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Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) Georgia: Flash floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRGE004
GLIDE n° FF-2012-000079-GEO
16th May 2012

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 122,954 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Georgia Red Cross Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 400 households (1,800 people). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: The central and eastern parts of Georgia were severely affected by rains on 12th and 13th May 2012. Multiple landslides followed the heavy rains, and at least 5 people were killed in the capital city of Tbilisi. Over 3,200 families have been affected and out of them 1,400

have had their property badly damaged. Roads were washed away and draining canals got blocked. For the coming days, further rains are predicted. Mudslide and water flooded houses, agricultural lands, roads, bridges, drainage channels, water pipes and disrupted communication network. The affected areas have been disconnected from the water and gas system. The water has swept away the roads connecting the area leaving many houses cut off from the rest of the country. Houses and farmlands have been flooded, and cattle and poultry killed.

The Georgia Red Cross Society is aiming to assist the most vulnerable 400 families (1,800 people), who had their houses heavily flooded and their household items damaged. Relief items will include mattresses, blankets, kitchen sets and hygiene kits.

This operation is expected to be implemented over 3 months, and will therefore be completed by 15th August 2012; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 15th November 2012).



Georgia Red Cross Disaster Management team assess situation in the effected area (Tbilisi, Ortachala district)

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

The situation

The central and eastern parts of Georgia were severely affected by rains on 12th and 13th May 2012. Multiple mudflows and landslides followed the heavy rains especially affecting the following locations: Tbilisi, Dusheti, Akhmeta, Gurjaani, Lagodekhi, Mtskheta. At least five people lost their lives in the capital city of Tbilisi, when flooding brought by heavy rains destroyed houses overnight. Mudflows destroyed many houses that are in bad conditions and are already dilapidated, buildings partially collapsed or submerged and cars were found overturned by the flash floods amid streets, covered with debris.

On the 14th May, several villages in Sagarejo Municipality were affected by a severe hail storm, mainly Ninocminda, Ckarostavi and Manavi settlements.

Landslides have been activated because of a heavy rain in Adjara mountainous region. Many houses in village Kinchauri are in such a bad condition that in case of continuation of the rain/landslide they might collapse - rendering several families homeless. Khulo Municipality was also affected by heavy rain and mudflow that damaged roads and bridges.

According to the available information over 3,200 families have been affected and out of them 1,400 have had their properties badly damaged. The information is continuously collected and analysed,

According to weather forecasts, further rains are predicted therefore there is a possibility that the situation will evolve in the direction of more damages. Mudslide and water has flooded houses, farmlands, roads, bridges, drainage canals, water pipes and disrupted some parts of the communication network. The affected areas have been disconnected from the water and gas system. The water has swept away the roads connecting the area and cutting off many houses from the rest of the country. Houses and farmlands have been flooded and cattle and poultry killed.

Local authorities and the central Government are working on the rehabilitation of the roads and bridges, cleaning the draining canals, reconstructing the roads, fixing the electricity system. According to various communication channels it has been confirmed that the drinking water was not contaminated. Local authorities have started the cleaning of houses flooded with water and mud immediately after the disaster by using special equipments available.

Coordination and partnerships

Within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the Georgia Red Cross Society is taking the lead in response to the floods coordinating its work with the International Federation and the International Committee of the Red Cross and Partner National Societies. The National Society is providing regular updates on the situation and activities planned to its partners. In case the situation will evolve, the ICRC might be involved in the operation.

The Georgia Red Cross Society is also coordinating its assistance with the national and local authorities of the affected areas. Close coordination and information sharing is maintained with the State Emergency Department of Georgia, under the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia in Tbilisi, with community based organisations working in Georgia and with the Red Cross branches of the affected area. The Emergency Management Department has sent rescue teams to all disaster areas for rescuing the affected people after the mudslides. The Emergency Management Department is collecting and relaying detailed information from the municipalities

The National Society is in contact with the European Commission (EC) Tbilisi Office, and information is being shared in the form of coordination meetings, in order to avoid duplication and ensure that the most vulnerable are reached. The Georgian Red Cross is participating in the coordination meetings and it is updating the civil society on a regular basis. Information from other organisations (UNDP, OXFAM) working in the country is being collected and response will be coordinated. In case the situation becomes worse, UNICEF Tbilisi office has confirmed that they are ready to distribute water purification tablets. UNICEF is also ready to provide jerry cans to the affected population.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Georgia Red Cross Disaster Management Department has sent its disaster management teams from the headquarters in Tbilisi and from Akhmeta Branch to the affected areas. 30 volunteers and 15 GRCS staff (7 regional & 8 headquarters staff) are involved in conducting rapid assessment of the situation and the assessment of the needs of the affected families.

