

# EMERGENCY APPEAL



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

## AFGHANISTAN: SEVERE WINTER

Appeal no. 05EA003  
21 February 2005

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.

### In Brief

**THIS EMERGENCY APPEAL SEEKS CHF 812,000 (USD 686,330 OR EUR 525,620) IN CASH, KIND, OR SERVICES TO ASSIST 17,452 BENEFICIARIES FOR 3 MONTHS**  
*(click here to go directly to the attached Appeal budget)*

**CHF 100,000 has been released from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to begin the relief operation.**

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>

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- In Afghanistan: Afghanistan Red Crescent Society: Fatima Gillani (Secretary General), phone: +93 702 80698 or +93 702 85222 (mobile).
- In Afghanistan: Afghanistan Delegation contact (Vincent Toutain, acting Head of Delegation, email; [program.kabuldel@wireless.ifrc.org](mailto:program.kabuldel@wireless.ifrc.org), phone: +882 168 980 2643 (Sat phone) or +93 702 78372 (mobile)
- In Geneva: Asia and Pacific Department, Jagan Chapagain, email: [jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org](mailto:jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org), phone: +41 22 730 4316, fax +41 22 733 0395

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

### The situation

Afghanistan has been in the grip of severe winter weather since mid-January, with heavy snowfalls, rain, and extreme cold affecting much of the country. This has resulted in damage to many homes, creating displaced persons leaving vulnerable populations in dire need of basic humanitarian assistance. Details of how many people have been affected remain unclear, but reported deaths run into more than 260, many of them young children and the elderly. The actual death toll may be much higher.

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The combined elements of the extreme weather have caused floods, avalanches and deaths by hypothermia in the central, north-eastern and south-western provinces of Afghanistan. Due to the isolated nature of many affected areas, the exact scale and impact of the situation is still unclear.

Some areas are cut off due to heavy snowfalls. Areas which had been experiencing severe drought for the past seven years are now subject to heavy flooding.

Food prices for basic items on local markets are increasing drastically as a result of the bad weather.

There are currently 3,435 families of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Kabul city, who are highly vulnerable to the weather situation. The government has sought international assistance and divided responsibilities of the crisis management among various organisations. The government has given the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) a major role in providing assistance to the IDPs and returnees in Kabul city. The government has decided to



relocate the affected populations in order to improve their shelter, decrease the effect of the winter and facilitate the organisation of the relief operation. The relocation is still ongoing and the vulnerable populations are being accommodated in old and partially destroyed buildings offering very little protection to the cold.

## The needs

**Red Cross and Red Crescent action to date:** CHF 100,000 has been released from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to begin the relief operation, and to support the ARCS which has been responding to the situation since the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2005. The response has been organized at regional levels in a coordinated action by ARCS branches, the ICRC and the Federation sub-delegation offices. The ARCS national headquarters has formed an emergency task force to monitor the situation and coordinate the response.

The Federation provided a disaster response unit (consisting of a four wheel drive vehicle fully equipped with telecommunications and emergency materials) over to the ARCS on 10 February, which was immediately deployed to the field. Two medical Emergency Mobile Units were mobilized and are operating in affected areas in Kabul province that are accessible. Constant assessments are being carried out in the field at regional levels in coordination with the ICRC, the government, and the major UN agencies and IO/NGOs.

The ARCS and the Federation have released relief items for 2,000 families which are now being distributed. All available Red Crescent materials and human resources throughout the country are being mobilized to provide assistance to the most affected populations. Local fundraising campaigns have been initiated by the national society nationally and locally, with promotion through the media. Numerous experienced and trained ARCS volunteers have been involved in organizing primary relief distributions and providing first aid to affected communities.

**Afghanistan: Severe Winter; Appeal no. 05EA003****Immediate needs:**

The Afghan Red Crescent Society will be involved in providing direct assistance to 17,452 beneficiaries in Kabul city who are internally displaced persons or returnees from the neighbouring countries. The assistance will comprise food and non-food item distributions, shelter material, improvement of sanitation facilities, and awareness in preventive public health and hygiene promotion. The standard package is calculated for a family of six persons (adults and children) and is divided into food and non-food items. The calculation is based on the local needs assessment carried out by the ARCS Disaster Management staff and volunteers.

