

PROGRAMME 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

DISASTER RELIEF EMERGENCY FUND (DREF)

31 December 2004

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 181 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal No. 01.93/2004; Programme Update no. 2, Period covered: July to December, 2004; Appeal target: CHF 1,300,000; Appeal coverage: 158.6%
(click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List (also available on the website).

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: N/A

Programme summary: as of mid-December 2004, the balance of DREF is 8,927,550. A total of 53 allocations have been made to various emergencies, for a total of CHF 3,449,943. The allocations target a variety of natural disasters or civil disturbances, and they range from CHF 4,000 to CHF 214,000. CHF 1,233,307 of these allocations has been reimbursed to the fund so far. The response to the annual appeal has exceeded the requirement. Direct contributions to the DREF Appeal are 1,946,214 for a coverage of 149.7%. The Federation will continue to use the fund as extensively as needs require, and will ensure regular refunds when emergency appeals are launched, and as the level of un-earmarked funds allows. The Federation will continue to use the fund as extensively as needs require, and will ensure regular refunds when emergency appeals are launched, and as the level of un-earmarked funds allows. An analysis of the DREF has been conducted. Recommendations on the revitalization of DREF and the required changes to DREF standard operating procedures is nearly completed and will be approved by senior management in the coming year.

For further information specifically related to this programme, please contact: In Geneva, Operations Support Department, Luc Voeltzel, phone: +41 22 730 4327, email: luc.voeltzel@ifrc.org or Linda Stops, email: Linda.stops@ifrc.org

This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning. 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](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Context

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) was established in 1985 and has since been growing in terms of both size and utilization. Over the years the fund has been an invaluable source of funding for national societies when kick-starting operations. At times of disasters the fund is immediately tapped into providing instantaneous seed capital until donor contributions against an operation are received. At the time of writing the appeal the funds available in the account stood at CHF 8,700,000. Therefore the current appeal seeks to raise CHF 1,300,000, which is the difference between what is available in the DREF account at the time of writing the appeal and the DREF target CHF 10,000,000. One of the four core areas of the International Federation's Strategy 2010 is that of international disaster response. The Fund is one of the Federation's main, and essential, disaster response tools. It aims to provide national societies and delegations with the initial funds to help provide immediate assistance to alleviate the suffering of disaster affected communities in the cases of rapid, slow onset and forgotten disasters.

Goal: The goal of the DREF is to provide immediate funding in response to major and minor disasters thereby enabling the Federation to react rapidly, effectively and efficiently.

Objective: To make the DREF a secured line of funding for new emergencies.

This objective will be achieved through:

- Continuing to actively fund raise for this appeal to reach the target of CHF 10,000,000;
- Revising the DREF guidelines to guarantee recovery, where possible, to sustain the fund and disseminate new procedures to those concerned;
- Continuing to expand DREF information sharing and allocations to emergencies and disseminate through its web page on the public web site;
- Include the DREF into the disaster management-working group and benefit from lessons learned by incorporating them back into the system.

Expected programme result(s); and related projects for this objective:

Through the expansion of this fund the DREF is expected to contribute rapidly, effectively and efficiently thereby contributing to the improvement of the disaster response capacities of national societies and delegations. In turn however, timely reimbursements from the operations are expected. DREF will continue to strive to become a mechanical line of credit for emergency operations providing up to 15% of the expected appeal target up to CHF 1,000,000 (in cases where an appeal is launched) in the initial phases of the operation. It is expected, through generous donor contributions to this appeal and prompt reimbursements from the operations, that the CHF 10,000,000 target will be achieved. Donors will continue to receive timely reporting on the use of, and developments on, the Fund. The guidelines will be revised and modified taking into account the issues and difficulties faced when dealing with the Fund in previous years.

Programme Update and achievements/lessons to date

As of 8 December, 53 allocations have been made using the DREF fund. A total of CHF 3,337,307 (see attached). The allocations target a variety of natural disasters or civil disturbances, and they range from CHF 4,000 to CHF 214,000. Of the 53 allocations 28 (53%) have been for minor emergencies in which no appeal was launched and 25 (47%) were allocated for disasters for which there was an emergency appeal.

