

FINAL REPORT



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 لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

IRAN: EARTHQUAKE IN THE QAVZIN/HAMADAN AND ZANJAN REGIONS

19, February, 2004

Appeal history:

Preliminary Appeal no. 17/02 launched on 25 June, 2002 for CHF 3,044,000 (USD 2,015,797 or EUR 2,073,765) for 4 months for 25,000 beneficiaries.

Appeal extensions: there were three extensions: the first one until 31, March 2003; the second until 31, July 2003 and the third and final one until 31, October 2003.

Appeal coverage: 77.5%

Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: N/A

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 180 countries.

For more information: www.ifrc.org

Summary

An earthquake of magnitude 6.3 on the Richter scale, struck north-western Iran on 22, June, 2002. The regions of Qazvin, Hamadan and Zanjan located in the west and north-west of the capital Tehran were severely affected by the earthquake which was followed by a series of aftershocks. Of some 200 villages affected, many have suffered structural damages up to 90 percent thus leaving approximately 25,000 people (or 5,000 families) homeless. Much of the main water pipelines in the affected areas were damaged or destroyed, causing concern and difficulties for water availability and quality. Electricity and phone services were quickly reconnected to all but the worst damaged villages. In addition, some 2,000 hectares of farmland were destroyed.

As per its mandate, the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRCS), in cooperation with the government, immediately responded to the disaster. In less than a month, the emergency phase of the operation was completed with the IRCS at the forefront of all response activities to include: search and rescue, provision of temporary shelter to 5,000 homeless families and distribution of food and non-food relief items. More than 100 tons of food was distributed as well as adequate quantities of non-food relief items such as blankets, tents, plastic sheeting, kitchen utensils, hygiene sets and clothing.

At the time of the Appeal launch (25, July, 2002) the operational focus has shifted already to post emergency relief and rehabilitation with an emphasis on water and sanitation systems, provision of basic medical supplies and still

needed relief items as well as on building disaster preparedness capacity of the IRCS's branches in the affected area to include replenishing of depleted stocks.

Further modifications of the Appeal's objectives were dictated by operational developments, unmet needs of the beneficiaries and the strengthening of IRCS response capacity. In this context, the originally planned provision of emergency health assistance and relief needs have been already handled by IRCS in close cooperation with MOH, and the Iranian government. Also, the planned construction of health posts was abandoned due to time constraints and the use of contributions from DFID (via British Red Cross) and the Australian Government were shifted towards the procurement of medical equipment, medical relief supplies and material for strengthening disaster preparedness capacity of the IRCS and replenishing the depleted stocks of the three branches in the affected provinces. Bearing in mind that Iran is ranked as the fourth most disaster prone country in the world and that maintaining and constantly increasing the response capacity of the IRCS is essential for beneficiaries both current and potential, the unearmarked funds were used to procure specialized rescue equipment for the National Society and protective clothing for its relief workers.

Reconstruction of housing and infrastructure undertaken by provincial authorities was interrupted for almost four months (November 2002-February 2003) due to extremely harsh weather conditions. Finally, in August 2003 the reconstruction was completed in all villages hit by the earthquake.

Similarly, the sudden onset of winter slowed down and consequently delayed the completion of IRCS and Federation projects in the field of water and sanitation and capacity building. This was also the main reason for three consecutive extensions of the current Appeal.

All projects implemented under the current appeal were completed within the period of the last extension (31, October, 2003). A joined IRCS/Federation project management ensured the quality of both the implementation and the end results. The construction and installation of mobile showers and fixed baths were closely monitored by Federation country delegation in Iran and a team of engineers from the IRCS through field visits and regular coordination meetings. The procurement of medical equipment, medical supplies and relief items and distribution to the three provincial branches was carried out by the IRCS in close coordination with the country delegation thus ensuring the full compliance with Federation standard procurement procedures and financial procedures governing the transfer and accounting of the funds entrusted.

Coordination

The IRCS has a mandate to provide emergency relief and shelter assistance to one percent of the total population (60 million) of Iran as well as a long-standing cooperation with the government. All activities that have been carried out within this operation have been closely co-ordinated through the IRCS with relevant governmental agencies. In addition, the IRCS has worked in close collaboration with WFP in providing food to the people living in temporary shelter.

