,000 Afghans have entered Pakistan in the last week, mainly arriving in Balochistan Province along the country's southwest border with Afghanistan. Most of the new arrivals are reportedly staying with relatives and friends living in and around Quetta in Balochistan Province. Another group of 5,000 Afghans are encamped near the Chaman crossing point just inside Pakistan. The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) has already sent relief supplies including blankets, tents and jerry cans to help around 10,000 Afghan refugees near Quetta.

The International Federation is preparing for similar situations that may occur in other countries in the region as well as in other parts of the world. In Iran relief efforts are being scaled up as are activities in other parts of the region including Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. Similarly, national societies in other areas are developing contingency plans where the potential for humanitarian relief will be needed.

These are preparatory measures undertaken by the International Federation aimed at fast and effective alleviation of human suffering. The focus is on the provision of shelter, clean water, and food (in coordination with WFP) to ensure the good health of the refugees. A special focus will be to coordinate with all components of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The Needs

Needs w

With the evolving political, security, and humanitarian situation, the Federation is adopting a flexible approach in its preparations to assist 120,000 beneficiaries on a preliminary basis for an initial 2 months. The current (estimated) needs consist of:

- **non-food items** including blankets; tents; tarpaulins/plastic sheets; kitchen sets.
- **water and sanitation equipment** including jerrycans; water tanks; water tap stands.
- **health equipment** including 11 cholera kits; 20 New Emergency Health Kits (NEHK).
- **logistics equipment** including 2 logistics Emergency Response Units (ERUs); 1 telecoms ERU.
- **food including** high protein biscuits and food packs.
- **human resources including** for the operation: six general logistics delegates; two telecoms delegates; two liaison delegates, two relief coordinators, and two information delegates; for Pakistan: one administrative delegate. Requests for liaison and other technical delegates for Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Iran (in addition to the staff already employed in these countries) are being considered.

A preliminary allocation of CHF 600,000 is being released from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to allow assessments, initial relief activities, and pre-positioning of stocks to begin. The attached preliminary budget provides further details of the immediate needs. Depending on the nature of evolving events, this preliminary appeal will be followed shortly by a revised appeal.

The Proposed Plan of Action

Objectives and Activities planned w

The Federation has established the following three overall objectives:

- readiness and preparedness, focusing on shelter, water and sanitation, and health: the Federation is specifically looking at re-inforcing preparedness measures, working with national societies in Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Iran, and Turkmenistan, and ensuring the readiness of ERU's and Field Assessment Coordination Teams (FACT).
- coordination: establishing a Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement-wide consultation, and strengthening the liaison function between national societies and the Federation.
- advocacy: promoting the Fundamental Principles for Humanitarian Action and the Humanitarian Code of Conduct.

Shelter; Logistics; and Relief Distributions w

Objectives: Effectively and accurately assess the logistics pipeline and supply chain, resulting in re-enforced logistics systems and elements where needed, including at airports, ports, main roads, customs clearance, and warehousing. Provide basic shelter and non-food relief items to an estimated beneficiary population of 300,000 persons, primarily consisting of tents and plastic sheets.

The Federation will deliver an effective and rapid response with an approach based on the following three critical components:

- availability of stocks within national societies.
- assessing stock availability from suppliers, including those with whom frame agreements have been concluded to ensure the required items are available when and if required.
- relief resource mobilization.

The Federation's Logistics and Resource Mobilization Department has compiled a list of relief materials held by various National Societies, providing a global view of items and quantities currently held within the Movement. The Federation has been working closely with the Iranian Red Crescent to explore ways in which their considerable quantities of relief material can be most effectively employed.

Based on framework agreements already signed with suppliers, certain quantities of relief materials are to be held in the suppliers' warehouses (in China, India, Italy, Denmark, and Norway) for Federation use. The Federation has also concluded several *ad hoc* agreements with known suppliers who are holding stocks on behalf of the Federation, including a number in Pakistan.

Given the current situation it is impossible to predict with any degree of accuracy exactly where or when relief material will be needed. Pre-positioning in a location capable of servicing various locations in the region will be the primary approach. The Federation, in co-operation with the Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Emirates, will rely on its Abu Dhabi logistics base to pre-position significant relief stocks in the Emirates. The Federation estimates that the exercise of building a viable stock in Abu Dhabi, consisting of shelter material, water and sanitation equipment, and telecoms equipment, will be accomplished shortly. A number of vehicles are already in stock in Abu Dhabi, available when needed.

