

# DREF Bulletin



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

## UKRAINE: MINE BLAST

**DREF Bulletin**  
**no. MDRUA003**  
**GLIDE No.**  
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**UKR**  
**27 November 2007**

*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

This DREF Bulletin is being issued based on the situation described below reflecting the information available at this time. CHF 37,132 (USD 32,038 or EUR 22,195) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to respond to the needs in this operation. This operation is expected to be implemented over 6 months, and will be completed by 22 May, 2008; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 22 August, 2008). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

This operation is aligned with the International Federation's 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.

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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 the night of 18 November, a methane explosion occurred at the Zasyadko coal mine in the regional capital, Donetsk, in eastern Ukraine. The Ukrainian Emergency Situations Ministry reported that 357 miners were rescued, 100 miners had died and 41 were injured (38 lightly, two in a medium condition and one heavily). 11 bodies still remain in the mineshaft because of the heavy fires. One week after the tragedy in Donetsk on 25 November, two miners died and one was injured in two further mine accidents in the eastern Lugansk region.

USD 7.5 million has been allocated from government sources and a special insurance fund to provide compensation to the workers and the families of those affected. From USD 20,000 to USD 60,000 was promised to the family of each miner who died in the accident. However, at the present moment, only a small amount of the money has reached the people. At the same time families of the miners who remain missing could not be identified as recipients of a financial contribution until the rescue operation was finished. These two facts aggravate the difficult psychological atmosphere in Donetsk. In the first days after the accident 14 psychologists from the Ukrainian Ministry of Emergencies from Donetsk, Lugansk, Dnepropetrovsk were providing support to the families of the victims.

It was the deadliest mine accident in Ukraine since an explosion at the Barakova mine in the eastern Lugansk region killed 81 miners in March 2000. It further emphasized the vulnerability around post-Soviet industries, particularly that of mines. In total, since the breakup of the Soviet Union, more than 4,700 miners have been killed in Ukraine- 80 since the beginning of 2007. In Russia during the last seven years 1,490 people have died in 16 major mine accidents.

## **Red Cross and Red Crescent action**



**Ukrainian Red Cross brought medical supplies to the hospital in Donetsk for the injured miners**

Nurses from the Donetsk branch of the Ukrainian Red Cross have been providing psychological aid to the relatives of the victims in the office of the mine administration, the morgue during the identification of the bodies, in the hospital, and they also attended the funerals. Food parcels, including fruits, juices, mineral water, drugs and medical supplies worth USD 1,800 were purchased and have been regularly distributed to the miners injured in the accident during visits to the hospital. Representatives of the National Society regularly take part in the meetings of the inter-departmental commission established by the state authorities.

Taking into account that the disaster response by the government was concerned with financial and short-term psychological support, there is a large need for a long-term psychological rehabilitation for the victims of the mine explosions. In this regard, the Red Cross is well-placed to provide such psychosocial support (PSS) as its key

activity in this disaster response operation.

Immediately after the accident in Donetsk, the Russian Red Cross branch in the Siberian Kemerovo mine region came with a proposal to assist the Ukrainian Red Cross cope with the situation that is similar to the recent mine blasts in Russia. Thus this planned response builds on regional experience of providing PSS after industrial, especially mine, accidents. The Russian and the Ukrainian Red Cross Societies will utilize the learning from the Kemerovo PSS operation (26 March- present time) to set up a functioning PSS team in Ukraine which after the end of the operation will receive full support at local government/community level.

### **Goal 1: to minimize the psychological effects in the aftermath of the coal mine explosion.**

The Ukrainian Red Cross will respond to the immediate needs by taking the following actions:

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- Provide psychosocial support at home for the affected individuals and families in the first two months following the mine explosion.
- Provide psychosocial support at home during the recovery period to the affected individuals and families for five months following the blast.
- Organize teams of psychologists and nurses in Donetsk and Lugansk regions to accompany the affected families as they deal with the needs or obligations related to the tragedy (visits to cemeteries, hospitals, or government institutions distributing compensation).
- Create PSS and self support groups for those affected by the explosion.
- Release and distribute information materials to the local population on overcoming stressful situations.
- Provide advocacy for the affected individuals and families and help them resolve any legal problems.

### **Goal 2: to initiate and consolidate a Ukrainian Red Cross PSS support service in accident-prone mining towns.**

An assessment conducted by the Ukrainian Red Cross showed the need for a special PSS team that would provide qualified support to the victims of the current accident and be ready to be involved if other accidents occur in mining regions of Ukraine. Although the regional Red Cross branch and the headquarters in Kiev are fully committed to establishing their own PSS service and have already started the fund-raising campaign in support of this initiative, the psychologists of the Ukrainian Red Cross lack professional training. Therefore, support from the Federation is required to share its experience regarding the psychosocial support after emergencies, in particular after mine accidents.

