

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Kyrgyzstan: Earthquakes

DREF operation n° MDRKG003
GLIDE n° EQ-2008-000002-KGZ
21 May, 2008

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

Summary: CHF 100,000 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 9 January, 2008 to support the National Society in delivering assistance to 500 beneficiary households.

The operation achieved its objective to provide supplementary food rations to 500 vulnerable families or 3,599 people affected by the series of earthquakes in Osh region of Kyrgyzstan in order to help them recover from the earthquake and reduce the threat of malnutrition during the winter. The Red Crescent food distributions also gave the affected population certain psychological comfort, people knew that they were not left alone to cope with the consequences of the disaster but were cared for.

Special acknowledgement should be given to the Netherlands Red Cross who has replenished the funds released from the DREF for this operation.

[<click here for the final financial report, or here to view contact details>](#)



Food supplies delivered and awaiting distribution in Karasu district.
Photo: Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan

The situation

Several earthquakes hit Kyrgyzstan at the end of 2007 and the beginning of 2008. The largest one with a magnitude of 5.6 occurred in the south of the country at 12:32 PM on 1 January 2008 in a remote area some 30 kilometers from the city of Osh causing damage to housing and infrastructure. This winter was unusually cold in Kyrgyzstan and in the region with temperatures at 15-20 degrees Celsius below zero prevailing in most of January and February.

The displaced people were accommodated in temporary shelters – tents or public buildings – provided by the Ministry of Emergencies or moved in with their relatives. The government called for immediate support from the international community to address the consequences of the earthquake requesting winterized tents, charcoal stoves, warm clothes and footwear, food products and construction materials. The disaster received close attention from the international community and a number of agencies including UN agencies, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and some member states to the European Community Civil

Protection Mechanism immediately offered tents, heaters and non-food relief items, as well as funds for public infrastructure reconstruction.

The assessments by the Ministry of Emergencies, completed by 1 February, confirmed the following damage to housing in various locations of Osh region: 5 houses destroyed, 1,248 houses severely damaged and in need of rebuilding, 2,616 houses requiring capital repair. The damage to health facilities and educational institutions includes, but is not limited to, 4 health institutions and 15 schools that are severely damaged and should be rebuilt and 9 health institutions, 4 kindergartens and 19 schools that require capital repair.

The government has been disbursing the allowances for housing reconstruction in parts. The 1,248 families who lost their houses have been first receiving money for proper foundations and only those families who follow the building codes for seismic-resistant buildings are given money for further reconstruction. The government has also started work on reconstructing the affected health and educational institutions. Thus, four schools are expected to be rebuilt by the time the new school year starts and by next winter all damaged houses are expected to be reconstructed.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The south regional branch of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan was the first non-governmental organization that responded to the earthquakes. On 3 January, 2008 the National Society distributed mattresses, bed linen, towels, second-hand clothes and footwear from its pre-positioned disaster management stocks to the affected families.

Staff and volunteers of the south regional branch and district branches carried out the damage assessments together with the local authorities and the Ministry of Emergencies. The Red Crescent branch maintained close contact with the headquarters and other agencies providing response to avoid overlapping. The Red Crescent actively participated in all coordination meetings convened by the government during the response operation. The International Federation's regional representation stayed in contact with the UN OCHA regional office in Almaty to coordinate by sharing assessment reports, plans and actions already taken.



Families with five and more children were prioritized when compiling beneficiary lists.
Photo: Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan

(medal).

The National Society took into account the support that had been provided by other actors or was under way and decided, jointly with the government, that food assistance was required to help the affected families overcome the consequences of the earthquake in the most difficult season of the year.

With bilateral support from the Turkish Red Crescent the National Society also distributed hygiene kits and electric heaters to the affected families at the end of January and stocked some of them in Osh regional branch. The branch has stocked winter tents and blankets provided by the Turkish Red Crescent for future use during response operations. Besides, the National Society procured and distributed hygiene kits to the affected communities with bilateral funds made available by the Spanish and German Red Cross Societies.

Recognizing the services of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan to the cause of disaster response and humanitarian assistance to the affected population in Osh region and civil society development, the government rewarded the National Society leadership with a gorget

Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: To provide supplementary food rations for three months to 500 vulnerable displaced families (approximately 2,500 people), in order to help them recover from the earthquake and reduce the threat of malnutrition during the winter.

Activities carried out:

Based on the results of joint assessments by the National Society and government bodies it was decided that the Red Crescent Society will target the population in the three most affected districts of Osh region: Alai, Karasu and Nookat. The National Society staff was included in special relief commissions of 13 people that were created to coordinate relief distributions from different sources at the level of village councils and comprised representatives of local authorities, the Ministry of Emergency and the affected population, and Red Crescent volunteers among them.

