

DREF operation n° MDRKG009
GLIDE n° CW-2012-000209-KGZ
17 July 2013

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 172,477 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) in December 2012 to support the Kyrgyz Red Crescent Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 1,000 families (approximately 4,000 beneficiaries).

Summary:

From December 2012 to February 2013, Kyrgyzstan was experiencing an unusually cold winter with heavy snowfalls and extremely low temperatures. According to the data obtained from the National Hydro-Meteorological Service of Kyrgyzstan, the temperatures were the lowest for the last 76 years (since 1936). In the northern part of the country, the temperatures reached minus 30-35 degrees Celsius.

Due to power cuts, the number of households without access to electricity varied between a few hundred and a few thousand. The power failure affected badly the people's living conditions and livelihoods.



Distribution of parcels to elderly people, Bishkek city. Photo made by RCSK.

On 18th December 2012 a state of emergency was declared in Bishkek, the Kyrgyz capital city. The Kyrgyz Red Crescent's (KRC) National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members visited the affected districts, conducted a rapid assessment, and met with the population and the authorities, including representatives of the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MoES) and the local administrations of the affected districts.

On 15th January 2013 the Kyrgyz Red Crescent started, in coordination with the local authorities, the distribution of relief items. By the closure of the operation 1,454 families were assisted with items such as blankets, thermos flasks, torches and food parcels. The planned *number of vulnerable people* was reached. However, the *number of families* exceeded the planned number. Four persons per family (the average family size in Bishkek city) had been calculated in the initial plan. It turned out, however, that most families that needed assistance consisted of elderly people living alone, or they were small families with just two people.

The major donors and partners of the 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 Government and the Italian Government, 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. On behalf of the Kyrgyz National Society, the IFRC would like to extend its thanks to all donors and partners for their generous contributions.

From the allocation of CHF 172,477 there is a final balance of CHF 8,374 which will be returned to the DREF.

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

The situation

From December 2012 to February 2013, Kyrgyzstan was experiencing an unusually cold winter with heavy snowfalls and extremely low temperatures. According to the data obtained from the National Hydro-Meteorological Service of Kyrgyzstan, the temperatures were the lowest for the last 76 years (since 1936). In the northern part of the country, the temperatures reached minus 30-35 degrees Celsius. As a result of low temperatures and a high precipitation level, which led to the disruption of energy sources and technological problems at the natural gas condensation facilities, the capital city of Bishkek was exposed to energy shortages.

The Ministry of Emergency Situations (MoES) of Kyrgyzstan reported the lack of funds to repair electric power facilities and transmission lines in addition to the lack of fuel contingency stock for the machines to clear the roads from snowfalls and snowdrifts for the food supply channels.

On 18th December 2012 a state of emergency was declared in Bishkek City. Due to the extreme winter conditions 16 people died and 50 were injured. Electricity and gas shortages affected the life of several thousand people in Bishkek, who had not been prepared for such drastic weather changes. Especially the vulnerable groups of people (homeless, elderly people living alone, low income and multi-children families, families with one bread winner etc.) suffered badly from the situation that occurred.

Coordination and partnerships

The Kyrgyz Red Crescent National Society is normally part of the Inter-Agency Disaster Response and Coordination Unit (DRCU) and the Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team (REACT) led by the UN OCHA. The National Society exchanges and shares information with non-governmental partners on a routine basis.

During the emergency, the Kyrgyz Red Crescent was working closely with the Ministry of Emergency Situations and the Ministry of Social Care so as to coordinate their response to the emergency situation. Furthermore, the National Disaster Response Team of the Kyrgyz Red

Crescent Society carried out all their activities in coordination with the local administration's representatives.

The MoES was distributing hot meals to the affected population. Some city-based government agencies provided machines and trucks for clearing the affected areas from snow.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Kyrgyz Red Crescent immediately reacted to this disaster. The Kyrgyz Red Crescent's National Disaster Response Team (NDRT), composed mostly of KRC HQ staff members and volunteers, was activated in response to the protracted cold wave in December 2012. After the rapid needs assessment it was revealed that thousands of people were in need of pre-packed food products with high caloric value (energy food) and warming items.

