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Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) Russian Federation: Floods in Chechnya

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

**DREF operation n° MDRRU013
GLIDE n° FL-2011-000123-RUS
2 September 2011**

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.

CHF 77,905 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society of the Russian Red Cross in delivering immediate assistance to some 950 families (3,500 people) in the Russian Federation, Republic of Chechnya. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Heavy rains raised the water level of the river Sunzha causing a dam burst and the inundation and flooding of houses in the city of Grozny and surrounding neighbourhoods. The Russian Red Cross local branch defined 950



families as the most vulnerable (older people, single-parent families). That is approximately 3,500 people. The branch will assist them by covering their most urgent needs through delivery of food and non-food items. The delivery is being carried out with the support of trained volunteers.

In August 2011, flooding and inundation affected more than 1,000 families in the Chechen Republic of the Russian Federation.
Photo: Russia-24

This operation is expected to be implemented over 3 months, and will therefore be completed by 30 November 2011; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 1 March 2012).

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

The situation

The flooding in Grozny, Russian Federation, Chechnya, occurred when heavy rains, lasting for two days non-stop, led to the bursting of the dam on the river Sunzha that normally protects the city from floodwaters. The flood situation worsened on the Sunzha River in the Oktyabrsky district of Grozny, and the dam broke on 27 August at 12.35 p.m. Moscow time.

No casualties have been reported after the floods. The affected population has been evacuated, and local authorities assigned schools and dormitories for their temporary accommodation. 100 persons were accommodated at their relatives. The local authorities of Chechnya evacuated the affected residents from their homes in the capital city of Grozny, officials said. Schools and dormitories were assigned for the

evacuation of people from the flooded area. 100 people were accommodated at their relatives. There were no reports of casualties.

Emergency authority officers are involved in the cleanup of the flood and the infrastructure rehabilitation, since electric power and gas supply were cut in the affected districts.

On Sunday, 28 August, the local office of the Russian Ministry of Emergencies stated that a total of 2,688 people were affected in Grozny (384 of them children) and required evacuation from 673 homes that were hit by the flooding. But the numbers have grown after thorough assessment was completed and carried out by the Russian RC branch. The Russian RC branch team assessed the situation in Grozny and 13 rural settlements (Voykovo, Kalinina, Staraya Sunzha, Shaami Yurt, Yandy, Achkhoy Martan, Martan Chu, Shalazhi, Urus Martan, Roshni Chu, Tangi Chu, Alkhan Yurt and Gekhi) on 28-29 August and found out that the number of the affected families in the concerned area exceeded 1,250 families (around 5,000 people); while 950 of them (around 3,500 people, 500 of them children) were identified as the most vulnerable (families with many children, families headed by women, elderly people).

According to the Russian Ministry of Emergencies (EMERCOM) office, the water levels are currently on the decline but are receding very slowly (by 2 cm from 28 to 29 August).

Coordination and partnerships

On 27 August the local authorities of the region set up an Emergency Commission that is coordinating all disaster response actions in the Chechen Republic of the Russian Federation. No compensatory measures are foreseen from the authorities of Chechnya. EMERCOM as a specialized emergency agency has carried out the following disaster response actions, focused on immediate activities, mostly restricted to engineering measures:

- evacuation of the most affected residents to temporary shelters (schools and dormitories), where people can be accommodated and receive some basic food until their return to their homes;
- cleaning the riverbed, fortifying river banks, erecting sand dams.
- improving the conditions for restoring power and gas supply;
- search and rescue.

In order to avoid a duplication of efforts, the IFRC and the local Russian Red Cross branch are working in close contact with the ICRC. A list of needs identified by the branch was shared with Moscow offices of IFRC and ICRC. The IFRC will cover the agreed needs of the most vulnerable 950 families in hygienic kits and towels, food parcels, school sets and bed linen. These items will be distributed to families according to the beneficiary selection criteria.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Chairman of the Russian Red Cross branch in Chechnya reported that the affected population contacted the Russian Red Cross asking for food and non-food assistance. The Red Cross volunteers and staff (10 people) were actively involved in the disaster response actions at the community level. On Sunday, 28 August, the staff of the local Russian Red Cross branch conducted a rapid assessment of the situation and the needs of the affected population in those districts of Grozny which were hit by the flood. On 29 August the team went out to 13 rural settlements (Voykovo, Kalinina, Staraya Sunzha, Shaami Yurt, Yandy, Achkhoy Martan, Martan Chu, Shalazhi, Urus Martan, Roshni Chu, Tangi Chu, Alkhan Yurt and Gekhi).

After the assessment was completed and needs of the most vulnerable identified the chairman of the National Society branch addressed IFRC and ICRC asking for assistance.

It is hard to precisely estimate the number of the affected people, as the assessment is being currently carried on along with distribution of ICRC relief aid. The rough estimation, broken down by settlements, of the affected most vulnerable population is given in the table below.

Town / rural settlement	Affected most vulnerable families
Grozny	850
Voykovo	15
Kalinina	15
Staraya Sunzha	10
Shaami Yurt	10
Yandy	10
Achkhoi Martan	5
Martan Chu	5
Urus Martan	5
Rosni Chu	5
Tangi Chu	5
Shalazhi	5
Alkhan Yurt	5
Gekhi	5

The needs

The following immediate needs were identified by the assessment team of the Russian Red Cross Chechnya branch: hygienic and food items, water-proof shoes, clothing, bed linen, blankets, kitchen sets, candles (as the electricity supply was cut), towels and school kits for children in view of the school year that begins on 1st September.

