

www.ifrc.org  
Saving lives,  
changing minds.

# Emergency appeal operation update

## Turkey: Van Earthquake

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

**Emergency Appeal n° MDRTR002**  
**GLIDE n° EQ-2011-000162-TUR**  
**Operation update n°5**  
**29<sup>th</sup> February 2012**

**Period covered by this Operations Update:** 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012 to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012.



Landscape of the container city in Erciş/Çelebibağ during the winter. Photo: Turkish Red Crescent

**Appeal target (current): CHF 9,402,445.**

**Appeal coverage:** Up to 29 February 2012 the level of the appeal coverage has reached 77 %, through firm cash pledges and confirmed in-kind contributions.

[<Click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details >](#)

### Appeal history:

- This **Emergency Appeal** was launched on a preliminary basis on 26 October 2011 for CHF 10,421,025 for the period of nine months to assist 10,000 households (50,000 beneficiaries).
- **Operations Updates no. 1, 2, 3** and **4** were issued on 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2011, and 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012.
- **Revised Emergency Appeal** was launched on 16 November 2011 reflecting the changing needs and complementing the efforts of the Turkish National Society after the earthquakes of 9 November 2011. The revised emergency appeal is supporting the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) to assist 10,000 households (60,000 beneficiaries) for 12 months with transitional shelter.

**Summary:**

25,750 buildings were severely damaged and became inhabitable with 2,900 completely collapsed as a result of the earthquakes that hit Eastern Turkey on 23 October and 9 November 2011. Another 40,800 buildings were slightly damaged but still usable for accommodation. The response activities are led by the government, most notably by the Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency which coordinates the delivery and distribution of food, hygiene and other non-food relief supplies, provision of emergency and transitional shelter as well as organisation of reconstruction efforts.

The Turkish Red Crescent responded immediately after the earthquake struck. This emergency response included deployment of the response teams, provision of food and non-food items, sleeping bags, tents and blankets as well as prefabricated Mevlana houses the national society had on stock. On the request of the Turkish Red Crescent, the International Federation launched the preliminary emergency appeal which contributed to the international mobilisation of the substantial number of tents, blankets and sleeping bags. 66,559,461.64 Turkish Liras (CHF 34,689,874.21) have been raised by the Turkish Red Crescent so far through the national fundraising campaign in support of the victims of the two earthquakes.

The Federation Revised Emergency Appeal reflected the transition of the Turkish Red Crescent emergency response into rehabilitation phase whereby provision of transitional shelter to 2,000 homeless families have become the cornerstone of the national society's plan of action.<sup>1</sup>

Funding for the procurement and installation of 950 container houses out of 2,000 has been offered to the Turkish Red Crescent by the European Union IPA fund on a bilateral basis. The Turkish Red Crescent has conducted a tender process for 2,000 container houses and the contracts were signed with the best bidder/s at the beginning of November. All the 2,000 container houses were delivered to the field by the end of January 2012 and provided to beneficiaries.

The Federation and the Turkish Red Crescent finalised work on the cooperation model and practical arrangements to ensure the container houses are made available to the targeted number of beneficiary families.

## The situation

Since the earthquakes that hit Eastern Turkey on 23 October 2011 and 9 November 2011, 7,000 aftershocks have been registered. 644 people lost their lives in the quakes, with 2,500 injured and hospitalised and in total 650,000 people were affected by the earthquake. Aftershocks are still continuing ever since.

A technical committee of 20 persons from the governmental agencies and 200 technical staff from different provinces conducted damage assessment: there were 25,750 buildings severely damaged and rendered inhabitable. 2,900 houses collapsed completely. 40,800 buildings were slightly damaged but usable for accommodation. Authorities have strictly forbidden anybody's entry to damaged buildings. As a result of this structural damage a large number of families have been forced to stay in temporary shelters.

The reconstruction activities in the affected areas started in November: the preparations of foundations for the permanent concrete houses are currently en route and the reconstruction is foreseen to be completed within a year – all funded by national resources. The municipalities are repairing the damaged roads from their own funds.

