

EMERGENCY APPEAL



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

SOLOMON ISLANDS: EARTHQUAKE & TSUNAMI

Revised Appeal
No. MDRSB001
(Glide no. [TS-2007-000042-SLB](#))
18 April 2007

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 185 countries.

In Brief

THIS REVISED EMERGENCY APPEAL SEEKS CHF 1,691,977 (USD 1,405,645 OR EUR 1,035,011) IN CASH, KIND, OR SERVICES TO ASSIST 9,000 BENEFICIARIES FOR NINE MONTHS.

[<click here to go directly to the revised Appeal budget and list of contributions>](#)

Appeal history:

- Preliminary Emergency Appeal launched on 3 April 2007 for CHF 1,118,250 (USD 819,673 or EUR 615,385) for four months to assist 5,000 beneficiaries.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 65,000.

Operational Summary: With the emergency phase declared over by the government of Solomon Islands, operations are shifting from one of immediate response to recovery and rehabilitation. While there is some encouraging news of people moving home, a large portion of the displaced population, scattered across an estimated 400 communities, is still living in the hills in fear of future tsunamis, making access to and communication with them difficult. The health and food security situation is reportedly stable, though news of diarrhoea, malaria and pertussis has been reported. Shelter and water and sanitation are two key priority areas with substantial damage caused by the earthquake. The livelihoods of surviving families however have been severely affected through destroyed fishing boats and some damaged vegetable gardens.



SIRC volunteers recording information from affected communities.

The Solomon Islands Red Cross (SIRC) is taking the lead in the operation, in assessments as well as distribution of non-food relief items, reaching out to remote communities spread out across the affected islands. The Federation's team of seven in the field has completed their task in assisting SIRC to formulate recovery action plans based on the assessment. In coordination with local authorities and other humanitarian agencies, it was decided that Red Cross will undertake recovery programmes on the islands of Vella Lavella, Kolombangara and Choiseul with a targeted population of 9,000 (1,500 families) in the area of shelter, water and sanitation and health.

The Federation encourages cash contributions to allow maximum flexibility in assisting the Solomon Red Cross

(SIRC) to deliver planned assistance to the targeted affected population in areas mandated by the Solomon Islands government.

The Situation

On 2 April at about 07:40 hours local time, an earthquake measuring 8.1 on the Richter scale struck the western provinces of the Solomon Islands, just off the coast of the mainland of Gizo province, 350 km northwest of the capital Honiara¹, causing a localized tsunami while heavy rainfall attributed to several landslides. The combined effect of these disasters has resulted in significant damage and loss of life. According to the national disaster council (NDC), affected areas include Gizo, Simbo, Ranogga, Shortlands, Munda, Noro, Vella la Vella, Kolombangarra and parts of the southern coast of Choiseu. Unconfirmed reports have raised the death toll to 53 with the number of displaced people remaining at 9,000.

According to the national disaster management office (NDMO), aerial surveys have identified the southern coast of Gizo, Simbo island, western coast of Ranogga and the central southern coast of Choiseul as the worst hit. Several villages in the low-lying areas have suffered from the impact of the tsunami, while villages on more mountainous islands have sustained damages from some landslides.

Shelter and return of the displaced are still the main challenge. Despite encouragement from the government, communities affected by the tsunami continue to camp out in the hillside, afraid to return to their homes in the coastal areas. Their fears were further increased when several aftershocks affected the western part of the island on the 11 and 12 April, prompting rumours of another tsunami among the local population. However, seismology expert teams have declared the likelihood of another major earthquake as unlikely. Response and communication is further hampered by a lack of access to this population, with some areas yet to be reached by relief teams.

An outbreak of measles is now threatening villages in the western part of the island (source: UNOCHA situation report no.11). As large groups of displaced people continue to live in close proximity in makeshift camps (unconfirmed reports indicate 59 camps alone in Gizo), thereby increasing the risk of contamination, UNICEF and WHO are supporting the MOH in distributing vitamin A supplements and carrying out an immunization campaign to vaccinate children between six months and 14 years. New cases of diarrhea, pertussis and possibly malaria have been reported, though the scale is not critical enough to raise concerns of mass disease outbreaks. Government surveillance teams continue to actively monitor the health situation in camps. The provision of medical services is currently manageable, although an influx of patients may arise when the displaced return from the hills. Based on new assessments as reported by the UNOCHA, it is revealed that Gizo hospital is not as badly damaged as initially expected and may reopen soon. The MOH has yet to receive news on 25 of its 62 health clinics in the disaster areas, mostly located in Choiseul.

