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Emergency appeal operation update

Turkey: Van Earthquake

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency Appeal n° MDRTR002 GLIDE n° EQ-2011-000162-TUR Operation update n°1 1 November 2011

Period covered by this Operations Update: 26 October to 1 November 2011.

Appeal target (current): CHF 10,421,025.

Appeal coverage: By the 1 November the level of the appeal coverage has reached 15 %, mainly through in-kind donations. (Seven firm pledges have been recorded so far) A number of soft pledges has been communicated either which may increase the response up to 50%. Further

contributions are urgently needed to help the Turkish Red Crescent to meet the immediate needs of the most vulnerable affected by the earthquake.

[<Click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details >](#)

Appeal history:

- This emergency appeal was launched on a preliminary basis on 26 October 2011 for CHF 10,421,025 for the period of nine months to assist 10,000 households (50,000 beneficiaries)

Summary: An earthquake with 7.2 magnitude by Richter scale that hit south-eastern part of Turkey on Sunday, 23 October 2011, killed 601 people (according to the latest information received from the Turkish Red Crescent). The number of injured has increased to 4,152. According to the results of the assessment conducted by the Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Agency 2,309 buildings were collapsed, 11,847 have been severely damaged and 17,923 moderately damaged. The government mobilised necessary human and technical resources for the immediate deployment to the affected area. As the result of these measures search and rescue operations have been completed in 67 zones and will continue in four zones.

Following the tragic news from Van the Turkish Red Crescent immediately alerted all its emergency response units and established the Crisis Management Centres in several regions. Rapid assessment has allowed estimating the most urgent humanitarian needs, especially in terms of the urgent shelter and food requirements of the victims. Four tent camps have been established by the Turkish Red Crescent Disaster response teams and a total number of 21,950 meals were distributed to their inhabitants. The National Society is further working on providing assistance to people in the tent camps as the weather conditions are becoming worse. The current temperatures are around 6 degrees C in daytime and -4 degrees C at night with a strong wind. Therefore people are in need for blankets, sleeping bags, winterized tents, heaters and other relief supplies.



Turkish Red Crescent Disaster response teams established four tent camps in the stadiums in the Erçis District of Van. Photo: Turkish Red Crescent

The International Federation's Europe Zone office has been in constant contact with the Turkish Red Crescent from the very beginning of the disaster. Regular information was received from the Turkish Red Crescent which has allowed the issue of the two information bulletins prior to the launch of the current emergency appeal.

Financial and in kind donations are still required to support the Turkish Red Crescent activities in helping the hardest-hit people in meeting their needs and providing them adequate shelter solutions to preserve their physical and mental well-being and prevent the further deterioration of the humanitarian situation.

The situation

An Earthquake measured 7.2 on the Richter scale with its epicentre in Tabanlı Village struck Van Province, at 13:41 on 23 October 2011. The quake and its aftershocks were mostly felt in Hakkari, Bitlis, Ağrı, Iğdır, Erzurum, Muş, Bingöl, Tunceli, Batman, Şırnak, Mardin, Diyarbakır, Siirt and Şanlıurfa provinces.

Search and rescue, medical and first aid staff from 48 provinces and 39 national institutions have been deployed to the region by air and land. 25 Turkish Airlines aircrafts, 26 military aircrafts and eight special cargo planes were involved in this emergency operation.

The Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Agency sent a team of 20 experts to Van to facilitate effective rescue and relief operations. In addition, 200 experts from various provinces were dispatched to Van to conduct a rapid assessment of the damage caused by the earthquake. The results of the assessment below were confirmed by Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Agency as of 31 October 2011, 20 PM.

Death toll	601
The number of injured	4,152
The number of buildings not eligible for accommodation	14,156

According to the Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management official information (17:30hrs. 31.10.2011) the following resources have been deployed to emergency areas: 4,440 search and rescue teams; 1,96 health personnel; 18 search and rescue dogs; 667 units of rescue machinery; 7 air ambulances; 170 land ambulances; 11 mobile hospitals; 146 generators; 79 reflectors; 151 mobile toilets; 44,164 tents (9,436 of which through international assistance); 109 communal tents; 60 general purpose tents; 60 pre-fabricated houses; 2,310 Mevlana houses (a type of prefabricated house); 170,495 blankets; 1,204 duvets; 37 mobile kitchens; 3,051 kitchen sets; 7,096 heaters; 5,792 sleeping bags; 1,000 folding beds; and 1 mobile oven. A transportation chain of 12 aircrafts (9 private and 3 military) has been operational in airlifting blankets and tents to the affected areas.

