

# DREF operation update



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Kazakhstan: Floods

**DREF operation No. MDRKZ004**  
**GLIDE No. FL-2011-000038-KAZ**  
**18 May 2011**

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:** 20 April to 17 May 2011.

**Summary:** CHF 193,479 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 2,700 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Abundant snowmelt and heavy rains between 9 and 15 April 2011 raised water levels in rivers that caused floods in Western Kazakhstan region affecting 8 districts (37 settlements) including Zelenovsky, Burlinsky, Taskalinsky, Trekinsky, Akjaiksky, Kaztalovsky, Chigirlausky districts and Uralsk city.

According to the detailed assessment conducted by the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MoES), the Kazakhstan Red Crescent and Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) staff deployed at site, the number of houses affected by the disaster in Western Kazakhstan region is 2,650 houses (or 8,915 people), out of which 1,254 houses have been totally destroyed and 1,396 houses damaged and made uninhabitable.

Following the disaster, the National Society conducted a detailed needs assessment and prepared the list of beneficiaries according to vulnerability criteria agreed with the local authorities. Based on the conducted assessment, the National Society is planning to target the 620 most affected households (2,700 people) of Zelenovsky district and Uralsk city that were hardest hit by disaster. The affected people are receiving basic non-food items like blankets, bed-linen sets, mattresses, towels, kitchen sets and hygiene sets, including specific items for women and children.

This operation is expected to be implemented over 3 months, and will therefore be completed by 20 July 2011; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 31 October 2011). The Netherlands Red Cross contributed CHF 64,549, ECHO contributed CHF 107,474 and the Canadian government CHF 21,505 to the DREF in replenishment of the allocation made for this operation. Details of all donors can be found at

<http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp>



The National Society and RDRT team members conduct assessments in the affected area. Photo: Kazakhstan Red Crescent

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## The situation

Abundant snowmelt and heavy rains between 9 and 15 April 2011 raised rapidly water levels of five rivers in Western Kazakhstan. The water flooded 37 settlements (8 districts) of Zelenovsky, Burlinsky, Taskalinsky, Trekinsky, Akjaiksky, Kaztalovsky, Chigirlauskiy districts and the regional capital town of Uralsk.

In order to enhance the response capacity and to support the implementation of planned operation, one member of the Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) has been deployed to the affected areas from Tajikistan Red Crescent Society. A detailed assessment, conducted by the Ministry of Emergency Situations, local authorities, the Kazakhstan Red Crescent disaster response team and regional disaster response team members showed that the number of (residential) houses affected by the disaster in Western Kazakhstan region was 2,650 houses (or 8,915 people, including 82 pregnant women and over 500 children), out of which 1,254 houses were totally destroyed and 1,396 houses damaged and made uninhabitable. In the floods two people died. 50 km of roads, 120 km of power lines, 10 km of telephone lines and 3 bridges were destroyed. 1,314 heads of livestock perished. Also 9 health facilities and 16 educational facilities were damaged.

Results of the assessment conducted by Kazakhstan Red Crescent staff and RDRT showed that Zelenovsky district and Uralsk city were hardest hit.

Table 1 Assessment of damage in most affected areas

	<b>Number of affected people</b>	<b>Destroyed households</b>	<b>Damaged households</b>	<b>Destroyed summer houses</b>
Uralsk city	4,750	1,020	515	7,146
Zelenovsky District	3,400	109	477	-

	<b>Number of dead livestock</b>	<b>Number of damaged education facilities</b>	<b>Number of damaged health facilities</b>	<b>Destroyed power lines (km)</b>
Uralsk city	26	5	4	around 30
Zelenovsky District	851	7	4	around 20

The assessment indicated that the affected population was in need of:

- hygiene items, cooking and bedding sets - since a lot of home properties were lost or badly damaged.

The government also responded rapidly to the emergency by conducting search and rescue operations and evacuation of the affected families, as well as by reinforcing dams, cleaning mud and reconstruction of the infrastructure. By now, recovery works such as cleaning and repairing of roads, repairing electricity and gas supplies have almost been completed.

According to latest information, 1,053 people (including 20 pregnant women and 262 children) are still staying at 11 evacuation centres. The daily number of new evacuees at the evacuation points is falling.

The updated list of food and non-food items provided by the government to the evacuees and the affected population is presented in the tables below.

