

# DREF operation final report



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## KAZAKHSTAN: FLOODS

DREF operation n° MDRKZ002  
GLIDE n° FL-2008-000032-KAZ  
16 October 2008

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

**Summary:** A total of CHF 259,858 (USD 258,730 or EUR 164,681) has been allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society in delivering assistance to households affected by floods in February 2008.

The initial DREF allocation was meant for food and non-food items for the most vulnerable 370 disaster-affected families in the South-Kazakhstan region. The additional allocation addressed the needs of 800 households (including the 370 targeted by food and non-food assistance) in household and sanitary items.

The Red Crescent assistance improved living conditions of the most vulnerable among the affected populations and helped them to restore some of their assets. The operation strengthened the visibility and positive image of the National Society in front of the government and public. This and effective cooperation between the National Society and other partner organizations involved in the operation helped to expand the Red Crescent response beyond the DREF-supported operation.

The funds released from the DREF for this operation have been repaid by the Netherlands Red Cross and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

[<click here to view contact details>](#)



During the second distribution beneficiaries accommodated in tent camps received household and personal hygiene items. Photo: Kazakhstan Red Crescent

## The situation

Flash floods along the Sir-Darya river, caused by heavy rains and melting snow, affected 51 settlements in the South Kazakhstan oblast (region) in the end of February 2008. The assessments by the inter-department commission and the Kazakhstan Red Crescent's disaster response team (DRT) identified Aryss, Ordabasyn and Sary-Agash districts of the region as most affected by the disaster.

The official data estimated the cost of damage from floods at 125 million US dollars. Thus, 2,396 houses, 8 schools, 2 primary healthcare facilities were severely damaged, as were dams, roads and bridges in the area. There were disruptions in electricity supply and telephone communication. The houses of 1,857

families have been completely destroyed; the affected population also lost some or all of their assets, cattle and poultry. The locust infestation that affected the disaster area in May 2008 worsened the situation with crops and threatened household food security.

As a result of flash floods 1 person died and more than 13,000 people were displaced to temporary shelters or moved in with relatives and neighbours. After the waters fall 15 tent camps at the disaster area gave refuge to 5,000 people (800 families) with tents and bedding for camps loaned by the government. The local authorities also distributed about 60 tonnes of pasta products and about 120,000 tins of canned meat among people living in the tent camps. The camps had been functioning from mid March to end of July, when people were able to come back to their houses being reconstructed.

The government allocated about 100 million US dollars to restore the infrastructure and rebuilt the houses that had been destroyed by floods. The materials and services for house reconstruction have been provided by the government through construction companies. However, the reconstruction did not include the interior finish that is to be covered by families. According to the latest data in Arys district around 90 per cent of houses have been rebuilt; in Ordabasyn district the reconstruction is ongoing; in Sary-Agash district 87 per cent of houses have been reconstructed.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The South Kazakhstan branch of the Red Crescent based in Chimkent was operational from day one of the disaster. Its staff and volunteers assisted the Ministry of Emergency Situations in rescue, evacuation and assessments. During the first days of the disaster the National Society provided immediate assistance to the affected population using the pre-positioned stocks at its warehouses in Chimkent (regional centre of the South-Kazakhstan region) and in Almaty. At the same time, the Kazakhstan Red Crescent started a fund-raising campaign to attract resources at local level.

During the first phase of the DREF-supported operation the National Society targeted 370 affected families with food and non-food items. The subsequent distributions reached 800 families (including the initial 370) residing in camps with household items. In addition, women, girls and children from these families received personal hygiene items.

With items available from the stocks and resources raised locally through private and corporate donations and donations from UNDP the Red Crescent Society distributed relief items among the affected population in camps and in eight most affected settlements of three districts. This assistance reached 906 families (about 4,500 people) and was worth of more than 101,000 US dollars.

