

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

ROMANIA: FLOODS

Appeal No. MDRRO001
12 April 2007

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 185 countries.

In Brief

Operations Update no. 5; Period covered: 1 October 2006 to 31 March 2007; Appeal target: Revised from CHF 2,067,057 (USD 1,693,955 or EUR 1,261,380) to CHF 631,853 (USD 517,770 or EUR 385,575); Appeal coverage: 100 % ([click here to go directly to the attached interim financial report](#)).

Appeal history:

- Launched on 29 April 2006 for CHF 2,427,200 (USD 1.9 million or EUR 1.5 million) for 3 months to assist 13,000 beneficiaries.
- Operations Update no.1 issued on 10 May 2006 decreased the budget to CHF 2,067,057.
- Operations Update no.3 issued on 7 August 2006 extended the operation timeframe by three months; to 31 October 2006.
- Operations Update no.4 issued on 20 October 2006 extended the operation timeframe for an additional three months; up to 31 January 2007.
- In March 2007, the budget has been revised to CHF 631,853 based on cash and in-kind donations received for this operation.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 168,930.

Operational Summary:

This update requests an extension of the timeframe of the Romania Floods operation until 30 April 2007, due to some expenditure that still has to be reported. The relief operation has been finalised and the additional time will be used for completing the final narrative and financial reports to be issued within three months after the end of the operation (by 31 July, 2007).

During the reporting period the operation continued in Romania with a focus on further relief efforts, specifically food parcel distribution in Tulcea and Dolj counties to those still suffering from the effects of the floods that hit the country in April 2006.

In addition to the DREF allocation of CHF 168,930, contributions to the appeal have been received from the Red Cross Societies of Britain, Japan, Liechtenstein, Monaco, the Netherlands, United States of America and Switzerland. In addition, relief items have been received by the Romanian Red Cross on a bilateral basis.

The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.

- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

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Background

During the period from 1 October 2006 to 31 March 2007, the Romanian Red Cross (RRC) focused on food parcel distribution to the most affected flood victims in counties of Dolj and Tulcea. The procurement was done at branch level with the funds received through the emergency appeal. The process was closely monitored by RRC headquarters (HQ), ensuring that the standards were maintained.

As a significant achievement of the reporting period, the RRC was invited to attend a meeting of the National Committee for Emergency Situations for the first time. Under Romanian law, the RRC is entrusted with a specific response task in case of a disaster and therefore has the right to attend such meetings. The Director General of the RRC took the opportunity to inform the members of the committee about the activities of the RRC during the floods, as well as the coordination efforts of all humanitarian agencies through the interagency meetings.

Operational developments

Red Cross and Red Crescent action - objectives, progress, impact

Emergency relief (food and basic non-food items)

Objective 1: To provide humanitarian relief assistance to 13,000 evacuated people and severely affected persons, consisting of tents, blankets, tarpaulins, plastic sheeting, mattresses, jerry cans, rubber boots, sleeping bags, food and hygiene parcels.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

The humanitarian assistance continued in the counties of Dolj and Tulcea. The items, food parcels/rations, were distributed as follows:

Dolj county

Communities	Food parcels distributed
Bechet	548
Carna	2,835
Macesul de Jos	2,389
Negoi	706
Total	6,478

Tulcea county

Communities	Food rations/beneficiaries
Ceatalchioi	44
Ilganii de Sus	87
Ostrov	612
Patlageanca	37
Plauru	165
Tulcea	35
Vulturu	96
Total	1,076

A total of 300 pairs of boots were also distributed to beneficiaries from affected communities in both counties.

RRC has positioned three boats donated by the German Red Cross in Tulcea to facilitate the relief distributions along the Danube delta.

Federation Coordination

Over the reporting period, the Regional Delegation in Budapest continued to provide support to RRC. In order to support the National Society in evaluating its potential in Disaster Management (DM) at Branch level, for the purpose to develop the functioning of its DM structure, the Swiss Red Cross agreed with the International Federation to send a Swiss RC Delegate to Romania as from October 2006 for a period of 3 months. The position was financed jointly by Swiss RC and the International Federation.

The Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) of the RRC took place in October – December 2006 with a purpose to gather the latest data on the potential of all 47 RRC branches and their activities in the field of DM.

