

# Operations update



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Serbia: Earthquake

Emergency appeal n° MDRRS004  
GLIDE n° EQ-2010-00218-SRB  
Operations update n° 3  
30 May 2011

**Period covered by this Operations Update:** 30 November – 27 May 2011.

**Appeal target (current):** CHF 409,759

**Appeal coverage:** 19%; [<click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details >](#)

**Appeal history:**

- This **Emergency Appeal** was initially launched on 19 November 2010 for CHF 409,759 for seven months to assist 8,000 beneficiaries.
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF):** CHF 102,347 was initially allocated from the Federation's DREF to support the national society to respond.



Red Cross assessment team. Photo by Red Cross of Serbia

**Summary:** On 3 November 2010, at 1.58 A.M. an earthquake measuring 5.4 on the Richter scale / 7.5 on the Mercalli scale hit central Serbia, the epicentre being the village of Vitanovac, some 15 kilometres northwest of the town of Kraljevo. Two people were killed and another 120 sought medical assistance. The damage to the city and its surroundings was huge, estimated to be more than EUR 100 Million.

The Red Cross of Kraljevo branch, supported by the Red Cross of Serbia and the International Federation was acting alongside municipal and national authorities in assessing the needs of the affected population and providing the immediate assistance. The Red Cross of Kraljevo branch is still in the process of distributing relief assistance at the territory of the municipality using both Red Cross stock and other goods (from different sources) towards those in need, in accordance with the assessed needs.

The Red Cross also participated in the assessment of longer term needs, particularly the needs of people in temporary accommodation. This assessment followed the assessment of expert commissions that have categorised households according to the level of damage. Upon the end of this assessment (December 2010) and in line with the results, the Red Cross has been working on providing assistance in the recovery and rehabilitation, with tool kits, materials and technical assistance as well as psychosocial support for up to 8,000 people.

The operation's timeframe has been extended by one month to allow for the final distribution of house repair kits to the people living in damaged houses.

## The situation

A state of emergency, proclaimed in November 2010, has been revoked on March 11th 2011.

326 pre-fabricated houses are in process of construction, out of which 233 pre-fabricated houses have been completed, all part of the government's response.

The Damage Assessment Commission has completed 14,447 records (consisting of related questionnaires, photos, damage estimates and experts' conclusions); 795 buildings are to be demolished.

The Damage Assessment Commission continues the assessment of residential buildings in Kraljevo. So far, nearly 6,000 apartments have been assessed. 51 residential buildings have structural damages; 28 residential buildings are under structural reconstruction.

Reparation and reconstruction of all private houses are to be completed by October 2011. The cost of repairing private houses is estimated at *2.5 billion RSD (EUR 23 million)*; residential and public buildings and industrial facilities are still to be assessed.

Households with severe damages receive construction materials and financial support between 20,000 and 40,000 RSD (approximately 180 EUR to 360 EUR) per household for I,II and III degree of damage, and 100,000 and 120,000 RSD (approximately 920 EUR to 1,100 EUR) for IV and V degree of damage. Financial support has nearly been completed.

Some 300 people are still accommodated in collective centres.

Construction materials – bricks, gravel, roof tiles and cement are still in high demand as outlined by the authorities in Kraljevo.<sup>1</sup>

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

### Progress towards objectives

#### Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

**Outcome: 1,200 vulnerable people residing in temporary accommodation will have received urgent relief items (mattresses, blankets, bed linen, canned food, hygiene parcels)**

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The food and hygiene needs of 1,200 people residing in temporary accommodation for two months will be met through provision of adequate relief items.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct detailed emergency needs and capacity assessments.</li> <li>• Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.</li> <li>• Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.</li> <li>• Develop an exit strategy.</li> <li>• Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** In line with the assessed needs and stated priorities, the Red Cross of Kraljevo, with the support of the Red Cross of Serbia and the Federation, has distributed food and hygiene parcels as well as other non-food items for families in temporary accommodation and in their damaged homes. The initial target of 1,200 vulnerable people residing in temporary accommodation to receive food and non-food relief assistance was increased to