Scarcity of water is still a significant problem in areas affected by landslides or uplifted by the earthquake. In some areas, the reef was lifted by 3-4 metres therefore affecting reef ecosystems and fisheries. In Gizo, tanks and water pipes have suffered considerable damage and require urgent repair. The earthquake and landslides also damaged many water sources. Water and purification tablets are available but water distribution is a challenge as a result of the considerable distances between water sources and the camps.

There are no food shortages at present except for Vona Vona lagoon where additional food is required. With 50 percent of vegetable gardens intact, local markets have re-opened, supplying fresh vegetables and fruits. Sufficient rice is also in store in Gizo but there are some concerns over the lack of protein in the nutritional intake of affected communities.

However, livelihoods of many have been affected. Significant loss of boats, mostly in the form of dugout canoes, means fishing opportunities are severely reduced, leading to a loss of income for families. In a country that traditionally relies on the export of fish and fish products, other than agriculture and copra/cocoa exports, this has a negative impact on the affected populace.

¹ [Click here](#) for a map on the disaster from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

Red Cross Red Crescent Action so far

The Solomon Islands Red Cross (SIRC), with support from the Federation and other partners of the Movement (especially Australian Red Cross, French Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross and New Zealand Red Cross), is taking the lead in the assessment, as well as distribution of humanitarian assistance since the emergency relief operation began. SIRC is reaching out to communities spread across the targeted affected islands and its quick mobilization of its volunteer groups along with the availability of pre-positioned emergency stock items in Honiara enabled the national society to immediately initiate emergency response.

The Federation, in support of SIRC, launched a preliminary appeal to deliver assistance to 5,000 people; in relief, health, water and sanitation, and emergency shelter services and national society capacity building. Prior to the appeal, the Federation also released CHF 65,000 to expedite SIRC's response operation, including its detailed assessment.

Timely and generous donor response to the preliminary appeal (79 percent) has enabled an effective response operation. From the regional logistics unit's (RLU) pre-positioned stock in Kuala Lumpur and utilizing the RLU's procurement and logistics team, relief items, i.e. tarpaulins, kitchen sets, and tents were mobilized by air charter flight. Thanks to the Federation/PMI assistance in Indonesia it was also possible to load hygiene kits from disaster preparedness stock in Surabaya onto the charter flight. Other relief items such as bush knives, tools and other relief items were mobilized from the Federation/national society's stock in Papua New Guinea. First aid kits were air transported by the Australian Red Cross and hurricane lamps and kitchen sets were also air lifted by the New Zealand Red Cross.

The national society has successfully distributed 13,500 non-food relief items to recipient communities, providing them with basic supplies needed for survival. Most of these items came from SIRC disaster preparedness containers or were procured locally from Honiara. It highlights the value of the disaster preparedness container project supported by the Pacific Appeal 2006-2007 (the latest revised version is [available here](#)), which aims to maintain a level of pre-positioned stock across the region for fast emergency response. It has also conducted tracing activities and managed to link some people in Gizo to family members in New Zealand.

To transport and distribute items from Gizo to the remote communities in the outer islands, the SIRC had chartered a large boat. In support of the SIRC operation, two logisticians seconded from the Australian Red Cross have set up a logistics hub. The detailed mobilization table (based on the field request) is available on DMIS². It will be regularly updated based on the assessment results and needs of the operation.

The SIRC had distributed food to camps in Gizo to meet the needs, and have handed over this component to the government, which has put in place sufficient structures in the affected locations. The Red Cross will now focus on ensuring the most vulnerable communities receive basic non-food items. Distribution of non-food items will be coordinated with other agencies.

Although the official emergency phase is over, SIRC will continue to distribute relief items. SIRC and the Federation are currently targeting 1,500 families on the islands of Vella Lavella, Kolombangara and Choiseul and is presently sourcing further relief items (500) to make up the shortfall from the numbers mentioned above.