RRC continued to play a key role in initiating the monthly interagency meetings held in Bucharest, which contributed to information sharing and coordination of humanitarian assistance in the affected areas. Various agencies including Caritas, International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), Save the Children, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and World Vision were present in the country, together with the Red Cross, delivering humanitarian assistance to beneficiaries affected by the floods. The meetings helped the planning of the agencies involved, especially by avoiding overlapping. They also served as a platform for information sharing. All agencies faced funding issues due to the low visibility of the disaster in the public sphere and had to narrow their scope of assistance.

There were parallel operations implemented by other organisations (such as Caritas, World Vision, Save the Children) in the affected areas but no overlapping of functional tasks was registered, mainly due to the properly implemented interagency meetings/consultations.

National Society Capacity Building

Capacities at RRC HQs and branches are limited, with each staff member performing a variety of duties related to different sectors. Filling the DM coordinator position was crucial, following the departure of the previous DM coordinator in mid-June 2006. The position of DM coordinator was fulfilled only in March 2007. A part time

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logistician provided the much needed support to the food parcel distribution element of the operation. A number of other key positions were also open, related to hygiene promotion, organisational development, and administration.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

RRC staff continued communication initiatives, including press releases, interviews and field visits. The public relations officer was closely involved in the development of materials for the hygiene promotion information campaign in order to ensure relevant/simple messages and dissemination methods which correspond with local habits.

[Interim financial report below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRRO001 - ROMANIA: FLOODS

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/4-2007/2
Budget Timeframe	2006/4-2007/3
Appeal	MDRRO001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget		631,853				631,853
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>American Red Cross</i>		6,165				6,165
<i>British Red Cross</i>		91,160				91,160
<i>Japanese Red Cross Society</i>		79,219				79,219
<i>Liechtenstein Red Cross</i>		20,125				20,125
<i>Monaco Red Cross</i>		15,700				15,700
<i>Netherlands Red Cross</i>		121,586				121,586
<i>Swiss Red Cross</i>		7,313				7,313
C1. Cash contributions		341,267				341,267
<u>Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)</u>						
<i>DREF</i>		168,217				168,217
C3. Reallocations (within appeal or		168,217				168,217
<u>Inkind Goods & Transport</u>						
<i>Other</i>		118,012				118,012
C4. Inkind Goods & Transport		118,012				118,012
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
<i>Netherlands Red Cross</i>		4,400				4,400
C5. Inkind Personnel		4,400				4,400
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		631,896				631,896
D. Total Funding = B + C		631,896				631,896

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		631,896				631,896
E. Expenditure		-625,113				-625,113
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		6,783				6,783

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III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		631,853					631,853	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	118,700		113,214				113,214	5,486
Clothing & textiles	500		466				466	34
Food	236,368		197,418				197,418	38,950
Water & Sanitation	7,733		7,733				7,733	0
Other Supplies & Services	10,179		10,169				10,169	11
Total Supplies	373,480		329,001				329,001	44,479
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	3,130		3,130				3,130	0
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	3,130		3,130				3,130	0
Transport & Storage								
Storage	1,793		1,793				1,793	0
Distribution & Monitoring	13,074		7,712				7,712	5,362
Transport & Vehicle Costs	14,038		14,038				14,038	0
Total Transport & Storage	28,904		23,542				23,542	5,362
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	47,039		12,353				12,353	34,686
Delegate Benefits	5,333		4,967				4,967	366
Regionally Deployed Staff	7,609		7,609				7,609	0
National Staff	1,432		1,432				1,432	0
National Society Staff	8,573		8,575				8,575	-3
Consultants	1,153		1,153				1,153	0
Total Personnel Expenditures	71,138		36,088				36,088	35,049
General Expenditure								
Travel	83,661		83,661				83,661	0
Information & Public Relation	1,239		1,239				1,239	0
Office Costs	10,000		1,822				1,822	8,178
Communications	7,731		5,415				5,415	2,316
Financial Charges	2,000		1,522				1,522	478
Other General Expenses	9,500							9,500
Total General Expenditure	114,131		93,660				93,660	20,472
Program Support								
Program Support	41,070		39,780				39,780	1,290
Total Program Support	41,070		39,780				39,780	1,290
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			99,911				99,911	-99,911
Total Operational Provisions			99,911				99,911	-99,911
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	631,853		625,113				625,113	6,740
VARIANCE (C - D)			6,740				6,740	