Allocations by Type		
Type	Number	%
Floods/Landslides	17	32%
Hurricane / Cyclone	9	17%
Civil Disturbance / Hostage	6	11%
Health Related	6	11%
Earthquake	3	6%
Explosions	3	6%
Population Movement	3	6%
Drought	1	2%
Volcano	1	2%

Other	4	8%
Total	53	100%

DREF Minor Emergencies 2004				
Region	Number of Allocations	% of Allocations	Total Value of Allocations	% of Allocations
Africa	14	50%	210,000	12%
Americas	7	25%	880,000	48%
Asia/Pacific	3	11%	548,307	30%
Europe	3	11%	100,000	6%
MENA	1	4%	75,000	4%
Global Programs	0	0%	0	0%
Total	28	100%	1,813,307	100%

DREF Emergency Appeals 2004				
Region	Number of Allocations	% of Allocations	Total Value of Allocations	% of Allocations
Africa	4	16%	553,636	12%
Americas	8	32%	448,000	48%
Asia/Pacific	8	32%	306,000	30%
Europe	3	12%	150,000	6%
MENA	0	0%	75,000	4%
Global Programs	2	8%	104,000	0%
Total	25	100%	1,636,636	100%

In the past year DREF has been used by national societies and delegations around the world meet humanitarian needs for those affected by natural and man-made disasters. The examples shown below represent all geographical regions, five different types of disasters and a sampling of the different and innovative ways DREF was used to meet humanitarian needs around the world.

Americas – Caribbean – 2004 Hurricane Season

Amount Allocated: CHF 300,000

Status: DREF fully reimbursed



The 2004 hurricane season in the Caribbean was the worst in over 50 years. Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan and Jeanne wreaked havoc from as far south as Grenada and north as far as the Bahamas with some islands being struck more than once. Extensive damage caused by wind, rain, flooding and landslides left thousands of people homeless. Many of them survived with only the clothes on their backs. Immediate needs included shelter, water, food and medical treatment.

During this active and difficult season the DREF was used several ways. In some instances it was used in a traditional way by providing immediate funding to much needed relief supplies. In a innovative and proactive approach, the Pan-American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) used some of the funds to pre-position key staff on islands in advance of a hurricane impact. Well trained staff were then able to assist in hurricane impact preparation activities and to quickly provide damage and needs assessment information after the hurricane had passed. This was a benefit to those affected as critical information could be quickly gathered and used to develop and implement a plan of action to assist those most

affected.

Africa – Côte d'Ivoire – Civil Unrest

Amount Allocated: CHF 100,000

Status: Reimbursed from Emergency Appeal



Côte d'Ivoire, once one of the most peaceful and economically stable countries of West Africa, has suffered from civil unrest in the past two years. After an eighteen month ceasefire, renewed clashes occurred, resulting in 64 deaths and 1,300 injured. Due to anti-foreigner sentiments and related security concerns, close to 6,000 western nationals have fled the country for their home countries or to other West African countries. African nationals living in Côte d'Ivoire and some Ivorians are leaving the country, crossing the borders into Liberia, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Mali and Guinea. Estimates on the number of refugees (including recent returnees) are not yet known, but UNHCR reports say that an estimated 13,000 people have already crossed the border into Liberia, and with new arrivals increasing by the day there are fears that this will have a potentially wider destabilizing affect throughout the region. In northern Cote

d'Ivoire, health and water facilities were already overstretched due to the mass exodus of health professionals in September 2002 when the hostilities began. An estimated seventy percent are yet to return. According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the doctor/patient ratio in this region is about 1:200,000 people.

A portion of the DREF allocation was used to deploy Regional Disaster Response Teams to Liberia, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Mali and Guinea to assist in the development of contingency planning due to population movements out of Côte d'Ivoire. The remainder of the funds were used to purchase humanitarian relief supplies to assist those displaced by the violence.

Russian Federation – Hostage Crisis

Amount Allocated: CHF 50,000

Status: Reimbursed from emergency appeal.



More than 350 people were killed during a siege at a school in Beslan, a town in the Southern Republic of North Ossetia. On 1 September, masked armed fighters stormed the school taking over 1,000 children, their relatives and teachers hostage. The siege ended in carnage when bombs rigged up inside the school exploded, collapsing part of a roof, prompting Russian special forces to move in. Over 400 people were injured and were treated in hospitals in Beslan and neighbouring towns. Seventeen of the most injured, including 11 children, were transferred to Moscow. Some children in hospital were too young or traumatized to identify themselves. Many bodies lie unrecognizable in hospital morgues, disfigured by the explosions.

Russian Red Cross staff and volunteers in branches in Beslan – headed by the chief doctor of the central district hospital for Beslan and Vladikavkaz – were actively involved in providing assistance to those affected by the tragedy. Fifteen volunteers (students of the local medical college) from Vladikavkaz branch and the Vice President and Secretary General of Russian Red Cross distributed hot food and drink to the hostages' families gathered around the school until the crisis escalated and shooting started. This team then helped assist hostages

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escaping the building, directing them to hospitals. Russian Red Cross psychologists and 19 visiting nurses are also working side by side with Ministry of Emergencies staff to provide support to the hostages and their families. Russian Red Cross also mobilized 60 of its visiting nurses, who were positioned in small towns near to Beslan and the surrounding area.

