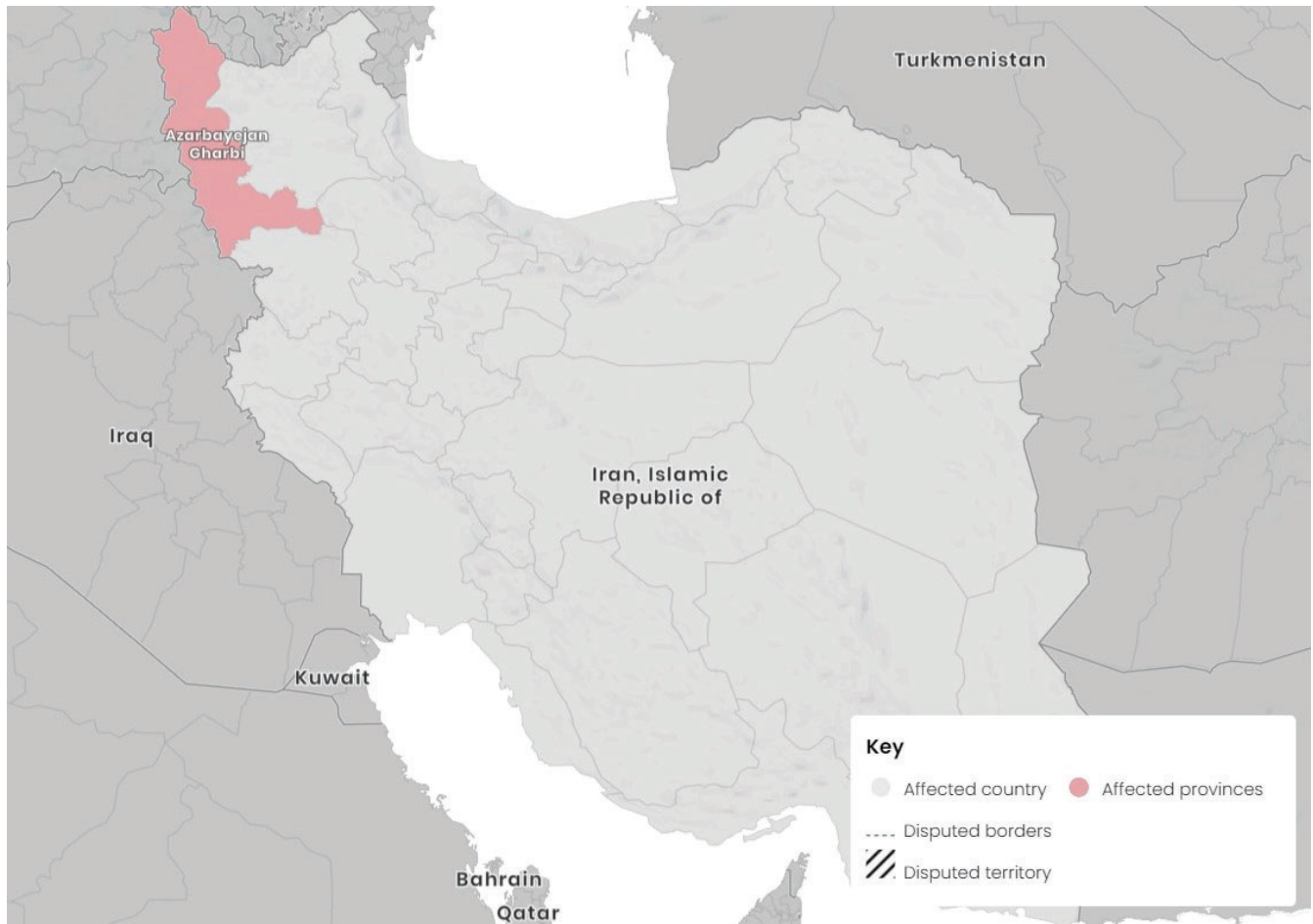




Appeal: MDRIR012	DREF Allocated: CHF 296,217	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Earthquake
Glide Number: EQ-2022-000326-IRN	People Affected: 11,288 people	People Targeted: 11,288 people	
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 2022-10-17	Operation End Date: 2023-02-28	Operation Timeframe: 4 months
	Targeted Areas:	Azarbayejan Gharbi	

Description of the Event



What happened, where and when?

