

# Operations update



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Uzbekistan: Population Movement

Emergency appeal n° MDRUZ002  
GLIDE n° OT-2010-000113-UZB  
Operations update n° 2  
22 June 2010

Period covered by this Ops Update: 18 June 2010  
– 22 June 2010

**Appeal target (current):** CHF 4.15 million  
**Appeal coverage:** 9%; [<click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details >](#)

### Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched, on a preliminary basis, on 16 June 2010 for 6 months to assist 24,000 beneficiaries.
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF):** CHF 300,000 was initially allocated from the International Federation's DREF to support the national society to respond.



The Uzbekistan Red Crescent is providing psychological support to people accommodated in a public shelter in Namangan. Photo: Uzbekistan Red Crescent

**Summary:** Violent clashes in the south of Kyrgyzstan starting on 10 June 2010 resulted in massive population movement towards and across the Uzbekistan border. Currently there are an estimated 92,000 refugees in Uzbekistan gravitating towards camps in the areas of Andijan, Namangan and Fergana. The Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan, acting as an auxiliary to the public authorities is leading the provision of relief assistance to the affected people. Starting late 11 June the staff and volunteers of the Uzbekistan Red Crescent set up tents, provided used clothing and mattresses and began offering hot meals.

The Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation are working together to ensure rapid and coordinated Movement response to the current situation through among other things establishing regular coordination meetings at country, regional and zone level. The Secretariat of the International Federation has activated a field assessment and coordination team (FACT) which is currently being deployed. Its first members arrived to Uzbekistan on 18 June to support the Uzbekistan Red Crescent in refining the needs assessments, drawing up operational plans, coordinating the complex relationships that might be established with partners within and outside the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and developing appropriate mechanisms for this in close consultation with the Uzbekistan Red Crescent and the ICRC regional delegation in Tashkent.

The team, enhanced with members of the National Society and ICRC so far visited eight camps in Fergana valley and conducted rapid assessment of the situation and the needs. It also participated (along with the National Society and ICRC) in an inter-agency coordination meeting organized by the UN on 19 June. In addition to the FACT team, the International Federation deployed senior staff members from the regional representation in Almaty, the zone office in Budapest and the regional logistics unit in Dubai to Uzbekistan. Two flights organized by the International Federation have arrived to Uzbekistan on 20 June carrying 55,360 kg of

non-food items. These non-food items are a combination of in-kind donations from a number of Partner National Societies (Canadian, British, and Danish Red Cross Societies) and International Federation stocks dispatched from the Dubai regional logistics unit. The goods are stored in the central warehouse managed by the government with the Red Cross Red Crescent goods having their separate section, guarded and well kept. A further shipment of in-kind donations of 38,438 kg from the Finnish Red Cross is currently in transit and will arrive late 22 June to Andijan.

## The situation

Violence that broke out on 10 June in the city of Osh in the southern part of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, forced large numbers of people to move towards and cross the border with the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The number of refugees in Andijan remained around 77,161 people in Uzbekistan, as reported by Uzbek authorities<sup>1</sup>. Since this figure covers mostly adults, the United Nations' estimation of the number of refugees is approximately 92,000. UNHCR is considering assisting the government with the reporting system in order to increase the accuracy of the reported figures.

Seemingly many people arrived in Uzbekistan without going to camps but staying with relatives or host families. Hence they were outside the registering process, but now on return they are going to the camps to register. There are some 3,500 refugees registered by the Uzbek authorities for return to Kyrgyzstan. There have been further reports of returns of refugees from Uzbekistan, particularly in Jalal-Abad province. ICRC staff report seeing large numbers of people returning to Jalal-Abad city, but no estimated number is available. The Kyrgyz Frontier Service reported a total of 7,539 returnees over the past two days.<sup>2</sup> The UNHCR in Uzbekistan however reports that most of the refugees that the assessment teams have spoken to confirmed that they would like to go back as soon as possible, but that they are getting warning messages from those left behind in Kyrgyzstan about it still being unsafe and that they should remain where they are. The interim government in Kyrgyzstan launched a military operation in the early morning of 21 June to clear barricades in the village of Nariman inhabited by ethnic Uzbeks. The operation met with resistance from behind the barricades, and the interim government reported that two people in the village were killed. Uzbek communities have barricaded themselves since the outbreak of violence for self protection<sup>3</sup>.

