



INDIA/GUJARAT: EARTHQUAKE

Appeal no. 04/2001
30 January 2001

***THIS REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE SEEKS
CHF 25,596,629 IN CASH, KIND AND SERVICES
TO ASSIST 300,000 BENEFICIARIES FOR 4 MONTHS***

Summary

This request for assistance, seeking CHF 25.6 million is intended to maintain the momentum of the Red Cross Red Crescent operation in response to India's worst earthquake in half a century, following the preliminary appeal launched last Friday (26 January), the day of the disaster. It reflects the conclusions of initial assessments carried out by Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) and International Federation officials in the disaster zone, focusing particularly on the town of Bhuj, which lies just a few kilometres from the epicentre of the quake that peaked at 7.9 on the Richter scale. The intended operation is fully in line with IRCS stated priorities of shelter (plastic sheeting, tarpaulins, blankets and cold-weather clothing), medical services and supplies (a 350-bed hospital and mobile clinic, cholera and health kits), water sanitation equipment (buckets, tanks and purification tablets) and other relief supplies (high protein biscuits and kitchen utensils). It is envisaged that the four-month emergency operation will be followed by a further appeal to fund a recovery and rehabilitation phase.

The Disaster

At 08.50 hours on Friday, 26 January, a series of powerful earthquakes struck Gujarat state in western India, peaking at a massive 7.9 on the Richter scale, with tremors being felt across several states, in Delhi and Mumbai (Bombay) and in the neighbouring country of Pakistan. Gujarat's total population is put at just over 41 million, of whom a third live in urban areas.

Although the disaster struck a remote and relatively sparsely populated area, there are major population centres within less than 100 kilometres of the epicentre, notably Ahmadabad, the state's most populous city and Bhuj, home to 150,000 people. The epicentre of the quake was 20 km north-east of Bhuj, the



INDIA/GUJARAT: EARTHQUAKE

Appeal no. 04/2001
30 January 2001

***THIS REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE SEEKS
CHF 25,596,629 IN CASH, KIND AND SERVICES
TO ASSIST 300,000 BENEFICIARIES FOR 4 MONTHS***

Summary

This request for assistance, seeking CHF 25.6 million is intended to maintain the momentum of the Red Cross Red Crescent operation in response to India's worst earthquake in half a century, following the preliminary appeal launched last Friday (26 January), the day of the disaster. It reflects the conclusions of initial assessments carried out by Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) and International Federation officials in the disaster zone, focusing particularly on the town of Bhuj, which lies just a few kilometres from the epicentre of the quake that peaked at 7.9 on the Richter scale. The intended operation is fully in line with IRCS stated priorities of shelter (plastic sheeting, tarpaulins, blankets and cold-weather clothing), medical services and supplies (a 350-bed hospital and mobile clinic, cholera and health kits), water sanitation equipment (buckets, tanks and purification tablets) and other relief supplies (high protein biscuits and kitchen utensils). It is envisaged that the four-month emergency operation will be followed by a further appeal to fund a recovery and rehabilitation phase.

The Disaster

At 08.50 hours on Friday, 26 January, a series of powerful earthquakes struck Gujarat state in western India, peaking at a massive 7.9 on the Richter scale, with tremors being felt across several states, in Delhi and Mumbai (Bombay) and in the neighbouring country of Pakistan. Gujarat's total population is put at just over 41 million, of whom a third live in urban areas.

Although the disaster struck a remote and relatively sparsely populated area, there are major population centres within less than 100 kilometres of the epicentre, notably Ahmadabad, the state's most populous city and Bhuj, home to 150,000 people. The epicentre of the quake was 20 km north-east of Bhuj, the

district headquarters of the Kachchh district, the largest in the Indian plains and also the most disaster prone: the district faced a devastating cyclone in 1998, which was followed by droughts in the subsequent years.

The earthquake has claimed at least 20,000 lives by the most modest estimates. Various relief specialists in the field and the media fear the figure could exceed 35,000. Earlier today, an Indian government minister publicly estimated the death toll at 100,000.

Infrastructure in the region has been severely affected, resulting in large scale collapse of buildings, mine cave-ins, train derailments and power failure, cutting off the water supply. To date, around 275 aftershocks have hit the region, with 19 of these registering over 5 on the Richter scale.

