

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Mongolia: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRMN002
GLIDE n° FL-2009-000140-MNG
Final Report
26 March 2010

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.



The Mongolian Red Cross, with support from the International Federation, responded to the floods that hit the country between 16 – 26 July, affecting up to 3,000 households. Mongolian Red Cross supported affected families with food and non-food relief items in KhanUul, BayanZurkn and SonginoKhairkhan districts and Gobi-Altai province.. MRCS.

Summary:

CHF 240,000 (USD 224,073 or EUR 157,897) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 21 July 2009 to support the Mongolian Red Cross in delivering assistance to some 10,000 beneficiaries.

The whole of Ulaanbaatar city and a part of the territories in three rural provinces were affected by

devastating flash floods in late July 2009. With financial and technical assistance from the International Federation, the Mongolian Red Cross Society (MRCS) supported up to 1,900 worst affected households in addressing their most critical needs such as food items, clothing, boots, bedding, water storage containers, hygiene education and sanitation items.

The DREF operation also helped identify the strengths and weaknesses of the National Society both at headquarters and branch levels as well as strengthen capacity in many different sectors including staff skills development, disaster preparedness, decision making and coordination mechanism.

The revision and extension of the DREF operation was used as an opportunity to have a deeper look of the National Society capacity issues to meet new vulnerabilities posed by rapid and unplanned urbanization (for example, jerry cans to meet water and sanitation needs) and replenish the disaster relief stock accordingly. A lessons learnt workshop was organized as an essential part of the final review of the DREF operation. As a result of the workshop/review, potential capacity building solutions which apply internally to disaster preparedness and logistics, and externally, to the coordination and integration with the Government and other key actors in disaster management, will be considered in the National Society's strategic planning process.

An unspent balance of CHF 1,696 was returned to the DREF. This Final Report is complete with regards to the implementation of activities.

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

The situation

Severe consecutive floods occurred between 16 to 26 July in Ulaanbaatar and in some areas of the rural provinces of Gobi-Altai, Dundgobi and Khentii caused 26 deaths and left around 126 households homeless. Government figures indicate the number of affected households exceeded 3,000, mainly consisting of families living in the poorest area of Ulaanbaatar, locally referred to as *ger* districts.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The MRCS successfully mobilized all of its resources, including participation of volunteers in road cleaning, provision of psychosocial support to the affected population, promotion of disaster prevention and hygiene-related messages to the community and distribution of information, education and communication (IEC) materials on disaster prevention and hygiene. Also, prior to the launch of the DREF operation, a total of 141 households received relief items including food, warm clothes, boots, blanket and mattress from MRCS disaster preparedness stocks positioned in the MRCS headquarters and regional disaster preparedness centres.

Existing cooperation between MRCS and government and non-governmental organizations working in disaster response facilitated effective sharing of resources. An example of this includes the selection of beneficiaries, which was developed based on government-collected data, which helped deliver assistance in a timely manner and avoid overlapping of the support.

Upon the completion of the distribution process an extension for the DREF operation was requested for and approved to allow the implementation of activities outlined in the revised plan of action. The revised plan of action takes into account an approximate surplus of CHF 60,000 due to successful procurements below projected costs. The revised plan of action included activities covering replenishment of emergency stock, lessons learnt workshop/final evaluation of the DREF operation, hygiene promotion and psychosocial support activities.

However, hygiene promotion and psychosocial support training activities under this operation were cancelled due to the outbreak of A (H1N1) virus in Mongolia. The funding allocated for above mentioned activities was transferred to the Humanitarian Pandemic Preparedness–Accelerated project, namely, procurement of 5,278 masks of N95 type, as this became a priority need. As a result, MRCS staff and volunteers working on the front line of the A(H1N1) pandemic situation were protected while conducting trainings and promotion activities to help prevent general community and school children from A (H1N1) virus infection.

MRCS also received USD 25,000 (CHF 26,524) bilaterally from the American embassy in Mongolia that was earmarked for food items including wheat flour, rice, sugar, tea and salt. The distribution was conducted in three areas in Ulaanbaatar most severely affected by the flood, 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.

Achievements against objectives

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)	
Objective: to ensure that up to 1,900 households or 10,000 people receive basic food and non-food items to meet ongoing needs during the next three months, before the harsh winter arrives, in Khan-Uul, Bayanzurkh, Songinokhairkhan districts and Gobi-Altai province.	
Expected results	Activities planned
1,900 vulnerable families (10,000 people) affected by flood have directly benefited with food packages (wheat flour, rice, cooking oil, tea and salt), non-food items (blanket, mattress, warm clothes and warm boots for adults and children) and hygiene and sanitation kit (soap, towel and jerry can) distributed by the MRCS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and register 1,900 most vulnerable families affected by flood; Define the critical needs of the most affected communities; Mobilize up to 90 volunteers in assessment, distribution and monitoring and evaluation; Procure relief items in accordance with International Federation procurement standards; Continuously monitor the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions; Organize lessons learnt workshop

Impact: The distributions were completed between 10 August and 10 September, later than supposed, due to unforeseen difficulties mainly raised due to limited capacity of local vendors.

Location	Dates distributions were carried out	No. of households reached
Gobi-Altai province	10 August	65
Khan-Uul district	20 August – 10 September	403
Bayanzurkh district	20 August – 10 September	1,110
Songinokhairkhan district	21 August – 10 September	322
Total:		1,900

This operation's final review/evaluation was carried out to assess the overall impact of the relief operation both on the targeted community and the National Society. Key positive findings include the following:

- In total, 84.2 per cent of the interviewed people (out of 40 people) considered that the Red Cross assistance met the critical needs of the affected community;
- All interviewed beneficiaries were satisfied with the service received from the MRCS staffs and volunteers.

