

DREF Operation Update

China: Sichuan Earthquake

DREF operation n° MDRCN005
GLIDE n° EQ-2013-000046-CHN
Operation Update n°1
3 May 2013

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked 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.

Period covered by this update: 25 April – 3 May 2013.

Summary: CHF 400,000 was allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 25 April 2013 to support the National Society in delivering assistance to some 20,000 beneficiaries. Please note that while the total DREF figure remains unchanged, there is a slight change in the budget lines that reflects the support of information and communication.

A total of 196 people were killed, 13,484 injured and 21 are missing after a 7.0-magnitude earthquake hit China's Sichuan province at 8.02 a.m. Beijing time on 20 April¹. The epicentre of the quake was near Lushan county, Ya'an city at a depth of 13 km. A total of 237,655 persons have been displaced and over two million people have been affected across 19 prefectures and 115 counties of Sichuan province.

This DREF operation, aiming to enable the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) to assist 5,000 most-affected and displaced families, will be implemented over six months and will be completed by 31 October 2013. A final report will be shared 90 days after the end of the operation, i.e. by 31 January 2014.



Family/kitchen kits and hygiene kits distribution in Longmen township 29 April. **Photo:** IFRC

¹ Source by local government by the end of April 24 <http://www.scio.gov.cn/xwfbh/xwfbh/wqfbh/2013/0425p/index.htm>

The DREF operation is currently in progress and as of May 3 has assisted around 2,000 families (8,000 individuals) with provision of family/kitchen (note: in Chinese context it was named as family kit; in IFRC logistic standards, it is called kitchen sets) and hygiene kits, access to sanitation facilities. First batch of 2,000 family/kitchen kits and 1,000 hygiene kits supported by DREF have been distributed in Longmen township, Lushan county. The impact of this assistance is that immediate needs of some affected community members are met and it has contributed to preventing spread of water-borne diseases. The DREF operation is being assisted by two emergency response teams (ERT) of RCSC in addition to RCSC staff, local Red Cross volunteers and IFRC staff.

This DREF has been fully replenished with generous contributions from Canadian Red Cross, CIDA, Danish Red Cross, DG ECHO, Japanese Red Cross, and Mondelez International. Details of all donors can be found on: www.ifrc.org/dref.

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The situation

A 7.0-magnitude earthquake hit China's Sichuan province at 8.02 a.m. Beijing time on 20 April. The epicentre of the earthquake was near Lushan county, Ya'an Prefecture at a depth of 13 km. Lushan County is a mountainous rural area about 140 kilometres from Chengdu, the capital city of Sichuan province.

A total of 196 people were killed and 21 are missing, while 13,484 are reported to be injured. Over two million people have been affected across 19 prefectures and 115 counties of Sichuan province. A total of 237,655 persons have been displaced. It is reported that 193,000 houses have collapsed, and 510,000 houses were severely damaged².

A total of 22,123 response workers have been deployed in the affected area by the government including members from the People's Liberation Army (PLA), armed police, fire brigade, local police and mine relief teams. Utility providers sent their technicians to restore both electricity and telecommunication networks. As of 25 April, 50,000 tents, 100,000 quilts, and 10,000 foldable beds have been sent by government authorities. The central government has pledged CNY 1 billion (CHF149 million) for emergency response, transitional shelters and subsidies for the displaced, medical services, as well as restoration of vital public services.

One week after launching the operation, the DREF has provided assistance in line with its objective, and at this moment provided to around 2,000 families (8,000 individuals).

Coordination and partnerships

RCSC is an auxiliary to the government and it is one of the first responders to communities affected by disasters, providing much needed relief supplies and support. RCSC, through its branches at all levels, continues to maintain close coordination with state administrative units in affected areas with an aim to ensure Red Cross activities have greater impact and cooperation from local authorities. RCSC also works with various domestic partners in fundraising through its national appeal for providing relief support to affected communities.

RCSC has active communication with members of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, including its branches in Hong Kong and Macau, IFRC, partner national societies, and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). RCSC and IFRC arranged a coordination teleconference with RCRC Partner National Societies on 30 April. Eleven Partner National Societies participated in the teleconference. It provided an update of the emergency and relief phase of the earthquake operation. Plans forward for rehabilitation and recovery phases were also discussed.

