

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° 4
29 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.

Period covered by this update:

30 September to 15 December 2009

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



Group discussions with Red Cross volunteers and youth members at the KhanUul district Red Cross branch in Ulaanbaatar were carried out as part of the DREF operations review. Photo: MRCS.

An extension for this DREF operation was requested and approved to allow the implementation of activities outlined in the revised plan of action. The revised plan of action took into account an approximate surplus of CHF 60,000 due to successful procurements below projected costs. Activities including MRCS relief stock replenishment, lessons learnt workshop and mask procurement for the hygiene promotion campaign activities were carried out.

The planned activities of the operation were completed. The delivery of some procurement items, such as jerry cans and dispensary tents, is scheduled for early February 2010. In line with the International Federation's reporting requirement, the Final Report (narrative and financial) will be issued by 20 March 2010.

The Netherlands Red Cross/ Netherlands government and the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) have contributed EUR 40,000 (CHF 60,809) and EUR 115,000 (CHF 174,515) respectively 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](#).

The International Federation, on behalf of the Mongolian 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 as well as a remote district and some areas in the countryside in the provinces of Gobi-Altai, Khentii and Dundgobi, 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.

On 20 July, MRCS requested support from the International Federation and DREF was approved the same day to assist 10,000 people affected by the floods.

Government figures indicate that the number of affected households exceeded 3,000, out of which 126 homes were completely destroyed, and approximately 2,000 households were reported to have lost more than 50 per cent of their belongings.

The Mongolian government responded to the disaster through the provision of *gers*¹ to some families who lost their homes during the floods. Children aged 16 and below, together with the elderly and people with physical and mental disabilities, were provided with shelter in a sanatorium. The government cleared the mud and debris from the affected areas through cash for work campaigns while providing technical facilities to the workers. The soil surface of some of the affected areas was also disinfected.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards objectives

An extension for the DREF operation was requested and approved to allow the implementation of activities outlined in the revised plan of action below. The revised plan of action takes into account an approximate surplus of CHF 60,000 due to successful procurements below projected costs. The activities such as MRCS relief stock replenishment, lessons learnt workshop and hygiene promotion have been carried out.

In line with the revised plan of action, this operation was extended for two months from the original three-month period, and is expected to be completed by 20 December 2009.

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.

Distribution of food and non-food items was completed on 10 September. For further information, please refer to [Operations Update no. 3](#).

DREF operations revision

Objective: To meet new vulnerabilities identified during the operations and ensure that organizational capacity is able to address those needs.

Activities planned:

- Replenishment of the MRCS stocks:
- Lessons learnt workshop/meeting:
- Hygiene promotion activities:
- Psychosocial support training and mobilization of trained in psychosocial support volunteers:

Progress:

Replenishment of the MRCS stocks:

The MRCS procured the following disaster relief stocks in order to be able to effectively respond to future disasters and public emergencies.

| Item | Unit | Quantity |
|------------|------|----------|
| Mattress | 1 pc | 255 |
| Blanket | 1 pc | 256 |
| Ger canvas | 1 pc | 400 |

¹ Round tent, Mongolian traditional housing

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|------|
| Boots | 1 pair | 420 |
| Warm clothes | 1 pc | 302 |
| Plastic collapsible jerry can | 1 pc | 2100 |
| Dispensary tents | 1 pc | 17 |

A number of emergency stocks were procured locally, such as the mattresses, blankets, *ger* canvas, boots and warm clothes, and are prepositioned in Ulaanbaatar, at the MRCS headquarters. Items procured from abroad will be delivered early in February 2010.

The national society's capacity in logistics and procurement systems are also being improved through this operation.

