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Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) Ukraine: Extreme winter condition

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Ukraine: Extreme winter condition

DREF operation n° MDRUA006
GLIDE n° CW-2012-000006-UKR
02 February 2012

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked 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 94,643 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance most needed people affected by the extreme cold wave in Ukraine. The action is coordinated with Ministry of Emergency situation in Ukraine. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary:

Due to extreme winter conditions and the number of people who have died (32) and have been hospitalized (544), the Ministry of Emergency has set up tents for people to warm up.



Ukrainian Red Cross Society carries out the support for the most vulnerable population

The Ukrainian Red Cross in its role as auxiliary to the Government and its humanitarian role is ready to support the most vulnerable people who are visiting these tents every day. The assistance will consist of the provision of food packages and blankets.

This operation is expected to be implemented over 2 months, and will therefore be completed by 31 March, 2012; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 31 June, 2012).

[<click here for the DREF budget; here for contact details; here to view the map of the affected area>](#)

The situation

Freezing weather has killed dozens of people in Central and Eastern Europe over the past few days and temperatures are set to drop even further according to weather forecasts. The situation worsened in Ukraine since bitter cold with heavy snowstorms hit the country last week, with temperatures falling to 12-15 degrees Celsius below zero (10-5F), local media reported on Tuesday. The temperature has reached minus 30 C on 25 January 2012.

At least 32 people have died in Ukraine according to official sources. Most of them were homeless who froze to death in the streets or old people who died in their flats or after hospitalization. Until 27 January 2012, 627 people have requested medical assistance because of frostbite and hypothermia with 544 of them admitted to hospitals. The effect from the cold wave turned serious due to several factors that relate to the bad social economic situation, high number of people living below poverty level, and many people living without permanent address (homeless).

The Ministry of Emergencies in Ukraine issued on Monday, 30 January, a storm warning for the day.

Due to the extreme situation, Ministry of Education has announced that 3,200 schools in Ukraine will be closed starting from 30 January 2012.

The weather forecast is predicting that that similar low temperature is expected between 1 and 6 of February 2012.

Coordination and partnerships

On 30 January 2012, Ministry of Emergencies in Ukraine has opened 1,500 points (winterized tents), where vulnerable people can come and warm up. On 30 January there has been 7,000 people registered for seeking any kind of assistance in these tents. So far, Ministry of Emergency has supported a total of 17,000 people. The type of support is mainly related to the provision of medical assistance, distribution of second hand clothes, distribution of warm drinks (tea) and sometimes a hot meal. Ministry of Emergency has applied for additional quantities of second hand clothes, blankets, food products. Ministry of Emergency of Ukraine has invited Ukraine Red Cross to supply the tents with food items and blankets and to jointly assist the vulnerable people. None of the International Organizations, including the UN body, has responded to the condition so far.

The IFRC and the National Society cooperate closely in assessing the needs and the response to this emergency. The operation will be coordinated by Ukrainian Red Cross branch chairpersons in their areas of responsibility. Red Cross volunteers will be responsible for delivering the emergency assistance.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Ukrainian Red Cross is prepared to conduct this operation in order to provide assistance to the most vulnerable people and to help them to overcome the negative impact of the cold wave that has affected the country.

According to the assessments and information received from authorities the beneficiary groups mostly in need are homeless people, people living below the poverty level, unemployed people, single mothers with one or more children, elderly, who cannot meet their basic needs in food in the established shelters (tents).

The assistance will be provided by Ukraine Red Cross volunteers and Visiting nurses through the distribution of hot meals, hot tea and blankets. The operation will be implemented in the regions where the cold wave had the most serious effects, namely: Harkov, Dnepropetrovsk, Kirovograd, Chernugov, Luganks and Sumi.

MAIN WORKING DIRECTIONS OF URCS:

1. Assisting 2,000 most vulnerable people in the provision of hot meal, hot tea and blankets.
2. Work with mass-media ;
3. Collaboration with Ministry of Emergency situation in carrying out the basic support for the most vulnerable people;
4. Improvement of cooperation with local authorities, NGOs and different religious confessions.