**Table 1 Relief items distributed by Red Crescent outside of the DREF operation**

Nr.	Items	Units	Source				Total
			Chimkent (from stock and locally raised)	Almaty stock	UNDP in-kind donation	Pharma company	
			Quantity				
1	Food (pasta)	kg	1,000				1,000
2	Beds with mattresses	pcs		135			135
3	Mattresses and sleeping bags	pcs	135	190			325
4	Quilts and blankets	pcs	185	397			582
5	Towels	pcs		5,722			5,722
6	Bed linen	set		100			100
7	Candles	pcs	400				400
8	Clothes	kg	1,500	350			1,850
9	Footwear	pair	120				120
10	Hygiene kits	set			1,850		1,850
11	Jerry cans, buckets & basins	pcs		209			209
12	Cooking and eating utensils	pcs		2,580			2,580
13	First aid kit	pcs	30			500	530

Nr.	Items	Units	Source				Total
			Chimkent (from stock and locally raised)	Almaty stock	UNDP in-kind donation	Pharma company	
			Quantity				
	<b>Total value (USD)</b>		<b>18,500</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>26,289</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>101,289</b>

Besides, the Kazakhstan National Society received financial support for a longer-term relief operation targeting 780 affected families with food and hygiene items over 5 months from August to December 2008, as well as with bedding and kitchen sets. The funds (500,000 US dollars) come from Tengizshevroil company.

UNHCR donated tents (100 pcs), kerosene stoves (100 pcs), mattresses (200pcs), blankets (500 pcs) and jerry cans (500 pcs) to replenish and expand the emergency stocks of the South-Kazakhstan branch of the National Society.

The National Society has also signed an agreement with UNDP on implementation of the community-based disaster preparedness project between July-October 2008 that will target 525 families in 5 communities from the areas affected by floods. The project is aimed at improving the knowledge and skills of the population in disaster preparedness and response.

The Red Crescent Society kept close contacts with media and National Society response actions received regular coverage from local media and national television channels.

## Progress towards objectives

### Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

**Objective 1: To support the most vulnerable groups of the population affected by the floods (370 families or 1,900 people) in meeting their basic needs during three months.**

#### Activities carried out:

The DREF funds were used to procure, transport and distribute disaster response items to the affected population and to replenish the Red Crescent's emergency stocks. The relief items were purchased in Chimkent in accordance with the International Federation's standard tendering procedures. In total, the National Society procured almost 27 tonnes of food, 1,850 mattresses, 1,850 woollen blankets, 1,850 sets of bed linen, 370 hygiene packs, 370 kitchen sets and 7,400 candles. The authorities supported the procurement by negotiating low prices with local suppliers; it has also been agreed that the goods will be delivered by the suppliers to the disaster site at their own expense.

The Red Crescent reached 370 most vulnerable families (1,917 people) falling under defined selection criteria: 161 families with many children, 86 single-parent families, 71 older people and 52 families with members with disabilities.

According to the plan the distribution of food was arranged in three rounds and was carried out in the beginning of April, May and June. The target beneficiaries were informed about the distribution schedule in advance to ensure their attendance and hand to hand delivery.

**Table 2 Red Crescent food package and quantity of distributed food**

Description	Quantity for each family	Total distributed quantity
Pasta products	20 kg	7,400 kg
Rise	20 kg	7,400 kg
Sugar	20 kg	7,400 kg
Vegetable oil	5 l/4.75 kg	1,850 l/ 1,757.5 kg
Tea	1 kg	370 kg
Canned fish	15 tins	5,550 tins
(250gr)	(3.78 kg)	(1,387.5 kg)
Salt (iodized)	3 kg	1,110 kg
<b>Total</b>	<b>72.53 kg</b>	<b>26,825 kg</b>

The set of non-food items provided for each target family included:

- a hygiene set (10 pieces of soap, 3 kg of washing powder, 5 tubes of toothpaste)
- a cooking set (1 pot, 1 kettle, 5 mugs, 5 plates, 5 spoons)
- bed linen (5 mattresses, 5 blankets, 5 sets of sheets)
- candles – 20 pieces

Elderly people from the affected communities actively participated in the distributions and in sharing the information with fellow community members about the operation.

