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Information bulletin Iran: Earthquake

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Information Bulletin n° 04
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16 August 2012

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 north-western Iran, East Azerbaijan province on 11 August 2012. As per Tehran University's Seismological Centre, The epicentre of the first earthquake was Owrang village located in Ahar city and epicentre of the second one was between Ali Abad and Zang Abad villages in Varzaghan city.

- Number of aftershocks so far: 297 between 2.5 and 5.3 M (based on International Institute for Seismology)
- Number of cities affected: 4 (Varzaghan, Haris, Ahar, Tabriz)
- Number of villages affected: 353 villages
- Damage percentage: between 30-100%
- Death toll: 306 persons



Iranian Red Crescent volunteers and staff teaming to provide the most vulnerable people with relief items. Source: IRCS

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. 306 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.

As per latest from the field, IRCS' Relief & Rescue Organization, in cooperation with other relevant authorities, have been doing their utmost and with the help of 1,080 relief workers coming from 92 teams and backed up by necessary equipment, have sheltered a total of 73,516 people so far. Rescue operations are now completed and have entered to early recovery phase. The most eminent field needs today, and which will be met by IRC and the national authorities, are as follows:

- Pre-fab houses suitable to host one family
- Mobile field latrines and showers
- Generators

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Rescue:

- Number of affected people: 157,403 persons
Ahar (67,000), Varzaghan (42,000), Haris (40,000), Tabriz (8,403)
- Number of affected families: 32,525
- Accommodated: 73,516 (persons)
- Rescued persons: 2,607
- Injured persons: 1,380
- Transferred to the hospitals: 700 persons

Items distributed:

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|--|------------------------------------|
| • Family tents: 18,379 (sets) | • Canned food: 321,733 (tins) |
| • Body bag: 700 (pieces) | • Potable water: 110,000 (bottles) |
| • Relief Package: 21,450 (sets) | • Washing powder: 30,000 (cartons) |
| • Food package: 275,143 (pieces) | • Bar of soaps: 33,853 (pieces) |
| • Blanket: 28,000 (pieces) | • Rice: 50,000 kg |
| • Ground sheet (moquette): 12,085 (pieces) | • cooking oil: 21,850 kg |
| • Heating light: 2,520 (pieces) | • Sugar and cubic sugar: 31,000 kg |
| • Coleman water cooler: 6,204 (pieces) | • Tea: 300 kg |
| • Lantern: 4,500 (pieces) | • Cereals: 25,000 kg |
| • Kitchen set: 3,830 (pieces) | • Date: 18,000 kg |

Staff and Equipment deployed:

- Relief & Rescue teams: 92 (1,080 persons)
- Ambulance: 97
- Relief & Rescue vehicles: 53
- Helicopter: 5
- Bio radar (life saving) sets: 20
- Sniffer dogs: 20

Air Relief Operation:

- Helicopter: 5
- Number of flights: 36
- Total flight time: 26 hrs.
- Consignment transported: 5 tons
- Staff transported: 105 persons (15 medical, 90 relief workers, media and authorities)

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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Click here

1. Click [here](#) for the map
 2. Click [here](#) to return to the title page
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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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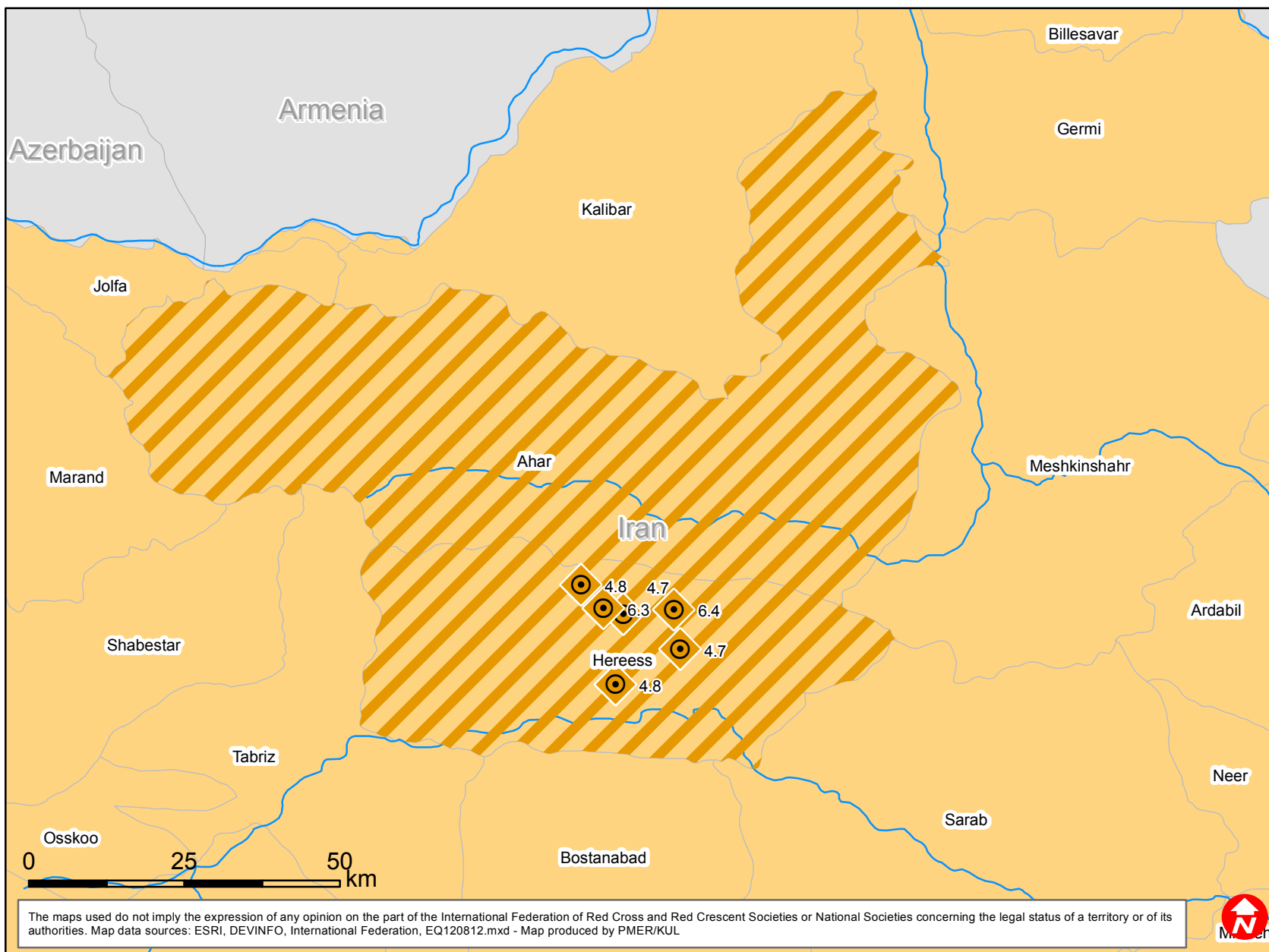


The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

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

