

DREF operation update Kazakhstan: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRKZ005 GLIDE n° FL-2012-000030-KAZ Update n°1 – 3rd April 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.

Period covered by this update:
27th February to 25th March 2012.

Summary: CHF 175,704 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 27th February 2012 to support the Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society in delivering assistance to some 4,000 beneficiaries and to replenish disaster preparedness stocks.

Abundant snowmelt and heavy rains in the end of February and in March caused floods in South-Kazakhstan region affecting 9 districts and Shymkent city.

According to the preliminary data of the government's commission that assessed the scale of damage from the disaster about USD 8,000,000 will be required to rebuild the houses and the infrastructure damaged by the floods.

Following the disaster, the Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society conducted a detailed needs assessment and prepared the list of beneficiaries according to the vulnerability criteria agreed with the local authorities. The relief items were purchased in Shymkent through the standard tendering procedures of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). In total, 2,500 blankets, 2,500 bed-linen sets, 1,500 mattresses, 750 family hygiene parcels, 1,500 pairs of rubber footwear were procured.

Volunteers of the Kazakh Red Crescent's regional branch started distribution of non-food items in three villages of Ordabasy district and the city of Shymkent. In total, 193 most vulnerable families (1,058 people) affected by floods received hygiene parcels, blankets, mattresses, bed linen and rubber footwear.

The Netherlands Red Cross contributed EUR 15,000 to the DREF in replenishment of the allocation made for this operation. The major donors to the DREF are the Irish, Italian, Netherlands and Norwegian Governments and ECHO. Details of all donors can be found on <http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp>



The Kazakhstan Red Crescent carried out a detailed needs assessment in most affected areas after the floods in South-Kazakhstan region. **Kazakhstan RC**

The situation

Quick snow melting and plentiful precipitation at the end of February and in March 2012 caused floods in the South-Kazakhstan region – the most densely populated region near the border with Uzbekistan. By 11th March, the floods spread to 9 districts of the region (out of 11) affecting the population of more than 100 settlements. According to the results of the assessment conducted by the Kazakh Ministry of Emergencies, about 12,000 people were affected in Ordabasy, Aryss, Otyrar, Kazygurt, Baidibek, Sairam, Toleby, Sozak and Tulkebas districts and the regional centre city of Shymkent. Most affected were Ordabasy district (Naiman, Yntyly, Temirlanovka villages), Aryss district (Montaitas, Akdala villages), and Shymkent's suburb settlement Yntymak. More than 3,820 evacuated people (660 families) who cannot return to their houses found shelter with their relatives. The collecting centres initially set up in Temirlanovka (Ordabasy district centre settlement) were closed because they were not comfortable enough for a long-term accommodation.

According to the reports of the Ministry of Emergencies, 2,029 households and 14 public buildings (including 3 schools and 4 hospitals) were flooded in total. As a result, 14 houses, 28 outbuildings and 31 bridges were totally destroyed; 81 km of roads were washed out; 85 houses and 197 outbuildings were severely damaged and made uninhabitable.

Coordination and partnerships

The Kazakh Government established several emergency headquarters to coordinate the response activities. The inter-ministerial commission that is part of the headquarters and is made of representatives of the government bodies and local authorities continues meeting 2-3 times a week at the district level to discuss the developments of the situation, progress in response and adjust the plan of action. The Red Crescent National Society's South-Kazakhstan regional branch regularly attends the meetings.

The Kazakh Ministry of Emergencies (MoE) and the local administration of South-Kazakhstan region continued assessments to determine the scope of the disaster, running rescue and evacuation activities and also implementing measures to prevent further flooding. Thus, more than 100 kilometres of protecting structures were built or reconstructed. About 23 kilometers of river banks were reinforced. According to the preliminary data of the commission about USD 8,000,000 will be required to rebuild the houses and the infrastructure damaged by the floods. Civil Alliance¹ raised up a public subscription for the affected people.



The procured relief items were delivered to Temirlanovka.
Photo: **Kazakhstan RC**

The Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society has been coordinating its activities with the Kazakh Ministry of Emergencies at national and regional levels. The Red Crescent's plan of action was shared with the government stakeholders to avoid duplication of efforts and to enhance further cooperation. The IFRC Regional Representation shares information on the response operation with the UN agencies (OCHA, UNDP and UNICEF), ECHO, OFDA (USAID) and partner National Societies present in the region (American, German, Netherlands and Finnish Red Cross Societies).

The Kazakh National Society headquarters, in close cooperation with the IFRC Regional Representation in Almaty, monitors the progress of the operation. The IFRC regional logistics officer and disaster management officer provided the Kazakhstan Red Crescent Society with the required technical expertise during the tender process for non-food items procurement and in developing a plan of distribution.

¹ The Civil Alliance unites different non-governmental organizations and business structures.

The Red Crescent response operation was highlighted by the local media. Namely, two news releases on local TV channels and 3 publications in local news papers informed the public about the Red Crescent distributions.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Outcome: The immediate needs of the affected population in Ordabasy, Arys districts and Shymkent city suburb are met.
Output: Provision of relief items to 4,000 beneficiaries who are affected by the floods
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploy National Disaster Response Team members to the affected area; • Conduct detailed emergency needs assessments in health and care, water and sanitation and shelter sectors; • Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance; • Prepare the lists of beneficiaries together with the local administration and in accordance with the Kazakh RCS standard operation procedures. • Procure and distribute non-food items (mattresses, bed linen sets, blankets, hygiene parcels). • Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from the point of dispatch to the end users. • Monitor the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

Progress:

The detailed needs assessment was and the list of beneficiaries was prepared according to the criteria previously agreed with the local authorities.

While making the procurement, the Kazakh Red Crescent Society prepared a plan of distribution of the relief items setting the dates and locations. The target beneficiaries were informed about the distribution schedule well in advance to ensure their attendance and hand to hand delivery.

On 29th February 2012, the Kazakhstan Red Crescent started distributions of humanitarian aid items to the most affected families in rural settlements of Ordabasy district and in Shymkent city that lost their homes and belongings.

Table 1 Distributed humanitarian aid items

Locations	Number of reached families	Number of distributed items				
		Blankets	Hygiene parcels	Rubber footwear	Mattresses	Bed linen
Ordabasy district						
Temirlanovka	45	130	45	90	90	130
Yntaly	37	111	37	74	74	111
Naiman	21	63	21	42	42	63
Shymkent						
Turlan	11	33	11	22	22	33
Intymak	18	54	18	36	36	54
Zabadam	24	72	24	48	48	72
Samal	30	90	30	60	60	90
Bozaryk	7	21	7	14	14	21
Total	193	574	193	386	386	574

By 25th March 2012, the aid reached 193 families. The beneficiary group included 7 older people living alone; 34 families with a disabled member of the family; 92 multi-child families; 17 single parent families, 43 unemployed families with low income.

Challenges: Access to the most affected rural settlement Naiman was hampered because the roads were washed out and there was no appropriate transport means in the National Society branch. Because of that distribution of humanitarian aid started in this settlement few days later than planned.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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DREF history:

- This DREF was initially allocated on 27th February 2012 for CHF 175,704 for 3 months to assist 4,000 beneficiaries.
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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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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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