

INFORMATION 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 جمعيات الصليب الأحمر والقمر الأحمر

IRAN: DOROUD EARTHQUAKE

Information Bulletin
no. 1/2006
31 March 2006

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 over 183 countries.

In Brief

This Bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the situation and the information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to achieve 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.

Summary

In response to the earthquake in Doroud, Lorestan Province in south-western Iran, the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) has been providing timely relief assistance to affected people. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) delegation in Tehran and the Middle East and North Africa department supported by the Operations Support Department are providing coordination of information should further international assistance from the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement be required. Immediate requirements, aside from assisting injured to safety and medical facilities, will be blankets and shelter solutions as many homes have been damaged. Weather conditions are not extreme at this time but it is colder at night.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- Seyed Hadi Samaei, Director General of International Affairs Department, Iranian Red Crescent Society, Tehran; email: intdep@rcs.ir; tel: 98.21.88662618-19; fax: 98.21.88662652
- Chang Hun Choe, Acting Head of Delegation, Tehran; email: ch.choe@ifrc.org; mobile: 98.912.2172507; tel: 98.21.88672424-28; fax: 98.21.88672429
- Iain Logan OSD operations focal point office: +41.22.730.4527 mobile: 141.79.249.3380
- Evgeni Parfenov, Regional Officer, MENA Department, Geneva; email: evgeni.parfenov@ifrc.org; phone: 41.22.730.4325; fax: 41.22.733.0395

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>

The Situation

Three strong earthquakes, ranging between 4.7 to 6 degrees on the Richter scale, occurred at 23:15 local time (07:45 GMT) and again at 04:50 (01:20 GMT) on Thursday. The epicentre of the second quake with a magnitude of six degrees on the Richter scale was registered in Chalanchovan in Doroud city of Lorestan province, 210 miles south-west of Tehran.



The earthquake caused tremendous damage in many provinces south-west of Tehran

These quakes have claimed the lives of dozens of citizens and injured many more. Heavy damage was inflicted on the provincial cities of Dorud and Borujerd since late Thursday.

Communications and support are more challenging and complicated by the fact that now is the time of Farvardine/Norouz, the Iranian New Year, with most businesses, suppliers, and government offices closed and everyone on holiday.

According to information provided by the Natural Disasters Headquarters in Lorestan Province and the Iranian RCS (IRCS), the quakes have left approximately 50 people killed and 800 injured, with 330 villages in and around Dasht Silakhor, a region between the quake-stricken cities of Dorud and Borujerd, and the epicentre of the quake, suffering between 30 to 100 percent damage. Out

of 330 villages, 70 villages are estimated to have been completely destroyed.

However, the information about the exact number of casualties and damage is still not available as the assessment is not completed yet. Overall numbers of casualties and damage will certainly change as details are forthcoming.

Immediate concerns are to rescue survivors. Ambulances, blankets, shelter solutions, food, heaters and medicine have been cited as the mostly needed items both by the local authorities and the IRCS. Weather conditions are not extreme at this time but it does get quite cold at night.

Iran is one of the 10 most disaster affected countries in the world and another two relatively strong earthquakes caused panic in the cities of Arak and Shazand in Markazi province from late Thursday until early Friday.

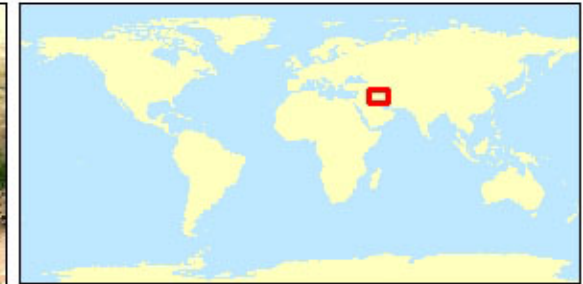
Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Lorestan Provincial Branch of the IRCS immediately sent rescue and relief teams to the affected areas. IRCS is a well resourced National Society and the IRCS Headquarters and neighbouring provincial branches sent 100 relief teams to the areas, supported by two helicopters dispatched from Tehran. Another helicopter is due to leave for the quake areas in the afternoon of 31 March. Dr. Parand, Head of Operations of the IRCS Relief and Rescue Organization, is already in the field, directing the field operation. Dr. Khatami, IRCS President, and Dr. Samaei, Director General of the ICRC International Department, are leaving for Lorestan this afternoon. Assessments will commence to ascertain further needs.

The Federation's Iran Delegation is closely cooperating with the IRCS to assess the full scale of casualties and damages, as well as the needs of the affected people.



Iran: Earthquake



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Map data sources: ESRI