It is reported that some 90 per cent of buildings in Bhuj have suffered severe structural damage and 10 per cent have collapsed completely. The old city of Bhuj, home to between 60,000 and 70,000 families, is deserted as survivors gather any belongings they can salvage and flee. Furthermore, the local media state that some 70 towns and villages surrounding Bhuj are yet to be visited by search and rescue teams. The town's governor indicates that 10,000 to 15,000 people lost their lives in Bhuj alone and that between 35,000 and 125,000 people are still missing. It is estimated that there are around 55,000 wounded in Bhuj and the surrounding areas.

In economic terms, according to early estimates, the quake will cost the country billions of dollars in reconstruction costs and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has put the losses in Gujarat at USD 3.2 billion.

The Response so far

Government Action

The agriculture ministry's disaster management division is coordinating the emergency response and the state government of Gujarat has set up control rooms in Bhuj and Ahmadabad. A separate crisis management cell is functioning in New Delhi under the control of the Union cabinet secretary. The government has mobilised over 5,000 members of the armed forces and para military personnel who are at the forefront of rescue and relief initiatives. Medical teams, together with medical equipment and supplies, have also been deployed and a team specialised in disease surveillance has been mobilised. Some 110,000 mt of food grain have been released for distribution and 228,000 blankets are being provided in addition to a total of 13,250 tents which are being airlifted to the affected areas. The government has indicated that it will provide free air transport for relief and rescue goods for the earthquake victims. Under this arrangement, 30,000 Red Cross blankets and a truckload of medicines have been airlifted.

Over the weekend, the Indian government issued a statement specifying that an appeal for international assistance would not be issued, but that 'all offers made voluntarily will be gratefully accepted'.

Red Cross/Red Crescent Action

The Red Cross Red Crescent has been mobilising resources rapidly since the onset of the disaster. Officials from the IRCS and International Federation were among the first international humanitarian organisations to reach the disaster zone - arriving on the day after the earthquake. Working with the state branch and the IRCS network in Ahmadabad and Bhuj, a clear picture of the immediate shelter, relief and health needs has emerged.

Meanwhile, close liaison between the IRCS and the International Federation is ongoing, with the Federation's head of regional delegation and the IRCS secretary general in constant contact as the operation unfolds. The IRCS has airlifted 30,000 blankets to Ahmadabad and flown 150 large tents from

district headquarters of the Kachchh district, the largest in the Indian plains and also the most disaster prone: the district faced a devastating cyclone in 1998, which was followed by droughts in the subsequent years.

The earthquake has claimed at least 20,000 lives by the most modest estimates. Various relief specialists in the field and the media fear the figure could exceed 35,000. Earlier today, an Indian government minister publicly estimated the death toll at 100,000.

Infrastructure in the region has been severely affected, resulting in large scale collapse of buildings, mine cave-ins, train derailments and power failure, cutting off the water supply. To date, around 275 aftershocks have hit the region, with 19 of these registering over 5 on the Richter scale.

It is reported that some 90 per cent of buildings in Bhuj have suffered severe structural damage and 10 per cent have collapsed completely. The old city of Bhuj, home to between 60,000 and 70,000 families, is deserted as survivors gather any belongings they can salvage and flee. Furthermore, the local media state that some 70 towns and villages surrounding Bhuj are yet to be visited by search and rescue teams. The town's governor indicates that 10,000 to 15,000 people lost their lives in Bhuj alone and that between 35,000 and 125,000 people are still missing. It is estimated that there are around 55,000 wounded in Bhuj and the surrounding areas.

In economic terms, according to early estimates, the quake will cost the country billions of dollars in reconstruction costs and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has put the losses in Gujarat at USD 3.2 billion.

The Response so far

Government Action

The agriculture ministry's disaster management division is coordinating the emergency response and the state government of Gujarat has set up control rooms in Bhuj and Ahmadabad. A separate crisis management cell is functioning in New Delhi under the control of the Union cabinet secretary. The government has mobilised over 5,000 members of the armed forces and para military personnel who are at the forefront of rescue and relief initiatives. Medical teams, together with medical equipment and supplies, have also been deployed and a team specialised in disease surveillance has been mobilised. Some 110,000 mt of food grain have been released for distribution and 228,000 blankets are being provided in addition to a total of 13,250 tents which are being airlifted to the affected areas. The government has indicated that it will provide free air transport for relief and rescue goods for the earthquake victims. Under this arrangement, 30,000 Red Cross blankets and a truckload of medicines have been airlifted.

