

ATHENS: EARTHQUAKE

*14 December,
2000*

appeal no. 22/99

situation report no. 4 (Final)

period covered: September - December 1999

During this emergency, the National Society's long experience of responding to earthquakes once again proved invaluable, as demonstrated by its quick reaction in the wake of the disaster, including search and rescue and the distribution of relief items and hot meals, and the role assigned by the Greek government to implement all relief activities. The readiness of the Hellenic Red Cross, the immediate response of the International Federation and its member National Societies, and the support from the Greek government made this operation a success.

The context

A strong earthquake struck the Greek capital Athens at 14:56 local time on Tuesday, 7 September 1999, measuring 5.9 on the Richter scale, lasting several seconds and bringing death, injury and destruction in its wake. The tremor was felt as far away as Corinth, 100 km south of the city and aftershocks continued for over a month after the main quake. The major impact of the earthquake was in the north-western municipalities of Athens. According to official figures, 138 people were killed, 85 individuals were rescued, 30,000 were left unemployed and 13,000 families were officially listed as the most vulnerable. The total number of people affected was 100,000.

The official estimate of people left homeless is 70,000. The effects on infrastructure have been widespread: 7,746 buildings were heavily damaged (currently under demolition), 29,931 were partly damaged (currently under repair) and 36 collapsed. Several schools and four industrial plants were totally destroyed and hundreds of small businesses damaged.

The areas which suffered the most extensive destruction were the relatively poorer suburbs of the city including: Menidi, Ano Liosia, Thracomacedones, Philadelphia, Zefiri, Metamorphosi,

Petroupoli, N. Ionia, Moschato, Fili, Kamatero, Ilion, Elefsina, N. Halkidona, Peristeri, Ag.Anargiri, Haidari and Galatsi. A state of emergency was declared in the Prefecture of Attica, which lies at the centre of the disaster zone and comprises a substantial immigrant, refugee and gypsy population.

On 8 September 1999, the International Federation launched a Preliminary Appeal seeking CHF 750,000 to provide relief for those affected by the earthquake. This was followed by a full Appeal which was launched on 24 September 1999, seeking a total of CHF 2,338,000 to provide for the immediate shelter and relief needs of 50,000 vulnerable people most seriously affected by the earthquake, and to replenish Hellenic Red Cross disaster preparedness stocks.

Latest events

After the three-month emergency phase (September-December 1999), all homeless families were gradually provided with prefabricated houses or a monthly allowance by the government to cover the rent of an apartment. The municipalities have been reinforced with specialized personnel to handle the psycho-social rehabilitation of the victims. Finally, the people who had their houses/apartments totally or partially destroyed are receiving, upon request, a loan for reconstruction or repair.

Red Cross/Red Crescent action

Hellenic Red Cross •

The Hellenic Red Cross moved quickly into action assigning staff and volunteers to the disaster area to undertake search and rescue, first aid, shelter and relief activities. The Hellenic Red Cross was given the role of carrying out all relief activities by the Ministry of Interior, which had the responsibility for the relief action. The Hellenic Red Cross volunteers from all sectors of the community provided essential support to the entire recovery and relief operation. An average of 300 staff and volunteers were in the field daily for the first two months after the earthquake, organized in 13 main teams. The teams, covering 18 municipalities, included rescue/first aid workers, doctors, nurses, social workers and administrators. They were responsible for the distribution of camping material, hygiene items and three meals per day to an average of 57,000 people, and also provided medical and psychological support to the victims. The distribution of camping material and meals ended on 9 November, two months after the earthquake. The teams gradually withdrew from the field as specialized personnel reinforced the municipalities. The Hellenic Red Cross continues to run a health centre which has been assisting some 3,000 people living in 17 container camps in the Ano Liosia suburb of Athens, with five Red Cross nurses visiting the camps every day to provide basic health care and education.

The Hellenic Red Cross headquarters made enormous efforts to organize and monitor the entire operation, in the process fulfilling the Appeal objectives by providing immediate shelter and relief to 50,000 most seriously affected beneficiaries. The remaining undistributed relief items were used for replenishment of the disaster preparedness stocks of the National Society in line with the second objective of the Emergency Appeal. In addition, outside of the appeal, the Red Cross donated 14 prefabricated houses to families that were considered to be most needy. Please see Annex 1 (attached) for a summary of relief item distributions.

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies •

Many National Societies quickly mobilized relief assistance to send to Athens, including tents, blankets, mattresses, hygiene parcels and baby parcels. The Federation was able to purchase 3,500 tents from the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran stocks (an additional 500 were donated by the Iranian Red Crescent); these were all transported by air to Athens immediately following the earthquake.

