

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Italy: Earthquake

DREF operation n° MDRIT001
GLIDE EQ-2009-000072-ITA
9 December 2009

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 700,000 (USD 613,944 or EUR 460,808) has been allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Italian Red Cross in delivering immediate assistance to 15,000 beneficiaries and to replenish emergency stocks.

A severe earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter scale hit central Italy on 6 April 2009. More than 300 people lost their lives, around 2,000 were injured and 70,000 made homeless. Several strong aftershocks hit the region in the following week. The Italian Red Cross supported the affected population with food and non-food items as well as psychological support to overcome the most urgent needs.



The Italian Red Cross has distributed more than 1.5 million hot meals. Photo: Italian Red Cross.

This first phase of the operation was implemented over a period of three months and was completed by 7 July. The second phase was completed by the end of October. By mid-April 22,000 people had received life-saving treatments. By mid-October- six months after the earthquake- the Italian Red Cross was still running nine tent camps, rehousing the inhabitants that did not have transitional shelter and carrying out health and social activities described in the plan of action.

At the end of October 2010 (18 months after the disaster), the Italian Red Cross plan of action regarding relief and reconstruction in l'Aquila will be concluded. Social health assistance activities will be carried out in the field until full recovery and return to normality are insured.

The Irish Red Cross contributed 7,000 Euros to the DREF in replenishment of the allocation made for this operation. The major donors to the DREF are the Irish, Italian, Netherlands and Norwegian governments and ECHO. Details of all donors can be found on:

<http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp>

[<click here to view contact details>](#)

The situation

More than six months after the earthquake in Abruzzo that killed some 300 people and rendered 70,000 homeless, vital assistance to the people affected by the quake continued. More than 11,000 Italian Red Cross staff and operators, including volunteers, have provided more than 1,500,000 hot meals and warm blankets in the 9 tent camps, as well as psychosocial support to children and medical care. Rain and persistent cold have made life difficult in the camps set up around Abruzzo.

The climatic difficulties encountered by the population and the Italian Red Cross personnel have to be underlined. After an extremely hot summer, the town of l'Aquila has entered a very cold winter period. These difficulties can be explained by the fact that l'Aquila stands more than 720 meters above sea level. Many people have moved towards the Adriatic coast, finding temporary accommodation in hotels.

The Italian government has not requested international assistance, drawing upon national resources to address the most urgent needs. The Italian Red Cross launched a national appeal of solidarity enabling it to carry out both medium and long-term operations, to provide adequate shelters, warm clothes, food provisions and psychosocial support for the affected people.

Coordination and partnerships

The Italian Red Cross works in close cooperation with the Italian Civil Protection, made up of all the state organizations, which is leading the overall response. This cooperation has been present not only in decision-making but also at field level between the local authorities and volunteer structures. The effective coordination, both at national level and in the field, has reinforced the strong position of the Italian Red Cross and contributed to avoiding confusion and delay.



More than 11,000 Italian Red Cross staff and operators, including volunteers helped out. Photo: Italian Red Cross.

In the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, more than 1,000 organizations were present helping and providing assistance to people who needed it. After some time, most of these organizations left, the smallest ones in particular. The Italian Red Cross stayed among the organizations that had been accredited by the National Civil Protection and is still guaranteeing the continuity of the intervention by managing the camps that were left by the smaller organizations.

The Italian Red Cross agreed that the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies should actively support the fund-raising for the people affected by the earthquake in Abruzzo with the network of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. With this support, the Italian Red Cross has kept other Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies informed on the situation and

its activities. Many Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies contacted the Italian Red Cross offering direct partnerships to provide financial support in the emergency and rehabilitation phase.

The British Red Cross has contributed with EUR 264,450 to the Italian Red Cross's national appeal while the American Red Cross offered USD 50,000 and EUR 366,798 for Onna project, bilaterally USAID also contributed with USD 50,000. The Austrian Red Cross with EUR 84,500, and the Chinese Red Cross with EUR 21,980 through its Jet Li One Foundation. The French Red Cross contributed with EUR 3,480; the Luxemburg Red Cross offered EUR 60,000 in in-kind donations (4 field kitchens); the Monaco Red Cross contributed with EUR 60,000 (for Onna project) and the Spanish Red Cross with EUR 50,000. The Icelandic Red Cross contributed with EUR 1,500. The Montenegro Red Cross contributed with EUR 3,000. The Australian Red Cross contributed with EUR 2,345 (for Onna project); the Canadian Red Cross offered EUR 718,651,00 especially for Onna project; the San Marino Red Cross will contribute with EUR 135,000 for Onna project; the Japan Red Cross contributed with EUR 7,951,00. The Swiss Red Cross assistance, composed of 231 tents with a capacity of 1,155 beds each, 2,310 blankets and a field kitchen for 1,000 meals arrived with EUR 99,823 in cash. The Swiss Red Cross, with Swiss Solidarity, will also contribute to the construction of two health centers, one in Barete and one in Navelli. A German Red Cross donation of 10 heaters (EUR 50,000 in kind) and EUR 76,000 in cash has also arrived. The Italian Red Cross also received

donations from the corporate sector: USD 15,000 from Alcatel/King Badouin Foundation US; USD 20,000 from ALCOA; 2,000 Great Britain pounds from Bloomberg and EUR 37,500 from Q8 Italian petrol company.