The stocks of the National Society have replenished the stocks in the regional branch and zonal (sub-national) warehouses.

**Table 3 Items used to replenish Red Crescent emergency stocks**

Nr.	Items	Units	Almaty	Chimkent	Total
1	Mattresses	pcs	480	300	780
2	Quilts & blankets	pcs	480	600	1,080
3	Towels	pcs	80		80
4	Bed linen	set	480	300	780
5	Candles	pcs		200	200
6	Hygiene kits	set		100	100
7	Buckets	pcs	80		80
8	Basins	pcs	80		80
9	Kitchen sets	set	80	30	110
10	First aid kit	set		30	30
	<b>Total value (USD)</b>				<b>37,242</b>

**Objective 2: To provide 800 affected families accommodated in tent camps with non-food household items.**

In order to improve living conditions in tent camps the National Society procured and distributed awning screens, gas stoves, jerry cans among 800 families (5,300 people) who stayed in camps for about 5 months (from mid March till end of July).

The provided 400 awning screens were used as shades outside of the shelter where people could cook food or relax at hot hours. Camp settlers also received one gas stove for two households; each family was provided with a 10-litre jerry can for water storage.

### Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

**Objective 3: To address the specific needs of women, girls and children from the affected population accommodated in tent camps (800 families) with the provision of appropriate personal hygiene items in order to improve their sanitary conditions.**

The Red Crescent Society procured and distributed sanitary materials among 1,700 women and girls; 200 infants and children up to two years received diapers and 300 younger children received chamber pots and basins for washing.

The National Society also distributed 300 hygiene promotion leaflets on sanitary rules and on measures to prevent hepatitis available from the health and care programme among the beneficiaries in bigger (100 and more families) tent camps.

#### Impact:

The DREF funds received through the International Federation enabled the Kazakhstan

Red Crescent to adequately respond to the needs



With additional funds from DREF the Red Crescent provided personal hygiene items to women, girls and children accommodated in tent camps.

of the affected population. The National Society achieved the objective of providing immediate relief assistance to the people in need by distributing a planned quantity of relief items. The Kazakhstan Red Crescent effectively played the auxiliary role vis-à-vis the government in humanitarian field; this contributed to the success of the response operation. The operation strengthened the visibility and positive image of the National Society in front of the government and public. This and effective cooperation between the National Society and other partner organizations involved in the operation helped to expand the Red Crescent response beyond the DREF-supported operation.

As a result of the Red Crescent operation vulnerable disaster-affected households improved their living and sanitary conditions, personal hygiene and gained access to additional food. The relief operation was carried out with due consideration to specific needs of women and children.

## Conclusion

### Lessons learned:

- The operation provided an opportunity for the Red Crescent Society of Kazakhstan to strengthen its disaster response capacity and to improve the coordination and cooperation with government structures and non-governmental organizations. It also had a positive impact on the visibility of the National Society. While contributing to the restoration process in the communities affected by the disaster, it significantly reinforced its profile and the community perception of the work done by the Red Crescent.
- The recognition of the Red Crescent by international organizations and local businesses and public helped to attract additional contributions.
- The rendered assistance contributed to the reduction of social and economic tension in the affected region.
- The Red Crescent Society's branch gained practical skills in realization of the programme (procurement, distribution, accountability).
- In future due consideration should be given to varying needs of extended families and people with special needs as this influences the content of food packages and quantity of items included (and/or quantity of non-food items).
- This operation has confirmed the need for the National Society to have own resources available (stocks and money) to be able to respond effectively and timely.
- There is a need to train regular staff of the National Society branch and volunteers to respond to emergencies.
- Fast assessment by the Red Crescent branch and prompt communication with headquarters are important to plan a timely response.

