



Final Report for  
DREF Bulletin  
no. 05ME039  
22 August 2006

## ROMANIA: FLOODS

*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 185 countries.*

### In Brief

Period covered by this Final Report: 7 July 2005 to 28 February, 2006.

History of this Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF)-funded operation:

- CHF 240,938 allocated from the Federations DREF on 7 July, 2005 to respond to the needs of this operation, or to replenish disaster preparedness stocks distributed to the affected population.
- This operation was expected to be implemented in 7 months, and completed by 28 February, 2006. In line with Federation reporting standards, the DREF Bulletin Final Report (narrative and financial) was due 90 days after the end of the operation (by 31 May, 2006).

#### Summary:

This DREF allocation covered the emergency needs of beneficiaries in the area of Arges, Braila, Bacau, Galati Ialomita, Olt, Prahova, Teleorman Vrancea, Harghita. As beneficiaries faced a harsh winter following the flooding of the spring, summer and early autumn 2005, the relief items distributed contributed to the recovery stage for these beneficiaries. Due to further flooding which hit Romania in spring 2006, there has been a delay in producing this final report.

The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet 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.

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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>*

## Background and Summary



**With the country still recovering from a previous major wave of flooding in the spring 2005, heavy rains caused further flooding and destruction in 15 counties in Romania during July 2005**

With the country still recovering from a previous major wave of flooding in the spring 2005, heavy rains caused further flooding and destruction in 15 counties (Arad, Arges, Bistrita-Nasaud, Calarasi, Constanta, Dollj, Giurgiu, Gorj, Hunedoara, Olt, Prahova, Teleorman, Tulcea, Valcea and Vrancea) in Romania during the period 9-15 July, with some 468 localities affected, killing 20 people, and with four persons reported missing, 7,029 evacuated from their homes, and a total of 14,669 households affected. The flooding caused havoc to communication lines and infrastructure: the water supply, electricity, gas and phone networks were brought to a standstill in the flooded regions; access to the areas was problematic with 1,097 bridges and 1,056 km of roads damaged; 13,138 houses damaged, 53,782 hectares of agricultural land flooded, 3,073 animals and birds killed and 141 social institutions affected.

According to the assessment carried out by the Red Cross branches, together with the Romanian members of the International Federation's Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT), the total number of affected people was estimated at 10,000. While official reports received on 6 July showed 1,038 evacuated people, the Romanian Red Cross assessment put the figure closer to the initial estimations of the local RC branches (6,600 people). The assessment was carried out on the basis of guidelines sent from the national headquarters and conducted by the volunteers of the local branches.

## Coordination



**The flooding caused havoc to communication lines and infrastructure, leaving a lot of people vulnerable**

The Romanian Red Cross (RRC) is the only humanitarian organization, which is included in the national system for protection of the population in case of natural and technological disasters in time of peace and war. The Romanian Red Cross works in close co-operation and interaction with the Ministry of Defence, State Agency for Civil Protection, Ministry of Administration and Interior, governmental institutions, local authorities and other partners in disaster response.

The overall coordination of the RRC operation was undertaken by the RRC Crisis Management Team, which was convened and met regularly to process information from various sources, including from the RRC branches, to assess the situation and to take decisions. As a result:

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- RRC delivered immediately emergency aid to affected people from its own disaster reserves;
- RRC launched a Minor Emergency Appeal through the International Federation appeal mechanism;
- The Regional Delegation of the International Federation in Budapest released immediately funds from DREF to continue the operation;
- RRC used several cash and in-kind donations received from partner National Societies;
- RRC opened special bank accounts for floods victims and launched a national appeal to the population.

Regular briefings and press conferences were held to inform the general public and increase the transparency of the operation. Information about the operation was published on the RRC web page.

**Analysis of the operation – achievements and impact**

The procurement and distribution plan was based on the assessment figures and official numbers of the evacuated people in Olt and Teleorman County.

**Distribution**

With the DREF allocation of CHF 240,938, the following relief items were purchased:

Relief Item	Planned Quantity	Quantity Purchased
Blankets	2,300	2,375
Sleeping bags	2,000	4,619
Rubber boots	2,300	2,608
Washable diapers	2,160	9,996
Jerry cans	1,300	1,530
Basins (for washing babies)	180	374
Basins (washing)	650	1,626
Kitchen sets	650	196
Thermometers	180	191

Those items were distributed in the following counties:

#	Affected County	Blankets	Sleeping bags	Rubber boots	Washable diapers	Jerry cans	Basins (for washing babies)	Basins (washing)
1	Arges	134	410					
2	Braila		177			64		
3	Bacau			450				775
4	Galati	1,137	600	738	738	142		775
5	Ialomita		791	98		465		
6	Olt	404	491			128		
7	Prahova	100	50	150		340		
8	Teleorman	1,047		300	960	200	80	
9	Vrancea	824		450		100	318	775
10	Harghita			300				
<b>Total distributed</b>		<b>3,646</b>	<b>2,519</b>	<b>2,486</b>	<b>1,698</b>	<b>1,439</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>2,325</b>
<b>Total purchased</b>		<b>2,375</b>	<b>4,619</b>	<b>2,608</b>	<b>9,996</b>	<b>1,530</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>1,626</b>

There are some discrepancies between the number of items purchased and the total number distributed. Where needs were covered by in-kind donations or from local procurement using financial sources other than DREF, the items not distributed were used to replenish Romanian Red Cross warehouse stocks. In some cases more relief items

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of a particular type could be purchased than originally planned due to the advantageous purchase prices. This enabled more beneficiaries to be covered.

### **Communications – Advocacy and Public Information**

The RRC PR coordinator has been in regular contact with media partners, and press releases were issued, outlining the RRC's response in the affected area. Information is available to the general public through the national society's website in Romanian and English.

### **Lessons Learned and Impact**

1. The capacity of the RRC headquarters disaster management department was severely tested by the extended flood emergency and post-emergency relief operation. Due to the lack of human resource capacity and experience in logistical and relief distribution planning and implementation at the headquarters level, the Federation supported the operation through continuous deployment of members of the regional disaster response team (RDRT). Experienced counterparts from national societies in the region have supported the RRC throughout the operation, and have supported capacity building attempts at the headquarters for future operations.
2. During the spring 2006, further serious flooding has led to another emergency appeal launch and an extended plan of action for relief and water sanitation support to the affected population. A joint Romanian RC/FACT/RDRT mission has been in Romania since mid April to support in planning and operations. The team includes a logistician from the Swiss Red Cross who is supporting the RRC counterparts in setting up the logistics side of the operation.
3. Initial inexperience and insufficient knowledge of the local market led to some delays in the procurement procedures. In response to this, a database of local producers of different relief items was created and can now be used for the new flood operation.
4. As a result of the project implementation, the RRC has improved its knowledge of the purchase, customs and contracting legislation.
5. The importance of regular assessment of beneficiary needs in a disaster situation and throughout an operation was reinforced through this experience.

### **Financial information**

In total, CHF 240,938 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) for the assistance. The unspent funds of CHF 288 indicated in the attached financial report were returned back to DREF in July.

**[Final financial report below; click here to return to the title page or contact information](#)**

**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**

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Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2005/06-2006/06
Budget Timeframe	2005/06-2006/06
Appeal	M05ME039
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**I. Consolidated Response to Appeal**

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget		240'938				240'938
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)						
DREF		240'938				240'938
C3. Reallocations (within appeal)		240'938				240'938
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		240'938				240'938
D. Total Funding = B + C		240'938				240'938

**II. Balance of Funds**

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		240'938				240'938
E. Expenditure		-240'650				-240'650
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		288				288

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Reporting Timeframe	2005/06-2006/06
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### III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A							B	A - B
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		240'938					240'938	
<b>Supplies</b>								
Shelter - Relief			65				65	-65
Clothing & textiles	155'200		156'872				156'872	-1'672
Water & Sanitation			134				134	-134
Medical & First Aid	360		359				359	1
Utensils & Tools	37'150		37'217				37'217	-67
Other Supplies & Services	10'800		10'865				10'865	-65
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>203'510</b>		<b>205'513</b>				<b>205'513</b>	<b>-2'003</b>
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage			1'560				1'560	-1'560
Transport & Vehicle Costs			13'848				13'848	-13'848
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>			<b>15'407</b>				<b>15'407</b>	<b>-15'407</b>
<b>Personnel Expenditures</b>								
National Staff	2'000							2'000
National Society Staff			1'042				1'042	-1'042
<b>Total Personnel Expenditures</b>	<b>2'000</b>		<b>1'042</b>				<b>1'042</b>	<b>958</b>
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel			49				49	-49
Office Costs			1'677				1'677	-1'677
Communications			1'149				1'149	-1'149
Financial Charges			169				169	-169
Other General Expenses	19'767							19'767
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>19'767</b>		<b>3'045</b>				<b>3'045</b>	<b>16'722</b>
<b>Program Support</b>								
Program Support	15'661		15'642				15'642	19
<b>Total Program Support</b>	<b>15'661</b>		<b>15'642</b>				<b>15'642</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>240'938</b>		<b>240'650</b>				<b>240'650</b>	<b>288</b>
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>			<b>288</b>				<b>288</b>	