

# OPERATIONS UPDATE



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

## ***RUSSIAN FEDERATION: FLOODS IN EASTERN SIBERIA***

*12 November 2001*

*This Ops Update is intended for reporting on emergency appeals.*

*Appeal No. 16/01*

*Launched on 28 May for CHF 480,000 for 8 months.*

*DREF Allocated: CHF 50,000*

*Beneficiaries: 15,000*

*Operations Update No. 3; Period covered: 1 September - 30 October; last Ops Update (No. 2) issued 07 September 2001; Next Ops Update (No. 4) expected on 21 December, 2001*

### ***“At a Glance”***

***Appeal coverage: 100.4%***

***Related Appeals: 01.59/2001 - Russian Federation Annual Appeal 2001***

***Outstanding needs: None***

***Update/Summary: With timely and effective donor support the relief operation is nearing completion. The Russian Red Cross Society (RRCS), with Federation support, has procured, delivered, and distributed the planned relief supplies fully in line with the objectives of the appeal.***

### ***Operational Developments:***

In May, severe floods in eastern Siberia inundated 10 districts in Yakutia and several towns in the Irkutsk region and Tyva Republic, damaging land, infrastructure, and housing. According to the Government of Yakutia, material damages are estimated at RUR 7,4 billion (some USD 250 million). Over 46,700 people were affected in Yakutia, and 16,000 in Irkutsk.

On 26 September, the Minister for Emergency Situations announced that state obligations towards the victims of flooding in Yakutia have been fulfilled. New houses for nearly 3,000 families have been built; 4,398 apartments repaired; communications and transport infrastructure restored; medical, educational and communal establishments fixed. Along with state assistance, over 20 Russian regions provided cash and in-kind donations to the suffered people of Yakutia. Several regions outside of Yakutia provided the victims of flooding with new apartments and houses.

### **Red Cross Red Crescent action w**

The Federation's emergency appeal for assistance to the victims of flooding in Yakutia and Irkutsk has been fully covered (see attached list of contributions). CHF 50,000 allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief

Emergency Fund (DREF) at the very start of the operation helped to immediately react to the needs of programme beneficiaries. Bilateral assistance provided by the Canadian Government and American Red Cross brought relief to over 3,000 people. *Please, see the previous operation updates for more information on this matter.*

### **Red Cross and Red Crescent Society w**

The response of the Russian Red Cross Society to the disaster has been led by the Eastern Siberia zonal office, in particular by the Irkutsk and Yakutia committees. The representatives of the two committees conducted local fund-raising campaigns, and attracted volunteers to help the most vulnerable. Over 200 people in Yakutia, and nearly 60 individuals in the Irkutsk region have donated their time and efforts to assist in the programme implementation. The Irkutsk RRCS committee raised RUR 796,178 (USD 27,500) locally, and Yakutia RRCS committee collected RUR 914,840 (USD 31,500) to assist the flood victims. Other RRCS committees responded to the disaster and supported the Yakutians with relief various commodities. *Please refer to the previous operation updates for details.*

### **Relief distributions w**

The river vessel, rented by the Federation and RRCS relief team, loaded with humanitarian items for Yakutia flood victims, departed from Ust-Kut on 11 September, and successfully completed its route in Yakutsk on 19 September. On the way, it delivered relief commodities to Lensk, Nuya, Turukta, Natora, and Olekminsk. The rest of cargo was unloaded in Yakutsk for further delivery to the settlements along the Aldan river, which could not be reached by the vessel due to the end of the river navigation period.

The RRCS Eastern Siberia zonal director will carry out a monitoring field trip in Yakutia in the middle of November.

#### ***Objective 1. To provide 1,300 beneficiaries with multi-fuel stoves.***

Distributions of 50 multi-fuel stoves were completed in four settlements of the Ust-Kut district (Irkutsk region) as follows:

<b>Settlement</b>	<b>Stoves</b>
Boyarsk	15
Verkhnemarkovo	15
Omoloi	15
Ruchei	5

The Yakutia Red Cross is currently organising local distributions of multi-fuel stoves among the flood victims in accordance with the distribution plan approved by the Delegation's relief team and humanitarian commission in the field. Three hundred stoves were delivered to Lensk district, 100 to Olekminsk district, and 350 to Yakutsk for distribution among the flood victims in Yakutsk area and Tomponski district.