The Red Crescent Society procured the required food items and delivered them to the affected region. Each family food parcel consisted of flour (50 kg), rice (25 kg), pasta products (22 kg) and vegetable oil (5 l). The following selection criteria applied when compiling the beneficiary lists of 500 households:

- Families whose houses are severely damaged and need to be rebuilt;
- Families whose houses require capital repair and who have five and more children;
- Families whose houses require capital repair and who have disabled family members.

Between 22 and 24 January the National Society organized distributions through distribution points in target villages. The distribution of food supplies to target 500 families was carried out by the south regional branch staff in close cooperation with local self-governing bodies and the Ministry of Emergencies.

Table 1 Beneficiaries of food items

District	Village	Number of beneficiaries targeted				
		Men	Women	Children under 18	Total number of people	Number of families
Karasu	Taldyk	78	97	75	250	33
	Bekzhar	63	86	56	205	28
Alai	Gulcha	133	140	172	445	80
Nookat	Kungoi Kozhoke	205	246	198	649	92
	Zharkorgon	100	100	85	285	43
	Zhany-Bazar	18	22	18	58	9
	Chech-Dobo	30	28	15	73	13
	Teskei	24	28	41	93	11
	Kok-Bel	458	497	586	1,541	191
	Total	1,109	1,244	1,246	3,599	500

During the joint International Federation and National Society monitoring trip to the affected region in February a small survey on beneficiary satisfaction was carried out. For that purpose randomly selected families were interviewed. The outcomes of the survey demonstrated that the beneficiaries were satisfied by the Red Crescent response operation. The National Society's food assistance was seen as timely, the products were found relevant to the beneficiaries' needs and traditions and of good quality.

There have been savings of the initial budget made on the transportation of food items that were supplied directly to the region. The funds were used to print 100 sets of posters on earthquake preparedness in Kyrgyz and Russian languages that have been distributed to the affected communities covered through the DREF operation and put in public places.

The Red Crescent response operation was widely covered by media. Over the period, the National Society issued three press-releases and hosted two press-conferences to inform the public first about the plans and later about the outcomes of the operation. The local television channels highlighted the Red Crescent activities under the earthquake response operation in their news blocks.

Impact:

The affected populations received and have been using the additional food rations. The distributed food helped the targeted families to economize their winter food stocks and possibly the family budgets and to increase their food intake. The Red Crescent food distributions also gave the affected population certain psychological comfort, people knew that they were not left alone to cope with the consequences of the disaster during the severe winter but were cared for.

The operation also helped the National Society to increase its capacities in terms of disaster response. For instance, the branch staff had no experience of response operations to disasters that would affect the entire region before. The branch staff strengthened their skills in coordination with government bodies and local authorities as well as with local non-governmental and international organizations responding to the disaster.

Challenges:

There is no disaster response team in the affected branch of the National Society, which influenced the speed of the response. Besides, the bilateral community-based disaster preparedness programme of the National Society in the affected region focused on the development of local disaster committees leaving behind the capacity-building of the National Society itself. The staff of the branch is also quite new to their jobs.

Conclusion

Lessons learned:

- Additional efforts should be made by the National Society to build the capacities of the branch staff and volunteers in disaster response, with special attention to their effective cooperation with the community-based local disaster committees in time of disaster.
- The Red Crescent should work on much wider involvement of beneficiaries in the planning and monitoring of the operation and the production of beneficiary lists.
- The National Society realized that during relief distributions the beneficiaries can and should get more information about the response operation being implemented and about the Red Crescent activities in general.

The remaining balance of 21 Swiss francs will be returned to the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund.

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 International Federation's activities are aligned with its 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:

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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRKG003 - Kyrgyzstan - Earthquake

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/01-2008/04
Budget Timeframe	2008/01-2008/04
Appeal	MDRKG003
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget		100,000				100,000
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
Other Income						
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		100,000				100,000
C5. Other Income		100,000				100,000
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)		100,000				100,000
D. Total Funding = B + C		100,000				100,000
Appeal Coverage		100%				100%

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		100,000				100,000
E. Expenditure		-99,979				-99,979
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		21				21

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		100,000					100,000	
Supplies								
Food	78,530		72,553			72,553	5,977	
Total Supplies	78,530		72,553			72,553	5,977	
Transport & Storage								
Distribution & Monitoring	5,000		1,013			1,013	3,987	
Transport & Vehicle Costs			6			6	-6	
Total Transport & Storage	5,000		1,019			1,019	3,981	
Personnel								
National Staff	4,200		4,183			4,183	17	
National Society Staff	1,070		1,000			1,000	70	
Total Personnel	5,270		5,183			5,183	87	
General Expenditure								
Information & Public Relation	2,000		6,100			6,100	-4,100	
Office Costs			288			288	-288	
Communications	2,700		359			359	2,341	
Financial Charges			7,977			7,977	-7,977	
Total General Expenditure	4,700		14,725			14,725	-10,025	
Programme Support								
Program Support	6,500		6,499			6,499	1	
Total Programme Support	6,500		6,499			6,499	1	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	100,000		99,979			99,979	21	
VARIANCE (C - D)			21			21		