Over the weekend, the Indian government issued a statement specifying that an appeal for international assistance would not be issued, but that 'all offers made voluntarily will be gratefully accepted'.

Red Cross/Red Crescent Action

The Red Cross Red Crescent has been mobilising resources rapidly since the onset of the disaster. Officials from the IRCS and International Federation were among the first international humanitarian organisations to reach the disaster zone - arriving on the day after the earthquake. Working with the state branch and the IRCS network in Ahmadabad and Bhuj, a clear picture of the immediate shelter, relief and health needs has emerged.

Meanwhile, close liaison between the IRCS and the International Federation is ongoing, with the Federation's head of regional delegation and the IRCS secretary general in constant contact as the operation unfolds. The IRCS has airlifted 30,000 blankets to Ahmadabad and flown 150 large tents from

Calcutta. In addition, blood units were urgently sent to Gujarat from the blood bank in New Delhi, while blood camps were organised by the local Red Cross in Ahmadabad. Many of the donors are Red Cross volunteers who have themselves been victims of the earthquake.

The International Federation immediately drew together a support team of 15 experienced delegates - covering management, coordination, relief, logistics, health, water-sanitation, informatics, publicity and reporting - which will be in place by the end of today (Tuesday). The team will reinforce the regional delegation personnel in New Delhi, Ahmadabad and Bhuj. Five members of the team reached Bhuj yesterday (Monday) to begin working on the framework of the Red Cross Red Crescent operation to be set up in the area.

On the day the disaster struck, the International Federation Secretariat released CHF 200,000 from its disaster response emergency fund (DREF). To expedite the intended operation, the Federation's logistics pipeline currently includes 1,000 tents, 23,000 tarpaulins, more than 128,000 blankets, rubbhall and medical supplies. The Federation is also deploying more telecommunications assets to the field and the Swedish international telecommunications group Ericsson, with the whom the International Federation has a global partnership, is providing communications expertise and equipment. Ericsson has also offered to provide vehicles for the implementation of the operation.

In consultation with the International Federation, the ICRC is currently holding discussions with the IRCS regarding the need for tracing and family linking services and has assigned an official to the disaster zone for this purpose.

Other Agencies' Action w

International search and rescue teams have been deployed since the onset of the disaster and are implementing operations in the area. A UN disaster assessment and coordination (UNDAC) team was scheduled to arrive in Ahmadabad yesterday (Monday). WHO is assisting the Indian authorities in setting up a coordination cell for health initiatives. Oxfam has sent a team to survey and assess the needs in the region, as has ActionAid, and an SCF team will begin distributions of 10,000 blankets today. Various local organisations in Bhuj are setting up soup kitchens.

The Intended National Society/Federation Operation

Overview •

Following so major a catastrophe, the scale and range of immediate needs is huge, with hundreds of thousands of victims left entirely destitute. The speed and effectiveness with which the Red Cross Red Crescent has acted has made possible an extensive emergency response operation, with all the imperatives in place within less than a week of a catastrophe that occurred in one of the remotest corners of the sub-continent.

In the operational areas on which the IRCS is focusing - shelter and health - the International Federation is mobilising large quantities of tarpaulins, plastic sheeting, blankets and warm clothing. Hospital facilities, mobile clinics, cholera, hygiene and new emergency health kits, high protein biscuits and water-sanitation materials are also major priorities.

A more detailed assessment of all the affected areas in Gujarat will be undertaken by the IRCS/Federation over the coming days once the emergency relief operation is underway. A further appeal targeting the recovery and rehabilitation phase can be expected early in the second quarter of the year. In the longer term, development activities as well as integration of the ongoing Red Cross Red Crescent drought operation in western India may also be considered.

Red Cross Red Crescent Objective •

Calcutta. In addition, blood units were urgently sent to Gujarat from the blood bank in New Delhi, while blood camps were organised by the local Red Cross in Ahmadabad. Many of the donors are Red Cross volunteers who have themselves been victims of the earthquake.

The International Federation immediately drew together a support team of 15 experienced delegates - covering management, coordination, relief, logistics, health, water-sanitation, informatics, publicity and reporting - which will be in place by the end of today (Tuesday). The team will reinforce the regional delegation personnel in New Delhi, Ahmadabad and Bhuj. Five members of the team reached Bhuj yesterday (Monday) to begin working on the framework of the Red Cross Red Crescent operation to be set up in the area.