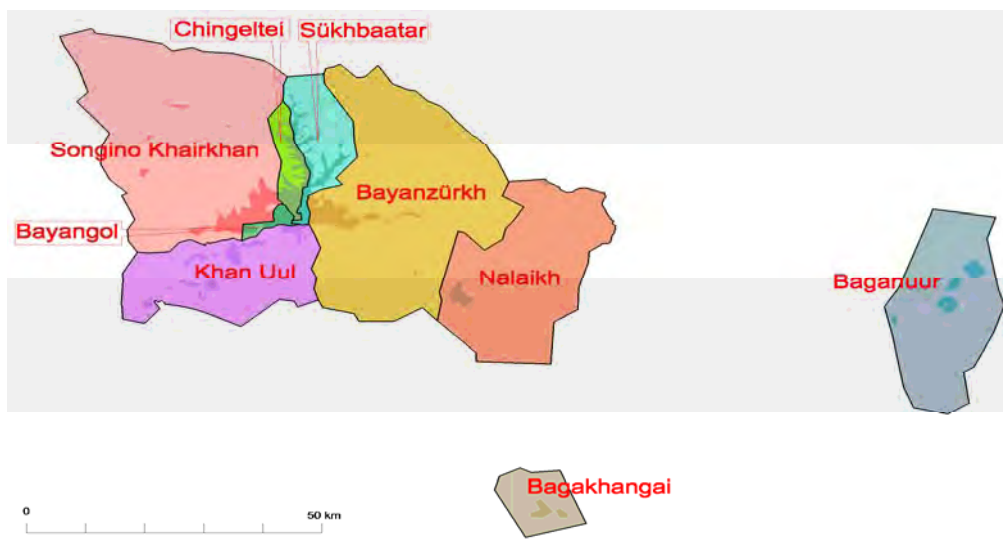
Lessons learnt workshop/meeting:

This operation's final review/evaluation was planned to take place according to the International Federation's procedure that requires a final review to be conducted at the end of the operations in order to assess the overall impact of the relief operations both on targeted community and the national society. The review process took place between 17 and 27 November with technical assistance from the International Federation's Asia Pacific disaster management unit.

All related secondary data such as mission reports of delegates seconded to the flood operations, health assessment reports, DREF operations updates, distribution and financial reports were analyzed. A data collection process was conducted using following tools and methodologies:

- Key informant interviews,
- Semi-structured interviews,
- Observation in the flood affected areas,
- Surveys and interaction with the MRCS volunteers and communities,
- Group interviews with the beneficiaries.

The review survey was conducted in three districts of Ulaanbaatar, namely KhanUul, SonginoKhairkhan and Bayanzurkh, to see the impact of the MRCS response in the most affected "khoros".



Group interviews were conducted with the community leaders, government representatives and "khoroo"² committee members. A small meeting carried out in each of the districts with the beneficiaries of the flood operation while the MRCS volunteers were conducting the household surveys. The surveys covered three different levels:

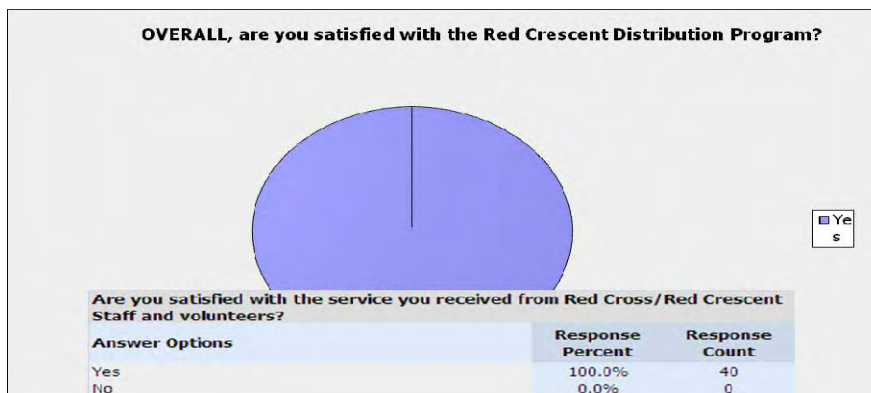
1. Quality, relevance and accountability;
2. Effectiveness and efficiency of management;
3. Changes that have been produced in the MRCS as a consequence of the DREF operations.

