

DREF Bulletin



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

BELARUS, RUSSIA, UKRAINE AND MOLDOVA: SEVERE WEATHER

**DREF Bulletin
No. MDR67001
3 February 2006**

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.

In Brief

THE BELARUS, MOLDOVA, UKRAINIAN AND RUSSIAN RED CROSS HAVE BEEN GRANTED CHF 200,000 (USD 155,270 OR EUR 128,690) FROM THE FEDERATION'S DISASTER RELIEF EMERGENCY FUND (DREF) TO ASSIST ABOUT 14,000 BENEFICIARIES DURING TWO MONTHS.

UNEARMARKED FUNDS TO REPAY DREF ARE ENCOURAGED.

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

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

The Situation

Following the arrival of the cold front of Arctic anticyclone in the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus (between 13 and 18 January), the regional temperature plummeted to an average of between -25 and -38 degrees (in Siberia the temperatures even reached -52 degrees).



Frosts in the capitals of the BRUM region have approached historic records

This is the longest coldest period for Belarus, Russia, Ukraine and Moldova (BRUM countries) for the past 20 years. The Moldovan population does not remember such severe low temperatures for 70 years. Temperatures were lower on between 15-20° C in comparison with many years' average data. These extreme temperatures were registered in almost all territories of Belarus, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine. Although presently the temperatures improved, the weather forecast predicts further cold waves starting from 4-5 February (even in some places in Russia, the temperatures are expected to reduce to -60° C).

The most affected regions, with a total population of 74,696,800 people, are the following:

- Belarus (4,500,000 people): 7 regions, including Minsk (47% of the total territory)
- Russia (43,016,800 people): 28 regions, including Moscow (30% of the total territory)
- Ukraine (26,734,000 people): 13 oblasts, and Kiev (50% of all oblasts of Ukraine)
- Moldova (446,000 people): 5 districts, including Chisinau (about 20% of the total territory)

As a result of low temperatures, adhesion of snow to the power lines and their tearing caused power supply cuts in 150 inhabited localities of Belarus, 15 in Moldova, 435 in Russia and 329 in Ukraine. Over 100,000 people (about 50% of them in Ukraine) in these territories were directly affected by severe frosts, caused by hot-water pipe and electricity systems breakdowns, heating interruptions as well as homeless' and street children's exposure to the cold. The news agencies reported that a total of 116 people have died from cold in Moscow, 589 people in Ukraine, 13 people in Moldova and 5 people in Belarus. 2045 children in Ukraine and about 200 hundred people in Russia were evacuated from their home and moved to shelter accommodation. Hospitals in the region rendered support to about 20,000 frostbitten citizens (e.g. 1820 people in Belarus, 6705 people in Ukraine) and all the patients were provided with necessary assistance.



Low temperatures were also the reason for the increase in road accidents

Low temperatures were also the reason for increase of fires and road accidents. In all regions, the temperature fell lower than -20° and -30° C, and schools and kindergartens have been closed for 5-10 days.

Local authority and state initiatives

Local authorities put their main efforts into the reinforcement of electricity and heating supplies. More than 2,000 special technical teams and 600 special technical equipments daily were engaged in restoring works of hot-water pipe, electricity and heating systems in Russia. In addition, over 270 technical units and about 800 persons were mobilised in Moldova. All urban services were placed on alert before the temperature plunged and in most of the parts of the countries, the situation was under control.

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According to the officials, during the emergency situation, special round-the-clock headquarters had been formed in big cities of affected areas in Russia (Moscow, Kaliningrad), Moldova (Chisinau) and Ukraine (Kiev, Lvov, Kirovograd, Lugansk).

Red Cross and Red Crescent action



Ukrainian Red Cross is ready to distribute clothes in homeless shelter in Lvov region

CHF 200,000 has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to respond to the immediate needs of about 14,000 beneficiaries, such as warm clothes, footwear, blankets, food, soap, and shelters for homeless. Branches of the National Societies have been in daily contact with the relevant authorities as well as the Emergency Centres to monitor the situation and to develop their response mechanisms.

As the principal emergency response agencies operating in the field, the National Societies maintain close contacts with the Ministries/Department for Emergencies, Ministries/Departments for Social Protection of Population, Health Ministries, Education Ministries, local administrations and media.

Immediate Response

Over the past 9 days, 12 branches of the Red Cross Societies in Russia, Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus provided, from their own resources, humanitarian assistance to people in shelters and hospitals and supported lonely elderly people and street children. The assistance included blankets, clothing, winter footwear, hygiene parcels as well as food. In addition, first aid was provided to over 200 people by Red Cross staff in Russia and Ukraine. The National Societies also announced collection of warm clothes in order to replenish their stocks.