**Details of beneficiaries to be relocated to the following 4 sectors of Kabul city:**

- Sector 1: 5<sup>th</sup> district, Markazi Talami.
- Sector 2: 7<sup>th</sup> district, Risat-e-panj.
- Sector 3: 7<sup>th</sup> district, Takhnikam.
- Sector 4: Not yet defined.

Name of settlement	Number of	
	<i>Families</i>	<i>Individuals</i>
<i>Brishna Kot*</i>	751	3,755
<i>Mullah Buzorg*</i>	1,200	6,000
Khan-i- Elmo-o- Farhang	200	1,000
Riasat-i-Barg	60	300
Amo Hotel	35	175
Accounting school	117	585
Chaman-i-Hozori	324	1,620
Kodakistani Bagrami	49	250
Tameri Melli Bus	36	180
Masjedi Itefaq	36	180
In front of lesayee Ghazi	30	150
Jawari Riasati Barq	6	30
Coparatif-i-Dehqani	19	95
Nahri Darsan	24	120
Wapika Bloks	108	540
In front of Basir Salang house	45	225
In front of Police Building	54	270
Beside Zone 4 of Police station	35	175
Labi J are 3 rd Part of Khaikhan	14	70
Clinic Qasaba-e- Khana Sazi	31	155
Chaman-e- Babrak	150	790
Pul-e- charkhi	111	787
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,435</b>	<b>17,452</b>

*\*These IDPs/returnees have been accommodated by the government in mud houses. They will only be considered for the food distribution.*

**Coordination**

For the implementation of this relief operation, the government of Afghanistan has the lead role and has delegated the coordination to UN agencies. The ARCS plays a major role in the implementation of the operation in Kabul. The Federation will provide technical support and guidance to the President/Secretary General and the disaster management and health departments of the national society. Continuous knowledge transfer will be done throughout implementation in order to enhance the capacity of the ARCS in disaster response, planning, budgeting, reporting and evaluation.

## The proposed operation

### Emergency relief (food and non-food)

**Overall Objective:** to improve the lives of IDPs and returnees in Kabul severely affected by the adverse winter weather and meet the urgent humanitarian needs of 3,435 unassisted families and strengthen the capacity of the Afghan Red Crescent through disaster preparedness and response.

**Specific objective 1:** to distribute basic food items to 3,435 families and non-food items to 1,484 families covering a three month period and to replenish the DP stocks used during this response.

Activities to achieve this objective:

- Maintain contact with local authorities and various stakeholders;
- Identification of the most vulnerable beneficiaries with special emphasis on gender and disability issues;
- Tendering and local procurement of emergency relief items (food and non-food items);
- Organization of transport of goods to the final destinations;
- Distribution of essential emergency relief items to the selected beneficiaries;
- Constant monitoring throughout the operation;
- Final evaluation of the impact of the programme.

Indicators:

- Coordination with relevant authorities and stakeholders;
- 17,452 beneficiaries are verified, registered and receive family distribution cards.
- Basic food items for 3,435 families procured and distributed;
- Basic non-food items for 1,484 families procured and distributed.
- 12,000 blankets, 2,000 kitchen sets, 2,000 jerry cans and 500 plastic roles are replenished.

Details of planned food distribution to 3,445 families for three months:

Food Item	Total per family per month (kgs)	Total per family for 3 months (kgs)
Wheat flour	72.0	216.0
Sugar	2.7	8.1
Cooking oil	3.6	10.8
Tea	0.9	2.7

Details of planned non-food item distribution to 1,484 families:

Non-food Items	Total per family	Unit
Heating/Cooking stove	1	Piece
Heating coal	35	Kgs

Available rolls of 500 plastic sheeting have been released in order to start the amelioration of the habitat.

**Specific Objective 2:** to construct community latrines, rehabilitate existing toilets facilities for women and children and provide hygiene and preventive health education to the selected communities.

Activities to achieve this objective:

- Target settlements in consultation with the local authorities;
- Construction of community latrines;
- Rehabilitation of existing toilets facilities for women and children;
- Identify hygiene related risks;
- Implement hygiene promotion and preventive health activities;

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- Monitoring of construction and rehabilitation of sanitation facilities;
- Monitoring of hygiene promotion and preventive health education activities.

#### Indicators:

- Most needy settlements are selected;
- Number and use of community latrines constructed;
- Number and use of rehabilitated toilet facilities;
- Hygiene related risks are identified and reduced;
- Hygiene promotion and preventive health activities implemented in targeted settlements.

