

DREF Final report

Tajikistan: Earthquake

DREF operation n° MDRTJ014 GLIDE n° EQ-2012-000082 – TJK 20 December 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 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 138,467 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan in delivering immediate assistance to some 558 households (3,348 beneficiaries), and to replenish already distributed items.

A 5.7 Richter scale earthquake hit Rasht valley in the east of Tajikistan early morning at 4:30 AM on 13 May 2012. According to the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defence of Tajikistan (CoES), the earthquake killed two, and affected 1,591 residents of 30 villages in Nurobod, Rasht and Tavildara districts.

According to the final report of disaster assessment 103 houses and 3 schools were destroyed or severely damaged (became unsafe for residence) and 117 houses, 7 schools, 3 hospitals and medical points were partially damaged, thus making the total number of the affected households reach 220. Some 196 worst affected households were covered by the non-food humanitarian aid of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST). Psychosocial support was provided to the total of 362 households (2,172 people), covering not only those whose houses were destroyed, but also those, who suffered from the earthquake and the aftershocks' psychological effects even without having lost their property. Due to this scale of psychological support provided, this operation is so far the biggest ever operation of this kind implemented in the country. The RCST was the only organization, which provided this type of support to the affected population during this operation.

Immediately after the earthquake the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan mobilized its resources to respond to the disasters through deploying its National Disaster Response teams (NDRT) and Local Disaster Committee (LDC) members. RCST staff and volunteers actively participated in the joint assessments conducted together with the related governmental structures, rendered first aid, provided humanitarian assistance to the most affected and vulnerable families, and disseminated disaster awareness informational materials.

A workshop on lessons learnt from this DREF operation was conducted by RCST on 19-20 July 2012 for the regional and national representatives of the National Society having participated in the operation's implementation. An evaluation of this operation conducted by a team of evaluators from IFRC Europe Zone and the Netherlands Red Cross revealed that without DREF support to the affected people from the earthquake, this disaster would not have received adequate response.

The Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department of the European Commission (ECHO) contributed



The staff and volunteers of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) are conducting the first assessment of the damages in Tavildara district, May 2012. **Photo:** RCST

CHF 96,927 to the DREF in replenishment of the allocation made for this operation, covering 70% of the total amount of the operation's costs. After completion of funds transfers, a final balance of CHF 1 remained, which will be returned to the DREF funds.

The major donors and partners of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (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. Details of all donors can be found at

http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/Active/MAA00010_2012.pdf

On behalf of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, the IFRC would like to extend their thanks to all of them for their generous contributions.

[<click here for the final financial report, or here to view contact details>](#)

The situation

A strong earthquake on 13 May 2012 in the east of Tajikistan killed two, destroyed houses and infrastructure and affected residents of 30 villages in three districts of Rasht valley – Nurobod, Tavildara and a district of the same name as the valley - Rasht. The earthquake happened at 04:30 AM local time, during the morning public prayer time and thanks to that only a few people (24 people) were injured and only two mortality cases were registered.

A joint commission consisting of the representatives of the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defence (CoES), the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST), local authorities, the Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team (REACT)¹ partners, government representatives and community leaders assessed the damages and needs in the disaster affected area in detail. [Click here](#) for the final figures regarding the damages of this earthquake.

DISTRICTS AFFECTED BY THE EARTHQUAKE ON 13 MAY 2012



At the same time, the earthquake had a serious impact to the infrastructure of the region destroying 103 houses and 3 schools fully and damaging 117 houses, 7 schools, 3 hospitals partially. The total number of affected population was announced by the Tajik authorities as 1,591 and most of those, who lost their houses fully or were afraid of returning to the partially destroyed houses, were hosted by the residents of the neighbouring less-damaged villages, in some cases by relatives. In the first days after the earthquake the affected population were provided by the residents of the neighbouring villages with food. In addition, a rock fall that occurred in the result of the earthquake destroyed a section of over 150 meters of the important road which connects the central part of the country with the eastern part.

Access to medical care in the affected areas, though, was not interrupted. No significant damage was caused to the water supply systems, as some villages use local water springs. There was no epidemic threat related to

¹ The Disaster Management Partnership in Tajikistan – Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team (REACT) was established in 2001 to promote the sharing of information, logistics and other resources between partners active in the disaster management sector, including the respective governmental organizations. The group that involves over 50 state, local and international organizations and entities meets regularly to coordinate and share experiences on issues related to various areas of disaster management, including preparedness, response, mitigation and capacity building activities with national bodies during emergency situations the partnership works closely together, coordinating response and assistance. REACT members include the Committee of Emergency Situation and Civil Defense of Tajikistan, Ministry of Health, World Health Organization, Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, United Nation OCHA, FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance, Aga Khan Development Network, UNDP DRMP and etc. Please visit www.untj.org/react for more information.

water-borne diseases at that time. Most of the affected people were, however, suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and require psychosocial support.

