

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Russian Federation: Fire

DREF operation n° MDRRU005
9 December 2009

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 and 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.

CHF 29,591 (USD 28,974 or EUR 19,580) has been allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in delivering assistance to some 1,000 people. This operation is expected to be implemented over six months, and will therefore be completed by 9 June 2010; a Final Report will be made available by 9 September 2010. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Fire in a night club in the centre of Perm in the Urals region caused the death of 118 people, leaving another 120 people injured. The Russian Red Cross will provide psychosocial support to the families of the victims and the injured people and their families in order to improve their psychosocial conditions.

[<click here for the DREF budget, here for contact details, or here for the map of affected areas >](#)



Night club 'Lame Horse'. The day after the tragedy. Photo: AP

The situation

On 4 December at 23:15 (Moscow time) in Perm a fire in a night club killed 118 people and left more than 120 people injured. According to the Ministry of Emergency (EMERCOM) half of the hospitalized people are in serious condition due to smoke inhalation, hence the death toll might rise. According to the authorities the fire was due to the indoor use of fireworks or a short circuit. The Russian president appointed the minister of emergencies as the head of the Government Investigation and Mitigation Commission that will deal with the issues related to the accident. The minister of health and of domestic affairs went to the scene. The head of state prosecutors is also said to have the situation under his control. The Russian prime minister visits the town today.

EMERCOM has opened a telephone hot line for the relatives of the victims of the fire, its planes have taken the most serious patients to the medical burn centres in Moscow and Saint-Petersburg. The identification

procedure is over and the funerals began in Perm on 6 December. EMERCOM's psychologists are working with the relatives of the deceased people.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Immediately after the disaster the Russian Red Cross branch in the region of Perm assessed the situation and started collecting money for the people affected by opening an account through their Red Cross webpage. The professional EMERCOM staff immediately started a full-fledged emergency operation and transferred the injured people to hospitals in Perm, St. Petersburg and Moscow (complicated cases). EMERCOM also started offering psychological support, but the emergency psychologists will leave in about ten days. Many of the injured persons are seriously affected and may be disabled for the rest of their lives. Experiences of the past have shown that the psychological effects of the drama will last for years. These patients and family members will need assistance for a long time. The Red Cross branch has a team of visiting nurses ready to start providing psychosocial support to the people who were injured, relatives and families after the departure of the EMERCOM emergency psychologists. The people affected will be visited by these nurses. Those with significant mental health disorders will be identified and referred to the professional mental care system. For the other people group and individual stress management sessions will be held. Basic information on stress management will be provided personally and in printing. The branch has already attracted a psychologist who has pledged to lead the future psychosocial support programme and to supervise the work of the visiting nurses and volunteers. In addition an experienced psychologist from the Mental Health Department of Perm State University will conduct training for the nurses and volunteers followed up by daily consultation of the nurses. The National Society together with Federation staff is planning to provide assistance for mid- and long-term recovery processes.

Coordination and partnerships

The regional Perm Red Cross branch is in contact with the crisis centre established by the governmental emergency commission and local authorities, including the regional health service. The branch of Saint-Petersburg is sending its volunteers to the hospitals on request. They will provide psychosocial support to the relatives of the injured who are accompanying them in Saint-Petersburg. Russian Red Cross headquarters specialist and consultants having gained experience in psychosocial support operations in the aftermath of Beslan siege and coal mine explosion have pledged their full support to the Perm branch and are preparing operation and training materials for the Perm local visiting nurses and volunteers.

The needs

In Perm there is a strong need for mid-term psychosocial support to the families that lost their members and those whose relatives were seriously injured. All of them are between 20 and 45 years old, which makes the tragedy more severe, with most of these people probably having very young children, which adds additional strain on the relatives of the deceased people.

The response operation will be built on the profound experience and existing methodologies of the Russian Red Cross in psychosocial support gained in the Beslan programme, South Ossetia refugees crisis, Kemerovo coal mine blast and Khakassia hydropowerplant explosion operations.

The proposed operation

The operation will focus on providing psychosocial support to the population directly affected by the accident.

Emergency health and care

Objective: The psychological effects in the aftermath of the fire are reduced through the provision of psychosocial support to the affected population (1,000 people).	
Expected Results	Activities planned
Psychosocial support is provided to 120 injured people and to 880 family members of the dead and injured.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Red Cross staff and volunteers will gain basic psychosocial support skills during a workshop facilitated by psychologists enabling them to provide psychosocial support to the affected people. Red Cross staff and trained volunteers will provide psychosocial support to the 1,000 people affected by the fire to address people's needs and to improve their psychological conditions. A survey among people reached will be conducted to find out what they thought about the operation and whether their needs were met.

