

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Serbia: Earthquake

DREF operation n° MDRRS004
GLIDE n° EQ-2010-00218-SRB
9 November 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 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.

CHF 102,347 (USD 106,146 or EUR 75,981) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 8,000 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged. The International Federation is considering the issuance of an emergency appeal depending on the outcome of the final assessment of the disaster.

Summary: An earthquake measuring 5.4 on the Richter scale (7.5 on the Mercalli scale) hit the municipality, and the town, of Kraljevo in central Serbia on 3 November 2010.

Two people were killed by a collapsing building and 120 were injured. 180 families have had to leave their houses due to damage and are residing in temporary accommodation – with their relatives or in collective centres. The extent of damage is being assessed by the authorities and civil organizations. Currently 20 municipal teams are working on assessing whether damaged houses are safe for residence. It is estimated that some 4,000 to 5,000 houses will be declared in need of serious reconstruction. By the same estimation, tens of thousands of people will need temporary shelter until permanent housing solutions are found. So far, 733 houses have been declared unsafe for living and 3,089 houses are classified as in need of repair.

Based on the situation, this operation responds to a request from the Red Cross of Serbia, and focuses on providing support to take an appropriate and timely response in delivering assistance and relief in the following sectors:

- **Relief distribution:** The food and hygiene needs of 2,000 families/ 8,000 people for three months will be met through provision of adequate relief items.
- **Psychosocial support:** 2,000 affected families receive regular psychosocial support from Red Cross volunteers for enabling them to better cope with the effects of the disaster.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 31 January 2011; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 30 April 2011).



Red Cross of Serbia Assessment Team in Sirča village, Kraljevo Municipality. Photo: Red Cross of Serbia

According to the current reports by the municipal authorities, it is almost certain that recovery support for no less than 12,000 families will be needed across the period of approximately six months. The Red Cross of Serbia is estimating that out of this number no less than 2000 families will be in need of Red Cross support with recovery, reconstruction, further relief and psychosocial support.

[<click here for the DREF budget \(if available\), here for contact details, or here to view the map of the affected area>](#)

The situation

On 3 November, at 1.58 A.M. an earthquake, measuring 5.4 on the Richter scale / 7.5 on the Mercalli scale hit central Serbia. The epicentre was in the village of Vitanovac, some 15 kilometres northwest from the town of Kraljevo. Two people in the Kraljevo suburb Grdica were killed when their house collapsed in on them. Another person died from a heart attack the following afternoon due to panic caused by aftershocks of which more than 120 have been registered so far – the strongest one reaching 4.4 on the Richter scale.

120 people approached health services in Kraljevo for some kind of treatment since the earthquake. Although the Hospital in Kraljevo has been badly damaged by the quake (the operating block and polyclinic sustained the most damage), the services are being provided to the injured and other people in need. Additional hospital beds and other capacity have been put at Kraljevo Health Centre's disposal in several neighbouring cities.

A state of emergency has been proclaimed in the municipality and schools and kindergartens were going to be closed until Monday, 8th November.

The damage caused by the earthquake is visible in the streets of Kraljevo - rubble, broken glass, cracked facades. The town's administration declared a state of emergency, with about a quarter of the urban area having been without electricity for the first day. Landline telephony was briefly out of service but restored in the meantime. Tap water has been declared unsafe to drink for the first five days but the situation is going back to normal now.

The Serbian government announced the immediate assistance in the amount of RSD 6 million (approximately EUR 55,000) for the town. The area was visited by the President, the Prime Minister and



Devastation in Kraljevo.
Photo: Red Cross of Serbia

several of the government's ministers. Gendarmerie and police units for emergency situations are deployed in the area. There does not seem to be any need for further search and rescue activities but the Fire Fighters and Police are helping with cleaning the streets from rubble and assisting with traffic control.

At the beginning, 42,000 litres of fresh water was provided daily through the water trucking system. However, safe water supply is now mostly restored. The Red Cross offered additional capacities up to 30,000 litres, but at the moment there is no need for that.

Currently, more than 20 different teams are working on identification of the houses which are to be declared unsafe to use. After this assessment is finalised, the number of people in need of sheltering will be known. The municipal government has already identified several possible shelter locations. The authorities have secured shelter capacity for up to 300 people as well as accommodation and food for volunteers who are coming from different towns of Serbia. At the moment approximately 180 families are already residing outside of their damaged homes/ houses – 98 people in collective centres and the rest at their relatives' homes.

