

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

AZERBAIJAN: FLOODS

DREF operation n° MDRAZ001
GLIDE n° FL-2009-000208-AZE
29 September, 2009

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

CHF 124,836 (USD 120,977 or EUR 82,665) has been allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 1,200 persons. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: On 21 September 2009 heavy rainfall caused flooding of hundreds of houses and roads in central parts of Azerbaijan. The Hajigabul district is most affected and some 70 per cent of the territory was flooded. Latest information suggests that more than 5,000 people have been affected, and more than 2,300 houses have been damaged or destroyed. The Azerbaijan Red Crescent will provide food and non-food relief items to 300 families or 1,200 persons in the village of Navahi.



Table 1: Access way to flooded house in Navahi village. Azerbaijan Red Crescent

This operation is expected to be implemented over two months, and will therefore be completed by 1 December 2009; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 1 March, 2010).

[<click here for the DREF budget, here for contact details, or here to view the map of affected areas>](#)

The situation

On 21 September 2009 heavy rainfall caused flooding of hundreds of houses and roads in central parts of Azerbaijan and caused further damages to cars and material items. The Hajigabul district is most affected and some 70 per cent of the territory was flooded. Flooding is not typical for the Hajigabul region which has a semi-desert, dry and hot climate with mild winters. Therefore houses are not constructed to withstand the amount of water the region is now experiencing.

According to the latest information more than 5,000 people have been affected. More than 2,300 houses have been damaged out of which 2,000 overflooded and more than 40 houses totally destroyed, while another 350 houses have cracks and are under threat of being destroyed. As the rainfall has been lasting,

additional houses are under threat of being flooded. To date more than 40 families have been evacuated to temporarily shelter solutions. The water masses have, in addition to destroying and damaging houses, destroyed household items such as kitchen utensils, electric gear, and bedding equipment. There is also a concern that as a result of the flooding the water and sanitation systems may be affected leading to the spread of infectious diseases.

In the village of Navahi, which is the most affected village, 430 out of 475 houses have been flooded and strong water streams have brought with it cars and roadside facilities. The downpour has led to most of the roads being closed. Furthermore railways and power lines have been damaged, and cars, outhouses and auxiliary buildings were either moved or knocked down by river-like flows from mountains. In addition, the territories of the Hajigabul regional centre remain under water. The natural disaster also seriously crippled the Neftchala and Shriven regions. No human casualties have been reported, while several farmers' cattle have been killed. Furthermore families' food supplies and livestock have been destroyed.

In addition to the Hajigabul district, also northern, southern and western parts of Azerbaijan are flooded, especially the Khachmaz region in which seven villages are affected; Missal region in which 20 houses are under water; and Salyan and Sheki regions where houses are damaged, streets are overflowed and electricity supplies interrupted. In Salyan region the pipe systems broke due to old pipes and lack of maintenance.

Coordination and partnerships

Immediately following the flooding local authorities requested support from the Azerbaijan Red Crescent to provide 1,250 affected people with tents, food parcels and other supplies. The National Society established working relationships with local as well as central authorities in order to explore how best to meet the request. The National Society continues being in contact with local authorities in the Hajigabul district as well as with the Ministry of Emergency Situation and its local commission. The latter is still assessing damages caused by the floods, and may provide additional information of use for the National Society.

Local authorities are currently developing lists of people affected and are sharing the information with the National Society. In order to ensure that the society reaches the most vulnerable, it will undertake measures to verify the needs among affected people. The cooperation with local authorities also includes information sharing to keep each other updated on actions taken, and to avoid duplication as well as to ensure that further support is offered to especially affected and vulnerable families.

The Ministry of Emergency Situations has sent special vehicles and personnel to help the people in restoring normal life. At present agencies are acting to alleviate the effects of the floods and headquarters have been set up. Over 20 fire-fighting cars, 200 employees of the Ministry of Emergency Situations, as well as technical equipment for water pumping are involved in this work.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Azerbaijan Red Crescent, through the Sabirabad regional centre and the Hajigabul branch, carried out a preliminary assessment. Mobile volunteer teams from the regional centre, which is in operation as a result of previous support to Azerbaijan appeals, as well as the chairmen from the branch took part and also established working relations with local authorities in the Hajigabul region.

The society's existing resources were sufficient to support 100 families in one of the mostly affected villages, Navahi village, with items available in the society's warehouse including 25 tents, 300 blankets, 300 mattresses and 100 hygiene kits. The needs of 300 families in food parcels and non-food items (food parcels, hygiene kits, mattresses, gas stoves, plastic coating) remain uncovered and will be addressed through this DREF allocation.

