

DREF operation update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Kazakhstan: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRKZ003
GLIDE n° FL-2010-00051-KAZ
Update n° 1
19 April, 2010

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) 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 emergency response. 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: 15 March to 14 April, 2010.

Summary: CHF 134,552 (USD 127,176 or EUR 92,671) was allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 19 March 2010 to support the Kazakhstan Red Crescent in delivering assistance to 480 beneficiaries affected by the floods and to replenish emergency stocks. Some 1,300 people were planned to be targeted with hygiene promotion.

Between 15 and 28 March the National Society provided 14,640 hot meals through its regional branch canteen. However, over the period the number of target

beneficiaries in Taldykorgan reduced from 480 to 220 because people returned back to the disaster site in search of jobs or government compensations. Consequently, the National Society adjusted the operation following the situation developments by setting new objectives. According to the new plan the Red Crescent will target the 1,000 most vulnerable people from those who lost their houses with food parcels; around 3,000 people will receive hygiene items; and the hygiene promotion activities will expand to cover directly 3,000 people and indirectly all the affected population in the region. The procurement of hygiene items has already started following the tender procedures.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months as initially planned, and will therefore be completed by mid-June, 2010. In line with Federation reporting standards, a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by mid-September, 2010).

The Netherlands Red Cross through its Silent Emergency Fund contributed EUR 40,000 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>



The Kazakhstan Red Crescent delivered urgently needed items to the floods affected Kyzylagash village. Photo: Kazakhstan Red Crescent

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The situation

Plentiful precipitation in February and heavy rains in March, compounded with intensive snow melting, caused flooding in 10 districts (out of 16) of Almaty region with a population of over 840,000 people. More than 40 settlements are located in the disaster-stricken area, which constitutes 29 per cent of all settlements in the affected districts.

Waters from rivers and reservoirs completely ruined over 1,400 public and private buildings, disrupted electricity and telecommunication lines, damaged 6 dams and 9 bridges and made some parts of auto and rail roads unusable. Furthermore, the flooding devastated 3,000 hectares of farmlands and killed about 6,000 heads of cattle.

According to the emergency ministry reports, the total number of directly affected people is over 15,500 and around 10,900 people from 17 villages were evacuated by the government; by now 7,000 returned home. The losses from the disaster are estimated at 5.4 billion Kazakhstan tenge (34.4 million Swiss francs).

Aksu district was hardest hit; five of its settlements were completely flooded and had serious losses because of broken dam and flash floods. The flash floods killed 44 people (including 15 children under 18 years), more than 300 people were injured and about 400 people sought medical treatment for colds and chronic diseases. About 4,500 people were left homeless and lost their belongings, cattle (1,700 heads of cattle were killed) and food reserves in cellars and gardens.

The emergency ministry jointly with the Almaty region authorities carried out rescue activities including evacuations to the regional centre in Taldykorgan, pumping of water from the flooded houses, cleaning of infrastructure/ channel systems, replacement and reconstruction of water pipes, and construction of protecting dams. The rescue teams also provided first aid to the evacuated population. In Taldykorgan the evacuated people settled in military barracks, hotels, hostels and a children house. The government also temporarily accommodated some people in tent camps set in Aksu and Ili districts. In the beginning of March the Ili camp was closed and people returned home. Besides, some people stayed with their relatives.

The government of Kazakhstan allocated from the state reserve about 4 million US dollars for the recovery of infrastructure and construction of houses for the population. It has already mobilized 52 building companies for the construction of buildings. Authorities also promised to distribute cash to reimburse the expenditures on nutrition and accommodation for each family; the amount will be about 800 US dollars per month for the period until people move to new houses. It is expected that cash will be provided to people staying with relatives or living in tents in the Aksu camp or in disaster area. Because of that people evacuated to Taldykorgan decided to return to a tent camp. However, nobody has received the promised cash so far and it is unknown when the distribution starts.

The Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society conducted assessments in the most affected areas of Aksu district – villages Kyzylagash and Egensu. The assessments revealed that only in these villages 463 buildings are beyond repair and should be re-built. Around 1,000 homes stayed under water for several hours, some for several days and some still remain flooded. Most of the people evacuated to Taldykorgan keep migrating between the regional centre and the disaster site where they join people in the tent camp near Kyzylagash village (Aksu camp). The number of people settled in the Kyzylagash tent camp, where the government has been providing meals, water, bedding and medical service, changes almost every day and varies between 900 and 1,500 people. Sanitary conditions are unsatisfactory and people need hygiene items. Also, around 510 people (108 families) live in tents erected on high grounds around Egensu village. About 500 people who lost their houses are scattered around in Aksu district in the villages of Aktogan, Alazhide, Koltoban, Kuraksu. The tents were provided by the government, the other needs include meals, hygiene and sanitation.

Coordination and partnerships

The Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society has been coordinating its activities with the Ministry of Emergencies at national and regional levels. The National Society also shares information and discusses the response operation with the UN agencies (OCHA and UNICEF).

At the country level the National Society mobilized resources from the commercial sector, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and through private donations. About 272,600 Swiss francs have been collected and will be used to provide food, bedding, kitchen sets and new clothes to the most affected population in 4 out of 10 ten affected districts of Almaty region; toys, children books and stationery for children in the tent camp; and some recovery activities in Aksu district.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

After flooding in February the National Society's regional branch assisted 44 affected people in Panfilov district with second-hand clothing and footwear, bedding and hygiene items. In response to the March floods the branch distributed 15 bedding sets and 300 kg of second-hand clothes among people evacuated to military barracks near Taldykorgan. The headquarters also sent 300 mattresses, 300 bed-linen sets, 300 blankets, 80 kitchen sets, 80 plastic jerry cans, 80 buckets, 80 towels, and 700 hygiene kits from the stocks to Taldykorgan that were distributed to people accommodated in the military barracks and a hostel. Besides, 120 mattresses, bedding sets and hygiene kits were given to the most vulnerable among the accommodated in the hospital.

Locally mobilized funds were used to provide new clothes, underwear and footwear to 131 families (660 people) in Alazhide, Egensu, and Koltoban villages of Aksu district. Twenty four families with children received diapers and blankets from the Red Crescent.

Within the framework of the DREF operation the National Society initially intended to provide hot meals for one month and hygiene kits to 480 most vulnerable people among the affected population evacuated to Taldykorgan and settled in hotels and other public buildings fit for living, and to reduce the risk of water-related diseases through hygiene promotion among 1,300 people temporarily resettled in Taldykorgan. But after two weeks of the operation evacuated people came back to their home places in the disaster area and the Red Crescent revised the response operation. It was decided to distribute food parcels with monthly stock instead of hot meals and to increase the quantity of distributed hygiene parcels to 3,000, covering affected people in Taldykorgan and those living in tents in the Aksu camp, near Egensu village and in villages of Aktogan, Alazhide, Koltoban, Kuraksu. Also, the planned information campaign on public health issues will be expanded to reach 3,000 people settled in Taldykorgan and those living in tents and indirectly all affected population in Almaty region. The budget has changed accordingly but the total amount remained the same.

The new operation objectives are as follows:

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Objective 1: 1,000 people who lost their houses as a result of floods received food parcels meant for one month.
Objective 2: Some 600 families (around 3,000 people) who lost their houses as a result of floods received hygiene parcels meant for three months.
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize teams for the distribution of humanitarian assistance from National Society staff, volunteers and the affected population • Compile a list of beneficiaries to receive assistance • Locally purchase the goods needed for distribution • Develop a plan for the distribution of humanitarian aid • Distribute the relief items to the target group • Monitor and evaluate the assistance and provide reporting on relief distributions • As part of the monitoring and evaluation activities conduct a survey among people reached to find out whether their needs were met and to seek their opinion on how the services were delivered

Each food parcel for one person will contain the following items:

Food parcel (for one month) item	Amount
Canned beef	4,500 g
Rice	4.5 kg
Pasta products	3 kg
Sugar	1.5 kg
Vegetable oil	1.5 l
Tea	150 g
Iodized salt	300 g

In total, the Kazakhstan Red Crescent will distribute 1,000 food parcels to beneficiaries settled in tents, thus providing minimum nutrition in accordance with SPHERE nutritional standards (2,199 kcal per person per day) for a period of 30 days.

