

# DREF Bulletin Update



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

## TAJIKISTAN: EARTHQUAKE

MDRTJ001  
Update no. 1  
14 August 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 185 countries.*

### In Brief

Period covered by this update: 5 to 11 August 2006.

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

- CHF 100,000 (USD 81,700 or EUR 63,500) allocated from the Federations DREF on 4 August 2006 to respond to the needs of this operation, or to replenish disaster preparedness stocks distributed to the affected population.
- This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will be completed by 30 October 2006; a DREF Bulletin Final Report (narrative and financial) will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 30 January 2007).

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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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

Two devastating earthquakes of magnitude between 4.5 and 5.5 on Richter scale struck several villages in Qumsangir district of Khatlon oblast on 29 July 2006. The epicentre of the quake occurred in the nearby of Afghanistan.

The Government is still in the process of finalizing the latest information on the numbers of villages, people, houses and infrastructure affected by the disaster, hence leading to provision of contradicting figures. According to the latest updates, another village in addition to the seven previously reported appeared to be facing the effects from the disaster. *For details, please refer to the table below.* According to the assessments conducted by the National Emergency Commission, the total cost of the damage is estimated at US \$22 million.

**Table 1 Updated statistics of people, villages and houses affected by the disaster**

No.	Affected villages/areas	No. of affected people	No. of destroyed houses	
			Totally	Partially
1	Village No.6	4,797	241	373
2	Village No. 8	3,408	265	100
3	Zamini Naw	1,003	120	13
4	Dusti	3,165	123	502
5	Sholikori	415	4	27
6	Kumsangir	1,009	42	79
7	Telman	938	65	65
8	Krupskaya	360	5	35
	<b>Total</b>	<b>15,095</b>	<b>865</b>	<b>1,194</b>

Out of the total number of disaster victims, who are left without proper shelter, only 2,000 are living in tents provided by RCST/Federation and the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MoES). The rest are temporarily staying with their relatives or have been relocated to other places.

To date, further support from International agencies and some countries was provided to the victims of the quake:

- The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) had distributed 5,000 kg of chlorine, 30,000 water purification tablets, 600 jerry cans and 520 hygiene kits, of which 120 were specifically for babies and 400 for adults, and 40 boxes of high protein biscuits
- The World Food Programme (WFP) had sent more than 19,000 MT of food to people in the most affected villages
- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) had released a US \$20,000 grant to cover immediate relief needs and was considering shipping aid from its warehouse in Brindisi, Italy
- ACTED<sup>1</sup> had distributed 47 blankets, 50 jerry cans and leaflets on prevention of water-borne diseases
- The Government of Kyrgyzstan had sent 16 trucks of various items including food and construction materials worth over US \$150,000
- Merlin had distributed second-hand clothes to 133 families
- The Turkish Government and Oxfam expressed their willingness to support in reconstruction of houses

Recently, a letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was distributed among international agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), through which the Government appeals for more humanitarian and financial assistance.

Further needs indicated to date are the following:

Health and Water/Sanitation: There is a great need for hygiene kits, water bladders, prevention and surveillance for outbreak of water-borne diseases and mosquito nets.

<sup>1</sup> The Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development

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Shelter: The Ministry of Emergency Situations appealed for additional 2,000 tents to provide shelter to victims of the disaster who remained without proper shelter. Need for more construction materials were also reported.

The government and international agencies continue conducting monitoring of the situation to meet the needs of the affected population.

**Red Cross and Red Crescent action**

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) disaster response team (DRT) on site is continuing to conduct regular assessment of the situation in the affected areas. On parity with the assessment and in order to avoid potential water-borne outbreaks in the affected areas, the DRT members distributed 8,000 purification tablets to the affected families through home visits and disseminated health and hygiene and sanitation promotion messages through distribution of 2,000 informational materials on healthy life, clean water and first aid.

In response to the request from RCST/Federation, CHF 100,000 was allocated from DREF. So far, a tender for procurement of 200 tents and self support construction kits was announced. Procurement is ongoing in accordance with the Federation procurement procedure. Delivery of construction kits is expected by 18 August 2006. Additional 3,000 informational materials (booklets) on three topics – diarrhoea, hygiene and sanitation (1,000 copies of each) – are in the reprinting stage.

Through Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team (REACT) meetings, RCST/Federation is in constant contact with governmental and international agencies involved to coordinate activities in the field. Health coordination meetings are conducted through the World Health Organization (WHO) and water sanitation issues are addressed through coordination meetings headed by UNICEF.

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