The government of Uzbekistan set up 49 camps (collective centres in public buildings such as schools and, to a lesser extent tents) in Andijan, Namangan and Fergana and also called on humanitarian agencies, including the Uzbekistan Red Crescent and ICRC, to assist in conducting a rapid needs assessment in Andijan as a basis for their contributions to the humanitarian operation.

By 20 June both the UN and the International Federation teams have visited some of the camps. The findings can be summarized as follows:

- No shortage of medicines reported. There is an abundance of medical services in the camps visited, with free of charge medicines and care provided.
- No shortage of food reported. Food provision is organized centrally by the government; the diet includes eggs, meat, and vegetables. In the majority of the sites the refugees get three meals and in some two meals per day. However, food is expected to become a concern for the long-term.
- Few reports of the increase in the incidence of water-borne and respiratory tract diseases.
- Few reports of overcrowding in tents with most tents accommodating up to four adults.
- Protection well organized with procedures for leaving and entering the camp in place.
- Tents have lighting.
- However, additional shading is necessary particularly for children as temperatures reach over 40 degrees centigrade and are likely to go up in the coming weeks.
- Boiled drinking water is available, but not established what the system for monitoring its quality is.
- Needs for psychological counselling for refugees.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/CJUE-86ND4M?OpenDocument&rc=3&cc=kgz>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900sid/VVOS-86MNWB/\\$File/full\\_report.pdf](http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900sid/VVOS-86MNWB/$File/full_report.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900sid/VVOS-86MNWB/\\$File/full\\_report.pdf](http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900sid/VVOS-86MNWB/$File/full_report.pdf)

- Three cases of chicken pox.
- Prevalence of chronic diseases high among older population.
- Vaccination of children under 15 years of age against polio on arrival is widely carried out, but measles and other diseases are not vaccinated against.
- Out of eight camps the International Federation visited three had no washing facilities.
- Shortage of toilets in all the visited camps observed.
- Generally poor hygiene conditions, with handwashing facilities far from latrines.
- Lack of disease surveillance system in camps.
- No contingency planning for long term in terms of change of weather and future academic requirements of children.
- Needs include:
  - mattresses
  - beddings
  - kitchen sets
  - sanitary/ hygiene materials (soaps, shampoos, towels...)
  - undergarments for men and women
  - clothes
  - shoes
  - hygiene materials for women
  - infant feeding equipment/ food
  - diapers

According to the UN reports, health structures in the refugee camps are well organized with referral mechanisms to central hospitals and facilities for treating minor injuries. There is also health screening of refugees at the border.

The International Federation launched its preliminary emergency appeal for Uzbekistan on 16 June, released funds from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) and began organizing the provision of relief material and mobilization of experts to support the efforts of the Uzbekistan Red Crescent in responding to the needs of the refugees.

## Coordination and partnerships

The Uzbekistan Red Crescent Society, acting as an auxiliary to the public authorities, plays the central role in organizing the provision of Red Cross Red Crescent assistance to the refugees who have arrived in their country, and participates in the work of the task forces the government of Uzbekistan has established at various levels and locations.

In this work the National Society receives support from other components of the Movement, within Uzbekistan as well as in the form of resources made available from abroad.

An airplane with humanitarian cargo (carrying 15 tons of food and non-food items) on board was kindly donated by the Turkish Red Crescent and it arrived to the Osh airport on 15 June. A second airplane with food and non-food items is due to arrive to Andijan on 23 June.

The Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Emirates has sent a team to Uzbekistan on 19 June to assess the situation and to procure relief items locally to Tashkent.

The Uzbekistan Red Crescent Society, the ICRC and the International Federation are working together to ensure rapid and coordinated Movement response to the current situation. Coordination commitment is based on the *Memorandum on Partnership and Coordination* signed between the Uzbekistan Red Crescent Society, the ICRC and the International Federation in May 2010. The memorandum underlines the importance of functional Movement coordination mechanisms for an efficient Movement humanitarian response. The memorandum also provides a format for interested Partner National Societies to join the Movement's action in Uzbekistan in a coordinated manner.

Regular coordination meetings have been already established between the Uzbekistan Red Crescent Society, the ICRC and the International Federation at country, regional and zone level. With the arrival of the Federation team in country (started 18 June) the coordination is being deepened.