The needs

The flooding of hundreds of houses has brought with it multiple needs among the affected people. Based on the damages related to the flooding, needs are related to both food and non-food items. The water masses have made most household items in the affected houses dysfunctional at the same as people have been forced to move into temporary shelter. Consequently affected people need support in terms of food and utilities to prepare food. Hygiene items are also needed as people lack proper hygiene facilities. Furthermore bedding equipment, including mattresses, are required as to offer affected people the most possible comfort and opportunities for relaxation in a distressful period.

In a longer-term perspective household items and construction materials are needed in order to restore the livelihood of affected people.

The proposed operation

In responding to the emergency which has affected thousands of people, the Azerbaijan Red Crescent aims to offer relief for immediate needs. Therefore the National Society seeks to distribute food and non-food items to the 300 most affected families in Navahi village. Items for distribution are food parcels, mattresses, bedding, hygiene kits, gas and electric stoves, jerry cans, plastic cover and rubber boots.

The National Society has drafted a plan of action to meet the request from the local authorities and to alleviate needs among the most affected people. The plan highlights steps to be taken for implementing the operation such as: purchasing necessary items in line with logistics procedures; renting trucks; visiting the affected region; mobilizing field personnel including mobile volunteer teams and other volunteers, National Society regional and branch staff; determining distribution points; carrying out pre-distribution and post-distribution; carrying out a satisfaction survey among people reached to find out whether the operation managed to meet their needs and get their feedback; and preparing final operations report.

Food parcels will be distributed over a period of two months, while non-food items will be distributed for one month. Some of the supplies will be used to replenish the stock of the National Society. Planned supplies for distribution and amounts are:

Item	Families	Item	Persons
Food parcels (2 months)	300	Mattresses	600
Gas stoves	300	Bedding	800 (400)
Electric stoves	300	Jerry cans	600 (300)
Hygiene kits	200	Rubber boots	600 (300)
Plastic covering	35 items		

Table 2: Items for distribution to affected families and persons. Items for replenishing the National Society's stock in brackets.

Items to replenish the National Society's stock include 300 jerry cans, 300 rubber boots and 400 bedding.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
<p>Objective: The Azerbaijan Red Crescent has distributed food and non-food items to 300 families in Navahi village over a period of two months to alleviate needs among the most affected people.</p> <p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct emergency needs and capacity assessment including identifying the most vulnerable. • Develop targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance to the most affected people. • Procure relief supplies in a transparent and efficient manner with following logistics procedures. • Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user according to Federation standards. • Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions. • Develop an exit strategy.

Visibility, accountability and performance management
<p>Objective: The Azerbaijan Red Crescent has promoted its relief activities, strengthened the National Society's image and ensured that the voices of affected people have been heard.</p> <p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise the visibility of National Society through relief distributions, visits to the affected people, monitoring and evaluation by volunteers of Red Cross branches • Procure and utilize Red Cross T-shirts, caps, ID cards for volunteers and staff of the Azerbaijan Red Crescent. • Conduct a satisfaction survey to verify the appropriateness of the operation and get feedback from targeted people to improve future operations.

Budget

<u>RELIEF NEEDS</u>	
Shelter	5,530
Clothing & Textiles	38,200
Food	25,200
Other Supplies & Services	28,800
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Total Relief Needs	97,730
<u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES</u>	
Storage - Warehouse	3,280
Distribution & Monitoring	3,000
Transport & Vehicles Costs	5,268
<u>PERSONNEL</u>	
National Staff	340
National Society Staff	4,220
<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>	
Travel	1,500
Information & Public Relations	300
Financial Charges	584
Other General Expenses	500
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>	
Programme Support - PSR	8,114
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Total Operational Needs	27,106
Total Requested Allocation	124,836

How we work

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.

The International Federation's activities 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.