Search and rescue operations have been completed in 67 zones and will continue in 4 zones. The Government gave instructions to the governmental construction agency to build houses for the affected population in the shortest possible time. For temporary shelter purposes containers are being manufactured and will be dispatched to the earthquake affected areas as soon as possible. Tents are also being used to provide shelter to the affected people.

In order to provide psycho-social and social support services, qualified staff in sufficient numbers has been assigned to the Van Provincial Governorate. Ministry of Health is continuing rapid public health assessment of affected population which is accommodated in the tent camps. There are many cases of diarrhoea among the affected population. The people of earthquake area were warned by the Ministry of Health to drink only bottled water. Food items were sent by different sources, including from provinces neighbouring Van. Turkish Red Crescent is continuing to distribute hot meals three times a day to the affected population.

The Government called for international assistance in the form of tents and prefabricated houses. Erzurum was identified as the receiving hub of international assistance coming in by air.

The medium and small businesses, farmers and livestock breeders will need support to resume their activities. The earthquake had a very high toll on livestock, – cattle and sheep – which is the main economy in the rural areas.

Coordination and partnerships

Movement Coordination: The International Federation's Europe Zone office has been in constant contact with the Turkish Red Crescent from the beginning of the disaster. Two information bulletins were issued by the International Federation on the relief and rescue work of the Turkish Red Crescent in the aftermath of the disaster.

As soon as the Turkish Red Crescent requested late 25 October the support from the International Federation its Europe Zone Office disaster management and coordination structure has been made fully operational. On the basis of the rapid assessment by the Turkish Red Crescent in cooperation with Government authorities of the identified humanitarian needs the International Federation launched an emergency appeal for the total of 10.4 million CHF.

Subsequently the Federation's Europe Zone Office has provided the assistance to the Turkish Red Crescent from its Europe Zone Office in Budapest backed by the Geneva technical team. The Turkish Red Crescent is leading the operational response in Turkey supported by the International Federation, which has launched the international appeal on behalf of the Turkish Red Crescent and is coordinating the international disaster response. The International Federation logistics services manage the mobilisation of the response in kind and interact with contributing partners.

On 27 October 2011 the Europe Zone Office organised a teleconference with all interested National Societies to inform them on the activities of the Turkish Red Crescent and details of its operational plans. The teleconference has been attended by more than 20 National Societies.

Campaigns and appeals to help Turkish Red Crescent to meet their objective of getting aid to 50,000 people are under way in the National Societies of Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Finland, Great Britain, Canada, Croatia, the Netherlands, Germany, China, Hungary, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Norway, Qatar, Serbia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, and the USA.

The Iranian Red Crescent urgently deployed its teams and relief items (500 tents, 1,500 blankets and 2,500 ready-to-eat packages) to the field. These activities have been based on the bilateral cooperation agreement between Turkish Red Crescent branches and the Iranian Red Crescent that was already in place before the earthquake.

The Federation has been in touch with the ICRC in order to coordinate activities and activate the Restoring of Family Links (RFL) service to assist the affected families.

Coordination with authorities: The Turkish Red Crescent acts as an auxiliary to public services, responsible for intervention in the event of disasters, in conjunction with state agencies such as Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency, the fire department and health services. All activities in the field are being coordinated at the central level of the Turkish Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency.

For the purpose of preliminary damage assessments in the closest districts and villages to the epicentre of the quake, the information is being collected through the Turkish Red Crescent Branch Offices, District Governorates, Gendarmerie Commands, Security Departments in the town and cities, and being coordinated from the Disaster Management Centre (HQ). Consignments of relief items, vehicles, equipment and staff, primarily from Muş, Elazığ, Erzurum, Adana, Manisa, Ağrı and Van and other Turkish Red Crescent branches, have been mobilised and dispatched to the affected areas.

The Turkish Red Crescent Society launched a national fundraising campaign, and it is anticipated that there will be a good response nationally. This International Federation appeal aims to complement support being raised within the country as a reflection of international concern and solidarity with those affected by this massive disaster.

Inter-agency coordination: The Turkish Red Crescent is constantly in touch with UN Country Team and OCHA Regional Office to ensure effective and timely response. The Regional Disaster Response Advisor from OCHA Regional Office in Cairo has joined the UN Team in Turkey as of October 28, 2011 in order to support the humanitarian efforts of the UN system in Turkey.