Logistics Field Support

Gathering accurate logistics information from countries likely to be affected, with priority given to those countries surrounding Afghanistan, is a critically important exercise. The timely deployment of logistics technicians or specialists is required to access the various local situations, to start preparing logistics networks with the National Societies, and to organize logistics field support arrangements. This will include logistics mapping of customs requirements, airport locations and capacities, identifying potential suppliers of goods and services, and establishing contacts with other organizations already in place and operational. To this end the Federation's Logistics Department in Geneva is in daily and close contact with the ICRC and with UN agencies and NGO's for specific logistic planning and co-operation.

Health w

Objective: Ensure systems are in place to deliver basic health assistance to some 300,000 beneficiaries for a two month period.

The Federation is closely coordinating its health activities with the WHO, UNHCR, and ICRC. An inventory has been carried out of health human resources available for re-deployment on short notice. The pre-positioning of health material and equipment is underway. Since the potential areas of operations and target destinations remain unclear, temporary locations have been chosen where supplies can be stocked for rapid deployment as the situation requires. Approximately 20 WHO New emergency Health Kits (NEHK) are currently available, and other medical supplies can be diverted for additional needs. The ERU health preparedness has been assessed, and one hospital and five basic health care ERU's (clinics) can be deployed as necessary.

Water and Sanitation w

Objective: Ensure systems are in place to deliver basic water and sanitation assistance to some 300,000 beneficiaries for a two month period.

Water and sanitation equipment is being pre-positioned at the Federation's Abu Dhabi logistics base. The water equipment stock will mainly consist of: bladder tanks, tap-stands, jerry-cans, pumps, water purification and testing equipment, and latrine moulds and sprayers for vector control. Donor national societies who habitually provide water and sanitation ERU's (e.g. Austrian, German, Swedish and the Spanish Red Cross) have been requested to confirm their status and readiness, and availability of human resources. Water and sanitation delegates working on projects within the region have been placed on stand-by for an eventual relocation or redeployment, responding to operational needs. The Interagency Wat-San Working Group (Oxfam, MSF, AICF, UNHCR, UNICEF, ICRC, and the Federation) has established an e-mail information exchange, and relevant information will be shared with national societies. The ICRC has reported water and sanitation contingency stocks in the region for an approximate beneficiary caseload of 50,000 persons. Regarding in-kind contributions, it is important that national societies refer to and follow the Federation's Standard Water and Sanitation Catalogue.

Information/Media w

Objective 1: To coordinate with other components of the Red Cross Red Crescent movement in drawing the attention of the media and a global audience to the plight of the refugees and how the Federation and National Societies are addressing their needs.

In order to highlight and promote the mandate of the Red Cross Red Crescent in responding to humanitarian crises, the Federation is mobilizing information delegates to areas identified as key destinations for the influx of Afghan refugees. There they will coordinate with other components of the Red Cross Red Crescent movement in drawing the attention of the media and the global audience to the plight of the refugees and how the Federation and National Societies are addressing their needs. Coordination will be essential to ensure the Movement speaks with one voice. A very important part of information delegates' role will also be to advocate for the application of basic humanitarian values.

Initially, two information delegates are being despatched to Pakistan and to Tajikistan. A third delegate will be on call to respond to any additional geographical priority area based on the developing situation.

Objective 2: To advocate for the fundamental principles and mandate of the International Red Cross Red Crescent through documentation in the form of written and visual materials. These will be used for ongoing and new advocacy initiatives.

Critical to not only assessing but also reporting on the humanitarian crises is the need to bring to light the plight of millions who are displaced or under threat. Visual records of the situations are key to this effort. In addition to working with local and international media, the Federation will document the situation through film footage, photographs and written updates to promote the Red Cross Red Crescent mandate. Timely coverage will be continually available on the Federation's website and be used for ongoing advocacy campaigns.

A photojournalist will be contracted to document Red Cross and Red Crescent operations in affected regions.

Telecommunications w

Objective: Assess and reinforce the telecommunications network and capacity in the affected area.

The telecommunications infrastructures in the region are relatively weak and are not capable of supporting a large relief operation, particularly in remote areas. The Federation therefore urgently requires support to improve the existing telecommunications systems, primarily focusing on satphone and radio equipment. Two telecommunications technical co-ordinators are needed to insure that telecommunications networks function properly. A telecommunications ERU has been made available to reinforce the network where needed.

Co-ordination w

The Federation is closely consulting with the ICRC, and has formed a task group to explore and assess the current level of preparedness and potential needs both within the region and around the world. Regular consultation has been initiated with UN agencies (OCHA, UNHCR, UNICEF, and WFP) and NGO's.