An International Federation liaison officer worked with the Hellenic Red Cross in co-ordinating the international relief effort, including reporting and monitoring. A Federation telecommunications delegate, who had completed a mission to Istanbul in the wake of the Turkish earthquake, traveled to Athens to install a satellite telephone in the Hellenic Red Cross headquarters and to assist with other telecommunication needs.

The International Federation also provided camping material (13,000 mattresses and 10,000 blankets) drawn from the Red Cross and Red Crescent Balkans emergency stocks in Skopje, reallocated with donor agreement.

Outstanding needs

The Appeal was 164.93% covered due to the many in-kind donations received from National Societies. However, due to the purchase of 3,500 tents from the Iranian Red Crescent at the start of the relief operations and the fact that there were only a relatively small number of cash contributions, the operation has ended with a cash deficit of CHF 362,933. Therefore, cash contributions to the Appeal are still urgently needed to cover the costs of the purchase of the tents.

External relations - Government/UN/NGOs/Media

The Greek Government co-ordinated all activities through the Ministry of the Interior, municipal authorities in the affected areas and the Hellenic Red Cross, which had the prime responsibility for the relief effort. The co-operation with the Government, through the Ministry of Interior, was excellent. The operation went very well and this was highlighted by the media. The immediate action from the International Federation and its member National Societies enhanced the image of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in the country.

Several diplomatic missions (including the Canadian, United States and Chinese) established direct contact with the Hellenic Red Cross and contributed to the operation.

Regular media contacts were maintained throughout the operation.

Contributions

See Annex 1 for details.

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This and other reports on Federation operations are available on the Federation's website: <http://www.ifrc.org>

ATHENS EARTHQUAKE
RELIEF ITEMS - DISTRIBUTION LIST

Municipality	TENTS	MATTRESSES	BLANKETS	BEDLINEN	LARGE TENTS	PLASTIC ROLLS	PILLOWS	HYGIENE PARCELS	BABY PARCELS
Ano Liossia	785	3,950	2,000			3		1,780	200
Peristeri	830	1,000	500	500		3		120	20
Menidi	1,045	2,550	7,400	1,000	8	1	1,000	1,560	165
Petroupoli	270	500	250	500		2		45	10
Zefiri	400	1,000	1,000		2	9			
N.Ionia	50							70	20
Philadelfia	280					15		50	15
Thracomacedones	50								
Metamorphosi	180	1,000	2,500	1,000		2	500	120	20
Ilion	700	2,500	1,000	2,000	15	2		55	10
Elefsina	460		500			3			
Kifissia	30					1			
Kamatero	146		500	500		2	500	160	30
Ag.Stefanos	10								
Ag.Anargiri						4		40	10
Tavros	50								
Athens	150		200						
Drapetsona	5								
Gerakas	2								
Haidari	30								
Rentis	10								
Vironas	15								
Vari	1								
Families upon request								1,000	500
TOTAL distributed	5499	12,500	15,850	5,500	25	47	2000	5,000	1000
received	5417	13225	22041	12065	111	27	2042	5000	1000
balance	-82	725	6191	4265		-20	42	0	0

