



KYRGYZSTAN: EARTHQUAKE

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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

This DREF Bulletin is being issued based on the situation described below reflecting the information available at this time. CHF 100,000 (USD 81,941 or EUR 62,236) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to respond to the needs in this operation. This operation is expected to be implemented over one month, and will be completed by the end of January 2007; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

This operation is aligned with the International Federation's 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 current situation

On 26 December 2006, early in the morning (0200 local time), an earthquake struck Kyrgyzstan with a magnitude of 5.7 degrees on the Richter scale. The epicentre was in the Teskey Alatau ridge, 140 km from the capital city of Bishkek. The worst affected area is the Isakeevo, Kochkorka and Semiz-Bel villages. Tremors were also felt in Almaty in neighbouring Kazakhstan, with a magnitude of around 3.5-4 degrees on the Richter scale. However, no damage has been registered in Kazakhstan.

Preliminary information received by the government indicates that damage was mainly to housing, electric lines and communications and there is a need to provide heating for both the homeless and local medical aid centres. There is no power supply or phone communication with the affected area.

On 27 December the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MoE), local self-administration bodies and the Red Crescent provincial branch's disaster response team held a situation assessment on the spot. According to the latest data 5,910 people have been affected by the earthquake; fortunately there have been no casualties. Most of the affected people have been accommodated with their relatives.

The assessment team have reported the following damage to houses:

№	Category	Quantity
1	Totally destroyed	20
2	Severely damaged	375
3	Average damage	1,585
4	Moderately damaged	3,662
	Total	5,642

The MoE has mobilized its resources, and, in a letter to the UN Resident Coordinator, has appealed for international assistance in order to provide food, heating equipment, clothing, medicaments and construction materials. An interagency commission has been established to monitor developments to the situation– Kyrgyzstan RC is a member of this commission.

The government conducted an evacuation and accommodated affected people with their relatives. The government plans to reconstruct damaged houses and provide affected people with loans. By 29 December the MoE had already allocated nine tons of cement and 500 roofing slates for house reconstruction, as well as tents. The health ministry has allocated around 100,000 Kyrgyz Soms (about USD 2,632) for medicines and medical supplies.

OCHA has allocated a cash grant of USD 10,000 to cover immediate needs.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

As an immediate response, on 28 December Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent distributed relief items to the most affected 60 families in Isakeevo village. These families were identified by the initial assessment done by the Red Crescent provincial branch disaster response team. Relief items included blankets, bed linen sets, kitchen sets, jerry cans and hygiene kits. In addition, the Red Crescent branch handed out New Year gifts to earthquake affected children at the disaster site to help with their personal rehabilitation, and distributed warm clothes.

Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent requests a DREF allocation of CHF 100,000 to render assistance to 400 of the most affected families in two villages of Kochkorka and Isakeevo. The support will include relief items (blankets, mattresses, bed linen sets, hygiene kits, kitchen sets) and food parcels (rice, sugar, flour, oil). The distribution will take place on 30 December. Further assessments by the Red Crescent team will indicate if there is a need to issue an

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Emergency Appeal next week. Because of the remoteness of the emergency site the assessment process is taking a long time to carry out.

The support by Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent is meant to help the affected communities cope with the consequences of the earthquake and help the people to return to a normal life.

The Federation delegation in Almaty is closely monitoring the situation and is supporting the activities of the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent Society.

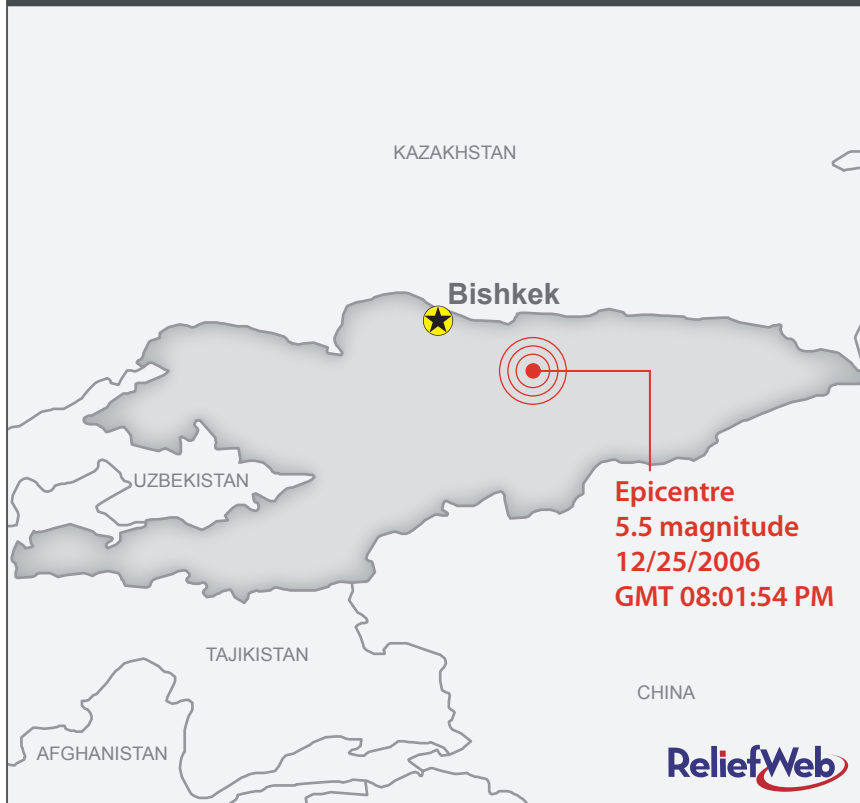
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At 2 a.m. local time on 26 Dec 2006, an earthquake struck Kochkor area, Naryn region, some 140 km south-east of Bishkek. The earthquake was also felt in neighboring Kazakhstan.

- OCHA Situation Report No. 1, 27 Dec 2006

KYRGYZSTAN - Earthquake



The names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.