² Administrative unit of Ulaanbaatar city, sub-district

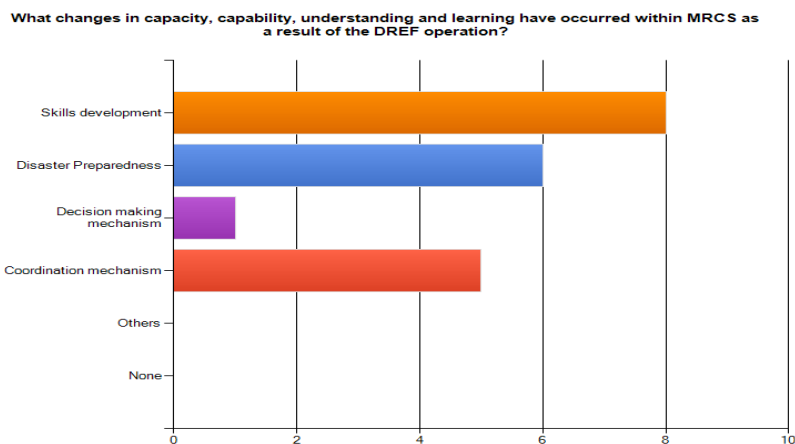
In total, 84.2 per cent of the interviewed people considered that MRCS assistance met the needs identified by the affected communities and all interviewed beneficiaries are satisfied with the service received from MRCS staff and volunteers. However, there were some delays during the relief distribution due to logistics constraints.

The lessons learnt workshop was an essential part of the review process. It was designed to serve as an opportunity for attendees to analyze the collected data, identify weaknesses and gaps, find solutions and develop recommendations. In total, 26 people attended the workshop that included all programme managers/officers at the MRCS national headquarters level, staff from the International Federation’s country office and representatives from six MRCS mid-level branches located in Ulaanbaatar city.

Overall, the review findings have been positive. The survey results, conducted among 40 households from three Ulaanbaatar districts which benefited from the DREF operations, showed a positive feedback towards Red Cross services during the flood operations.



The questionnaire, conducted among 15 MRCS staff at national headquarters and branch levels, has demonstrated that the DREF operation helped the national society identify its weaknesses and strengthen capacity in different sectors.



The MRCS is considering strengthening its disaster response capacities both at branch and at national levels, including the set up of a national disaster response team (NDRT) and increasing its capacities in emergency assessment, public health in emergencies, logistics, warehousing and procurement. On the other side, the coordination between the MRCS and the government and the integration of the different MRCS programmes has been quite challenging during the floods. MRCS is also considering developing some capacities at branch level and developing some Memorandum of Understanding with partners in order to improve the support to the most vulnerable people affected by disasters.

Hygiene promotion activities and psychosocial support training:

The first outbreak of A (H1N1) virus was recorded in Mongolia on 13 October 2009. Since the start of the epidemic, the MRCS has been actively monitoring the pandemic and exchanging information with relevant government agencies and partner organizations.

In October 2009, the MRCS received a total of CHF 108,169 from the International Federation, Finnish Red Cross and the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) in support of their A (H1N1) mitigation and preparedness activities.

Due to the rapid spread of the A (H1N1) virus pandemic in Mongolia, the priorities of the MRCS programmes and projects changed. The funding allocated for above mentioned activities was transferred to the humanitarian pandemic Preparedness–Accelerated project activities, namely, additional procurement of 5278 masks of N95 type. As a result, the Red Cross staffs and volunteers working in the frontline of the H1N1 pandemic situation are protected and effectively conducting trainings and promotion activities to prevent general community and school children from A (H1N1) virus infection.

The importance of psychosocial support and its integration to the disaster response activities was highlighted during the lessons learnt workshop. As the MRCS is one of the main disaster responders in country, its staff and volunteers should be able to provide psychosocial support to disaster affected people. Based on current resources, the national society is looking towards training and mobilization of volunteers on psychosocial support not only during disasters but in normal time as well.

