

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

KAZAKHSTAN: FLOODS

24 September, 2001

This Ops Update is intended for reporting on emergency appeals.

Appeal No. 17/2001

Launched on 7 June 2001 for CHF 261,917 for 6 months.

DREF Allocated: CHF 50,000

Beneficiaries: 4,500

Operations Update No. 2; Period covered: 14 July - 14 September 2001; last Ops Update (No. 1) issued: 18 July, 2001; Next Ops Update (No. 3) expected 30 October 2001

“At a Glance”

Appeal coverage: 60.1%

Related Appeals: 01.61/2001 (Central Asia Regional Annual Appeal)

Outstanding needs: CHF 104,418

Summary/Update: In May 2001, heavy rains and excessive snow melt caused severe flooding in east Kazakhstan, affecting 4500 people in 27 settlements throughout 6 rayons and the city of Ust-Kamenogorsk. Flooding has also resulted in debris flows and mudslides. According to government estimates, the damage caused by the floods exceeds USD 3.3 million. The Red Crescent and Red Cross Society of Kazakhstan provided assistance for 6 rayons and Ust-Kamenogorsk city, covering some 1,191 families (around 4,000 people) in a total of 28 of the affected areas, working in close cooperation with local authorities and with support from the International Federation. The rapid response phase of the operation is over, and the National Society has proceeded with the administrative arrangements to commence the second phase aiming to support the affected population in their recovery efforts before the on-set of the severe winter period. While the attached list of contributions reflects a coverage of over 61%, a significant portion of this was provided at an early stage of the operation or consisted of in-kind contributions, and further support is required to cover the remaining needs and to implement the planned activities. Depending on the ongoing donor response, the Federation is considering a budget revision.

Operational Developments:

Flooding in east Kazakhstan in May 2001 lasted for more than one month, affecting 4,500 people and damaging roads and infrastructure in 28 settlements spread over 8 rayons in the east Kazakhstan and Semipalatinsk oblasts of the country. The National Society of Kazakhstan responded by providing immediate support to flood victims in the form of food, detergents, bedding and other essential supplies during the emergency response

phase of the operation. Preliminary assessments indicate that despite efforts to save crops around 60% of the affected population failed to save any food stocks for the coming winter period. The local sanitary services managed to prevent serious outbreaks of water-borne and infectious diseases.

Red Cross Red Crescent action w

The emergency response operation is split into two phases: rapid disaster response targeting the immediate needs of the affected population, and secondly the disaster relief phase aimed at supporting the community in their longer-term recovery from the effects of the flooding.

CHF 50,000 released from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) enabled the national society to immediately provide emergency assistance to some 823 affected families (over 3,000 people) in a total of 22 settlements and the city of Ust-Kamenogorsk.

At present, the National Society is preparing to commence the second phase of the relief operation, focusing on targeted support to the most vulnerable communities. The intended operation will consist of distributions of food, blankets and clothing to beneficiaries, plus individual targeted assistance to vulnerable groups (isolated elderly, disabled and multi-children families).

Red Cross and Red Crescent Society w

The east Kazakhstan Oblast Committee is playing a leading role in the response operation, acting with support by the National Society's headquarters working in close co-operation with the Federation Regional Delegation in Almaty. The two national society branches located in east Kazakhstan Oblast and the Semipalatinsk Territory (located 600 km from each other) and the headquarters are directly involved in this emergency response operation. This involves over 20 staff members and 50 volunteers (Disaster Preparedness, Relief, Logistics, Information, Finance, Health and Youth sectors). The resources of the regional DP warehouse in Almaty were exhausted during the emergency response phase of the operation.

Health w

Objective 1 Prevention of diseases spreading within the displaced population in the camp.

Rapid response phase

The National Society procured and delivered 16 items of basic medical supplies to the temporary camp, which hosted around 700 people for over a month after the flooding. Some 100 people benefited from medical support during this period.

Disaster relief (recovery) phase

Medicines for some 400 affected people were delivered through rural ambulances in four of the most severely affected areas. Medicines were issued upon the presentation of medical prescriptions and disbursed through local Red Cross representatives.

Objective 2 Acute intestinal diseases and malaria fever prophylactics.

Rapid response phase

The National Society distributed some 150 flyers and posters on acute intestinal disease prophylactics among the affected communities in 6 of the affected rayons, allocated from the Oblast Committee's stocks.

Disaster relief (recovery) phase

The national society has concentrated its efforts on life-saving priorities, and due to the limited funding does not plan to implement this activity.