There is a small remaining balance that will be returned to the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund. The balance is due to lower prices for the relief items negotiated between the National Society and the local authorities and suppliers, as well as the drop of the US dollar exchange rate versus the local currency.

## How we work

*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.*

The International Federation's activities 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.

## Contact information

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

- Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society: Vadim Kadyrbayev, Vice-President, Almaty, phone: +7 727 291 81 51; fax: +7 727 291 81 72; email: [drvadimrc@mail.ru](mailto:drvadimrc@mail.ru)
- Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society: Nurlan Panzabekov, Disaster Management Coordinator, Almaty, phone: +7 727 291 61 01; fax: +7 727 291 81 72; email: [panzabekov@rambler.ru](mailto:panzabekov@rambler.ru)
- In Central Asia Regional Representation: Drina Karahasanovic, Regional Representative, Almaty, phone: +7 727 291 41 56; fax: +7 727 291 42 67; email: [drina.karahasanovic@ifrc.org](mailto:drina.karahasanovic@ifrc.org)
- In the Europe Zone Office: Slobodanka Curic, Disaster Management Coordinator, Budapest, phone: +36 1 8884 510; fax: +36 1 336 1516; email: [slobodanka.curic@ifrc.org](mailto:slobodanka.curic@ifrc.org)
- In Geneva: Linda A. Stops, Operations Coordinator, phone: +41 22 730 4300, fax: +41 22 733 0395, email: [linda.stops@ifrc.org](mailto:linda.stops@ifrc.org)

**[<financial report below; click here to return to the title page>](#)**

**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**

MDRKZ002 - Kazakhstan - Floods

Final financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/3-2008/8
Budget Timeframe	2008/3-2008/8
Appeal	Mdrkz002
Budget	appeal

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**I. Consolidated Response to Appeal**

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>A. Budget</b>	259,858					259,858
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	0					0
<b>Income</b>						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>DREF Allocations</i>	259,858					259,858
<b>C6. Other Income</b>	259,858					259,858
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)</b>	259,858					259,858
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>	259,858					259,858

**II. Balance of Funds**

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	0					0
<b>C. Income</b>	259,858					259,858
<b>E. Expenditure</b>	-254,786					-254,786
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>	5,072					5,072

**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**

MDRKZ002 - Kazakhstan - Floods

Final financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/3-2008/8
Budget Timeframe	2008/3-2008/8
Appeal	Mdrkz002
Budget	appeal

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure**

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		<b>259,858</b>					<b>259,858</b>	
<b>Supplies</b>								
Shelter - Relief	11,320	11,753					11,753	-433
Clothing & textiles	89,060	75,669					75,669	13,391
Food	33,726	33,854					33,854	-129
Utensils & Tools	25,000	25,957					25,957	-957
Other Supplies & Services	56,912	56,659					56,659	253
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>216,017</b>	<b>203,892</b>					<b>203,892</b>	<b>12,125</b>
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Distribution & Monitoring	1,000							1,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	5,400	6,304					6,304	-904
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>6,400</b>	<b>6,304</b>					<b>6,304</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>Personnel</b>								
National Staff	6,000	5,908					5,908	92
National Society Staff	4,000	4,007					4,007	-7
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>9,915</b>					<b>9,915</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	3,750	3,719					3,719	31
Information & Public Relation	5,500	4,664					4,664	836
Office Costs	1,000	796					796	204
Communications	300	464					464	-164
Financial Charges		8,471					8,471	-8,471
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>10,550</b>	<b>18,114</b>					<b>18,114</b>	<b>-7,564</b>
<b>Programme Support</b>								
Program Support	16,891	16,561					16,561	330
<b>Total Programme Support</b>	<b>16,891</b>	<b>16,561</b>					<b>16,561</b>	<b>330</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>259,858</b>	<b>254,786</b>					<b>254,786</b>	<b>5,072</b>
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>		<b>5,072</b>					<b>5,072</b>	