The overall appeal coverage reached 77.5 percent thanks to a strong donor support to include private donations. (For details please refer to the contribution table attached at the end of the document).

Objectives, achievements, impact

Emergency relief (food and basic non-food items) Health and Care

Objective 1: *To provide immediate assistance to injured people and prevent the outbreak of diseases among the affected population, through provision of medicines and supplies to support and assist the medical infrastructure.*

During the first month of the operation and therefore before the launch of the current Appeal, the emergency health assistance was provided through IRCS mobile clinics with the Ministry of Health (MoH) gradually taking over the provision of primary health care services through local health posts. In Hamadan, however, the IRCS branch continued to provide ambulance services to the population and supply it with basic medicines.

IRCS's psychological support teams composed of professionals and trained volunteers provided an ongoing assistance to the most vulnerable, with the special focus on needs of affected children.

The original plan to construct health posts in the affected regions was abandoned due to the constrains in the operational timeframe on one hand and the time needed for the construction itself on the other. Instead, it was agreed with the IRCS and the donors to use funds allocated initially to the construction of the health posts (DFID contribution through the British Red Cross and Australian Government's contribution) for the procurement of medical equipment and materials for the IRCS's provincial health centres in the affected regions and the procurement of relief rescue sets and medical supplies for the IRCS branches in the three affected provinces.

The benefits of these adjustments were multiple. The IRCS provincial health centres used the newly acquired medical supplies for replenishing depleted stocks and continuing their services without interruption and the operational capacity of the IRCS branches in disaster prone Quazvin , Zanjan and Hamadan provinces was restored.

Table I: Medical Supplies & Relief items procured and distributed

	Total quantities procured	Total distributed	Total distributed	Total distributed
Item	Quantity	Qazvin	Zanjan	Hamadan
Stove	4100 pcs	2000 pcs	1000 pcs	1100 pcs
Water coleman/12 litres	1000 pcs	400 pcs	300 pcs	300 pcs
Jerry can/ 20 litres	1020 pcs	420 pcs	300 pcs	300 pcs
Tea pot	500 pcs	200 pcs	150 pcs	150 pcs
Field Toilet	230 pcs	100 pcs	60 pcs	70 pcs
Water Pump/4 inch	48 pcs	18 pcs	15 pcs	15 pcs
Ambobag	316 pcs	116 pcs	100 pcs	100 pcs
Oxygen/5 litre with manometer	50 pcs	20 pcs	15 pcs	15 pcs
First aid kits	143 pcs	70 pcs	40 pcs	33 pcs
Blood Pressure instrument	125 pcs	45 pcs	40 pcs	40 pcs
Portable Suction	50 pcs	20 pcs	15 pcs	15 pcs

Objective 2: *To improve people's access to water and sanitation in the affected area.*

Similarly to the provision of emergency health services, the responsibility for the provision and distribution of clean drinking water that was assumed in the first phase of the emergency by the IRCS was handed over to the local authorities. In late October, 2003, the reconstructing of permanent water supply systems by the local authorities in all affected villages was in its final phase.

In the meantime and in order to meet basic hygiene needs of 23,000 affected people, 50 mobile shower units were fabricated and installed in 45 villages and ten public bath houses were constructed in 10 villages. It was expected that Federation/IRCS project funded by ECHO will be completed by the end of March 2003. However due to harsh winter conditions that made the access to remote villages impossible; the project was extended and finally completed at the end of May 2003. Both the bath houses and mobile shower units were connected to hot and cold water systems.

Furthermore, each bath house and mobile shower unit received hygiene and cleaning items needed to start operating. The quantities of hygiene and cleaning items distributed (*please refer to the table below*) were intended to cover 3 months needs.

Table II: Distribution List of Hygiene and Cleaning items

Items/ Quantity	Quazvin	Hamadan	Zanjan	Total
Detergent (boxes)	1500	750	918	3168
Soap (bars)	1500	750	915	3165

Shampoo (bottles)	990	750	915	2655
Tissues (boxes)	1500	900	1043	3443
Garbage cans (pcs)	240	125	148	513

Mobile shower units and public bath houses have contributed to maintaining good health and sanitary conditions for the most vulnerable population, who had no access to proper hygiene facilities for 10 months. During this period, beneficiaries were either carrying water from wells to their houses or washing themselves in fenced backyards either using the damaged sanitation infrastructure.

