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Operation Update Report

Kazakhstan: Drought

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF Operation n° MDRKZ010	GLIDE n° OT-2021-000076-LTU
Operation update n° 1 Date of issue: 29 October 2021	Timeframe covered by this update: 27 July –30 September 2021
Operation start date: 27 July 2021	Operation timeframe: 27 July – 31 December 2021 (extended by 2 months to a total length of 5 months via this update)
DREF amount allocated: CHF 497,168	
N° of people being assisted: 6,151	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: IFRC, UAE Red Crescent	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: State organizations and local executive bodies, Bulat Utemuratov Foundation, Fortebank, corporate sector.	

Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

This Update includes the no-cost extension of the DREF Operation MDRKZ010 for two additional months until **31 December 2021**. The timeframe extension will allow the following:

During the period, work will be extended with experts on the development and dissemination of guidelines for livestock breeders, as well as a survey of recipient satisfaction and a round table on lessons learned.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

To date, in the Turkestan and Mangystau regions, the situation related to the mass death of livestock has improved thanks to the joint assistance provided by the state, various charitable foundations and the Red Crescent of Kazakhstan. However, the situation remains quite critical for people who have lost livestock as their only means of livelihood.

Among the basic needs of the affected population were livestock feed, as well as livelihood assistance (basic items). Due to the loss of livestock, which is the only source of income, as well as the lack of any additional work, the population is in urgent need of basic items that can be obtained thanks to assistance provided under the DREF Operation.

The situation with COVID-19 in the regions included in the zone of operation is stable at the moment. As of 18 October 2021, 1,387 new cases of infection were registered per day. Only 7 new cases of infection are registered daily in the regions of operation: Mangistau and Turkestan. A total of 919,553 cases have been confirmed in the country since the beginning of COVID-19 on the territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Summary of current response

Overview of Host National Society

To date, the active phase of the DREF operation aimed at assistance to drought-affected people in the Turkestan and Mangistau regions has completed.

Financial assistance in the form of bank cards was distributed among 650 families (3,250 people) in Turkestan region, as well as 500 families (2,901 people) in Mangistau region. In total, 1,050 families (6,151 people) received assistance. In addition to cash assistance, printed materials ("*COVID-19*", "*Prevention of sun and heat stroke*", "*Sanitation, diarrhea and hepatitis*") have been developed and are currently being distributed by the branches involved in the operation.

The NDRT team has successfully returned to HQ after their mission in Turkestan and Mangistau regions, where they are preparing for lessons learned seminars and monitoring visits.

Work is also underway with representatives of the Kazakh Research Institute of Livestock and Feed Production to develop guidelines for livestock breeders on the use of pasture resources. Experts from the Institute were also involved in the DREF operation to develop and implement practical recommendations, as they have sufficient experience necessary for our current prevention tasks.

As part of the monitoring and evaluation activities a questionnaire is currently being prepared in Russian to assess the level of satisfaction of the recipients, for further translation into Kazakh. Translation into Kazakh is necessary due to the fact that in the regions where the DREF operation takes place, the majority of the population speaks exclusively Kazakh.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

On the eve of the Muslim holiday "Eid al-Adha", the UAE Red Crescent provided aid in the form of 10 kg of meat for orphans per family, 7 kg of meat for low-income families. Today, 55 families affected in the Turkistan region and 44 families affected in the Mangystau Region have been assisted by the support of the UAE Red Crescent. The operation has been carried out with direct technical support from the RO IFRC.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The National Society has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the National Guard. The Red Crescent of Kazakhstan is also a member of the Interdepartmental State Commission for Disaster Preparedness and Response. In addition, all branches of the Red Crescent of Kazakhstan have partnership agreements with regional emergency departments. The Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction is also one of the partners that helps the National Society access information, coordination, and networking. This agreement allows the staff and volunteers of the Red Crescent of Kazakhstan to move freely and get access to the affected areas. This is especially important now, in time restrictions associated with COVID-19, that safe access is being provided.

Within the framework of responding to natural disasters, the NS has experience working with local executive bodies (emergency departments, medical institutions, law enforcement services and city administrations), as well as various non-governmental organizations and the business sector that provide all possible support for the activities of the Red Crescent of Kazakhstan in the country.

Mangystau and Kyzylorda regions have reached an agreement with the Aktobe region on the provision of feed at an affordable price and the use of their pasture lands for haymaking. Aktobe region has prepared 700 tons of feed for Mangystau region.

