

FINAL REPORT



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

AZERBAIJAN: EARTHQUAKE

26 November
2002

appeal no. 35/00

Final report

period covered: December 2000 - March 2001

IN BRIEF

The Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society (AzRCS), supported by the Federation delegation, has completed the emergency response operation following the November 2000 earthquake. As a result the targeted families have had access to proper water/sanitation facilities, heating, bedding, and cooking facilities, thereby improving basic living and accommodation conditions. Efforts were also made to assess the extent of the damages in the original settlements as well as selected health and social institutions, in close cooperation with the Government Emergency Commission, for a possible rehabilitation.

The context

On Saturday 25 November 2000 at 22:10 local time (18:10 GMT), Azerbaijan was struck by an earthquake measuring 5.9 on the Richter scale, followed by a quake a minute later measuring 6.3. According to the US Geological Survey, the epicentre was in the Caspian Sea, 25 km to the south south-east of Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan. The earthquake was felt as far away as Georgia's capital Tbilisi, 600 km north west of the epicentre.

The earthquake affected the northern-eastern coastline of Azerbaijan, with the main damage occurring between the Absheron peninsula and the Russian border. Baku is situated on the south side of the Absheron peninsula which stretches into the Caspian Sea. While minor earthquakes are a common phenomenon in this area, this earthquake is the strongest experienced in 150 years and the first to hit Absheron in many years. Absheron, including Baku, is the home of approximately 4 million people, half the country's population. This is a very densely populated area that has grown substantially over the last 10 years in terms of population but not housing, which means the number of occupants per housing unit has grown. Many of the refugees and Internally Displaced People (IDPs) from the conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh have found refuge here.

Immediately after the earthquake 100 buildings were found unsafe and 3,500 people (800 families) were evacuated by local authorities. These families were accommodated in old hotels without running water and heating. A total of 5 IDP collective centres were also evacuated with 400 families forced to move. These families were accommodated in old factories and administration buildings not designed for human habitation, with negative public health implications. In Sumgayit, an industrial town just

north of Baku, 100 families were moved into old train wagons from two damaged hostels. Most of these families are IDPs as well.

Based on the survey results following the earthquake, the Federation delegation and the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society (AzRCS) planned a relief operation and launched an appeal on 6 December, 2000 targeting assistance to the most vulnerable IDP families accommodated in the worst public buildings. The primary objective was to ensure proper water/toilet facilities, heating, cooking facilities, hygiene articles and mattresses.

Latest events

Monitoring of the situation of the people affected by the earthquake showed that the most imminent needs were covered and basic living conditions were provided for. The emergency relief operation was then completed as no further assistance of this kind was required.

The Azerbaijan Red Crescent assistance played a vital role and eased the burden of the victims while no other organisation was able to respond.

The AzRCS and the Federation have completed this operation in a situation when all emergency needs were covered and when the Government of Azerbaijan was in a position to eliminate the long term consequences of the disaster.

Red Cross/Red Crescent action

CHF 75,000 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to provide immediate support to the Federation's activities. The DREF allocation, in addition to other contributions from donors, has enabled the Federation to provide a total of 258 families (approximately 1,200 evacuees) living in dire conditions with immediate assistance in the form of heating, mattresses, bed sets, cooking facilities, water/sanitation facilities and hygiene articles. The following activities were implemented by the Red Crescent Society and the Federation delegation:

☒ Immediate procurement of heaters, cooking utensils, blankets, hygiene articles (soap, laundry soap, tooth paste and brush, sanitary towels), mattresses, bed sets, candles and jerry cans to assist the most vulnerable evacuees. The Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society distributed these items in a very effective manner. The Federation delegation assisted in establishment of a beneficiary data base and reporting procedures to avoid overlapping and to ensure accountability. See the attached table for the detailed quantities of relief items distributed.