As a part of DREF operation revision, the National Society replenished its depleted emergency stocks with the following items:

Item	Unit	Quantity
Mattress	1 pc	255
Blanket	1 pc	256
Ger canvas	1 pc	400
Boots	1 pair	420
Warm clothes	1 pc	302
Plastic collapsible jerry can	1 pc	2100
Dispensary tent	1 pc	17

This replenishment was subsequently used to respond to the current dzud (severe winter conditions) disaster.

The lessons learnt workshop was organized to analyse the data collected during the final review of the DREF operation. In total, 26 people including senior managers, programme staff and representatives from mid-level branches targeted within this operation attended the workshop. Outcomes of the workshop include a need to strengthen disaster response capacities both at national and branch levels through set-up of a national disaster response team (NDRT), emergency assessment training, and improved management of logistics, warehousing and procurement.

For further details on the outcomes of the lessons learnt workshop, please refer to [Operations update no. 4](#).

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Objective: to reduce risk of water and sanitation related diseases for up to 1,900 households in Khan-Uul, Bayanzurkh, Songinokhairkhan districts and Gobi-Altai province through safe access to clean water and hygiene promotion activities.

Expected results	Activities planned
Access to safe water among supplies among the targeted community has been improved along with increased awareness on hygiene promotion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Cross volunteers assist in clean-up of areas flooded; • Provide jerry cans for household water storage; • Distribute hygiene items (soap and towel); • Promote safe hygiene and sanitation practices through household visits and IEC materials

Impact: During the DREF operation's review there was a very positive feedback from the affected community on the distribution of drinking water because it was needs-based assistance provided in timely manner. Immediately after the flood the IFRC and MRCS conducted a rapid health assessment. The main conclusion of the assessment was that there was a high risk of waterborne disease outbreak and skin infections due to the unhygienic behavior of the flood-affected community, restricted access to safe water and sanitation as well as the lack of proper water containers.

The National Society responded to the needs of affected communities by revising the initial composition of the DREF relief package to include soap, towels and jerry cans.

To support the provision of relief items and improve hygiene behaviour, Red Cross volunteers were also mobilized to conduct hygiene promotion activities, clean-up campaigns and household visits to provide psychosocial support.

Logistics

Objective: to improve the National Society's capacity and readiness in logistics/procurement in future operations

Expected results	Activities planned
Federation's procurement standards have been followed strictly with consideration of delivery of relief items in timely manner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To dispatch procurement delegate; • To establish supplier database for the National Society; • Determine and document basic specifications of emergency items primarily used in Mongolia

Impact: All planned activities have taken place and the logistics capacity of the National Society has been strengthened including the skills development of staff involved in disaster response and logistics.

A logistics delegate was deployed short term from a neighbouring operation to Mongolia for three weeks and conducted a basic and rapid assessment of the MRCS logistics and procurement set-up and recommended an extensive assessment focusing on areas of further improvement.

The lessons learned from this DREF operation have facilitated more effective and efficient actions in the subsequent DREF operation that started in January 2010 to assist *dzud*-affected herding families. Increased capacity in the current *dzud* operations include:

- Increased efficiency in developing a vendor list; for the *dzud* operations, vendor list was developed within a half day through revision of established supplier database, while it took two working days during the flood operation.
- strengthened technical know-how of the National Society and IFRC country office staff.
- integration of core programmes and supporting functions from the very beginning of the *dzud* operation.
- potential logistics and procurement challenges were well considered in the designing and planning process of the current *dzud* operation.

For more information on the *dzud* operations, please click [here](#) for latest updates.

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:

- 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: Mr. Javier Barrera, head of country office; email: javier.barrera@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 Naucler, head of regional office; email: carl.naucler@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, regional disaster response delegate; 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

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

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRMN002 - Mongolia - Floods

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/7-2010/2
Budget Timeframe	2009/7-2010/2
Appeal	MDRMN002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	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
C6. Other Income	240,000					240,000
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	240,000					240,000
D. Total Funding = B + C	240,000					240,000
Appeal Coverage	100%					100%

II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	240,000					240,000
E. Expenditure	-238,304					-238,304
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	1,696					1,696

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/7-2010/2
Budget Timeframe	2009/7-2010/2
Appeal	MDRMN002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)	240,000						240,000	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	14,568	9,423				9,423	5,145	
Clothing & textiles	131,200	140,615				140,615	-9,415	
Food	43,610	25,657				25,657	17,953	
Water & Sanitation		10,544				10,544	-10,544	
Utensils & Tools		6,506				6,506	-6,506	
Other Supplies & Services	13,680	12,514				12,514	1,166	
Total Supplies	203,058	205,259				205,259	-2,201	
Transport & Storage								
Storage	293	38				38	255	
Distribution & Monitoring		7,963				7,963	-7,963	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	8,551	205				205	8,346	
Total Transport & Storage	8,844	8,205				8,205	639	
Personnel								
Regionally Deployed Staff	3,152	567				567	2,585	
Total Personnel	3,152	567				567	2,585	
General Expenditure								
Travel	9,146	5,326				5,326	3,820	
Information & Public Relation		1,363				1,363	-1,363	
Office Costs	100	825				825	-725	
Communications	100	223				223	-123	
Financial Charges		-49				-49	49	
Other General Expenses		127				127	-127	
Total General Expenditure	9,346	7,814				7,814	1,532	
Programme Support								
Program Support	15,600	15,486				15,486	114	
Total Programme Support	15,600	15,486				15,486	114	
Services								
Services & Recoveries		973				973	-973	
Total Services		973				973	-973	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	240,000	238,304				238,304	1,696	
VARIANCE (C - D)		1,696				1,696		