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DREF Final Report Georgia: Severe local storm

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRGE006
GLIDE n° ST-2013-000033-GEO
27 September 2013

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 94,093 was allocated on 28 March 2013 from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Georgian Red Cross Society in delivering immediate assistance to 250 families (1,125 beneficiaries).

Summary: On March 24th 2013, strong wind and storms affected the eastern and western parts of Georgia. According to the needs assessment conducted by the Georgia Red Cross staff and volunteers, almost 350 houses were damaged (roofs ripped off, windows broken, household items damaged). River bank dikes were destroyed, while trees, electricity poles, and advertisement billboards were fallen down. Several persons were traumatized by the damages with one fatality caused by the storm.



Distribution of non-food items to the affected population in Gori.
Photo: Georgia Red Cross

Georgia Red Cross Society assisted 250 families consisting of 1,125 people with non-food items (mattresses, blankets, sleeping bags, kitchen sets, and hygiene kits) to address their most urgent needs. Tarpaulins were distributed from the National Society's own stock, therefore these items were replenished through the DREF operation as planned initially.

The allocated CHF 94,093 was duly spent in accordance with the endorsed budget. There is a final balance of CHF 799 which will be returned to the DREF funds.

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The situation

On 24th March 2013, strong winds damaged the roofs of hundreds of buildings and left tens of thousands of households without electricity in various parts of the country. In Adjara region on the Black Sea coast, high waves flooded parts of Batumi's seaside boulevard; a fisherman got drowned after a large wave dragged him into the sea. According to the needs assessment, 350 houses were damaged and the roofs of several schools were broken or ripped off.

Led by the Emergency Management Department under the Ministry of Interior in Georgia, a special task force was established for planning the evacuation activities and damage assessment. Five ministries were involved in the recovery process after the natural disaster.

Coordination and partnerships

According to the Presidential Decree No. 415/2008, the Georgia Red Cross Society has an exclusive role in the response to natural disasters and other emergencies, as well as the role of coordinator of all in-country non-governmental organizations and agencies' activities in case of a national emergency. In the affected areas, the GRCS, through its branches, was taking the lead in responding to the needs of the population affected by strong wind and storm surge, coordinating its work with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and partner National Societies. The GRCS was providing regular update on the situation and activities planned to its Movement partners in order to avoid any duplication of activities. The UNHCR country office distributed 5,000 sq.m. tarpaulins in Gori to support the activities addressing the needs of the affected families.

The Georgia Red Cross Society was also coordinating its response activities with the national and local authorities and fulfilling its role as of auxiliary to public authorities. Close coordination and information sharing was maintained with the State Emergency Department under the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia in Tbilisi.

The National Society was in contact with the European Commission's (EC) Tbilisi Office, and information was shared in order to avoid duplication and ensure that the most vulnerable are reached. Response of the non-state actors was coordinated by GRCS through an established coordination forum.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Following the described events, The Georgia Red Cross Society (GRCS) Disaster Management (DM) Department activated their disaster response teams in order to assess the situation and respond accordingly.

Volunteers and staff from Gori, Batumi and Tbilisi branches to the affected areas: Tbilisi, Gori (Shida Kartli region), Khelvachauri, Batumi and Kobuleti (Adjara region) to conduct a rapid assessment of the situation. 11 staff and 15 volunteers of the Georgia Red Cross Society were in the affected areas, carrying out the assessment. The DM teams were also coordinating with the local authorities and NGO's working in the affected regions.

After the approval of the DREF the most vulnerable families have been identified. Relief items have been procured and distributed among them. A "lessons learned" workshop was conducted with those RC branches which were involved in the DREF operation.