#### ***Objective 2. To provide 7,500 beneficiaries with kitchen sets: possible contents two plates, a pot, a saucepan, and two cups.***

Distributions of 100 kitchen sets, consisting of a sauce pan, a frying pan, a kettle, two plates and two cups, were completed in the Ust-Kut district of the Irkutsk region as follows:

<b>Settlement</b>	<b>Kitchen sets</b>
Boyarsk	12
Verkhnemarkovo	28
Zvyozdny	2
Omoloi	6
Podymakhino	10
Ruchei	10
Turuka	4

Ust-Kut	28
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Distributions of 900 kitchen sets are ongoing in Yakutia. The river vessel delivered 400 sets to Lensk, 100 sets to Olekminsk, and 400 sets to Yakutsk for further distribution in the city area and delivery to Khangalasski, Ust-Aldanski and Tomponski districts.

**Objective 3. To provide 6,000 beneficiaries with a sleeping pack, containing sheets, blankets, pillow cases, and for those beneficiaries sleeping on the floor, 2,000 folding beds.**

During the reporting period, a full complement of 200 bed linen sets were distributed in the Ust-Kut district as follows:

Settlement	Bed linen sets
Boyarsk	9
Verkhnemarkovo	50
Zvyozdny	2
Omoloi	5
Podymakhino	19
Ruchei	15
Turuka	4
Ust-Kut	96

Four hundred bed linen sets were delivered by the river vessel to Lensk, 330 sets to Olekminsk, and 1,070 to Yakutsk for distributions and further delivery to five more districts. Distributions are ongoing.

The Icelandic Red Cross donation in the form of 1,850 blankets did not come in time for the river vessel departure. The blankets were sent to Ust-Kut by rail, and arrived in the second week of October. The blankets were then sent to Neryungri by rail to be further loaded on trucks and sent to Yakutsk by winter roads. In Yakutsk, the cargo will have to be cleared from customs, delivered to nine districts, and distributed among programme beneficiaries.

**Objective 4. To provide 900 children with footwear and a clothing set (probably hats, gloves, woollen socks and other warm clothing).**

The Irkutsk Red Cross committee has finished the distributions of 160 warm jackets and 160 felt boots during the reporting period as follows:

Settlement	Warm jackets	Felt boots
Boyarsk	31	21
Verkhnemarkovo	-	16
Omoloi	18	18
Podymakhino	-	8
Ruchei	15	20
Turuka	6	6
Ust-Kut	90	71

The Yakutia Red Cross committee received 1,150 warm jackets, and 1,240 felt boots for delivery and distribution among the flood victims in nine districts. Distributions have started.

**Objective 5. To provide 200 families with baby food.**

No additional baby food was procured during the reporting period. The objective was met in June, when 240 kg of baby food was distributed among 200 children with the support of DREF funding, and 2.8 tones of baby food was distributed to 800 children with the American Red Cross support. *Please, see the operation's update No.*

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**Additional support**, that was not initially planned in the Federation's appeal was provided as follows:

1. In response to the outstanding needs among the flood victims, described by the RRCS Eastern Siberia zonal director, 2,000 school sets for children, containing a knapsack, pens, pencils, notebooks, and a pencil-box, were purchased in Moscow, and sent to Ust-Kut. Two hundred were distributed among the beneficiaries in the Irkutsk region as follows:

Settlement	School sets
Boyarsk	6
Verkhnemarkovo	88
Zvyozdny	2
Omoloi	5
Podymakhino	40
Ruchei	15
Turuka	1
Ust-Kut	43

One thousand and eight hundred school sets were shipped to Yakutia on a river vessel along with other relief commodities and are being distributed among the children in nine flooded districts.

2. The Swedish Red Cross Society have donated 1,650 bales (49 tones) of second hand clothes to the programme beneficiaries. The cargo was loaded on the vessel and shipped to Yakutia. Lensk district received 1,087 bales, Olekminsk 183 bales, and Yakutsk received 380 bales of second hand clothes for delivery to six more districts and distribution within the city area.
3. Six thousand hygiene kits were procured in Moscow and sent to Ust-Kut by rail. Three hundred were distributed among the flood victims of the Irkutsk region as follows:

Settlement	Hygienic kits
Boyarsk	5
Verkhnemarkovo	70
Zvyozdny	2
Omoloi	10
Podymakhino	40
Ruchei	27
Turuka	6
Ust-Kut	140

The rest was shipped to Yakutia: 3,000 to Lensk, 600 to Olekminsk, and 2,100 to Yakutsk for further distribution within the city area and delivery to six more districts.