The preliminary list of beneficiaries was prepared according to the criteria agreed with local authorities and beneficiary representatives. The criteria were:

- Families who lost their homes
- Families with children, single-parent families and older people

Non-food assistance will include the following hygiene items for each family for three months:

Hygiene kit (for three months) item	Amount
Laundry soap	5 pcs (150 g)
Toilet soap	10 pcs (100 g)
Washing powder	3 kg
Toothpaste	5 tubes
Toothbrush	5 pcs
Sanitary pads	8 packs (10 pcs per pack)
Toilet paper	10 rolls

In addition, children under two years will be provided with diapers, one pack each (84 pieces / pack). In total 100 packs of diapers will be distributed.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Objective: The risk of water-borne and water related diseases has been reduced through hygiene promotion among 3,000 people (600 families) temporarily settled in tents and a public awareness campaign.

Activities planned:

- Locally purchase the goods needed for distribution
- Print the information materials
- Distribute the items among the target group

Under this objective the National Society will distribute salts for dehydration and hygiene promotion leaflets and booklets to 600 families temporary settled in tents (around 3,000 people). Volunteers will visit the people, inform them about the hygiene rules and disaster preparedness measures (in particular to floods, on fire safety) and distribute the items and information materials. Posters, booklets and leaflets will also be distributed among the affected population in other disaster affected districts through local medical facilities, schools, and local governments.

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: Hot meals and hygiene items are distributed to 480 people temporarily accommodated in Taldykorgan.

Activities planned:

- Organize teams for the distribution of humanitarian assistance from National Society staff, volunteers and the affected population
- Compile a list of beneficiaries to receive assistance
- Locally purchase the goods needed for distribution
- Develop a plan for the distribution of humanitarian aid
- Distribute the relief items to the target group
- Monitor and evaluate the assistance and provide reporting on relief distributions
- As part of the monitoring and evaluation activities conduct a survey among people reached to find out whether their needs were met and to seek their opinion on how the services were delivered

Progress: Hot meals were provided through the canteen of the National Society's regional branch in Taldykorgan. The branch employed additional eight staff for the canteen and organized daily procurement of

food items and cooking meals. In the first week before proper tender procedures completed the food was procured at the market.

The local government organized transport to deliver hot meals to five places where 480 people selected for distribution settled (4 hostels, 2 hotels and a children's house). Also, the local government covered canteen's expenses for utilities.

The Red Crescent started providing three meals per day on 15 March. After two days the number of beneficiaries staying in the target places decreased and continued decreasing every day. On 29 March there were only 5 people left. The reason was that people went back to their places of residence to obtain compensation from the government and seek jobs in the construction. Over the period 14,640 meals have been provided. Since 29 March the Almaty regional branch committed to provide evacuated people staying in Taldykorgan with hot meals from its own funds.

Table 1: Hot meals provided over the period

Date (March 2010)	Number of people reached	Percentage of target number	Number of meals provided
15,16	480	100	2,880
17,18	445	93	2,670
19	420	88	1,260
20,21	400	83	2,400
22,23,24	360	75	3,240
25	260	54	780
26	250	52	750
27	220	46	660
Total			14,640

By now the National Society has finalized the tender process and started the procurement of hygiene items.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Objective: The risk of water-borne and water related diseases has been reduced through hygiene promotion to 1,300 people temporarily resettled in Taldykorgan.
Activities planned:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Locally purchase the goods needed for distribution Print the leaflets Distribute the items among the target group.

Progress: The National Society completed the tender process for the printing of information materials according to the International Federation's logistics procedures and started printing hygiene and disaster preparedness promotion materials: 2,000 copies of booklets, 17,500 copies of leaflets (five types) and 4,000 copies of posters (four types).

Revised DREF budget (the total amount remained the same)

BUDGET SUMMARY		
Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Clothing & Textiles	10,390	10,390
Food	64,600	64,600
Medical & First Aid	3,300	3,300
Other Supplies & Services & Cash Disbursements	24,300	24,300
Total Supplies	102,590	102,590
Distribution & Monitoring	4,300	4,300

Transport & Vehicle Costs	4,500	4,500
Total Transport & Storage	8,800	8,800
National Society Staff	2,650	2,650
Total Personnel	2,650	2,650
Information & Public Relation Communications	11,500 800	11,500 800
Total General Expenditure	12,300	12,300
Program Support	8,212	8,212
Total Programme Support	8,212	8,212
Services & Recoveries Shared Services		0 0
Total Services	0	0
TOTAL BUDGET	134,552	134,552

How we work

All IFRC 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 the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Contact information

Further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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