After coordination meetings on 12-13 July between the National Society, the Bulat Utemuratov Foundation and the Akimat of Kyzylorda region, it was decided that the Bulat Utemuratov Foundation, which is a permanent partner of the Red Crescent of Kazakhstan in responding to emergencies since 2017, will assist in the form of providing feed to the drought-affected population in the Aral district, Kyzylorda region directly in cooperation with the local administration. As part of the assistance from the Bulat Utemuratov Foundation, 800 low-income families of the Aral region will receive 900 tons of mixed feed. This volume will be enough for the period from November 2021 to May 2022.

Out of the 71,000 affected people, 1,150 families (approx. 5,750 people) has been supported by the Red Crescent Society of Kazakhstan with the rest supported by the government and private donors (Bolot Utemuratov Foundation).

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Needs analysis

Drought is a slow-onset disaster and its consequences will last for several months of the next year. Thus, it is necessary to support the agricultural sector (small livestock breeders) and train them in proper farming so that they are better prepared and adapted to future droughts together with the Kazakh Research Institute of Livestock and Feed Production.

Operation Risk Assessment

One of the risks identified earlier was that the drought could continue for several months, which could lead to further livestock deaths and further withering and loss of crops and prolonging the humanitarian operation. People's livelihoods will be increasingly affected, as crops and livestock will be lost due to excessive heat, which has led to a severe drought. It could also limit the access of the affected population to fields and grazing areas and pose a security threat to the employees of the NS and volunteers working on the ground. Therefore, all the teams of the Red Crescent of Kazakhstan on the ground were made aware of the danger of heatstroke and were prepared to take measures to mitigate the consequences of the heatwave.

One of the most critical risks in the territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan is the unstable situation of the spread of COVID-19. In this connection, regions and cities periodically fall into the red zone with high restrictive measures, which requires special attention to the epidemiological situation and additional resources from personal protective equipment. It can negatively affect the monitoring, as well as the seminar on lessons learned.

However, none of the above risks took place during the timeframe of the DREF Operation, which resulted in the successful implementation of the active phase of the operation to distribute aid to the drought-affected population. Also, in order to minimize the risks associated with the spread of COVID-19, all sanitary and epidemiological requirements were met, volunteers and employees were provided with personal protective equipment with regular processing of cash distribution zones and maximum preservation of social distance.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Implemented strategy

The National Society followed the initial strategy and planning of the activities, which was assumed at the very beginning of the DREF operation. Hence all activities other than the Manual and the LLW has been implemented.

Regarding the Manual of the Herders, the Red Crescent conducted an analysis and studied which experts are available in Starn in order to develop a training module in the mentioned area. It is then planned to conduct trainings for volunteers and employees of the Red Crescent, who will subsequently train the local population both during the DREF period and after the end of the DREF. This will give stability to the activities that were done as part of the DREF operation. The implementation of this component will significantly strengthen the capacity of local communities to prepare and respond to future drought-related crises.

The National Society has selected experts from the Kazakh Research Institute of Livestock and Feed Production, which has already started work on 27 September and will finish developing the module by 25 November. After that, short-term training of volunteers and employees on the use of the module is planned, and two pilot training sessions will be held for the population (one session for each region).

As a result of the training, as part of the completion of the DREF operation, a round table on lessons learned will be held with the participation of interested parties, where both phases of the operation – financial assistance and training in pasture management will be discussed.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN



Livelihoods and basic needs

People reached: 6,151

Male: 3,075

Female: 3,076¹

Outcome 1: Communities in disaster-affected areas restore and strengthen their livelihoods

Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of people assisted report that the cash grant received was sufficient to cover their needs	80%	N/A ²

Output 1.1: People are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people provided with cash grants	5,750 (1,150 HHs)	6,151 (1,150 HHs)
# of lessons learned workshop conducted	1	0

Progress towards outcomes

Needs and requirements were assessed in 7 districts (Saryagash, Sozak, Shardara, Otyrar, Kazygurt, Maktaaral, Baidibek) of Turkestan region and in 1 district (Mangistau) of Mangistau region.

The main work with the bank was completed, the documents were signed. Cash assistance cards have already been issued and are available at NDRT. All issues related to working with the bank have been settled.