By the result of the assessment, a DREF assistance was applied for in order to cover the needs of approximately 1,000 families (about 4,000 beneficiaries).

The emergency items were distributed to the 1,454 most vulnerable families (about 4,000 beneficiaries) whose own capacity to cope with such an extreme cold was very low. The table below describes the distribution, specifying the items that were distributed in Bishkek City from the DREF allocations.

Bishkek City District	Category	Number of families	Food parcels	Blankets	Thermos flasks	Rechargeable lightning devices
Oktyabrskiy	Multi-children families, people with disabilities, low-income families, elderly people	397	751	751	208	208
Leninskiy	Multi-children families, people with disabilities, low-income families, elderly people	283	836	836	283	283
Pervomayskiy	Multi-children families, people with disabilities, low-income families, elderly people	255	894	894	255	255
Sverdlovskiy	Elderly people living alone	254	254	254	254	254
SOS Village	Orphans	59	59	59	0	0
SOS Village	Multi-children families, people with disabilities, low-income families	106	106	106	0	0
Children Protection Centre (CPC)	Multi-children families, people with disabilities, low-income families	100	100	100	0	0
Total		1454	3000	3000	1000	1000

Each food parcel consisted of the following items:

Contents of supportive food parcel	Units	Quantity
Sugar	kg	5
Tea	Pack of 25 bags	1
Instant coffee	Pack of 25 bags	1
Quick cooking noodles	Bags	15
High energy biscuits	kg	2

In addition to the DREF funds and with the support of ICRC, the Bishkek City branch of the RCSK distributed 310 blankets at 5 shelters for the homeless people, and arranged for hot meals once a day for the homeless at the homeless care centres for 10 days, from 22nd till 31st of December 2012. 175 litres of hot meal (soups) and 90 loaves of bread were made daily and distributed at the centres for the homeless. The total amount of distributed hot meal was 1,750 litres of hot meal (soup) and 900 loaves of bread. In addition, the RCSK distributed 20 blankets for the temporary shelter for the homeless in Tokmok in response to the official request by the Tokmok City Administration for Humanitarian Aid.

The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the Kyrgyz Red Crescent were closely cooperating during the response to the emergency. The International Federation provided on-going technical support to all response activities.

Achievements against outcomes

Relief distributions (food parcels and non-food items)

Outcome: The immediate needs of 750 families (3000 persons) affected by the energy crisis in severe winter conditions are met through the support provided by the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent.

Outputs (expected results) and activities planned: Provision of supportive food parcels, blankets, lighting devices and thermos pots (for 750 families) affected by the energy crisis in severe winter conditions.

Activities planned:

- Conduct detailed needs assessment
- Prepare beneficiary lists
- Procure relief items in accordance with IFRC procurement procedures
- Transport relief items to the distribution points
- 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.
- Conduct beneficiary satisfaction survey
- Conduct a “lessons learned” workshop

Establishment of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan disaster preparedness stocks (non-food items)

Outcome: RCSK Disaster Preparedness stock is established in one Red Crescent Emergency Response Centre that is ready to cover 250 affected families (1000 persons).

Outputs (expected results) and activities planned: Establishment of DP stock with thermo pots, lighting devices and blankets which is ready to be distributed to the affected families.

Activities planned:

- Procure relief items according to the IFRC procurement procedures
- Transportation of procured items and their prepositioning in one RC Emergency Response Centre in Bishkek city.
- Monitoring and control of supply movements from the point of dispatch to ERC's.

The food and non-food items needs of the most vulnerable people such as elderly people living alone, multi-children families, people living with disabilities and low-income families were met through the distribution of food and non-food items. The total of 1,454 most vulnerable families (about 4,000 beneficiaries) were covered by the initially procured relief items and disaster response prepositioning stocks. The operation was a success with all the planned activities achieved within the scheduled timeframe.

The provision of food and warming items helped the beneficiaries preserve their health in the extreme winter conditions.

“Lessons learned” workshop

A “lessons learned” workshop was also organized at the end of the operation. The most active National Disaster Response Team members and Bishkek city branches staff and volunteers who had participated in operation were selected for participation. The experiences and recommendations from the operation were discussed.

