

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Georgia: Flash floods

DREF operation n° MDRGE003
FF-2011-000071-GEO
25 June 2011

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of unearmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent emergency response. 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 59,960 has been allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Georgia National Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 1,750 beneficiaries for a period of three months. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: In Western and Eastern Georgia many regions were affected by unceasing rains from 12 to 22 June 2011 with landslides that followed. Seven people lost their lives. Over 3,000 houses have been affected, out of which 1,500 are badly damaged. The ground floors of 350 houses are still inundated and not suitable for staying in them. On top of that, the mudslide and the water have damaged farmlands, roads, bridges, canals, water pipe system and communication network. The residents have been cut off from the water and gas utility system. The water has swept away several roads, leaving many settlements isolated. On many farms, the cattle and poultry got killed. The Georgia Red Cross Society aims to assist 350 families, or approximately 1,750 people, with mattresses, blankets and hygiene parcels in Shida Kartli Region (Surami, Khashuri) which is situated 145 km from Tbilisi to the west, and Dusheti Municipality 65 km from Tbilisi to the north.



Georgia Red Cross Assessment team evaluating a flooded house.
Photo by Georgia Red Cross Society.

This operation is expected to be implemented over 3 months, and will therefore be completed by 24 September 2011. A final report will be made available three months after the end of the operation, i.e. by 24 December 2011.

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

The situation

In Western and Eastern Georgia many regions were affected by unceasing rains from 12 to 22 June 2011, which resulted in several landslides. During the disaster seven people lost their lives. Over 3,000 houses have been affected, out of which 1,500 are badly damaged. The ground floors of 350 houses are flooded and have become unsuitable for living. Most of the residents are living on the first floor of their houses, may have gone to live with less affected neighbours or relatives. Roads and canals were blocked by the mudslide that struck the settlements during the last few days of non-stop rains. Mudslide and water have flooded farmlands, roads, bridges, channels, water pipe system and communication network. The residents have been cut off from the water and gas utility system. The water has swept away many roads connecting the area, thus leaving several settlements isolated. On the farms, a livestock were lost due to the floods. The highway connecting West and East Georgia (Gudauri-Kobi sector) has been blocked at ten sections by the land-slide. The Georgia Red Cross Society aims to assist 350 families, or approximately 1,750 people, with mattresses, blankets and hygiene parcels in Shida Kartli Region (Surami, Khashuri) which is situated 145 km from Tbilisi to the west, and Dusheti Municipality 65 km from Tbilisi to the north. This operation is expected to be implemented over 3 months.

Coordination and partnerships

The Georgia Red Cross Society is taking the lead in response to the floods, coordinating its work with the International Federation of Red Cross / Red Crescent Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross. The Georgian Red Cross Society is also coordinating its efforts with the Georgian government authorities, and it is liaising with the Emergency Management Department concerning the affected areas and the population. The Emergency Management Department is collecting and relaying detailed information from the municipalities. The Georgian Red Cross Society seeks to fulfil its role as an auxiliary to the Government of Georgia and its role as the only organization being included in the National Disaster Response Plan of Georgia. Close coordination and information-sharing are thus maintained with the State Emergency Department of Georgia, which is subordinated to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia in Tbilisi, and the local authorities in the affected area. The Emergency Management Department has sent out rescue teams near Rikoti Tunnel for rescuing people from the mudslide. Both the central and the local Governments are working on the reconstruction of the roads and bridges. The National Society has received from the Emergency Management Department sufficient information on the scale of the disaster. According to local authorities the affected population are residing in the following areas:

- Shida Kartli Region: 1500 families have lost most of their possessions
- Dusheti Municipality: 100 families are affected
- Sachkhere Municipality: 240 families are affected

The Georgian National Society is also liaising with UNHCR on the affected areas, and they are sharing information to avoid duplication and ensure that the most vulnerable are reached. UNHCR has provided tents, sleeping bags, pillows, blankets, wool blankets, jerry cans and mattresses directly to Shida Kartli Region for 400 families comprising of 2,000 persons. UNICEF has provided hygiene kits. The Georgian Red Cross has furthermore approached USAID and the corporate sector with a request for additional assistance to the affected population.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Georgia Red Cross Society Disaster Management Team consisting of staff members from HQ and Branches went for preliminary needs assessment to the village Giorgitsminda which is located in the Gldani-Nazaladevi district in Tbilisi (population: about 700 families) and Chartali Community of Dusheti Municipality (population: about 315 families). The needs assessment trip included meetings with the local authorities and local residents. The team has visited places and households affected by the natural disasters in the last 10 days. In the assessment area there are 300 families, whose dwellings are badly damaged and 80 families, who are suffering from inappropriate living conditions. In the villages there is a huge problem of water supply and sanitation, which



Georgia Red Cross volunteers are cleaning the water canal.
Photo by GRCS.

makes the effect of the disaster unpredictable. In the assessment area there are destroyed roads, bridges, houses, agricultural lands and cattle killed by heavy rains and mudslides. The next steps for the National Society following this DREF include tendering, procuring and distributing relief supplies after identifying and selecting the most vulnerable families in Shida Kartli (Surami, Khashuri) and Dusheti Municipalities.

The needs

The needs of the residents affected by the heavy rains and landslides are first necessity things such as blankets, mattresses and hygiene parcels. There are no reports of serious food shortages. People to be reached are specified by preliminary assessment in the affected region to identify the most vulnerable households. Out of the estimated 3,000 households which have been affected, the National Society aims to cover the 350 most affected ones, thereby reaching approximately 1,750 people.

The proposed operation

Based on the needs in Shida Kartli Region (Surami, Khashuri) and Dusheti Municipality the Georgia Red Cross Society, supported by the International Federation, aims to provide mattresses, blankets and hygiene parcels to the 350 most affected households comprising of 1,750 people. The operation will be implemented over three months. The National Society has identified households with the most damaged houses. Furthermore, families which have not been receiving support from other sources will be targeted. The actions by the Georgian Red Cross thus seek to complement other actors' support to the affected people. Measures to avoid duplication are undertaken through meetings and information sharing with other stakeholders. The focus area for the operation will be some villages in Shida Kartli Region (Surami, Khashuri) and Dusheti Municipality.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Outcome: the 350 most affected families are provided with non-food items (700 blankets, 700 mattresses and 350 hygiene parcels)
Outputs (expected results) and activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess the affected area to identify the most affected households• Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance• Procure relief supplies from local suppliers according to Federation standards• Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user• Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions

The promotion of Georgia Red Cross Society activities and strengthening of the National Society's image will be done through the following activities.

- Maximize 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, badges for volunteers and staff of the Georgia Red Cross Society;
- Conduct monitoring to verify the appropriateness of the operation and get feedback from targeted people to improve future operations.

