

INFORMATION BULLETIN



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 جمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

IRAN: DOROUD EARTHQUAKE

Information Bulletin
no. 7/2006
18 April 2006

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 183 countries.

In Brief

This Bulletin is being issued to provide an update of the result of the needs assessment conducted by the field assessment team from the Federation's Iran Delegation.

The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to achieve the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity."

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Summary

The emergency phase of the relief operation by the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) and the local authorities has come to an end and the focus of the operation has moved to rehabilitation.

Having assessed the situation and needs of affected people and based on the result of meetings with representatives of the authorities and humanitarian aid agencies concerned, the field assessment team from the Federation's Iran Delegation has submitted a needs assessment report to the Federation Secretariat.

The Federation delivered 190 group tents worth US\$ 105,300 to the IRCS. The Federation sent a proposal to the OPEC Fund for the International Development to use its grant of US\$ 500,000 in procuring essential relief items for replenishment of the IRCS relief items already distributed.

While the IRCS does not call for any international appeal, it would welcome voluntary contributions or donations for immediate supply of mobile showers and toilets to the most affected villages and for replenishment of relief items distributed during the emergency relief operation.

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All International Federation 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 is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

The Situation

The emergency relief operation for the quake-affected people in Lorestan has come to an end by 14 April 2006 and the provincial task force shifted the focus of the operation to rehabilitation.

Being afraid of aftershocks and unsafe homes, many people are still sleeping in tents on streets or Red Crescent camps in Borujerd and Doroud. People who have settled down in tents in affected villages try to adapt themselves to a new life. People are collecting timber and bricks from collapsed houses to use them in reconstructing their houses.

The field assessment team from the Federation's Iran Delegation conducted an assessment of the affected areas from 2 to 12 April 2006 and submitted a needs assessment report to the Federation Secretariat. The report accounts for the damages caused by the earthquakes and for needs in the affected areas in the weeks and months to come. While the full report is available upon request to the Secretariat, the summary of its details are given below.

1. Basic facts

- **Affected areas:** Doroud, Borujerd, Khorramabad, Aleshtar, and Silakhor villages in Lorestan Province, Iran
- **Affected:** 200,000 people living in 325 villages and Doroud and Borujerd cities¹
- **Deaths:** 63 people
- **Injured:** 1,418 persons
- **Homeless:** 15,000 families

2. Damages in different sectors

Damages to the agricultural sector²:

No	Sector	Quantity	Total value of damage
1	Livestocks	7,000 animals	CHF 2,273,373
2	Hey	7,000 tons	CHF 1,691,361
3	Livestock buildings (including stables)	400,000 square meters	CHF 22,733,731
4	Chicken farms	8,000 square meters	CHF 682,000
5	Industrial livestock cultivation centres	7,000 square meters	CHF 497,300
6	Kanats, water/electricity channels, reservoirs, pumping stations, dams, tractors, agricultural machines		CHF 9,122,235
Grand total			CHF 37,000,000

¹ Source: Office of the Governor General

² Source: Provincial Jihad Agriculture Organization

Damages to livelihood

The earthquakes have had a very negative impact on the livelihood of people living in the affected villages as they heavily depend on irrigation and raising livestock. Almost 30 per cent of the population in the province works in agriculture and livestock breeding. Most of the activities are carried out on a plain called Silakhor Plain, which is on the major fault line called Silakhor. Serious damage was also made to stored family foods and livestock, as well as to various income sources such as seeds, farming tools, machinery, tables and food for livestock and to the water sources.

With the destruction of many water sources in the affected villages and the loss of seeds and farming tools, agricultural activities will decrease considerably unless rehabilitation or recovery plans are made to prevent this. Without agriculture, villagers will not be able to get food for feeding animals or themselves. Finding meat and dairy products for family use, as well as for income, will be a great challenge for the affected families. This adds further urgency to preparing integrated and comprehensive recovery plans, as without them, it will be difficult for people in affected villages to make a living in the months to come. Main income sources need to be reconstructed, recovered or even provided to maintain an income chain for villagers.