Water-sanitation w

Objective 1 Water purification for support of the affected population living conditions.

Rapid response phase

The National Society delivered some 5,000 chlorine tablets to the area, including 1,000 tablets which were distributed among the displaced population in the camp. Post-distribution monitoring indicated that despite the health education campaign conducted by the National Society, the local population was reluctant to use chlorine tablets, adhering to more traditional ways of water purification such as boiling water.

Disaster relief (recovery) phase

As a result of the intensive health education and awareness campaign carried out by the National Society as well as the efforts of the state sanitary-epidemiological services, the health situation in the area stabilized. As a result, the National Society reconsidered its priorities and decided that water purification was no longer a priority.

Objective 2 Advocacy for affected population in terms of access to safe water.

The National Society has regularly (twice a month) requested local sanitary-epidemiological services to share the results of water analysis and purification measures. No sufficient deviation of water quality from the norm has been reported. Taking into consideration water quality control efforts carried out by the state sanitary services on a regular basis, the National Society took a decision to shift its focus into other priorities.

Relief distributions w***Objective 1 Basic life support to affected population***

Activity 1: Nutritional support for the affected population.

Rapid response phase

The National Society procured and distributed some 8 MT of staple foods (wheat flour, sugar, cereals, vegetable oil) of the main rations (2,100 kcal per person for a period of 10 days) among some 2,622 of the most affected.

Disaster relief (recovery) phase

The National Society delivered supplementary food support to the affected population by procuring and distributing 44 MT of staple foods in 6 of the affected rayons. Some 1,191 families (over 4,000 people) received family food parcels, designed to meet their nutritional requirements of 1,000 per person per day during the 2-month period.

The national society plans to accomplish supplementary food support by distributing 26 MT of Iranian Red Crescent in-kind donation, which is expected to arrive by the middle of September. As a result, the affected population will receive a total of 78 MT of food (versus budgeted 95 MT). Therefore, no further food procurement will be done.

Activity 2: Support to minimal living standards of the affected population.

Rapid response phase

The national society allocated from its disaster preparedness stocks and procurement 300 mattresses, 300 blankets and 290 bed linen sets to assist 199 affected families during the emergency phase of the operation.

Disaster relief (recovery) phase

The national society plans to distribute 2,000 blankets among those who lost their belongings in the floods. Due to funding limitations, the National Society will not be able to procure the remaining 1,700 mattresses and 900 sets of bedlinen (as per budget) intended for the replenishment of DP stocks.

Activity 3: Support the minimum sanitary-hygiene conditions of the affected population.

Rapid response phase

The National Society distributed 490 family hygiene sets (consisting of 500 g of detergent, 1 bar of the washing soap and 2 bars of the toilet soap) among the affected population in Kurchum rayon and the city of Ust-Kamenogorsk.

Disaster relief (recovery) phase

The national society distributed another 326 family hygiene sets in Shemonai rayon of east Kazakhstan, and with the rapid response phase of the operation now over considers this objective over.

Objective 2 Strengthening the capacity of affected population through targeted food stock and other shelter material replenishment for the winter period.

Rapid response phase

Supplementary support through the distribution of potato seeds has been carried out, delivered to some 50 of the affected families in Zyryanovsk rayon, intended for immediate re-sowing of non-affected land.

Disaster relief (recovery) phase

The national society plans to procure and distribute seeds among 350 affected families who failed to save any stocks during the summer. Beneficiaries are expected to maintain the seeds during the winter period and utilise them to recover harvests plots next year. The national society will procure vegetable seeds traditionally cultivated in the affected area.

The recovery phase of the operation is planned to provide support to the following 150 of the most vulnerable families and individuals: multi-children families (with 4 and more children under 16), families with one parent, isolated elderly. Selected beneficiaries will be provided with the targeted assistance, based on their individual needs. The national society plans to procure and deliver the following items:

Item	Amount
Coal	150 MT
Construction materials	500 kg
Cattle fodder	50 MT

Some 18 MT of used clothes will be distributed among 800 of the worst affected families in four rayons who's property and clothes were severely damaged by the heavy floods, and provide protection to the children and the other vulnerable groups for the forthcoming winter.

Logistics w

Objective 1 Building the National Society disaster response capacity

The National Society ensured railroad delivery of 20-MT of DP stocks from the Almaty warehouse. The further transportation and distribution of goods was carried out with the support of local administration. The operation provided an opportunity for the National Society's newly established logistics department to be integrally involved in the local procurement, transport and handling of goods.

