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Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) Tajikistan: Floods and avalanches

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRTJ013
GLIDE n° FL-2012-000051-TJK
10th April 2012

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 92,711 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan in delivering immediate assistance to some 156 households (936 people) and to replenish the emergency stocks. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Heavy snowfalls and unusual low temperatures in the past months have caused many problems all over Tajikistan. According to the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES) of Tajikistan, more than 155 natural disasters in the form of floods, earthquakes and avalanches were registered during February-April 2012.



Kiblai village, Temurmalik district. Photo: Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan responded to the 16 medium scale disasters through its branches by deploying national disaster response teams and local disaster committees (NDRT and LDCs) to conduct assessment, render first aid and provision of humanitarian aid to the most affected and vulnerable households from its prepositioned disaster preparedness stocks in Emergency Response Centers (ERC). The preliminary assessment results revealed that the total number of affected households is 926 (5,556 people) all over the country.

The National Society targeted 105 most affected households (630 people) and already has provided humanitarian aid with non food items (please see table 1) from its disaster preparedness stocks and intends to provide support to 51 additional households (306 people) most affected and vulnerable in Kulob region, Temurmalik district and Roshtkala districts of Badakhshon Province.

This operation is expected to be implemented over four months, and will therefore be completed by 10th August 2012; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 10th November 2012).

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

The situation

Tajikistan has been experiencing its harshest winter for the first 50 years with unusually low temperatures and heavy snowfalls causing damage to the country valuing more than one billion Tajik Somoni (approximately 208,333 USD). The cold weather over the last months and the ensuing shortage of electricity has enervated the population, particularly in urban areas, who are more dependent on electricity for heating, cooking, and water supply. As a result of floods and avalanches, the population has lost its houses; home properties and infrastructure have been damaged. As a result of heavy snowfalls, roads between several districts have been blocked, which also contributed to the decrease of available local supplies

of food and other basic commodities.



NDRT conducting assessment in Baroj village. Photo: Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan

Meanwhile temperatures have risen with the on-set of spring; however, in the higher altitudes, extreme cold and power outages prevail. According to the weather forecast, April and May will be more challenging, as a result of the increased possibility of the occurrence of floods and mudflows. In this regard, the President of the country ordered to establish disaster response operation points all over the country involving local authorities, national disaster response stakeholders in order to be prepared and respond timely and effectively to the disasters.

According to the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES) of Tajikistan, warmer temperatures have caused dozens of avalanches across the country. The largest damage has been caused to Vrang village in Ishkoshim district, Badakhshon and to Kiblay village in Temurmalik district, Kulob region, Khatlon province. The occurred avalanches on 25th March 2012 completely destroyed two residential buildings and partially damaged six other residential buildings; local school was also seriously damaged by the disaster. On 26th March, a series of avalanches blocked roads from Khorugh, the administrative center of Badakhshon province to Murghob district and Dushanbe city.

Based on the data gathered by the working Group of the Ministry of Agriculture, in comparison with last year, an adverse weather condition caused significant damage to the agriculture sector of Tajikistan, including the sector of crop production (670 ha for a total of 4.4 million Tajik Somoni) and animal husbandry (3.700,000 Tajik Somoni).

Registered Disasters February – April 2012	
Earthquakes	6
Landslides	5
Floods/Mudflows	4
Avalanches	106
Snowfalls/Heavy precipitations	23
Strong winds	5
Stone falls	6

Source: CoES/RCST

Tentative forecast for spring flooding and mudflow of the main river basins in Tajikistan for 2012
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In total, river flow is forecasted to be higher than long term average
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of flooding in river basins Panj, Gund, Vakhsh and Isfarinka – medium
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of flooding in river basins Kafarnigan, Varzob, Karatag, Yakhsu and Kizilsu - high
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of flooding in river basin Zarafshan is – high
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The risk of flooding can be higher in the event of intense precipitation, and for the rivers with icy flow – the risk is higher in the event of increase in air temperature
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High risk of mudflows in the event of intense precipitation and there is a risk of breaks of glacier lakes in the event of increase in air temperature
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In total 778 communities, 13,366 households and 93,696 persons are prone to floods and mudflows

Source: Information Management and Analytical centre of CoES.

See more at <http://untj.org/index.php/country-context/coordination-mechanisms/disaster-management/news-from-partners>

Coordination and partnerships

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) is working closely with the Government's Committee of Emergency Situations as well as with the Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team (REACT) partners to provide relief assistance to the most affected and vulnerable population. At the same time, the National Society is coordinating its activities with the IFRC Tajikistan Country Representation in Dushanbe, which is going to provide technical and financial support in carrying out the planned operation.