ATHENS EARTHQUAKE						
DONATIONS IN KIND FROM NATIONAL RED CROSS/RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES						
ITEM	NEED	TRACKING NO	QUANTITY RECEIVED	UNIT	DONOR	LOSSES
Tents		GR/SHE/0016	202	Pcs	Emirates RC	
Tents		GR/SHE/0013	1,000	Pcs	Fed/Iranian RC	
tents		GR/SHE/0002	690	Pcs	Fed-German RC	
Tents		GR/SHE/0001	1,003	Pcs	Fed-Iranian RC	7
Tents		GR/SHE/0001	958	Pcs	Fed-Iranian RC	56
Tents		GR/SHE/0001	1,000	Pcs	Fed-Iranian RC	
Tents		Bilateral	264	Pcs	Yugoslav R.C	5
Tents		Bilateral	300	Pcs	American Gvt	
	5800		5417			68
mattresses		GR/SHE/0005	1,512	Pcs	Federation	
mattresses		GR/SHE/0005	1,387	Pcs	Federation	101
mattresses		GR/SHE/0005	1,788	Pcs	Federation	
mattresses		GR/SHE/0005	1,400	Pcs	Federation	
mattresses		GR/SHE/0005	1,920	Pcs	Federation	
mattresses		GR/SHE/0005	1,558	Pcs	Federation	
mattresses		Bilateral	660	Pcs	Czech RC	
mattresses			3,000	pcs	Balkans stock	
	22000		13,225			101
Blankets		GR/SHE/0017	3,000	Pcs	Emirates RC	
blankets		GR/SHE/0004	9,600	Pcs	Federation	
blankets		GR/SHE/0004	1,000	Pcs	Federation	
blankets		GR/SHE/0011	2,000	Pcs	Swedish R.C.	
Blankets		Bilateral	2,000	Pcs	Turkish RC	
Blankets		Bilateral	401	Pcs	Cyprus RC	
Blankets		Bilateral	3,040	Pcs	American Gvt	
Blankets		Bilateral	1,000	Pcs	South Africa	
	22000		22,041			0
bedlinen sets		GR/SHE/0014	3,000	sets	Fed/German RC	
bedlinen sets		GR/SHE/0010	7,000	sets	Fed/Netherlands RC	
bedlinen sets		GR/SHE/0012	1,200	Pcs	Swedish R.C.	
bedlinen sets		Bilateral	865	sets	Cyprus RC	
	22000		12,065			0
Large Tents		Bilateral	38	Pcs	Czech R.C.	
Large Tents			45	pcs	Austrian RC/Fed	
			2,042			
plastic sheet		GR/SHE/0003	10	Rolls	Fed-Iranian RC	
plastic sheet		GR/SHE/0003	11	Rolls	Fed-Iranian RC	
plastic sheet		Bilateral	6	Pcs	Yugoslav R.C	
	30		27			0
pillows		GR/SHE/0015	2,000	Pcs	Fed/German RC	
pillows		Bilateral	42	Pcs	Cyprus RC	
	22,000		2,042			
hygiene parcels			5,000	pcs	Federation	
	5,000		5,000			
baby parcels			1,000	pcs	Federation	
	1,000		1,000			
Baby clothing		Bilateral	1872	sets	Swedish R.C.	
Baby quilts		Bilateral	924	pcs	Swedish RC	
hospital beds		GR/SHE/0009	67	Pcs	Fed/Finnish RC	
NOT REQUESTED						
Baby diapers		Bilateral	6,336	Pcs	Yugoslav R.C	
baby bedlinen		Bilateral	20	Pcs	Cyprus RC	
baby blankets		Bilateral	60	Pcs	Cyprus RC	
Baby clothing		Bilateral	2	colli	Cyprus RC	
Bulk food		Bilateral	27	MT	Turkish RC	
food items		Bilateral	500	kg	South Africa	
half platoon tent		GR/SHE/0007	22	Pcs	Fed/Finnish RC	
Quilts		Bilateral	403	Pcs	Cyprus RC	
repairshop tent		GR/SHE/0006	6	Pcs	Fed/Finnish RC	
Syringes		Bilateral	15,000	Pcs	Turkish RC	
Sanitary bags		Bilateral	1	colli	Cyprus RC	
tent heater		GR/SHE/0008	3	Pcs	Fed/Finnish RC	
Water		Bilateral	588	Pcs	Yugoslav R.C	
School material					Cyprus RC	