The teams are also coordinating with the local authorities and NGO's working in the affected regions. The next steps for the National Society, following the approval of this DREF, include detailed assessment by identifying and selecting the most vulnerable families, procuring and distributing relief supplies to the affected people. All assessments and procurement procedures will be conducted according to IFRC standards.

The needs

Based on the information received from local authorities and Georgia Red Cross assessment teams, the needs of people affected by the heavy rains and landslides are mattresses, blankets, kitchen sets and hygiene kits.

There are no reports of serious food shortages. People to be reached will be specified following an assessment in the affected region to identify the most vulnerable households.

Out of the estimated 3,200 households that have been affected, the National Society aims to cover 400 families of the most affected households, estimated at 1,800 beneficiaries. The beneficiary selection will consider mainly those families whose houses' ground floor was fully flooded, and their household items were fully damaged by water. They are left with less than minimum living conditions. Furthermore, families which have not been receiving support from other sources will be targeted. The actions by Georgia Red Cross Society seek to complement other actors' support to the affected people. Measures to avoid duplication of the relief support are continuously undertaken through meetings and information sharing.

The proposed operation

The Georgia Red Cross Society is mandated by a Presidential Decree to coordinate activities in case of disasters in Georgia through an established coordination forum. The focus area for the operation will be Tbilisi and several villages in Kakheti and Mtskheta Mtianeti Regions.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Outcome: The most affected population (400 households /1,800 people) are provided with basic non-food items to help them manage with the consequences of floods
Output 1: 400 families (1,800 people) will receive non- food items <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

The following items are planned to be procured and distributed among the affected population:

- 800 mattresses will be provided to the families. Two mattresses per each family are planned to be distributed.
- 400 pieces of kitchen sets containing frying pad, cooking pot, knife, spoon, plate, and cup will be distributed.
- 800 blankets (two per family)
- 800 hygiene kits (two per family) will include such items as shampoo, tooth paste, tooth brush, toilet paper, soap, bath towel, washing powder.

The Red Cross Society Headquarters, in close cooperation with the International Federation, will monitor the progress of the operation and provide the necessary technical advice.

A workshop will be organized on the national level with the participation of the teams involved in the implementation of the disaster response operation to share experiences and lessons learnt during the operation.

The visibility of Georgia Red Cross Society activities and strengthening of the National Society's image will be ensured through the following activities:

- Maximize the visibility of National Society through relief distributions, visits to the affected people, monitoring and evaluation by volunteers of Red Cross branches;
- Procure and utilize Red Cross T-shirts, caps, ID cards for volunteers and staff of the Georgia Red Cross Society;
- Conduct a satisfaction survey to verify the appropriateness of the operation and get feedback from targeted people to improve future operations.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **Georgia Red Cross Society**, Mrs Medea Margania - Avaliani, Secretary General, phone: +995 322 940650; email: mmargania@regcross.ge
- **IFRC Country Representation**: Ekaterine Kristesashvili, Acting Country Representative in Tbilisi, phone: +995 599 145717; email: ekaterine.kristesashvili@ifrc.org
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[Click here](#)

1. DREF operation budget [below](#)
2. Click [here](#) to see the map of the affected area
3. 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.
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DREF OPERATION

