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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°2 4 November 2011

Period covered by this Operations Update: 1 to 4 November 2011.

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

Appeal coverage: Up to 4th November 2011 the level of the appeal coverage has reached 28 %, through firm cash pledges and confirmed in-kind contributions. A number of important soft pledges and substantial bilateral support (tents and blankets) has been received. Today it has been agreed with the Turkish Red Crescent that the needs in these relief supplies have been covered and support will be needed for the early recovery phase.



In order to meet the needs of the affected people residing in temporary shelters tents, blankets, sleeping bags and heaters have been dispatched in the first phase. Photo: Turkish Red Crescent

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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).
- **Operations Update no. 1** was issued on 1 November 2011.

Summary: Since the earthquake that hit Eastern Turkey on 23 October 2011, 2,337 aftershocks were registered. The team assigned for damage assessment stated that more than 18,000 buildings were severely damaged and not eligible for accommodation, and almost 30,000 houses are damaged but habitable. Still people from the affected region are afraid to go back to their houses due to the often aftershocks.

The international financial assistance that has reached the field is increasing from day by day. Also the Turkish Red Crescent has launched a national fundraising campaign. Due to the generous contribution from Sister National Societies and national public campaigns, most of the items needed according to the preliminary assessment during the initial stage of the emergency are covered. However the National Society is currently conducting a detailed needs assessment that will reflect the actual needs of the affected population in the early recovery phase.

The International Federation's Europe Zone office aims to complement support to the National Society in its response operation through regular updates and phone conferences with the Turkish Red Crescent from the beginning of the disaster.

The Turkish Red Crescent has quickly mobilised its relief and human resources to immediately be able to respond to the disaster. In total more than 20,000 meals, almost 50,000 blankets and 30,000 tents were distributed to 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.

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. The Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (AFAD) reported that to date, a total of 2,337 aftershocks have occurred in the affected area.

Estimated Population of the Place (Before the Disaster)	1,035,418
Death Toll	601
Number of Injured	2,658

A technical committee of 20 personnel from the government and 200 technical personnel from different provinces have conducted damage assessment. According to the results there are 18,335 buildings severely damaged and are not eligible for accommodation and 2,678 have completely collapsed. Also there are 29,925 buildings moderately damaged but eligible for accommodation. Authorities have strictly forbidden entry to damaged buildings. Continued concerns after so many aftershocks have reportedly forced local population to leave towards neighbouring villages and accommodate with friends or relatives.

Urban search and rescue operations were completed in Van central district on 30 October, however operations continued in two collapsed buildings in Erciş district. To date, search and rescue, medical and first aid personnel from 48 different provinces and 39 different institutions have been dispatched and deployed to the region by air and land. 37 Turkish Airlines aircrafts, 44 military planes and 18 special cargo airplanes have been involved in this ongoing operation. A transportation chain of 12 aircrafts (nine civil and three military) continued operating the airlift of tents and blankets to affected areas.

Relief assistance for Van is increasing by the day and currently there are three distribution points in the city. Until further notice, all disaster and emergency centres of related Ministries remain on call 24/7.

An assessment has been done in terms of cargo handling and showed that the situation at Erzurum airport was very much under control. There is good coordination between the various parties and information on the material received and dispatched is being adequately managed.

The Government has assigned sufficient and qualified staff to the Van Governorship to provide psycho-social and social support services. To that end, 30 field tents have been set up for the delivery of psycho-social and public services.

The Ministry of Health has warned the earthquake stricken area people to drink only bottled water, as many cases of diarrhoea have been detected among the affected population. Turkish health authorities are fully managing the post rescue operations and have not requested any specific international support.

The Ministry of Health (MoH) has finalised the rapid public health assessment and action plan. WHO is in close contact with the Ministry of Health to monitor the health situation and public health needs in the affected area and to provide assistance as needed.

Life was reported to be slowly returning to normal with many shops open and markets full of people. Heavy police and army presence providing security was also noted, with no security related problems.

Coordination and partnerships

Movement Coordination: The International Federation's Europe Zone office is in regular contact with the

Turkish Red Crescent from the beginning of the disaster. The Turkish Red Crescent is leading the operational response in Turkey supported by the International Federation. Daily telephone conferences are organised with the management level of the National Society and also with the operational team and the crisis centre team of the Turkish Red Crescent Society to facilitate the coordination of the response activities. Information is regularly shared with the host National Society about donor contributions. The Turkish Red Crescent Society is issuing daily operations updates and providing additional information to the International Federation Europe Zone office. The International Federation logistics services manage the mobilisation of the response in kind and interact with contributing partners.

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, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, China, Croatia, Finland, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Germany, Hungary, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Norway, Qatar, Serbia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Ukraine, and the USA.

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 Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Agency, the fire department and health services. All activities in the field are being coordinated at the central level of the Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Agency. The distribution of relief items is under full control of AFAD and Turkish Red Crescent (TRCS).