☒ Water and sanitation facilities were rehabilitated on 11 sites in more than 32 buildings. Furthermore leaking roofs were repaired as well as electrical installations and walls and ceilings. Special attention was paid to the cost effectiveness of the measurements. Simple but functional solutions were chosen. All in all it was achieved that buildings not designed for inhabitation (administration and factory buildings) were turned into basic accommodation with appropriate water and sanitation facilities. This work was done by a local construction team under the supervision of a construction engineer. The coordination was in the hands of the Federation's Regional Construction Delegate. See the attached table for further details.

☒ A longer-term objective was to assess the need for the repair of 6 health and social institutions and 5 IDP collective centres (approximately 2,000 people considered affected) with the aim of assisting in the reconstruction and rehabilitation. An in-depth assessment of selected damaged structures was carried out with a local expert and under the overall responsibility of the Federation's Caucasus Regional Construction delegate. The gained information was thoroughly analysed. However, several

obstacles were met preventing the Federation to pursue the plan further. High costs were anticipated due to extensive structural damage of the buildings. There was no indication that donors would provide for funding, especially in the light of the more recent devastating earthquakes in El Salvador and India. The ownership of some of the objects was unclear as well as to what extent the most vulnerable persons would directly and continuously benefit from envisaged actions. Considering all these limiting factors the Federation decided to shelf the plans.

The response to the Appeal, although it did not fully cover the needs, allowed the Federation to respond to the immediate and acute needs, focusing most particularly on the water/sanitation improvements in all targeted sites. All of the evacuated families have now at least a minimum standard of living conditions.

One hundred thousand copies of an Earthquake Information Leaflet have been printed. This booklet is to inform the public about behaviour before, during, and after an earthquake, as well as to give some basic first aid information. The publication was distributed through the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society on 8 May, the World Red Cross/Red Crescent Day.

External relations - Government/UN/NGOs/Media

The Government of Azerbaijan (GoA), through its Emergency Commission led by the Prime Minister, has assisted some of the victims of the earthquake. However, the issue of assisting the IDPs is a sensitive one as long as most of them live in Baku without proper *propiskas* (residence permits). The main target by the GoA has been to secure public buildings in the downtown area. The Federation delegation and the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society have been cooperating closely with the Emergency Commission and sharing information on a regular basis.

The United Nations Resident Coordinator's office collected information on the national and international response to the earthquake and issued several information bulletins aimed at informing potential donors. The Federation and the AzRCS were the only operational organisations providing assistance to the victims.

Media coverage has been extensive and very positive towards the Federation and the AzRCS effort. The PNSs and other donors have been mentioned in regular press releases and press conferences held. The awareness of the Red Crescent Society has increased substantially, with a more positive attitude from the Government.

Contributions

See Annex 1 attached for contribution details.

CHF 75,000 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) in order to initiate the relief operation, but the level of contributions from donors allowed to reimburse this amount to the DREF at the end of the operation.

All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

This operation seeks to administer to the immediate requirements of the victims of this disaster. Subsequent operations to promote sustainable development or longer-term capacity building will require additional support, and these programmes are outlined on the Federation's website.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES

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Appeal No & title: 35/2000 Azerbaijan earthquake

Period: 2000 to October 2002

Project(s): PAZ570

Currency: CHF

I - CONSOLIDATED RESPONSE TO APPEAL

FUNDING	CASH		KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL INCOME
	Contributions		Goods/Services	Personnel	
Appeal budget	312,439				
less Cash brought forward					
TOTAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT	312,439				
<u>Contributions from Donors</u>					
Canadian Government (DGCA)	21,297				21,297
ECHO - (DE1006)	2,362				2,362
Finnish Red Cross (DNFI)	38,498				38,498
Icelandic Red Cross (DNIS)	3,912				3,912
Japanese Red Cross (DNJP)	14,895				14,895
Monaco Red Cross (DNMC)	4,586				4,586
Private donor Azerbaijan (DPAZ)	16,372				16,372
Swedish Govt.via Red Cross (DGNSE)	25,725				25,725
Switzerland - Private Donors (DPCH)	1,000				1,000
United States - Private Donor (DPUS08)	17,746				17,746
TOTAL	146,393				146,393

