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Emergency appeal

Belarus: Population Movement

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Appeal n° MDRBY006

10,000 people to be assisted

Appeal launched 3 June 2015

Glide n° OT-2014-000146-BLR

CHF 742,931 Appeal budget

Ends 3 February 2016

This **Emergency Appeal** seeks **742,931 Swiss francs** on a preliminary basis to support the **Belarus Red Cross (BRC)** to assist 10,000 people (2,400 families)¹ displaced by the civil unrest in Ukraine. The appeal focuses on **relief activities (nutrition) via a pre-paid debit card system, health, and hygiene interventions.**

The planned response reflects the current situation and information available at this point of the evolving operation. The information will be updated and adjusted based on further developments of the situation.

Details are available in the Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) [<click here>](#)

The disaster and the Red Cross and Red Crescent response to date

From June 2014: increasing numbers of people arriving to Belarus, fleeing the areas of conflict in Ukraine

8 September 2014: a coordinated countrywide operation for providing assistance to the displaced people from Ukraine is launched by Belarus Red Cross headquarters

29 October 2014: CHF 126,229 released from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF)

January – April 2015: some 15,000 people arriving from Ukraine thus increasing by almost 20 per cent the overall number of displaced Ukrainians in Belarus.

3 June 2015: Emergency Appeal launched for CHF 742,931 for some 10,000 of the most vulnerable Ukrainians



Belarus Red Cross team assisting an elderly person from Ukraine.
Photo: Belarus Red Cross

¹ Based on a calculation of an average family size of 3-5 persons.

The operational strategy

This appeal aims to mobilize support for a period of eight months to some 10,000 displaced people from Ukraine (2,400 families) who have been identified by the Belarus Red Cross as acutely vulnerable, with limited sources of income and minimal options of returning to their homes in the coming months.

Needs assessment and beneficiary selection

Since June 2014, an estimated 81,000 people have arrived in Belarus, fleeing the armed conflict in southern and eastern Ukraine. The Belarus Red Cross has been monitoring the evolving situation of new arrivals and the existing displaced population, and continues to assess the needs by carrying out beneficiary surveys, advocating for their needs, and adjusting to gaps in support.

As of mid-May, 12,450 displaced people had applied for assistance from the Belarus Red Cross (as compared with 7,988 by the end of December 2014). The caseload largely consists of the elderly, disabled, expectant mothers, and mothers with small children with no social benefits or income. Joint field assessments indicate the following critical needs that will be addressed by this Emergency Appeal: food assistance; hygiene assistance; and emergency cash via a pre-paid debit card system (e.g. for medication, transportation costs). These needs have been partly met by the IFRC's DREF allocation, and by support provided by the ICRC, and the Swiss and the Danish Red Cross Societies. Beneficiary selection criteria are in line with the findings of joint ICRC and Belarus Red Cross assessments:

Target beneficiary groups	Single parent families	Families with many children	Elderly families	Families with people with disabilities	Families with expectant and nursing mothers	Total n° of families
Quantity	900	700	600	100	100	2,400

This Emergency Appeal operation will provide vital assistance to address acute vulnerability based on criteria defined by the Belarus Red Cross and the IFRC. The operational plan is fully in line with the IFRC's mandate, policies, and commitments, and seeks to provide critically needed humanitarian aid to the intended beneficiaries over the coming eight months.

Cash assistance, specifically through the distribution of pre-paid debit cards, has been identified as the most efficient and effective means of ensuring that the basic needs of the target groups in terms of food, hygiene items and medicines are met. The proposed intervention is based on the findings and recommendations of the Beneficiary Satisfaction Survey and Lessons Learned Workshop that were conducted under the DREF operation '*Belarus: Population Movement*', an ICRC Economic Security assessment, Swiss Red Cross monitoring and operational reports, and detailed assessments undertaken by the Belarus Red Cross branches. Cash- and voucher-based interventions are accepted and feasible within the Belarusian context.

In addition to the cash transfer activities, this Emergency Appeal will support the Belarus Red Cross hot line '201' which will be used to register complaints and inquiries from the target beneficiaries related to the assistance provided, with clear instructions for the staff and volunteers on how to handle these inquiries.



Coordination and partnerships



The Belarus Red Cross has been assisting vulnerable people leaving Ukraine since the first arrivals were reported in June 2014. Through the mobilization of its internal resources and the support provided by the IFRC (DREF allocation in 2014), the ICRC and the Swiss Red Cross, the Belarus Red Cross has been able to offer assistance to 10,442 displaced people from Ukraine in need of shelter and assistance. The ICRC will continue to support the National Society in 2015 to supply up to 6,000 displaced people from Ukraine with vouchers for in-kind assistance; to provide 2,700 displaced people who have just arrived from Ukraine with temporary accommodation for up to 30 days, and to pay the salaries of personnel to monitor the use of the vouchers and evaluate the level of beneficiary satisfaction with the assistance. In spite of the support received from external sources both in 2014 and at the beginning of 2015, the limited resources of the Belarus Red Cross, the principal organization that the most vulnerable displaced people from Ukraine turn to for assistance, are stretched to the maximum. Therefore further support is required, which necessitates this Emergency Appeal.