On the day the disaster struck, the International Federation Secretariat released CHF 200,000 from its disaster response emergency fund (DREF). To expedite the intended operation, the Federation's logistics pipeline currently includes 1,000 tents, 23,000 tarpaulins, more than 128,000 blankets, rubbhall and medical supplies. The Federation is also deploying more telecommunications assets to the field and the Swedish international telecommunications group Ericsson, with the whom the International Federation has a global partnership, is providing communications expertise and equipment. Ericsson has also offered to provide vehicles for the implementation of the operation.

In consultation with the International Federation, the ICRC is currently holding discussions with the IRCS regarding the need for tracing and family linking services and has assigned an official to the disaster zone for this purpose.

Other Agencies' Action w

International search and rescue teams have been deployed since the onset of the disaster and are implementing operations in the area. A UN disaster assessment and coordination (UNDAC) team was scheduled to arrive in Ahmadabad yesterday (Monday). WHO is assisting the Indian authorities in setting up a coordination cell for health initiatives. Oxfam has sent a team to survey and assess the needs in the region, as has ActionAid, and an SCF team will begin distributions of 10,000 blankets today. Various local organisations in Bhuj are setting up soup kitchens.

The Intended National Society/Federation Operation

Overview •

Following so major a catastrophe, the scale and range of immediate needs is huge, with hundreds of thousands of victims left entirely destitute. The speed and effectiveness with which the Red Cross Red Crescent has acted has made possible an extensive emergency response operation, with all the imperatives in place within less than a week of a catastrophe that occurred in one of the remotest corners of the sub-continent.

In the operational areas on which the IRCS is focusing - shelter and health - the International Federation is mobilising large quantities of tarpaulins, plastic sheeting, blankets and warm clothing. Hospital facilities, mobile clinics, cholera, hygiene and new emergency health kits, high protein biscuits and water-sanitation materials are also major priorities.

A more detailed assessment of all the affected areas in Gujarat will be undertaken by the IRCS/Federation over the coming days once the emergency relief operation is underway. A further appeal targeting the recovery and rehabilitation phase can be expected early in the second quarter of the year. In the longer term, development activities as well as integration of the ongoing Red Cross Red Crescent drought operation in western India may also be considered.

Red Cross Red Crescent Objective •

The IRCS and International Federation delegation (which is charged with coordinating all Red Cross Red Crescent activity) will work together through April/May 2001 to:

- { *provide an initial target beneficiary caseload of 300,000 earthquake victims (60,000 families) with essential shelter and cold weather items, health and medical services, safe water and other urgently needed relief supplies.*

Emergency phase •

On behalf of the Federation, the Finnish Red Cross and the Norwegian Red Cross are making arrangements for an emergency response unit (ERU) to be set up in Bhuj. This is a combined and modular referral hospital with medical staff, medical equipment and supplies and will be operational from today (Tuesday). As an integral part of the hospital, the German Red Cross is providing water and sanitation equipment and six specialists have been made available to ensure water and sanitation for the hospital unit.

The hospital will be run by some 34 staff members including a surgeon, an anesthetist, medical doctors, ward nurses, operating theatre nurses, midwives, sanitary engineers and technicians. It will function for a period of approximately four months. The hospital's capacity comprises a minimum of 350 beds and facilities include surgery, mother and child care, trauma treatment, internal medicine, obstetrics, gynecology, deliveries, pediatrics and out patient functions. The water component of the hospital will have a treatment, storage, transport and distribution capacity of 120,000 litres of pure water per day, in accordance with WHO standards. A mobile health clinic provided by the Japanese Red Cross, also supplied with cholera and new emergency health kits, will form the nucleus of the outreach programme and act as a referral facility to the hospital.

The British Red Cross is providing a logistics ERU, scheduled to be in place by 31 January, to strengthen the operational base in Bhuj. This will be manned by three experienced logisticians who will deal with customs arrangements and airport handling. The team will also be responsible for evaluating storage capacity, receipt and transportation of goods and establishing links with government authorities and NGOs on logistics matters.

