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Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) Russian Federation: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRRU016
GLIDE n° FF-2013-000100-RUS
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The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of unearmarked 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 412,626 has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Russian Red Cross Society in delivering immediate assistance to 3,000 families (9,000 people – three person per family being the average size) in Far East and Siberia Regions affected by massive flash floods. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Flash floods caused by torrential rain have swept the Far East Region of Russia covering three big regions: Khabarovsk krai, Amur region, and the Jewish Autonomous Oblast (JAO). The level of water in Amur river



Flooded areas in Amur region
Photo: EMERCOM of Russia

significantly increased to its historical maximum from the last 100 years of 6,88 meters above normal. According to the forecast of State Hydro Meteorological Services of Russia, this level might increase until 7,0 meters with more significant negative consequences. According to the Emergency Report of Russian EMERCOM, altogether 137 settlements, 6,321 houses populated by 34,135 people, 216 sections of local roads and 59 road bridges remain flooded in 25 municipalities in the Far Eastern Federal District.

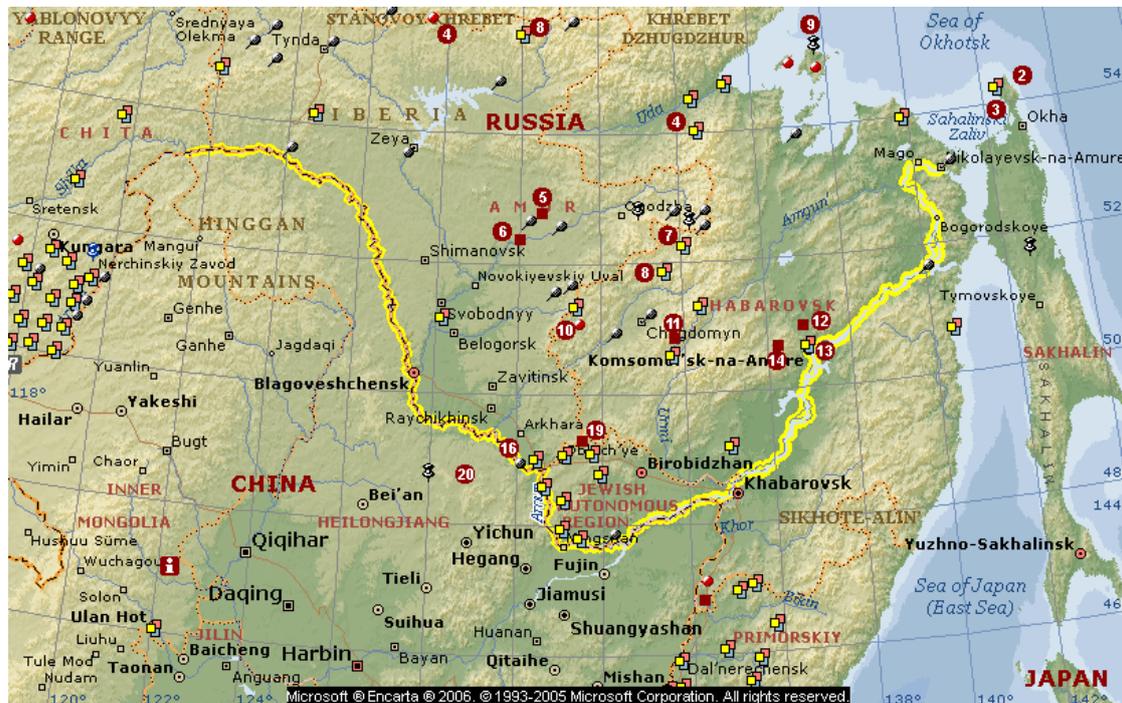
According to the assessment conducted by the Russian Red Cross, 3,000 families (9,000 people) are considered to be worst affected by the floods in the Far East Region of Russia. The local authorities are doing their utmost to stabilize the situation but they have already contacted the Russian Red Cross regional branches, asking for humanitarian aid. The Russian Red Cross Society has asked for the support of the International Federation in the provision of funds for food parcels, hygiene kits, bed linen sets, blankets, and pillows to be distributed to the 3,000 affected families.