According to the Iranian Seismological Center, a 5.4 magnitude earthquake has hit Khoy city in Azarbayejan Gharbi province of North-Western of Iran on 5 October 2022 at 03:51 am local time. So far, 42 aftershocks (the biggest one with 4.6 Richter at 17:21 local time has hit the region). The affected area consists of 2 provinces and 8 cities (53 villages) with a total population of approximately 3,195 households (11,288 people). Azarbayejan Gharbi is the most hit province and cities of Khoy, Salmas and Chaypareh are among the most affected cities. Morteza Gholi Kendi is the most hit village located in Khoy City. People in Azarbayejan Sharghi has felt the tremor. Iran is a prone country to several disasters specially earthquake due to the active faults in several regions of the country. The activated fault in this region which caused this earthquake is called Siyah Cheshme-Khoy. The Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) responded to Azerbaijan Gharbi (most effected province amongst two hit provinces)



The IRCS response to the earthquake. Credit: IRCS



Building damages caused by the earthquake. Credit: IRCS

Scope and Scale

According to the Emergency Medical Services (EMS), 1,127 individuals were injured. Some 112 buildings have been totally destroyed, and some infrastructures damaged, such as gas leakage, water pipes and electricity. Cracks on the walls of buildings can be seen primarily in the areas near the epicenter and surrounding villages. 53 villages were assessed rapidly by the IRCS rapid response teams. One person is injured due to rubble and 1,126 persons while escaping their houses.

Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	No
Did it affect the same population groups?	No
Did the National Society respond?	No
Did the National Society request funding from DREF for that event(s)?	No
If yes, please specify which operations	

Specify how the lessons learnt from these previous operations are being used to mitigate similar challenges in the current operation

Since the Iranian Red Crescent Society has launched 7 DREFs and 2 Emergency Appeals in the last 18 months, the Iranian RC structures and systems have been engaged in scaling up operations to deal with multiple crisis situations. A committee comprised of representatives from all operational and support services divisions was formed and managed to streamline the support services angle and standardize the Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER) aspects. A national workshop was held as part of the joint movement's red pillar, which was supported by IFRC DREFs. A procedure is developed to approach reconciliations in a standard manner. Now, PMER and Operational Workshops are directing all noses in the same direction. This is an organizational progression and learning opportunity in which we will connect operations and support in cohesion.

It was also realized that the community engagement and accountability aspects needed to be streamlined. The

captured learning indicates that more branch level, Helal house level, and youth volunteer level trainings are required. The findings of the PMER workshop post-survey captured the above-mentioned learning.

Current National Society Actions

Resource Mobilization	The IRCS has mobilized its relief and rescue resources from the affected province and neighboring provinces. This includes search and rescue personnel, light and heavy fleet, food items, shelter, and bottled water. Senior management visited the area to oversee the operation and assess the needs of those affected.
Health	The IRCS had deployed 14 youth volunteers to provide psychological support to the affected families. These teams, known as SAHAR, are made up of trained youth members who work alongside operational teams to create child-friendly spaces.
National Society Readiness	The IRCS operational teams from neighboring provinces are on stand by. Logistics, warehouses and fleet facilities are called for deployment. Psychosocial Support (PSP) teams are organized to be deployed to support families affected by the disaster. The IRCS deployed 226 operational personnel (45 teams: 34 from Azarbayejan Gharbi and 11 from Azarbayejan Sharghi), 74 operational vehicles, one rescue chopper with a three-hour flight to carry 31 relief workers and 500 KG of relief items and one mobile telecommunication unit from Tabriz city.
Assessment	The IRCS Helal Houses first responders in the affected cities are mobilized to do the initial rapid assessments informing technical assessment teams to be effectively deployed for more assessments. They operate under the local branches and report to the relief division of the local branch in Khoy city.
National Society EOC	The IRCS emergency operations center in Relief and Rescue Organization (RARO) is activated after the alert by the Seismological Center, and the provincial Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) are also activated for integrated response actions. Video conference connection is also set up for the management and coordination between the provincial branches and HQ in RARO. The IRCS EOC are in connection with the Health and Road departments EOCs .
Livelihoods And Basic Needs	So far, 6,941 food parcels are distributed in the most affected villages. The food parcels are prepared for the first 72 hours for a family of four persons. However, families with two or three members also receive the same package. Food packages include canned fish, canned rice, canned bean, dried dates, tea bags and noodles. Azab, Bayram Kandi, Seyd Tajeddin, Khanjar Khan, Dizaj Diz, and Morteza Gholi Kandi were among the Khoy city villages that received food parcels. Food is doubled for the affected in order to cover more days. The IFRC aims to replenish all distributed stocks.
Shelter, Housing And Settlements	So far, 3,079 emergency relief tents, 3,100 blankets, and 2,009 ground mats have been distributed in the hardest-hit villages of Azab, Bayram Kandi, Seyd Tajeddin, Khanjar Khan, Dizaj Diz, and Morteza Gholi Kandi.