As a result of these welcome initiatives, during this week, in agreement with the relevant state and district authorities, the International Federation will establish an operational centre, one kilometre outside Bhuj, where the devastation is heaviest. The facility will comprise: the hospital and mobile medical clinic, warehousing, field offices and an accommodation block. The district collector in Bhuj has verbally agreed to provide the centre with a perimeter fence, security personnel, trucks, generators, raw water, medical staff and cleaners. From here, the IRCS and International Federation teams will handle distributions of :

- { 210,000 blankets, 60,000 rolls of plastic sheeting and 300,000 sets of children's/adult clothing;
- { 60,000 water buckets, ten 5,000-litre collapsible water tanks and 27 million water purification tablets;
- { 160 mt of high protein biscuits.

Initially, some 50 expatriate delegates are expected to work from the operational centre, alongside the IRCS officials - including the 13-member Japanese Red Cross mobile health clinic - though this number should reduce as the operation matures. The centre will be established with a view to mobility and flexibility, should a dramatic change occur in the situation of Bhuj and its environs.

A logistics base will be located in Ahmadabad - where the regional disaster preparedness delegate is currently working with the IRCS Gujarat state branch - to provide additional support to the Bhuj operation together with the support already provided from the IRCS headquarters and the International Federation's South Asia regional delegation in Delhi.

The IRCS and International Federation delegation (which is charged with coordinating all Red Cross Red Crescent activity) will work together through April/May 2001 to:

- { *provide an initial target beneficiary caseload of 300,000 earthquake victims (60,000 families) with essential shelter and cold weather items, health and medical services, safe water and other urgently needed relief supplies.*

Emergency phase •

On behalf of the Federation, the Finnish Red Cross and the Norwegian Red Cross are making arrangements for an emergency response unit (ERU) to be set up in Bhuj. This is a combined and modular referral hospital with medical staff, medical equipment and supplies and will be operational from today (Tuesday). As an integral part of the hospital, the German Red Cross is providing water and sanitation equipment and six specialists have been made available to ensure water and sanitation for the hospital unit.

The hospital will be run by some 34 staff members including a surgeon, an anesthetist, medical doctors, ward nurses, operating theatre nurses, midwives, sanitary engineers and technicians. It will function for a period of approximately four months. The hospital's capacity comprises a minimum of 350 beds and facilities include surgery, mother and child care, trauma treatment, internal medicine, obstetrics, gynecology, deliveries, pediatrics and out patient functions. The water component of the hospital will have a treatment, storage, transport and distribution capacity of 120,000 litres of pure water per day, in accordance with WHO standards. A mobile health clinic provided by the Japanese Red Cross, also supplied with cholera and new emergency health kits, will form the nucleus of the outreach programme and act as a referral facility to the hospital.

The British Red Cross is providing a logistics ERU, scheduled to be in place by 31 January, to strengthen the operational base in Bhuj. This will be manned by three experienced logisticians who will deal with customs arrangements and airport handling. The team will also be responsible for evaluating storage capacity, receipt and transportation of goods and establishing links with government authorities and NGOs on logistics matters.

As a result of these welcome initiatives, during this week, in agreement with the relevant state and district authorities, the International Federation will establish an operational centre, one kilometre outside Bhuj, where the devastation is heaviest. The facility will comprise: the hospital and mobile medical clinic, warehousing, field offices and an accommodation block. The district collector in Bhuj has verbally agreed to provide the centre with a perimeter fence, security personnel, trucks, generators, raw water, medical staff and cleaners. From here, the IRCS and International Federation teams will handle distributions of :

- { 210,000 blankets, 60,000 rolls of plastic sheeting and 300,000 sets of children's/adult clothing;
- { 60,000 water buckets, ten 5,000-litre collapsible water tanks and 27 million water purification tablets;
- { 160 mt of high protein biscuits.

Initially, some 50 expatriate delegates are expected to work from the operational centre, alongside the IRCS officials - including the 13-member Japanese Red Cross mobile health clinic - though this number should reduce as the operation matures. The centre will be established with a view to mobility and flexibility, should a dramatic change occur in the situation of Bhuj and its environs.

A logistics base will be located in Ahmadabad - where the regional disaster preparedness delegate is currently working with the IRCS Gujarat state branch - to provide additional support to the Bhuj operation together with the support already provided from the IRCS headquarters and the International Federation's South Asia regional delegation in Delhi.