The Italian Red Cross is going to invite partner National Societies to pay a one-day visit on 10 December 2009 to L'Aquila to see how the operations are progressing.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards objectives

More than 1,000 staff and operators of the Italian Red Cross from all over Italy have been working in the areas hit by the earthquake, taking care of 22,000 people affected. Another 150 staff members played key roles in the National Emergency Centre and all in all, more than 10,000 volunteers intervened as part of the Italian Red Cross's plan of action.

With support from a delegate deployed by the International Federation for a short mission to Italy, the Italian Red Cross developed a detailed plan of action setting the different phases of the response. The main focus was on the rehabilitation phase, starting one to three months after the disaster.

In alignment with these priorities the Italian Red Cross supported 22,000 people during the first 6 months and will support 7,000 people during 24 months based on their expressed needs in transitional shelter, food and non-food items, community organization, psychosocial support, and social and professional training activities.

All in all, 1,500,000 meals have been distributed, 9 tent camps and 1 emergency response unit (ERU) base camp were set up and were still run by the Red Cross as per the end of October 2009, as well as eight field kitchens, eight medical posts, one veterinarian clinic, three temporary movie projection theaters and nine playrooms for children.

The Italian Red Cross promotes an **early recovery approach** that recognises the importance of early planning from the very first days taking the necessary measures in order to promote the reduction of dependency of people from external support. Detailed information on the different phases of the Italian Red Cross disaster response was provided in the previous update which can be accessed at <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/09/MDRIT001du2.pdf>

Resources

The majority of the activities have been implemented through the Italian Red Cross volunteers, paying particular attention to the interaction and synergy between the volunteers of Abruzzo and other branches involved in the operations.

Sustainability

The intervention has been analysed together with the leadership of the regional Red Cross branch of Abruzzo, the provincial branch of L'Aquila, the local authorities, the Civil Protection and other stakeholders in the field. The presence of regional and provincial branches, the opening of new local ones and the recruitment of new volunteers has ensured the continuity of the relations with the identified communities beyond the implementation of this plan of action.

All the initiatives were promoted in coordination with the Civil Protection Department. Thanks to the essential support of the Italian citizens, public institutions, other Red Cross Societies around the world, private companies and other donors, a vast international solidarity network was created, that allowed the Italian Red Cross to raise more than 10 million Euros in money and in kind.

The emergency phase

The 700,000 Swiss francs allocated from the International Federation's DREF has been used to support the Italian Red Cross in the emergency phase of the response operation.

Based on the request of the Italian Red Cross, the majority of the DREF allocation was used to procure tents. The tents, in addition to providing much needed temporary shelter for those made homeless, have been used as service tents, storage, social activities areas. Psychosocial services for children have also been run here and as a place where people can meet together formally or informally.

To this end the International Federation was providing logistics support to the Italian Red Cross.

ONNA project

The town of Onna, near l'Aquila, was extremely damaged by the earthquake. The majority of the buildings were completely destroyed. After the first needs of the community were met in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, the rehabilitation phase began which led to the recent inauguration of 94 houses for the residents.



94 small house in Onna. Photo: Italian Red Cross.

Through the *Housing to overcome the emergency* project, the Italian Red Cross set the following objectives:

- to pursue the institutional finalities of the Italian Red Cross related to the assistance to the population, above all to the most vulnerable, integrating the action of the state with health and care and social interventions;
- to increase the ability of the Italian Red Cross response to the different demands (and social needs) of the Onna population;
- to intervene in activities of urgent reconstruction of (family) housing, public services and social network, seriously devastated by the earthquake in Onna.

On 17 June, an agreement was signed by the delegated Commissioner of Government for the Abruzzo earthquake, the representative of the Autonomous Province of Trento (Provincia Autonoma di Trento, in Northern Italy) and the Italian Red Cross for the urgent realization of 94 houses in Onna, committing Euro 5.2 million to guarantee the financial coverage for the construction.

The Autonomous Province of Trento formally committed to building all the family houses. On 15 September the project to construct the houses of three different types (2/3, 3/4 and 4/6 persons) and a large community building were ready. All residents of Onna have been assigned a house according to their family needs.