Coordination and partnerships

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) worked closely with the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES), as well as with the Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team (REACT) partners in the implementation of rapid and detailed assessment and provision relief assistance to the most affected population. Several coordination meetings at the national level involving REACT partners and governmental bodies, as well as Movement meetings were conducted during the period. The main topic of all meetings was the coordination of overall activities, including situation assessments and response activities by different agencies to avoid duplication of efforts and assistance to the most affected population. Accordingly, the Government of Tajikistan took responsibility for provision of family tents (140 pieces in total) for the affected population, as well as food. The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan was responsible for the delivery of non-food items (gas stoves, hygiene kits, water cans, cooking sets, shovels/hoes, construction tools, mattresses, bed-linen sets, pillows, quilts, and thermos flasks) and psychosocial support (PSP). All partners from the government and international organizations were timely informed about all activities, including the PSP support. The Red Crescent was the only organization providing PSP to the earthquake-affected population.

The RCST coordinated all activities with the IFRC Country Representation in Tajikistan, which provided technical and financial support for carrying out the planned operation.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan was active from the first hours of the earthquake. Some 50 Local Disaster Committee (LDC) members (volunteers) from all the three affected districts and 8 RCST staff - National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members from Sagirdasht and Rasht Emergency Response Centers were deployed to respond to the needs of the affected population. The deployed staff and volunteers rendered first aid, provided psychosocial support and conducted needs assessment in Rasht, Nurobod and Tavildara districts. Non-food items were distributed to the affected population according to the assessment results. The results of the assessment conducted by the RCST revealed the number of households, which were totally destroyed or partly damaged and who represented the most vulnerable population, such as single-parent families, multi-children families and elderly living alone. Beneficiaries were selected according to the criteria agreed with the local authorities and beneficiary representatives. RCST staff and volunteers helped to provide first aid to people who got injuries during the earthquake and accompanied them to the nearest medical point.

RCST was supported by IFRC in the provision of construction tools, tarpaulins, bedding sets, cooking sets, water cans and hygiene kits to 196 most affected households (1,176 people), identified jointly with the local authorities in accordance with the RCST criteria (houses fully destroyed; multi-children families; single-parent ones; elderly and disabled residents). Psychosocial support was provided by trained RCST staff and volunteers to 362 households (2,172 people).

The operation was divided into three phases. In the first phase, the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan provided non-food items to 110 most affected and vulnerable households (660 people) from RCST prepositioned stocks, and the distributed aid was replenished later with the support from the DREF. The second phase included the provision of construction tools to 196 affected households, and in the final phase psychosocial support was provided to 362 families suffered from the earthquake and aftershocks.

The operation was successfully completed by 18th September 2012 as it was scheduled. All planned actions under the DREF operation and the implemented activities including rapid and detailed assessment, monitoring, beneficiary selection criteria and registration, transportation and distribution were coordinated and agreed with the local authorities and the responding agencies.

Achievements against outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Outcome 1: Immediate needs of 86 most affected families by earthquake in Nurobod and Tavildara in non-food items are met by the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan;

Outcome 2: The disaster preparedness stock with non-food items for 110 households replenished in Sagirdasht, Rasht and Dushanbe Emergency Response Centres (ERC).

Output 1: 86 most affected families received non-food items;

Output 2: 110 non-food items sets procured, transported and prepositioned in three RCST ERCs.

- ✓ Complete detailed emergency needs assessments;
- ✓ Prepare lists of beneficiaries together with the local authorities and in accordance with the Red Crescent's assessment procedures and format;
- ✓ Procure and transport non-food items to distribution points and ERCs;
- ✓ Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from the point of dispatch to the end users;
- ✓ Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and report on the relief distributions;
- ✓ As part of the monitoring and evaluation activities, conduct a survey among the people reached to find out their opinion about the goods and services received.

Impact: With this DREF support, the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan met the needs of 110 most affected households in Rasht, Nurobod and Tavildara districts of Rasht valley by the immediate provision of non-food items (gas stoves, hygiene kits, water cans, cooking sets, shovels/hoes, mattresses, bed-linen sets, pillows, quilts, and thermos flasks).

The distributions were implemented on the basis of situation assessments and beneficiary criteria agreed with local authorities, beneficiary representatives, CoES and other responding agencies. As it was agreed with the authorities and the stakeholders, the following criteria were used to identify the beneficiaries: the level of the damage to the household; multi-children families; women-headed families; families with elderly and disabled members.