Coordination w

Since the onset of the emergency, coordination between the various Red Cross Red Crescent actors has been very effective. The Federation has been in close contact with the IRCS and will continue to work closely with the National Society to harmonize Red Cross Red Crescent assistance. The IRCS national headquarters is ensuring much needed liaison with the government authorities.

The International Federation will continue to seek opportunities to publicise the IRCS operation in the wake of the disaster, including the work and contributions of Red Cross Red Crescent Societies, and its regional delegation. Regular situation reports will be published and supporting National Societies will be encouraged to organise and participate in fund raising campaigns for the operation.

At local level, the Gujarat branch of the IRCS has established contact with an umbrella organisation of over 200 local NGOs, Janpath, in Ahmadabad. These NGOs have established a coordination cell and have been holding two meetings per day for the purpose of coordinating relief activities.

Logistics and procurement w

Wherever possible, relief items will be procured regionally, since customs formalities often make air freighting goods into India a challenging and complex undertaking. Federation logisticians will work closely with IRCS staff on warehousing and in-country transport arrangements; vehicles and associated facilities are sought in the appeal. Red Cross Red Crescent Societies are encouraged to contact the Federation's relief health service before committing to the purchase of medical items.

Capacity of the National Society •

The IRCS has gone through significant change in the past few years and today it focuses on disaster preparedness and management, institutional and organisational training and development, and modernising its administrative structure. With over 650 branches, and well over 12 million members, it is one of the largest indigenous organisations in the country.

As with almost all National Societies in Asia, the IRCS is no stranger to the aftermath of disaster, particularly over the past two years, including the Orissa cyclone in 1999, floods and droughts in the north-east of the country and the drought in western India.. While these operations have strengthened the IRCS disaster response capability to some extent, the earthquake that occurred last Friday will certainly stretch the Society's capacity and resources to the limit.

Provincially, the IRCS Gujarat state branch comprises 48 outlets at district and smaller administrative level, run by more than 50,000 volunteers and 60 paid staff. The state branch has an annual budget of USD 250,000 and its main activities revolve around 13 blood banks and various dispensaries, clinics and first aid centres. The Red Cross in Gujarat manages four family planning and counselling centres, while a sub-regional warehouse, administered by the IRCS national headquarters in Delhi, is also located in the state.

Despite limited capacity, the IRCS in Bhuj is well versed in disaster response having been involved in the Federation supported relief operation following the cyclone that struck the coast of Kachchh in 1998. In addition, the branch is currently implementing the ECHO funded drought relief operation in the district with support from the International Federation.

Present Capacity of the Federation in India •

The Federation has worked and been represented in India over the past two decades, establishing the South Asia regional delegation in Delhi in 1998. This delegation has five technical delegates and a team of local staff. This is presently being strengthened by the complement of all the relief delegates from the flood operations (six delegates), drought operation (one delegate) and four delegates from support team, including reporting, information and liaison.

Coordination w

Since the onset of the emergency, coordination between the various Red Cross Red Crescent actors has been very effective. The Federation has been in close contact with the IRCS and will continue to work closely with the National Society to harmonize Red Cross Red Crescent assistance. The IRCS national headquarters is ensuring much needed liaison with the government authorities.

The International Federation will continue to seek opportunities to publicise the IRCS operation in the wake of the disaster, including the work and contributions of Red Cross Red Crescent Societies, and its regional delegation. Regular situation reports will be published and supporting National Societies will be encouraged to organise and participate in fund raising campaigns for the operation.

At local level, the Gujarat branch of the IRCS has established contact with an umbrella organisation of over 200 local NGOs, Janpath, in Ahmadabad. These NGOs have established a coordination cell and have been holding two meetings per day for the purpose of coordinating relief activities.

Logistics and procurement w

Wherever possible, relief items will be procured regionally, since customs formalities often make air freighting goods into India a challenging and complex undertaking. Federation logisticians will work closely with IRCS staff on warehousing and in-country transport arrangements; vehicles and associated facilities are sought in the appeal. Red Cross Red Crescent Societies are encouraged to contact the Federation's relief health service before committing to the purchase of medical items.

Capacity of the National Society •

The IRCS has gone through significant change in the past few years and today it focuses on disaster preparedness and management, institutional and organisational training and development, and modernising its administrative structure. With over 650 branches, and well over 12 million members, it is one of the largest indigenous organisations in the country.