The rugged terrain of this mountainous area is posing a logistical challenge to providing people with emergency and transitional shelter. Due to freezing temperatures and snowfall, hypothermia and respiratory tract infections are serious additional concerns. Therefore it has been decided to concentrate on transitional shelter solutions to ensure protection of population's health as one of the most important priorities.

Due to the earthquakes and aftershocks a large number of people in the affected area are still afraid to go back to their houses even if those are habitable. However, they are slowly getting back into circulation.

---

<sup>1</sup> Please refer for more details to the Federation revised emergency appeal of 16 November 2011 (<http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/11/MDRTR002EA.pdf>)

Container houses replaced tents, schools are opened, frequency of aftershocks is diminishing, psychological effects are decreasing, therefore, life in the area is returning to normal day after day.

## Coordination and partnerships

Both before and after the appeal Partnership National Societies (PNS) showed a great deal of attention and interest in supporting the humanitarian relief operation for Van earthquakes. Bilaterally and through the Federation, more than 20 PNS made valuable cash and in-kind contributions to the operation. Other contributions were received from: New Zealand Government, Polish Government, OFDA, OPEC/OFID, VERF WHO and Western Union. The list of donor national societies and other donors can be found on the following link: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/Active/MDRTR002.pdf>

Disaster Management in Turkey at national level is being led by the Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD). The Turkish Red Crescent participates as a permanent member in the boards which are established by AFAD. These boards are responsible for determining rules and principles of relief operations to be conducted during disasters. At provincial level, the responsible body is the concerned Provincial Directorate of Disaster and Emergency that is working with close cooperation with the Turkish Red Crescent.

The response operation is being led by the government, notably the Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency assisted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other agencies. The national and international response is being coordinated by the Presidency and other institutions which are in charge of collecting and allocating relief assistance through their own means and partners in the field.

Van Governorate built container cities and distributed 8,375 container houses to the people in need to date and 3,625 more will be distributed after the completion of the ongoing establishment process. TRC has a relief distributing program for the families living in these container cities details of which will be outlined in "transitional shelter" section (page 6).

The Turkish Red Crescent and the International Federation signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2012. The agreement defines the general principles of the implementation of the Turkish Red Crescent Container/Living houses project in Van Province. The agreement further sets the roles and responsibilities of the parties during the project implementation period.

Psychosocial support training is being provided with the cooperation of UNICEF, WHO and the TRC to the staff of Ministry of Health in Van and to the staff of Ministry of Family and Social Policies in Ankara. The program has begun 3 months ago and is continuously providing trainings; approximately 500 people completed the training up until today. UNHCR (in-kind) and IOM (in-kind and cash) supported the operation.

Delegates from American Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross visited the field, and were briefed on the activities implemented by TRC and spent time with beneficiaries.



Stacy L. Ragan representative of American Red Cross is visiting the field. Photo: Turkish Red Crescent

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

### Overview

Transitional shelter solutions have been defined as the highest priority in the Federation Revised Emergency Appeal of 16 November 2011. There was no other choice taking into consideration specifically the harsh weather in winter conditions and the terrain. Currently, Turkish Red Crescent is running two camps of pre-fabricated houses in Van province and one in district Erciş with 18,498 people being accommodated.

The National Society is continuously working with community leaders, clerics and community volunteers to ensure smooth functioning of the communities in the settlements. The National Society also runs psychosocial support for the most vulnerable population in the affected area:

- Children in the camps are gathered in painting workshops and young people receive lectures on the psychological effects of disasters.
- Women have been trained about how to take care of their children in the aftermath of disaster.
- Various games have been organised for children living in camps.

The Turkish Red Crescent is providing its services with 56 professional personnel and 82 temporary local staff, in total 138 Red Crescent workers. There are 18 Turkish Red Crescent, 5 rented vehicles and as a total, 23 vehicles have been deployed for transportation of the relief items to the region.



Group of volunteers and children in the camps playing games as part of the psychosocial support activities.  
Photo: Turkish Red Crescent

## Progress towards outcomes

### Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items) <sup>2</sup>

**Outcome: 10,000 vulnerable families residing in temporary accommodation will have received urgent relief items (blankets, sleeping bags)**

**Progress:** By January 30, 2012, more than 183,000 blankets, 23,000 sleeping bags were dispatched to the affected area from TRC emergency stocks and donor contributions.