On 4th April 2012, a coordination meeting initiated by the CoES was conducted together with representatives of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, UNDP DRMP, FOCUS, Hydromet, and the Ministry of Agriculture. The main issues to discuss were flooding in Temurmalik district and avalanches in Badakhshon, weather overview for March and weather forecast for April, forecast of possible spring floods and mudflows, information on spring sowing, etc.

The United Nations Resident Coordinator in Tajikistan announced, that UN is planning to address to all diplomatic representations and donor organizations working in Tajikistan with a request to support due to the challenging situation in the country.

Actions taken by the partners:

- Badakhshon government and Committee of Emergency Situation and Civil Defense (CoES) have made an excellent effort to clear major roads
- CoES and Community Reserve Teams (CERTs) continue to be on high alert to respond to emergencies as they occur
- Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) dispatched medicine to Murghob via helicopter
- Tajikistan Red Crescent, Focus Humanitarian Assistance (FOCUS) and other Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team (REACT) members are working to distribute non-food items (NFIs) and other assistance
- CoES and FOCUS/AKDN will now do detailed assessments and priorities for recovery.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) responded to the 16 occurred medium-scale disasters through deployment of the National Disaster Response Team (NDRT)/Local Disaster Committees (LDC), conducted needs assessment, rendered first aid, and provided 105 most affected and vulnerable households (630 people) with non-food items from its prepositioned stocks with non-food items listed in the table below.

Non-food items distributed to the most affected households and to be replenished

Table 1

Province	# of affected households	# of affected people	# of households supported	Family tents	Gas stoves (pcs)	Hygiene kits	Water cans 20 ltr.	Cooking sets	Shovels/Hoes (one piece each)	Construction tools	Mattresses (pcs)	Bed-Linen (sets)	Pillows (pcs)	Quilts (pcs)	Thermos flask (pcs)
DRD	167	1,002	32	6	32	32	32	32	32	32	192	192	192	192	32
Sughd	113	678	12		12	12	12	12	12	12	72	72	72	72	12
Kurghonteppa	178	1,068	18		18	18	18	18	18	18	108	108	108	108	18
Kulob	197	1,182	14	10	14	14	14	14	14	14	184	84	84	84	14
Badakhshon	271	1,626	29	13	29	29	29	29	29	29	174	174	174	174	29
Total:	926	5,556	105	29	105	105	105	105	105	105	630	630	630	630	105

The distributions were implemented on the basis of situation assessment and agreed beneficiary criteria with local authorities, beneficiary representatives CoES and other responding agencies. It's agreed that the beneficiary selection criteria also for the upcoming distributions for the additional households will be focusing on the families whose houses are heavily damaged and who lost their properties; including also most vulnerable families with many children and families headed by women.

During the response operation, the National Society deployed its NDRT (32), LDC (140) members on the spot to conduct detailed assessment, to identify the needs and to register the number of families and individuals in need of assistance. The Red Crescent staff and volunteers helped to clean mud away from the houses and set up tents for the families, whose houses were totally destroyed. The distributions were conducted by the Red Crescent Society national disaster response team members and responsible staff jointly with local authorities and CoES representatives.

Disasters and RCST response breakdown by location, time and type of disaster

Table 2

Province/ Region	District	Village	# of affected households	# of supported people by RCST	Dates	Type of disaster
DRD	Varzob	Alakhchin Maikhura Hushyori	11	66	During March	Avalanche/Landslide
	Vahdat	Romit	7	42	March, 2012	Avalanche
	Tojikobod	Village Fathobod and Kuhdamon	6	36	March, 2012	Avalanche
	Jirgatal	Village Qashqaterak	3	18	March, 2012	Avalanche
	Rasht	Rasht town	5	30	February-March 2012	Avalanche/Landslide
Sughd	Panjakent	Village Maidoncha, Jamoat Farob and Musobozor	8	48	April 01, 2012	Landslide
	K.Mastchoh	Village Ustung	4	24	04.04.2012	Avalanche
Khatlon/ Kurgantube region	Kurgantube	Bahor Str.	18	108	01.04.2012	Floods
Khatlon/Kulyab region	Vose	Village Qaraghoch	14	84	March 6, 2012	Landslide \floods
GBAO	Khorog	Village Tem	2	12	February 20, 2012	Avalanche/rock falls
	Ishkoshim	Jamoat Vrang, village Trich	27	162	March-April, 2012	Mudflow/floods
TOTAL:			105	630		16 disasters

The needs

The continuous small and medium-scale disasters in forms of floods, stone-falls and avalanches, as well as increasing the number of affected population in almost all regions of the country presents a challenge in terms of the human and technical resource capacity of the National Society. Due to the response activities to address the needs of the affected population, the pre-positioned relief stocks in the Emergency Response Centres (ERCs)¹ of the National Society are almost exhausted, while the forecasts show more disasters expected in April-May 2012.