A total of 31,349 rural houses and 20,005 urban houses were damaged more than 30%³

Damages to 240 rural villages

Out of 300 inhabited villages of Doroud and Borujerd, 240 villages were more damaged than the others. Damaged to various degrees are 12,129 houses (out of which 4,544 completely destroyed), 224 schools, 127 health centres, 81 bath houses, 41 bakeries, 168 mosques, etc.

Total damage to schools

The total value of damage to the schools amounts to CHF 5,092,000.

Total damage to health services

The total value of damage to the health services amounts to CHF 11,935,200.

Other

Over 60% of stone-cutting and brick-making factories have been damaged.

3. Needs

Water: Rural water network was damaged and the water from taps is not safe in the affected villages. Water is being delivered to villages by the rural water & sewage department. However, the amount of drinking water delivered is only 3.5 litres per day per person on average (SPHERE standard: 15 litres/person/day). More water is needed for cooking, washing and hygiene purposes.

Food: Food stocks in villages have been damaged under debris. To crown all, affected people have lost their livestock that give them meat and milk. Though the IRCS is distributing food baskets and some separate food items to the beneficiaries, this seems to be insufficient. Moreover, IRCS is scaling down its activities and therefore food stuff will be distributed only to those families severely affected with more limits. Therefore, there needs to be a plan for food security; otherwise, families in the affected villages will suffer from more accumulated problems.

³ Source: Provincial housing foundation



The people affected by the disaster are living in family tents distributed by the IRCS

Shelter: Affected people are living in family tents distributed by the IRCS. Although the fear of more aftershocks among affected people is slowly disappearing, quite many people still prefer to sleep outdoors. The timely replenishment of IRCS distributed tents is needed as it will have an impact on the IRCS' future disaster response capacity. The provincial task force began working on rehabilitation of damaged houses. Based on the decision made in the recent meeting of provincial emergency task force, houses which have been damaged below 30% should be repaired, houses with damages between 30-60% should be reinforced, and houses with damages above 60% should be reconstructed. According to the governor general of Lorestan Province, the government has decided to fund reconstruction or repair of 30,000 rural houses and 10,000 urban houses. However, as the

allocated fund is not sufficient, humanitarian aid organizations are welcomed to contribute to the reconstruction of houses, schools, health centres/hospitals.

Non-food items: After tents, other needed items are plastic sheeting, kerosene heaters, bottled water, hygiene sets (especially bars of soap as well as special needs of women such as sanitary napkins), medicines, jerry cans both for collecting drinking water and for storage purpose, and chlorine tablets.

Sanitation: Sanitation facilities do not exist particularly in affected villages. The Ministry of Health (MoH) has made a contract with the ministry of defence to purchase some showers and toilets. They started to install 600 communal toilets and 350 showers (fixed unit for individual use) in the affected villages as of 8 April. However, these are not sufficient and there is a need for more of them. The lack of health services and non-hygienic excreta disposal on wet grounds and lands or beside rivers might cause water-borne diseases. This might lead to unavoidable health problems. What is urgently needed is to provide temporary toilets and showers to affected villages.

Health centres and schools: The Ministries of Health and Education are working on resuming health and educational services in affected areas. To this end, both ministries need group tents which can be used as health centres and schools until permanent buildings are constructed.

Psycho-social support: Though the people in the affected villages have social, attitudinal, and motivational capacities to recover from earthquake damages sooner than expected, there is still need for psycho-social support programs in order to prepare them for a work season on farms.

4. Proposed actions

Based on the result of the needs assessment, the field assessment team suggests the following actions for consideration by the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement:

a) Short-term actions:

- Provision of group tents to be used as public tents, schools and rural health centres in the affected villages. 190 group tents which have been delivered can be used for this purpose. There is no need for more group tents at this stage.
- Replenishment of IRCS distributed relief items such as tents, blankets, kitchen sets, hygiene sets, etc. US\$ 500,000 from the OPEC Fund for International Development has been allocated for this purpose.