S.N	Type of material	Van/ Erciş	Van/ Merkez	Other affected Districts*	Total
1	BLANKET (individual)	50,538	132,044	705	183,287
2	HEATER (individual)	2,904	3,879	0	6,783
3	SLEEPING BAG (individual)	15,978	7,633	0	23,611
4	KITCHEN SET(individual)	3,717	13,427	0	17,144
5	VARIOUS FOOD (KG)	367,079	1,626,308	0	1,993,387
6	FOOD PARCEL (individual)	12,948	37,469	0	50,417
7	LUNCH BOX (individual)	12,000	11,944	0	23,944
8	MATRESS (individual)	810	10,120	0	10,930

\* Bitlis/ Adilcevaz, Bitlis/ Merkez, Ağrı/ Patnos and Muş/ Malazgirt, Van/ Özalp

TRC is planning a relief distribution program for an estimated 12,000 families who will be living in the container cities established by Van Governorate in Van (center, town and villages). One relief package contains a family

<sup>2</sup> To see the outputs and planned activities for the relief distributions, please click on the following link:  
<http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/11/MDRTR002EA.pdf>

food package, one kitchen set, one bed, five blankets. Distributions began on 31 January 2012 to an initial 4,161 families and 8,375 families have been provided with the mentioned relief package as yet.

#### Challenges:

There were no significant problems hindering the Turkish Red Crescent and other actors operating so far.

#### Emergency shelter<sup>3</sup>

**Outcome: Ensure that the most vulnerable families have a healthy, safe and dignified shelter solution to preserve their physical and mental well-being and prevent the further deterioration of the humanitarian situation.**

**Progress:** Emergency shelter distributions are completed and included family tents and Mevlana houses (Mevlana houses are prefabricated emergency/transitional shelters that are made and pre-positioned by the TRC). TRC continues to run two camps in Van province and one in district Erciş, which are currently housing 18,498 people.

The affected people from the tent cities have been moved to the container cities, therefore the TRC began to collect the tents from the field. However, since the aftershocks are continuing families have the tendency to not to give the tents back, so the process will pursue for some more time. After the collection, tents which are still suitable for use will be taken to maintenance.

Total number of family tents distributed is: 53,126 (from TRC stocks and donations)<sup>4</sup>

Total number of Mevlana houses distributed is: 3,794 (from TRC stocks)

Total family tents/Mevlana houses distributed is: 56,920

#### Transitional shelter<sup>5</sup>

**Outcome: Improved living condition of 2000 families (10,000 individuals) in transitional shelter through provision of furnished container living houses of agreed standards.**

**Progress:** The Federation revised its Emergency Appeal on 16 November reflecting the transition of the Turkish Red Crescent emergency response into the rehabilitation phase. The needs identified for the mid term are very much related to the activities of other actors in the operation (most notably the Turkish government) and reflect the awareness of the situation where the harsh winter conditions pose a very real threat to the families who have lost their dwellings following the two earthquakes. As the construction of permanent houses will take approximately one year, provision of the transitional shelter to 2,000 homeless families has become the cornerstone of the Turkish Red Crescent plan of action.

As of the beginning of November 2011, the Turkish Red Crescent engaged in a process of acquiring 2,000 container houses. The Turkish Red Crescent, with an observer provided by government has conducted a tender to select the supplier and the contract was signed with the best bidder on 10 November 2011 for 1,000 container houses. As following up on the evolving needs of the affected families the second lowest bidder was selected for the remaining 1,000 container houses.

Funding for the procurement and installation of 950 container houses out of 2,000 has been offered to the Turkish Red Crescent by the European Union IPA fund on a bilateral basis. Additionally other bilateral donors have provided funding for 550 container houses. This left a balance of 500 houses which is covered by the revised Federation Emergency Appeal.