As with almost all National Societies in Asia, the IRCS is no stranger to the aftermath of disaster, particularly over the past two years, including the Orissa cyclone in 1999, floods and droughts in the north-east of the country and the drought in western India.. While these operations have strengthened the IRCS disaster response capability to some extent, the earthquake that occurred last Friday will certainly stretch the Society's capacity and resources to the limit.

Provincially, the IRCS Gujarat state branch comprises 48 outlets at district and smaller administrative level, run by more than 50,000 volunteers and 60 paid staff. The state branch has an annual budget of USD 250,000 and its main activities revolve around 13 blood banks and various dispensaries, clinics and first aid centres. The Red Cross in Gujarat manages four family planning and counselling centres, while a sub-regional warehouse, administered by the IRCS national headquarters in Delhi, is also located in the state.

Despite limited capacity, the IRCS in Bhuj is well versed in disaster response having been involved in the Federation supported relief operation following the cyclone that struck the coast of Kachchh in 1998. In addition, the branch is currently implementing the ECHO funded drought relief operation in the district with support from the International Federation.

Present Capacity of the Federation in India •

The Federation has worked and been represented in India over the past two decades, establishing the South Asia regional delegation in Delhi in 1998. This delegation has five technical delegates and a team of local staff. This is presently being strengthened by the complement of all the relief delegates from the flood operations (six delegates), drought operation (one delegate) and four delegates from support team, including reporting, information and liaison.

Budget summary

See Annex 1 for details.

Contributions

Among the following Red Cross Red Crescent Societies which have already contributed or pledged solidarity support towards the IRCS, in cash, kind, human resources and services, are those from: Austria, Australia, America, Belgium, Britain, Canada, China, Finland, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Norway, Netherlands, Denmark, Italy, Spain, Japan, United Arab Emirates and Russia as well as the following government agencies: DFID, SIDA, DANIDA and Swiss Disaster Relief. An updated contributions list will be included in the next situation report to be issued later this week.

Conclusion

The request for assistance presented in this document provides a structured and coordinated approach to enable the Red Cross Red Crescent to respond collectively and coherently as events continue to unfold in the wake of the world's worst earthquake since the devastating events of August 1999 in Turkey. The media spotlight, so intense at present, will soon be focused elsewhere - but the suffering of those affected by this terrible disaster will remain unabated for the foreseeable future. As those experienced in these types of catastrophe will know, the work of the Red Cross Red Crescent in Gujarat is only just beginning. Donors are urged to support this appeal accordingly.

Jean Ayoub
Director
Disaster Management & Coordination Division

Didier J. Cherpitel
Secretary General

Contacts •

International Federation contact numbers are as follows:

Geneva Secretariat

Marcel Fortier, Desk Officer : +41.22.730.4268 (office)
Bernard Chomilier, Logistics: +41.22.7304263 (office)

South Asia regional delegation (New Delhi)

Bob McKerrow, Head: +91.11.685.8671 (office)
Turid Glaerum, Liaison: +91.11.685.8672 (office) from tomorrow (31 January)

Field

Budget summary

See Annex 1 for details.

Contributions

Among the following Red Cross Red Crescent Societies which have already contributed or pledged solidarity support towards the IRCS, in cash, kind, human resources and services, are those from: Austria, Australia, America, Belgium, Britain, Canada, China, Finland, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Norway, Netherlands, Denmark, Italy, Spain, Japan, United Arab Emirates and Russia as well as the following government agencies: DFID, SIDA, DANIDA and Swiss Disaster Relief. An updated contributions list will be included in the next situation report to be issued later this week.

Conclusion

The request for assistance presented in this document provides a structured and coordinated approach to enable the Red Cross Red Crescent to respond collectively and coherently as events continue to unfold in the wake of the world's worst earthquake since the devastating events of August 1999 in Turkey. The media spotlight, so intense at present, will soon be focused elsewhere - but the suffering of those affected by this terrible disaster will remain unabated for the foreseeable future. As those experienced in these types of catastrophe will know, the work of the Red Cross Red Crescent in Gujarat is only just beginning. Donors are urged to support this appeal accordingly.