Additional contribution from UN system of 880 tents, 20,070 blankets have already been delivered to the Turkish Red Crescent Society. UNFPA has donated 250 tents while OCHA has donated 400 tents. IOM has donated \$ 5,000.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

The Turkish Red Crescent has made all its emergency response units fully operational and established the Crisis Management Desk in the Disaster Management Centre in its headquarters (Ankara). Similar coordination and operational management structures have been established in the Northern Anatolia (Erzurum), the South-eastern Anatolia (Elazığ), the Eastern Anatolia (Muş), the Mediterranean (Adana) Regional Disaster Management Centres, Sivas and Diyarbakir Local Disaster Management Centres. In order to meet the most urgent shelter and food needs of the victims the *relief items*¹ have been from Ankara, Elazığ, Erzurum, Adana, Muş and Manisa Regional Disaster Management Centres. 167 disaster specialists and 37 vehicles have been deployed to organise the work in the affected areas.

Sheltering Activities: Tents, blankets, sleeping bags and heaters have been dispatched and distributed in the disaster-affected area to cover the need for emergency shelter. Turkish Red Crescent disaster response teams established three tent camps in the Erçis District of Van and the fourth tent city is being re-established in Van Central Province. Additionally, two Mevlana House Camps (278 Mevlana pre-fabricated houses) are being established both in Van Central Province and Erçis District. 1,968 Pre-fabricated Mevlana Houses have already been distributed to 48 villages which are located in higher altitude and colder areas.



Turkish Red Crescent staff in the mobile kitchens are distributing meals.
Photo: Turkish Red Crescent.

Nutrition Activities: In the first day of the disaster, ready-to-eat snacks were distributed to the victims of the earthquake. Mobile bakery, 2 mobile catering vehicles, 21 mobile kitchens, 10 ovens and 2,619 kitchen sets have been made available. Turkish Red Crescent catering vehicles have distributed soup and tea to the affected population. A total number of 17,600 meals were distributed within the first hours and days after the disaster.

Psycho-social Support Activities: 18 psychologists and social service specialists were assigned to the disaster affected regions with the aim to provide psycho-social support for the victims who lost their relatives and for the victims who have experienced post-traumatic stress disorder because of the shock caused by the quake. The members of the “Union of Psychosocial Services in Disasters”, which has been established by the Turkish Red Crescent and has been coordinating the Society of Turkish Psychologists, Society of Social Service Specialists, the Psychiatric Association of Turkey, the Turkish Psychological Counselling, the Guidance Association and the Youth Mental Health Association of Turkey. Psycho-social Support Teams were organised in two categories, permanent and mobile teams. While permanent teams were located in three tent camps, mobile teams were deployed to the villages and Van Central Province. Mobile teams are also in very close cooperation with schools and universities working with school counselling teachers and university staff. The Programme for Support to Disaster Workers has already started in the affected areas. In addition to the 18 Psychologists, 24 volunteer experts going to expand their field of study.

Volunteering Activities: Community leaders like teachers and religious leaders, who were trained through the Turkish Red Crescent Community Leaders (OCL) Project, have been actively participating in organising and assisting the relief work. Religious officers and leaders cooperated with the Turkish Red Crescent personnel on setting up prayer tents and placing burial and religious ritual for those, who lost their lives as a result of the

¹ Please find the table in [annex](#).

earthquake. 12 volunteering teachers from Muş province arrived in Van and helped with the tent pitching activities. Volunteering teachers also took registry of the affected people in tent camps. OCL volunteers, scouts and university students have participated in food distributions, cleaning up and psycho-social support in the tent camps.

Blood Donation Services: Turkish Red Crescent Regional Blood Center based in Van communicated immediately with hospitals in the affected area and created additional stocks of blood in the hospitals. Level of blood stocks was heightened with the transportation of 350 units of blood, especially of negative blood group from Erzurum Regional Blood Centre one hour after the earthquake. After the re-opening of the airport, a total stock of 18,000 units of erythrocyte suspension was sent to Van from other regional blood centres for the purpose of stock replenishment. Stocks of blood have been continuously replenished when they fall below 1,000 units. Erzurum and Ankara Regional Blood Centres are also creating additional blood stocks for the replenishment of stocks in the affected areas in case of need.