This response operation was logistically more challenging than most relief distribution operations due to the need to reach many individual homes spread over a large territory. It was the first response experience of its kind for the National Society to work in a high population density urban area. It was determined that the Kyrgyz Red Crescent should strengthen its logistical and technical preparations for possible urban operations.

Due to the frequency of climate change related emergencies during the last year such as cold winter, strong winds, and heavy snowfalls, the National Society should focus on climate change adaptation in its disaster risk reduction (DRR) programmes and disaster preparedness activities.

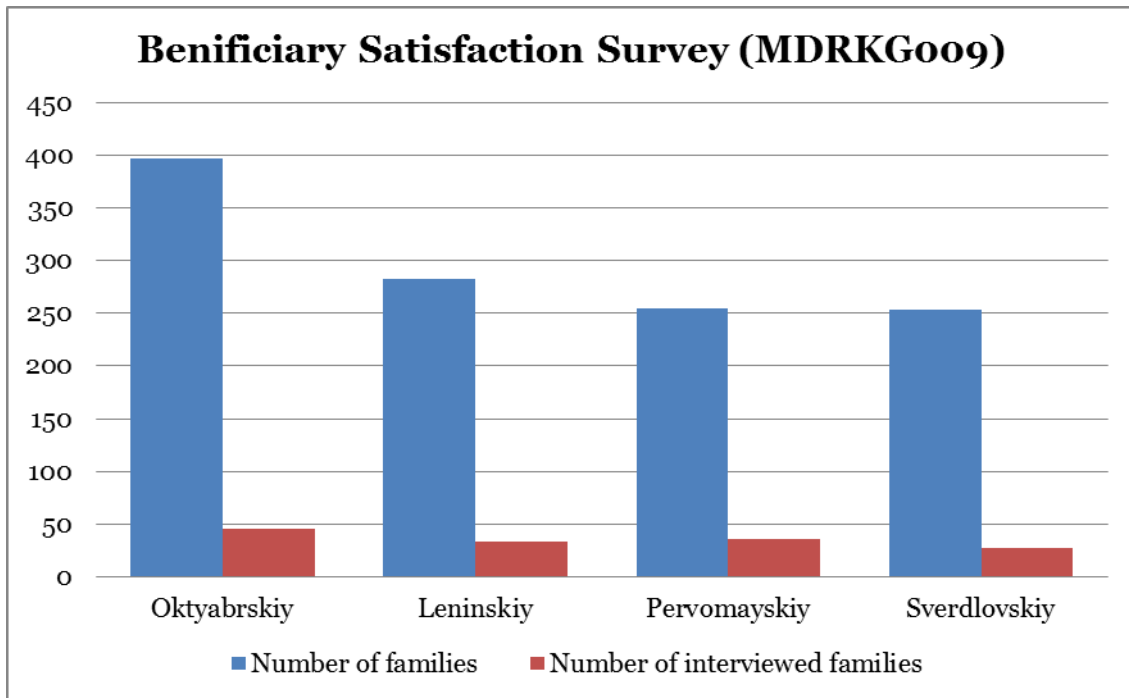
Beneficiary satisfaction survey

The beneficiary satisfaction survey was conducted on 22nd February 2013 among the people who had received food and non-food items within the framework of the DREF operation MDRKG009 responding to extreme winter condition during December 2012. The survey was conducted in the form of structured telephone interviews. During the survey, a total of 140 families were interviewed in each of the affected areas. All families were selected randomly. 10 volunteers and three Red Crescent staff were conducting the survey.

