

Information bulletin Iran: Earthquake

Information Bulletin n° 05
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22 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:** 1365 between 5.3 and 2.5 M (based on International Institute for Seismology)
- **Number of cities affected:** 5 (Varzaghan, Haris, Ahar, Tabri, caliber)
- **Number of villages affected:** 399
- **Damage percentage:**
 - 356 villages between 30- 100%
 - 46 villages 100%
- **Number of the destroyed houses above 60%:** 11,908
- **Death toll:** 306 persons
- **Number of the supportive provinces:** 15



Iranian Red Crescent volunteers and staff teaming to provide the most vulnerable people with shelter. 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. 399 villages have been affected, 46 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.

As per latest from the field, during relief & rescue operation in affected zones, 1,161 relief workers from 102 teams were involved, provided with the necessary equipment, 97 Ambulances, 53 rescue vehicles, 20 life detector sets, 19 teams of sniffer dogs dispatched to the ruined areas and 102,512 persons have been sheltered. Also 2,607 persons were rescued, 1,836 injured were treated 771 persons were rescued from the debris.

Number of Population Affected: 157,403 (34,200 families):

- Varzeghan: 42,000 persons (9,500 families)
- Ahar: 67,000 persons (14,200 families)
- Haris: 40,000 (9,300 families)
- Tabriz: 8,403 (1,200 families)
- Varzeghan: 43%
- Ahar: 38%
- Haris: 17%

Tabriz:2%

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Rescue:

- Number of affected people: 157,403 persons
- Number of affected families: 32,525
- Accommodated: 102,512 (persons)
- Rescued persons: 2,607
- Injured persons: 1,836
- Transferred to the hospitals: 700 persons

Staff and Equipment deployed:

- Relief & Rescue teams: 102 (1,161 relief workers)
- Ambulance: 97
- Relief & Rescue vehicles: 53
- Helicopter: 5
- Bio radar (life saving) sets: 20
- Sniffer dogs: 19

Air Relief Operation:

- Helicopter: 6
- Number of flights: 169
- Total flight time: 113 hrs.
- Consignment transported: 33 tons
- Staff transported: 979 persons
- Injured people transferred: 130 persons

Total Items Distributed:

Distributed NFI:

- Family tent: 25,628 (from provincial branches) + 18,875 (East-Azerbaijan stock)
- Ground sheet (moquette): 12,305 (pcs)
- Blanket: 37,500 (pcs)
- Kitchen set: 3,830 (sets)
- Water Dispenser: 11,348 (pcs)
- Water/oil container (foldable): 15,000 (pcs)
- Heating light: 7,520 (pcs)
- Small Light: 4,500 (pcs)
- Soap: 38,269 (bars)
- Body bag: 700 (pcs)
- Tent for prayer: 200 (sets)
- Hygiene sets: 5,000 sets
- Tooth brush: 5,184 (pcs)

- Family food containers (Empty) : 7,400
- Tooth paste: 5,136
- Hand washing liquid: 423 (pcs)
- Washing powder: 3,540 boxes
- Bar of soaps: 38,269
- Latrines: 1,264
- Family notebook: 7,600 (pcs)

Distributed Food items:

- Food basket: 7,400 (pcs)
- Food package: 360,395 (pieces)
- Canned fish: 112,104 (tins)
- Canned bean: 209,629 (tins)
- Potable water: 110,000 (bottles)
- Rice: 56,070 kg
- Cooking oil: 57,571 kg
- Sugar and cubic sugar: 31,000 kg
- Tea: 5,300 kg
- Cereals: 25,000 kg
- Dates: 18,000 kg

Distributed Food and Non Food Items donated by Iranian People:

- Blanket: 4,764 (pcs)
- Pillows: 100
- Canned food: 11,592 (tins)
- Mineral Water: 58,871 bottles
- Dates: 1,607 kg
- Food baskets: 650 packs
- Bread: 21,136 loafs
- Rice: 30 kg
- Hygiene kits: 384 sets
- Cloths: 867 sets

International Aid received:

With deep IRCS appreciation, the following countries/partners have sent their international assistance to the affected areas until now:

- Turkey Red Crescent Society
- Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society
- Red Crescent Society of Pakistan
- Swiss Government
- The Government of Qatar
- Nakhchivan autonomous Republic
- Humedica of Germany

The IRCS priority for In-kind donation for the ongoing operation:

The needs for the affected areas are as follow:

- Mobile latrines
- Mobile showers
- Power generators with different capacities
- Prefabricated houses
- Water tankers (200 liters and above)
- Plastic sheets: (24 square meters)
- Family winter tents with 2 covers for winter time
- Stoves for heating
- Solar lamps to be used inside the tents
- Radio transistors
- Sleeping bags

All the needed items could be purchased locally and should be delivered to Tabriz Red Crescent Provincial branch.

Cash Donation

While the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies has not launched an emergency appeal in response to the earthquake since there is no request so far, The Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) appreciates receiving cash donation through following given account numbers.

1) Mellat Bank
BKMTIRTH015 63404/99999 Euro
BKMTIRTH015 63404/1401400 US Dollar
Mellat Bank, Hejrat Branch
Branch Code: 63404
Account Beneficiary: Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS)

2) Melli Bank
MELIIRTH060 /702070 US Dollar
MELIIRTH060/800300 Euro
Central Branch
Branch Code 0060
Account Beneficiary: Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS)

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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