

# DREF final report

## Ukraine: Extreme winter condition

**DREF operation n° MDRUA006**  
**GLIDE n° CW-2012-000006-UKR**  
**30 June 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 Red Crescent response to emergencies. 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.

**Summary:** CHF 94,643 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) in February 2012 to support the Red Cross of Ukraine Society in delivering immediate assistance to 4,838 beneficiaries affected by the extreme cold wave in Ukraine and replenish the disaster preparedness stocks. This final report highlights the activities that the Red Cross of Ukraine carried out as immediate response to the situation. The focus of the operation was on distribution of hot meals, hot tea and blankets to the most vulnerable people (such as homeless people, people living below the poverty level, unemployed people etc.) in order to help them to overcome the negative impact of the cold wave that had affected the country. This operation was successfully completed by the end of March 2012.



**Kharkiv:** A Red Cross visiting nurse and a volunteer are handing over a blanket to a homeless person / **Photo by Ukraine Red Cross**

The Coca-Cola company contributed with CHF 58,000, and the Netherlands Red Cross and the Netherlands Government contributed with CHF 18,138 to the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund in replenishment of the allocation made for this operation. Following the implementation of the operation, there is a balance of CHF 1,612 that needs to be returned to the DREF funds.

The major donors and partners of DREF include the Australian, American and Belgian Governments, the Austrian Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross and the Canadian Government, the Danish Red Cross and the Danish Government, the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), the Irish and the Italian Governments, the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Luxembourg Government, the Monaco Red Cross and the Monaco Government, the Netherlands Red Cross and the Netherlands Government, the Norwegian Red Cross and the Norwegian Government, the Spanish Government, the Swedish Red Cross and the Swedish Government, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), the Medtronic and Z Zurich Foundations, and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the Red Cross of Ukraine, would like to extend their thanks to all donors and partners for their generous contributions. Details of all donors can be found at [http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/Active/MAA00010\\_2012.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/Active/MAA00010_2012.pdf)

## The situation

At the beginning of the year 2012, the cold snap swept across Europe. In particular Central and Eastern Europe were facing unusually low temperatures. Ukraine was reportedly the worst hit area with bitter cold with heavy snowstorms and temperatures falling to minus 20-25 degrees Celsius. In some areas of the country the temperature had reached 30 Celsius below zero. At least 112 people died in Ukraine due to the cold weather according to the Ministry of Health. Most of them were homeless who froze to death in the streets or old people who died in their homes or after their hospitalization. Around 2,500 people were hospitalized with frostbite and hypothermia. Several factors related to the difficult social and economic situation in Ukraine had worsened the effects of the cold wave in the country. People living below the poverty level and without permanent address (homeless) were particularly hardly affected.

On 30 January, the Ministry of Emergencies in Ukraine issued a storm warning for that day. Due to the extreme situation, the Ministry of Education announced to close 3,200 schools in Ukraine from 30 January 2012 until further notice. The government set up more than 3,000 warming-up stations to provide daily assistance such as warm meal, hot drink, and basic medical treatment. In addition people could also pick up some warm clothes donated by the Red Cross.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Ukrainian Red Cross carried out all the necessary preparations to implement this DREF operation in order to provide assistance to the most vulnerable people and to help them overcome the negative impact of the cold wave that had affected the country.

According to the assessments and information received from authorities, the beneficiary groups mostly in need of support were homeless people, people living below the poverty level, unemployed people, single mothers with one or more children, and elderly people, who could not organize their basic meals in the established shelters (tents).

The assistance was provided by Ukraine Red Cross volunteers and visiting nurses through the distribution of hot meals, hot tea and blankets. 44 Red Cross volunteers and 287 visiting nurses were assisting in distributing those items to the vulnerable people at the warming-up stations and at their homes.

According to the plan of action, the activities were implemented in those regions where the cold wave had the most serious effects, namely: Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Kirovograd, Chernigov, Lugansk and Sumy.

As soon as the DREF project under the name "Ukraine: extreme winter condition" was launched, the relevant operational contract between the International Federation and the Ukrainian Red Cross Society was signed in relation to the implementation of this operation. For the overall management of the activities, a Coordination Committee was set up consisting of Ukraine RCS Secretary General, Head of the Humanitarian department, Head of the Information Department, the IFRC Programme Coordinator for Ukraine and the IFRC Kiev Office Finance Manager. Similar coordination committees were also established at regional level, in all the six targeted regions, which included representatives of regional URCS's organizations, the Ministry of Emergency and the Ministry of Social Protection. The main tasks of the commissions were the tendering and procurement of products and goods, the organization of the distribution of relief at the local level, the monitoring of the project implementation and the preparation of the regional reports on the use of funds, and activities with the local mass media.

