

# DREF operation



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Mongolia: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRMN002  
GLIDE n° [FL-2009-000140-MNG](#)  
21 July 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 240,000 (USD 224,073 or EUR 157,897) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 10,000 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged. The major donors to the DREF are the Irish, Italian, Netherlands and Norwegian governments and ECHO.**

**Details of all donors can be found on:**

<http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp>

**Summary:** On 17 July 2009, severe flooding occurred in the Bayanzurkh and Khan-Uul districts of Ulaanbaatar city, and in the Tseel and Togrog *soums* of the Gobi-Altai province, as well as some areas of Dundgobi and Tov provinces. A total of 24 people have reportedly been killed – a high number relative to the total population. Some 1,975 households have been significantly affected by the floods, out of which 124 households have completely lost their homes, while thousands of heads of livestock have died.



The Mongolian Red Cross Society (MRCS) is planning to provide immediate relief assistance to 1,900 families or approximately 10,000 individuals, in these affected areas.

Some 10,000 people are affected by severe flooding caused by heavy rains in Mongolia. Loss and damage to infrastructure mean that many remain at risk of exposure to extreme weather conditions and poor sanitation. MRCS/International Federation

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 20 October 2009; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation on 20 January 2010.

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

## The situation

On 16 and 17 July 2009, extremely heavy rains fell on urban and rural areas of Mongolia. As a result, severe flooding occurred in the Bayanzurkh and Khan-Uul districts of Ulaanbaatar city, and in the Tseel and Togrog *soums* of the Gobi-Altai province, as well as some areas of Dundgobi and Tov provinces.

A total of 24 people have reportedly been killed – a high number relative to the total population. Around 1,975 households have been significantly affected by the floods, which is an estimated 10,000 individuals.

Due to poor weather conditions and stress on livestock from continued flooding, the death toll of livestock in the eastern provinces is expected to increase.

Initial assessments show that damage has been very serious in some areas. There are reported losses to infrastructure, increasing the risks of individuals being exposed to harsh weather conditions, unclean water and poor sanitation.

The full extent of general damage and economic loss is not yet finalized. It is highly likely that one of the main needs arising from further assessments may be to support the renewal of livelihoods activities, given the extent of damage to livestock.

Damages identified were as follows:

- 124 households lost their homes;
- many other homes were damaged;
- household items were lost and carried away by flooding;
- fences were destroyed and carried away;
- pit latrines and waste water holes overflowed, causing hygiene and sanitation concerns;
- water pipes and electricity lines were damaged;
- roads were obstructed by stones and flowing water; and
- two bridges were damaged.

The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is jointly working with other related organizations in the affected areas, focusing their combined efforts on clearing blocked roads and reconstructing bridges. The costs related to these infrastructure operations are covered by the government. The government also is planning to establish temporary camps for those who are displaced using school buildings.

According to the weather forecast for the coming days, it is estimated that flooding will continue during this month.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action



MRCS has distributed relief items to help affected households cope with extreme weather conditions, including food items, warm clothing and blankets. MRCS/International Federation

On 18 July, MRCS launched an appeal at national level in order to involve the community and business organizations in the disaster response operations. Newspaper, television and radio announcements outlining the needs for relief work in these areas began at that time, and the MRCS was positioned to receive public donations for the relief operation.

The MRCS distributed relief items (food items, warm clothes, boots, blankets, and mattresses) to 84 households in Ulaanbaatar, the cost of which was MNT 6 million (approximately CHF 4,600).

The Gobi-Altai province mid-level Red Cross branch, based on its capacity, distributed relief items with a total value of MNT 1.2 million (approximately CHF 950) to 18 households.

The MRCS is also distributing clean water to those who are living in affected areas and do not have access to water. 50 volunteers and Red Cross staff are helping the NEMA staff to clean roads, provide psychological

support to affected people, promote disaster prevention and hygiene related messages to the community, and distribute information, education and communication (IEC) materials on disaster prevention.

The MRCS has put additional information on the International Federation's Disaster Management Information System (DMIS) website pages to share information. An emergency working team was established at the headquarters level.

The International Federation's regional disaster management delegate and the regional information officer have been deployed to Mongolia from the Beijing regional office to support MRCS in the assessment and coordination of this operation. The zone disaster management unit provides technical support for the operation from Kuala Lumpur and maintains daily communications with the field.

## The proposed operation

The proposed plan of action below is based on preliminary information gathered, taking into consideration the urgent needs of beneficiaries and capacity of the National Society. This proposal can and will be amended as necessary with further information from assessments currently being carried out in the affected provinces.

### Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

**Objective: To provide immediate relief assistance to 1,900 families affected by the floods.**

**Activities:**

- Distribute one-month supply of food items for 1,900 families
- Distribute non-food items to 1,900 families (warm clothes, boots, blankets, mattress, hygiene kits)
- Provide support to MRCS on a preliminary assessment and monitoring of the situation, and relief operations conducted by the MRCS

## 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 \(NGOs\) 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:

- Mr. Ravdan Samdandobji, Secretary General, Mongolian Red Cross Society, Ulaanbaatar, email: [redcross@magicnet.mn](mailto:redcross@magicnet.mn); phone: +976 11 312 578; fax: +976 11 320 934
- International Federation country office in Mongolia: Mrs. Maija-Liisa Fors, (head of country office); email: [majialiisa.fors@ifrc.org](mailto:majialiisa.fors@ifrc.org); phone: +976 11 312 720; fax: +976 11 321 684
- International Federation regional office in China: phone: +86 10 6532 7162; fax: +86 10 6532 7166
  - Mr. Carl Naucler (head of regional office); email: [carl.naucler@ifrc.org](mailto:carl.naucler@ifrc.org);
  - Mr. Qinghui Gu (regional disaster management coordinator); email: [qinghui.gu@ifrc.org](mailto:qinghui.gu@ifrc.org);
- International Federation Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur:
  - Mr. Jagan Chapagain (deputy head of zone); email: [jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org](mailto:jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org); phone: +603 9207 5700
  - Disaster management unit: Mr. Daniel Bolanos (regional disaster response delegate); email: [daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org](mailto:daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org); phone: + 603 9207 5728, mobile: +6012 283 7305
  - Regional logistics unit: Mr. Jeremy Francis (regional logistics coordinator); email: [jeremy.francis@ifrc.org](mailto:jeremy.francis@ifrc.org); mobile: +6012 298 9752, fax: +603 2168 8573
  - Resource mobilization & planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) unit: Ms. Penny Elghady (resource mobilization & PMER coordinator), email: [penny.elghady@ifrc.org](mailto:penny.elghady@ifrc.org), phone: +603 9207 5771

For pledges of funding: [zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org](mailto:zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org)

[<DREF budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

## **BUDGET SUMMARY**

MONGOLIA : FLOODS

MDRMN002

**ORIGINAL**

### **RELIEF NEEDS**

Clothing & Textiles	133,000
Food	70,110
<b>Total Relief Needs</b>	<b>203,110</b>

### **TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES**

Transport & Vehicles Costs	5,790
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### **PERSONEL**

Regionally deployed Staff	3,300
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### **GENERAL EXPENSES**

Travel	12,000
Office Running Cost	100
Communication Costs	100

### **PROGRAMME SUPPORT**

Programme Support - PSR (6.5% of total)	15,600
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<b>Total Operational Needs</b>	<b>36,890</b>
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<b>Total Appeal Budget (Cash &amp; Kind)</b>	<b>240,000</b>
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**Less Available Resources**

<b>Net Request</b>	<b>240,000</b>
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