

OPERATIONS UPDATE



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

AFGHANISTAN: EARTHQUAKE 9 July 2003

Appeal No. 10/02: An emergency appeal was launched on 12 April 2002 for CHF 2,921,000 for 9 Months. Responding to the evolving reconstruction situation, revision no 1 was issued on 31 January 2003, and the budget revised downwards to CHF 2,235,984 and the operation extended to July 2003. The operational budget has been revised to CHF 2,454,839 taking into account the challenges of the lengthy recovery and rehabilitation efforts, and the operation has been extended through December 2003.

Operations Update No. 4, covers the period 1 February 2003 - 30 June 2003; The last operations update was issued on 31 January 2003.

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 180 countries.

For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal coverage: Covered

Outstanding needs: None

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: 01.52/2003 Afghanistan

Operational Summary: The Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) with support of the Federation continues its commitment to the reconstruction programme in Nahrin, which was hit by a devastating earthquake on 25 March, 2002. Having been among the first to respond to the emergency phase, the ARCS maintained its engagement with the vulnerable people, shifting its attention gradually to replace destroyed health and education facilities for Nahrin to the benefit of thousands of children and adults in the earthquake affected area.

Two out of five constructions sites were very difficult to access due to the long cold winter and flooding, thus construction could not resume until the end of April 2003. The ARCS adjusted its work timetable to ensure that the needs of the affected communities are being met. These changes are reflected in the attached revised operational budget. The operation been extended for a further six months and operations are scheduled for completion by 31 December 2003.



Operational developments

A strong earthquake measuring 6.2 on the Richter scale, devastated much of Nahrin town, in Baghlan province, on 25 March 2002 in an isolated region of northeast Afghanistan. Nahrin District is 74 km (2.5 hours) from Pul-i-Khumri, which is the main city of the Province, and 264 km (5.5 hours) from Mazar-i-Sharif. The district has a population of approximately 80,000 families, and is made up of approximately 90 villages. The largest, and most affected by the earthquake, were Nahrin New and Old City (5 km apart), and the village of Jilga.

The Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) supported by the Federation, continues to contribute to the lengthy recovery of basic living standards for the people of

Nahrin. It continues to provide much-needed health services through a Field Health Clinic and a Mobile Health Team. In addition, the overall capacity building of the National Society is being enhanced, especially in the areas of disaster preparedness and response.

Due to operational constraints described in Operations Update no.3, the long cold winter and flooding in the area, delayed planned construction activities. Two out of five construction sites were very difficult to access, thus construction could not resume until the end of April 2003. The ARCS adjusted its work timetable to ensure that the needs of the affected communities are being met. These changes are reflected in the attached budget. The operation has therefore been extended for a further six months and the operations will be completed by 31 December 2003.

Health

A temporary emergency health clinic in Nahrin, staffed by a dedicated team of a head doctor, male nurse, health educator and pharmacist, has continued to provide services to the people of earthquake-devastated Nahrin. The team is on location in the temporary tented structures, and is on call for emergencies during the night.

From January to the end of May 2003, the ARCS temporary clinic saw a total of 5,669 patients for consultation and treatment (an average 12% being children under the age of 5 years and 35% women over 15 years). Main health problems attended to included; respiratory tract infections during winter months and skin infections, which are expected due to poor living conditions. Health education was offered to all on various topics, including nutrition, diarrhoea prevention and mine awareness. The clinic will continue to provide much needed health services until new premises are constructed.

The new clinic will be built in Lakan Kheil, Aab Khana section of Nahrin District, 13 km west of Nahrin New City and will serve 3,500 families. The road from Nahrin New City to Lakan Khail is poor and during the winter months is often only passable by horse or donkey. Lakan Kheil is one of the largest villages in Aab Khana section. The community has donated 1,200 sq metres of land to ARCS for the construction. The project contract has been signed by ARCS at the end of May 2003 and excavation work is in progress. The job is expected to be completed in five months time.

From January until the end of May 2003 the mobile clinic operating out of Pul-i-Khumri in the Nahrin area, saw 5,126 patients for consultation and treatment and offered health education. Health messages concentrated on hygiene and sanitation issues as well as respiratory tract infection, diarrhoea, birth spacing, worm infections, mine awareness and the history of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Major health problems seen were diarrhoeal diseases and respiratory tract infections.