RCSC is taking a leading role in coordination with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and academic institutions involved in the earthquake response. On 25 April, RCSC hosted a coordination meeting for key NGOs and academic organisations involved in earthquake operations where a possibility to build a common platform for earthquake operations was discussed. RCSC also offered to share its resources including skills,

² Source by local government by the end of April 24 <http://www.scio.gov.cn/xwfbh/xwfbh/wqfbh/2013/0425p/index.htm>

information, tools and funding with NGOs that demonstrate sufficient capacity. IFRC, American Red Cross and ICRC also participated in the meeting.

Such coordination mechanism led by Red Cross is new in China in general and very new and unique for RCSC in particular. RCSC aims to share its resources with NGOs at the grassroots level and aims to play a bigger role in providing support. It will continue discussions with NGOs in the coming weeks. RCSC and IFRC staff also participated in a NGO coordination meeting held in Chengdu on 28 April.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

After the earthquake, RCSC immediately sent 25 emergency response teams with 400 team members and 113 relief vehicles to the affected areas. As of 30 April, a number of RCSC relief and rescue teams with 83 members are still working in the affected area in Ya'an, including RCSC 999 emergency rescue team (Beijing), RCSC relief emergency response team (ERT-Guangxi), RCSC Mass Sanitation ERT (Yunnan), RCSC Water ERT (Hunan) and RCSC Water ERT (Hubei).

Three IFRC staff were in Lushan immediately after the earthquake and stayed for 10 days to assist RCSC in conducting needs assessments, planning, communication with media as well as coordination with other Movement partners. In communications, IFRC is working with partners to boost support to RCSC and highlight its work for vulnerable people. ICRC started a Restoring Family Links website³ for this disaster, both in English and Chinese, on 23 April.

As of 3 May, 2,330 affected people received medical treatment from RCSC teams on the ground, 62 severely injured were transferred, 4,474 houses were searched for live people, 1,458 people were provided with psychosocial support, nine medical treatment points are set up, two water treatment points have been set up and a total of 218 tons of safe water has been produced and distributed.

As of 28 April, the relief items that RCSC have distributed in Lushan county are 4,019 tents, 94,092 cartons of food and water, 183,503 boxes of medicine, 10,000 boxes of commodity.

RCSC launched a national appeal to help those affected by the earthquake. RCSC continues to be a strong in resource mobilisation within the country and as of 1 May, RCSC has received donations, both cash and in-kind, amounting to RMB 666 million (CHF 102 million) including support from Hong Kong and Macau branches and Taiwan Red Cross Organization. Approximately 60 per cent of these donations are in cash.

RCSC Social Supervision Committee, comprising of 16 leading citizens who are independent of RCSC, is monitoring the relief operation and donations of RCSC in order to ensure transparency and accountability to donors. Furthermore, The People's Daily, a leading national newspaper has selected three observers from its reader base to contribute to monitoring efforts of RCSC. The observers would be involved in all key steps of RCSC interventions such as procurement, decision-making, needs-assessment and distribution, conduct of staff. Such proactive engagement by RCSC with media and general public highlights special efforts made by RCSC to ensure transparency and accountability.

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions	
Outcome: To provide 5,000 most affected and displaced families (approximately 20,000 individuals) in Ya'an prefecture, with essential relief items to meet their immediate needs.	
Output: 5,000 most affected and displaced families within the target area have received essential items in an effective and accountable manner.	Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments. • Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. • Procurement of 5,000 family kits. • Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user. • Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on

³ The web-links are <http://familylinks.icrc.org/yaan-earthquake/en/Pages/Home.aspx> (English) and <http://familylinks.icrc.org/yaan-earthquake/zh/Pages/Home.aspx> (Chinese).

	relief distributions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct an internal lessons learnt workshop on relief activities.
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Progress:

The first batch of 2,000 family/kitchen kits of the planned 5,000 have been distributed to Longmen township, Lushan county. Longmen township is one of the worst hit townships. Water and electricity is still unavailable in many affected areas. The distribution was done on 29-30 April. A large percentage of houses have been damaged in areas where distribution supported by DREF operation was done. RCSC Guangxi Relief ERT, comprising of 14 members (seven female and nine male members), and local Red Cross branch coordinated the distribution process and conducted on-site monitoring. A post-distribution assessment was conducted which found relief items have reached the most affected people. Further immediate needs remain and the community members are also concerned about long-term recovery and shelter reconstruction.