This operation is expected to be implemented over four months, and will therefore be completed by the end of December 2013. A final report will be made available by the end of March 2014.

[<click here for the DREF budget; here for contact details>](#)

The situation

Due to the difficult hydrological situation over the last two weeks in Khabarovsk and Primorsky Territories, Amur Region and Jewish Autonomous Area, a state of emergency and federal level of emergency response were declared since 7 a.m. of 7th August 2013 by a decision of the Russian Governmental Emergency Management Commission. The level of water in Amur River significantly increased to its historical maximum from the last 100 years of 6,88 meters above normal. According to the forecast of State Hydro Meteorological Services of Russia, this level might increase until 7,0 meters with more significant negative consequences. Despite of the fact that Russian Government allocated available financial and material resources, it is not covering damages for people and infrastructure.



Map of flooded regions (Khabarovsk krai, Amur region, and the Jewish Autonomous Oblast)
Photo: www.geo.web.ru

Last Sunday the Ministry of Finance officially confirmed that all funds allocated for liquidation of disasters and emergency situations in 2013 have been fully spent (10 billion rub or 315 mln. USD) and requested from the Government to re-allocate funds from budget 2014 for this purposes.

According to the Emergency report of Russian EMERCOM, altogether 137 settlements, 6,321 houses populated by 34,135 people, 216 sections of local roads and 59 road bridges remain flooded in 25 municipalities in the Far Eastern Federal District.

On 21 August 2013, the Russian Emergencies Ministry deployed a mobile tent camp to Khabarovsk. The tent camp is designed for 500 people and consists of 110 tents, including those resembling flats and also has a school, a medical center, a laundry and other necessary modules. After being set up, the camp is absolutely ready for operation in independent mode.

Table 1 – Detailed data of the affected regions¹

Indicators	Regions of Far East		
	Amur Oblast	Khabarovsk territory	Jewish Autonomous Oblast
# of settlements	91	21	25
# of houses	5,471	237	613
# of population	29,997	956	3,182
Incl children	8,055	149	872
# of farmlands	8,121	451	3,027
Sections of motorways (km)	188 (462)	-	27 (39,2)
# of road bridges	56	-	3
Agricultural lands (thousands hectares)	-	-	16,79

The most difficult hydrological situation is in Amur Region in the basin of the river Zeya, where there are 91 settlements, out of which 78 settlements with 5,471 houses² populated by 29,997 people, including 8,055 children 8,121 farmlands, 188 sections of local roads with total length of 462 km and 56 road bridges remain flooded in 15 districts.

According to the preliminary data of Russian State Authorities on 19th August 2013, estimated damage from the massive floods is 8,5 billion rubles (RUB) or about 265 million USD.

The Emergency Ministry airplanes and vehicles have been delivering personnel and equipment, food parcels and other necessary goods to the emergency area.

Coordination and partnerships

In the first days of the disaster, the local authorities of the affected regions established an emergency task force that is coordinating all disaster response actions in the affected locations. EMERCOM as a specialized emergency agency focused on immediate activities mostly related to engineering tasks, and is carrying out the following disaster response actions:

- Evacuation of the most affected people to temporary shelter (see Table 2);
- Constant monitoring of the floods situation carried out at the Russian Federal and Far East regional hydrological stations;
- Search and rescue activities.

Table 2 – Evacuation of the most affected people to temporary shelter

Total number of evacuated	Amur region	Khabarovsk region	Jewish Autonomous Oblast
# of people	16 128	409	6776
Incl children	5 836	43	1637
# of temporary shelter	93 (24 accommodated)	55 (4 accommodated)	19 (6 accommodated)
# of accommodated people	1442	15	893
Including children	637	6	414

¹ <http://en.mchs.ru/articles/digest/item/468636/>

² Referring to buildings, not households.