Rehabilitation

After prolonged negotiation with the local authority, lands were allocated free of cost for the construction of five schools in the following areas: Almatuo, Gawi, Joi Kalan, Abserni Balaqi and Tolihaa.



The construction of five schools in the earthquake-affected Nahrin experienced delays mainly due to the harsh winter as the sites are in remote mountainous areas, and the time-consuming negotiations with the construction company over additional charges presented to the delegation. In one instance, the company demanded additional 8,800 USD for the supplementary materials apparently used by the company to construct the foundations of the schools, which were not provided for in the original bill of quantity. The subsequent assessment of the construction site by the Federation has revealed that indeed the company had to use additional materials as the site for the schools had changed from what was originally planned due to interference of the local authorities in the area.

In another instance, the company claimed additional funds for the transportation of the materials to the construction sites, although according to the contract, the company should have covered all transportation costs including possible increase in the cost. Poor quality of bricks around Nahrin was cited as the main reason and had to be sourced from Pul-i-Khumri.

The construction work of the schools in Nahrin area resumed in the fourth week of April following an agreement with the contractor on payment of extra transportation cost of the construction materials. It is recalled that the construction was held in abeyance because of extreme cold weather and the Contractor's subsequent demand for sanction of additional amount for transportation of materials. A compromise was made to avoid further delays. These operational constraints and budgetary implications are reflected in the attached revised budget.

At the time of reporting, 45 per cent of the works were on target on all sites. The main construction (walls and roofs) is in progress and is expected to be completed in September 2003. All rehabilitated schools will be provided with school furniture, a well and a latrine. The procurement of furniture has been arranged by the Federation delegation's logistics department and the ARCS Planning Department. The Federation Watsan team has also completed a water assessment within the schools.



Disaster Preparedness (DP)

The repositioning of DP stocks according to regional needs have now been finalised. Relief materials distributed by ARCS during the emergency phase have largely been replenished and stored at the ARCS warehouse. Within the framework of this DP operation, 10,000 blankets and 1,000 rolls of plastic sheeting have been procured. Plastic sheeting has been delivered to ARCS warehouse in Northern region and blankets are expected to be in country within the coming two-three weeks. This will significantly strengthen ARCS disaster preparedness capacity and ensure rapid and effective response to future similar calamities.

The ARCS disaster management capacity of branches in disaster prone areas will be strengthened by technical assistance, namely, providing them with computers and printers that will support the ARCS branches to improve reporting, stock recording, data collection and analysis.

Telecommunications

The Federation delegation is arranging a specific telecom network for the ARCS branch in Pul-i-Khumri. Radio equipment has been already received and after installation, the relevant staff will be trained in its utilisation and maintenance of the equipment. At present, there is no working telecommunication system in the area except for a basic telephone system linking official buildings. The network will enable the ARCS to receive timely information about disasters and better coordinate response activities. The ARCS branch in Pul-i-Khumri will be a part of wider communication network supported by the Federation which will impact positively on ARCS disaster management capacity building.

National Society Capacity Building

The process of establishing a proper volunteer base in the earthquake affected area has continued. Some 100 volunteers trained in community based first aid in Nahrin continue to cover 148 villages. All have been equipped with first aid kits. The volunteers transmit health education messages to their own villages and take action against preventable diseases, exacerbated by the results of the earthquake. ARCS, supported by Federation, have over 12,000 volunteers trained in community based first aid across the country. As the organisation's pool of committed and multi-skilled volunteers grows, the Red Crescent's ability to support the vulnerable communities increases.

Coordination

The Federation/ARCS are part of the overall humanitarian actors' efforts to recover and rehabilitate the area devastated by the earthquake, while maintaining independence and neutrality. On construction, the Federation/ARCS hold regular consultations with government authorities and other agencies in the disaster-affected area, particularly Swedish Committee which is also involved in construction of schools in Nahrin. The Federation/ARCS regularly attends coordination meetings in Kabul and sub-delegations with ministry of public health, education and other government bodies, WHO, UNICEF, UNAMA and other UN agencies as well as NGOs involved in health and relief activities.

Remaining challenges:

- Construct a new ARCS clinic in Lakan Kheil.
- Finalise the construction of five target schools in the earthquake affected area and supply the schools with school furniture, water and sanitary facilities.
- Continue ARCS capacity building initiatives, strengthening its disaster preparedness and response capabilities, in disaster prone areas.

