

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

ROMANIA: FLOODS

Appeal no. MDRRO001
29 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 PRELIMINARY EMERGENCY APPEAL SEEKS CHF 2,427,200 (USD 1.9 MILLION OR EUR 1.5 MILLION) IN CASH, KIND, OR SERVICES TO ASSIST 13,000 BENEFICIARIES FOR 3 MONTHS

[<click here to link directly to the attached Appeal budget, and here for the map>](#)

This Preliminary Emergency Appeal sets out a framework to deliver assistance to the population affected by the floods in Romania. The joint Romanian Red Cross (RRC) and Federation Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) and Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) is continuing to assess the evolving situation in country and is compiling a detailed plan of action and budget, which is expected to be ready early next week. The situation is expected to deteriorate, and this preliminary appeal will be revised based on this updated or more detailed information.

CHF 168,930 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to begin this operation. A DREF Bulletin was issued on 20 April 2006 and is available at the following link
[< http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?06/MDRRO001.pdf >](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?06/MDRRO001.pdf)

The immediate needs are for tents, blankets and other relief items. Cash support and contributions to purchase these items is encouraged. The human resource needs to support the operation will be set out in the detailed plan of action. However, the initial indication at this stage is that a logistics delegate will be required, as well as a RDRT Disaster Management Coordinator, together with administration, reporting and health assessment/promotion delegate.

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.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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- *FACT RDRT teamleader John English, fact.romania01@ifrc.org, telephone +40 729865935*
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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>

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The situation

Over the past three weeks, Romania has been hit by the heaviest seasonal flooding in 110 years. In total, 22 out of 47 counties have been affected by the floods. The counties in the south-western and the south-eastern parts of the country have suffered the most and the situation is still evolving. The following reflects the latest information available:

- Dolj: The most affected county currently, with 27 villages and towns inundated. Some 8,806 people have been evacuated as of 28 April. In four villages- with 13,000 people- an evacuation alert has been issued, but in total 20 villages, or 108,000, people might be affected in that area. In Dolj county, the village of Rast with a total of 4,000 inhabitants has been evacuated. According to the authorities it will not be rebuilt on the same site again. Roads and bridges in the affected areas are affected but logistics have so far not been a major problem. Fields and paddies are under water, affecting the ability of people to support themselves.
- In the counties of Calarasi and Constanta reports are still coming in of dikes and dams collapsing, due to the fact that the water is pushing towards the south-east.
- In this context and due to the specific characteristics of the Danube Delta in Tulcea, close to the Ukrainian border, the situation in villages in the delta area represents a major concern, if the water level continues to rise. Many villages have already been flooded and people are living on rafts, totally depending on external assistance for food and water.

Some 1,200 houses have been affected by the floods. Bricks (concrete and mud) are the most commonly used building materials. Houses built of mudbricks have collapsed or will collapse due to water infiltration.

A total of 11,000 people in the affected parts of Romania have already been evacuated and further evacuations are expected. There is special concern for those who fled their homes and now live in unofficial camps, as well as a linked concern related to the avian flu outbreak. The fear is that the floods situation could exacerbate the risk of spreading the virus and that efforts to contain the outbreak may be inhibited.

Most of the houses have private latrines in the garden, which are flooded. In semi-urban areas, houses are connected to public water networks, which have been interrupted but not severely destroyed. In rural areas, most houses have wells as water source, which are also flooded. After the flood water has receded, a clean-up campaign will be necessary in addition to rehabilitation in those areas where wells are the primary source of water.

Those living with relatives are able to use the regular water and sanitation facilities available in these places. Bottled water is also being distributed.

For the camps, water is being provided by trucks from the neighbouring villages. Bottled water is also distributed.

A significant concern is sanitation as there are only a small number of latrines available. The available facilities provided by the authorities (latrines, mobile shower units) are only used by part of the population, therefore there is a need for construction of a sufficient number of latrines and a hygiene promotion campaign for proper use of installed facilities. This is the highest priority on the list of Watsan needs.