Georgia Red Cross volunteers and staff were deployed to the affected area to conduct needs assessment.
Photo: Georgia Red Cross

The operation

Based on the needs in the affected areas, the Georgia Red Cross Society, supported by the International Federation and partner National Societies, provided tarpaulins, blankets, mattresses, sleeping bags, kitchen sets and hygiene kits to the 250 most affected households amounting to 1,125 people. 500 tarpaulins were distributed to 250 families from the National Society own stocks, therefore within the DREF the replenishments of these items were needed in order to ensure that sufficient items are stored for contingency stocks.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Outcome: The most affected population (250 households with 1,125 people) were provided with basic non-food items to help them manage with the consequences of strong wind and storm surge
Output 1: 250 families (1,125 people) received non-food items
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess the affected area to identify the most affected households• Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance• Procure relief supplies from local suppliers according to Federation standards• Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user• Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions supplies and amounts to be procured and distributed

Progress:

As community-based responders, the volunteers and staff of the Georgia Red Cross were the first on the scene following the flash floods. During the assessment, Red Cross organizations identified as target persons the below mentioned number of families affected by the storm.

The beneficiaries were selected according to the following criteria:

- Older individuals living alone;
- People living with disabilities;
- Families with small children;
- Single mothers/women headed households.

Affected towns and regions	Number of families
Gori (Shida Kartli Region)	50
Khelvachauri (Adjara Region)	100
Kobuleti (Adjara Region)	70
Lanchkhuti (Guria Region)	30
Total	250

The following items were procured and distributed among the affected population:

Each family received following non-food items:

- 2 sleeping bags
- 2 tarpaulins (woven plastic, blue, 25 m2)
- 2 blankets
- 2 mattresses
- 2 hygiene kits (shampoo, tooth paste, tooth brush, toilet paper, soap, bath towel, washing powder.)
- 1 kitchen set (frying pad, cooking pot, knife, spoon, plate, and cup)

The whole humanitarian operation led by Georgia Red Cross Society adhered to the SPHERE standards.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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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Saving lives, changing minds.



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.

Disaster Response Financial Report

MDRGE006 - Georgia - Local Storm

Timeframe: 28 Mar 13 to 28 Jun 13

Appeal Launch Date: 28 Mar 13

Final Report

Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2013/3-8	Programme	MDRGE006
Budget Timeframe	2013/3-6	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Funding

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
A. Budget		94,093				94,093	
B. Opening Balance		0				0	
Income							
<u>Other Income</u>							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		94,093				94,093	
C4. Other Income		94,093				94,093	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)		94,093				94,093	
D. Total Funding = B + C		94,093				94,093	

* Funding source data based on information provided by the donor

II. Movement of Funds

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
B. Opening Balance		0				0	
C. Income		94,093				94,093	
E. Expenditure		-93,294				-93,294	
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		799				799	

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III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Expenditure						TOTAL	Variance
	Budget	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability		
	A					B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)			94,093			94,093		
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Shelter - Relief			7,149			7,149	-7,149	
Construction Materials	7,500						7,500	
Clothing & Textiles	48,500		46,998			46,998	1,502	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	9,000		7,631			7,631	1,369	
Utensils & Tools	11,250		11,294			11,294	-44	
Total Relief items, Construction, Sup	76,250		73,072			73,072	3,178	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage	1,500		1,760			1,760	-260	
Distribution & Monitoring	1,000		495			495	505	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	2,600		4,580			4,580	-1,980	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	5,100		6,836			6,836	-1,736	
Personnel								
National Society Staff	2,950		4,045			4,045	-1,095	
Volunteers	1,400		1,182			1,182	218	
Total Personnel	4,350		5,227			5,227	-877	
Consultants & Professional Fees								
Professional Fees			86			86	-86	
Total Consultants & Professional Fees			86			86	-86	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	500		500			500	0	
Total Workshops & Training	500		500			500	0	
General Expenditure								
Information & Public Relations	500		41			41	459	
Office Costs	750		825			825	-75	
Communications	700		994			994	-294	
Financial Charges	200		20			20	180	
Total General Expenditure	2,150		1,879			1,879	271	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recovt	5,743		5,694			5,694	49	
Total Indirect Costs	5,743		5,694			5,694	49	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	94,093		93,294			93,294	799	
VARIANCE (C - D)			799			799		

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IV. Breakdown by subsector

Business Line / Sub-sector	Budget	Opening Balance	Income	Funding	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Deferred Income
BL2 - Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people							
Disaster response	94,093	0	94,093	94,093	93,294	799	
Subtotal BL2	94,093	0	94,093	94,093	93,294	799	
GRAND TOTAL	94,093	0	94,093	94,093	93,294	799	