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Outcome: 50,000 vulnerable people residing in temporary accommodation will have received urgent relief items (blankets, sleeping bag)

Progress: In the aftermath of the earthquake, 5 staff from Elazığ Regional Disaster Management Centre, 2 staff from Muş Disaster Management Centre and 3 staff from Erzurum Regional Disaster Management Centre have been deployed in Van Province in order to make needs assessments.

Targeted beneficiaries are the victims, whose houses were damaged or those who are not able to stay in their houses due to aftershocks.

Blankets, sleeping bags and heaters have been dispatched and distributed in the disaster-affected area to meet the needs for emergency shelter. Mobile Kitchens are operational in these tent camps and catering hot meal for the affected people. Additionally, 2 inflatable tents and 2 warehousing tents were pitched in these sites for the accommodation of staff and storage of relief items. Information on tent cities is as follows:

Name of Tent city	Number of Affected	Number of Heaters	Number of Blankets
Yenişehir Stadium Tent city	1590	174	4,350
Yüzüncü Yıl Tent city	238	55	1,030
Belediye Stadium Tent city	966	95	1,270
Total for Tent cities	2,794	324	6,650
Distributed in the fields (Van Central Province/Villages/Ercis District)	-	4,296	40,182
TOTAL		4,620	46,832

While sufficient number of blankets has been announced and already distributed to the beneficiaries, there is an obvious lack of sleeping bags in the pipeline.

Contributions from National Societies, of which has seen the following items packed for air and road transport to Van: almost 60,000 blankets from the German, Norwegian, Canadian, Japanese and Swiss Red Cross societies; 3,600 sleeping bags from the Netherlands Red Cross 1,300 heaters from Swiss and German Red Cross.

Challenges: Due to the weather conditions the distribution of sleeping bags would be necessary to meet the needs of the affected population sheltered in tents.

Emergency shelter

Outcome: Ensure that the most vulnerable families have a healthy, safe and dignified shelter solution to preserve their physical and mental well-being and prevent the further deterioration of the humanitarian situation.

Progress: To provide temporary shelter for the victims, whose houses were damaged or those who are not able to stay in their houses due to the aftershocks, four tent camps have been established in the stadiums and another

location in the Erciş District of Van. The delivery of tents to the affected families on individual basis has also been started. From its own stocks and other donations, the Turkish Red Crescent Society has been providing shelter for 147,470 victims as of 1 November, 2011. Following on the preliminary needs assessment 50,583 people (10,000 families) will be assisted through this emergency appeal.

DISASTER FIELDS	TENT	MEVLANA PREFABRICATED HOUSE	90 m ² TENT	TENT WITH AIR CANAL	INFLATABLE TENT 55 m ²	CONTAINER WC	MULTI-PURPOSE TENT	PICNIC TYPE TENT
ERCİŞ	10,843		2			9	5	
VAN	16,056	2,310	11	1	2	-	15	1
ADİLCEVAZ	150		-		-	-	-	
PATNOS	35		-		-	-	-	
BİTLİS	50		-		-	-	-	
MALAZGİRT	50		-		-	-	-	
TOTAL	27,184	2,310	13	1	2	9	20	1

On 30th October 2011 a plane has arrived in the field with the delivery of 1,300 winterized tents by the Belgian and the Netherlands Red Cross Societies. 3,560 tents from the Canadian, Swiss, German and Finnish Red Cross and 1,300 heaters from Swiss and German Red Cross have been also transported to the field.

Challenges: Due to the present weather conditions and presuming that it becomes worse in the coming weeks the provision of winterised tents and prefabricated houses would be the best solution in order to meet the needs of the affected population. Many people are afraid to return to their houses due to the frequent aftershocks that mean the increased request for tents.

Logistics

Outcome: The most urgent and relevant humanitarian goods are mobilised, delivered and distributed, in a timely, transparent and cost-efficient manner following the standard logistics procedures

Progress: The overall coordination of the international logistics support is managed by Global Logistics Service (GLS) office in Dubai. Coordination of in-kind donations and pipeline management is conducted in the Europe zone office by seconded to the operational GLS personnel. *Mobilization table* was established to reflect need for in-kind donations and level of response. Mobilization table is regularly updated on DMIS. Standard operation procedure (SoP) for mobilization have been shared with the Turkish Red Crescent, who is having set up and is issuing Goods Received Notes upon reception of goods. Logistics pipeline is regularly communicated to Turkish Red Crescent to inform on and co-ordinate receipt of the goods. Shipping Instructions have been revised and adapted following the request from Turkish Red Crescent. All road consignments are requested to be delivered to Ankara, where they are consolidated and despatched by Turkish Red Crescent to Van. All international consignments by air are to be delivered to Erzurum. Five international charter flights already landed in Erzurum Airport with Belgian RC, Netherlands RC, Finnish RC, German RC and Swiss RC In-Kind Donations. There are further scheduled flights from Canadian and Norwegian Red Cross Societies. Goods are also being shipped by road. IFRC Logistics are in regular contact with Turkish RC logistics counterparts to ensure synchronized and efficient logistics on international and local level.