Since the mobile showers and public bath houses were put to use no outbreak of water borne disease was reported by the MoH. The installation of the facilities prevented a deterioration of health and hygiene conditions which - if not addressed - could have become a health risk.

Traditional bath houses, also called “hammam”, are an important part of a community life in Iran, contributing to the emotional well-being, in particular of women. By establishing public bath houses, the project contributed also to restore the traditional social fabric.

An added value of the project is that after being used for the current emergency, the mobile shower units will be kept on disaster preparedness stocks for future use either in this earthquake prone area or elsewhere in Iran whenever needed.

Disaster response and preparedness

Objective 1: *To assist the affected population with immediate relief needs.*

In the first phase of the emergency, the IRCS mobilized 515 staff members and 200 volunteers, 50 ambulances/mobile health clinics, 15 operational vehicles, 90 light and 25 heavy trucks and 3 helicopters. The IRCS contributed to search and rescue efforts by sending on board of helicopters specialized teams supported by 2 groups of sniffer dogs and their trainers.

It provided and organized temporarily (tent) shelter for 25,000 homeless people (5,000 families) and carried out distribution of the following relief items from its stocks to the same beneficiary caseload.

- **Food items:** 100 tons of food (rice, vegetable oil, sugar, canned food such as tea, tuna fish , canned beans, dates , bread, biscuits and cheese);
- **Non-food items:** 13500 blankets,6500 tents,2000m2 of plastic sheeting, 527 shovels, 106 stretchers, 479 coolers, 236 stoves, 834 lanterns,192 flashlights, 202 kitchen utensil sets, 464 ground sheets, 21,000 bars of soap, 42 washing powder crates and clothing;

The National Society distributed additionally, in November 2002 from its own stocks also winter kits consisting of warm clothing, shirts and trousers to the victims of the earthquake whose houses and properties have been destroyed in the disaster.

Objective 2: *To increase the disaster response capacity of IRCS branches in operational areas.*

Iran ranks as the fourth most disaster prone country in the world with floods, drought and earthquakes being the most frequent natural disasters. Ninety five percent of the country is located on the major earthquake faults. In 2003 only the country was exposed to two major earthquakes that struck the southern province of Fars in July and the city of Bam (Kerman province) in late December.

The IRCS is the first national responder. Within its mandate, the IRCS is tasked to carry out search and rescue activities, provide emergency medical assistance to the victims of a disaster and provide them with shelter, and basic food and non-food relief items from its own disaster preparedness stocks.

These relief stocks enable IRCS and its branches to maintain the high level of preparedness at any time and respond promptly to any disaster situation and are therefore of critical importance for the beneficiaries. The replenishment of these stocks through Federation appeals has been consequently well understood by all partners.

In view of the high vulnerability of those regions to natural disasters, especially earthquakes, the operational capacity of IRCS branches in Qazvin, Zanzan and Hamadan needed to be restored and further enhanced. In support of this effort the donations from the Australian Government, OPEC and DFID were used to procure basic relief items, medical equipment and supplies to replenish depleted stocks in the branches and maintain their disaster preparedness capacity.

With unearmarked funds pledged to the Appeal, the IRCS improved its operational capacity by procuring specialized rescue equipment and protective clothing for relief workers and volunteers. (*For details please refer to the table below*). The equipment was delivered and distributed to the provincial branches during September, 2003.

Table III: Relief Supplies procured and distributed to branches

Item	Quantity /pcs/units	Qazvin Provincial branch	Zanjan Provincial Branch	Hamedan Provincial Branch
Mobile 2000 litre tanker	56	26	15	15
Field toilets	230	100	60	70
Water pumps / 4 inch	48	18	15	15
Trash pump	44	17	11	16
Power generator	40	15	10	15
Search and rescue kits	27	10	7	10
Rain coat	1,100	400	300	400
Relief jackets	100	35	30	35
Jerry Can 20 litre	1,020	420	300	300
Stoves	4,100	2,000	1,000	1,100
Water Coleman/ 12 litre	1,000	400	300	300
Tea pots	500	200	150	150

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and initiatives

Advocacy/Public Information

Objective: *To ensure beneficiaries needs and concerns are addressed through the implementation of an effective humanitarian support programme and to advocate and promote humanitarian work through adequate coverage and dissemination of information to the public, donors and RCRC movement partners.*

All aspects of the disaster have been regularly analyzed between the IRCS and the Federation through an extensive and regular information sharing process focused on beneficiary needs and resulting in well orchestrated and complementary activities.

