

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Russia: Mine blast

DREF operation n° MDRRU007
GLIDE n° AC-2010-000093-RUS
17 May 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 29,348 (USD 25,873 or EUR 20,935) has been allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 250 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: As a result of two methane blasts in the Rospadskaya coal mine in Siberia's Kuzbass region on 8 May 2010 at least 66 people were killed, 129 injured and 24 missing. The Russian Red Cross will provide psychosocial support to the affected individuals and families in order to minimize the psychological effects in the aftermath of the mine explosion.



Фото ИТАР-ТАСС

This operation is expected to be implemented over six months, and will therefore be completed by 17 November 2010; a Final Report will be made available by 17 February 2011.

Rospadskaya mine after the explosion. Photo: Itar-tass

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

The situation

Two explosions occurred in Russia's biggest coalmine Rospadskaya in the town of Mezhdurechensk, in Kuzbass region in Western Siberia. The first methane blast occurred on 8 May. Out of the 359 miners that were inside 295 managed to escape safely to the ground. However, a second blast occurred when rescue teams (54 people) went down to save other people. As a result of these two explosions at least 66 people were killed, 129 people injured including 84 hospitalized, and 24 people are still missing. These numbers include both miners and rescue team members. The rescue operation was supported by about 600 people; on 13 May the rescue works were postponed because of the high risk of further methane explosions.

The following day the prime minister of Russia arrived in the coal-rich area in central Siberia and visited the injured people in the hospital. The governor of Kemerovo is overseeing the rescue operation together with the minister of emergencies.

Although state authorities have pledged all kind of compensation to the affected families, people are in a great shock and in need of psychosocial support.

Coordination and partnerships

The government of the Russian Federation started the rescue and emergency response activities immediately after the first blast. The Ministry of Emergencies, EMERCOM, is in charge of the overall emergency response including search and rescue activities in cooperation with the local authorities. The Kemerovo regional Red Cross branch was involved back in 2007 in the response to the mine blast at the Ulyanovskaya mine in Novokuznetsk, which is in the same area as the Rospadskaya coalmine. The Russian Red Cross contacted EMERCOM and the local authorities right after the explosion and offered its services to the administration of the Rospadskaya coalmine and proposed to provide support to the affected people and their family members.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Kemerovo Red Cross branch contacted the local administration of Mezhdurechensk and the Rospadnaya coalmine. The volunteers of the Red Cross branch in Mezhdurechensk have been assisting EMERCOM and have been involved in the assessment of the situation as well as accompanying family members of the deceased people during the identification of dead bodies in the forensic medicine department. The Chief Psychiatrist of Kemerovo region and local authorities initiated discussions with the Russian Red Cross about the provision of psychological support for the families of the deceased people.

The needs

The mine blast resulted in 66 people being killed, 24 missing and a total of 129 people being injured, including 84 who are now hospitalized, with one of them being in a critical condition, and eight in grave condition. Six persons in grave and moderately grave condition were taken for treatment to Moscow. Many of the deceased people were rescue workers who went into the shafts after the first blast, and were caught in the second explosion. According to the information of the Kemerovo Red Cross branch and local authorities of Mezhdurechensk town the expected number of people in need of psychosocial support will be at least the 84 heavily injured people and more than 170 family members of the deceased, injured and missing people.

The proposed operation

Following the request of the local authorities to the Russian Red Cross to be engaged in the psychological support for families of the victims of the Rospadskaya mine explosion, the Kemerovo Red Cross branch started working with the authorities and the affected families and prepared a plan of action. The Russian Red Cross headquarters is supporting the branch in its efforts to respond to the situation.

The aim of the operation will be to minimize the psychological effects in the aftermath of the coalmine explosion through the provision of psychosocial support to affected people.

Within the framework of the planned operation, the Russian Red Cross will take the following actions:

- Prepare volunteers and others to provide immediate and long-term psychosocial support to affected individuals and families.
- Release and distribute information materials to the local population on overcoming stressful situations.
- Arrange social support for the affected individuals and families and help them resolve their social or legal problems.

Emergency health and care	
Objective: The psychological effects in the aftermath of the explosion in Rospadskaya mine are reduced through the provision of psycho-social support to about 250 affected family members.	
Expected results	Activities planned
Psycho-social support is provided to about 250 family members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provide psycho-social support to about 250 family members affected by the explosion through Red Cross staff and trained volunteers to address people's needs and to improve their psychological conditions. ➤ Increase awareness of the affected population and their family members about ways of coping with stress through the distribution of information booklets and leaflets during individual visits and public actions.

Monitoring and Communication

The Kemerovo regional Red Cross branch will be responsible for the implementation of the psychosocial support activities in Mezhdurechensk. The Russian Red Cross headquarters, in close cooperation with the Federation regional representation in Moscow, will monitor the progress towards the objective of the operation and provide technical support and advice. The visibility of the work of volunteers will be ensured throughout the operation through issuing publications and regularly informing the media.

Budget

BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Medical & First Aid	225	225
Total Supplies	225	225
Distribution & Monitoring	4,700	4,700
Transport & Vehicle Costs	300	300
Total Transport & Storage	5,000	5,000
National Staff	600	600
National Society Staff	13,132	13,132
Consultants	1,500	1,500
Total Personnel	15,232	15,232
Workshops & Training	2,460	2,460
Total Workshops & Training	2,460	2,460
Travel	1,200	1,200
Information & Public Relation	1,040	1,040
Office Costs	1,800	1,800
Communications	600	600
Total General Expenditure	4,640	4,640
Program Support	1,791	1,791
Total Programme Support	1,791	1,791
Services & Recoveries	0	0
Shared Services	0	0
Total Services	0	0
TOTAL BUDGET	29,348	29,348

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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