## Logistics w

### ***Objective 1. To identify and utilise the most cost and time-effective means of delivering humanitarian assistance to the affected regions.***

The Delegation's relief/logistics team has used a multi-model way of delivering the humanitarian cargo to the affected areas. All relief items were procured and completed in Moscow, stored in the suppliers' warehouses and then sent to Ust-Kut (Irkutsk region) by rail road in four 20-foot containers, one rail way carriage, five 5-foot and two 3-foot containers at the Federation's expenses. At the end of August, they were loaded on a river vessel rented by the Federation. The vessel carried the humanitarian cargo to the remote districts of Yakutia along the Lena river. Due to a very hot summer, the level of water in local rivers decreased, therefore, the navigation period closed quicker than expected, and the vessel was not be able to deliver the humanitarian cargo to the settlements along the Aldan river. Transportation of commodities to the settlements along the Aldan river will be conducted by trucks, boats and possibly air from Yakutsk.

Local Russian Red Cross branches and administrations are conducting distributions at their own expenses, and report to the RRCS Central Committee and the Russia Delegation.

### **Federation Delegation w**

Currently, there are two locally hired staff people working in the Federation's Moscow office relief/logistics department (a relief programme manager and a relief officer). Along with the RRCS counterparts, they provide effective support and assistance to the targeted areas.

The head of delegation, finance delegate, American Red Cross programme co-ordinator, health department, information department, IT department and administration staff provide vital support to the relief operations both in Moscow and in the field.

### **Coordination**

Local RRCS committees are regularly co-ordinating their activities on the ground with the Ministry for Emergency Situations (EMERCOM), and other respective local services. EMERCOM planes and helicopters have been made available to the Red Cross at the initial stage of the operation to enable the transport of humanitarian assistance.

Both federal and Yakutian governments are taking measures to restore the infrastructures in the suffered regions.

### **Outstanding needs**

The operation is nearing completion with over 100% coverage, however additional cash donations would be appropriate to organize the transportation and distribution of Icelandic Red Cross in-kind donations and to conduct detailed monitoring.

*For further details please contact: Grazyna Samsel; Phone: 41 22 730 4324; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; e-mail: samsel@ifrc.org*

*Donors providing in-kind relief in response to large-scale emergencies are urged to contact the Federation's Logistics and Resource Mobilisation Department to avoid any unnecessary delays in the clearance and delivery of emergency relief assistance.*

*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 web site.*

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

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Eastern Siberia floods						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 16/2001		PLEDGES RECEIVED				07.11.2001
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
<b>CASH</b>						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				<b>479'489</b>		<b>TOTAL COVERAGE 100.4%</b>
CASH CARRIED FORWARD						
AUSTRIAN - RC		36'336	EUR	54'922	06.07.2001	
CANADIAN RC		20'000	CAD	21'964	22.05.2001	
GERMAN - GOVT		33'094	DEM	25'402	04.07.2001	TRANSPORTATION, STORAGE,
JAPANESE - RC				15'840	02.07.2001	
MONACO - RC		50'000	FRF	11'630	29.05.2001	
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		539'374	NOK	102'516	25.07.2001	YAKUTIA REGION
SWEDISH - RC				3'000	29.06.2001	PROGRAMME MGT & CONTROL
SWEDISH - RC		250'000	SEK	41'375	04.07.2001	RELIEF AND TRANSPORT COSTS
SWISS - PRIVATE				150	14.06.2001	
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES		5'000	USD	8'875	13.08.2001	
OCHA		20'000	USD	32'070	19.09.2001	WINTER FOOTWEARS
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH</b>				<b>317'744</b>	<b>CHF</b>	<b>66.3%</b>
<b>KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)</b>						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
GERMAN - GOVT		133'120	DEM	103'807	04.07.2001	BED LINEN SETS, COOKING SETS, HYGIENE PARCELS
SWEDISH - RC				60'000	29.06.2001	60 MT SECOND HAND CLOTHES
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES</b>				<b>163'807</b>	<b>CHF</b>	<b>34.2%</b>
<b>ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET</b>						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>CHF</b>	
<b>THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS ARE LINKED TO THIS APPEAL:</b>						
PRU517						