

DREF Bulletin 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: MINE BLAST IN KEMEROVO REGION

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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 185 countries.

In Brief

Period covered by this update: 27 March to 27 April, 2007.

History of this Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF)-funded operation:

- CHF 105,000 (USD 86,415 or EUR 64,760) allocated from the Federations DREF on 27 March 2007 to respond to the needs of this operation.
- This operation is expected to be implemented over six months, and will be completed by 25 September, 2007; a DREF Bulletin Final Report (narrative and financial) will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 25 December, 2007).

The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Background and current situation

On 19 March a methane explosion occurred at the Ulyanovskaya mine in Novokuznetsk in the Kemerovo region of Western Siberia (Russian Federation). At the time of the blast 203 people, including miners, the mine's senior management and a British mining specialist, were in the mineshaft. The explosion occurred as the mine was preparing to launch an advanced mining safety system developed in the UK. The system signaled a sudden unexplained discharge of a large amount of methane at 14:30 local time. Smoke and water flooded the mineshaft as it caved in. Rescue workers were able to save 93 people but 110 died in the explosion.

On 18 April the preliminary results of the official investigation into the accident were made public. A panel of experts concluded that the explosion was the result of ignoring the safety equipment and deliberately blocking the gas control system. The panel found 42 Yuzhkuzbassugol employees, eight of whom died in the accident, personally responsible.

The Kemerovo mine blast is the deadliest accident in the history of the Russian mining industry and has generated a large response. The Kemerovo administration announced a collection of support for affected families immediately following the tragedy, while the operator of the mine, Yuzhkuzbassugol ("South Kuzbass Coal"), has pledged on average RUR 2,000,000 (CHF 93,477) to each affected family. In total, Yuzhkuzbassugol and the oblast and city administrations will spend RUR 700,000,000 (CHF 32,958,294) in social support for affected families.

All affected families have been visited by employees of social services, statements outlining their needs have been drawn up and the forms of material and social aid which they will receive have been defined in accordance with the governor's decree. The psychological problems of 15 families have been identified by state psychological services.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action



A team member offers psychological support at a cemetery on 27 April, a day of mourning

The Russian Red Cross (RRC) initiated the psycho-social support (PSS) project in Novokuznetsk based on the PSS and self-support experience gained in Beslan over the last two years. As in Beslan, PSS will be offered to affected families and the rest of the community as well, including those who pulled the dead and the injured from the mine and those miners who will return to work after the renovation is completed.

Goal: To minimize the psychological effects in the aftermath of the coalmine explosion by providing direct individualized psycho-social support to affected individuals and families.

Objectives:

- Provide PSS at home to affected individuals and families for the first three weeks following the mine explosion.
- Provide PSS at home during the recovery period to affected individuals and families for five months following the blast.
- Organize at least four teams of psychologists and nurses to accompany affected families as they deal with needs or obligations related to the tragedy (visits to cemeteries, hospitals, or government institutions distributing compensation).
- Organize a community center of PSS (analysis, support for Russian RC staff and volunteers, work with support groups).

- Train instructors to teach the local population methods of PSS and self-support in case of emergencies.
- Create at least two support groups of 40-65 members for those affected by the explosion.
- Release and distribute informational materials to the local population on overcoming stressful situations.
- Provide advocacy for affected individuals and families and help them resolve legal problems.

A mobile team of psychologists and nurses (7 people) from the RRC centre in Beslan along with a programme coordinator flew to Novokuznetsk on 9 April for 20 days to offer PSS to affected families and to transfer their experience. In the first stage of project implementation:

- Two coordinative meetings were held with state services, at which an agreement was reached on cooperation in the delivery of individualized PSS to affected families. The city administration expressed support for the project and approved the objectives.
- Lists of family members of 107 miners who were killed in the explosion were obtained.
- The staff of the project (15 people) was formed through an interview process and a careful selection of candidates (28 in total) from among local branches of the RRC, social psychologists and social workers from Novokuznetsk, Kiselevsk and Osinnikov.
- A training seminar for project staff, in which the Beslan team (25 people) took part, was conducted during 14-18 April, laying the methodological foundations of the International Federation principles and approaches of PSS.
- Mobile teams of psychologists, Beslan nurses and project staff were created and attended a master class in organisation, documentation and the development of PSS skills.
- Seven families were assigned to each member of the team, and the list of the first families to be visited was created and approved by the coordinator of the state psychological services.
- Information about the psychological states of the affected families was collected and recorded.
- Informational fliers were created with the RRC logo, the objectives of the project and the contact information for the Novokuznetsk branch of the RRC and services which can direct the affected population to specialists.
- On 27 April, a day of mourning, team members were stationed at all seven of the city's cemeteries to offer psychological support to mourners in a project approved by Yuzhkuzbassugol.
- The local media participated in the project. NOVO-TV and APEKS-TV broadcast interviews and reportage on 10 and 12 April.

Next month, during the post-crisis period of most intense grief, the affected population will receive PSS at home, designed to prevent psychological and somatic problems, social conflicts and demographic problems which, as a rule, occur as a result of emergencies and crises in the absence of PSS.

Conclusions and lessons learned

- State psychological services have inadequate information about the psychological state of affected families and do not have clear plans to take preventative measures or deal with the psychological effects of extraordinarily stressful situations. Therefore there is a need for the activities of the RRC, which may help to improve coordination between various services which deliver aid to affected families.
- Unfortunately, an official letter of support from the Kemerovo Oblast administration has not yet been received.
- Organizational issues related to project implementation in Novokuznetsk require serious study insofar as PSS programmes require constant administrative participation and evaluations of quality.
- Before the next seminar in June, the project team must master the PSS skills learned at the previous seminar through practical implementation.
- The future of the programme will be determined by careful study of its development and an independent assessment of needs and resources.

[Interim financial report below, click here to return to the title page or contact information](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRRU002 - RUSSIA - MINE BLAST KEMEROVO REGION

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/3-2007/4
Budget Timeframe	2007/4-2007/9
Appeal	mdrru002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget		105,000				105,000
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		105,000				105,000
C6. Other Income		105,000				105,000
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		105,000				105,000
D. Total Funding = B + C		105,000				105,000

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		105,000				105,000
E. Expenditure		-27,534				-27,534
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		77,466				77,466

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III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		105,000					105,000	
Supplies								
Medical & First Aid	450						450	
Utensils & Tools	300						300	
Other Supplies & Services	240						240	
Total Supplies	990						990	
Transport & Storage								
Transport & Vehicle Costs	4,400						4,400	
Total Transport & Storage	4,400						4,400	
Personnel Expenditures								
National Staff	2,000						2,000	
National Society Staff	40,937						40,937	
Consultants	10,100		2,108			2,108	7,992	
Total Personnel Expenditures	53,037		2,108			2,108	50,929	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	25,146						25,146	
Total Workshops & Training	25,146						25,146	
General Expenditure								
Travel	11,270		530			530	10,740	
Information & Public Relation	1,700						1,700	
Office Costs	360						360	
Communications	1,272						1,272	
Financial Charges			-14			-14	14	
Total General Expenditure	14,602		516			516	14,086	
Program Support								
Program Support	6,825		381			381	6,444	
Total Program Support	6,825		381			381	6,444	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			24,529			24,529	-24,529	
Total Operational Provisions			24,529			24,529	-24,529	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	105,000		27,534			27,534	77,466	
VARIANCE (C - D)			77,466			77,466		