

# 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

## IRAN: EARTHQUAKE

5 January, 2004

**Preliminary Appeal No. 25/03; Operations Update no. 4**

**Preliminary Appeal launched on 26 December 2003 for CHF 15,409,300 (USD 12,290,337 or EUR 9,886,505) for 6 months for 200,000 beneficiaries.**

**Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: N/A**

**Period covered: 01 to 03 January, 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](http://www.ifrc.org)*

### In Brief

**Appeal coverage: approximately 55.2%; see the attached contributions list for details; note: this list is provisional and will be checked/verified and confirmed in the course of this week (5-9 January, 2004).**

The UN Resident Coordinator in Iran and the Federation's Field Assessment Coordination Team (FACT) leader met in the Federation compound to discuss and coordinate future plans that will be outlined in the revised Federation's Emergency Appeal and the UN Flash Appeal respectively. The Flash Appeal is likely to be launched on 8 January 2004, jointly with the launch of the Federation's revised Emergency Appeal.

**Outstanding needs: CHF 6,961,750**

**Summary:** Despite what had been very limited hopes of finding further survivors, search and rescue teams from the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRCS) found a ninety-seven year old woman (Mrs. Mazandarani) and rescued her from the rubble of her home on 3 January. Mrs Mazandarani was transferred for treatment to the Federation's hospital run by medical staff from the Norwegian and Finnish Red Cross societies. Latest reports from the medical facility indicate that after a good night's rest and a light breakfast, she told doctors that she had been trapped in her bed but had access to some food



and drink which had been served to her by her family in the early morning prior to the earthquake on December 26. The Federation's medical co-ordinator said that her condition is consistent with someone who has been unable to move for several days. She is suffering from contractions of the limbs, which means that she cannot walk and her limbs are almost 'frozen'. He added that she would remain under observation and treatment for some time.

The Federation's referral hospital received the first patients in the evening of January 02, with many more expected to seek assistance in the days to come since the only remaining but severely damaged and partially functioning hospital in Bam will be closed shortly. The affected population is living and sleeping outdoors and exposure to harsh conditions and freezing temperatures is a major concern. The immediate transport and distribution of basic relief items such as tents, blankets, hygiene kits, kitchen sets, and kerosene stoves continues to be an operational priority. The Red Cross and Red Crescent/DHL air bridge between Dubai and Bam has been established with two first flights that arrived in Bam on January 1st. Sixteen other flights with relief goods on board are in the pipeline.

The IRCS continues to effectively lead and manage an impressive relief operation, with more than 1,700 relief workers currently deployed in the area. Along with the ongoing mapping of gaps and distributions of non-food supplies (primarily tents and blankets) made accordingly, the national society established 12 operational sub-bases in all 27 branches in the affected area and started to register beneficiaries, and issue distribution cards in order to implement a systematic distributions process.

Specialized psychosocial support and relief teams will shortly join the Federation's Field Assessment and Coordination Team –FACT and the Emergency Response Units (ERUs) for specialized and mass water supply, logistics, basic health care and a referral field hospital which are now almost fully operational. Equipment and more than 100 technical delegates from the national societies and the Federation have arrived in Bam to assist the affected people through the provision of health services and clean water, as well as to support the IRCS's relief operation.

Planning of the next phase of the operation is underway. A more strategic approach to both the continuation of the relief operation with elements of rehabilitation and the IRCS capacity building, including replenishment of largely depleted stocks, will be reflected and outlined in the revised/extended appeal which will be signed jointly with the UN's Flash Appeal on Thursday, 8 January 2004.

The Federation encourages donors to continue to provide unearmarked contributions thus allowing an immediate, flexible and effective response to people affected by the earthquake but also contributing to restoring the operational capacity of the national society.

## **Background**

A major earthquake measuring 6.3-6.7 on the Richter scale hit the southwest Iranian city of Bam on the morning of 26 December 2003 at 05:28 (local time), where some 97,000 inhabitants of the old historical city used to live in low houses and buildings (one to two stories in height) made of bricks and mud (UNDAC figures indicate there is a total estimated population of 240,000 in Bam and the surrounding area). More than 85 percent of the buildings were destroyed. Surrounding villages also suffered limited damage.