Telecommunications w

Objective 1 Building the National Society disaster response communication capacity.

Despite the great demand for prompt telecommunication facilities at the branch level, no funding has been issued to cover this need.

Visibility w

Objective 1 Promotion of the National Society image among the communities.

The National Society is using this opportunity to promote its image among the affected communities, the local administration and other NGOs. Coverage of the emergency response operation by a number of TV channels and newspapers has continuously attracted community interest. The national society's branch also made a video

capturing all the stages of the programme implementation. However, national society still lacks sufficient photo- and video-equipment to be used for visibility purposes.

National Society Capacity Building w

The emergency response operation allowed the National Society to develop its capacity in the following directions:

- Application of theoretical and practical disaster response knowledge obtained by the Red Cross staff and volunteers through DP training in practice;
- Strengthening the national society's disaster response capacity at the branch level;
- Strengthening and expansion of regular disaster preparedness work with communities at branch level.

Federation Delegation w

The Federation's Regional Delegation in Almaty provides day-to-day technical, advisory and communication support to the operation's implementation. The Regional Disaster Preparedness, Relief and Health departments are among the most directly involved.

Coordination

The national society works in close co-operation with the state Agency for Emergencies and representatives of governmental authorities both at the national and local levels. Co-operation includes information exchange, participation in joint meetings of inter-ministerial emergency committee, and the sharing of human and technical resources during the disaster response operations. The local administration supports the national society in procurement, transportation and security control during the humanitarian aid distributions.

During the summer months, local authorities proceeded with infrastructure reconstruction (25 km of roads, over 40 bridges, 7 potable water pipelines). The Government of Kazakhstan allocated USD 360,000 to cover infrastructure reconstruction costs plus partial compensation for losses to the affected population of 8 rayons and 2 cities. Around 500 families whose houses were destroyed completely or severely damaged received partial cash compensation.

Outstanding needs

While the appeal is now covered at over 61%, further donor support is required to carry out planned recovery efforts. Depending on the priorities of the affected population, the national society plans to assist in delivering coal to heat houses, providing warm clothing and shoes, construction materials, and fodder to sustain their livestock during the winter period. Assistance will be provided to the most vulnerable 150 families, constituting 12% of total number of the most severely affected. Since the national society was unable to procure sufficient amounts of hygiene supplies locally during the emergency response phase of the operation, the provision to these items to the remaining 4 rayons are among the priorities for the second phase of the response operation.

For further details please contact:

- *The Kazakhstan National Society in Almaty: Phone: (3272) 91 92 91; 91 61 01; Fax: 91 81 72; E-mail: kazrc@aport2000.ru*
- *Federation Regional Delegation for Central Asia: Phone (3272) 91 41 56; 91 41 67; 91 88 38; 91 80 63; Fax: 91 42 67; E-mail: ifrckz01@ifrc.org*
- *Susanna Soderstrom, Central Asia Desk Officer, Phone : 41 22 730 44 24; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; email: soderstr@ifrc.org*

Donors providing in-kind relief in response to large-scale emergencies are urged to contact the Federation's Logistics and Resource Mobilization 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 website.

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

Peter Rees-Gildea
Head a.i.
Relationship Management Department

Lynnete Lowndes
Head
Europe Department

Kazakhstan floods						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 17/2001		PLEDGES RECEIVED			18.09.2001	
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				261'917		TOTAL COVERAGE 60.1%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD						
CANADIAN - GOVT/CIDA		20'000	CAD	23'284	15.06.2001	
JAPANESE - RC		1'000'000	JPY	14'570	02.07.2001	
IRANIAN - RC		10'000	USD	17'750	17.07.2001	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
IRANIAN - RC		2'000	USD	3'347	28.08.2001	PSB ON RELIEF ITEMS
SWEDISH - GOVT		150'000	SEK	24'825	03.07.2001	FOOD, SEEDS, WATER SANITATION
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - RC		5'000	USD	8'875	09.08.2001	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				92'651	CHF	35.4%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
IRANIAN - RC		38'750	USD	64'848	28.08.2001	10 MT RICE, 1'000 KGS TEA, 2'000 PCS CLOTHES, 3'000 KGS EDIBLE OIL, 5'000 KGS PULSES, 7'000 KGS SUGAR, 2'000 PCS BLANKETS,
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				64'848	CHF	24.8%
ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	
THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS ARE LINKED TO THIS APPEAL:						