

DREF operation update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Mongolia: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRMN002
GLIDE n° FL-2009-000140-MNG
Operations Update n° 2
28 July 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.

Period covered by this update: 21 July to 24 August 2009

Summary: CHF 240,000 (USD 224,520 or EUR 157,868) has been allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Mongolian Red Cross Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 10,000 people. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Severe consecutive floods occurred between 16 to 26 July in three districts of Ulaanbaatar city, a remote district and some areas in the countryside (Gobi-Altai, Khentii, Dundgobi provinces), causing damage to houses and infrastructure. A total of 26 people were found dead, out of which 18 were members of herding families settled in the riverbank areas of Gobi-Altai province. The International Federation, in support of the Mongolian Red Cross Society, released a DREF allocation of CHF 240,000 on 21 July 2009 to support relief operations. The DREF has been used to support up to 1,900 households (approximately 10,000 people) in the worst-affected areas with food and non-food items that include hygiene kits as well.

This operation is expected to be implemented within three months, and will be completed by 20 October 2009. In line with International Federation reporting standards, the Final Report (narrative and financial) will be issued by 20 January 2010, 90 days after the end of the operation.

The European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) has contributed EUR 115,000 (CHF 174,515) towards the replenishment of the DREF for the allocation made to this operation. The major donors and partners of the DREF include the Danish Red Cross, Irish Red Cross/ Irish government, Japanese Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross/ Monaco government, Netherlands Red Cross/ Netherlands government, Norwegian Red Cross/ Norwegian government, Swedish Red Cross/ Swedish government, Italian government, United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), ECHO, OPEC Fund for International Development, and corporate and private donors. Details of all donors can be found [here](#).



Mongolian Red Cross volunteers in action—preparation for the distribution of relief items in SonginoKhairkahn district. MRCS.



Floods hit Mongolia between 16 – 26 July, affecting up to 3,000 households. Mongolian Red Cross supported affected families with food and non-food relief items. MRCS.

The International Federation, on behalf of the Cook Islands Red Cross Society, would like to thank all donors and partners for their generous support to DREF.

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

The situation

Severe consecutive floods occurred between 16 to 26 July in three districts of Ulaanbaatar city, a remote district and some areas in the countryside (Gobi-Altai, Khentii, Dundgobi provinces), causing damage to houses and infrastructure. A total of 26 people were found dead, out of which 18 were members of herding families settled in the riverbank areas of Gobi-Altai province.

The number of affected households has exceeded 3,000, out of which 126 households were reported to have had their homes completely destroyed, and approximately 2,000 households were reported to have lost more than 50 per cent of their belongings. Other damages

In Ulaanbaatar city and its surrounding areas, eight people were killed (seven children and an adult). A number of greenhouses and small factories, the main source of livelihood for families in Khan-Uul district, were destroyed in the floods. Other damages include destroyed houses, fences and personal belongings, as well as damaged water pipes, electricity lines, bridges and roads.

In Gobi-Altai province, a total of 18 persons from 12 families were killed, including eight children, two elderly persons and eight other adults. Up to 1,732 heads of livestock were killed, with an estimated loss of MNT 133.7 million (CHF 98,530). In Khentil province, reports indicate that 16 families lost their homes to the floods.

The Mongolian government quickly responded to the disaster with the provision of *gers* to those whose houses were destroyed by the floods as well as hot meals for a week in the aftermath of the disaster. Children aged 16 and below, together with the elderly and the disabled, were provided with shelter in a sanatorium. The government has also started work on clearing the mud and debris from the affected areas, and the soil surface areas are also being disinfected. However, at time of reporting, the disinfection work has come to a temporary halt due to the rain. A health surveillance of the affected communities is currently ongoing. So far, up to 6,000 people passed the medical inspection and another 9,000 people were given medical advice.

Coordination and partnerships

On 18 July, the MRCS launched a local appeal to help the victims of the floods. A donation account was opened and appeal segments are being broadcasted through TV, radio and newspapers. The American embassy in Mongolia donated USD 25,000 (CHF 26,524) earmarked for food items including wheat flour, rice, sugar, tea and salt. The distribution was conducted in accordance with Code of Conduct of the International Federation and non-governmental organizations in Disaster Relief. The operations were attended by American Embassy representatives, government authorities and journalists.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards objectives

Current reports indicate that MRCS regional disaster preparedness centres have distributed relief items (food stuff, warm clothes, boots, blankets, and mattress) to a total of 141 households to date. Also, the MRCS has been trucking drinking water to those who are living in affected areas and do not have access to water.

Red Cross branch volunteers participated in road cleaning, providing psychological support to the victims, promoting disaster prevention and hygiene-related messages to the community and distributing



Mongolian Red Cross, with the support of the International Federation's disaster relief emergency funds (DREF), purchased food and non-food relief items for distribution to affected areas including Khan-Uul district. MRCS.

information, education and communication (IEC) materials on disaster prevention and hygiene. Also, the volunteers have been distributing chloramine tabs to the affected community with clear oral instruction on how to disinfect hands, clothes, remaining latrines and soil surfaces.