Following the two large-scale mine blasts in March and May 2007 in the Kemerovo region of the Russian Federation, the Russian Red Cross launched a psychosocial support operation with 14 nurses and psychologists providing support to the affected families and to the rest of the community. The programme proved its high effectiveness in addressing people's needs and improving their psychological conditions.

The Russian Red Cross has pledged its support to the Ukrainian Red Cross in the implementation of the aid operation and in capacity building through training of PSS teams in the mine blast-prone areas of Ukraine: Donetsk and Lugansk regions.

In the course of the project implementation a team of specially trained Red Cross psychologists (four team members) from the Kemerovo region will spend two weeks in Donetsk. In total, 24 people will be trained, including 18 Red Cross members (14 from Donetsk and four from the neighboring Lugansk region) and six psychologists from the Ukrainian Emergency Situations Ministry. In order to provide effective training, during the first two weeks Russian psychologists together with their Ukrainian counterparts will visit the families of those affected and organize special seminars on how to teach different methods of psychosocial and self-support to the local population.

The funds requested from DREF will be used to assist the 457 families and their relatives (about 1,500 people) in six settlements, Donetsk, Avdeevsk, Yasinovataya, Dobropolie, Gorlovka and Vinnitsa over a six-month period.

**[Click here to return to the title page or contact information](#)**

Name of the Project: DREF- Ukraine Mine Blast  
Appeal Code: MDRUA003  
Operating Time-frame: 25.11.2007-24.05.2008



Code	Description	Quantity	Unit	Unite price	Total CHF
	<b>SUPPLIES/Subtotal</b>				<b>252.00</b>
5409	First aid kit	14.00	UNIT	18.00	252.00
	<b>TRANSPORT &amp; STORAGE/Subtotal</b>				<b>600.00</b>
5930	Transport & vehicle - Fuel (for local PSS teams)	6.00	MONTH	100.00	600.00
	<b>PERSONNEL EXPENDITURES</b>				<b>5,786.00</b>
6602	Local coordinator (1 person) URCS	6.00	MONTH	200.00	1200.00
6616	Hotel accommodation , NS (monitoring)	2.00	UNIT	372.00	744.00
6618	Per diem , NS (monitoring)	2.00	UNIT	135.00	270.00
6616	Hotel accommodation , NS (RRC team)	7.00	DAY	186.00	1,302.00
6618	Per diem , NS (RRC team)	7.00	DAY	110.00	770.00
6702	PSS Consultant - contract fees	10.00	DAY	150.00	1,500.00
	<b>WORKSHOPS &amp; SEMINARS/Subtotal</b>				<b>16,350.00</b>
6801	PSS Training (22 participants x 5days)	1.00	UNIT	6,500.00	6,500.00
6801	CB PSP ToT ( 18 participants x 4days)	1.00	UNIT	5,000.00	5,000.00
6801	Meetings of self-support groups of affected community	20.00	UNIT	80.00	1,600.00
6801	Case study Meetings of PSS	5.00	UNIT	100.00	500.00
6801	Blrn-out trainings for PSS workers	5.00	UNIT	100.00	500.00
6805	PSS training Consultant - contract fees	3.00	UNIT	750.00	2250.00
	<b>GENERAL EXPENSES/Subtotal</b>				<b>6,250.00</b>
7001	International Travel (2 PSPworkers from RRC )	2.00	MAN	1200.00	2,400.00
7004	Local Travel (monitoring, visits to families)	5.00	MONTH	450.00	2,250.00
7107	Printing informational materials (leaflets)	1000.00	UNIT	0.80	800.00
7131	Visibility	1.00	UNIT	800.00	800.00
	<b>OTHER GENERAL EXPENSES/Subtotal</b>				<b>5,480.42</b>
7403	Telephone branches	6.00	MONTH	80.00	480.00
7xxx	Other expenditures	1.00	UNIT	5,000.00	5,000.42
	<b>FIELD BUDGET/Subtotal</b>				<b>34,718.42</b>
	<b>SUBTOTAL PROJECT</b>				<b>34,718.42</b>
5990-5998	<b>PROGRAMME SUPPORT BUDGET/Subtotal</b>			6.5%	2,413.58
	<b>GRAND TOTAL CHF:</b>				<b>37,132.00</b>



## Ukraine: Mine blasts



On the night of 18 November, a methane explosion occurred at the Zasyadko coal mine in the regional capital Donetsk. The Ukrainian Emergency Situations Ministry reported that 357 miners were rescued, 89 miners had died and 34 were injured (33 lightly and one heavily). 11 people remain missing. Rescue teams continue searching for three miners, while access to the other eight miners trapped in the mineshaft will not be possible for about two months because of the heavy fires. A special government commission announced the preliminary reasons of the accident which was a sudden discharge of a large amount of methane.

-  Zasyadko coal mine
-  Capitals