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:

- Mongolian Red Cross Society: Mr. Ravdan Samdandobji, Secretary General, Mongolian Red Cross Society, Ulaanbaatar
email: redcross@magicnet.mn; phone: +976 11 312 578; fax: +976 11 320 934
International Federation country office in Mongolia: Mrs. Maija-Liisa Fors, head of country office
email: majialiisa.fors@ifrc.org; phone: +976 11 312 720; fax: +976 11 321 684
- International Federation regional office in China: phone: +86 10 6532 7162; fax: +86 10 6532 7166
-Mr. Carl Naucner, head of regional office; email: carl.naucner@ifrc.org;
-Mr. Qinghui Gu, regional disaster management coordinator; email: qinghui.gu@ifrc.org
- International Federation Asia Pacific zone office in Kuala Lumpur:
 - Mr. Jagan Chapagain, deputy head of zone; email: jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org;
phone: +603 9207 5700
 - Disaster management unit: Mr. Daniel Bolanos, operations coordinator
email: daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org; phone: + 603 9207 5728, mobile: +6012 283 7305
 - Regional logistics unit: Mr. Jeremy Francis, regional logistics coordinator;
email: jeremy.francis@ifrc.org; mobile: +6012 298 9752, fax: +603 2168 8573
 - Resource mobilization & planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) unit:
Ms. Penny Elghady (resource mobilization & PMER coordinator), email: penny.elghady@ifrc.org,
phone: +603 9207 5771
- For pledges of funding: zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org

[<Interim financial report below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRMN002 - Mongolia - Floods

Interim Financial Report

| Selected Parameters | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Reporting Timeframe | 2009/7-2009/11 |
| 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> | | | | | | |
| <i>Voluntary Income</i> | 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 | -182,909 | | | | | -182,909 |
| F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E) | 57,091 | | | | | 57,091 |

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRMN002 - Mongolia - Floods

Interim Financial Report

| Selected Parameters | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Reporting Timeframe | 2009/7-2009/11 |
| Budget Timeframe | 2009/7-2009/10 |
| Appeal | MDRMN002 |
| Budget | APPEAL |

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

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 | 121,630 | | | | 121,630 | 24,138 | |
| Food | 43,610 | 25,657 | | | | 25,657 | 17,953 | |
| Water & Sanitation | | 10,544 | | | | 10,544 | -10,544 | |
| Other Supplies & Services | 13,680 | 5,481 | | | | 5,481 | 8,199 | |
| Total Supplies | 203,058 | 163,312 | | | | 163,312 | 39,746 | |
| Transport & Storage | | | | | | | | |
| Distribution & Monitoring | | 791 | | | | 791 | -791 | |
| Transport & Vehicle Costs | 5,790 | 205 | | | | 205 | 5,585 | |
| Total Transport & Storage | 5,790 | 996 | | | | 996 | 4,794 | |
| Personnel | | | | | | | | |
| Regionally Deployed Staff | 3,152 | 567 | | | | 567 | 2,585 | |
| Total Personnel | 3,152 | 567 | | | | 567 | 2,585 | |
| General Expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| Travel | 12,200 | 3,607 | | | | 3,607 | 8,593 | |
| Information & Public Relation | | 1,363 | | | | 1,363 | -1,363 | |
| Office Costs | 100 | 825 | | | | 825 | -725 | |
| Communications | 100 | 223 | | | | 223 | -123 | |
| Other General Expenses | | 127 | | | | 127 | -127 | |
| Total General Expenditure | 12,400 | 6,145 | | | | 6,145 | 6,255 | |
| Programme Support | | | | | | | | |
| Program Support | 15,600 | 11,889 | | | | 11,889 | 3,711 | |
| Total Programme Support | 15,600 | 11,889 | | | | 11,889 | 3,711 | |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D) | 240,000 | 182,909 | | | | 182,909 | 57,091 | |
| VARIANCE (C - D) | | 57,091 | | | | 57,091 | | |