Given the scale and scope of the disaster, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRCS) formally requested international assistance, and the Federation responded by launching a preliminary Appeal (no. 25/03) on 26 December 2003 to provide immediate relief and basic assistance to the intended 200,000 beneficiaries, and to undertake assessment with a view to providing longer-term rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance.

## **Operational developments**

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There were no major changes in the statistics related to the disaster. The death toll stands at over 28,500, based on the number of burials at different sites (both in Bam and the surrounding villages). According to authorities, the search in 95 percent of all houses/building has been completed. The majority of those still remaining in the area have been allocated a tent and settled in the vicinity of their former houses.

Three small temporary camps have been established on the outskirts of Bam (2 in the area of Arge Jadid and Fakhr-abad), and people who have been identified by the IRCS as most vulnerable have started to move into these transition camps. Simultaneously, the Swiss Rescue Team has completed the construction of one out of the three camps planned to be established on a more permanent basis, while the construction of the second one is underway. The Iranian authorities requested the IRCS to take over the responsibility for the management of these camps and ensure the necessary infrastructure within the camps, assisted by the Federation (field of health services and water/ sanitation utilities).

A deputy Minister of Health of the Islamic Republic of Iran visited the Federation's compound on 1 January and chaired the regular health coordination meeting. During the meeting the following was established:

- the Federation hospital will be the only referral hospital (200 beds capacity) in Bam (replacing the two referral hospitals);
- there is a critical need to quickly establish primary health care facilities since 95 of the so called "health houses" (small units of some 75 m2 operated by two community health workers) were destroyed or damaged. Reconstruction of each of these units is estimated at USD 40,000. Twenty three health centres (larger units of 750 m2 operated by a medical doctor, nurses and other staff) were destroyed or damaged as well. Reconstruction of each health centre is estimated at USD 150,000.
- there is a need to expand the psychosocial support services currently provided by 30 professionals and 100 psychologists from international NGOs.

The authorities are also planning to start re-establishing the schools from January 10 onwards. The pace of the process will depend on the condition of school buildings and availability of teachers. An estimated 23 school buildings have been completely destroyed in the earthquake and an additional number have been severely damaged. UNICEF has already forwarded some 40 "schools in a box" to the area. According to the authorities there are some 1,850 unaccompanied minors.

The president of the Islamic Republic of Iran stated on 1 January that the reconstruction of Bam and restoration of normal conditions will take two years.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The IRCS continues its tremendous relief efforts. In the initial phase of the emergency the national society mobilized 8,500 relief workers to include search and rescue and medical teams, 725 vehicles, 2 helicopters and other technical equipment.

Some 1,700 relief workers are currently on the ground, mainly involved in registering the affected people, issuing distribution cards, and carrying out monthly distributions. A small-scale search and rescue capacity maintained in the area is sufficient for searching the remaining 5 percent of the rubble.

IRCS stocks have been severely depleted in the current operation and these will require replenishment. Mapping of needs and registration of the affected people that was carried out by 15 IRCS teams is expected to be completed shortly.

Besides the massive response operation which is underway, the IRCS and the International Federation are currently planning the next phase of the emergency but also are defining the priority medium term objectives.

## Tracing activities

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The central IRCS tracing service in Teheran started to register the missing with the support of the ICRC. An ICRC-IRCS team of four arrived in Bam with 10 satellite telephones. Organized in mobile tracing units, they continue to provide the victims of the earthquake with the means to inform their families in Iran and abroad with essential news of the effect of the earthquake on their family and property. The units can jointly provide up to 4,000 outgoing calls a day. If the telephone contact cannot be established, earthquake victims have the possibility to write a Red Cross message.

