



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

TURKEY: EARTHQUAKE

2 May, 2003

Information Bulletin N° 1/03

Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated: N/A

This Bulletin reflects the information available at this time. Based on a request for assistance, the Federation will request international support through an Appeal. Further updates and details from assessment reports will be made available shortly.

The Situation

Turkey's southeastern Bingol Province experienced a strong earthquake measuring 6.4 on the Richter Scale on Thursday 1 May 2003 at 03.27 local time. Latest reports indicate 122 deaths and over 500 persons injured. Approximately 80 children remain trapped under the rubble of the collapsed Celtiksuyu Boarding School. Rescue efforts will continue for the next 3-4 days.

Bingol has a population of 60,000 and there are 250,000 people living within a 50 km radius of the epicenter. Assessments in some of the surrounding areas are being carried out.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Action

The Turkish Red Crescent or Kizilay, immediately responded to the earthquake in Bingol. The relief materials forwarded to the region consist of:

- 3,294 tents.
- 13,717 blankets.
- 7 mobile kitchens.
- 5 generators.
- 1 mobile hospital.
- 1 mobile clinic.
- 5,656 kg foodstuff and 3,800 breads.
- 75 stoves.

A search and rescue team of 8 people - 1 doctor, 6 nurses and 5 volunteers - and a psychosocial response team of 4 people are at work in the region. Kizilay is providing assistance or services with 50 personnel, 3 ambulances, 1 blood transportation vehicle and 1 mobile clinic in the region.

Kizilay provided hot meals to 2,200 people on the first day of the quake and is scaling up this service. Each mobile kitchen can serve up to 5,000 meals. A tent city to shelter 300 families in Bingol has been started, and the setting up of camps is being discussed with muhtars (local administrators).

The International Federation has deployed a psychosocial delegate and a psychosocial officer to support Kizilay's psychosocial team. A DP delegate, an information delegate and an information officer are also

working at the earthquake site. Coordination meetings with Kizilay and UN agencies are being held. An OCHA UNDAC team is due to arrive in Bingol shortly.

Kizilay has requested external assistance, and the Federation together with sister national societies (Norwegian, German, Spanish, French, Austrian, British, Italian, and Hellenic Red Cross) and international agencies (e.g. DRN - Disaster Resource Network) remain ready to provide the required support (search and rescue units, ERU water and sanitation teams, relief supplies). The International Federation Secretariat has been in touch with the Liaison Bureau in Brussels and ECHO with the view of applying for emergency funds if this becomes necessary.

Further information is available on the Federation's Disaster Management Information System (DMIS at <https://www-secure.ifrc.org/dmis/index.htm>).

For a full description of the National Society profile, see www.ifrc.org

For further details please contact:

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All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For support to or for further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal.