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Information bulletin Iran: Earthquake

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Information Bulletin n° 02
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This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Red Crescent Society of Islamic Republic of Iran (IRCS), has determined that external assistance is not required at this moment, and is therefore not seeking funding or other assistance from donors and the International Movement of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies at this time.

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

Summary:

A twin Earthquakes measuring 6.2 and 6 on the Richter scale shook northwestern Iran, East Azerbaijan province on 11 August 2012. As per Tehran University's Seismological Center, the epicenter of the earthquake was located in Orang village, Ahar town. It was recorded that 85 aftershocks have occurred so far, the largest of which reached 4.8 on the Richter scale.

The situation

Two Earthquakes with the magnitude of 6.2 and 6.3 on the Richter scale rocked north-western Iran, East Azerbaijan province on 11 August 2012. As per Tehran University's Seismological Centre, the first earthquake hit at 4:53PM local time with an epicentre around 60 KM from Tabriz and the second one took place at 5:04 PM in the vicinity of Varzaghan. The towns of Ahar, Varzaghan and Heris and their surrounding rural areas are the main earthquake stricken places.

The majority of the deaths and injuries have occurred in rural areas. At least 100 villages have been affected, six of which have been completely flattened. The towns of Haris and Varzaqan, believed to be the

epicentre, in East Azerbaijan province, were among those that suffered the most severe casualties. Many people have sustained crush injuries, fractures and broken bones are being transported to local hospitals.

Varzaghan, Heris, Ahar and Tabriz are the main affected zones and the number of 180 rural areas damaged. 60 villages in Varzaghan, 42 villages in Heris, 70 villages in Ahar and 8 villages of Tabriz are among the most ruined zones. Lengeche village and 13 other villages in Heris damaged 100 percent. The villages of Agh kandi, Mirza kandi, Sheikh kandi, Ali Day Kandi and Chai kandi in Varzaghan town are totally damaged. The villages of Orang and Helal also damaged totally. The number of injured has reached 2,606 people. The scale of destruction is as follows:

- Varzaghan:43%
- Ahar: 38%
- Heris:17%
- Tabriz: 2%

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

As per the Relief & Rescue Organization at IRCS, 48,370 affected people were sheltered, and 9,674 relief tents were distributed to the most vulnerable people affected by the earthquake. Moreover, IRCS has carried on distribution of the following relief items: 34,195 canned food, 1,644 kerosene stoves, 100 jerry cans, 1,347 kitchen sets and 11,942 blankets.

92 IRCS operational teams including 1,080 relief worker backed up by 97 ambulances, 53 relief vehicles, 6 helicopters, 20 life detector sets and 19 search and rescue dogs are on the ground and standby. At the same time, the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) appreciates the members of International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement which declared their preparedness and support for assisting this National Society.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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.

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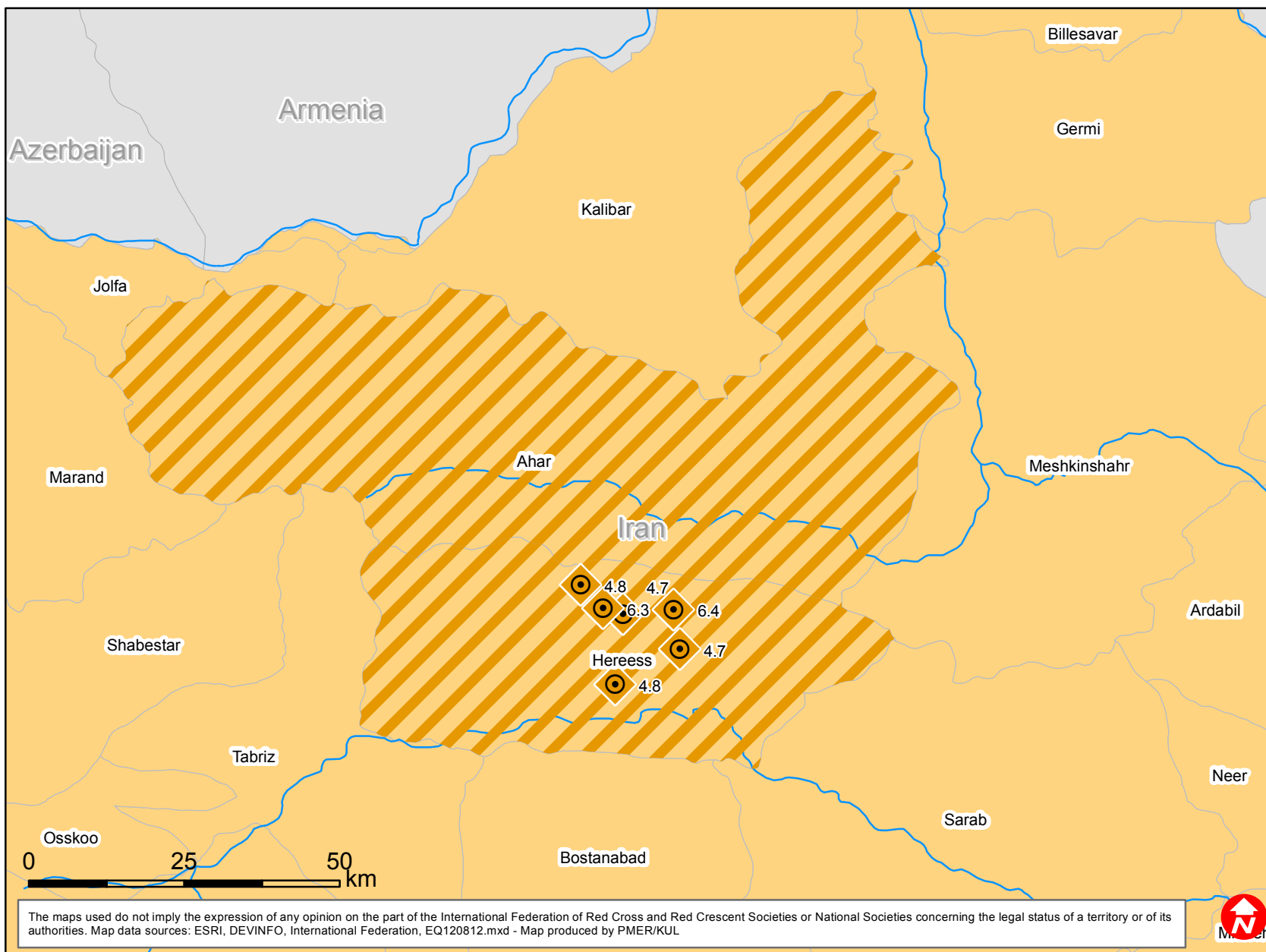


The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

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.
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Iran: Earthquake



- Earthquake
- Affected areas