Total non- food items (NFIs) which have arrived via sea and air last week include:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 600 brush knives• 792 bush knives• 61 garden hoes• 120 brush knives• 216 bush knives• 16 boxes nails• 120 hammers• 161 spades	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 225 crowbars• 30 mattresses• 8 bales of clothing• 1000 tarpaulins• 1000 hygiene Kits• 1000 kitchen sets• 20 family tents
Total non-food items scheduled to arrive within this week are as follows:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 500 bush knives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 150 crow bars

² Disaster Management Information System is an extranet which can be assessed by Movement partners only.

Solomon Islands: Earthquake and Tsunami, Appeal no. MDRSB001; Revised Emergency Appeal

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 500 hammers• 500 axes• 20 kg nails (4 and 6 inch)• 200 x 20 litre water containers• 250 shovels• 25 chain saws (36 inch bar)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 500 tarpaulins• 750 x 10 litre water containers• 500 cooking pots• 250 hurricane lamps• 30 family tents.• Contents of 500 hygiene kits
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The needs

This revised appeal takes into account ongoing assessments and data by the Federation team working with the Solomon Islands Red Cross to produce a plan of action that considers both emergency and recovery needs. In particular, the recovery and rehabilitation phase will cover the sectors of shelter, health, water and sanitation, and capacity building for the national society.

Following joint Red Cross, Solomon Islands government and UNDAC assessments, the needs of the affected population are becoming clearer now. Shelter and water and sanitation are two key priority areas with substantial damage caused by the earthquake. The reconstruction of health structures and the restoration of primary health care facilities are urgently needed as well. Food shortages have stabilized except for a few pockets of areas needing longer-term food supplies. Those affected by the disaster has also expressed a need for clothing, hygiene kits, water containers, mosquito nets, tarpaulin, kitchen sets, and shelter materials and building tools. Additionally, the assessment teams strongly stress, as perceived by the affected communities, to consider including livelihoods as a key priority area. The assessment team also recommended further replenishment of SIRC's pre-positioned disaster preparedness stock, a formulation of contingency planning to include hazard mapping, and the enhancement of Red Cross branches and volunteers capacity to respond to future disaster situations.

The proposed operations

While SIRC responded in all areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami during the onset of the disaster, in order to avoid overlapping with other active agencies, the government of the Solomon Islands has requested the Red Cross concentrate its relief and recovery programme in the following islands in the western province. While a formal agreement has yet to be given by the government, the Red Cross is working towards this plan.

Island	Estimated Population	Communities Affected	No. of Houses Destroyed	Targeted Households – 1,500
Choiseul (excluding the northern tip which will be covered by another agency)	17,500	62	563	
Vella la Vella	12,652	61	653	No. of beneficiaries – 9,000
Kolumbangara	6,500	61	251	

Based on available information and the capacity of the Solomon Islands Red Cross, Federation support will be in two phases:

- Phase one: Immediate emergency response to cover relief needs of the above targeted 1,500 households in Choiseul, Vella la Vella and Kolumbangara Islands in the form of tarpaulins, hygiene kits, kitchen sets, water containers, mosquito nets, family kits, and cleaning tools.
- Phase two: Recovery support of the above targeted 1,500 households in Choiseul, Vella la Vella and Kolumbangara Islands. Support will concentrate on providing locally available shelter building materials and tools, along with reinforcing disaster- resilient building technology; promotion of community-based health programme; restoring water systems, safe hygiene promotion; and capacity building of SIRCS including its branches and volunteers to further enhance the national society's capacity to respond to future disasters.

Objectives and activities planned

Overall objective: Targeted beneficiaries have the necessary immediate support to meet their basic needs of non-food items; and recovery support through the provision of shelter, community-based health promotion, restoration of water facilities and safe hygiene promotion.

Non-food relief items

Objective: Basic household kits composed of tarpaulin, hygiene kit, kitchen set, family kit, water containers, and mosquito nets for targeted 1,500 households, is provided.

Activities to reach the objective:

- Finalize the identification of beneficiaries through criteria agreed upon between SIRCS and Federation with the input of the local communities.
- Procure and mobilize items for the basic household kits following Federation logistics/procurement standards.
- Organize the transport and distribution system for basic household kits at each targeted island.
- Distribute and record basic household kits.
- Monitor and evaluate.

Shelter

Objective: Selected local construction materials and tools with safer/ disaster resilient building knowledge to build 1,500 houses are provided.