Jean Ayoub
Director
Disaster Management & Coordination Division

Didier J. Cherpitel
Secretary General

Contacts •

International Federation contact numbers are as follows:

Geneva Secretariat

Marcel Fortier, Desk Officer : +41.22.730.4268 (office)
Bernard Chomilier, Logistics: +41.22.7304263 (office)

South Asia regional delegation (New Delhi)

Bob McKerrow, Head: +91.11.685.8671 (office)
Turid Glaerum, Liaison: +91.11.685.8672 (office) from tomorrow (31 January)

Field

Patrick Fuller Information: +91.981.009.9794 (mobile)

This and other reports on Federation operations are available on the Federation's website: <http://www.ifrc.org>

Patrick Fuller Information: +91.981.009.9794 (mobile)

This and other reports on Federation operations are available on the Federation's website: <http://www.ifrc.org>

<u>BUDGET SUMMARY</u>		
Emergency Appeal India Earthquake - Revised budget		
RELIEF NEEDS	VALUE IN CHF	
Shelter & constructions	2,550,000	
Clothing & textiles	3,630,000	
Foods items	480,000	
Water and sanitation	1,035,000	
Medical & first aid	7,005,000	
Utensils & tools	1,200,000	
Other relief supplies	1,110,000	
TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS		17,010,000
<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>		
Vehicles		
Field vehicles (10 4x4WD)	220,000	
Computers/Printers (25 sets)	100,000	
Telecom. equipment (4 sat phones/20 cell phones)	26,000	
Office furniture & equipment		
Indian Red Cross office extension - Delhi	50,000	
Ahmedabad Red Cross office equipment	25,000	
Bhuj Red Cross office equipment	30,000	
Household furniture & equipment	50,000	
Generators & lightning	150,000	
Other equipment	200,000	
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>		
Programme management	1,725,981	
Technical support	516,668	
Professional services	572,981	
<u>TRANSPORT STORAGE & VEHICLE COSTS</u>		
Air Transport Emergency Relief supplies (10 flights)	1,800,000	
In land transport	650,000	
Storage	200,000	
Running costs vehicles	100,000	
Logistic Emergency Response Unit	275,000	
<u>PERSONNEL</u>		
Expatriate staff (25 delegates x 4 months)	1,000,000	
National staff (4 months)	320,000	
Training	80,000	
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL SERVICES</u>		
Travel & related expenses	175,000	
Information expenses	50,000	
Administrative & general expenses	150,000	
Assessment Team/Evaluation	120,000	
TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS		8,586,629
TOTAL APPEAL CASH, KIND, SERVICES		25,596,629
LESS AVAILABLE RESOURCES (-)		
NET REQUEST		25,596,629

<u>BUDGET SUMMARY</u>		
Emergency Appeal India Earthquake - Revised budget		
RELIEF NEEDS	VALUE IN CHF	
Shelter & constructions	2,550,000	
Clothing & textiles	3,630,000	
Foods items	480,000	
Water and sanitation	1,035,000	
Medical & first aid	7,005,000	
Utensils & tools	1,200,000	
Other relief supplies	1,110,000	
TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS		17,010,000
<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>		
Vehicles		
Field vehicles (10 4x4WD)	220,000	
Computers/Printers (25 sets)	100,000	
Telecom. equipment (4 sat phones/20 cell phones)	26,000	
Office furniture & equipment		
Indian Red Cross office extension - Delhi	50,000	
Ahmedabad Red Cross office equipment	25,000	
Bhuj Red Cross office equipment	30,000	
Household furniture & equipment	50,000	
Generators & lightning	150,000	
Other equipment	200,000	
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>		
Programme management	1,725,981	
Technical support	516,668	
Professional services	572,981	
<u>TRANSPORT STORAGE & VEHICLE COSTS</u>		
Air Transport Emergency Relief supplies (10 flights)	1,800,000	
In land transport	650,000	
Storage	200,000	
Running costs vehicles	100,000	
Logistic Emergency Response Unit	275,000	
<u>PERSONNEL</u>		
Expatriate staff (25 delegates x 4 months)	1,000,000	
National staff (4 months)	320,000	
Training	80,000	
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL SERVICES</u>		
Travel & related expenses	175,000	
Information expenses	50,000	
Administrative & general expenses	150,000	
Assessment Team/Evaluation	120,000	
TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS		8,586,629
TOTAL APPEAL CASH, KIND, SERVICES		25,596,629
LESS AVAILABLE RESOURCES (-)		
NET REQUEST		25,596,629