The needs

According to the preliminary assessments and beneficiary selection criteria 2,000 people will be supported through this operation. The targeted population groups will be provided with the following items based on their needs:

Item	Unit	Number	People supported
Blanket	pcs	3,000	2,000+ 1,000 contingency
Food package	parcel	2,000 x 10 days = 20,000	2,000

The food parcels will contain the following items: dried soup, tea, bread, pasta and one cup for diluting the soup.

The proposed operation

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Outcome: Through the direct assistance to the most vulnerable people, 2,000 persons will receive hot meals, tea and blanket enabling them to survive the latest cold wave.

Outputs (expected results) and activities planned:

- Local procurement of emergency items
- Preparation of distribution plan to the regions
- Informing media about the distribution and the assistance provided by URCS
- Establishment of distribution points at the shelters
- Distribution of emergency items by RC branches and their volunteers to the established distribution points.
- Coordination with local emergency departments and local authorities.
- Monitoring and reporting

To carry out assistance to the most vulnerable people during the cold wave under the program, the below steps will be followed by the National Society in Ukraine:

1. Logistics action related to preparation of provision of the needed goods:

- Opening the tender process;
- Procurement;
- Delivering of the food items to the places where people are warming up;

2. Distribution to the identified people. It is planned that Ukraine RC will assist 2,000 beneficiaries.

3. Actively inform population of Ukraine about the places where the provision of the assistance is provided. The announcements will be made on radio and local TV.

The Ukraine Red Cross Headquarters, in close cooperation with IFRC Country Representation, will monitor the progress and provide the necessary technical expertise. Visibility of the work of the Red Cross volunteers will be ensured during the operation through the local 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:

- **In Ukraine:** National Committee of URCS, 01004 Kyiv, 30 Pushkinska, tel.: 044-235-01-57, 044-279-44-09, 099-487-72-08 e-mail: info@redcross.org.ua
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- **IFRC Zone:** Alberto Monguzzi, Disaster Management & Shelter; office phone: +36 1 8884 500; email: alberto.monguzzi@ifrc.org
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Click here

1. To see the DREF operation Budget [below](#)
2. To see the Map of the affected area [below](#)
3. [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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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.