The 500 container houses funded by the Emergency Appeal have been provided with basic furniture items composed of 1 (one) ea sofa with two seats, 1 (one) ea double size mattress with base, 2 (two) ea carpets for

<sup>3</sup> To see the outputs and planned activities for emergency shelter, please click on the following link: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/11/MDRTR002EA.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> The table in [Annex](#) shows a breakdown of all the emergency shelter materials distributed as of 30 January 2011.

<sup>5</sup> To see the outputs and planned activities for transitional shelter, please click on the following link: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/11/MDRTR002EA.pdf>

dining and bed rooms, 1 (one) ea folding mattress, 1 (one) ea portable cupboard, 1 (one) ea refrigerator (office type), 1 (one) ea dining table and 4 (four) ea plastic stools, The cost of the basic furniture mentioned herein for each container equals to 705 CHF. Thus, fully furnished container price is calculated as 6,181 CHF.



Outside and inside of the container houses distributed in Erciş Center. Photo: Turkish Red Crescent

Currently 1,294 containers are established on a 200.000m<sup>2</sup> field and have been delivered to the beneficiaries in Erciş Center. Two 512 m<sup>2</sup> tents have been erected by the TRC in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture on the same field for social and cultural activities including psychosocial activities like theatre, cinema, conference, exhibition, etc.

Additionally, 359 containers in Erciş/Çelebibağ and 180 containers in Erciş/Haydarbey are established and have been delivered to the families.

Moreover, to complement support for families, 167 containers were provided for community, academic and health facilities.

Thus, all 2,000 container houses were delivered to the field by the end of January 2012 and put at the disposal of the families.

Support of the container houses programme by the International Federation has been formalised by the agreement concluded between the Turkish Red Crescent and the International Federation on 18 January 2012. The agreement outlines the responsibilities of the two organisations in the implementation, from tendering and contracting through financial support, to reporting, monitoring and evaluation of the activities. An external audit upon the finalisation of the activities is a part of the agreement to ensure complete transparency and accountability.

## Contact information

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

- **In Turkey:** G. Gülçin Diktaş, Focal point for IFRC, International Programs Division, Disaster Management Directorate, Turkish Red Crescent, phone: +90 (312) 293 6023; email: [gulcin.diktas@kizilay.org.tr](mailto:gulcin.diktas@kizilay.org.tr)
- **IFRC Zone:** Alberto Monguzzi, Disaster Management & Shelter Delegate, IFRC Europe Zone, Budapest, phone: +36 (1) 888 45 05; email: [alberto.monguzzi@ifrc.org](mailto:alberto.monguzzi@ifrc.org)
- **In Geneva** for mobilization and coordination of relief items: Mikhail Chitashvili, phone: +41 22 730 43 05; mobile phone: +41 79 203 46 20; email: [Mikhail.chitashvili@ifrc.org](mailto:Mikhail.chitashvili@ifrc.org)
- **In Geneva:** Christine South, Operations Support, phone: +41 22 730 45 29; email: [christine.south@ifrc.org](mailto:christine.south@ifrc.org)

**For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:**

- **IFRC Zone:** Sophia Keri, Senior Programme Assistant, phone: +36 (1) 888 45 04; Fax: +36 (1) 336-15-16; email: [sophia.keri@ifrc.org](mailto:sophia.keri@ifrc.org)

**For Performance and Accountability:****(planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)**

- **IFRC Zone:** Imre Nagy, Planning and Reporting Manager, Budapest, phone: +36 (1) 888 45 26; email: [imre.nagy@ifrc.org](mailto:imre.nagy@ifrc.org)

**Click here**

1. Click [here](#) to return to the title page
2. Click [here](#) to go to the Annex for the detailed breakdown of distributions

## 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.

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.

---

[www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)

**Saving lives, changing minds.**



## Annex

Below is the breakdown of all the in-kind assistance received and handled by the Turkish Red Crescent, either through bilateral donations or multilateral cooperation schemes in response to the International Federation Emergency Appeal. The contributions through the Federation's Emergency Appeal by Norwegian, Belgian, Netherlands, Icelandic, Finnish and Canadian Red Cross Societies have been marked with an asterisk.

