

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

TAJIKISTAN: FOOD DEFICIT

30 July, 2002

Appeal No. 26/01

Launched on 21 August 2001 for CHF 6,795,218 for 9 months. Programme has been extended for 4 months, and will now end on 30 September, 2002.

Disaster relief Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated: CHF 150,000

Beneficiaries: 130,000

Operations Update No. 4; Period covered: 25 April 2002 to 15 June 2002; last Ops Update (no. 03 issued 25 April, 2002; Next Ops Update (no. 6) expected : September 2002

“At a Glance”

Appeal coverage: 130.4%

Related Appeals: 01.52/2002, Central Asia 2002 Annual Appeal

Outstanding needs: None

Summary/Update: Interagency cooperation to deliver assistance continues, with the effective coordination of WFP. In addition, a cooperation agreement with UNICEF addressing school sanitation and hygiene promotion among schoolchildren and surrounding communities is progressing. In the Khatlon region, the Federation/RCST relief team with Oxfam is developing an early-warning system on food security. This component of the programme will be implemented jointly by a number of agencies. The current programme has been extended to the end of September 2002, allowing the International Federation and RCST to achieve the initial set objectives.

Operational Developments

As was announced in the previous programme update, considering late donor funding confirmation for certain programme objectives and also due to logistical delays in delivery of food supply for various programme components, it was agreed by the delegation to extend the current programme until 30 September. At present, the appeal food and clothes distribution operations, as well as public health education activities are ongoing. The water and sanitation component of the appeal received funding from DFID for rehabilitation of small scale irrigation systems in drought affected areas in the south of the country. For more details, please see below.

The International Federation is currently conducting an evaluation of its two successive relief operations in response to the ongoing drought (emergency appeals no 26/00 - Tajikistan drought, and 26/01 - Tajikistan food deficit). The evaluation is carried out by an internal evaluation team, in cooperation with a number of partner-National Societies. It is expected to review the effectiveness and impact of the two operations, but also to give recommendations on the future of the Federation and RCST emergency response.

The Government of Tajikistan has issued an appeal to International Organisations on 7 May 2002 requesting financial assistance to fight the effects of recent natural disasters. According to the Government authorities the estimated damage caused in March and April 2002 is some 75 million Tajik Somoni (28 million USD).

In the last months, various agencies' field reports have indicated a threat of a major locust infestation in Sughd and Khatlon regions, which may seriously jeopardize the forthcoming wheat harvest. The threat comes as a result of a combination of factors, including high temperatures and humidity, as well as wheat-rich fields. Interagency coordination for response to this new threat is underway.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action.

Relief distributions w

Objective 1: To provide 130,000 vulnerable people with essential food items for six months.

In Khatlon region a food distribution round has been finished in the middle of April, and the implementation of the final part of the WFP Agreement of Food For Work Activities is continuing. According to the signed agreement, some 2,700 beneficiaries are involved to clean irrigation canals in their respective communities. This activity had progressed well, when torrential rains set in the beginning of May. Flash floods occurring all over the region, clogged the canals that had been cleaned, and the work had to be re-started. However, the fact that these canals were relatively clean when the rain set in, mitigated the effects of the floods, as the canals lead much of the superfluous water away.

In addition, another Food For Work proposal has been submitted to WFP for mobilizing a community to get clean drinking water. The community will lay a total of 850 meters of piping from the well they are using, to the village. The pipes will be supplied by local authorities, food for work by WFP and the RCST with the Federation support will lead and supervise the work.

In Sughd, the last cycle of food distribution has been completed on 26 May, and a total of 74,714 beneficiaries have received two rations of food. Distributions in Sughd have been problematic due to delays in delivery of wheat flour and oil from suppliers, combined with the fact that the beneficiary list prepared by local authorities required considerable changes, as 100% monitoring in one rayon showed that there had been cases of re-distribution of food after households have received their rations.