DREF OPERATION

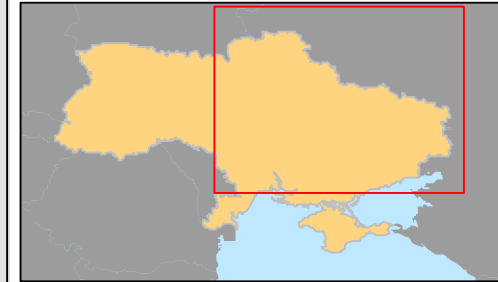
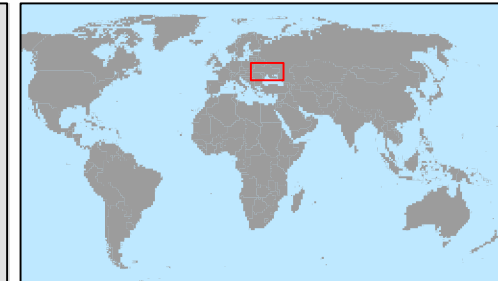
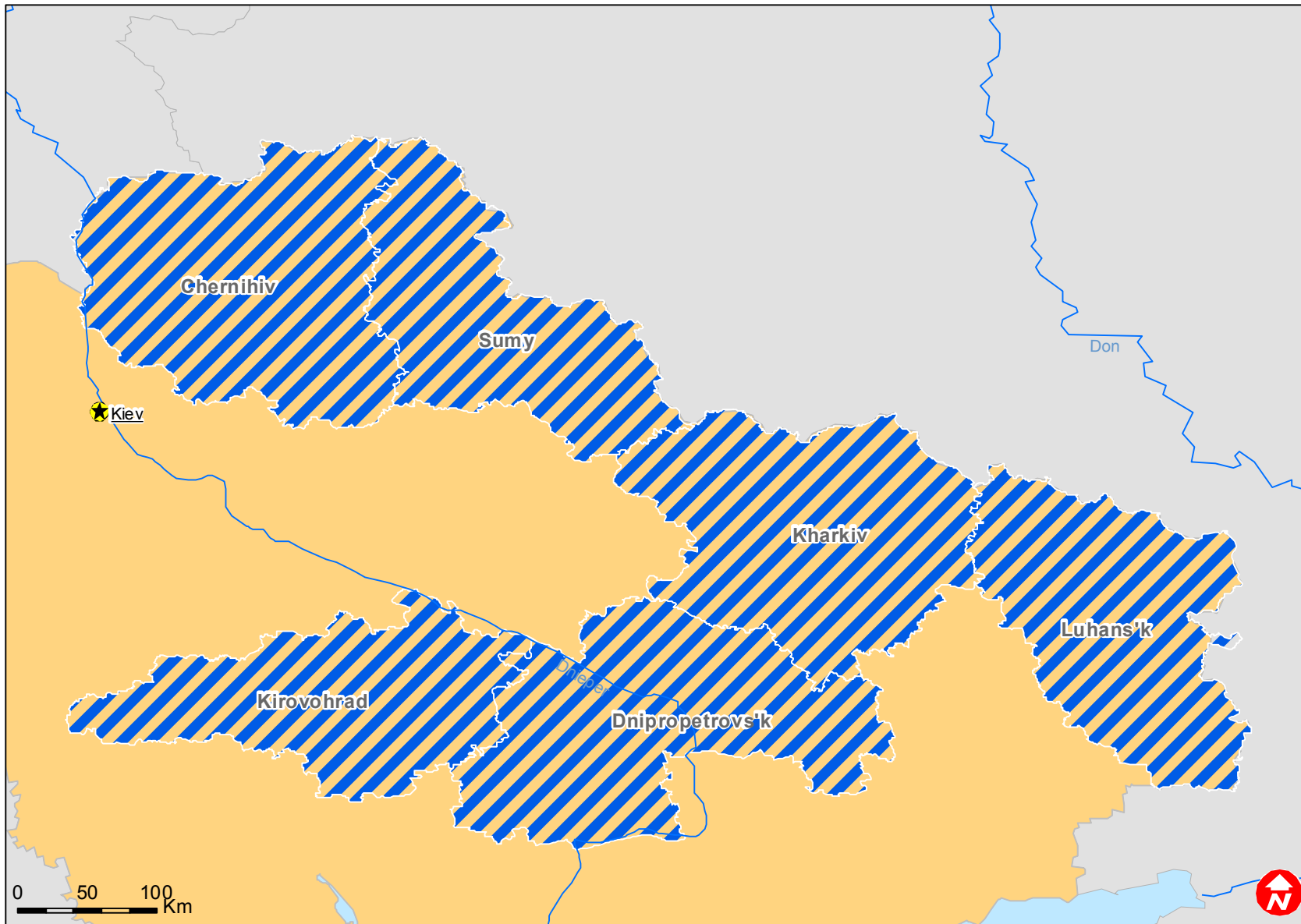
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MDRUA006 Ukraine: Extreme winter condition

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	
Shelter - Transitional	
Construction - Housing	
Construction - Facilities	
Construction - Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	40,500
Food	40,000
Seeds & Plants	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	
Medical & First Aid	
Teaching Materials	
Ustensils & Tools	0
Other Supplies & Services	
Emergency Response Units	
Cash Disbursements	
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	80,500
Land & Buildings	
Vehicles Purchase	
Computer & Telecom Equipment	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	
Medical Equipment	
Other Machinery & Equipment	0
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	
Distribution & Monitoring	300
Transport & Vehicle Costs	1,100
Logistics Services	
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	1,400
International Staff	
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	1,367
Volunteers	500
Total PERSONNEL	1,867
Consultants	
Professional Fees	
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	0
Travel	1,000
Information & Public Relations	1,000
Office Costs	1,000
Communications	2,000
Financial Charges	100
Other General Expenses	
Shared Support Services	
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	5,100
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	5,776
Total INDIRECT COSTS	5,776
TOTAL BUDGET	94,643



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 Most affected regions