II - Balance of funds

Opening balance	
CASH INCOME Rcv'd	146,393
CASH EXPENDITURE	-146,393

CASH BALANCE	0

For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

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III - Budget analysis / Breakdown of expenditures

Description	Appeal Budget	CASH Expenditures	KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL Expenditures	Variance
			Goods/services	Personnel		
<u>SUPPLIES</u>						
Shelter & Construction	93,300	7,048			7,048	86,252
Clothing & Textiles	38,000	31,747			31,747	6,253
Food/Seeds						
Water	15,000					15,000
Medical & First Aid	12,000	330			330	11,670
Teaching materials						
Utensils & Tools	13,800	7,363			7,363	6,437
Other relief supplies	11,100	10,058			10,058	1,042
Sub-Total	183,200	56,546			56,546	126,654
<u>CAPITAL EXPENSES</u>						
Land & Buildings						
Vehicles						
Computers & Telecom equip.	8,000	985			985	7,015
Medical equipment						
Other capital expenditures	20,000	1,014			1,014	18,986
Sub-Total	28,000	2,000			2,000	26,000
<u>TRANSPORT & STORAGE</u>	15,220	8,928			8,928	6,292
Sub-Total	15,220	8,928			8,928	6,292
<u>PERSONNEL</u>						
Personnel (delegates)	9,750	5,890			5,890	3,860
Personnel (local staff)	26,500	13,084			13,084	13,416
Training						
Sub-Total	36,250	18,974			18,974	17,276
<u>GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION</u>						
Assessment/Monitoring/experts		120			120	-120
Travel & related expenses	5,000	3,574			3,574	1,426
Information expenses	2,700	19,031			19,031	-16,331
Administrative expenses	7,700	20,767			20,767	-13,067
External workshops & Seminars						
Sub-Total	15,400	43,492			43,492	-28,092
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>						
Programme management	21,068	10,084			10,084	10,984
Technical services	6,307	3,019			3,019	3,288
Professional services	6,994	3,349			3,349	3,645
Sub-Total	34,369	16,453			16,453	17,916
Operational provisions						
Transfers to National Societies						
TOTAL BUDGET	312,439	146,393			146,393	166,046

ANNEX 2

RELIEF ITEMS DISTRIBUTED

Date	Entry No	Description	Quantity		
			Purchased	Distributed	Stock
		W/A			
31.03.01	1	Blanket colored	1484	1484	0
	2	Blanket grey	516	516	0
	3	Kerosene Heater	200	200	0
	4	Bed linen set (3pcs)	1000	1000	0
	5	Jerry can, 10L	1200	1200	0
	6	Bucket, 10L	300	300	0
	7	Plastic sheeting, rolls, 50m	500	500	0
	8	Laundry Soap	4800	4800	0
	9	Toilet Soap	4800	4800	0
	10	Tooth brush	4800	4800	0
	11	Tooth paste Hygiene Kit	4800	4800	0
	12	Razors, disposable, 5 pcs	1200	1200	0
	13	Shampoo	1200	1200	0
	14	Plastic bags	1250	1250	0
	15	Sanitary Napkins	110	110	0
	16	Towel	1100	1100	0
	17	Mattress	1000	1000	0
	18	Mattress cover	500	500	0
	19	Pot, 8L	200	200	0
	20	Pot, 3L	200	200	0
	21	Bowl Cooking Set	1200	1200	0
	22	Cup	1200	1200	0
	23	Spoons, set, 6 pcs	200	200	0
	24	Forks, set, 6 pcs	200	200	0

CONSTRUCTION/REHABILITATION ACTIVITIES

Date	Entry No	Description	Quantity	
			Sites	Quantity
31.03.01	1	Toilets/latrines repaired and connected	11	39 unit
	2	Water pipes installed and connected	11	275 metre
	3	Sewage pipes repaired/installed	11	81 metre
	4	Water points installed	11	52 unit
	5	Roofing repaired	11	470 sqm
	6	Renovation of walls and ceilings (interior)	32	nn
	7	Repair of walls (structural)	31	nn
	8	Electrical installations and cables	11	144 metre
	9	Setting up of cooking facilities	11	19 unit