Contact information

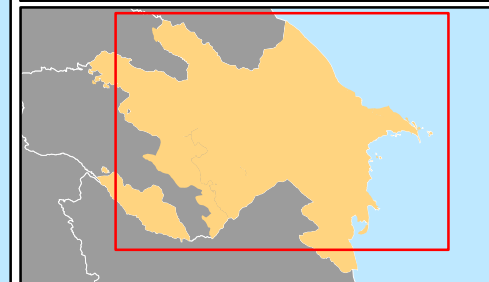
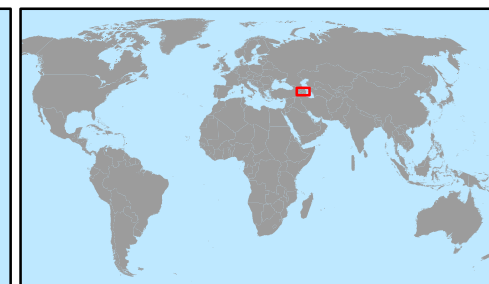
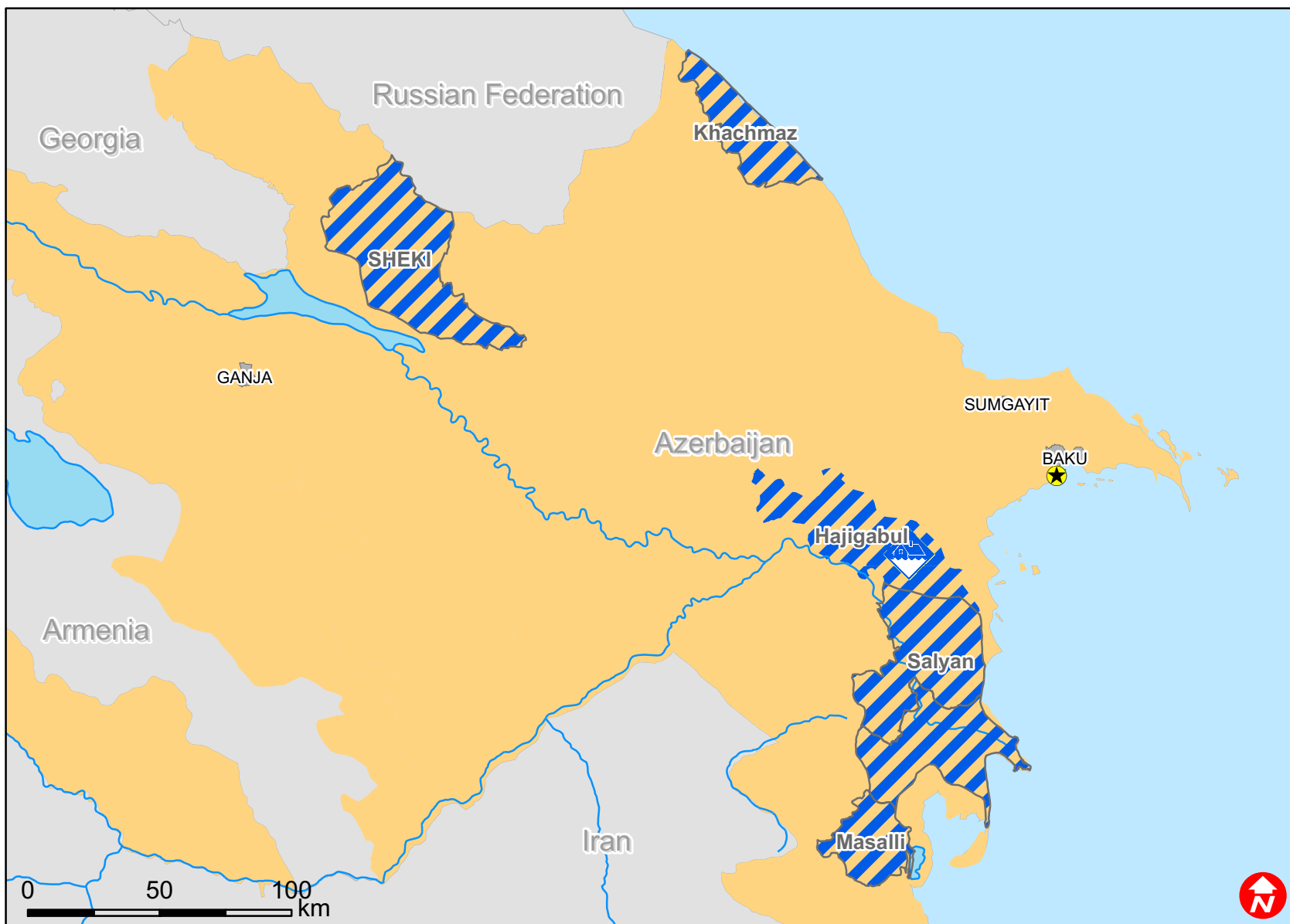
For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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[<Map below, click here to return to the title page>](#)



Azerbaijan: Floods



Navahi - most affected village



Affected regions