Since the very beginning of emergency situation, the all four National Societies of the region have been involved in the relief operation. By 1st of February 2006, the National Societies have distributed the following relief items:

Items	Units	Belarus	Moldova	Russia	Ukraine	Quantity
Medicine and bandages	unit			79	2	81
Blankets	pcs				185	185
Hygiene parcels	unit		150		20	170
Clothes	kg	750		240	4,740	5,730
Footwear	pair	51		15		66
Meals (ready to eat)	unit	18		330		348
Food parcels	unit	2	50		201	253
Number of beneficiaries	People/families	318	410	330	1,993	3,051

These items were distributed among 3,051 affected people in Kaliningrad city, Bashkortostan, Krasnodar, Moscow, Tver (Russia), Lvov, Lugansk, Kiev, Kharkov, Kirovogradskaya oblasts (Ukraine), Vitebsk oblast (Belarus), and Dondushen district (Moldova). Thus, support was provided to the most affected and vulnerable groups, such as lonely elderly people aged over 60 (2,288 people); multi-child families (289 people/70 families); homeless (414 people); and street children (60 people).

Assessment

Along with the relief efforts, the National Societies have deployed staff and volunteers to assess the situation in the field. The task was to compile a detailed and inclusive needs assessment report. The assessment methodology included:

1. official information from local authorities and the Departments of Emergencies;
2. direct observations;
3. semi-structured interviews

After the initial assessment by the local authorities, it has been concluded that the most urgent needs are for blankets, warm clothing (mostly for men), footwear, food and heating equipments.

Plan of action

This operation is expected to cover a two-month period during which the National Societies of BRUM region will directly assist 14,000 affected beneficiaries.

In order to organize proper response, the National Societies, through their local branches, identified the most vulnerable of the affected population. The relief operation aims to cover the basic needs of 14,000 beneficiaries in 45 settlements of the 22 regions of Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus, as well as the capitals of Belarus and Ukraine.

Target groups:

- lonely elderly people aged over 60 under services of National Societies (60% of total beneficiaries)
- single women with young children (5-10% of total beneficiaries)
- multi-child families (15-20% of total beneficiaries)
- homeless people (10-15% of total beneficiaries)
- street children (2-5% of total beneficiaries)

According to the assessment, the most urgently needed items, which National Societies can cover with DREF funds, are blankets, warm clothing, footwear, food, and heating equipments. All relief items will be purchased locally through standard tendering procedures.

Goal: For the most vulnerable, the consequences of severe cold winter are reduced

Food and non-food relief distribution

Objective 1: The homeless people and street children affected by frost have received food and non-food aid and their coping mechanism have improved

Result 1: Access to minimum energy/dietary requirements is secured for some 2,300 homeless people and street children affected by the disaster in Russia and Ukraine.

Due to the heavy frosts, most of the homeless people and street children have lost some opportunities for providing food themselves, as the availability of hot meals ready to eat in the affected areas has become a major problem in the winter period.

The meals ready to eat will be distributed through the homeless shelters during the beginning of February, as abnormal decreasing of temperature is expected at that time. The distribution will be as follows:

- by the Russian Red Cross for 700 homeless people and 600 street children in Moscovskaya, Kaliningradskaya oblasts and Bashkortostan;
- by the Ukrainian Red Cross for 1000 homeless people and street children in Luganskaya, Kharkovskaya, Lvovskaya oblasts and Kiev.

People of this target group will receive hot meals as lunch (1,000 Kkal per person, 1 time per day).

Result 2: Access to minimum hygiene requirements is secured and opportunities for survive in severe winter weather improved for some 1,390 homeless people and street children in Russia, Moldova and Belarus.

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The National Societies intend to distribute warm clothes and winter footwear among the homeless people and street children: woollen hats, woollen socks, wool gloves, comforters (woollen scarves), jumpers, winter sport suits, winter underwear for men, and winter footwear for men and children. It is planned to purchase and distribute a total of 280 pairs of footwear and 1390 sets (or 6280 units) of warm clothes. Content of clothes sets is different for different regions depending on weather conditions.

Distribution of warm clothes will be as follows:

- by Russian Red Cross in 5 regions (Moscowskaya, Kaliningradskaya, Tverskaya oblasts, Krasnodarskiy krai, Bashkortostan);
- by Belarus Red Cross in 5 regions (c.Minsk, Minskaya, Vitebskaya, Brestskaya, Grodnenskaya oblasts)
- by Moldova Red Cross in 5 districts (Beltsi, Soroka, Dendushen, Oknica, Edinet)

Distribution of footwear will be conducted only by Belarus Red Cross in Vitebskaya and Minskaya oblasts.

The Russian Red Cross intends to distribute 2 bars of toilet soap per person. It is planned to purchase and distribute a total of 1480 bars of soap.

Objective 2: The lonely elderly people, single-mother with young children and multi-children families directly affected by frost have received food and non-food aid and their living conditions have improved

Result 1: Access to minimum energy/dietary requirements is secured for some 3,070 vulnerable families (5,500 people) affected by the disaster in Ukraine.

Due to breakdowns of electricity and heating supplies, the most vulnerable people are not able to receive relevant food items.