However, given the number of relief items distributed by the IRCS, more support in replenishment of essential items like family tents and blankets is needed.

- Provision of mobile showers and toilets for the damaged villages. 600 fixed temporary toilets and 350 showers have been provided or will be provided by the Ministry of Health. According to the SPHERE standard, there needs to be one toilet for 20 persons or maximum 50 persons (this should decrease to 20 as soon as possible). These toilets and showers are needed in 240 affected villages with the population of 29,191 families or 138,038 people, where none of these facilities exist at the moment. The IRCS requests the supply of at least 60 mobile toilets (each unit with 4 toilets) and 60 mobile showers (each unit with 5 showers).
- Provision of temporary sheltering to people living in damaged villages.
- Continuation of distribution of some relief items which are mostly needed such as blankets, food stuff, hygiene sets especially bars of soap, jerry cans, etc.

b) Long-term actions:

The IRCS is working on strengthening the branch disaster response capacity in affected areas. The following actions will support the IRCS in this process:

- Capacity building of the IRCS branches in Borujerd and Doroud through training programs for the branch personnel and relief workers.
- Assisting the IRCS branches in establishment of efficient crisis rooms and local contingency planning.
- Constructing warehouses for branches (there is only one small storage inside the Borujerd branch building).
- Equipping the mentioned branches with 4x4 cars, ambulances, and life detectors.
- Establishing a training centre for the IRCS branches in Lorestan Province.

Red Cross/Red Crescent Action



The camps set up by the IRCS covers the temporary shelter needs of the earthquake affected population

According to the Comprehensive National Plan for Rescue and Relief approved by the Ministers' Committee in 2002, the IRCS is in charge of emergency relief operations and responsibilities for rehabilitation in different sectors with other agencies like the Housing Foundation, Ministries of Education, Health, etc. By 14 April, the IRCS has completed its emergency relief operation and the relief teams from other provincial branches have returned home. Currently, the Lorestan Provincial Branch of the IRCS is fully in charge of the operation in the field.

The IRCS is still distributing food baskets to the most vulnerable beneficiaries and this will continue for another three weeks. In addition, the National Society plans to allocate group tents for schooling purpose.

The IRCS has set up, and is running, the following camps in Borujerd:

- Camp No.1 (Stadium Camp) with the capacity of 208 families
- Camp No.2 (Shahed Camp) with the capacity of 40 families
- Camp No.3 (Zolfaghar) with the capacity of 150 families
- Camp No.4 (Stadium) with the capacity of 200 families

The IRCS now has only 4 camps in Borujerd and other camps in other cities have been removed. Only 20-30% of the camps have been occupied these days, with the number of occupants decreasing day by day.

So far, the IRCS has distributed the following relief items to beneficiaries:

IRCS Distribution Table

Distributed Item	Quantity
Tent	50,104
Blanket	75,605
Kerosene heater	10,152
Food basket (for 4 people)	20,475
Bottled water	35,292
Plastic sheeting	278,780
Moquete (6 meters)	9,180
Bread	33,000
Canned beans	24,442
Tuna	21,990
Lantern	240
Kitchen set	1,722
Hygiene set	818
Dates	6,711

While the IRCS does not call for any international appeal, it welcomes voluntary contributions or donations for immediate supply of mobile showers and toilets to the most affected villages and for replenishment of relief items distributed during the emergency relief operation.

Those national societies that wish to contribute to the operation are kindly requested to directly contact the IRCS or the Federation for details.

On 13 April, the Federation delivered to the IRCS 190 group tents worth US\$ 105,300 (90 donated by the Turkish Red Crescent and 100 procured by the Federation). The Federation sent a proposal to the OPEC Fund for the International Development to use its grant of US\$ 500,000 in procuring essential relief items for replenishment of the IRCS relief items already distributed.

The Japanese Red Cross Society made a cash donation of JPY 5,000,000 to the IRCS on 5 April 2006.

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