In order to prepare for the worst but still possible case scenario the National Society has conducted an analysis of the situation based on secondary data from local authorities, CoES and REACT partners. The beneficiary selection criteria were discussed and agreed with community leaders, beneficiary representatives and the National Society. It is agreed and decided, that the Red Crescent Society will support the affected families according to the following criteria:

- ❖ Most vulnerable families whose houses were heavily damaged and lost their properties.
- ❖ People living with disabilities
- ❖ Alone standing mothers

According to the assessment results collected by CoES and the Red Crescent National Disaster Teams (NDRT) the basic needs of the affected people are non-food items including: water jerry cans, kitchen sets, gas stoves, cooking sets, thermos, hygiene kits; bedding (mattresses, blankets, pillows, and bed-linen); shovels and hoes. Out of the 926 households (5,556 people) affected from 17 villages in five provinces, the Red Crescent Society is targeting a total of 156 most affected households (936 people) by providing basic

¹ These are RCST DM centres, the name is changed according to recommendations of the evaluation for the disaster management programme.

non-food items. The distribution for 105 families has been completed from the Red Crescent Society emergency stock as mentioned in the Red Cross, Red Crescent action above.

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan aims to deliver immediate support in terms of non-food items to 51 families (306 persons) in Kiblay village, Temurmali district of Kulob region and Baroj village, Roshtkala district of Badakhshon province.

Also the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund support will be used to replenish the disaster emergency stock for 105 families in five RCST regional level Emergency Response Centres to be prepared for the response to forecasted disasters.

The proposed operation

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)	
Outcome: The most affected population (156 households /936 people) are provided with basic non-food items to help them manage with the consequences of floods	
Output 1: 51 families (306 people) will receive non- food items	
Output 2: The disaster preparedness stock for 105 household (630 people) already distributed will be replenished in RCST Emergency Response Centres	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct detailed emergency needs assessments. • Prepare lists of beneficiaries together with local authorities. • Conduct monitoring of beneficiary lists. • Procure selected items and store in the RCST central warehouse. • Transport and distribute items to beneficiaries. • Transport and pre-position stocks in ERC. • Support the National Society technically and financially in logistics, warehousing, distribution and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user. • Monitor the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions. • As part of the monitoring and evaluation activities, conduct a survey among the people reached to find about the goods and services they received. 	

Table 3: Items to be distributed

District/Village	# of affected households	# of affected people	Gas stoves	Hygiene kits	Water cans 20 ltr.	Cooking sets	Shovels/Hoes	Mattresses	Bed-Linen sets	Pillows	Quilts	Thermo flask
ROSHTKALA												
Baroj	9	54	9	9	9	9	9	54	54	54	54	9
TEMURMALIK												
Kiblay	42	252	42	42	42	42	42	252	378	378	378	42
Total:	51	306	51	51	51	51	51	306	306	306	306	51

Table 4: Non- food items to be replenished

RCST Emergency Response Centre	Gas stoves (pcs)	Hygiene kits	Water cans 20 ltr.	Cooking sets	Shovels/Hoes (pcs)	Construction tools	Mattresses (pcs)	Bed-Linen sets	Pillows (pcs)	Quilts (pcs)	Thermos flask (pcs)
Dushanbe	32	32	32	32	32	32	192	192	192	192	32
Sughd	12	12	12	12	12	12	72	72	72	72	12
Kurghontepa	18	18	18	18	18	18	108	108	108	108	18
Kulob	14	14	14	14	14	14	84	84	84	84	14
Khorugh	29	29	29	29	29	29	174	174	174	174	29
Total:	105	105	105	105	105	105	630	630	630	630	105

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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Click here

1. DREF budget is available **here**
2. Map of the affected area is available **here**
3. Click **here** to return to the title page

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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DREF OPERATION

