

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Russian Federation: Wild fires

DREF operation n° MDRRU008
GLIDE n° WF-2010-000147-RUS
12 August 2010

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 111,772 (USD 105,911 or EUR 81,589) has been allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Russian Red Cross in delivering immediate assistance to 1,700 families. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Unusual and lengthy heat wave with temperature peaking at 40 in the shade caused severe bushfires in more than 20 regions (oblasts) of Russian Federation. The bushfires have already caused widespread damage across Russia, engulfing several thousand hectares of land and killing more than 50 people. Thousands of people were affected by the raging fires and have lost homes and basic livelihoods.

The Government of the Russian Federation has taken unprecedented measures to fight and localize the areas affected by wild fires, including installation of more than 200 kilometers of water pipes.

The Russian Red Cross branches have been supporting the specially trained and equipped fire-fighting units of the Ministry of Emergency Situations and other specialized agencies in assisting the affected population and providing relief to those most affected.

This proposed operation is aimed to support with basic relief supplies 1,700 families who lost their homes and basic livelihoods. It will be implemented through August-November. Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by March 2011).



Bush fires in Nizhniy Novgorod region
Photo by Novostey.com

[<click here for the DREF budget, here for contact details>](#)

The situation

Unusual and lengthy heat wave with temperatures peaking at 40 in the shade caused severe bushfires in more than 20 regions (oblasts) of Russian Federation. The bushfires have already caused widespread damage across Russia, engulfing several thousand hectares of land and killing more than 50 people. Thousands of people affected by the raging fires have lost their homes and basic livelihoods. Many rural settlements (around 1800 houses) in the Central part of Russia were completely destroyed by fire.

An alert for the state of emergency has been officially announced in 14 regions. Among the regions that have been mostly affected are Voronezh, Belgorod, Ivanovo, Kirov, Nizhniy Novgorod and Moscow.

26,739 wild fires that have covered 816,514.9 hectares, including 1,104 peat fires (1,759.9 hectares) have been registered in 2010 in Russian Federation. According Russian media, direct damage of the wild fires in Russia is estimated to be around \$15 billion (450 billion rubles) which is around 1% of Russian GDP. Long term consequences for the Russian economy are not yet estimated; first figures on total damage are to appear by the end of the year.

The Ministry of Emergency Situations together with firefighting services and with the support of army engineering units have been working at their full capacity to stop spreading of fire and localizing burning spots. A number of foreign governments sent equipment and fire-fighting aircrafts to assist the Russian authorities in coping with this massive disaster

Government issued a Decree regarding the support to those who lost their houses. With federal and local support these people are already receiving financial aid and reportedly will be assisted in the construction of their new homes. At the same time this people have lost all their basic livelihoods and are in a desperate need of humanitarian assistance.

Coordination and partnerships

The Ministry of Emergency Situations has been in charge of the coordination of emergency and rescue activities in cooperation with the local authorities at the regional (oblast) level. The Red Cross branches have been in a permanent contact with regional authorities and participated in providing relief to the affected population within the scope of their competence and available means.

The Russian Red Cross has been offered assistance by a number of sister national societies (Turkey, Estonia and others). It has taken a coordinating role in relation to further contacts with and actions by these national societies. Additional information will be provided as soon as it is available. ICRC has offered to provide transport means to deliver relief supplies to the different shelter camps, which are scattered over the regions.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Russian Red Cross has opened a special bank account for collecting donations in favor of the affected population. Red Cross local branches have joined the campaign to receive donations in cash and in-kind to provide aid the most vulnerable, primarily those who lost their homes. The Red Cross branches have been working in close cooperation with local authorities, being ready to join the humanitarian assistance action and disseminating information and guidance among general public on safe behavior during fires.

According to the assessments made by relevant Russian authorities about 1,800 houses have been totally destroyed by fire, affecting some 5,000 people. These people have been provided with temporary shelter by the local authorities. The Ministry of Emergency Situations provides food, water, and sleeping facilities in the temporary shelters. The volunteers of the Red Cross branches have been assisting those staying in the temporary shelters through food distribution, provision of first aid and other basic assistance.

The assessment done by the Russian Red Cross branches in the affected regions has shown that around 1,600 families in **Voronezh, Belgorod, Ivanovo, Kirov, Nizhniy Novgorod and Moscow regions** will need to be supported by respective regional branches during their stay in the temporary shelters.

The needs

Based on the needs assessment conducted by the Russian Red Cross, the following needs have been identified among the affected population as a priority:

Needs identified	Items and quantity*
Shelter and non-food relief items	bed-linen sets, blankets, pillows, disposable dishes, detergents and hygiene kits for 1,600 families
Food items	food parcels for 1,700 families and drinking water for 650 families
Clothing and textiles	Basic clothing and shoes for 360 families
Medical & first aid	Protective face masks for the people residing in most fire-prone regions

*Numbers of families eligible for assistance differs based on the concrete results of the assessments in different regions and specific quantities of relief supplies requested by different branches.

The proposed operation

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Outcome: 1,700 families in Voronezh, Belgorod, Ivanovo, Kirov, Nizhny Novgorod and Moscow regions (oblasts), who have lost their homes and basic livelihoods are provided with immediate humanitarian assistance in the form of basic food and non-food items, reducing the impact of the disaster on their lives.
Outputs (expected results) and activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distribute relief items and provide hot meals to the affected families in temporary shelters.• Distribute relief supplies to the affected families enabling them to return to their homes. The Russian Red Cross will establish distribution points in the bush fire affected areas for the distribution of bed-linen sets, blankets, pillows, detergents, disposable dishes, hygiene kits and food parcels.• Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

The total budget for this intervention has been set at CHF 167,897 on 11 August 2010. However, the same day the USAID office in Moscow decided to support this operational plan with the grant of USD 50,000 which has allowed the International Federation to adjust its allocation from the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to CHF 111,772 without changing the overall plan of action for the Russian Red Cross intervention in support of 1,700 families affected by the wild fires.

Monitoring and communications

The local Red Cross branches will be in charge of implementing the activities in the respective regions. The Russian Red Cross headquarters, in close cooperation with the Federation regional representation will monitor the progress and provide advice and technical support. Visibility of the work of volunteers will be ensured throughout the operation through publications and regularly informing the media.

How we work

All IFRC 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 the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

APPEAL NUMBER & APPEAL NAME

date

BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Clothing & Textiles (clothing and shoes - 360 people)	12,250	12,250
Clothing & Textiles (blankets and pillows - 1600 families)	41,000	41,000
Water & Sanitation (drinking water for 650 families for 10 days)	9,200	9,200
Water & Sanitation (hygeinic kits and disposable dishes for 2800 people)	19,600	19,600
Total Supplies	82,050	82,050
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	0	0
Distribution & Monitoring (IFRC / RRC 3 people)	4,000	4,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	2,000	2,000
Total Transport & Storage	6,000	6,000
National Staff (food and stationary incentives for volunteers)	1,500	1,500
National Society Staff (7 regions)	12,000	12,000
Total Personnel	13,500	13,500
Workshops & Training (one day induction training for 40 RRC volunteers)		0
Total Workshops & Training		
Travel		
Information & Public Relation	2,500	2,500
Communications	700	700
Financial Charges	200	200
Total General Expenditure	3,400	3,400
Total Contributions & Transfers	0	0
Program Support	6,822	6,822
Total Programme Support	6,822	6,822
Total Services	0	0
TOTAL BUDGET	111,772	111,772