One of the vehicles used to highlight the situation and the needs were the news stories posted on the IRCS and Federation's web sites www.ifrc.org four Operations Updates and direct contracts with both partner national societies and potential donors. "Al Ittihad" (Federation) bilingual news magazine in Arabic and English for the Middle East and North Africa published several articles on the operation. National and local media representatives covered the inauguration of the bath houses in the province of Qazvin and Hamedan. The IRCS posted an article on its web site www.rcs.ir after the completion of the project. The visibility of the operation has indubitably contributed to the positive and generous donors' response.

National Society Capacity Building

The IRCS is well known for its strong disaster response capacity and a clear mandate given by the Government. In order to assist the IRCS in maintaining and enhancing its response capacity, the activities within the current Appeal were balanced to cover both emergency needs of the affected people and longer-term needs of the National Society.

In line with this approach, IRCS provincial branches and health centres in three regions affected by the disaster were equipped with basic medical supplies and essential relief items thus restoring their preparedness ability and means to quickly respond to disasters and provide quality humanitarian assistance to the population whenever needed.

The transfer of knowledge in the field of programme and project management was introduced from the very beginning of the operation with close and active monitoring and evaluation being established as a priority. A co-ordination and monitoring team consisting of responsible IRCS programme manager, representatives from national society's international, logistics and construction departments and the Federation met regularly at least bi-monthly, to ensure the quality of the management of the projects outlined in the Appeal. Such a working model was new to the IRCS and its personnel benefited largely from the experience.

In addition, IRCS staff members received training in developing, implementing and evaluating projects known as PPP (Project Planning Process) and were introduced to Federation reporting requirements. The IRCS programme coordinator was actively involved in preparing operational reports especially by collecting data and information.

Assessment and lessons learned

The Red Crescent of the Islamic Republic of Iran has been efficient and successful in running both the emergency and rehabilitation phases of the operation in a highly professional manner. At the ceremony organized to inaugurate the completion of public baths which coincided with the earthquake anniversary, the beneficiaries and local authorities have publicly praised the work of the IRCS, its staff members and volunteers for the humanitarian work carried both in emergency and post emergency phases and have expressed their gratitude to donors.

- ✓ IRCS provincial branches in the affected regions increased their disaster preparedness capacity network. As a result, staff and volunteers from the Qazvin, Hamedan and Zanjan branches gained an extensive experience and subsequently were actively involved in contingency planning in connection with the Iraq Humanitarian crisis as part of the National Society network.
- ✓ Initially, some donors posed unrealistic conditions and operational timeframes that the IRCS could not meet. This was especially the case with earmarked contributions for construction which were announced few months after the launch of the appeal thus bringing the implementation of projects close to the start of the winter season. Finally, the solution was found largely thanks to the dialogue between the Federation delegation in Iran and donors concerned.
- ✓ The evaluation meeting which took place upon completion of the water and sanitation project gathered all responsible staff from the National Society and the Federation. In the conclusion of the meeting, monitoring process has been evaluated as a successful exercise which brought together in a coordinated manner different functions and departments of the National Society.
- ✓ An additional lesson learned was that in future the National Society should be cautious in taking commitments with regard to the construction work to be executed within very tight deadlines in particular in winter time, during which weather conditions may hamper or slow down or even interrupt the works.

IRCS reporting on the Appeal or its components appeared to remain a weak point of the National Society. As a result, the Federation delegation team committed itself to continue assisting IRCS staff in improving their reporting and information skills mainly through a direct transfer of knowledge between counterparts on compiling narrative reports and developing proposals and supporting selected IRCS staff members to participate in a so called *Effective Writing*, distance learning course organized by the Federation.

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All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The procurement for this operation was carried out in full compliance and conformity with the Federation's standard for international and local procurement.