### **Specific Objective 3: to improve the capacity of the ARCS in disaster preparedness and response.**

#### Activities to achieve this objective:

- Provide guidance and technical support to the ARCS National Disaster Task Force;
- Organize one disaster management ToT workshops for key ARCS staff;
- Provide office supplies and teaching materials;
- Organize a seminar with the main actors of the relief operation focusing on lessons learned.

#### Indicators:

- National Disaster Taskforce formed and operational;
- Two Disaster Management TOT workshops organized;
- Necessary communication equipment purchased and users trained;
- Office supplies and teaching materials provided;
- Findings and lessons learned are analyzed, capitalized, and shared within the region.

### **Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and priorities**

Priority will be given to providing strong support and guidance to the Afghan Red Crescent Society during the relief operation. Lessons learned will be emphasized and further support should be provided to the national society in this important and crucial period of change.

Awareness on the Movement's principles and humanitarian values will be disseminated to the beneficiaries during the relief operation, emphasizing non-discrimination and gender issues.

### **Communications – Advocacy and Public information**

The ARCS, supported by the Federation delegation, is liaising with local media on the national society response. Further contacts will be developed and international media approached and updated on the operation. Embassies and foreign missions will be updated on the operation.

### **Capacity of the National Society**

The Afghan Red Crescent Society has benefited from years of support from the Federation, the ICRC and numerous partner national societies. However continued support is essential to the ARCS continuing to grow to meet the large humanitarian challenges which persist in Afghanistan.

The ARCS has a well-functioning, well trained and experienced Disaster Management department. It contributed to the Red Cross and Red Crescent tsunami response with the rapid deployment of a Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) member to Indonesia.

One of the major strengths of the national society is its large network of Community Based Disaster Preparedness (CBDP) and Community Based First Aid (CBFA) volunteers throughout the country. The ARCS health department is running 50 clinics in all regions; has a comprehensive network of CBFA volunteers; and 10 fully equipped emergency mobile units (EMU) consisting of two teams each in the five regional capitals.

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The Afghan Red Crescent Society is in a restructuring phase. Pressure from the government with regards to the national society's role in the future in certain programme areas combined with relatively new ARCS leadership are contributing to the need for restructuring. Continued international support is vital for the viability and effectiveness of the ARCS.

**Capacity of the Federation**

The Federation's Afghanistan delegation currently consists of seven delegates. It is planned to decrease the number of delegates in the future to gradually transfer ownership of programmes to the ARCS. The Federation will continue to support the ARCS in quality service delivery of the four core programmes and is shaping this support to meet the new realities in a post-conflict context. More emphasis is being placed on ARCS organizational development to promote greater ownership towards long-term programme sustainability and self-reliance.

**Monitoring and evaluation**

Constant monitoring will be achieved through activity and situation reports and a joint evaluation will be organized by the ARCS and the Federation at the end of the operation. It is foreseen that the newly constituted government of Afghanistan will closely assess the ARCS capacities and efficiency during the emergency phase of the operation. Standard Federation Operations Updates and a Final Report will be issued.

**Budget summary**

See Annex 1 for details.

Susan Johnson  
Director  
National Society and Field Support Division

Markku Niskala  
Secretary General

**[Budget below; click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)**

## **BUDGET SUMMARY**

### **Afghanistan - Severe Winter**

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TYPE	VALUE
<b>RELIEF NEEDS</b>	IN CHF
Shelter & constructions	9,000
Clothing & textiles	85,000
Food & seeds	414,000
Water & sanitation	18,000
Teaching materials	2,000
Utensils & tools	137,000
<b>TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS</b>	<b>665,000</b>
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<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>	
Computers & telecom. equipment	10,000
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>	
Programme support (6.5% of total)	53,000
<u>TRANSPORT STORAGE &amp; VEHICLE COSTS</u>	
Transport & vehicle costs	37,000
<u>PERSONNEL</u>	
Expatriate staff	10,000
National staff	12,000
Workshops & training	14,000
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE &amp; GENERAL SERVICES</u>	
Travel & related expenses	4,000
Information expenses	1,000
Administrative & general expenses	6,000
<b>TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS</b>	<b>147,000</b>
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<b>TOTAL APPEAL CASH, KIND, SERVICES</b>	<b>812,000</b>
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<b>LESS AVAILABLE RESOURCES (-)</b>	<b>0</b>
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<b>NET REQUEST</b>	<b>812,000</b>
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