In Ostrov municipality, two deep wells, which provide water for the public water network, are flooded and cannot be used at the moment. This has resulted in a water shortage that can be partly covered by other wells in the network, and partly by distribution of bottled water and trucking. With the withdrawal of floods, rehabilitation of the flooded wells should only take a few days and they should be functional within a short period, and no further action is considered needed.

The Romanian Red Cross (RRC) have taken a lead role in the relief operation, and has requested support from the International Federation to develop and launch this preliminary appeal. RRC branches have provided relief assistance to the flood victims from the very beginning. Up to 28 April, the RRC has distributed the following items from its central and regional warehouses in Dambovită and Alba Iulia:

	Dolj	Tulcea	Constanta	Calarasi	Caras-Severin	Total
blankets	600	120	200	2,000	200	3,120
sleeping bags	200			300		500
mattresses	1,030			500		1,530
community tents	13					13
family tents	50		5			55
hygiene parcels	250	178	200			628
bed-linen	100				150	250
plastic dishes					500	500
jerry cans		100				100
bulk food kgs		1,439				1,439
canned food		444				444
boots		69	300			369
oil litres		239				239
disinfectants		76	22 boxes			98
children's shoes			100			100
women trousers			50			50
food parcels					50	50
diapers					100	100
Clothes			500			500
Detergents (bags)			2,040	2,040		4,080

The needs

The number of homeless people is still rising and it will take a long time before people can return to their homes in some areas, or before they can be relocated in other areas. Immediate relief needs are for tents, blankets and other relief items as stated below:

Items	Quantities to be delivered within 14 days	Quantities to be delivered within 1-6 months
Family Tents	1,460	0
Community Tent 27sq. m	6	0
Community Tent 35-40sq. m	6	0
Community Tent 90 sq. m	12	0
Folding Table	250	0

Folding Benches	500	0
Blankets	32,000	0
Tarpaulins (6x4)		3,000
Plastic sheeting rolls	2,050	0
Hygiene Parcels	4,075	0
Kitchen Sets Type A	1,500	0
Mattresses	7,600	0
Jerry cans Collapsible With Taps	7,600	0
Hurricane Lamps	0	0
Food Parcels	1,450	0
Rubber Boots	0	2,650
Fishing Boots	0	100
Sleeping Bags	1,675	0
Plastic Basin	0	1,500
Disinfectant (Chloramine, Chlorine)	3,000	0

Coordination

All Romanian Red Cross branches are members of the local committees of the Emergency Committee at the Ministry of Interior. Branch directors in the affected areas have been participating regularly in coordination meetings at the prefecture level. WorldVision, Caritas and Unicef are concentrating their efforts on the county of Dolj, possibly extending to the county of Calarasi.

The Romanian Red Cross initiated the organization of a coordination meeting for representatives of the UN, NGOs and the Orthodox Church. This meeting took place on 27 April at the Romanian Red Cross headquarters and it was agreed to hold regular interagency coordination meetings of this type.

The proposed operation

Objectives and activities planned

The overall goal of this operation is to immediately deliver assistance to those affected, primarily:

- elderly people and children.
- single parent households.
- people whose houses are damaged or destroyed by floods.

Emergency relief (food and non-food)

Objective 1: To provide humanitarian relief assistance to 13,000 evacuated people and severely affected persons, consisting of tents, blankets, tarpaulins, plastic sheeting, kitchen sets, mattresses, jerry cans, rubber boots, sleeping bags, food and hygiene parcels.

Activities planned to reach this objective:

- Distributing food and non-food relief items to 13,000 beneficiaries by the Romanian Red Cross staff and volunteers.
- Identifying a warehouse to receive consignments.
- Identifying a warehouse manager and training him/her on Federation standard procedures.
- Identifying beneficiaries according to the defined criteria and preparing beneficiary lists.
- Purchasing food and non-food relief items by the Romanian Red Cross logistics coordinator in close relation with the International Federation logistics coordinator, according to Federation standard procedures.
- Dispatching relief items straight from central warehouse to the distribution sites in Dolj, Constanta and Tulcea by the National Society.