The Belarus Red Cross is coordinating closely with ICRC and IFRC to ensure that the support provided covers the wider needs of the displaced people from Ukraine. Coordination among Movement and other partners is ensured by the Belarus Red Cross with the support of the IFRC Secretariat's Europe Office in Budapest and its office in Minsk. IFRC, ICRC, Swiss and Danish Red Cross staff has been involved in recent months in assessing the humanitarian needs of the people arriving from Ukraine, providing technical advice to the Belarus Red Cross in the establishment of the voucher-based humanitarian aid distribution system, providing psychosocial support training, and helping to improve monitoring and reporting systems.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Belarus and the respective Committees on Labour, Employment and Social Protection of the regional and city administrations are consulting and assisting those displaced from Ukraine in Belarus on the issues of employment and social benefits. The Ministry of Health is providing free of charge emergency medical care to the citizens of Ukraine as well as medical check-ups and issuance of health certificates required for employment.

Belarus Red Cross headquarters and branches have been in close contact with the relevant state and non-state actors, who are providing hands-on and up-to-date information on the evolving situation. Regular operational contacts are maintained with the Citizenship and Migration Office, Labour, Employment and Social Protection Committees, Education and Health departments, local authorities, UNHCR, and IOM. All partners are committed to continue collecting and sharing data on the situation and evolving needs, to continue assisting the displaced people from Ukraine, and seeking additional donor support in order to meet emergency needs of the displaced population from Ukraine.

The NGO Caritas has been helping 1,183 displaced people from Ukraine that are officially registered in Belarus, providing them with clothes, shoes, medicines, bed linen, towels, hygiene products, washing detergents, and food. The Swiss Embassy in Belarus has supported the training of Belarus Red Cross volunteers with 3,000 Swiss francs in basic homecare skills to provide assistance to elderly and disabled people.

Proposed sectors of intervention



Outcome 1: Emergency assistance is provided to 2,400 families of displaced people from Ukraine

Output 1.1 The nutritional and health needs of 2,400 families of displaced people from Ukraine are met through the distribution of pre-paid bank cards

National Society capacity building

Outcome 2: The capacity of the Belarus Red Cross to respond to the target beneficiaries and wide public enquiries is strengthened

Output 2.1 The National Society's hot line '201' is upgraded to provide efficient communication and information to the vulnerable people and the broader public

Programme support services

Based on the demand for technical and coordination support required to deliver the Emergency Plan of Acton framework, the following support functions will be put in place to guarantee an effective and efficient technical coordination by the Belarus Red Cross: human resources, logistics and supply chain services; communications, planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER) and administration and finance. For more details please refer to the EPoA.

€ Budget

See attached IFRC Secretariat budget for details.

Walter Cotte
Under Secretary General
Programme Services Division

Elhadj Amadou As Sy
Secretary General

Reference documents



Click here for:

- [Emergency Plan of Action \(EPoA\)](#)

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 Humanitarian 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.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace.**

EMERGENCY APPEAL

22/05/2015

APPEAL Belarus - EA Ukrainian DP

Budget Group	Multilateral Response	Inter-Agency Shelter Coord.	Bilateral Response	Appeal Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief				0
Shelter - Transitional				0
Construction - Housing				0
Construction - Facilities				0
Construction - Materials				0
Clothing & Textiles				0
Food				0
Seeds & Plants				0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene				0
Medical & First Aid				0
Teaching Materials				0
Utensils & Tools				0
Other Supplies & Services				0
Emergency Response Units				0
Cash Disbursements	576,000			576,000
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	576,000	0	0	576,000
Land & Buildings				0
Vehicles				0
Computer & Telecom Equipment				0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	4,000			4,000
Medical Equipment				0
Other Machinery & Equipment				0
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	4,000	0	0	4,000
Storage, Warehousing				0
Distribution & Monitoring				0
Transport & Vehicle Costs	3,500			3,500
Logistics Services				0
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	3,500	0	0	3,500
International Staff				0
National Staff	8,000			8,000
National Society Staff	14,214			14,214
Volunteers	240			240
Total PERSONNEL	22,454	0	0	22,454
Consultants				0
Professional Fees	25,000			25,000
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	25,000	0	0	25,000
Workshops & Training	7,000			7,000
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	7,000	0	0	7,000
Travel	16,160			16,160
Information & Public Relations	2,900			2,900
Office Costs	400			400
Communications	2,900			2,900
Financial Charges	17,280			17,280
Other General Expenses	2,880			2,880
Shared Office and Services Costs	13,827			13,827
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	56,347	0	0	56,347
Partner National Societies				0
Other Partners (NGOs, UN, other)				0
Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS	0	0	0	0
Programme and Services Support Recovery	45,130	0		45,130
Total INDIRECT COSTS	45,130	0	0	45,130
Pledge Earmarking & Reporting Fees	3,500			3,500
Total PLEDGE SPECIFIC COSTS	3,500	0	0	3,500
TOTAL BUDGET	742,931	0	0	742,931
Available Resources				
Multilateral Contributions				0
Bilateral Contributions				0
TOTAL AVAILABLE RESOURCES	0	0	0	0
NET EMERGENCY APPEAL NEEDS	742,931	0	0	742,931



Belarus: Population movement