According to the rough estimations, damage in Kraljevo town is Euro 100 Million, which is equal to the five years' budget of Kraljevo municipality. According to the current reports, more than 12,000 buildings and

houses have been damaged in Kraljevo. The total number of houses that are declared unsafe for living at the moment is 733 while 3,089 houses and flats are recommended for reparations.

Coordination and partnerships

All activities in the field are being coordinated at municipal level by the Municipal Disaster Response Headquarters, in line with the new Disaster Response Law. Red Cross of Kraljevo is part of the response structure and has been involved in the work of the HQ from the very beginning. The Red Cross branch has put a special vehicle for rescue activities at the disposal of Fire Fighters immediately after the earthquake.

The Headquarters has had three meetings so far focusing on damage assessments and urgent needs of the affected population. Additional human resource capacities have been offered to the Kraljevo Red Cross branch and to the Municipal Disaster Response HQ through the engagement of the Red Cross of Serbia Assessment and Coordination Teams, Mobile Technical Teams and Water and Sanitation teams. So far it is not possible to tell what the scope of these teams' engagement will be.

The Red Cross may be asked to assist in furnishing some of the shelters but also with the soup kitchen capacities in days to come. The Red Cross of Kraljevo is currently running a Soup Kitchen programme for approximately 600 beneficiaries and is well positioned to expand the service to cover the needs of people affected by the earthquake. Through its immediate financial assistance the government of Serbia will be providing RSD 1.5 Million (approximately EUR 14,000) for the soup kitchen.

Twenty Municipal Assessment Teams are currently at work assessing whether damaged buildings and houses are safe or unsafe for residence. The inhabitants of houses declared unsafe will be receiving written instructions to leave them and move into temporary accommodation.

According to the same rough estimations the number of people that possibly will be in need of sheltering is between 1,000 and 1,200. There are 120,000 people living in the municipality of Kraljevo, according to the census performed in 2000.

The initial safety assessment and the subsequent damage assessment will be taking some time since many houses suffered damages and there is a need for qualified expert's checks. So far the teams are only responding when asked by the owners to come and examine the house due to the limited capacity.



Relief distribution in Kraljevo. Photo by Red Cross of Serbia

The USAID office in Belgrade has been in touch with the Red Cross Society of Serbia since the Kraljevo earthquake, and USAID has decided to donate USD 50,000 directly to the National Society. The USAID funds will be used for the purchase of two pre-fabricated houses (50 m² each) that will be handed over to the Red Cross of Kraljevo.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Red Cross of Kraljevo branch has, by appointment of the Municipal Disaster Response Headquarters, been made responsible for reception, storing and distribution of all relief goods that are coming to Kraljevo. On 7 November, the branch received 25 tons of sugar from the town of Apatin, a trailer of hygiene items, 2,048 pieces of bread from KLAS bakery and two trailers of bottled water.

The branch has started the relief distribution. 115,855 litres of water, 675 food parcels, 15,500 meat cans, 2,592 litres of detergent for dishes and 265 hygiene parcels have already been distributed.

Item	Quantity
Rice	2 kg
Corn flour	2 packages
Pasta	4 packages
Canned meat	2 cans
Meat pate	2 cans
Edible oil	1 litre
Ajvar jars	1 jar
Sugar	1 kg
Toilet paper	1 package
“Eurokrem” spread	1 jar

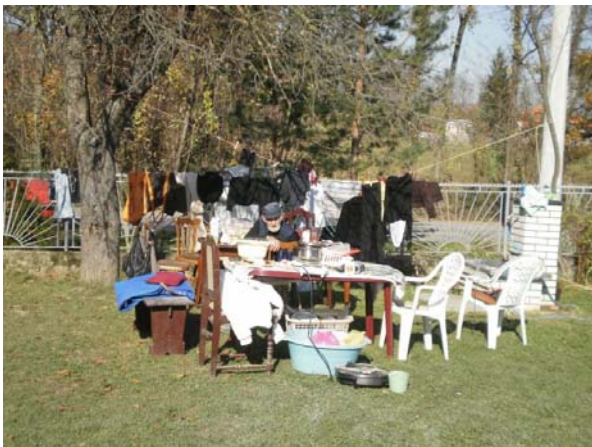
Table 1: Contents of the Food Parcel

Three tents have been put in place for two families close to their destroyed houses. The branch provided them with food, blankets and beds. Distribution of 8,000 m2 of plastic sheeting to cover the damaged roofs and windows will start shortly. The branch participates in all crisis headquarters’ meetings that take place on daily basis. The first Red Cross of Serbia psychosocial support team is coming to Kraljevo on Tuesday, 9 November.