The items in each of family/kitchen kits distributed include:

One cooking pot
One frying pan
One wok
Five plates
Five bowls
Five cups
Five sets of chopsticks and five spoons
One stirring spoon
One kitchen knife
One scouring pad



A beneficiary signing receipt of relief items. **Photo:** IFRC

The IFRC East Asia Regional Logistics Delegate is now coordinating the local procurement of the other 3,000 items.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: To support at least 5,000 families (approximately 20,000 individuals) living in transitional settlement areas with improved sanitation and hygiene conditions	
Output 1: Targeted population is supported with essential hygiene materials and improved awareness of hygiene practices.	Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments. • Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and site selection. • Procure and distribute hygiene materials for 5,000 affected families living in re-settled areas. • Reproduce and disseminate hygiene promotion materials. • Refresher short training for 25 Red Cross volunteer leaders on hygiene promotion. • Mobilization of Red Cross volunteers to the communities for hygiene promotion. • Hygiene promotion messages disseminated in re-settled areas with IEC materials.
Output 2: Transitional latrine facilities are accessible to 1,000 displaced people.	Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize RCSC Mass Sanitation Emergency Response Team (ERT) to provide sanitation services. • Establish at least 50 temporary latrines in the transitional settlement areas. • Prepare for the capacity to establish 100 more latrines upon further assessment.

Progress:

The first batch of 1,000 hygiene kits of the planned 5,000 have been distributed in Longmen township, Lushan county. Due to limited transportation capacity, the 1,000 hygiene kits arrived in two phases and were distributed on 29 April and 2 May. RCSC Guangxi Relief ERT and local Red Cross branch also coordinated this distribution process and conducted on-site monitoring.

Each of the hygiene kits distributed included the following items:

12 body soaps
Five laundry soaps
40 sanitary pads
Three hand towels
Two bath towels
Six toilet paper rolls
Two toothpaste
Five toothbrush
Four razors



Latrines set up in Lushan county with hygiene promotion posters on the side of the latrines. **Photo** : IFRC

The IFRC East Asia Regional Logistics Delegate is now coordinating the procurement of remaining hygiene kits.

RCSC Mass Sanitation ERT (Yunnan), comprising of eight members, arrived in Lushan county on 24 April to respond to the emergency sanitation needs in affected areas. As of 3 May, 98 latrines have been set up benefitting up to 4,900 persons. Additional latrines will be set up in the coming days. ERT team members are also conducting hygiene promotion to temporary settlement areas and villages.

Challenges:

In all the activities mentioned above, the road condition hampered the implementation of activities especially the distribution of relief items.

Initially it was challenging to get an overview of relief supplies and distribution in the affected areas and thereby, affecting distribution planning of RCSC's relief items. Close coordination between RCSC and local authorities helped address this challenge. In some instances, different information was provided by different levels or members of local authorities resulted in extra efforts needed by RCSC staff and volunteers to cross-verify it.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **Red Cross Society of China:**
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Please send all funding pledges to zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org

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DREF history:

- This DREF was initially allocated on 25 April 2013 for CHF 400,000 for six months to assist 20,000 beneficiaries.
- This is the first DREF operation update.



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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 \(NGOs\) 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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Saving lives, changing minds.



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

24/4/2013

MDRCN005 China Sichuan (Yaan) Quake 2013

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	193,182
Utensils & Tools	151,515
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	344,697
Distribution & Monitoring	2,424
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	2,424
Volunteers	400
Total PERSONNEL	400
Professional Fees	5,331
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	5,331
Workshops & Training	9,091
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	9,091
Travel	3,950
Information & Public Relations	8,788
Financial Charges	227
Other General Expenses	679
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	13,645
Programme and Services Support Recovery	24,413
Total INDIRECT COSTS	24,413
TOTAL BUDGET	400,000