Activities to reach the objective:

- Select and register targeted households.
- Identify and select construction materials and tools with the participation of the community and consideration of possible ecological/environmental effect and to respect local government laws.
- Procure and distribute locally sourced logs with the direct participation of targeted communities.
- Procure and distribute other necessary house building materials and tools.
- Ensure the provision of safer housing/ disaster- resilient building techniques.
- Monitor and evaluate.

Health

Objective: Improve the community-based health system of the villages in three islands of Kolumbangara, Choisel and Velalavela.

Activities to reach the objective:

- Organize and train health volunteers in the affected community.
- Organize training on health education activities on the prevention and treatment especially on diarrhoea, scabies, helminths, conjunctivitis in children and the importance of hygiene.
- Organize basic medicines to treat diseases caused by poor hygiene.
- Promote community- based first aid and the mother and child health (MCH) programme.
- Provide mass community awareness on community-based primary health care issues through posters, literature, information activities (in churches, schools, play groups, drama groups, and radio where accessible).
- Monitor and evaluate.

Water and Sanitation

Objective: Restoration of damaged water system facilities for the targeted affected population, provide clean water and increase knowledge on safe hygiene and sanitation.

Activities to reach the objective:

- Organize and train health volunteers in the affected community.

Solomon Islands: Earthquake and Tsunami, Appeal no. MDRSB001; Revised Emergency Appeal

- Carry out detailed assessments with the participation of community volunteers and identify projects.
- Organize procurement.
- Restore damaged water systems with the active participation of targeted communities.
- Ensure community participation in appropriate maintenance.
- Organize mass community awareness on safe hygiene and sanitation issues through the provision of posters, literature, and information activities (in churches, schools, play groups, drama groups, and radio where accessible).
- Monitor and evaluate.

Capacity building of SIRCS

Objective: Capacity building of SIRCS including its branches and volunteers to further enhance the national society's capacity to respond to future disasters.

Activities to reach the objective:

- Assessment and SWOT analysis.
- Develop human resource including volunteer management.
- Supply office equipment to re-strengthen functional and well prepared initiatives.
- Replenish pre-positioned stock.
- Prepare contingency planning, including risk mapping.
- Organize workshops and training courses.
- Evaluate and document lessons and recommendations of this earthquake and tsunami response operation
- Incorporate lessons learnt into SIRCS policy, procedures and programme management.

Communications-Advocacy and Public information

Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and other major stakeholders is vital for fundraising, advocacy and maintaining the profile of emergency operations. Communications between affected populations and the Red Cross and Red Crescent, as well as with the media and donors, is an essential mechanism for effective disaster response and the cornerstone to promote greater quality, accountability, and transparency. Communication activities undertaken in this appeal are aimed at supporting the SIRC to improve their communications capacities and develop appropriate communications tools and products to support effective operations. These activities are closely coordinated with the communications department of the Federation secretariat in Geneva.

Capacity of the national society

The SIRC has some of the best disaster management staff in the Pacific, with one United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) trained staff, one RDRT trained staff, and an excellent disaster management officer. In addition they have a strong core of first aid trainers and volunteers who have received branch level emergency assessment/response training. The SIRC has also benefited from the presence of three technical advisors from the Australian Red Cross in the past five years. In addition, the SIRC has strong senior leadership and a supportive Board of Directors. It is a well- respected organization within the Solomon Islands. Whilst this disaster has stretched their resources to the limit, they have responded quickly and efficiently. With additional external support, it is expected that the SIRC will have the capacity to expand and improve on their current support and services to the affected population.

Capacity of the Federation

Federation's field team, with support of partner national societies, was established immediately after the disaster to support the SIRC in assessment and emergency relief distribution. The team, under the direct supervision of and support from the Federation's Pacific regional delegation in Suva, has completed its task of assisting SIRC to formulate recovery plans. It is being replaced with longer- term delegates, covering the sectors of shelter, water and sanitation and health. While the Asia Pacific disaster management unit (DMU) based in Malaysia and Geneva secretariat provide technical support to maintain programme standards, the technical units of the Asia Pacific Service Center, including the Regional Logistics Unit, the Regional Reporting Unit and Regional Finance Unit provides back up support in logistics, reporting and finance.