Budget

APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY

Russia Fire - MDRRU005

	ORIGINAL
<u>PERSONNEL</u>	
National Staff	1,408.00
National Society Staff	8,100.00
Consultants	2,520.00
<u>WORKSHOPS & TRAINING</u>	
Workshops & Training	10,400.00
<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>	
Travel	2,090.00
Information & Public Relations	1,500.00
Office running costs	450.00
Communication Costs	1,200.00
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>	
Programme Support - PSR	1,923.44
<hr/>	
Total Operational Needs	29,591
<hr/>	
Total Requested Allocation	29,591

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

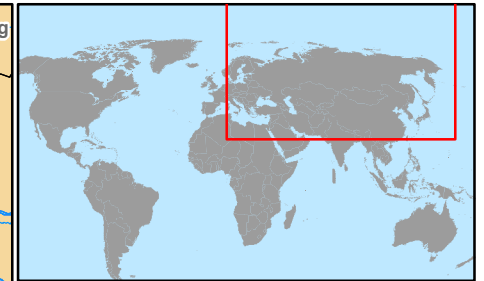
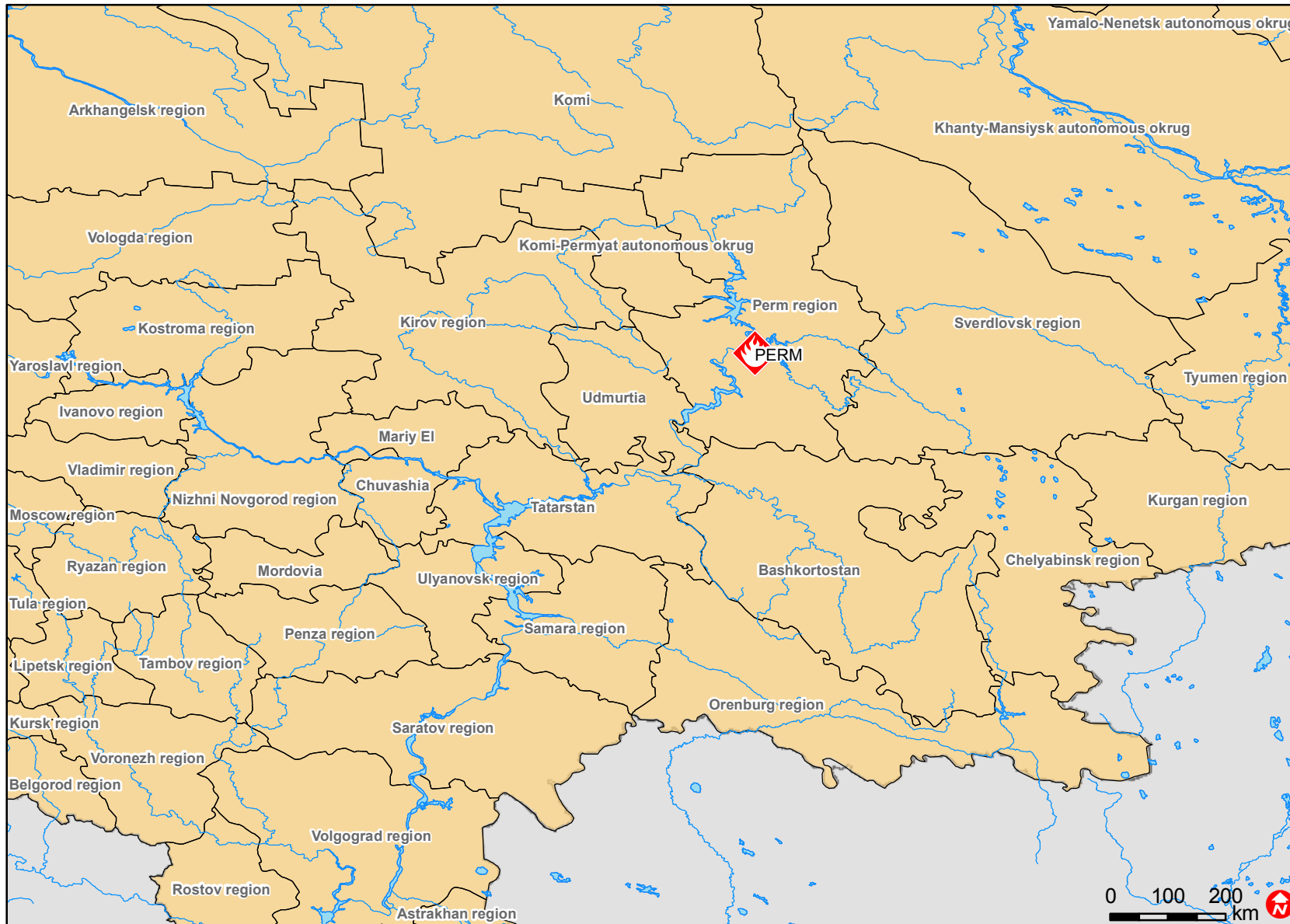
For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:



- **In Russia:** Raisa Lukutsova, Chair person, Russian Red Cross; phone: +7 495 126 7571; email: mail@redcross.ru
- **In Russia:** Jaap Timmer, Regional Representative, Moscow; phone + 7 495 126 15 66; email: jaap.timmer@ifrc.org
- **In Europe Zone Office:** Slobodanka Curic, Disaster Management Coordinator, Budapest, phone: +361 8884 510; fax: +36 1 336 1516; email: slobodanka.curic@ifrc.org
- **In Geneva:** Pablo Medina, Operations Coordinator, phone: +41 22 730 4381, fax: +41 22 733 0395, email: pablo.medina@ifrc.org

[<Map below, click here to return to the title page>](#)



Russian Federation: Fire



-  Fire
-  Capitals
-  Settlements
-  Rivers
-  Regions
-  Lakes

A fire in a night club killed 118 people and left more than 120 people injured. According to Emergency Commission half of the hospitalized people are in serious condition due to smoke inhalation, hence the death toll might rise. According to the authorities the fire was due to the indoor use of fireworks or a short circuit.