

EMERGENCY APPEAL



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

IRAN: EARTHQUAKE

Preliminary Appeal no.
25/03
26 December, 2003

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 180 countries.

For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

**THIS EMERGENCY APPEAL PROVISIONALLY SEEKS
CHF 15,409,300 (USD 12,290,337 OR EUR 9,886,505)
IN CASH, KIND, OR SERVICES
TO ASSIST 200,000 BENEFICIARIES FOR 6 MONTHS**

The situation

A major earthquake registering 6.3 on the Richter Scale occurred this morning (26 December 2003) at 05:28 (local time) in Iran's Kerman Province (south of the capitol Teheran). The earthquake was centred on Bam, an old historical city with low houses and buildings (one to two stories in height). Preliminary reports now indicate over 2,000 confirmed dead (but this figure could be as high as 4,000 or more), with over 40,000 families affected. An estimated 60% of the houses or buildings are either badly damaged or destroyed. The search and rescue phase of the operation is now underway, but there is a lack of access to the affected area, and with cuts to the electricity grid and limited communications, further reports on details and assessments are slow in emerging. The Federation emphasizes the preliminary nature of the estimates. Casualty and injured figures could rise dramatically as rescue efforts continue and are reinforced.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRCS) have requested international assistance. This preliminary appeal is intended to provide immediate relief and basic assistance to the intended beneficiaries while relief teams arrive on site to deliver and distribute assistance, and assess the situation to better specify the needs, including medium to longer-term rehabilitation requirements.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The IRCS has significant experience in managing and responding to natural disasters in Iran, in particular to earthquakes, and is effectively using this experience to respond to the current situation. The Federation, in Geneva and the field, is working in close partnership with the IRCS during the critical search and rescue phase of the operation. The IRCS is managing the operation, and coordination meetings are taking place. The IRCS immediately organized and assigned eight relief teams from the affected area as well as from neighbouring provinces, has provided tents and medical services, and is transporting the severely injured with two helicopters. Two field hospitals have also been deployed and will be in operation shortly. The Federation is discussing with the IRCS whether Emergency Response Units (ERUs) will be deployed.

The Federation's Regional Officer (Middle east and North Africa Region) and the Geneva-based Disaster Management Coordination Operations Manager have been in constant contact with the IRCS's Disaster Response Department. Two Federation delegates have been deployed to assist with coordination and other delegates are being

considered. A task force is operational in Geneva. The Federation will be posting updates on its website, the web-based Disaster Management Information System (DMIS), and on the recently launched FedNet. Contacts are being maintained with a number of PNS who contacted the Secretariat soon after the disaster.

Coordination

In addition to the Federation's efforts to provide coordination assistance to the IRCS, the UN and other agencies are involved in the relief response and assistance operation. The UN has deployed an UNDAC team and released emergency funds to start relief distributions. The Japanese, Danish, and Swedish Red Cross have pledged support in the form of cash or in-kind, and a number of other national societies have indicated a readiness to respond as soon as this preliminary appeal is launched. The French, Swiss, and German Red Cross have also been provided with space on Government flights to transport relief items and teams (these will be taking off within 24 hours).

The needs

Immediate emergency relief (food and non-food)

Given the limited access to the affected area and the lack of information available, the Federation considers the following basic non-food items critical to the initial stage of the operation (local procurement; preliminary estimates):

- 20,000 family tents;
- 30,000 plastic sheets/tarpaulin;
- 200,000 blankets;
- 40,000 kitchen sets;
- 400,000 water purification tablets;
- 30 generators (12 kw);
- 20,000 heaters (kerosene);
- 100,000 litres of kerosene (local procurement).

Longer-term rehabilitation and reconstruction needs

While the Federation is not in a position at this early stage of the operation to provide detailed figures or information on the anticipated longer-term needs (rehabilitation and reconstruction), given past experience with earthquakes, the scope of the destruction and the resulting impact on the local population in Bam and the surrounding area, the longer-term needs will be considerable (housing, shelter, and school reconstruction, rehabilitating water lines, etc.) These needs will be conveyed in Operations Updates and a revised Emergency Appeal to be issued shortly once the assessments have neared completion.

Communications – Advocacy and Public information

There is a high level of media interest in this disaster, and the Federation has already responded to a large number of media requests for information, and is providing updates as they become available.

Budget summary

See Annex 1 for details on this preliminary budget.

For further details please contact:

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

Abbas Gullet
Director
Disaster Management and Coordination

Markku Niskala
Secretary General

IRAN: EARTHQUAKE

TYPE VALUE

RELIEF NEEDS IN CHF

ANNEX 1

BUDGET SUMMARY

Preliminary Appeal no. 25/03

IRAN: EARTHQUAKE

TYPE VALUE

RELIEF NEEDS IN CHF

Family Tents	4'000'000
Plastic Sheeting & Tarpaulin	540'000
Blankets	1'000'000
Kitchen sets	1'000'000
Water purification tablets	8'000
Heaters (kerosene)	120'000
Kerosene	30'000
Rehabilitation: housing, shelter, etc.	6'000'000

TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS 12'698'000

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT

Generators (12 Kw) 195'300

PROGRAMME SUPPORT

Programme support (6.5% of total) 1'002'000

TRANSPORT STORAGE & VEHICLE COSTS 400'000

PERSONNEL

Expatriate staff 500'000

National staff 276'000

Workshops & seminars 38'000

ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL SERVICES

Travel & related expenses 50'000

Information expenses 50'000

Administrative & general expenses 200'000

TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS 2'711'300

TOTAL APPEAL CASH, KIND, SERVICES 15'409'300

LESS AVAILABLE RESOURCES (-) 0

IRAN: EARTHQUAKE

TYPE

VALUE

RELIEF NEEDS

IN CHF

NET REQUEST

15'409'300