Planning, monitoring and reporting

Monitoring will be accomplished through regular reporting and daily work of the delegates and their counterparts. The operation will be regularly monitored by the national societies and the Federation delegation's in the field. Operational activities will be reflected in the standard Federation operation updates and a final report, including a financial chart, will be produced by the Federation within 90 days of the appeal's conclusion. No separate evaluation is planned at this time.

Budget summary

See Annex 1 for details.

Susan Johnson
Director
National Society and Field Support Division

Markku Niskala
Secretary General

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 Federation's Global Agenda

The International Federation's activities are aligned with under a 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:

- Solomon Islands Red Cross: Charles Kelly (secretary general), satellite phone: 8816 3185 0301, email: ckelly_sirc@solomon.com.sb
- Pacific regional delegation in Fiji: Adrienne Gravatt (acting head of delegation), phone: Martin Blackgrove (regional disaster management coordinator), phone (mobile): +679 999 2487; email: Martin.Blackgrove@ifrc.org
- Asia Pacific Service Centre in Malaysia: Naoki Kokawa (head of the disaster management unit); phone (mobile): +60 123 751 635, email: Naoki.Kokawa@ifrc.org; Igor Dmitryuk (head of the regional logistics unit); phone (mobile): +60 122 122 407, email: Igor.Dmitryuk@ifrc.org.
- Federation Secretariat in Geneva (Asia Pacific department): Jae Ryul Kim (Pacific regional officer), phone: +4122 730 4260; email: JR.Kim@ifrc.org.

[Revised Emergency Appeal budget and list of contributions below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

REVISED BUDGET SUMMARY
Solomon Islands: Earthquake and Tsunami

Annex 1
MDRSB001

	ORIGINAL	REVISED	VARIANCE
	VALUE IN CHF	VALUE IN CHF	VALUE IN CHF
<u>RELIEF NEEDS</u>			
Shelter & Construction Materials	350,000	657,900	307,900
Clothing & Textiles		1,537	1,537
Food	100,000	93,050	(6,950)
Water Sanitation	100,000		(100,000)
Medical & First Aid	50,000		(50,000)
Utensil & Tools (Kitchen Sets)		17,000	17,000
Other Supplies & Services	210,000	149,000	(61,000)
Total Relief Needs	810,000	918,487	108,487
<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>			
Vehicle Costs		6,000	6,000
Computer and Telecom Equipment	20,000	19,000	(1,000)
<u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES</u>			
Storage - Warehouse		1,300	1,300
Distribution & Monitoring	40,000	299,290	259,290
Transport & Vehicle Costs	80,000	8,700	(71,300)
<u>PERSONNEL</u>			
International Staff	40,000	216,000	176,000
National Staff	20,000	15,000	(5,000)
National Society Staff		63,500	63,500
<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>			
Travel	10,000	8,740	(1,260)
Information and Publications	10,000		(10,000)
Administration & General Expenses	20,000	25,981	5,981
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>			
Programme Support - PSR	68,250	109,978	41,728
Total Operational Needs	308,250	773,489	465,239
Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind)	1,118,250	1,691,977	573,727
Less Available Resources		879,156	
Net Request	1,118,250	812,821	573,727

Solomon Islands: Earthquake & tsunami

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. MDRSB001

PLEDGES RECEIVED

20/04/2007

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->	1,691,977					TOTAL COVERAGE 52.0%
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AMERICAN - RC		50,000	USD	60,800	04.04.07	
AUSTRALIAN - RC		193,000	AUD	189,140	05.04.07	
CANADIAN - RC		100,000	CAD	105,000	03.04.07	
CANADIAN - GOVT		100,000	CAD	105,000	05.04.07	
FINLAND - RC		50,000	EUR	81,000	10.04.07	
JAPANESE - RC		41,000	USD	49,856	05.04.07	
JAPANESE GOVERNMENT		200,000	USD	243,200	10.04.07	
MONACO - RC		15,000	EUR	24,300	12.04.07	
NEW ZEALAND - RC		10,000	NZD	8,700	01.04.07	
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - RC		10,000	USD	12,160	04.04.07	

SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				879,156	CHF	52.0%
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KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%
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ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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Solomon Islands: Earthquake & tsunami

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. MDRSB001

PLEDGES RECEIVED

20/04/2007

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	