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

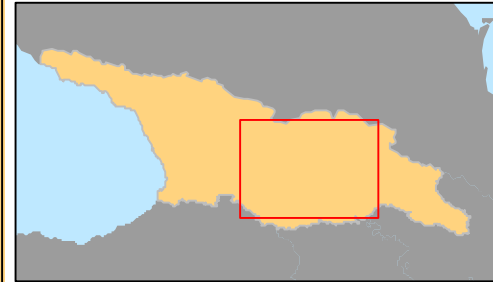
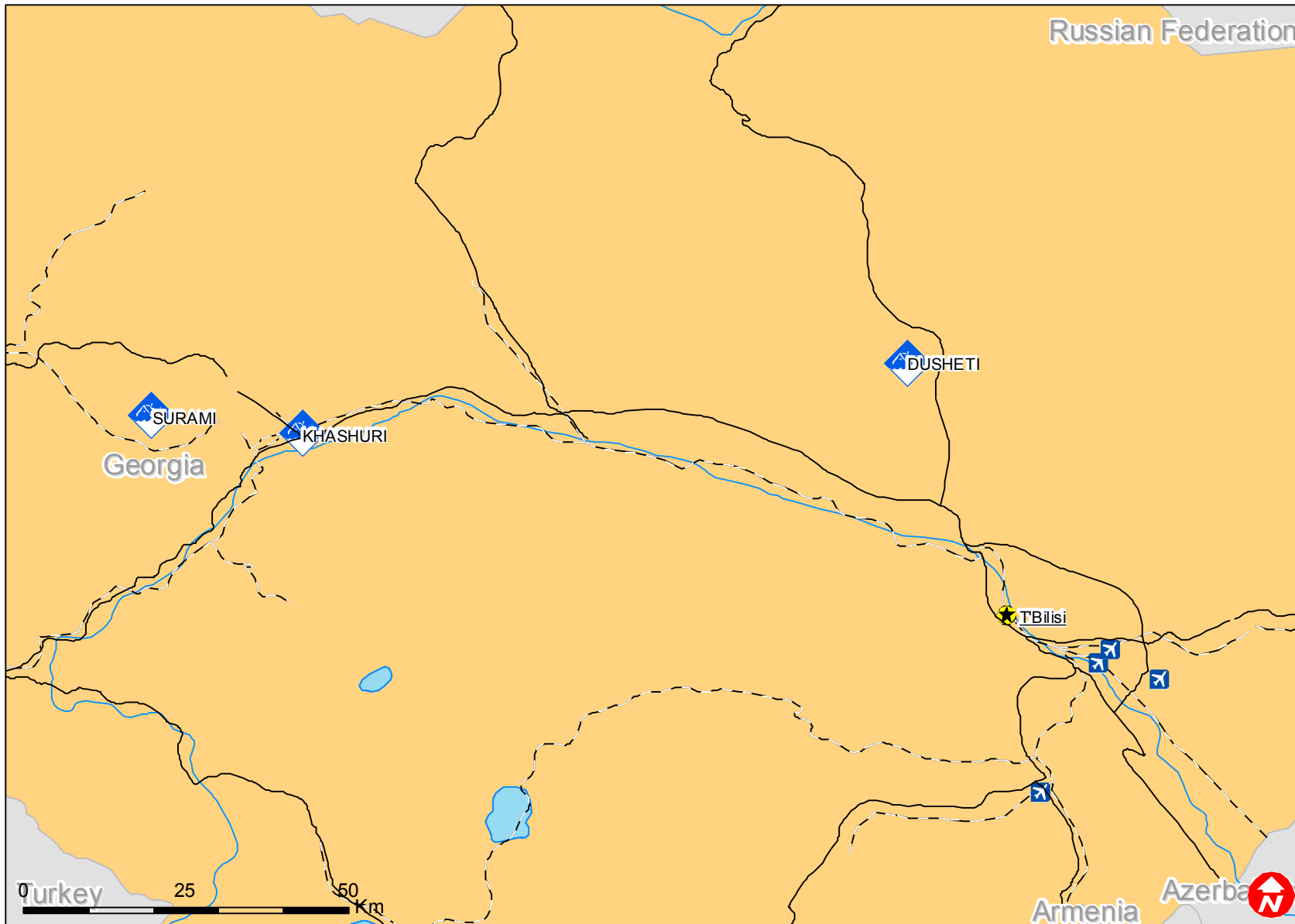
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Clothing & Textiles	33,600	33,600
Other Supplies & Services & Cash Disbursements	4,200	4,200
Total Supplies	37,800	37,800
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	0	0
Storage	1,000	1,000
Distribution & Monitoring	6,000	6,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	2,850	2,850
Total Transport & Storage	9,850	9,850
National Society Staff	2,950	2,950
Total Personnel	2,950	2,950
Total Workshops & Training	0	0
Travel	2,500	2,500
Information & Public Relation	600	600
Office Costs	600	600
Communications	600	600
Financial Charges	500	500
Other General Expenses	900	900
Total General Expenditure	5,700	5,700
Total Contributions & Transfers	0	0
Program Support	3,660	3,660
Total Programme Support	3,660	3,660
Total Services	0	0
TOTAL BUDGET	59,960	59,960



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The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.