For support to or for further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

This operation sought to administer to the immediate requirements of the victims of this disaster. Subsequent operations to promote sustainable development or long-term capacity building will require additional support, and these programmes are outlined on the Federation's website.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES

Interim report	
Annual report	
Final report	X

Appeal No & title: 17/2002 Iran earthquake

Period: 2002, 2003 provis.

Project(s): PIR505, PIR506

Currency: CHF

I - CONSOLIDATED RESPONSE TO APPEAL

FUNDING	CASH		KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL INCOME
	Contributions	Comments	Goods/Services	Personnel	
Appeal budget	3,044,000				
less					
Cash brought forward					
TOTAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT	3,044,000				
<u>Contributions from Donors</u>					
Australian Government (DGAU)	421,298				421,298
British Red Cross (DNGB)	3,302				3,302
DFID - British Government (DFID)	287,196				287,196
ECHO Qazvin Earthquake Rehabilitat. (DEIR01)	669,067				669,067
Finnish Red Cross (DNFI)	44,115				44,115
Hellenic Red Cross (DNHR)	14,569				14,569
Japanese Red Cross (DNJP)	4,436				4,436
Libyan Red Crescent (DNLY)	7,000				7,000
Monaco Red Cross (DNMC)	19,463				19,463
New Zealand Red Cross (DNNZ)	38,711				38,711
OPEC Fund For International Developm (DM18)	258,517				258,517
Private Donors-online donations (DPOLD)	42,674				42,674
Republic of Korea Red Cross (DNKR)	30,000				30,000
Singapore Red Cross (DNSG)	53,240				53,240
Swedish Govt.via Swedish Red Cross (DGNSE)	153,500				153,500
Swiss Red Cross (DNCH)	1,025				1,025
Switzerland - Private Donors (DPCH)	20				20
United States - Private Donors (DPUS)	350				350
JAPANESE - RC			91,472		91,472
NORWAY				14,784	14,784
SWISS - RC			20,500		20,500
TOTAL	2,048,482		111,972	14,784	2,175,238

II - Balance of funds

OPENING	
CASH INCOME Rcv'd	2,048,482
CASH EXPENDITURE	-2,022,108

CASH BALANCE	26,374

Appeal No & title: 17/2002 Iran earthquake

Period: 2002, 2003 provis.

Project(s): PIR505, PIR506

Currency: CHF

III - Budget analysis / Breakdown of expenditures

Description	APPEAL Budget	CASH Expenditures	KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL Expenditures	Variance
			Goods/services	Personnel		
<u>SUPPLIES</u>						
Shelter & Construction	1,000,000	510,352	20,500		530,852	469,148
Clothing & Textiles	300,000	50,177			50,177	249,823
Food & Seeds						
Water & sanitation	500,000	113,133			113,133	386,867
Medical & First Aid	250,000	237,205	91,472		328,677	-78,677
Teaching materials						
Utensils & Tools	200,000					200,000
Other relief supplies	50,000	159,812			159,812	-109,812
Sub-Total	2,300,000	1,070,680	111,972		1,182,652	1,117,348
<u>CAPITAL EXPENSES</u>						
Land & Buildings						
Vehicles						
Computers & Telecom equip.	30,000	4,460			4,460	25,540
Medical equipment		246,350			246,350	-246,350
Other capital expenditures		201,617			201,617	-201,617
Sub-Total	30,000	452,427			452,427	-422,427
<u>TRANSPORT & STORAGE</u>						
Warehouse & distribution		20,771			20,771	-20,771
Transport & vehicles	100,000	10,227			10,227	89,773
Sub-Total	100,000	30,998			30,998	69,002
<u>PERSONNEL & TRAINING</u>						
Personnel (delegates)	80,000	177,038		14,784	191,822	-111,822
Personnel (regional, national staff)	70,000	17,275			17,275	52,725
Consultants						
Workshops & training						
Sub-Total	150,000	194,313		14,784	209,097	-59,097
<u>GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION</u>						
Travel & related expenses		26,192			26,192	-26,192
Information expenses	50,000	9,267			9,267	40,733
Admin./general expenses	80,000	67,737			67,737	12,263
Sub-Total	130,000	103,196			103,196	26,804
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>						
Operational provisions	334,000	155,494			155,494	178,506
Transfers & contributions		15,000			15,000	-15,000
TOTAL BUDGET	3,044,000	2,022,108	111,972	14,784	2,148,864	895,136