A phone conference was organized on 21 June with the participation of the Uzbekistan Red Crescent, ICRC, the International Federation and Partner National Societies in order to enhance the coordination of relief efforts.

With regard to Red Cross Red Crescent coordination, it should be noted that in a similar manner as for Uzbekistan, the components of the Movement are closely coordinating their actions in the neighbouring Kyrgyzstan with the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan and between the ICRC and the International Federation.

The Secretariat of the International Federation – through the headquarters in Geneva, the Europe zone office in Budapest and the regional representation in Almaty – has activated a field assessment and coordination team (FACT) whose deployment started on 18 June. The FACT supports the Uzbekistan Red Crescent in refining the needs assessments, drawing up operational plans, coordinating the complex relationships that might be established with partners within and outside the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and developing appropriate mechanisms for this in close consultation with the National Society and the ICRC regional delegation in Tashkent. The FACT has reported having the ICRC medical delegate with them on half of the visits they have made to the camps, thankful for both his medical knowledge and a keen understanding of the deeper context in which this situation is playing out. On 20 June, representatives of the Uzbekistan Red Crescent also joined each team, but this was not possible for the following day.

The UN inter-agency system is coordinated by the UN Resident Representative in Tashkent, while WHO is leading coordination through meetings twice a week with all agencies involved in health. With the arrival of the FACT team, the International Federation increased its interaction with the wider humanitarian community, starting with participation in a UN-organized meeting on 19 June (other participants: UNDP, WFP, UNHCR, UNFPA, UNAIDS, WHO, OCHA, MSF, Acted, International Medical Core and URCS, ICRC).

The Uzbekistan Red Crescent Society president regularly attends meetings of the government-formed National Crisis Commission. All the information the National Society works with is obtained from the government officials and cross checked by the Red Crescent branches in the relevant area.

After launching a Flash Appeal for Kyrgyzstan, the UN is preparing an appeal for Uzbekistan, to which in the spirit of co-ordination and co-operation, the existing Federation Emergency Appeal, will be attached as an annex.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Andijan regional branch of the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan began responding to the needs of the refugees almost immediately upon their arrival in large numbers. Starting late 11 June the staff and volunteers of the branch provided tents, used clothing and mattresses and began offering hot meals. To date the Uzbekistan Red Crescent has used its prepositioned stocks to distribute 108 tents, 585 mattresses, 630 blankets, 250 kitchen sets, and hygiene items such as washing powder, soap, towels, toothbrushes and toothpaste.

The president of the Uzbekistan Red Crescent Society arrived in the affected region immediately after the situation began developing, and took an active role in the assessment of needs.

The ICRC participated, together with the Uzbekistan Red Crescent Society, in the inter-agency assessment in the affected region of the country. ICRC is also reinforcing capacity with regard to “Restoring Family Links” in Uzbekistan and in cooperation with Uzbekistan Red Crescent Society.

The International Federation FACT team has started assessing the situation and the immediate needs, to define the most urgent priorities, and to ensure effective coordination of the international response within the Movement and with external partners. The FACT team is comprised of technical experts in areas such as

emergency shelter, health, water and sanitation, relief, reporting and logistics, supported by the ICRC and National Society members. The assessment should lead to the formulation of a more detailed set of priorities and a concrete plan of action. The logistics staff on the ground has combined quickly and effectively with the staff from the regional branch and all shipments have been quickly cleared through by customs and transferred into the central warehouse to be available for distribution.

In addition, senior staff members from the regional representation in Almaty, the zone office in Budapest and the Regional Logistics Unit in Dubai have been deployed to Uzbekistan to assist with inter-agency coordination and communication with government structures. The FACT will be complemented with regional disaster response team members from the region where needed, as well as support staff from the Almaty regional representation.

Considering the need for longer-term support to the Uzbekistan Red Crescent, the International Federation is exploring the possibilities of putting in place a more permanent team to provide ongoing support to the National Society.

## Progress towards outcomes

In accordance with the information gathered during the preliminary assessments of needs, the Uzbekistan Red Crescent Society is working in Andijan region of Uzbekistan, as well as in the regions of Namangan and Fergana, where there also are branches of the Red Crescent. A branch representative has participated in the recent assessments in Andijan.