“The city I want”

The city I want was an experience thanks to which 30 children and teenagers could see themselves as active protagonists of their own city, and could experience a feeling of belonging to their land and to its environment. The objective of the experience was to offer them an opportunity to take on a role of “designer” in the process of reconstruction, by making small plastic models that represented their idea of how their own village should be rebuilt.

Scosse di Sport

Promoting sport among the youth (200 participants), this project was made up of three parallel interventions:

1. The Italian Red Cross has actively defended the presence of sports instructors in the regional campuses.
2. A sports training programme of ten sessions was set up for the youth of the region of l'Aquila, which included a tournament organized at the end of October.
3. Six matches a day were organized for many youth sports teams of l'Aquila in other Italian cities in order to raise funds for the reconstruction of a youth activities building (school library, etc.).

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: To provide initial emergency assistance including food and non-food items.

Activities:

1. Distribute non-food items including blankets
2. Contribute to temporary shelter solutions
3. Provide hot meals through mobile kitchens

Progress and impact: In addition to the Emergency Response Unit (ERU) base camp, the Italian Red Cross ran a total of nine camps in the areas hit by the earthquake with a capacity of 6,000 beds providing

temporary shelter solutions to the people affected (Acciano, Assergi, Cagnano Amiterno, Centi Colella, Collemaggio, Italtel2, Pescomaggiore, San Gregorio, San Benedetto di Bagno, Mascioni).

At the end of October, besides a kitchen logistics base, nine mobile kitchens were operational, providing a total of 1.5 million meals- a maximum of 22,000 of meals per day- partly for the Red Cross camps but mainly for other camps that are not run by the Italian Red Cross.

A warehouse of 14,000 m2 with three hangers was functional in Avezzano, and a central warehouse in Rome. There was also a pharmaceutical warehouse being used.



Some 200 Italian Red Cross vehicles were available for staff and volunteers in their efforts to assist the affected population.

Some 30,000 blankets have been distributed to the affected population. 231 tents with a 1,155 bed capacity, received from the Swiss Red Cross, have been also set up.

The new health Center in Collemaggio, donated by Alessandrini Group to the Italian Red Cross. Photo: Italian Red Cross.

Health

Objective: To provide emergency first aid and medical care, including psychosocial support.

Activities:

1. Provide first aid and medical care through advanced medical teams and first aiders
2. Provide psychosocial support to those affected



Tents provided temporary shelter for those made homeless, have been used as storage, for social activities and psychosocial services for children. Photo: Italian Red cross.

Progress and impact: Seven advanced medical posts of the Red Cross, located in Poggio Picense, San Gregorio, Assergi, Paganica, Centi Colella, Collemaggio, Piazza d'Armi Campo were operational with volunteer doctors, nurses and logistic staff, and two triage tents for primary first aid screening. More than 30 ambulances were operational in the affected area at the end of October 2009.

Twelve teams for psychological support (40 persons specialized) were active and close to the families hit by the tragedy.

On the Adriatic coast some 50 Italian Red Cross nurses were providing nursing assistance and socio-psychological support to the people accommodated in hotels.

The veterinary unit in the Centi Colella camp (L'Aquila) was providing veterinary assistance. This Red Cross service has been the only one available in the camps and has been also able to carry out surgery.

Four playrooms for children as well as seven support centres for elderly people were also mitigating the effects of the earthquake on the individuals.

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

MDRIT001 - Italy - Earthquake

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/4-2009/9
Budget Timeframe	2009/4-2009/7
Appeal	MDRIT001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	700,000					700,000
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
Voluntary Income	700,000					700,000
C5. Other Income	700,000					700,000
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	700,000					700,000
D. Total Funding = B + C	700,000					700,000
Appeal Coverage	100%					100%

II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	700,000					700,000
E. Expenditure	-700,000					-700,000
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	0					0

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)	700,000					700,000		
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	650,000	629,795				629,795	20,205	
Total Supplies	650,000	629,795				629,795	20,205	
Personnel								
Consultants	1,500						1,500	
Total Personnel	1,500						1,500	
General Expenditure								
Travel	947	3,623				3,623	-2,675	
Office Costs	1,500						1,500	
Communications		412				412	-412	
Financial Charges	553	58				58	495	
Total General Expenditure	3,000	4,093				4,093	-1,093	
Programme Support								
Program Support	45,500	44,067				44,067	1,433	
Total Programme Support	45,500	44,067				44,067	1,433	
Services								
Services & Recoveries		22,045				22,045	-22,045	
Total Services		22,045				22,045	-22,045	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	700,000	700,000				700,000	0	
VARIANCE (C - D)		0				0		