All items were procured locally adhering to IFRC logistics procurement procedures and requirements. The transportation of the stocks to the distribution points was implemented by RCST according to the plan and schedule while it was being controlled from the point of dispatch to the end user. The distributions were conducted by RCST national disaster response team members and other responsible staff jointly with the local authorities and CoES representatives.

The members of RCST Emergency Response Centres (ERCs) from Saghirdasht and Rasht were actively involved in the operation to support RCST Tavildara branch, Local Disaster Committee and the local volunteers. In addition, the trained staff and volunteers from ERC and RCST regional branch trained the local LDC new members on efficient response during the operation.

The remoteness of the villages and the difficult access to provide needs assessment in the first hours after the disaster due to the mountainous area were the main challenges. Another challenge in the operation was a delayed permission procedure of the Government authorities in Tavildara district to distribute non-food items in the first days after getting the initial information.

Emergency Shelter

Outcome: 196 most affected households are provided with construction tools and information materials to help them cope with the consequences of the earthquake, and preserve their human dignity

Output: 196 households (1,176 people) provided with construction tools and information materials

- ✓ Complete the detailed emergency shelter needs;
- ✓ Prepare lists of beneficiaries together with the local authorities and in accordance with the assessment procedures and format;
- ✓ Re-print the disaster awareness and information materials;
- ✓ Procure and transport items and information materials to affected areas;
- ✓ Distribute supplies and control supply movements from the point of dispatch to the end users;
- ✓ Monitor and evaluate the emergency shelter activities;
- ✓ Conduct beneficiary satisfaction survey in all targeted villages.

Impact: Under this outcome, the DREF support was used by the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan to provide construction tools (one set per two families, according to the agreement with the local communities) and information materials to 196 households in the affected districts. This operation included the families who had previously received non-food items from the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan and were in need of reconstructing their destroyed and damaged houses and in need of information on how to increase the resistance of their houses to earthquakes.

Two family tents, suitable for all types of weather conditions, were also provided to the families (for approximately 12 people), whose houses were fully destroyed by the landslide triggered by the earthquake in Rasht district. The tents were provided in the beginning of the response operation.

Emergency Health
<p>Outcome: 362 families (2,172 people) have benefited from psychosocial support to recover from the effects of the earthquake shocks</p>
<p>Output: 362 households (2,172 people) benefited from psychosocial support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Complete the detailed psychosocial support needs assessment; ✓ Develop community and beneficiary targeting strategy in coordination with local and health authorities; ✓ Prioritize beneficiaries (children, women and elderly); ✓ Establish a psychosocial support team from RCST trained volunteers and staff who will provide PSS to population and technical support training to 10 Red Crescent staff and volunteers; ✓ Deliver psychosocial support to prioritized beneficiaries; ✓ As part of the monitoring and evaluation activities, conduct a survey among the people reached to find out their opinion about the goods and services received.

Impact: The provision of psychosocial support to 362 households (2,172) people was one of the main parts of the operation.

Psychosocial support had been one of shortages of the former response operations in previous disasters, and now the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan became the pioneer of the provision of this kind of support to people affected psychologically during disasters. The operation also included the dissemination of disaster awareness informational materials.

Trained RCST staff and volunteers provided psychosocial support to 2, 172 people in 33 villages of Rasht valley using three methods:

- Psychological defusing;
- Psychological debriefing;
- Psychological art therapy for children.

During the whole operation the visibility of RCST and IFRC was promoted through banners with Red Crescent / International Federation logos at the distribution points, through the hand-out of disaster awareness printed materials, as well as through ensuring media coverage of the Red Cross / Red Crescent activities in the affected area. RCST activities and IFRC support received a high coverage by local online and printed media, as well as local radio stations.

“Lessons learned” from the DREF support operation to the affected people from the earthquake in Rasht valley were the topic of a two-day workshop conducted on 19-20 July 2012 in Qurghonteppa city. IFRC representatives joined RCST disaster management coordinators as well as executive secretaries of the RCST branches to discuss the achievements of the DREF operations, the impact on beneficiaries, as well as challenges and possible solutions. The participants shared experiences, obstacles, problems and mistakes in order to avoid them during future activities. Among the recommendations related to DREF support operation in Rasht valley there were the needs to train the volunteers and branches on assessment methods, more active involvement of volunteers, coordination of actions both inside RCST and with external actors, as well as more serious attention to timely reporting.