### Tents

Norwegian Red Cross*	TENT, FAMILY, Winterised type	355
Belgian Red Cross (Flanders)*	TENT, FAMILY, Winterised type	300
The Netherlands Red Cross*	TENT, FAMILY, Winterised type	1000
German Red Cross	TENT, FAMILY, Winterised type	500
Swiss Red Cross	TENT, FAMILY, Winterised type	216
Japanese Red Cross Society	TENT, FAMILY, Winterised type	500
The Canadian Red Cross Society	TENT, FAMILY, Winterised type	100
Finnish Red Cross*	TENT, FAMILY, Winterised type	500
Canadian Government*	TENT, FAMILY, Winterised type	500
Iranian Red Crescent	TENT	1500
Syrian Red Crescent	TENT	500
Iraqi Red Crescent	TENT	2000
Austrian Red Cross	TENT	48
Luxembourg Red Cross	TENT	710
Bahrain Red Crescent	TENT	722
South Korean Red Cross	TENT	100
UAE Red Crescent	TENT	560
UNHCR	TENT	2000
Save the Children	TENT	30
Shelter Box	TENT	1336
<b>Total</b>		<b>13477</b>

### Sleeping Bags

IFRC (American Red Cross)	SLEEPING BAG, for indoor use, cold climate	11100
The Netherlands Red Cross*	SLEEPING BAG, for indoor use, cold climate	3600
Icelandic Red Cross*	SLEEPING BAG, for indoor use, cold climate	2522
Bahrain Red Crescent	SLEEPING BAG, for indoor use, cold climate	1000
UAE Red Crescent	SLEEPING BAG, for indoor use, cold climate	840
USA Ministry of Defence	Sleeping bag	485
Regine Sixth Children Aid Fund.	Sleeping bag	1680
<b>Total</b>		<b>21227</b>

### Blankets

Norwegian Red Cross*	BLANKET, woven, 80% wool, 1.5x2m, high thermal resistance	18080
German Red Cross	BLANKET, woven, 80% wool, 1.5x2m, high thermal resistance	2500
The Canadian Red Cross Society*	BLANKET, woven, 80% wool, 1.5x2m, high thermal resistance	3000
Japanese Red Cross Society	BLANKET, woven, 50%wool, 1.5x2m, medium thermal resistance	11200
Japanese Red Cross Society	BLANKET, SYNTHETIC, 1.5x2m, medium thermal	25000
Finnish Red Cross*	BLANKET, SYNTHETIC, 1.5x2m, medium thermal	5000
Swiss Red Cross	Blanket fleece, 80% Cotton 20% polyester	800
Bahrain Red Crescent	Blanket	1020
UNHCR	Blanket	40015
USA ministry of Defence	Blanket	1380
Iraqi Red Crescent	Blanket	2000
Save the Children	Blanket	30
Singapore Airlines	Blanket	2300
UAE Red Crescent	Blanket	5822
<b>Total</b>		<b>118397</b>

### Other

USA Ministry of Defence	Bed	2660
Japanese Red Cross	Shelter kit	600
South Korea RC	Hygiene Kit	2000
Swiss Red Cross	Kerosene Heater	1233
Austrian RC	Heater	24
German RC	Heater	14

The following table shows a breakdown of all the emergency shelter materials distributed as of 30 January 2011.

Place	Van		Erçiş		Adilcevaz		Özalp		Patnos		Bitlis		Malazgirt	
	Item	Person	Item	Person	Item	Person	Item	Person	Item	Person	Item	Person	Item	Person
Tent city	348	1,774	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Individual distribution of tents	41,309	206,545	11,184	55,920	150	750	0	0	35	175	50	250	50	250
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF TENTS</b>	<b>41,657</b>	<b>208,319</b>	<b>11,184</b>	<b>55,920</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>250</b>
Mevlana House City	635	3,653	160	600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Individual distribution-Mevlana House	2,559	12,795	290	1,450	0	0	150	750	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF MEVLANA HOUSES</b>	<b>3,194</b>	<b>16,448</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>2,050</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>44,851</b>	<b>224,767</b>	<b>11,634</b>	<b>57,970</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>250</b>
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF SHELTER UNITS: 56,920</b> <b>TOTAL NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES: 58,068 families</b>														