Objective 2: To promote the activities of the Red Cross and strengthen the image of the Romanian Red Cross.

Activities planned to reach this objective:

- Maximizing visibility of the National Society through distribution, visits to beneficiaries, monitoring and evaluation by volunteers of the Romanian Red Cross branches.
- Maximizing the visibility through the use of the National Society emblem on food and hygiene parcels by the Red Cross branches.
- Ensuring media coverage of the Red Cross work. A field trip for journalists is already planned by the PR Officer of the Romanian RC to highlight the Romanian Red Cross disaster response.

Shelter

Objective 1: To provide housing in tents for those evacuated people for an initial period of 3 months.

Activities planned to reach this objective:

- Transporting tents from the central warehouse and regional warehouses to the affected areas.
- Distributing tents in the affected area.
- Recuperating the tents after the rehabilitation process in the area.

Water & Sanitation (WatSan)

Overall goal: Population of disaster affected areas of Romanian counties Dolj, Calarasi, Constanta and Tulcea has access to safe water and sanitation and is reached by hygiene promotion.

Objective 1: Prevent excess morbidity and mortality as a result of the disaster.

Activities planned to reach this objective:

- Sanitation facilities are built in densely populated areas (unorganized camp areas) and camps in Dolj and Calarasi counties and are used by population.
- Disinfection material is provided in the targeted counties and are used by population.
- Improved hygiene/ sanitation conditions/ practices and knowledge of basic hygiene promotion messages among the affected target populations.

Capacity of the National Society

Romanian Red Cross has branches in 47 counties, including the counties presently affected by the disaster. RRC has a central warehouse and six regional warehouses, which have responded by sending relief commodities to affected areas. It has seven water-purification units (500 lit per hour), seven soup-kitchens and two ten-ton trucks. In Dolj, there are 300 volunteers, 59 per cent of them have been trained. In Tulcea there are 60 volunteers.

Capacity of the Federation

A joint Federation FACT/RDRT team together with the Romanian Red Cross and a delegate from the German Red Cross has been in Romania since 20 April and carried out assessments in Mehedinti, Caras-Severin, Dolj, Calarasi, Constanta and Tulcea. The implementation of the operation will be carried out jointly by the Federation team and the Romanian Red Cross.

The Federation's Regional Delegation in Budapest has provided support to the Romanian Red Cross.

As the operation unfolds, the human resources necessary to support the operation and to be provided through the Federation, will be further clarified. Initially it is planned to deploy a logistics delegate and an RDRT DM coordinator. Administration, reporting and health assessment/promotion delegates will also be required to support the operation during the initial phase. The current joint FACT/RDRT team mission will be extended for a further

two weeks. The Regional Delegation, together with the National Societies, has been proactive in mobilising emergency stocks held by National Societies within the region.

Budget summary

Please refer to annex 1.

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

APPEAL MDRRO001

Romania - Floods

TYPE	VALUE	
RELIEF NEEDS	IN CHF	
Water & sanitation (jerry cans, disinfectant & cleaning materials)	75,200	
Non-food relief items (blankets, tents, mattresses, boots, clothes plastic sheeting, kitchen sets, hurricane lamps, sleeping bags)	1,700,000	
Food items (canned goods, vegetable oil, food parcels)	100,000	
TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS		1,875,200
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<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>		
Programme support (6.5% of total)	168,736	
<u>TRANSPORT STORAGE & VEHICLE COSTS</u>		
Distribution & storage	200,000	
Transport & vehicle costs	100,000	
<u>PERSONNEL</u>		
Expatriate staff	50,000	
National staff	110,000	
Workshops & training	40,000	
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL SERVICES</u>		
Travel & related expenses	20,000	
Communication expenses	15,000	
Administrative & general expenses	17,000	
TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS		552,000
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TOTAL APPEAL CASH, KIND, SERVICES		2,427,200
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LESS AVAILABLE RESOURCES (-)		0
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NET REQUEST		2,427,200
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Floods in Romania



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Map data sources: ESRI, DMIS, FACT, Reuters