Following the initial report on <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/news/10/10110301/index.asp> on the day the disaster struck, the Europe Zone communications office will continue to provide communications support to the Red Cross Society of Serbia to ensure wide national and regional publicity for its role in the disaster response and subsequent activities. As needed, the Zone communications team will visit the affected area to assist in gathering information materials (written information, photographs, video, testimony) from Red Cross workers, volunteers and the affected population. The resources of the communications department will also be available to advise on informational materials for those made vulnerable by the earthquake.

The needs

Beneficiary selection: The Red Cross of Serbia will be, in their efforts, focusing on the most vulnerable population, i.e. the population with the least capacity to recover. After the assessment is done by the Municipal Disaster response HQ, the Red Cross will identify the neediest population and provide assistance



Looking on his destroyed house – a resident of Kraljevo. Photo by Red Cross of Serbia

to them. It is at the moment estimated that this population will not exceed 2,000 families for the immediate relief and psychosocial support response. The assessment will reveal eventual differences between urban and rural areas in terms of specific challenges.

The families whose houses are / will be declared unsafe for residence by the assessment, as well as elderly households, single member households, and families with many members will be the main focus of the intervention. The Red Cross of Serbia will be providing assistance through temporary shelters up to two months (provision of mattresses, blankets, bed linen, food, etc.) as well as psychosocial support.

Relief: Assistance with food and non food items (provision of mattresses, blankets, bed linen, food etc.)

for up to 2000 families/ 8000 people up to three months. Priority beneficiaries will be those residing in temporary shelter.

Psychosocial: Psychosocial support for up to 2,000 families/ 8,000 people for up to three months.

In addition to the immediate relief response, the Red Cross of Serbia is planning to assist the most vulnerable families in reconstruction of their houses by providing no less than 2,000 house repair kits. The exact content of the kits will be identified in the days to come, and the distribution of these kits will be followed by a deployment of Red Cross of Serbia Mobile Technical Teams, who will assist with repairs to those unable to carry out the works on the house reconstruction by themselves. The International Federation is considering the issuance of an emergency appeal depending on the outcome of the final assessment of the disaster.

The proposed operation

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)	
Outcome: The necessary relief items for the most vulnerable among the affected population (mattresses, blankets, bed linen, canned food, hygiene parcels) will be distributed to 8,000 beneficiaries according to assessment and selection criteria that identify actual needs and vulnerable groups.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The food and hygiene needs of 8,000 of the most vulnerable people for two months will be met through provision of adequate relief items.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments. • Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. • Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user. • Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions. • Develop an exit strategy.

Psychosocial support	
Outcome: 2,000 affected families/ 8,000 people will be assisted through strengthening their coping mechanisms and supported in recovery efforts.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
2,000 affected families/ 8,000 people receive regular psychosocial support from Red Cross volunteers and are able to better cope with the effects of the disaster.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment and selection of beneficiary groups (mothers with children, etc.). • Design of training and training manual for Red Cross volunteers. • Two training sessions for 50 Red Cross volunteers. • Provision of psychosocial support. • Monitoring and evaluation of support activities

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

The International Federation'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 International Federation'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

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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[<DREF budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Shelter - Relief	20,000	20,000
Food	17,000	17,000
Water & Sanitation	20,000	20,000
Teaching Materials	2,500	2,500
Other Supplies & Services & Cash Disbursements	7,000	7,000
Total Supplies	66,500	66,500
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	0	0
Storage	3,000	3,000
Distribution & Monitoring	4,000	4,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	3,500	3,500
Total Transport & Storage	10,500	10,500
National Staff	7,000	7,000
National Society Staff	6,000	6,000
Total Personnel	13,000	13,000
Workshops & Training	3,000	3,000
Total Workshops & Training	3,000	3,000
Travel	500	500
Information & Public Relations	2,000	2,000
Communications	300	300
Other General Expenses	300	300
Total General Expenditure	3,100	3,100
Total Contributions & Transfers	0	0
Program Support	6,247	6,247
Total Programme Support	6,247	6,247
Total Services	0	0
TOTAL BUDGET	102,347	102,347



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