The regional Departments of the Ministry of Emergency and Ministry of Social Protection, the representatives of which were included in the Emergency Commission, helped the Regional Red Cross Committees to conduct trainings on the program implementation, identification of places and selection of beneficiaries for the distribution of aid. The monitoring was conducted by the commission members and the managers of the Ukrainian Red Cross Society.

## Achievements against outcomes

The main activities planned by the Ukraine National Society for implementing this DREF operation were as follows:

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

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
<p><b>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</b></p>
<p><b>Outputs (expected results) and activities planned:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local procurement of emergency items</li> <li>• Preparation of distribution plan for the regions</li> <li>• Informing the media about the distribution and the assistance provided by the Ukrainian RCS</li> <li>• Establishment of distribution points at the shelters</li> <li>• Distribution of emergency items by Red Cross branches and their volunteers to the established distribution points</li> <li>• Coordination with local emergency departments and local authorities</li> <li>• Monitoring and reporting</li> </ul>

### Impact:

Based on the planned activities, and according to the assessment and the information shared by the government, the Ukrainian National Society carried out the following measures for logistics and distribution of the relief items.

- Decision was taken to arrange procurements of humanitarian goods (food, tea, blankets) in targeted regions in order to make the process quicker and more flexible.
- The Ukrainian Red Cross National Committee developed, with the assistance of the Kiev IFRC Office, a set of template documents to help the Regional Red Cross Committees to run the tenders. The documents were sent out to the Regional Committees.
- The Kiev IFRC office transferred the necessary funds to the Ukrainian National Society for financing the operation.
- By 7 and 8 February 2012 tenders for procuring food, tea and blankets were completed in all six operational regions. The comparative bid analysis (CBA) and other tender documents were received by the Central Coordination Committee from the Regional RC Committees.
- After the approval of the results of the tenders by the Coordination Committee, the Regional RC Committees signed contracts with those companies which had submitted the best offers.
- Distribution points were identified in each region.
- On 9-10 February the Regional RC Committees have completed procurements of food items and blankets. The goods were delivered by the companies to the Regional RC Committees.
- RC branches in the operational regions started the distribution which was continued during the week-ends as well. Totally 593 warming-up points were involved along with the medical-social centers and rooms of Red Cross Society.
- It was also decided to deliver the goods in some cases directly to the homes of people (bed-ridden people, invalids etc) on the basis of the prepared beneficiary lists.

All regions received clear instructions from the Coordination Committee on the actions to be taken at the different phases of the implementation: specifications of the products and goods; selection of target groups according to the defined beneficiary satisfaction criteria; project terms. The members of the Emergency Commissions identified the places and the number of people for project implementation. The recording of food parcels and blankets (distribution lists) was followed at every distribution center on daily basis.

For all the six targeted regions identical technical conditions were established for preparing the food packages. In particular, the content of the food package was standardized (detailed in the list below) so each package contained the same set of products for one person for one day.

*Contents of a food package:*

1. Black tea (1 teabag – 2 grams)
2. Sugar in lumps (5 grams)
3. Instant soup with chicken and noodles - (thermo-glass 160 grams)
4. Instant noodles with chicken taste - in packages (1 pack - 60 grams)
5. Disposable plastic cup heat-resistant (400 ml)
6. Disposable plastic spoon
7. Disposable plastic dish (500 ml)
8. Packed cookies (400-500 grams)

In collaboration with the Ministry of Emergencies, the Ukrainian Red Cross carried out activities for basic support to the vulnerable people in the warming stations set up by the Ministry. This support included cooking in the stations by using hot water and providing disposable utensils. The distribution was carried out like this: one hot food set for one person in need per day against a checklist. For lonely bed-ridden people, the food parcels were delivered to their homes by Ukrainian Red Cross visiting nurses.



**Dnipropetrovsk:** Vulnerable people affected by severe winter conditions are having hot meal and hot tea at a Red Cross warm-up point / **Photo by Ukraine Red Cross**

In total the most vulnerable people during this DREF winter operation implementation were provided with 21,584 sets of hot meals and tea (planned 20,000) via the warm-up points (tents), Red Cross medical-social centers and at homes (mainly for bed-ridden persons and those who were not able to leave their homes because of actual health problems). In average a person received 10 sets of food and tea. In total 2,077 blankets (planned: 2,000) were distributed. Besides, 1,068 blankets were purchased for stocking in the Ukrainian Red Cross disaster preparedness warehouse to be used in case of emergencies. Extra blankets, hot meals, and tea were possible to acquire due to the favorable tender bids.