Monitoring and evaluation

In 2012 the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan implemented a total of four DREF operations in the Republic. In order to provide assurance that the funds claimed for the implementation of these operations were used in accordance with the initial plan of action and in compliance with DREF procedures, as well as to assess the results of disaster response that the National Society has carried out, the IFRC Secretariat’s Europe Zone Office, DM Team, agreed with the RCST on an evaluation mission to take place. It was expected that special emphasis would be placed on the overall management and performance of the response and related preparedness actions, and how effective they were in delivering services throughout the operation.

The operation’s final evaluation² took place in the period between August and September, 2012 and included a desk review of the operation, a field visit and a brief beneficiary satisfaction survey.

² The full text of evaluation is available at the following link:

<http://ifrc.org/docs/Evaluations/Evaluations%202012/Europe/Tajikistan%20DREF%20Evaluation%20Final%20Report%20Sept2012.pdf>

Key conclusions made upon completion of the evaluation:

- According to all interviewed stakeholders, including local government authorities and REACT Secretariat (UN DRMP) representative, these disasters would not have received adequate response without DREF support during the operations to address the consequences of floods in Kulyab and the earthquake in Nurobad, Rasht and Tavildara regions.
- The information flow was efficient so as to ensure timeliness and adequateness of the response. The National Society has, jointly with the local IFRC Representation, developed a solid mechanism for monitoring (financial and operational), which has been functioning well.
- The NS's activities have effectively coordinated and complemented the work done by other stakeholders; the relief was timely and very much needed.
- Beneficiary selection process was done in close cooperation with the local authorities, yet the NS focused on targeting the most vulnerable families in the affected areas.
- In certain cases (e.g. Tavildara), the NS became the sole organization, which provided immediate relief to the affected population and was the first one to assess the situation on the disaster sites.
- According to the beneficiaries' feedback, the relief provided by the NS (non-food items, psychosocial support) was adequate and matching the needs of the affected communities and has significantly contributed to the reduction of their vulnerability straight after the disaster.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **IFRC Country Representation:** Eric Michel-Sellier, Country Representative in Dushanbe, phone: +992 372 24 42 96, email: eric.michellsellier@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Zone:** Alberto Monguzzi, Acting Disaster Management Coordinator; office phone: +36 1 8884500; email: alberto.monguzzi@ifrc.org
- **In Geneva:** Christine South, Operations Support, Phone: +41.22.730.4529, email: christine.south@ifrc.org

DREF history:

This DREF was initially allocated on 22 May 2012 for CHF 138,467 to assist 558 households (3,348 beneficiaries).



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1. [Click here](#) for the final financial report
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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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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.



MDRTJ014 - Tajikistan - Earthquake

Appeal Launch Date: 21 may 12

Appeal Timeframe: 21 may 12 to 21 sep 12

Final Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2012/5-11
Budget Timeframe	2012/5-11
Appeal	MDRTJ014
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
A. Budget	138,467					138,467	
B. Opening Balance	0					0	
Income							
<u>Other Income</u>							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>	138,467					138,467	
C4. Other Income	138,467					138,467	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)	138,467					138,467	
D. Total Funding = B +C	138,467					138,467	
Coverage = D/A	100%					100%	

II. Movement of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
B. Opening Balance	0					0	
C. Income	138,467					138,467	
E. Expenditure	-138,466					-138,466	
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	1					1	

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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
BUDGET (C)		138,467					138,467	
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Shelter - Relief			14,000				14,000	-14,000
Construction Materials	16,888							16,888
Clothing & Textiles	72,772	73,795				73,795		-1,023
Food		1,313				1,313		-1,313
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	6,064	6,205				6,205		-141
Utensils & Tools	10,343	12,661				12,661		-2,318
Total Relief items, Construction, Sup	106,068	107,974				107,974		-1,906
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage			176				176	-176
Distribution & Monitoring	2,000	5,435				5,435		-3,435
Transport & Vehicles Costs	7,200	2,845				2,845		4,355
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	9,200	8,456				8,456		744
Personnel								
National Society Staff	3,280	2,052				2,052		1,228
Volunteers	986	1,262				1,262		-276
Total Personnel	4,266	3,314				3,314		952
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	4,500	4,274				4,274		226
Total Workshops & Training	4,500	4,274				4,274		226
General Expenditure								
Travel	2,250	405				405		1,845
Information & Public Relations	2,232	2,589				2,589		-357
Office Costs		1,371				1,371		-1,371
Communications	1,500							1,500
Financial Charges		1,631				1,631		-1,631
Total General Expenditure	5,982	5,997				5,997		-15
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recov	8,451	8,451				8,451		0
Total Indirect Costs	8,451	8,451				8,451		0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	138,467	138,466				138,466		0
VARIANCE (C - D)		0				0		