### Emergency relief (food and basic non-food items)

In the first days of the emergency all consignments of relief items mobilized both through the current appeal and bilaterally have been directly handed over to the IRCS for further distribution. Handling of goods at the Bam airport is still very difficult due to insufficient tracking and manpower capacity, in comparison to the quantity of goods being shipped to the destination from various sources. The majority of the shipments related to the Federation's operation consisted of the equipment needed for the functioning of the ERUs: referral field hospital unit, two basic health units, two specialized water units, one mass water unit, and a logistics unit. Parts for this equipment are still missing but it is expected that they will be recovered soon. The Federation logistics team is gradually building the capacity to handle all incoming relief goods with five mobile warehouses for warehousing under construction, and five others to be constructed. With the first deliveries of relief into the warehouses on 2 January, the Federation's standard logistics systems and procedures was initiated.

In the 28 – 30 December period following relief goods mobilized through the current Appeal arrived in Bam.

Blankets	Tents	Plastic sheet	Kitchen sets	Water containers
208,090	12,637	4,154	14,900	19,490

**NB. For details on the relief pipeline please refer to the mobilization table available on DMIS**

A DHL representative arrived in Bam to assist the Federation team and coordinate the air bridge (Dubai-Bam) that has been established on January 01. More than 16 DHL flights (and others) are currently in the pipeline. USAID is also planning a number of relief flights into Bam over the coming days.

A 4-person relief team from the American Red Cross joined the Federation/Iran Red Crescent operation, with the objective of assisting the IRCS and the Federation in:

- setting up systems for relief distributions;
- providing specialized relief training for staff and volunteers;
- general relief and logistic matters and
- the ongoing mapping and forthcoming relief distribution planned to last throughout the winter.

### Health

The Red Cross and Red Crescent health ERUs consist of a referral field hospital (200 beds) jointly deployed by the Norwegian and the Finnish Red Cross, two basic health units of the German Red Cross, and the medical clinic with 20 beds from the Japanese Red Cross. These are the major providers of health services to the population in Bam and its surroundings. After the planned departure in two to three weeks time of the field hospitals from Ukraine, France, Belgium and USA, the burden of providing treatment to patients will fall on the Red Cross and Red Crescent. The referral hospital, which incorporates outpatient service, intensive/observation unit, operation theater, women and male wards, maternity and delivery wards, laboratory and X-ray, received the first patients on January 02. From the opening to date, 222 patients were, of which 8 are in-bed patients.

The IRCS currently manages 4 emergency health clinics. Its active involvement in disease surveillance has been discussed with the MoH. It was agreed that the IRCS and the Federation will act as a focal point for elaborating unified case definition, formats and treatment protocols relevant for monitoring possible outbreaks of diarrhoeal diseases and an unexpectedly high number of respiratory tract infections. Once agreed with the MoH, these formats will be used in all Red Cross and Red Crescent health programmes and by the MoH. Health authorities will also advise other agencies and NGOs involved in the health sector to use these forms as standards.

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### Basic/Primary Health Care

The measles vaccination campaign undertaken by UNICEF was completed several months ago. Immunity is currently estimated at 98 percent, and there is no need therefore for further measles vaccination. In case of an outbreak of diarrhoeal diseases one of the two basic health ERUs will be prepared for an eventual transformation into a rehydration centre. The sites for the deployment of both basic health units were selected on January 02 and their deployment was expected to start on January 03 upon confirmation from the authorities.

The Japanese Red Cross basic health ERU started to operate in Bam even though their full equipment arrived only on 4 January. The first cumulative figures show that from 31 December to January 03 the team treated 229 patients, mostly earthquake traumas. In the coming days the team will join the Federation's Red Cross and Red Crescent compound.

### Psychological support

A combined Danish and Icelandic Red Cross psychosocial support team of 4 will shortly join the operation with the main objective of training 1,000 IRCS staff and volunteers in providing psychological support to disaster victims and assisting in organising future activities for the beneficiaries.



### Water and sanitation

The Federation's ERUs are leading the emergency response in the field

of water and sanitation. All the ERUs are acting as one team closely coordinating the activities according to the established priorities. The Austrian Red Cross team has deployed the specialized water ERU to supply clean water to the referral hospital and provide sanitation facilities. The first quantity of 15,000 litres of clean water for the hospital were processed on 2 January. The Spanish Red Cross specialized water ERU is building capacity in the provision of water for the Japanese Red Cross basic health unit, but is also assessing the situation in the camps for the homeless with a view to providing water and sanitation as soon as people start moving in.