Challenges: Due to the responses to the appeal IFRC Logistics has to ensure that in kind donations announced by National Societies are according to the IFRC Standard emergency item catalogue and of the winterized type to be suitable for the weather conditions in the affected area.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

The Turkish Red Crescent Society continues to provide timely and accurate information on its relief actions to national and international institutions and media. Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and other major stakeholders is vital for fundraising, advocacy and maintaining the profile of emergency operations. During an operation, communications between affected populations and the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, as well as with media and donors, is an essential mechanism for effective disaster response and the cornerstone to promote greater quality, accountability, and transparency.

Europe Zone communications team has done over 40 interviews with world media (BBC, Sky, CNN, MSNBC etc), placed three stories on ifrc.org², and prepared a set of Questions&Answers and two photo galleries which have been distributed to National Societies. We are working closely with the Turkish Red Crescent Communications department to provide relevant material from relief teams in the field.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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For Performance and Accountability

(planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

- **IFRC Zone:** Imre Nagy, Planning and Reporting Manager, Budapest, phone: +36 1 8884 526, email: imre.nagy@ifrc.org

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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 (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:

² <http://www.ifrc.org/en/news-and-media/news-stories/europe-central-asia/turkey/turkey-earthquake-rescue-efforts-intensify-as-night-falls/>
<http://www.ifrc.org/en/news-and-media/press-releases/europe/turkey/turkey-earthquake-rescue-efforts-intensify-as-night-falls/>
<http://www.ifrc.org/news-and-media/news-stories/europe-central-asia/turkey/global-outpouring-of-solidarity-for-turkish-earthquake-operations/>

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.

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Annex 1

VAN EARTHQUAKE DISPATCHED RELIEF ITEMS (UPDATED 31 OCTOBER 2011 /04:00 AM)	
RELIEF ITEMS	QUANTITY
FAMILY TYPE TENT	27,184
MULTI-PURPOSE TENT	20
MASS SHELTERING TENT	13
MEVLANA HOUSE (PREFABRICATED)	2,310
LIGHT BALLOON	6
BLANKETS	46,832
KITCHEN SETS	2,470
SLEEPING BAGS	5,609
HEATER	4,620
JERRYCAN	812
FOOD PARCEL	2,134
READY-TO-EAT PACKAGE	36,426
BOTTLED WATER	184,250
MILK	24,529
BREAD	17,000
VARIOUS FOOD ITEM (KG)	178,093
READY-TO-EAT SANDVICH	14,500
JUICE	107,918
BISCUITS	14,921
S3 TYPE OVEN	20
MOBILE KITCHEN	12
MOBILE BAKERY	1
MOBILE CATERING VEHICLE	2
BODY BAG	2,458
CONTAINER TOILET	15
CONTAINER SHOWER	23
LPG TUBE	2,110
GENERATOR	19

RELIEF ITEMS ARE DISPATCHED FROM; Disaster Operation Centre (HQ) in ANKARA, Eastern Anatolian Regional Disaster Management Centre (RDMC) in MUŞ, Northern Anatolian RDMC in ERZURUM, Southern Anatolian RDMC in ELAZIĞ, Mediterranean RDMC in ADANA, North Aegean in MANİSA, Eastern Black Sea in TRABZON, SİVAS Local Disaster Management Unit, DİYARBAKIR Blood Centre, ERZURUM Blood Centre, MUŞ Blood Centre, AĞRI Local Disaster Management Unit, Southern Aegean RDMC in İZMİR, ERZİNCAN Local Disaster Management Unit, ESKİŞEHİR Local Disaster Management Unit, İSKENDERUN Local Disaster Management Unit, AFYON Local Disaster Management Unit, GÜROYMAK Branch, MANİSA Branch, VAN Branch, Marmara Regional Disaster Management Centre in İSTANBUL