On 23 July, the International Federation, jointly with the MRCS, conducted a health assessment in two severely affected districts of Ulaanbaatar. The assessments indicate that solid waste continues to be removed by government trucks, but some families reported that they have been throwing solid waste into the water canal. In addition, drinking water is being delivered by the MRCS water trucks and the districts' water agencies, but a number of households reported that they do not have proper water containers

The conclusion of the assessment was that the health situation in the affected areas is stable so far. However, a high risk of waterborne disease outbreaks and skin infections was identified during the assessment.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: To ensure that up to 1,900 families or 10,000 people receive basic food and non-food items to meet the ongoing needs during the next three months, before the harsh winter arrives, in KhanUul, BayanZurkh, SonginoKhairkhan districts and Gobi-Altai province.

Activities planned (for food items):

- To identify and register 1,900 most vulnerable families affected by flood disaster;
- Engage community participation in planning and distribution of relief items;
- Mobilize 90 volunteers in assessment, distribution, and monitoring and evaluation;
- Transportation of items from supplier to the distribution point;
- Distribution of food items to the selected families;
- Develop a monitoring and evaluation system for the continuous improvement of delivery system.

Food parcel composition	
Quantity/Family	Per item
Wheat flour	15 kg
Rice	15 kg
Salt	1 kg
Tea	1 cube
Cooking oil	1 bottle

Activities planned (for non-food items):

- To identify 1,900 most vulnerable families affected by flood disaster;
- Engage community participation in planning and distribution of relief items;
- Mobilize 90 volunteers in assessment, distribution, and monitoring and evaluation;
- Transport items from supplier to the distribution point;
- Distribute food items to the selected families;
- Develop a monitoring and evaluation system for the continuous improvement of delivery system.

Non-food parcel composition	
Quantity/family	Per item
1	Warm clothes
1	Warm clothes for children
1	Boots
1	Children boots
1	Blanket
1	Mattress

Progress:

With assistance from Red Cross branch staff, volunteers and local authorities, the people most affected were identified and registered accordingly.

With technical support from the International Federation's country office in Mongolia, East Asia regional office in Beijing and the Kuala Lumpur regional logistics unit, the procurement of all items completed on time and following Federation procurement processes and standards. In total, eight suppliers were chosen through a bidding system conducted with recommendations from the Local Committee on Contract with technical approval from KL RLU.

In order to speed up the process, suppliers have been asked to deliver goods directly to the Red Cross mid-level branches of the MRCS and organize Goods Received Notes prior to any payment as per International Federation's procurement process.

At time of reporting, mid-level branches have received all the relief items and stocked in the warehouses. The distribution has started and will continue between 10 - 28 August 2009.

Location	Date	Number of households
Tseel and Togrog soums of GobiSumber province	10 August	65
Songinokhairkhan district	20-28 August	322
KhanUul district	20-28 August	403
BayanZurkh district	21-28 August	1,110

Ulaanbaatar city government and local authorities of relevant province and districts have given a lot importance to the operations and attended the distributions. Also, the distributions were covered by up to five different TV stations and some other newspapers. Distributions are proceeding smoothly and will be completed by 28 August.

Logistics

Objective: To improve the MRCS national headquarters' and mid-level branches' capacity and readiness in logistics/procurement in future operations.

Progress:

A procurement delegate seconded from the China earthquake operations facilitated the procurement process in this operation. Key achievements include the following:

- established simple supplier database for MRCS; in the event of future disasters, this enables reduction in response time and improvement in efficiency of service delivery;
- determined and documented basic specifications of emergency items primarily used in Mongolia with support from the regional logistics unit and in conjunction with MRCS;
- conducted basic logistics and procurement assessment with the view of supporting MRCS improve their capacity and readiness in future operations related to logistics and procurement;
- visited wheat flour production facilities and jerry cans manufacturing plant to see the operations;
- assisted in establishing distribution claim form template for beneficiaries.

Also, a need for a more extensive assessment of the MRCS logistics set-up as well as a full procurement and logistics training/workshop to MRCS and International Federation country office's staff in was identified and recommended.

Ongoing technical support is provided by the International Federation's Mongolia country office and the regional logistics unit in Kuala Lumpur.

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

MDRMN002 - Mongolia - Floods

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/7-2009/7
Budget Timeframe	2009/7-2009/10
Appeal	MDRMN002
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	240,000					240,000
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
Voluntary Income	240,000					240,000
C5. Other Income	240,000					240,000
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	240,000					240,000
D. Total Funding = B + C	240,000					240,000
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	240,000					240,000
E. Expenditure	-979					-979
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	239,021					239,021

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)	240,000						240,000	
Supplies								
Clothing & textiles	145,768							145,768
Food	43,610							43,610
Other Supplies & Services	13,680							13,680
Total Supplies	203,058							203,058
Transport & Storage								
Transport & Vehicle Costs	5,790							5,790
Total Transport & Storage	5,790							5,790
Personnel								
Regionally Deployed Staff	3,152							3,152
Total Personnel	3,152							3,152
General Expenditure								
Travel	12,200	916				916		11,284
Office Costs	100							100
Communications	100							100
Total General Expenditure	12,400	916				916		11,484
Programme Support								
Program Support	15,600	64				64		15,536
Total Programme Support	15,600	64				64		15,536
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	240,000	979				979		239,021
VARIANCE (C - D)		239,021				239,021		