<sup>1</sup> United Nations Situation report, 4 April 2011

2,000 after the Red Cross assessment of needs. The distribution took place periodically in four instalments and the breakdown of the distributed goods is presented in the table below:

No.	Item	Measure	To direct beneficiaries	Via DM Centre of Kraljevo	Total
1	Family hygiene parcel	piece	6,892		<b>6,892</b>
2	Family food parcel	piece	7,677		<b>7,677</b>
3	Bottled water	lit	158,031		<b>158,031</b>
4	Meat pate	piece	20,000		<b>20,000</b>
5	Canned meat	piece	7,323		<b>7,323</b>
6	Liquid detergent	lit	4,762		<b>4,762</b>
7	Plastic sheet cover	m2	5,600		<b>5,600</b>
8	Bed linen	piece	5	27	<b>32</b>
9	Liquid detergent for dishes	lit	60		<b>60</b>
10	Blankets	piece	105	14	<b>119</b>
11	Baby parcel	piece	3		<b>3</b>

### Shelter

**Outcome: 2,000 affected households in Kraljevo municipality have been provided with shelter support through the provision of locally appropriate materials and tool kits and assistance in repairs, in order to help preserve their physical and mental well-being and human dignity, and prevent the further deterioration of the humanitarian situation.**

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
<p>2,000 homes are made habitable through provision of appropriate materials, tool kits and assistance with repairs.</p> <p>Increase the Serbian Red Cross's capacity to undertake shelter, settlement and Essential Household Items (EHI) activities in emergency</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess the exact extent of damage done to houses not declared unsafe to use.</li> <li>Provision of assistance in repairs through deployment of mobile technical teams.</li> <li>Define two basic household repair assistance kits: one for urban areas (apartment buildings) and one for rural areas (houses).</li> <li>Purchase and distribution of materials and tools as well as essential household objects for select households.</li> <li>Promotion of increased awareness and understanding of safe and adequate shelter response programming with the National Society and affected communities.</li> <li>Monitoring and evaluation of shelter support</li> </ul>

**Progress:** The Federation support was used to conduct field visits, assessments of damage and needs as well as monitoring of the relief distribution.

The remaining activity to be done is the distribution of house repair kits. The Red Cross assessment identified approximately 2,000 households with damages that are not posing immediate danger towards the residents – and therefore will not be repaired with governmental support – but that are still threatening their health and lives. These damages will be repaired by the residents themselves with the Red Cross providing material and tools (cement, gravel, paint, brushes, protective equipment, etc.).

The purchase and distribution of the material and tools is being coordinated between the Red Cross of Serbia, USAID and the International Federation. Due to the large number of kits to be purchased at the same time, the initial call for bids done in April failed to produce a sufficient number of acceptable bids. Therefore the call had to be repeated. However, due to the need to respect the formal tendering process, including the prescribed time frame and, again due to the fact that delivering a large number of these kits at the same time is a challenge for

the suppliers, it became clear that the delivery and distribution cannot be finalised within the timeframe of the operation as described in the original Emergency Appeal. Therefore, the Operation Manager, in consultation with the Disaster Management department in the Europe Zone office in Budapest as well as with the formal consent of the Operations Quality Assurance Senior Officer in the Federation in Geneva, decided to extend the timeframe of the operation by one month.

Therefore, the operation will be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup> and the final report will still be produced by the original deadline – August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

## Psychosocial support

<b>Outcome: 2,000 affected families will be assisted with strengthening their coping mechanisms and supported in recovery efforts.</b>	
<b>Outputs (expected results)</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
2000 affected families receive regular psychosocial support from Red Cross volunteers and are able to better cope with the effects of the disaster.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment and selection of beneficiary groups (mothers with children, etc.).</li> <li>• Ongoing provision of psychosocial support.</li> <li>• Design of training and training manual for Red Cross volunteers.</li> <li>• Two training sessions for 50 Red Cross volunteers.</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation of support activities</li> </ul>

## 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 \(NGO's\) 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.

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.

## Contact information

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

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