Table 2 Food items provided by the government

Flour	9,950 kg	Pasta	8,000 kg
Sugar	17,650 kg	Canned goods	67,426 tins
Potato	2,000 kg	Rice	23,635 kg
Cabbage	30 kg	Beans	950 kg
Salt	400 kg	Tea	2,700 kg

Onion	2,100 kg	Powdered milk, baby food	10 kg
Carrot	2,450 kg	Vegetable oil	3,943 l

Table 3 Non-food items provided by the government

Soap	604,8 kg	Washing powder	36 pcs
Medicine	4 boxes	Toothbrush	50 pcs
Mattresses	210 pcs	Hygiene soap	360 pcs
Blankets	1,080 pcs	Disposable Spoons	2000 pcs
Beds	1210 pcs	Metal kettles	12 pcs
Boots	100 pairs	Wipes	500 packs
Bucket	35 pcs	Toilet Paper	200 pcs
Disposable cups	105 packs	Clothes	5.5 tons
Glass beakers	300 pcs	Pillows	1,040 pcs
Hose	15 m	Pillowcases	2,000 pcs
Hammer	4 pcs	Sheets and quilts	4,000 pcs
Pot	4 pcs	Sleeping bags	500 pcs
Shampoo	70 pcs	Tables	30 pcs
Socks	170 pairs	Chairs	120 pcs
Diapers	34 packs	Plates	240 pcs
Medical wadding	500 pcs	Fork	240 pcs

According to the preliminary assessment, the amount of the losses is about 20 billions tenge (about 120 million CHF). Committees, which composed local authorities, elders and representatives of the affected population, have been created. Those committees have started assessing the damage and distributing humanitarian aid in the affected areas.

## Coordination and partnerships

The Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society has been closely coordinating its activities with the local government and the authorities. Representatives of MoES, local authorities are holding periodical meetings with representatives of Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society, and, as a result, effective liaison has been established with the leadership of the region in order to respond effectively and in a timely manner to the needs of the affected population, avoiding a duplication of activities.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society immediately responded to this emergency by activating 6 NDRT members who were deployed from the National Society headquarters and Chimkent to start the implementation of the planned response activities under DREF. Also one member of the Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) has been deployed from the Tajikistan Red Crescent Society to the affected areas in order to assist the responding team in the implementation of detailed assessment; logistics issues; report preparation.

The results of the detailed assessment, conducted by the responding team, revealed that the population in 22 villages of Zelenovsky district and Uralsk city had been most affected. The distribution list of vulnerable population hit by the floods was prepared and agreed with the local authorities. Those residents belong to the vulnerable groups including large families with many small children, people with disabilities, pensioners, single mothers and unemployed people.

Table 4 Target locations and number of beneficiaries

Locations sub-district/city	Number of families	Number of people
Belesky	110	443
Jelesnovsky	26	105
Zelenovsky	91	278
Shalgay	7	29
Razdolnensky	59	198

Makarovsky	62	213
Chebotarevsky	24	98
Dostytsky	53	238
Peremetninsky	22	65
Michurinsky	154	525
Trekinsky	3	12
Egindibulaksky	9	26
Uralsk city (3 evacuation centres)	-	470
<b>Total</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>2,700</b>

The National Society will target 2,230 people (making 620 households) in Zelenovsky district and 470 people in the evacuation centres in Uralsk. The houses of these people have been completely destroyed or heavily damaged and their household properties have been lost.

## Progress towards objectives

<b>Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)</b>
<b>Objective: 620 households (2,700 people) must be provided with basic non-food items to help them cope with the consequences of floods according to assessment and selection criteria that identified actual needs and vulnerable groups.</b>
<b>Activities planned:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct detailed emergency needs assessments.</li> <li>- Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.</li> <li>- Prepare the lists of beneficiaries together with the local administration and in accordance with the KZRCS assessment procedures.</li> <li>- Procure and deliver relief non-food items to the affected areas and KZRCS operation points.</li> <li>- Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from the point of dispatch to the end users.</li> <li>- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and report on the relief distributions.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** The detailed needs assessment has been completed and the list of beneficiaries has been prepared according to the criteria previously agreed with the local authorities. The total number of target households increased from 600 to 620 due to the detailed needs assessment, but this increase does not affect the number of beneficiaries.

The procurement of non-food items and their transportation to the above-mentioned locations for further distribution to the 620 most affected families is underway and is planned to be completed after the choice of suppliers.

The National Society has printed and delivered visual information materials on safe hygiene and sanitation promotion to prevent diseases and these will be distributed along with non-food items in target settlements by Red Crescent volunteers.

**Challenges:** The procurement process has been delayed. This is partly because there is no National Society branch office in the affected region and the deployment of the headquarters staff to the area stretches the capacities. Besides, there were two public holidays in early May that extended communications with suppliers.

## 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

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

- **In the Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society:** Vadim Kadyrbaev, Vice President, email: [drvadimrc@mail.ru](mailto:drvadimrc@mail.ru); phone: + 7 727 291 81 51; fax: +7 727 291 81 72
- **In the IFRC Regional Representation for Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan:** Gyula Kadar, Regional Representative; email: [gyula.kadar@ifrc.org](mailto:gyula.kadar@ifrc.org); phone: +7727 291 80 63; fax: +7727 291 42 67
- **In the IFRC Europe Zone Office:** Alberto Monguzzi, Disaster Management & Shelter; email: [alberto.monguzzi@ifrc.org](mailto:alberto.monguzzi@ifrc.org); phone:+36 1 8884 500; fax: +36 1 336 15 16
- **In Geneva:** Pablo Medina, Operations Advisor; phone: +41 22 730 4381; fax: +41 22 733 0395; email: [pablo.medina@ifrc.org](mailto:pablo.medina@ifrc.org)

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