The Turkish Red Crescent Society launched a national fundraising campaign, up to date the following information has been shared about the donations collected through this campaign that will be further continued.

<i>Donation Tools</i>	<i>SMS</i>	<i>Internet</i>	<i>Call Center</i>	<i>Bank</i>
<i>Donations</i>	<i>9.755.265,00 TL</i>	<i>1.056.755,69 TL</i>	<i>90.143,00 TL</i>	<i>24.547.957,05 TL</i>
<i>Grand Total of Donations</i>	<i>35.450.120,74 TL</i>			<i>(17.645.500 CHF)</i>

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: On 31 October, IOM and OCHA met with the Turkish Red Crescent Society Head of Disaster Management and the Head of International Relations Department, to discuss gaps in the assistance currently being provided and any potential support that could be provided by international agencies. TRCS confirmed that in the meantime the situation is under control and are finalizing joint assessments with the Van Governorship in order to update their appeal in the coming days.

On 2 November, UNICEF will join the rapid assessment team of the Ministry of National Education to assess additional needs in the area of psychosocial support. Based on the findings, a protocol will be signed between the Special Education and Guidance General Directorate, UNICEF Turkey Office and Turkish Psychological and Guidance Association on the support services that will be organized in Van province.

On 31 October, the EU and the Turkish Red Crescent signed an IPA grant agreement for the supply of temporary housing units accommodating 6,000 persons that were rendered homeless after the Van earthquake. The cost of this second EU operation is EUR 4 million. Due to the tendering process the Turkish Red Crescent received quotations for 900 temporary housing units from local company. Turkish Red Crescent as the direct beneficiary of the grant, will in cooperation with AFAD, the Van Governorate and the Van and Erciş Municipalities procure and install the temporary housing units.

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) and at several regional and local Disaster Management centres. In order to meet the most urgent shelter and food needs relief items have been delivered to the field and distributed among the affected population. Information from the field has been gathered in the Crisis Desk of the Disaster Operation Centre.

Nutrition Activities: Until 3 November 2011, 23,260 meals were distributed to more than 9,000 beneficiaries. In addition, in the tent cities and for the workers in the field, meal and hot drinks are being provided with the Mobile Catering Vehicles of the Turkish Red Crescent. Bread is being provided by the Mobile Bakery Vehicle of the Turkish Red Crescent in the Yenişehir Stadium.

Table: Meals distributed by Turkish Red Crescent in the tent cities

Name of Distribution Place	Number Breakfast	Number of Lunch	Number of Dinner
Yenişehir Stadium Tent City	2,900	7,400	6,900
Yüzüncü Yıl Tent City			
Belediye Stadium Tent City	1,000	1,000	1,000
Rescue Workers, Teams of the Ministry of Health, Directorate of Social Services, AKUT, Civil Defense and Police.	1,020	1,020	1,020
Grand Total	4,920	9,420	8,920

Psycho-social Support Activities:

Psychosocial support services are being provided for the affected population in Van Province Centre and Erciş District by 21 specialists and 5 National Society staff, who came from different provinces of the Turkey.

Psychosocial support services are being provided by the specialists of the Society of Turkish Psychologists, Society of Social Service Specialists, The Psychiatric Association of Turkey, Turkish Psychological Counselling and Guidance Association and Youth Mental Health Association of Turkey which are all members of the "Union of Psychosocial Services in Disasters" that has been established by the Turkish Red Crescent.

For the psychosocial support requests, information centres have been established and are providing service in the tents cities. Within this context, in the psychosocial support units, established in the Yenişehir Stadium Tent City and Erciş Tent City, 1 children psychiatrist, 2 psychiatrists, 4 psychologists and 4 social service specialists are providing service.

For the psychosocial need assessments, teams are working in the field and in the tent cities. 30 beneficiaries have been provided with psychosocial response in the Service Tent of the Union of Psychosocial Services in Disasters. Preparations have started in order to provide consultation services for the affected population in the schools and universities. Consultations are in progress with the counsellor teachers of the Counselling Study Centre in the Van Province Centre.

A meeting was held with the District Health Manager regarding the patient referral and medicine provision.

Volunteering Activities:

12 community leaders from Muş province reached Van and supported the activities of building the tents, distributed food and water in various disaster affected areas, determined the families who were not able to reach to the established tent cities and also took registry of the affected people in tents.

A team of 27 community leaders continue their activities, consisting of 12 teachers, 2 field delegates, 13 religious leaders, 100 families were visited at home and provided with the relief items as they were not able to access the tent cities. 40 Religious clergies coming from various provinces provided the services of funerals and burials for the deaths.

Blood Donation Services: Turkish Red Crescent Regional Blood Centre 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 800 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. Turkish Red Crescent is self-sufficient to cover the blood requirements of the health institutions upon their request.