More than 1,000 families were affected by the flood, while 950 of them (around 3,500 people, 500 of whom are children) were selected as the most vulnerable (families with many children, families headed by women, elderly residents).

As results of the needs assessment have been shared with IFRC and ICRC, to avoid duplication of efforts it was agreed that ICRC will cover the needs of affected families with jerry cans, blankets, candles, tarpaulins, and kitchen sets that will be distributed from their stock in their warehouse in Grozny. The International Federation will address the needs of the affected families by distributing the items summarised in the table below.

Needs of the affected	Non-food items		Water and sanitation	Food
	Chechen Republic	For 950 families: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bed-linen family sets 	For 220 children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School sets 	For 950 families: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hygienic kits

Among the longer-term needs of the affected residents, the replacement of personal identification cards and other official documents that were lost in the floods can be mentioned; the local Red Cross branch will therefore provide social assistance to the affected residents by advising and escorting them to the competent state authorities.

The proposed operation

The purpose of the DREF operation in Chechnya is to render effective assistance with a pronounced human touch to the affected population to alleviate their suffering, beyond simply saving their lives. In this regard, the Red Cross branches aim to provide bed linen, hygienic kits, food parcels (supplementary rations) to each family when they can return to their homes. Also, 220 school sets will be handed out to families with school age children. The relief items will be distributed by trained Red Cross volunteers.

A two-day induction workshop will be held to train 20 Red Cross volunteers in humanitarian aid distribution procedures, share best practices and to prepare for the distribution of the relief goods.

The regional Russian Red Cross Branch will be in charge of implementing the activities in the Chechen Republic of the Russian Federation. The Russian Red Cross Headquarters, in close cooperation with IFRC Regional Representation, will monitor the progress and provide the necessary technical expertise. Visibility of the work of the Red Cross volunteers will be ensured during the operation through the local media. Weekly operation updates will be sent to the IFRC Europe Zone Office.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Outcome: The most affected people have their most urgent and immediate basic needs covered through the distribution of food and non-food items..
Outputs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate complementary food rations are distributed to vulnerable families • Basic hygiene kits are distributed • Family bed linen sets are distributed • School sets are distributed to the most vulnerable Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local procurement and transport of relief supplies and materials. • Volunteers of the Russian Red Cross are trained and give assistance in distribution of relief items • Distribute relief items and hot meals to the affected people • Distribute supplies and control supply movement from point of dispatch to end user • Monitor the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions • Beneficiaries satisfaction survey

Considering Sphere project standards, the food parcels were designed to complement the daily diet of the affected families after their return to their houses.

Food parcels		Hygiene kits		School sets	
Sugar	1 kg	Towel	70*140 cm	School bag	1 item
Wheat flour	2kg	Toilet soap	1 piece	Notebooks	10 items
Vegetable Oil	1 l	Soap	2 pieces	Pencils	2 items
Noodles	0.5 kg	Shampoo	0,4 l	Pens	5 items
Tea	0.1 kg	Toilet paper	2 rolls	Ruler	1 item
Canned beef	2x0.5 kg	Tooth paste	0.1 kg tube	Eraser	1 item
Canned fish	2x0.5 kg	Tooth brush	2 items	Album for painting	1 item
Oat flakes	1 kg	Sponge	1 item	Watercolor set	1 set
Condensed milk	0.4 kg	Detergent	0.5 kg	Coloured pencils	1 set
Buckwheat	1 kg	Items of feminine hygiene	2 packs	Covers for books	10 items
Rice	1 kg	Nappies (on request)	1 pack	Scissors + glue	1 set
				Felttippens	1 set

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **IFRC Regional Representation:** Davron Mukhamadiev, Regional Representative, Moscow; phone +7 495 126 15 66; email: davron.mukhamadiev@ifrc.org
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For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

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For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

- **IFRC Europe Zone:** Imre Nagy, Planning and Reporting Manager; phone: +36 1 8884 526; email: imre.nagy@ifrc.org



[Click here](#)

1. Revised Emergency Appeal budget [below](#)
2. Click [here](#) to return to the title page

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.

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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.
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BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Clothing & Textiles	14,250	14,250
Food	19,000	19,000
Water & Sanitation	19,000	19,000
Teaching Materials	3,300	3,300
Total Supplies	55,550	55,550
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	0	0
Distribution & Monitoring	3,000	3,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	2,000	2,000
Total Transport & Storage	5,000	5,000
National Society Staff	2,250	2,250
Total Personnel	2,250	2,250
Workshops & Training	5,000	5,000
Total Workshops & Training	5,000	5,000
Travel	2,000	2,000
Information & Public Relation (Visibility)	1,000	1,000
Office Costs	2,150	2,150
Financial Charges	200	200
Total General Expenditure	5,350	5,350
Total Contributions & Transfers	0	0
Program Support	4,755	4,755
Total Programme Support	4,755	4,755
Total Services	0	0
TOTAL BUDGET	77,905	77,905



Russian Federation: Flood