The distribution by the Ukraine Red Cross will be as follows:

- heavily affected multi-children families and single-mother with young children will receive main food support (2,100 Kkal per person per day) for 10 days;
- heavy affected 2700 lonely elderly people under Red Cross services will receive main food support (2,100 Kkal per person per day) for 10 days;

Each family food parcel will include the following set of food items: pasta (2kg), cereals (2kg), sugar (1kg), vegetable oil (1lt), 2 tins of fish and tea. It is planned to purchase and distribute a total of 4,000 food parcels.

Distribution will be conducted through Red Cross nurse services in Luganskaya, Kharkovskaya, Lvovskaya, Kirovogradskaya and Donetskaya oblasts and c.Kiev

Result 2: Access to minimum hygiene requirements is secured and living standards improved for some 3,000 vulnerable families affected by the disaster in Russia, Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus.

The National Society intends to distribute non-food aid among the most affected lonely elderly people under Red Cross services; multi-children families and single-mothers with young children. 2150 wool blankets, 150 thermos-flask, 400 heaters, 1,100 sets (or 5000 pcs) of warm clothes will be distributed.

Shelter

Objective 1: Capacity of Red Cross shelters, providing services for homeless people and street children, are improved

Result 1: 16 shelters of Ukrainian Red Cross and 3 of Russian Red Cross were provided by supplies in order to serve homeless people and street children

Ukrainian Red Cross intends to distribute, among their shelters, 500 blankets, 100 heaters, 50 thermos-flasks. In addition, Russian Red Cross will distribute 6 Tea kettle-thermos, 4 First Aid Kits, 7 Detergent Kits and 1050 sets of disposable kitchen utensils.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The monitoring will be undertaken by the National Societies' disaster management coordinators and logistics officers, together with the Red Cross branch staff. Weekly field visits will be undertaken to oversee the distributions to the families listed as beneficiaries. Should additional need be identified during the visits, this will be recorded and reported to the Red Cross headquarters. Narrative reports will be produced by the National Societies' headquarters staff with information collected during these field visits. Throughout the distribution of packages to beneficiaries, ongoing evaluation will be undertaken and reported at regular Red Cross working groups meetings, as well as communicated to the Federation delegations (Moscow, Minsk, Kiev).

[Please click here to return to the title page and contact information](#)

Name of the Project: Minor Emergency: BRUM SEVERE WINTER

Appeal Number:

PMN reference number, project and donor code: PMN: /P67561/MDR67001

Operating Time-frame: 01.02.-30.04.2006

	Code	Description	Quantity	Unit	Unite price	Total CHF
A		SUPPLIES/Subtotal				170,406.30
	5100	Blankets	2,650	UNIT	18.62	49,343.00
	5104	Clothes Readymade	2,560	UNIT	23.93	61,260.80
	5106	Footwear	280	PAIR	19.00	5,320.00
	5209	Meals ready to eat	1,050	UNIT	2.30	2,415.00
	5210	Food parcels	5,000	UNIT	6.50	32,500.00
	5409	First aid kits	4	UNIT	91.25	365.00
	5604	Tea kettles-thermos (5lt)	6	PCS	68.50	411.00
	5604	Thermos flask	200	PCS	13.03	2,606.00
	5604	Dispozarable kithen utensils	1,050	SET	0.45	472.50
	5701	Heaters	500	PCS	30.00	15,000.00
	5705	Soap (for body, 100gr)	1,480	BAR	0.46	680.80
	5705	Detergent kits	7	UNIT	4.60	32.20
B		CAPITAL EXPENSES/Subtotal				0.00
						0.00
C		TRANSPORT & STORAGE/Subtotal				3,069.00
	5930	Fuel (branches)	2790	LT	1.10	3,069.00
D		PERSONNEL/Subtotal				2,478.00
	6602	Project Co-ordinator , HQs - 3 persons (including Social charges & taxe	2	MONTH	160.00	960.00
	6602	Local Project Co-ordinator, 11 persons (including Social charges & taxe	2	MONTH	69.00	1,518.00
E		Workshops&Seminars				800.00
	6801	Planning meetings (branches)	5	UNIT	160.00	800.00
F		TRAVEL				0.00
G		INFORMATION				746.58
	7106	Photo	23	UNIT	32.46	746.58
H		GENERAL EXPENSES/Subtotal				2,020.00
	7301	Stationary	2	MONTH	295.00	590.00
	7403	Phone, HQ	2	MONTH	175.00	350.00
	7403	Phone, branches	2	MONTH	540.00	1,080.00
I		FIELD BUDGET/Subtotal				179,519.88
J		Delegation Support Costs (8% of Subtotal project)			4%	7,480.00
K		SUBTOTAL PROJECT				186,999.88
L		PROGRAMME SUPPORT BUDGET/Subtotal			6,5%	12,999.99
M		GRAND TOTAL CHF:				199,999.87