On stock remained 2,940 Kg of wheat flour purchased from DFID - funds transferred from the Drought Appeal. This amount of wheat flour will now be distributed between institutions in Sughd, ranging from a TB hospital to orphanages. The shelf-life of the wheat flour is expiring in a month, and the Delegation will ensure that no institution will receive more than one month's worth of consumption.

Since the main part of the programme is over, the Delegation is reorganizing and rationalising its management setup. From 20 June, the relief delegate will take over as a relief Coordinator, responsible to finalize the programme until the end of September. That includes food for work activities, collect and re-distribute of the seeds component that were part of the Drought Appeal (26/00); finalize clothes distributions and ensure proper final reporting to donors.

Objective 2: To assist 65,000 schoolchildren between seven and fifteen years of age with winter clothes and shoes.

The last bales of Swedish Red Cross donated clothes were received in Kulyab on 3 May. It was repackaged, and the Khatlon district branch made distribution lists and submitted to the regional NS branch for approval. The NS, together with the Delegation field office carried out joint distributions. A total of 17,711 beneficiaries received clothes. All together 28,560 people have received Swedish clothes in Khatlon region. Since the start of the programme in October, a total of 41,000 people have received clothes in Khatlon region.

In Sughd, the field office is awaiting the last bales of 20 tonnes from the Swedish Red Cross. This distribution will be reported on in more detail in next update.

As for the shoes distribution, this component was removed from the Appeal in April/May because of low donor response. Only Norwegian and Hellenic Red Cross Societies made donations, 1,500 and 900 pairs of shoes, respectively. Should there be further contributions to the appeal, the component may be reinstated. In this case, the Delegation would receive an additional 20,000 pairs, out of which 35% would go to

Khatlon, while 65% will go to Sughd. This difference in allocation because of climatic variations between the two regions.

Health w

Objective: To improve community health through education, better hygiene and safe drinking water in health facilities.

A total of 150,000 booklets concerning diarrhoeal diseases were printed and will be distributed to all health care institutions in drought-affected areas of RRS, Khatlon and Sughd regions by the end of June and beginning of July. Health care staff of institutions in the programme areas will conduct health education campaigns in management and prevention of diarrhoeal diseases.

The procurement of the hygienic (toilet soap - 60,000) and medical (ORS - 300,000) supplies is in progress and 1000 water filters will be procured and distributed to primary health care units located in drought affected areas for the purpose of increasing their capacity to respond timely and effectively to any outbreak of water-born diseases.

An additional 180 primary health care units will be supplied with adult scales and 250 with baby scales to support the facilities in developing nutrition surveillance system.

In order to increase accessibility to basic health care services for vulnerable population in drought affected regions, primary health care units (SVA) and out-patient departments of CRH will be supplied with 765 essential drug kits in June, 2002, containing two basic medicines and two medical supplies. The medicines were procured from savings from the ECHO programme, improvement of health services in Tajikistan through provision of essential medical supplies to health institutions, public health education and first aid training.

Water-sanitation w

Objective: To improve people's access to safe drinking water and small-scale irrigation through food-for-work activities.

Following the completion of the ECHO funded contract, DFID confirmed funding for the rehabilitation of small scale irrigation systems in the south of the country. This programme will be implemented by the RCST with the support of the Federation and in cooperation with WFP, under their Food for Asset Activities programme. The RCST water and sanitation team is collecting data on the villages to be considered within the project. After the finalisation of the initial assessment, activities and programme implementation will start shortly. The first phase of the programme - community mobilisation and procurement for the programme are already underway.

National Society Capacity Building w

The Federation is building the capacity of the National Society through implementation of its programmes. The National Staff programme personnel is trained in management of programmes and organizational management, revising of the programs and reporting. In May a Central Asia Regional workshop on disaster management was held in Kyrgystan; five staff from NS participated. This workshop will be followed up by a training in leadership. In addition the branches have been given own budgets and are being trained by Delegation finance department in budget management and control leading towards increased transparency and accountability.