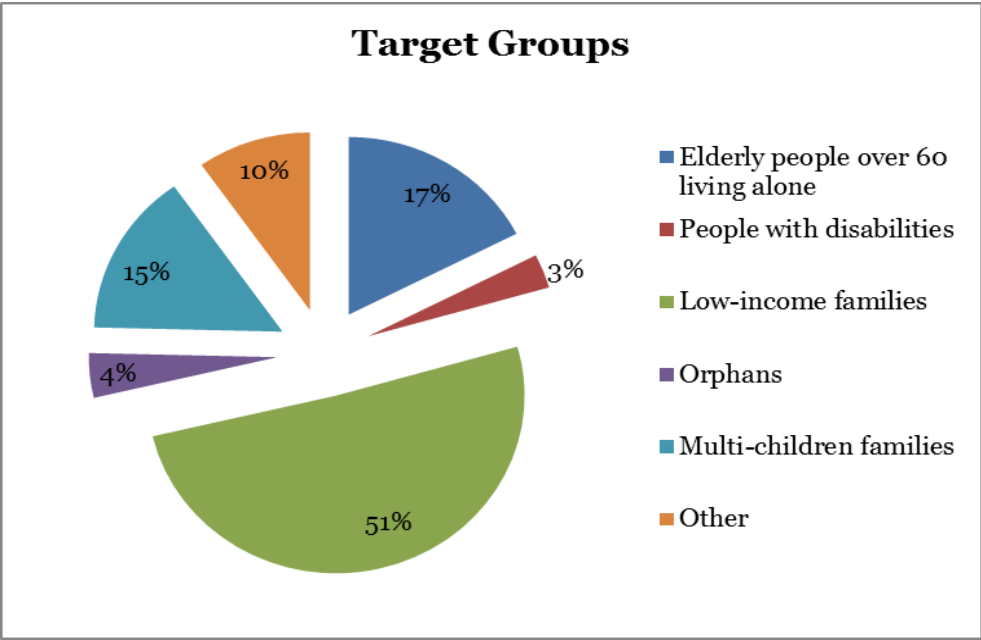
During the survey, the beneficiaries expressed their appreciation for the relief. Although the launch of the operation did not take place before January 2013, all items were useful for the beneficiaries and met the basic needs of the affected population. The support of the Red Crescent volunteers was also highlighted in the comments.

The beneficiaries were asked about the organization of distribution. Most of the interviewed people stated that only the Red Crescent asked them about their needs.

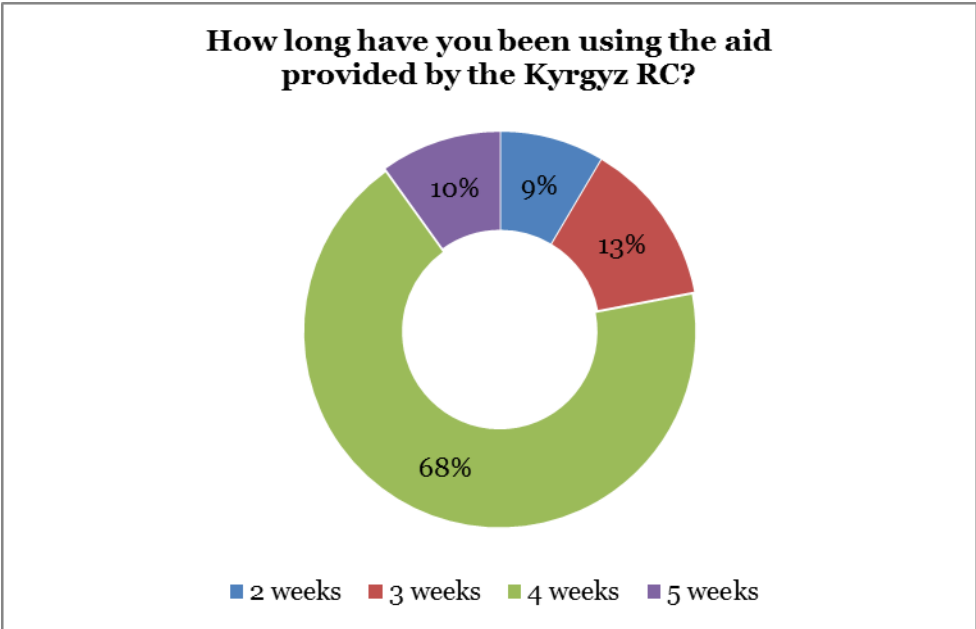
The beneficiary satisfaction survey demonstrated that a more careful approach should be taken during the planning phase and during the selection of beneficiaries. The varying needs and capabilities of different beneficiary groups, especially people living with disabilities, should be taken into account.