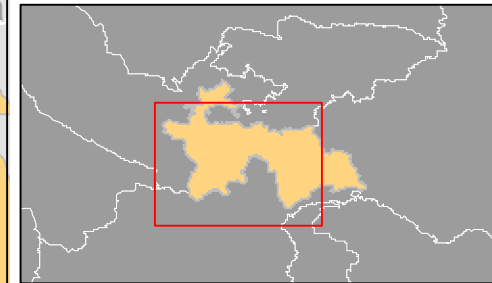
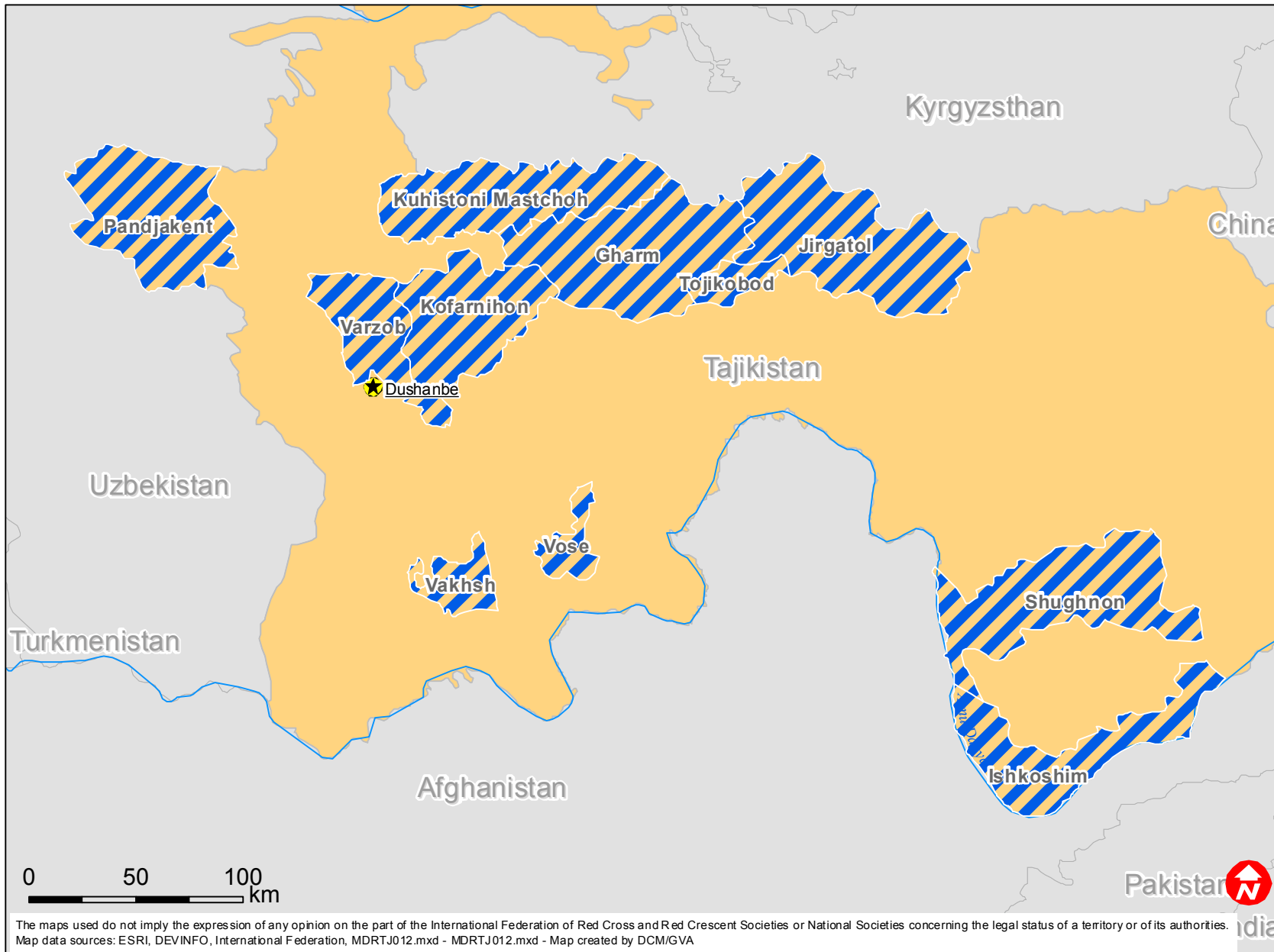
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MDRTJ013 Tajikistan: Floods and avalanches

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	
Shelter - Transitional	
Construction - Housing	
Construction - Facilities	
Construction - Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	57,921
Food	
Seeds & Plants	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	6,159
Medical & First Aid	
Teaching Materials	
Ustensils & Tools	12,437
Other Supplies & Services	
Emergency Response Units	
Cash Disbursements	
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	76,517
Land & Buildings	
Vehicles Purchase	
Computer & Telecom Equipment	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	
Medical Equipment	
Other Machinery & Equipment	
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	
Distribution & Monitoring	2,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	7,320
Logistics Services	
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	9,320
International Staff	
National Staff	230
National Society Staff	
Volunteers	986
Total PERSONNEL	1,216
Consultants	
Professional Fees	
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	0
Travel	
Information & Public Relations	
Office Costs	
Communications	
Financial Charges	
Other General Expenses	
Shared Support Services	
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	0
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	5,658
Total INDIRECT COSTS	5,658
TOTAL BUDGET	92,711



Tajikistan: Floods and avalanches



 Affected districts