

OPERATIONS UPDATE



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

PAKISTAN: FLOODS/SNOWFALL

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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

Operations Update no. 1; Period covered: 14 February to 24 August 2005

This Minor Emergency Update no. 1 is being issued based on the situation described below reflecting the information available at this time. Please refer to Information Bulletins No. 1 – 5 for previous updates. CHF 50,000 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to replenish disaster preparedness stocks distributed to the affected population. This operation is expected to be completed by 30 September 2005, and a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (30 December 2005). Replenishment of DREF by unarmarked contributions is welcome and needed.

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: [Pakistan Floods minor emergency ME05023](#), [Annual Appeal 05AA049](#).

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

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Background, and current situation

Large areas of Pakistan were battered by rain, snowfall and floods during February and March 2005. The worst affected areas were North West Frontier Province (NWFP), Northern areas and Balochistan. Water supplies, sanitation systems, electricity, communication and road links were severely affected.

In Balochistan, nearly half a million people were affected, with more than 4,000 families left homeless. In NWFP more than 24,000 houses were destroyed and over 65,000 badly damaged. A number of dams collapsed due to excessive flooding. Severe damage was done to crops and livestock.

The total number of deaths reported was 844, while 397 were reported injured.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The PRCS responded quickly and deployed assessment teams from its national headquarters and provincial branches. Based on these assessments relief items were dispatched throughout February and March to the most vulnerable. The National Society despatched and distributed a total of 147 tonnes of emergency stocks, worth PKR 11.6 million (CHF 228,700), to the affected areas in NWFP, Balochistan and Northern Areas. The relief items included tents, blankets, flour, rice, pulses, sugar, biscuits, tea, rusks, salt, clothing, kitchen utensils, ground sheets, drinking water, jerry cans, gas cylinders and medicines.

The National Society received generous support in cash and in kind to assist with its relief operation, details of which are as follows:

Chinese Red Cross	USD 20,000 (CHF 23,300)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	USD 30,000 (CHF 35,000) + in kind assistance
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)	CAD 50,000 (CHF 47,200)
Turkish Red Crescent Society	Assistance in kind (food and medicines)
UAE Red Crescent Society	Assistance in kind for 200 families
German Red Cross	EUR 110,000 (CHF 170,500)
Marubeni Corporation Japan	PKR 1,100,000 (CHF 21,400)

The assistance from PRCS has been timely as many people have lost their houses and basic necessities to the heavy snowfall, floods and avalanches.

Despite generous cash and in-kind support for its operation from the donors, PRCS depleted existing disaster preparedness stocks. The situation was exacerbated by the PRCS response to flooding in April 2005 (see [Minor Emergency 05ME023](#)).

The national society gave priority to use the in-kind donations. The DREF is thus being utilized to replenish stocks at national headquarters and in branches. The national society had placed tenders in national newspapers and has to date procured tents and some plastic sheeting. The procurement of blankets and the remainder of plastic sheets is underway. Details are as follows:

Items	Quantity	Price per unit PKR	Total PKR	CHF	Status
Tents	300	4,494	1,348,200	28,685	Procurement done. Bills received.
Blankets	1,500	259	388,500	8,266	Procurement in process.
Plastic sheet	400	580	200,000	4,255	Procurement done. Bills awaited.
Total	2,200		1,936,700	41,206	

Exchange rate: 1 CHF = 47 Pakistan rupees

Throughout the operation, the Federation and PRCS maintained close coordination with the government and other agencies. Regular meetings were held with local and international NGOs to share information on action being taken and to make coordinated efforts where possible.

The Federation continued to support the PRCS build its capacity in order to make its relief operations more effective. All the provincial branches were involved in the operation with significant participation and contribution from youth and volunteers in the relief distribution.

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