For further details please contact:

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

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

REVISED OPERATIONAL BUDGET

Afghanistan - Nahrin Earthquake

Description	APPEAL BUDGET CHF	cash expenses April - Dec 2002 CHF	in kind donations April - Dec 2002 CHF	cash expenses Jan - May 2003 CHF	Budget June - Dec 2003 CHF	Revised Operational Budget CHF
<u>SUPPLIES</u>						
Shelter & Construction	540'662	37'762		26'629	536'771	601'162
Clothing & Textiles	116'535	5'115	41'420	54'332	0	100'867
Food & Seeds	0					0
Water & Sanitation	0					0
Medical & First Aid	12'561		12'561			12'561
Teaching materials	101'933			67	62'933	63'000
Utensils & Tools	0					0
Other relief supplies - BHC ERU	802'475		802'475			802'475
Sub-Total	1'574'166	42'877	856'456	81'029	599'704	1'580'066
<u>CAPITAL EXPENSES</u>						
Land & Buildings	0					0
Vehicles	216'400	152'400		3'428	60'572	216'400
Computers & Telecom equip.	45'022	31'022		4'762	7'315	43'099
Medical equipment	0					0
Other capital expenditures	0					0
Sub-Total	261'422	183'422	0	8'189	67'888	259'499
<u>TRANSPORT & STORAGE</u>						
Transport Storage & Vehicle Costs	96'668	30'368	33'201	14'984	43'930	122'482
Sub-Total	96'668	30'368	33'201	14'984	43'930	122'482
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>						
Programme Support	133'103	71'104		12'431	63'794	147'329
Sub-Total	133'103	71'104	0	12'431	63'794	147'329
<u>PERSONNEL</u>						
Expatriate staff	97'154	25'154		36'393	115'095	176'641
National staff	52'631	33'131		22'353	61'268	116'753
Personnel (support costs)	0					0
Sub-Total	149'785	58'285	0	58'746	176'363	293'394
<u>TRAINING COSTS</u>						
Training of staff and volunteers					2'000	2'000
Sub-Total	0	0	0	0	2'000	2'000
<u>GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION</u>						
Travel & related expenses	2'502	2'502		1'847	2'571	6'920
Information	73	73		0	700	773
Administrative & General expenses	18'265	3'865		14'022	24'491	42'378
Sub-Total	20'839	6'439	0	15'869	27'762	50'070
<u>OPERATIONAL PROVISIONS</u>						
<u>TRANSFER TO NATIONAL SOCIETY</u>						
GRAND TOTAL	2'235'984	392'494	889'657	191'247	981'441	2'454'839

Afghanistan - Nahrin earthquake

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 10/2002

PLEDGES RECEIVED

05.07.2003

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->	2'235'984	TOTAL COVERAGE 103.0%
AMERICAN - RC	224 USD	361 14.05.2002
CANADIAN - GOVT/RC CIDA/IHA	99'000 CAD	102'326 22.05.2002
CYPRUS - RC		5'057 08.04.2002
CHINA/HONG KONG - RC	150'000 HKD	32'001 10.04.2002
DANISH - RC	1'715 USD	2'764 10.06.2002
JAPANESE - RC		1'170'865 04.06.2002
KOREA REPUBLIC - RC	10'145'130 WON	12'773 11.04.2002
KOREA REPUBLIC - RC		24'800 30.04.2002
PRIVATE DONOR - KOREA REP.		2'257 23.07.2002
MALTESE - RC		723 02.12.2002
MONACO - RC	15'000 EUR	21'990 26.03.2002
POLAND - RC	1'000 USD	1'656 04.04.2002
PRIVATE DONORS		389 06.08.2002
SLOVAK - RC	70'000 SKK	2'436 08.04.2002
SWEDISH - GOVT	350'000 SEK	56'350 20.06.2002
SWISS - RC		80'000 06.08.2002
SWISS - PRIVATE DONOR	25'000 EUR	36'563 05.04.2002
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH		1'553'311 CHF 69.5%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
AMERICAN - RC		7'794	USD	12'562	14.05.2002	NEW EMERGENCY HEALTH KIT
DANISH - RC		46'300	USD	74'622	10.06.2002	10'020 BLANKETS, 1 RUBBHALL, TRANSP. & INSUR.
JAPANESE - RC				558'785	04.06.2002	BASIC HEALTH CARE UNIT
ICELAND	DELEGATE(S)			56'837		
JAPAN	DELEGATE(S)			46'653		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				749'459	CHF	33.5%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	