Medical assistance and vaccination of the affected population are provided by local health institutions, jointly with mobile hospitals and vaccination points deployed by EMERCOM and Ministry of Defense.

Russian Ministry of Emergency and Ministry of Defense mobilized more than 34 000 EMERCOM servants with more 6,165 units of rescue equipment that were transported to disaster area by 15 aircrafts and started emergency and rescue operation in five rayons of Far Eastern Federal District.

The local administration of all three regions with the support of EMERCOM and military forces provide means of transportations for the distribution of the food and non-food items and the eventual evacuation of the affected population if needs arise.

The local authorities are engaged in the stabilization of the situation, and they have already contacted the respective Russian Red Cross branches asking for humanitarian aid to be provided to the affected population.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The regional Russian Red Cross branches of all three regions, Khabarovsk, Amur and JAO from the first days of disaster established close information sharing and coordination with local authorities and Task Force and reported that the local EMERCOM division in Far East of Russia had contacted the Russian Red Cross Headquarters to coordinate the joint effort to support the local RC activity for address the needs of the affected population.

Currently more than 30 Russian RC staff and volunteers are involved to the response operation, and potentially in total more than 250 staff and volunteers can be mobilized.

From the beginning of the disaster, Russian RC is conducting the following activities:

- Russian RC HQ opened a bank account to collect donations for affected population;
- All three branches of RRC in affected areas started to collect humanitarian assistance (clothes, non food items);
- The Red Cross volunteers and staff are actively involved in the disaster response actions at the community level: conducting needs assessment and participating in evacuation of disaster victims.

Based on the assessment of the results, it has been agreed that the operation implemented by the Russian Red Cross regional branches will support the affected families according to the following criteria (the average family size in Russian Federation is rather low, 2-3 people per family):

- Families whose houses were damaged by the floods and are put up in temporary accommodation;
- Single-parent families;
- People living with disabilities;
- Elderly living in remote areas without family support.

The Red Cross regional branches and its volunteers are working in close cooperation with the local Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and its Committees for Social Protection at the district level and raising community awareness on personal sanitary and hygiene skills, with focus on water-borne diseases. It is planned to provide hot meals and drinking water to the affected people in the flooded area from the stock of food parcels that is available at the social welfare service of the Local Administration.

The needs

According to the coordination with the local authorities and the results of the conducted needs assessments, there is a need for food parcels, hygiene kits, bed linen, family sets, blankets, pillows, and mattresses. Taking into account the fact that the houses of most beneficiaries are flooded and people are evacuated to the temporary places as well as huge damage was caused for their households, smallholdings and harvests that was the main source of income for this population; the regional Red Cross branches consider that the distribution of food parcels for the period of four months (one time distribution - one parcel per person) and non-food items (one time distribution) as well as distribution of chlorine tablets for disinfection of water is more appropriate to be implemented for households. Local residents are appealing to the local administrations and the respective Russian Red Cross branches for help.

Needs of the affected	Non-food items	Water and sanitation	Food
	For 3000 households (9000 people): In Amur region 1500 families In Khabarovsk region 1000 families IN JAO 500 families <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bed linen family sets • Blankets and pillows (three set per household) 	For 3000 households (9000 people): In Amur region 1500 families In Khabarovsk region 1000 families IN JAO 500 families <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hygiene kits (1 kit per family) • Chlorine tablets: 30 tablets per person for one month. Each tablet will be useful for purify 20 liters of water. 	For 9000 people: In Amur region 1500 families In Khabarovsk region 1000 families IN JAO 500 families <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supplementary food parcels (1 parcel per person)

Composition of food parcel	
Sugar	1 kg
Wheat flour	2kg
Vegetable oil	1 l
Noodles	0.5 kg
Tea	0.1 kg
Canned beef	2*0.5 kg
Canned fish	2*0.5 kg
Oat flakes	1 kg
Condensed milk	0.4 kg
Buckwheat	1 kg
Rice	1 kg

Water and sanitation
Hygiene kits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Towel 70x140 cm ▪ Toilet soap 1 piece ▪ Soap 2 pieces ▪ Shampoo 0.4 l ▪ Toilet paper 2 rolls ▪ Tooth paste 0.1 kg tube ▪ Tooth brush 2 items ▪ Sponge 1 item ▪ Detergent 0.5 kg ▪ Items of feminine hygiene 2 packs ▪ Nappies (on request) 1 pack Chlorine tablets: 30 tablets per person for one month. Each tablet will be useful for purify 20 liters of water.