GREECE - EARTHQUAKE						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 22/99		PLEDGES RECEIVED			12/15/00	
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL----->				2,338,000	01/01/99	164.93%
AUSTRALIAN - RC		3,330	AUD	3,341	11/05/99	
AUSTRALIAN - RC		2,739	AUD	2,749	12/14/99	
AUSTRALIAN - RC		5,498	AUD	5,760	01/03/00	
AUSTRALIAN - RC		2,500	AUD	2,459	23.05.00	
BRITISH - RC		28,352	GBP	70,880	14.11.00	
CANADIAN - GOVT		100,000	CAD	100,900	09/17/99	CANADIAN EMBASSY IN ATHENS
CHINESE - RC		30,000	USD	47,220		direct to NS
CHILEAN - RC		3,000	USD	4,722		direct to NS
CYPRUS - RC		2,000,000	GRD	9,786	09/08/99	DIRECT TO HELLENIC RC (Other Relief Suppl.)
ICELANDIC - RC		500,000	ISK	10,319	09/10/99	
JAPANESE - RC		5,000,000	JPY	65,200	09/10/99	
MONACO - RC		40,000	FRF	9,780	10/13/99	
SPANISH - RC		1,047,303	ESP	10,096	10/05/99	
SWEDISH - RC		150,000	SEK	27,285	09/10/99	
SWISS - RC				16,000	09/28/99	
AMERICAN - RC		80,000	USD	119,880	09/15/99	for relief supplies 50000 and logs del 30000
AMERICAN - GOVT		50,000	USD	78,700		direct to NS
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				585,077	CHF	25.02%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCL. PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
AUSTRIAN - RC		1,000,000	ATS	116,560	10/11/99	TENTS 6-8 PERSONS
AMERICAN - GOVT		1,409,260	USD	2,218,175		VARIOUS ITEMS
CZECH - RC				26,260	11/19/99	38 TENTS, 660 MATTRESSES
CYPRUS - RC		24,000	CYP	66,960		VARIOUS ITEMS
GERMAN - RC		218,660	DEM	178,242	09/14/99	690 TENTS, 3000 BEDLINEN, 2000PILLOWS
YUGOSLAVIA - RC				46,540	11/19/99	269 TENTS, 6 PLASTIC SHEETING
FINNISH - RC		62,001	USD	93,002	09/14/99	hospital beds, repair shop tents, half platoon tents
IRAN - RC				85,000	09/27/99	tents heater, good transported from Macedonia
NETHERLANDS - RC		93,567	NLG	67,920	09/10/99	500 tents
SOUTH AFRICA - RC		20,000	USD	31,480		7,000 BED LINEN SETS
SWEDISH - RC		24,992	SEK	4,546	09/14/99	VARIOUS ITEMS
SWEDISH - RC		880,000	SEK	163,768	09/10/99	BEDLINEN, BABYCLOTHES, BLANKETS
TURKISH - RC				12,000	11/19/99	BEDLINEN, BABYPARCELS AND TRANSPORT
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - RC		104,491	USD	156,737		2000 BLANKETS
UNITED KINGDOM - RC				3,750		200 TENTS, 3000 BLANKETS
						Delegate for three weeks- Fed Liaison Officer
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				3,270,939	CHF	139.90%
NOT REQUESTED IN APPEAL						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
YUGOSLAVIA - RC						588 BOTTLE WATER, 144 PAMPERS PAQU.
TURKISH - RC						27 TONS FOOD, 15000 MEDICAL SUPPLIES
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	

Athens Earthquake						
Appeal No: AP 22/99						
Period: September 1999 - November 2000						
Currency: CHF						
III - Budget analysis / Breakdown of expenditures						
Description	Appeal Budget	CASH Expenditures	KIND		TOTAL	Variance
			Goods/services	Personnel	Expenditures	
SUPPLIES						
Shelter & Construction	1,599,000.00	526,277.50	677,259.00		1,203,536.50	395,463.50
Clothing & Textiles	478,000.00	52,138.01	180,314.00		232,452.01	245,547.99
Food/Seeds/Water					0.00	0.00
Medical & First Aid					0.00	0.00
Teaching materials					0.00	0.00
Utensils & Tools					0.00	0.00
Other relief supplies	154,000.00	69,641.78	2,409,617.00		2,479,258.78	(2,325,258.78)
Sub-Total	2,231,000.00	648,057.29	3,267,190.00	0.00	3,915,247.29	(1,684,247.29)
					0.00	0.00
CAPITAL EXPENSES						
					0.00	0.00
Land & Buildings					0.00	0.00
Vehicles					0.00	0.00
Computers & Telecom equip.	18,000.00				0.00	18,000.00
Medical equipment					0.00	0.00
Other capital expenditures					0.00	0.00
Sub-Total	18,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	18,000.00
					0.00	0.00
TRANSPORT & STORAGE						
	5,000.00	145,276.66			145,276.66	(140,276.66)
					0.00	0.00
Sub-Total	5,000.00	145,276.66	0.00	0.00	145,276.66	(140,276.66)
					0.00	0.00
PERSONNEL						
					0.00	0.00
Personnel (delegates)				3,750.00	3,750.00	(3,750.00)
Personnel (local staff)		654.34			654.34	(654.34)
Training	5,000.00				0.00	5,000.00
Sub-Total	5,000.00	654.34	0.00	3,750.00	4,404.34	595.66
					0.00	0.00
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION						
					0.00	0.00
Assessment/Monitoring	12,000.00				0.00	12,000.00
Travel & related expenses	1,000.00	3,277.19			3,277.19	(2,277.19)
Information expenses		4,526.95			4,526.95	(4,526.95)
Administrative expenses					0.00	0.00
External workshops & Seminars					0.00	0.00
Sub-Total	13,000.00	7,804.14	0.00	0.00	7,804.14	5,195.86
					0.00	0.00
SECRETARIAT SUPPORT						
	66,000.00	18,408.89	0.00	0.00	18,408.89	47,591.11
					0.00	0.00
TOTAL BUDGET	2,338,000.00	820,201.32	3,267,190.00	3,750.00	4,091,141.32	(1,753,141.32)
Consumption rate:	Total Expenditures versus Total income		109.73%			
Execution rate:	Total Expenditures versus budget		174.98%			