All equipment for a combined Swedish/French/German Red Cross mass water arrived on 1 January as well as the full team of eight. As of 2 January, the mass water unit had set up water tanks and sanitation facilities for the referral hospital, but will also assist in supplying in water sanitation the nearby camp for homeless people. The Swedish Red Cross sanitation expert arrived in Bam on 1 January and has been integrated into the Federation's water sanitation team to assess the situation.

The equipment, which has been shipped in by OXFAM, will be very useful to complete the ERU equipment, and will be set up by the ERU teams.

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In terms of water and sanitation, the Federation is coordinating regularly with specialized agencies on the ground: German THW and MSF-France, Action Contre le Faim (ACF), Mercy Corps, Norwegian Church Aid, and UNICEF.

### **Federation coordination**

In addition to fulfilling its role of coordinating relief efforts of the partners within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and the work of the ERUs, the Federation FACT team has been assigned with the task to coordinate, with the IRCS, all international health activities. Team members are attending regular daily meetings (sectoral and general).

Close cooperation and coordination has been regularly maintained with UNDAC and it has been agreed that from 02 January onwards the FACT and the UNDAC will harmonize all statistics and figures by triangulating information from different sources (authorities, IRCS, UN agencies, NGO's and other organizations operating in the area). These statistics will be used in all future reports.

The UN Resident Coordinator in Iran and Federation FACT team leader met in the Federation compound to discuss and coordinate future plans that will be outlined in the revised Emergency Appeal and the UN Flash Appeal respectively. The nine areas to be covered by the UN Flash Appeal include: food and logistics (WFP); water and sanitation (UNICEF); health and nutrition (WHO); special needs of vulnerable groups including children and women (UNICEF); education (UNESCO); shelter (UNDP), cultural heritage (UNESCO); livelihood recovery and rehabilitation (UNDP); and coordination, security, telecommunications, information, monitoring and evaluation (UN Resident Coordinator's office). The Flash Appeal is likely to be launched on 8 January 2004 jointly with the launch of the Federation revised Emergency Appeal.

### **National Society Capacity Building**

The Federation and the IRCS are in the process of finalizing the revised Emergency Appeal. The current planning is based on indicative factors outlining the main strategic directions of the relief operation, elements of capacity building that have been incorporated in each of the programmes, and elements of the rehabilitation projects. Detailed plans will be subsequently developed.

### **Communications – Advocacy and Public Information**

The Head of Media Service from the Federation's Secretariat has joined the media pool, consisting of six press officers from the Federation and partner national societies. With over 40 interviews given in seven languages in one day only by the media specialist, but also FACT/ERUs members, this disaster continues to attract huge media interest.

### **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.*

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# Iran - Earthquake

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 25/2003

## PLEDGES RECEIVED

05.01.2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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### CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->	15'409'300		TOTAL COVERAGE 55.2%	
AMERICAN - GOVT/USAID	600'000	USD	779'100 30.12.03	
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID	147'059	GBP	327'721 30.12.03	
CANADIAN - RC	100'000	CAD	99'500 27.12.03	
CANADIAN - GOVT	742'500	CAD	738'787 29.12.03	
CANADIAN - GOVT/CIDA-IHA/RC	9'750	CAD	9'701 27.12.03	PROGRAMME SUPPORT
DANISH - RC			38'757 26.12.03	
DANISH - GOVT			199'023 26.12.03	
ECHO (01001)	622'129	EUR	963'367 28.12.03	
ECHO/FINNISH - RC	500'000	EUR	774'250 02.01.04	
FINNISH - RC	100'000	EUR	154'850 02.01.04	
HELLENIC - RC	20'000	EUR	30'970 29.12.03	TO PURCHASE 5'900 BLANKETS
ICELANDIC - RC	2'000'000	ISK	35'200 28.12.03	
JAPANESE - RC	249'543	USD	324'031 27.12.03	
KOREAN - RC			50'000 29.12.03	
LIBYAN - RC			25'000 27.12.03	
MALAYSIAN - RC	10'000	USD	12'985 30.12.03	BILATERAL
MONACO - RC	15'000	EUR	23'228 29.12.03	
NEW ZEALAND - RC	50'000	NZD	41'500 02.01.04	
OPEC FUND FOR INTERN. DEVELOPMENT	750'000	USD	973'875 29.12.03	
SINGAPORE - RC			30'000 29.12.03	TO PURCHASE 100 TENTS
SLOVAK - RC	50'000	SKK	1'910 29.12.03	
SWEDISH - GOVT	1'000'000	SEK	172'000 29.12.03	
SWEDISH - GOVT	2'000'000	SEK	344'000 29.12.03	
SWISS - RC			13'167 30.12.03	PROGRAMME SUPPORT
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH</b>			<b>6'162'922 CHF</b>	<b>40.0%</b>

### KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CANADIAN - GOVT/CIDA-IHA/RC		150'000	CAD	149'250	29.12.03	RELIEF MATERIAL
DANISH - GOVT/RC				65'000	02.01.04	BILATERAL: LOGISTICS ERU
EGYPTIAN - RC				60'000	29.12.03	BILATERAL: 100 TENTS, 4000 BLANKETS, TRANSPORT & INSURANCE
GERMAN - GOVT/RC/ECHO		577'000	EUR	893'485	30.12.03	BILATERAL: WATER TTT & SUPPLY LINE, BASIC HEALTH CARE & PERSONNEL

# Iran - Earthquake

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 25/2003

## PLEDGES RECEIVED

05.01.2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
HUNGARIAN - RC		6'062'500	HUF	36'981	30.12.03	BILATERAL: 25 PCS MILITARY TENTS, 4000 BLANKETS
INDIAN - RC				150'000	05.01.04	BILATERAL: 5000 BLANKETS, 5000 COOKING UTENSILS
ITALIAN - RC				4'400	30.12.03	RELIEF DELEGATE
MALAYSIAN - RC				5'000	29.12.03	BILATERAL: 1000 BLANKETS
PAKISTAN - RC		20'000	USD	25'970	29.12.03	BILATERAL: 1000 BLANKETS, 100 TENTS, 500 KITCHEN SETS, 500 KEROSENE STOVES
SWISS - RC				289'400	30.12.03	6000 BLANKETS, 1000 TARPULINS, 1000 KITCHEN-SETS, TRANSPORT& INSURANCE
TURKISH - RC		566'630'000'000	TRL	509'967	27.12.03	BILATERAL: 400 TENTS, 7500 BLANKETS, 3000 BODY BAGS, 3000 KITCHEN SETS, 110 HEALTH EQUIPMENTS, 14 GENERATORS
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES		37'219	USD	48'330	31.12.03	BILATERAL: 224 TENTS, 706 BLANKETS
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES		281'310	AED	101'975	28.12.03	BILATERAL: 250 TENTS, 2022 BLANKETS, 50 FIRST AID KITS
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				2'339'758	CHF	15.2%

## ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
EGYPTIAN - RC				150'000	29.12.03	BILATERAL: 150'000 UNITS OF IV SOLUTIONS,
HUNGARIAN - RC		8'840'624	HUF	53'927	31.12.03	BILATERAL: MEDICAL SUPPLIES
MALAYSIAN - RC					29.12.03	BILATERAL: 30 BALES CLOTHINGS
SINGAPORE - RC					02.01.04	25'000 MEALS-READY-TO-EAT
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - RC		63'325	USD	82'227	31.12.03	BILATERAL: FOOD, 20 FIRST AID KITS, 200 DISPOSABLE MEDICAL ITEMS
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - RC		84'191	AED	30'519	28.12.03	BILATERAL: 250 FOOD KITS, BED LINEN, PILLOWS, BODY BAGS, MEDICAL SUPPLIES
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				316'673	CHF	