Bishkek City District	Category	Number of families	Number of interviewed families
Oktyabrskiy	Multi-children families, people with disabilities, low-income families, elderly people	397	45
Leninskiy	Multi-children families, people with disabilities, low-income families, elderly people	283	33
Pervomayskiy	Multi-children families, people with disabilities, low-income families, elderly people	255	35
Sverdlovskiy	Elderly people living alone	254	27



Target groups	Elderly people over 60 living alone	254
	People with disabilities	45
	Low-income families	738
	Orphans	59
	Multi-children families	216
	Other	142



How long have you been using the aid provided by the Kyrgyz RC?	2 weeks	12
	3 weeks	19
	4 weeks	96
	5 weeks	14

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent:** Zhypar Myrzanalieva, Head of DM Department; office phone: +996 (312) 300190; mobile phone: +996(550)120035; email: j.myrzanalieva@redcrescent.kg
- **IFRC Kyrgyzstan:** Baylar Talibov, Federation Representative for Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan; email: baylar.talibov@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Zone Office:** Alberto Monguzzi, Disaster Management Coordinator; office phone: +36 1 8884 500; email: alberto.monguzzi@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Geneva:** Christine South, Operations Support, phone: +41.22.730.4529, email: christine.south@ifrc.org



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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.



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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Disaster Response Financial Report

MDRKG009 - Kyrgyzstan - Extreme Winter Condition

Timeframe: 21 Dec 12 to 21 Apr 13

Appeal Launch Date: 21 Dec 12

Final Report

Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2012/12-2013	Programme	MDRKG009
Budget Timeframe	2012/12-2013	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Funding

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
A. Budget		172,477				172,477	
B. Opening Balance		0				0	
Income							
<u>Other Income</u>							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		172,477				172,477	
C4. Other Income		172,477				172,477	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)		172,477				172,477	
D. Total Funding = B + C		172,477				172,477	

* Funding source data based on information provided by the donor

II. Movement of Funds

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
B. Opening Balance		0				0	
C. Income		172,477				172,477	
E. Expenditure		-164,103				-164,103	
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		8,374				8,374	

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III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Expenditure						TOTAL	Variance
	Budget	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability		
	A					B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)			172,477			172,477		
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Construction Materials			58			58	-58	
Clothing & Textiles	60,000		60,762			60,762	-762	
Food	51,000		47,857			47,857	3,143	
Utensils & Tools	25,000						25,000	
Other Supplies & Services			24,755			24,755	-24,755	
Total Relief items, Construction, Sup	136,000		133,432			133,432	2,568	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage	3,500		2,834			2,834	666	
Distribution & Monitoring	2,600						2,600	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	2,400		4,652			4,652	-2,252	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	8,500		7,487			7,487	1,013	
Personnel								
International Staff			50			50	-50	
National Society Staff	4,000		4,115			4,115	-115	
Volunteers	2,450		659			659	1,791	
Total Personnel	6,450		4,823			4,823	1,627	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	4,000		3,605			3,605	395	
Total Workshops & Training	4,000		3,605			3,605	395	
General Expenditure								
Travel	5,000						5,000	
Office Costs			335			335	-335	
Communications	1,500		3,025			3,025	-1,525	
Financial Charges			1,381			1,381	-1,381	
Other General Expenses	500						500	
Total General Expenditure	7,000		4,740			4,740	2,260	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recove	10,527		10,016			10,016	511	
Total Indirect Costs	10,527		10,016			10,016	511	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	172,477		164,103			164,103	8,374	
VARIANCE (C - D)			8,374			8,374		

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IV. Breakdown by subsector

Business Line / Sub-sector	Budget	Opening Balance	Income	Funding	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Deferred Income
BL2 - Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people							
Disaster response	172,477	0	172,477	172,477	164,103	8,374	
Subtotal BL2	172,477	0	172,477	172,477	164,103	8,374	
GRAND TOTAL	172,477	0	172,477	172,477	164,103	8,374	