Coordination

Interagency cooperation continues, with the effective coordination of WFP. In addition, a cooperation agreement with UNICEF addressing school sanitation and hygiene promotion among schoolchildren and surrounding communities is progressing (pending confirmation from the Federation Secretariat). In the Khatlon region the Federation/RCST relief team is developing (with Oxfam) an early-warning system on food security. This component of the programme will be implemented jointly by a number of agencies.

Outstanding needs

The current programme has been extended to the end of September 2002, allowing the International Federation and the RCST to achieve the initial set objectives.

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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>.

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Tajikistan Food Deficit						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 26/2001						PLEDGES RECEIVED
						30.07.2002
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				6'795'218		TOTAL COVERAGE 130.4%
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID		27'990	GBP	66'490	04.10.2001	PROGRAMME MGT & CONTROL
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID		237'600	GBP	554'606	04.04.2002	
CANADIAN - GOVT/CIDA		594'000	CAD	623'403	19.11.2001	
CANADIAN - GOVT/CIDA		95'400	CAD	99'340	14.03.2002	
CHINA, HONG KONG - RC				7'496	10.09.2001	
FINNISH - RC		50'456	EUR	76'643	01.10.2001	
FINNISH - RC		62'734	EUR	92'520	27.12.2001	
GERMAN - GOVT/RC		301'573	EUR	444'760	29.11.2001	130 MT SUNFLOWER OIL, 496 FAP-KITS TRANSPORT
HELLENIC - RC		5'000'000	GRD	22'290	07.09.2001	
HELLENIC - RC		5'000'000	GRD	21'705	24.10.2001	
ICELANDIC - RC		6'800'000	ISK	112'472	12.11.2001	
IRANIAN - RC		962	USD	1'610	04.09.2001	PSB FOR IN-KIND
JAPANESE - RC		10'000'000	JPY	139'010	05.10.2001	
MONACO - RC		80'000	FRF	18'344	21.08.2001	
NORWEGIAN - RC		100'000	NOK	18'400	02.11.2001	
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		1'291'263	NOK	241'190	15.11.2001	
PRIVATE DONORS				2'095	29.11.2001	
PRIVATE DONORS				1'206	09.01.2002	
SWEDISH - GOVT/RC		1'300'000	SEK	213'590	30.08.2001	SEK 300'000 REGIONAL WATSAN
WFP		90'856	USD	152'502	27.12.2001	
WFP		25'085	USD	42'105	10.10.2001	
WFP		38'728	USD	65'005	30.01.2002	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				3'016'782	CHF	44.4%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
FINNISH - RC	Delegate(s)			40'246	01.10.2001	
FINNISH - RC		58'950	EUR	86'939	27.12.2001	16'175 KG USED CLOTHES, TRANSPORTATION
IRANIAN - RC		19'250	USD	32'215	04.09.2001	10'000 KGS RICE, 3'000 KGS EDIBLE OIL, 3'000 KGS DATES, 5'000 KGS SUGAR, 4'000 KGS CANNED FOOD, 5'000 KGS PULSES
NORWAY	Delegate(s)			37'782		
SWEDEN	Delegate(s)			3'285		
WFP		1'812'383	USD	3'042'085	27.12.2001	5113 MT WHEAT FLOWER, 83 MT VEGETABLE OIL, 41 MT SALT
WFP		532'115	USD	893'155	10.10.2001	1680 MT WHEAT FLOWER, 156.8 MT VEGETABLE OIL, 281 MT SALT, 100.8 MT GREEN PEAS
WFP		1'016'989	USD	1'707'016	30.01.2002	2780 MT WHEAT FLOWER, 51.2 VEGETABLE OIL, 27.9 MT SALT, 52 MT SUGAR
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				5'842'723	CHF	86.0%
ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	