15/05/2012

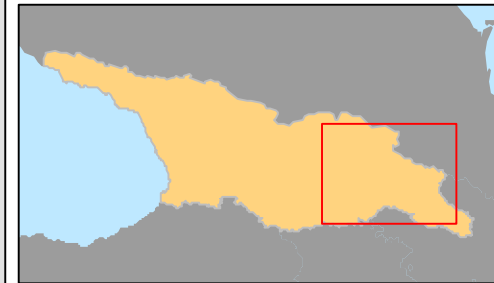
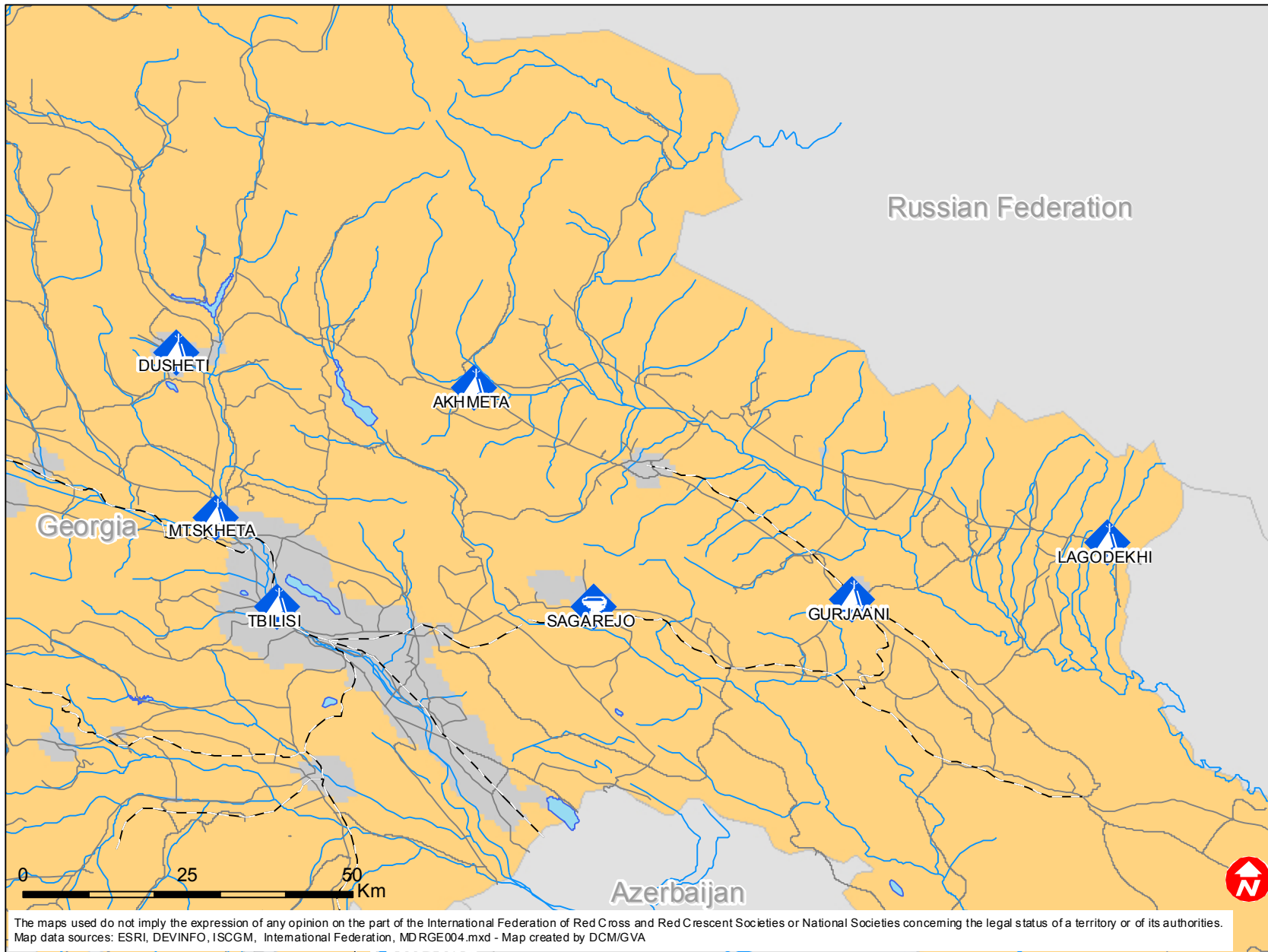
GEORGIA - FLASH FLOODS

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	0
Shelter - Transitional	
Construction - Housing	
Construction - Facilities	
Construction - Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	54,400
Food	
Seeds & Plants	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	20,000
Medical & First Aid	
Teaching Materials	
Ustensils & Tools	18,000
Other Supplies & Services	
Emergency Response Units	
Cash Disbursements	
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	92,400
Land & Buildings	
Vehicles Purchase	
Computer & Telecom Equipment	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	
Medical Equipment	
Other Machiney & Equipment	
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	5,000
Dsitribution & Monitoring	1,750
Transport & Vehicle Costs	3,200
Logistics Services	
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	9,950
International Staff	
National Staff	
National Society Staff	4,500
Volunteers	2,250
Total PERSONNEL	6,750
Consultants	
Professional Fees	
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	1,850
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	1,850
Travel	
Information & Public Relations	800
Office Costs	800
Communications	700
Financial Charges	400
Other General Expenses	
Shared Support Services	1,800
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	4,500
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	7,504





Total INDIRECT COSTS	7,504
TOTAL BUDGET	122,954



Georgia: Flash floods



Most affected locations

-  Mudflows and landslides
-  Hailstorm
-  Main roads
-  Railroad