The activities of the International Federation are proceeding according to the outline presented in the preliminary emergency appeal, with the aim of assisting 24,000 beneficiaries in the areas of relief, emergency health, hygiene, water and sanitation and emergency shelter. With further FACT activities, the approach will be modified according to findings on the ground, and the plan of action amended and developed. The team so far visited five camps in Fergana valley, conducting rapid assessments which are summarized above in the section on the situation.

On 20 June, two flights carrying relief items (6,000 blankets, 3,000 foldable jerry-cans, 3,000 hygiene kits, 3,000 kitchen sets, and 200 tents) arrived from the Federation's Regional Logistics Unit in Dubai. The British, Canadian and Danish Red Cross Societies together with the Federation provided these in kind donations by using the prepositioned emergency response stocks held in the Dubai warehouse. As per the procedures agreed with the government, all Red Cross Red Crescent goods were off-loaded and moved to the central warehouse together with those of other agencies, including UN agencies. The government has provided one large warehouse, but within it the Red Cross Red Crescent has a separate section where its goods are stored. From 20 June, all Movement goods will be stored here. The conditions in the warehouse are satisfactory. The goods are covered, pallets are used and the premises are guarded. The agreement between the government and Uzbekistan Red Crescent/ International Federation is that no one will enter the Red Cross Red Crescent part of the warehouse without a Red Cross Red Crescent presence. An additional flight dispatched by Finnish Red Cross carrying relief items (8,385 blankets, 2,160 jerry cans and 3,580 kitchen sets) is due to arrive on 22 June.

Local procurement possibilities will be assessed within the next days for basic hygiene items and clothing items.

In order to ensure, to the greatest degree possible, an efficient and effective humanitarian response for the benefit of those affected by the current crisis, the Uzbekistan Red Crescent Society, the International Federation and the ICRC wish to highlight the need of a well-coordinated response. Partner National Societies should be aware that there are clearly constraints to handle unsolicited donations. Partner National Societies are invited to contribute to the existing functional coordination mechanisms and to share with them any foreseen donation or support

Interested parties are referred to the Mobilisation table available on DMIS ([https://www-secure.ifrc.org/DMISII/Pages/03\\_response/0307\\_logistics.aspx](https://www-secure.ifrc.org/DMISII/Pages/03_response/0307_logistics.aspx)) developed for this operation for further information on unmet requirements. Mobilisation and logistics support are being coordinated by the Federation Dubai-based regional logistics unit.

## Communications – Advocacy and Public Information.

One member of the FACT team is a communications/ media specialist who has arrived to Uzbekistan that the visa has been granted for him as well as for other FACT team members. This member will support the efforts of the team, and feed the Secretariat and Partner National Societies with information and stories illustrating the efforts being made at local level.

The International Federation is aware of the complex nature of the situation in Uzbekistan and neighbouring countries, and of the sensitivity of the issues involved. With this in mind, the International Federation will continue its support to Uzbekistan Red Crescent's effort to further develop its auxiliary role and to secure a solid legal base for its continuing humanitarian work in the country.

## How we work

All IFRC 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 the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

## Contact information

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

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# International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Donor response to MDRUZ002 - Uzbekistan - Population Movement

TIMEFRAME: 15 Jun 10 to 31 Dec 10

LOCATION: Uzbekistan

TOTAL AMOUNT SOUGHT:	4,158,825
TOTAL RECEIVED TO DATE:	357,280
APPEAL COVERAGE TO DATE:	9%

Updated on: 22 Jun 2010

Currency	Amount	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	Total	
		CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	
<b>BUDGET</b>		4,158,825					4,158,825	
<b>FUNDING</b>								
<u>Opening Balance</u>								
<b>Income</b>								
<b>Inkind Goods &amp; Transport (pledged)</b>								
British Red Cross	CHF	98,903	98,903				98,903	
Canadian Red Cross	CHF	39,320	39,320				39,320	
Danish Red Cross	CHF	94,341	94,341				94,341	
Finnish Red Cross	EUR	89,696	124,716				124,716	
<b>Total Inkind Goods &amp; Transport</b>		<b>357,280</b>					<b>357,280</b>	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>357,280</b>					<b>357,280</b>	
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>		<b>357,280</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>357,280</b>	
<b>COVERAGE</b>		<b>9%</b>					<b>9%</b>	

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OPERATION (based on information received from partners)