Community Engagement And Accountability	Starting from the rapid needs assessment, community was engaged to report the priority needs that helps draw the intervention in an evidence-based and community-driven approach. In addition, community feedback mechanism is set up by IRCS. The IRCS Audit and Investigation Department is responsible for the Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) as well as the complaints received through the complaint mechanism (via hotline 112 and social media access). The Community Engagement And Accountability (CEA) framework will help prevent and address misinformation and rumors especially in relation to the distribution of relief items through the development of appropriate feedback systems.
Coordination	IRCS is a key member of the inter agency coordination mechanism at the national and provincial levels. The Disaster Management Taskforce under the General Governor (at the provincial level) is organized and meetings are held with the participation of the city Governorate, the IRCS province managing director, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) team, road and other relevant departments to prepare and mobilize the resources for emergency accommodation. In this taskforce, IRCS is responsible for search and rescue, emergency food and shelter, and public awareness. Social media are also informing the public about the response operation. Video conference is set to allow for clear observation and assessment from the field to the headquarters.

Movement Partners Actions Related To The Current Event

IFRC	The IFRC country delegation is in close coordination with the IRCS senior management and through the International Affairs Department. A DREF request is received from the IRCS management and the country office team is in contact with the regional cell for needs assessment.
ICRC	The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has a delegation based in Tehran with a various number of humanitarian activities in cooperation with the IRCS and is on standby to support the IRCS operation upon request.
Participating National Societies	The German Red Cross is supporting the IRCS search and rescue dogs and trainers through the Training of Trainers (ToT) training.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	The humanitarian efforts of the ministries, local authorities, national Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the IRCS are coordinated by the National Disaster Management Organization (NDMO) under the Ministry of Interior. IRCS is mandated to deliver relief, rescue, and emergency shelter at times of disasters. Sectoral services are led and implemented by line ministries. The governmental bodies and institutions are engaged in the on-going operation. IRCS is responsible to respond to this earthquake. The IRCS utilized all their resources from center and neighboring provinces to fill in the mandated role of crisis response.

UN or other actors

UN agencies are present in-country, including WHO, FAO, UNOCHA, UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNHCR and UNICEF. International NGOs have limited presence in country, with Norwegian Refugee Council and Relief International present in country. UN Agencies are coordinating through their line ministries. Relief assistance will be carried out in coordination with the IRCS.

Are there major coordination mechanisms in place?

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Since many of the rural areas are affected by the earthquake, the primary need for the affected households is emergency sheltering and food. People will stay in the emergency tents until their housing situation is stabilized. In the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, the IRCS distributed food, essential household items and emergency shelter to the 3,195 affected families in 53 villages. IRCS set up a camp with 90 relief family tents for possible accommodation in Khoy city. Emergency tent is the best sheltering option in such context due to the cultural customs of the affected people, feasibility, easy to erect and availability.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The primary needs of the affected populations is emergency shelter, food, and household items, according to the initial assessment done by the IRCS Helal house first responders and rapid response teams. Emergency food packages for the first 72 hours are the best option as it includes items according to the Sphere standards and food customs of the people in the affected areas. It is also critical to complete the replenishment of the emergency items as soon as possible. IRCS needs to abide by the minimum Contingency stock in warehouses to cater any other natural/man-made disaster. Food parcels are for a family of four persons. However, families with two or three members also receive the same package. It is critical to complete the replenishment of some of the emergency items as soon as possible. IRCS needs to abide by the minimum Contingency stock in warehouses to cater any other natural/man-made disaster.



Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery

IRCS has mobilized rapid response kits from the local branches and Helal Houses, so replenishment of the rapid response kits is needed. A Helal House is the smallest local branch of the IRCS, mostly in the rural areas whose function is to help and assist the local branches. It is run by local volunteers and function as first responders to a disaster. IRCS enjoys a number of 6,432 Helal Houses so far. The kits mainly include first aid, torches, hoe, shovels, ladders, uniforms, boots, whistles, rope and radio communication tools. The local Helal Houses need rapid assessment and communication reporting trainings. Local communities also need to be aware of the disaster risks and risk reduction measures under the national emergency response training scheme.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

This DREF aims at supporting 11,288 people (3,195 households) affected by the earthquake, by providing shelter, food, livelihoods and basic items in the 53 most affected villages (Azab, Bayram Kandi, Seyd Tajeddin, Khanjar Khan, Dizaj Diz, Morteza Gholi Kandi) for four months.

Operation strategy rationale

Following the rapid assessments in the affected districts, the IRCS identified the immediate needs and priorities and is responding through the provision of relief items and basic need commodities. The IRCS provides lifesaving assistance, search and rescue, first aid, food distribution, and emergency sheltering as part of its initial response. IRCS is planning to distribute almost 7,000 food parcels among the needy families (for 72 hours). People whose houses are damaged received the emergency family tents by the IRCS, as emergency accommodation. This DREF will aim to cover the emergency shelter, food, basic needs, and livelihoods of the target affected families, totaling 11,288 people, in order to address the needs of the targeted population (3,195 HHs). It is aligned with and will contribute to the current global strategy developed by the IFRC Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region, in coordination with global and regional partners. IFRC continues to assess how emergency operations in response to disasters and crisis should adapt to this crisis and provide necessary guidance to its membership on the same. The National Society will continue to closely monitor the situation, focusing on health risks, and revise accordingly if necessary, taking into account the evolving operational risks that may arise, including operational challenges related to access to the affected population, availability of relief items and procurement issues, and movement of IRCS volunteers and staff as well as international staff.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

The IRCS has prioritized the most vulnerable households amongst affected populations in the affected districts of Azarbayejan Gharbi province. The selection will be carried out in coordination with the local authorities. Priority will be given to those in need who reside in homes that are either completely or partially damaged. Food and essential household items will be provided to the most vulnerable families (including tent, blanket, food and ground mat). Each of these families will receive one food package.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The selection criteria are:

- 1- People with severely or completely damaged houses.
- 2- People living in houses which gas was cut off.
- 3- Households headed by women, i.e., widows, divorced or separated women without income.
- 4- Households with person(s) living with disabilities.
- 5- Households with insufficient coping mechanisms.
- 6- Households from vulnerable occupational groups.

Total Targeted Population

Women:	5,532	Rural %	Urban %
Girls (under 18):	-	%	%
Men:	5,756	People with disabilities (estimated %)	
Boys (under 18):	-	%	
Total targeted population:	11,288		

Risk and security considerations

Please indicate about potential operational risk for this operations and mitigation actions


Risk	Mitigation action
Aftershocks	Continual exchange of information regarding what to do in the event of an earthquake.


	Set up evacuation centers in the safe zone in case there is a displacement.
Funds transfer delays	The IFRC legal, financial, treasury, and management circles have worked to unblock the banking transfers at various levels. Since the start of 2022, the IFRC managed to bring in close to 5.1 million Euros to country. At the national, MENA regional, and GVA levels, efforts are under way to strictly adhere to agreed protocols and are in constant communication with stakeholders to meet the needs so that funds transfers can happen with high speed. Banking channels and related compliance protocols are regularly consciously looked into. In order to keep donor compliant/operational advances reconciliations intact, IFRC/IRCS offices receive daily technical financial/support services support at the country level.
COVID-19	As IRCS was the lead responder for each of the seven COVID peaks in Iran, active protocol is followed by staff and volunteers.


Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

There is no high risk of security for the operational staff and volunteers. IRCS is very well accepted in the region.


Planned Intervention


	Livelihoods And Basic Needs	Budget	CHF 133,059
		Targeted Persons	11288
Indicators		Target	
# of food parcels replenished to be pre-positioned for future emergencies.		6941	
Priority Actions:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution of food parcels for the first 72 hours 	

	Shelter Housing And Settlements	Budget	CHF 116,298
		Targeted Persons	3100
Indicators		Target	
# of ground mats replenished		2000	
# of blankets replenished		3100	
# of relief tents replenished		500	
Priority Actions:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replenishment of distributed tents • Replenishment of distributed blankets • Replenishment of distributed ground mats 	

	National Society Strengthening	Budget	CHF 20,235
		Targeted Persons	90
Indicators		Target	
# of trainings conducted		2	
# of people equipped with necessary skills to implement the DREF operation		90	
Priority Actions:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helal House Community Emergency Response Team training, each HH consists of 5 persons. 	