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:

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

To define the needs and the exact number of the beneficiaries, needs assessment is ongoing in the field lead by the disaster response team of the Turkish Red Crescent. In order to meet the needs of the affected people residing in temporary shelters tents, blankets, sleeping bags and heaters have been dispatched in the first phase.

Table 1: Items distributed in the villages and in the tent cities

TYPE OF ITEM	Van/ Erciř	Van/ Merkez	Bitlis/ Adilcevaz	Ađrı/ Patnos	Bitlis/ Merkez	Muř/ Malazgirt	TOTAL
BLANKET	29,543	16,584	625	80	0	0	48,477
CATALYTIC HEATER	2,896	1,724	0	0	0	0	4,620
SLEEPING BAG	3,006	2,603	0	0	0	0	5,609

Table 2: Beneficiaries sheltered and the items distributed in the Tent Cities and Mevlana house city

Place of the Tent Cities	Name of the Tent City	Number of Beneficiaries Sheltered	Number of Heater	Number of Blanket
Erciř	Yeniřehir Stadium Tent City	1,665	187	5,460
	Yüzüncü Yıl Ten City	283	62	1,350
	Belediye Stadium Tent City	966	95	1,330
Van	Et ve Balık Kurumu Tent City	935	187	1,870
Van Province Central	Van Mevlana House City	1,038	218	2,616
Grand Total		4,887	749	12,626

Due to the generous contribution from Sister National Societies and national public campaigns, most of the items needed according to the preliminary assessment during the initial stage of the emergency are covered. The National Society is currently conducting a detailed needs assessment that will reflect the actual needs of the affected population in the early recovery phase.

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, 3 Tent Cities have been established.

Table 3. Beneficiaries sheltered in tent cities

Place of the Tent Cities	Name of the Tent City	Number of Beneficiaries Sheltered	Number of Tent
Erciř	Yeniřehir Stadium Tent City	1,665	187
	Yüzüncü Yıl Ten City	283	62
	Belediye Stadium Tent City	966	95
Van	Et ve Balık Kurumu Tent City	935	187
Grand Total		3,849	531

One Mevlana House City was established in the Erciş District of the Van Province, 1 Mevlana House City has been established in the Van Province Centre.

Table 4: Beneficiaries sheltered in the Mevlana House City

Place of the Mevlana House Cities	Name of the Mevlana House City	Number of Beneficiaries Sheltered	Number of Mevlana houses
Van Province Central	Van Mevlana House City	1.038	218
Erciş	Erciş Mevlana House City	-	129 (Set-up in progress)
Grand Total		1038	347

The delivery of tents and Mevlana Houses has also been started to the affected families on individual basis. From its own stocks and other donations, the Turkish Red Crescent Society has been providing shelter for 138,113 beneficiaries until 2 November 2011.

Table 5: Total number of distributed tents in the villages and in the tent cities

TYPE OF ITEM	Van/ Erciş	Van/ Merkez	Bitlis/ Adilcevaz	Ağrı/ Patnos	Bitlis/ Merkez	Muş/ Malazgirt	TOTAL
FAMILY TYPE TENT	10,843	16,056	150	35	50	50	29.184
MEVLANA HOUSE	0	2,310	0	0	0	0	2.310
MULTI-PURPOSE TENT	5	15	0	0	0	0	20
MASS SHELTERING TENT	2	11	0	0	0	0	13
INFLATABLE TENT 55 M2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
AIR TUBED TENT	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
PICNIC TENT	0	1	0	0	0	0	1

Turkish Red Crescent Society is finalizing needs assessments in the affected areas in cooperation with Van Governorship to take stock of the current needs and move into transitional shelter as part of the next phase of the emergency.

Due to the generous contribution from Sister National Societies and national public campaigns, most of the shelter items are covered that were needed according to the preliminary assessment during the initial stage of the emergency. A definitive appeal is expected to be launched by the end of next week based on the National Society latest assessment. According to the Turkish Red Crescent in the given climate and winter weather conditions the provision of prefabricated houses would be the best solution to meet the needs of the affected population.

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: Global Logistics Service (GLS) supports operation by overall coordination of international logistics from GLS Dubai office and management of in-kind mobilization and logistics pipeline from Europe Zone office in Budapest. Mobilization table was established and is regularly updated identifying emergency items need and coverage of in-kind donation by National Societies. Need for items identified in initial stage of the operation which included tents, blankets and sleeping bags is fully covered. Most of the goods have been delivered by road to Ankara or by air to Erzurum from where they are further delivered by Turkish RC to the operation area. Currently logistics is awaiting technical specification of prefabricated solution from Turkish RC, which based on

operations, is identified as transitional phase response. Following availability of specifications, GLS in coordination with Turkish RC will identify suppliers for tendering and delivery.

Challenges: Due to the changes in the operation suppliers need to be identified with the capacity of production and supply to ensure timely delivery of the prefabricated shelter solutions.

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.org¹, 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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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.
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