Other National Societies Capacities w

In **Iran**, the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran is mobilizing its resources to strengthen its first response stocks in the provinces of Khorasan and Sistan va Baluchestan, both of which border Afghanistan. The national society is meeting regularly with national authorities, the UN, and other humanitarian organizations to ensure effective coordination. The Federation is in daily contact with the Iranian Red Crescent Society, and is discussing ways and means of supporting their efforts.

In **Pakistan**, the PRCS has its national headquarters based in Islamabad with a network of branches in each of the country's provinces. There are two main crossing points along the Pakistan border, Torkham in the NWFP and Chaman in Balochistan. Geographical responsibility for these regions falls to the Balochistan Provincial Branch based in Quetta and the NWFP Branch based in Peshawar. PRCS staff and volunteers at the headquarters and branch levels have had experience in disaster preparedness and response. The branch has a

network of trained medical personnel running a variety of health activities throughout the province. The Balochistan branch has two mobile health clinics which could be deployed if requested. Despite strong leadership the overall capacity of both branches, however, remains relatively limited (Balochistan in particular) in terms of infrastructure, resources and an extensive volunteer base. To respond to the current situation, the PRCS has drawn up a plan based on 10,000 families (60,000 families) in the NWFP and 10,000 families in Baluchistan (see attached overall appeal budget). The PRCS has approximately 10,000 blankets, 1,000 tents and 2,000 jerry cans in stock in Islamabad which they are in the process of dispatching to the field. Warehousing is available for rent in Quetta and Peshawar. The ICRC has large warehouse in Peshawar, and the PRCS has limited warehouse capacity in Islamabad.

In **Tajikistan**, The Federation is carrying through on its objectives of assisting the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) in strengthening its capacity to respond to disasters. The ongoing drought emergency operation has served as an opportunity to directly involve the National Society in operational management, and, through on-the-job training and specific seminars, to strengthen its disaster response capacity, especially on the branch level. Technical support to the National Society is being provided through monitoring of the program implementation and training in various aspects of program management. The National Society has shown steady improvement in specific areas of disaster relief and preparedness.

In **Turkmenistan**, and **Uzbekistan**, the Federation's regional delegation for Central Asia is providing integrated support in the areas of disaster response, health, disaster preparedness, population movement and organizational development. National Societies have responded to local disasters including floods and severe winter conditions, and have established pilot projects at community level in disaster preparedness, community health and for migrants and refugees. New directions of work in areas such as advocacy, the promotion of humanitarian values and increased scope of youth involvement in HIV/AIDS activity is being explored and tested. Although more efforts need to be invested to achieve proper coordination between programmes and partners, the overall process to improve coordination and support the development of the five Central Asia National Societies (CANS) to be able to run effective and relevant programmes is well underway. A comprehensive strategy which has the support, involvement and commitment of CANS, the ICRC and the regional delegation is being developed according to the schedule.

Budget summary

See Annex 1 for details.

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All International Federation Assistance Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

In line with the Minimum Reporting Standards, the first operations update on this appeal will be issued within 30-days of the launch and the second will be issued over the course of the operation; a final narrative and financial report will be issued no later than 90 days after the end of the operation.

This operation seeks to administer to the immediate requirements of the victims of this disaster. Subsequent operations to promote sustainable development or longer-term capacity building will require additional support and these programmes are outlined on the Federation website. For

support to or for futher information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Jean Ayoub
Director
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Didier J. Cherpitel
Secretary General

		ANNEX 1
<u>PRELIMINARY BUDGET SUMMARY</u>	APPEAL No. 32/2001	
Humanitarian crisis		
TYPE	VALUE	
RELIEF NEEDS	IN CHF	
Plastic sheeting	428'000	
Blankets	393'000	
Tents	1'975'000	
Food & seeds: high protein biscuits, food packs	591'000	
Water and sanitation	625'000	
Medical & first aid: cholera kits + NEHK	323'000	
Utensils & tools: kitchen sets	630'000	
Other relief supplies	460'000	
TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS		5'425'000
<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>		
Vehicles	486'000	
Telecom. equipment	250'000	
Other equipment	50'000	
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>		
Programme management	585'000	
Technical support	175'000	
Professional services	194'000	
<u>TRANSPORT STORAGE & VEHICLE COSTS</u>	680'000	
<u>PERSONNEL</u>		
Expatriate staff: 15 delegates / 2 months	300'000	
National staff	300'000	
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL SERVICES</u>		
Travel & related expenses	75'000	
Information expenses	35'000	
Administrative & general expenses	120'000	
TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS		3'250'000
TOTAL APPEAL CASH, KIND, SERVICES		8'675'000
LESS AVAILABLE RESOURCES (-)		Nil
NET REQUEST		8'675'000