- Strengthening the planning, monitoring and reporting skills of emergency operation personnel

	Secretariat Services	Budget	CHF 10,650
		Targeted Persons	1
Indicators		Target	
# of surge deployments		1	
Priority Actions:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surge deployment finance (checking, facilitating the finance requirements of the DREF, supporting field to reconcile open working advances). 	

	Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery	Budget	CHF 15,975
		Targeted Persons	50
Indicators		Target	
# of volunteers at Helal Houses have access to basic response kits		50	
Priority Actions:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Helal House equipped with basic response kits 	

About Support Services

How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

There are 223 operational teams in total, 75% of which are comprised of volunteers. There are 44 teams from 2 provinces present at the field. They are conducting needs assessment, carrying out food and household items distribution and providing psychological support to the affected population. Volunteers are covered under the IRCS insurance scheme. Food, transportation and accommodation costs of the relief workers and youth volunteers are covered by the IRCS.

Will surge personnel be deployed? Please provide the role profile needed.

A finance surge will be deployed to support the country delegation and Iranian RCS for clearing open working advances.

If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?

The IRCS will handle the procurement. From a technical standpoint, the IFRC Procurement Lead has already completed a one-month mission as part of the Afghan Appeal operation to streamline local procurement processes and to confirm and support local procurement mechanisms. The team has been instructed to adhere to the checklist. Logistics activities aim to effectively manage the supply chain, including procurement, storage and forwarding to distribution sites, in accordance with the operation's requirements and aligned to IFRC's logistics standards, processes, and procedures. Sourcing of relief items /Food Packages is to be done primarily from local market, with adequate approvals to be sought / received from IFRC through support of IFRC MENA, Supply Chain Management

Unit (IFRC GHS&SCM MENA) in Beirut. Any additional logistics support can be made available by the IFRC GHS&SCM MENA, as per need.

How will this operation be monitored?

The IRCS Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER) unit is currently embedded in the IRCS Emergency Operations Center (EOC). IRCS Branches will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of this emergency operation. The monitoring activities entail Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) surveys that will be conducted with the recipients of relief items distributed previously. The PDM will measure the satisfaction of targeted people, along with the timeliness, relevance and reach of the support provided.

Reporting on the operation will be carried out in accordance with the IFRC DREF reporting standards. Regular updates will be issued during the operation's timeframe with a final report issued within three months after the end of the operation. A joint PMER position was recruited by the IFRC, ICRC, and IRCS to build the PMER system and in-country capacity. The recent support from the IFRC Regional MENA PMER also helped to revise the tools that would be used in DREFs. Technical PMER capacity and support will be provided through IFRC MENA Regional PMER team.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation.

The IRCS has a strong Public Relations Department which leads the communications in this operation. Since the outset of the earthquake, the IRCS has been disseminating daily information for public awareness and information via their social media platforms (Twitter, Instagram, and the official website). The National Society owns a TV studio and a newspaper, both disseminated nationwide.

The IFRC MENA regional head of communications will provide additional support throughout the operation if required.

Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRIR012 - Iranian Red Crescent Society Iran, Azarbayejan Earthquake 2022

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	265,332
Shelter and Basic Household Items	116,298
Livelihoods	133,059
Multi-purpose Cash	0
Health	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	0
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	0
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	15,975
Community Engagement and Accountability	0
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	30,885
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	10,650
National Society Strengthening	20,235
TOTAL BUDGET	296,217

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

Contact Information

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

- **National Society contact:**

Mansooreh Bagheri, USG for International Affairs and IHL, intdep@rcs.ir, 00982188662618

- **IFRC Appeal Manager:**

Hossam Faysal, Regional Head of Health, Disasters, Climate & Crises (HDCC) Unit - MENA, hosam.faysal@ifrc.org, +96171802916

- **IFRC Project Manager:**

Atta Durrani, Head of Delegation IFRC Islamic Republic of Iran, atta.durrani@ifrc.org, +989046447146

- **IFRC focal point for the emergency:**

Atta Durrani, Head of Delegation, Iran CO, atta.durrani@ifrc.org, +989046447146

- **Media Contact:** Mey El Sayegh, Head of Communications s, mey.elsayegh@ifrc.org, +96176174468

[Click here for the reference](#)