

# DREF operation



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Ukraine: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRUA004  
30 July, 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 and 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.

**CHF 437,942 (USD 429,355 or EUR 272,014) has been allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 5,000 families. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged. An emergency appeal will be issued in the next few days.**

### Summary:

Heavy rains and storms at the end of July have caused floods in western Ukraine. Thousands have been left homeless, hundreds of towns and villages have been left without electricity and many bridges and roads have been damaged.



A village in western Ukraine hit by the floods. Photo: ITAR-TASS

The operation aims to provide immediate support to the most vulnerable groups of the population by distributing basic food items and hygiene kits to 4,000 families as well as water filters to 5,000 affected households. Some 300 elderly people living alone will receive small emergency cash grants to cover urgent expenses.

This DREF operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 30 October, 2008; a final report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 30 January, 2009).

A more detailed assessment of the needs is currently ongoing, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies will issue an emergency appeal for international assistance in the next few days.

[<click here for the DREF budget, here for contact details>](#)

## The situation

As a result of heavy rains and storms on 26 and 27 July 2008 some parts of the territory of Ukraine were flooded. Six regions were affected in western Ukraine: Ivano-Frankivsk, Chernivtsy, Zakarpattya, Lviv, Ternopil and Vinitsia. In these regions 655 settlements, with about 40,000 houses, more than 30,000 hectares of crop lands and 680 kilometres of roads have been damaged by flooding. Over 8,000 people have been evacuated, and some 300 towns and villages were left without electricity. According to reports water levels

were dangerously high on the Prut and Dnestr rivers after five days of persistent rain, equivalent to one year's normal rainfall.

The Ukrainian Ministry of Emergency Situations, assisted by the Red Cross, has been evacuating people from the flooded area by helicopter, boat and road. Immediate measures have been taken to clean the river banks, pump water out of the houses, restore power and clean the water supply in the affected regions. However, 108 settlements are still hard to access because of high water levels. The total damage is now estimated at over 800 million US dollars, including significant losses to housing, crops and infrastructure.

Region	Flooded houses	Agricultural lands damaged (hectares)	Roads and bridges destroyed	No. of people died	Settlements without electricity	Water supply points flooded
Lviv	7,989	1,213	21 road bridges, 28.3 km highways	-	61	-
Zakarpattia	163	2,000	3 road bridges	-	-	-
Ternopil	268	-	-	-	15	-
Chernivtsy	8,811	3,135	8 road and 41 foot bridges	7	52	-
Ivano-Frankivsk	22,930	28,321	329 road bridges, 409 foot bridges, 579.6 km highways	15	160 without electricity, 259 without communication	8
Vinnitsa	670	472 (1,407 farmlands)	-	-	--	-
<b>total</b>	40,831	31,928		22		

**Table 1 Ukraine initial damage assessment (As of 27 July, Source: Ministry of Emergency/Ukraine Red Cross)**

## Coordination and partnerships

The Ukraine Red Cross Society has been assisting those affected from the outset of the disaster by providing immediate relief, in close collaboration with local and national authorities. The chairpersons of regional Red Cross branches take part in the meetings of the disaster response committees. The World Health Organization is expected to start a rapid health needs assessment in the affected areas today, and the International Federation will also work in coordination with other UN agencies and humanitarian actors present in Ukraine.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Ukraine Red Cross has carried out an assessment of the situation and initiated relief efforts. In the days immediately following the disaster Red Cross staff and volunteers have been distributing food parcels, hot meals, tea and clothing from their emergency stocks, and volunteers have been sheltering those who lost their houses in their homes. The National Society appealed to its branches to collect humanitarian assistance for the affected regions. In Ivano-Frankivsk region, the local branches started to distribute 7,000 food parcels from locally raised funds.

## The needs

The regional Red Cross branches continue to assess the situation and are completing the lists of people in need of assistance. While assessment is still ongoing, the Ukraine Red Cross has identified the following urgent needs:

- food parcels and hygiene kits for 4,000 families
- water filters for 5,000 families
- small emergency cash grants of 400 Swiss francs each for 300 elderly people living alone

One of the most urgent needs is for clean water in order to reduce the risk of water-related diseases. All six regions will be covered by the proposed operation.

**Beneficiary selection:** The proposed disaster response operation aims to target the most vulnerable groups of the population such as elderly people living alone, veterans of war, people with disabilities and multi-child families. In addition, elderly people living alone will receive emergency cash grants to cover urgent expenses which cannot be covered by state donations. The National Society has gained experience during a previous disaster response operation in distributing cash to the affected population, which proved to be effective in responding to the specific needs of certain groups of the population. Learning from this experience, the society will take into consideration and overcome the previously identified drawbacks of this type of assistance.

## The proposed operation

### Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

**Objective:** 4,000 families affected by the floods are provided with food items to assist them in coping with the damage done to their households.

#### Activities planned:

- assessment of needs
- creation of beneficiary lists
- distribution of food items
- monitoring

### Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

**Objective:** The risk of waterborne and water-related diseases has been reduced through the provision of water filters to 5,000 affected families and hygiene kits to 4,000 families.

#### Activities planned:

- assessment of needs
- provision of hygiene kits for 4,000 families
- provision of water filters to 5,000 households

In addition to the above-mentioned activities, the 300 most vulnerable elderly people living alone will receive small cash grants of 400 Swiss francs each to cover the needs that could not be addressed by government subsidies or other sources. To distribute these grants, the mechanism will be used that proved its effectiveness during the 2007 DREF operation responding to storms in Ukraine.

## Budget

Description	Quantity	Unit	Unite price	Total CHF
<b>Supplies</b>				<b>365,000.00</b>
Food parcels	4,000	UNIT	25.00	100,000.00
Hygiene kits	4000	UNIT	15	60,000.00
Water filters	5,000	UNIT	17	85,000.00
Emergency cash grant for elderly	300	UNIT	400.00	120,000.00
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>				<b>22,500.00</b>
Trasnportation cost in six regions	3	MONTH	6000.00	18,000.00

Loading & unloading	3	MONTH	1000.00	3,000.00
National travel costs	3	MONTH	500.00	1,500.00
<b>Personnel</b>				<b>14,525.00</b>
Project coordinator	3	MONTH	650.00	1,950.00
Finance coordinator	3	MONTH	325.00	975.00
Local coordinators 6 regions	3	MONTH	1200.00	3,600.00
RDRT deployment	1	MONTH	8000.00	8,000.00
<b>Travel</b>				<b>3,000.00</b>
International travel & monitoring	2	UNIT	1500.00	3,000.00
<b>General &amp; Admin expenses</b>				<b>4,450.00</b>
General Admin	3	MONTH	250.00	750.00
Publicity, PR & visibility	1	UNIT	2,000.00	1,000.00
Communications	3	MONTH	700.00	2,100.00
Communication IFRC	3	MONTH	200.00	600.00
<b>FIELD BUDGET/Subtotal</b>				<b>409,475.00</b>
<b>PROGRAMME SUPPORT BUDGET/Subtotal</b>			6,5%	<b>28,466.18</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL CHF:</b>				<b>437,941.18</b>

## 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:**

- **In Ukraine:** Ivan Usichenko, President, Ukrainian Red Cross, phone: +380 44 235 01 57; or Alla Khabarova, Executive Director, phone: + 380 44 235 0334, email: [international@redcross.org.ua](mailto:international@redcross.org.ua)
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