The proposed operation

The Russian Red Cross contacted the IFRC for funding of the procurement relief items for 9,000 people.

As soon as the funds are made available, all mentioned items can be purchased in the Far East Region. All three branches of Russian Red Cross has enough capacity in terms of knowledge and experience to support the affected population.

The relief items will be distributed by the team of trained volunteers. In total more than 250 staff and volunteers are ready to provide necessary support during the response operation in affected areas.

Khabarovsk regional branch of Russian RC will assume general responsibility for this operation.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Objective 1: Families most affected by the massive floods will be supported through provision of essential food and non-food items.
Outputs (expected results): 3,000 families (9,000 persons) in the most affected areas will receive food parcels, hygiene kits, and bed linen
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct needs and capacity assessments. • Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. • Preparation of final beneficiary lists. • Procurement of relief items in the region • Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user. • Distribution of emergency items by RC branches and their volunteers according to the prepared beneficiary lists. • Coordination with local emergency departments and social welfare authorities. • Monitoring and evaluation of the relief activities and quality of items and reporting on relief distributions.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion
Objective 2: The risk of waterborne and water related diseases has been reduced through the provision of access to safe water to 3,000 household
Outputs (expected results) : 3000 households (9,000 beneficiaries) will be assisted with access to safe water via chlorine tablet distribution.
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid assessments in coordination with local authorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring and evaluation • Conduct rapid water and sanitation emergency needs and capacity assessments in coordination with local authorities • Print and distribute disaster awareness and hygiene promotion materials to the target population. • Arrange public awareness campaigns among the affected population (leaflets/posters will be distributed among the affected population in disaster affected districts).

The Regional Red Cross Branches of Khabarovsk, JAO and Amur region will be in charge of implementing the activities in the regions under general coordination of Khabarovsk regional branch of RRC. The Russian Red Cross Headquarters, in close cooperation with IFRC Regional Representation, will monitor the progress and provide necessary technical advice.

A workshop will be organized at the regional branch of the Russian Red Cross with the participation of the volunteers involved in the implementation of the disaster response operation for lessons learned and experience shared during the operation.

Visibility of the work of the volunteers is provided during the operations through publications and regular information to the media. Weekly operation updates will be sent to the IFRC Europe Zone Office.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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Click here

1. Click [here](#) to see the DREF budget
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.

DREF OPERATION

21-08-13

APPEAL APPEAL NAME - Floods Far East

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	
Shelter - Transitional	
Construction - Housing	
Construction - Facilities	
Construction - Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	105,000
Food	180,000
Seeds & Plants	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	60,042
Medical & First Aid	
Teaching Materials	
Utensils & Tools	
Other Supplies & Services	
Cash Disbursements	
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	345,042
Land & Buildings	
Vehicles	
Computer & Telecom Equipment	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	
Medical Equipment	
Other Machinery & Equipment	
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	
Distribution & Monitoring	10,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	7,000
Logistics Services	
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	17,000
International Staff	0
National Staff	
National Society Staff	6,600
Volunteers	8,200
Total PERSONNEL	14,800
Consultants	
Professional Fees	
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	6,000
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	6,000
Travel	
Information & Public Relations	1,000
Office Costs	1,200
Communications	2,200
Financial Charges	200
Other General Expenses	
Shared Office and Services Costs	
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	4,600
Partner National Societies	
Other Partners (NGOs, UN, other)	
Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS	0
Programme and Services Support Recovery	25,184
Total INDIRECT COSTS	25,184
TOTAL BUDGET	412,626