Lists of the affected population in the number of 650 families (3,250 people) from 7 districts (Saryagash, Sozak, Shardara, Otyrar, Kazygurt, Maktaaral, Baidibek) compiled and confirmed by the local executive bodies of the Turkestan region. Lists of the affected population in the number of 500 families (2,901 people) from 1 district (Mangistau) compiled and confirmed by the local executive bodies of the Mangistau region.

According to the number of people in need of assistance, bank cards with financial resources were distributed. A total of 6,151 people received assistance.



Health

People reached: 6,151

Male: 3,075

Female: 3,076¹

Outcome 1: The immediate risks to the health of affected populations are reduced

Output 1.1: Target population is reached with health promotion activities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of information materials printed and distributed	30,000	30,000

Outcome 2: National Society has increased capacity to manage and respond to health risks

Output 2.1: Formation and development of volunteer teams for public awareness and public education

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers trained on first aid and conducting awareness-raising activities	30	30

Progress towards outcomes

¹ The breakdown of male and female reached through Livelihoods and basic needs, and Health sectors is an approximate number. Accurate data will be available once the survey and analysis is conducted in November.

² The survey will be conducted in the first-second week of November.

Information materials covering three themes have been developed: "COVID-19", "Prevention of sun and heat stroke", "Sanitation, diarrhea and hepatitis". A tender was held for the production of the printed products. At the moment, all printed materials have been printed and their distribution completed.

Trainings for volunteers on first aid, sanitation, prevention of COVID-19 and sun / heat stroke were held in Turkestan and Mangistau regions. 30 volunteers were trained on first aid and awareness-raising activities.

Strengthen National Society

Outcome S1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers involved in the operation	30	30

Output S1.1.1: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers insured	30	30
# of volunteers vaccinated	30	30

Progress towards outcomes

- The volunteers have been trained in first aid skills, as well as preventive sanitation and heat stroke measures to work with the population;
- The volunteers have been provided with personal protective equipment, and COVID-19 prevention work was also carried out with them;
- Volunteers have been provided with food and water to work in conditions of drought and extreme heat;
- Volunteers have been informed of their rights and obligations;
- The volunteers were provided with insurance;
- Work was carried out with the volunteers, where the goals and objectives of the operation were explained;

D. Financial Report

The interim financial report is [annexed](#) to this document.

Reference documents



Click here for:

- [Emergency Plan of Action](#)

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

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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 Humanitarian 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.

DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2021/7-2021/9	Operation	MDRKZ010
Budget Timeframe	2021/7-2021/9	Budget	APPROVED

Interim FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 25/Oct/2021
All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRKZ010 - Kazakhstan - Drought

Operating Timeframe: 24 Jul 2021 to 31 Oct 2021

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	497,168
DREF Allocations	497,168
Expenditure	-489,138
Closing Balance	8,030

II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction			0
AOF2 - Shelter			0
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	476,959	489,114	-12,155
AOF4 - Health	2,679		2,679
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene			0
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			0
AOF7 - Migration			0
Area of focus Total	479,639	489,114	-9,475
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	9,510	24	9,486
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management			0
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	4,025		4,025
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	1,981		1,981
Strategy for implementation Total	15,516	24	15,492
Grand Total	495,155	489,138	6,017

DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2021/7-2021/9	Operation	MDRKZ010
Budget Timeframe	2021/7-2021/9	Budget	APPROVED

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Prepared on 25/Oct/2021
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MDRKZ010 - Kazakhstan - Drought

Operating Timeframe: 24 Jul 2021 to 31 Oct 2021

III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	437,149		437,149
Medical & First Aid	575		575
Teaching Materials	6,902		6,902
Cash Disbursement	429,672		429,672
Logistics, Transport & Storage	9,059		9,059
Distribution & Monitoring	7,981		7,981
Transport & Vehicles Costs	1,078		1,078
Personnel	6,718	23	6,696
National Society Staff	3,839		3,839
Volunteers	2,879	23	2,857
Consultants & Professional Fees	1,510		1,510
Consultants	1,510		1,510
Workshops & Training	3,348		3,348
Workshops & Training	3,348		3,348
General Expenditure	7,150		7,150
Travel	3,780		3,780
Office Costs	1,122		1,122
Communications	291		291
Financial Charges	1,957		1,957
Operational Provisions		459,262	-459,262
Operational Provisions		459,262	-459,262
Indirect Costs	30,221	29,854	367
Programme & Services Support Recover	30,221	29,854	367
Grand Total	495,155	489,138	6,017