The Federation released CHF 50,000 from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to contribute towards the cost of purchasing and transporting necessary items to the region, as well as to support the psychological counseling of the victims.

MENA - Egypt – Border Closing

Amount Allocated: CHF 75,000

Status: CHF 75,000 still outstanding (*no appeal launched*)

For nearly two weeks, the borders between Egypt and Gaza at Rafah were mostly closed, except for small durations. This resulted in mass stranded populations on the Egyptian side awaiting the re-opening of the borders. The average daily number of people stranded was approximately 1,500 including young children, elderly, persons with chronic health conditions and disabled. The population were primarily Palestinians returning to Gaza for the summer holidays and from medical treatment abroad.

The Egyptian Red Cross (ERCS) volunteers and members of the North Sinai branch worked around the clock with the support of the Governments of Sinai, and local communities providing the minimum humanitarian needs including food parcels, water and tents. The Ministry of Health provided medical care and drugs. The ICRC assisted by purchasing 2 large tents.

The DREF was used to provide for the urgent needs of 1,500 individuals for 10 days. Assistance included shelter, water, food, sanitation, and associated administrative support in terms of transport, fuel, communications and volunteer support.

Asia Pacific – Democratic Republic of North Korea – Explosion

Amount Allocated: 50,000

Status: Reimbursed from Emergency Appeal

According to reports dynamite intended for the construction of a tunnel exploded in the railway station of Ryongchon County, North Phyongan Province on 22 April 2004. The massive explosion left 161 people dead and some 1,300 injured. The powerful blast that instantly destroyed some 1,850 homes and damaged a further 6,250 devastated the city.

Emergency basic health kits as well as relief items for 4,000 families (16,000 people) such as blankets, tarpaulin, jerry cans, water purification tablets and kitchen sets from existing disaster preparedness stocks located in Sinuiju (10 kilometers from the disaster site) were initially mobilized. Initial stocks used from the DPRK Red Cross Disaster Preparedness Centre included:

- 2,000 kitchen sets.
- 10,000 blankets.
- 2,000 water containers.
- 2,000 tarpaulins.
- 720,000 water purification tablets.
- 1,000 first aid kits.

The Federation and the DPRK Red Cross provided significant support to 6.13 million people and 1,759 institutions in the form of medical supplies to hospitals and clinics in the disaster stricken area. The DREF was used to assist in the replenishment of the stocks supplied by the DPRK Red Cross allowing them to be prepared for future disasters.

Contributions in 2004

The response to the annual appeal has been fully successful. A total of CHF 1,946,214 has been received in response annual appeal amount of CHF 1.3 m. This is 149.7% of the original appeal amount. The main

contributions were provided by the British Department for International Development (DFID) for CHF 508,812, General Electric Foundation for CHF 503,600, and the Norwegian Red Cross for CHF 393,743 the Danish Red Cross for CHF 193,720 and the Japanese Red Cross for CHF 152,904. Other contributions came from a variety of private donors (see attached).

[Contributions list below; click here to return to title page and contact information.](#)

Disaster Relief Emergency Fund

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 01.93/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

25/01/2005

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				1,300,000	TOTAL COVERAGE 158.6%	
AMERICAN - GOVT/PRM		67,000	USD	80,434	22.09.04	
AMERICAN - PRIVATE DONOR				38,599	30.03.04	
AUSTRALIAN - GOVT		64,452	AUD	56,879	22.12.04	MANAM VOLCANO,PNG
GENERAL ELECTRIC FOUNDATION		400,000	USD	503,600	17.08.04	
BRITISH - GOVT/DIFD GRANT 2004				256,909	04.03.04	
BRITISH - GOVT/DIFD GRANT 2004				251,903	09.08.04	
DANISH RC				193,720	18/06/04	
ICELANDIC - RC		2,600,000	ISK	44,820	09.06.04	
INTERESTS				9,514	31.03.04	
IRAN				25,180	07.10.04	
JAPANESE - RC		119,925	USD	152,904	02.09.04	
NETHERLANDS - PRIVATE DONOR		10,000	EUR	15,410	02.09.04	
NEW ZEALAND - RC				20,841	10.02.04	Vietnam floods
NORWEGIAN - RC		2,157,497	NOK	393,743	14.07.04	
PRIVATE DONORS (DPOLD)				8,871	28.10.04	
ST VINCENT & THE GRENADINES - RC		88	USD	112	26.04.04	
SWEDISH RC		50,000	SEK	8,450	04.06.04	Ukraine Explosion
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				2,061,888	CHF	158.6%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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