Some more detailed information related to the distributions is included in the below table:

Distribution:	URCS HQ	Dnipro- petrovsk	Kirovo- grad	Lugansk	Sumy	Kharkiv	Chernigiv	Total
Via MoE tents		11	9	13	6	8	5	52
Via URCS centers		27	17	24	14	19	12	113
Vulnerable people at homes		172	43	126	72	98	52	563
Food sets distributed		5,200	2,000	4,000	3,384	4,500	2,500	21,584
Number of people received blankets and food sets		510	200	404	253	450	250	2,077
Blankets for URCS DP warehouse	1,068							

### Constraints

The project was implemented according to the plan of action. In general, there were no problems faced during the project implementation in the field. The selection, purchasing, and distribution of aid were carried out in time.

## Other assistance

The Ukraine Red Cross signed an agreement with the Coca-Cola Company on cooperation in humanitarian activities. The agreement was signed within the framework of the global agreement between Coca-Cola and IFRC. Within the framework of agreement, the Coca-Cola Company in Ukraine provided essential assistance to people affected by severe winter condition via the Ukrainian Red Cross Society. In particular this assistance included some 2,316 litres of bottled mineral water, 420 litres of fruit-flavoured tea and 2,093 litres of fruit juices that were donated and transported by Coca-Cola to the distributions points in the targeted regions. These goods were distributed by the Red Cross branches to the affected people. A news story was published about the cooperation between Coca-Cola and Ukrainian Red Cross, within the framework of the DREF winter operation, and it is available on the website of the Ukrainian News Agency <http://un.ua/eng/article/377972.html>

The Kiev IFRC representation undertook fundraising activities that included dissemination of information (DREF bulletin and leaflet) about the Ukraine Red Cross activities on providing assistance to people affected by the severe winter conditions to all Embassies operating in Kiev.

Under the joint agreement signed between the Ukraine Red Cross, UNDP and the Ukrainian government on providing humanitarian assistance to people affected by severe winter conditions in Ukraine, the UNDP allocated to the Ukrainian RCS a cash donation of USD 100,000. From this contribution the National Society purchased 9,674 food parcels and 540 electric heaters. These items were distributed by RC branches in all 27 regions of Ukraine to the most vulnerable groups of people.

The activities of Ukraine Red Cross organisations within the DREF operation on providing assistance to the most vulnerable people in order to help them to overcome the negative impact of the cold wave that had affected the country were widely highlighted in local mass media. In addition, the communications manager from IFRC Europe Zone Office visited Ukraine on 12-14 February and collected materials for highlighting the activities implemented during the DREF operation. In particular, he visited Chernigiv Region on 13 February for this purpose. As a result, a story on the DREF operation in Chernigiv was published in the Red Cross magazine.

## Contact information

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

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**Click here**

1. DREF Final financial report **below**
  2. Click **here** to return to the title page
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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.

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

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2012/02-05
Budget Timeframe	2012/1-4
Appeal	MDRUA006
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## I. Funding

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
<b>A. Budget</b>	94,643					94,643	
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	0					0	
<b>Income</b>							
<u>Other Income</u>							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>	94,643					94,643	
<b>C4. Other Income</b>	94,643					94,643	
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)</b>	94,643					94,643	
<b>D. Total Funding = B +C</b>	94,643					94,643	
<b>Coverage = DIA</b>	100%					100%	

## II. Movement of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	0					0	
<b>C. Income</b>	94,643					94,643	
<b>E. Expenditure</b>	-93,031					-93,031	
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>	1,612					1,612	

## III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
	A					B	A - B	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		94,643				94,643		
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>								
Clothing & Textiles	40,500	40,677				40,677	-177	
Food	40,000	39,624				39,624	376	
<b>Total Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>	<b>80,500</b>	<b>80,301</b>				<b>80,301</b>	<b>199</b>	
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Distribution & Monitoring	300						300	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	1,100	728				728	372	
<b>Total Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>728</b>				<b>728</b>	<b>672</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>								
National Society Staff	1,367	1,339				1,339	28	
Volunteers	500						500	
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>1,867</b>	<b>1,339</b>				<b>1,339</b>	<b>528</b>	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	1,000	1,135				1,135	-135	
Information & Public Relations	1,000						1,000	
Office Costs	1,000	2,416				2,416	-1,416	
Communications	2,000	388				388	1,612	
Financial Charges	100	1,046				1,046	-946	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>5,100</b>	<b>4,984</b>				<b>4,984</b>	<b>116</b>	
<b>Indirect Costs</b>								
Programme & Services Support Recov	5,776	5,678				5,678	98	
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>	<b>5,776</b>	<b>5,678</b>				<b>5,678</b>	<b>98</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>94,643</b>	<b>93,031</b>				<b>93,031</b>	<b>1,612</b>	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>		<b>1,612</b>				<b>1,612</b>		