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Emergency Plan Of Action update

Tajikistan: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n° MDRTJ019	Operation n° MDRTJ019 Glide n° FL-2014-000063-TJK
Update n° 1 Date of issue: 30 June 2014	Timeframe covered by this update: 11 May 2014 – 23 June 2014
Operation start date: 11 May 2014	Operation timeframe: 11 May – 17 August 2014
Operation budget: CHF 108,050	DREF amount allocated: CHF 108,050
N° of people being assisted: The total number of people to be assisted is 917 families (4,585 people). Out of them 250 families (1,250 people) have been provided with non-food items and 100 families (500 people) will be provided with hygiene kits. Hygiene promotion information materials are being provided to all 4,585 targeted residents.	
Host National Society presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): 24 Local Disaster Committee members and six staff members of RCST local branch supported by the RCST HQ	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently involved in the operation: IFRC Representation in Tajikistan	
Other partner organizations currently involved in the operation: Government of Tajikistan and local authorities	

Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

Support to the Government in transportation of water was originally included into this operation, but at a later stage the partners from the Government requested to use the budget originally envisaged for transportation of water for procurement and distribution of the hygiene kits instead, as the government authorities are now taking care of the water transportation themselves.

Additionally, another portion of the budget originally planned for the transportation of water will be used for monitoring, distribution, as well as volunteers' allowances especially that the disaster response areas for this DREF are located in two different regions which are far from each other, requiring additional resources to fully implement the operation.

As a result, the total amount of the DREF allocation is not changing, only the budget line related to the drinking water transportation is being re-allocated to cover the additional costs of the hygiene kits as well as monitoring, distribution, and transportation.

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Heavy rainfalls caused flooding and flash floods on 10 and 11 May 2014 in some districts in Tajikistan. According to figures provided by the Committee of Emergency Situation and Civil Defence and the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, some 1,072 families (5,360 people) were severely affected by the floods, and around 425 people, who lost their homes, were temporarily sheltered in kindergartens, mosques, at their relatives and in neighbouring villages. The affected areas stretch from Khatlon province to Rudaki and Vahdat districts in the south of the country, and to Gonchi district in the northern region of Sughd province. Also, nine bridges were destroyed, and water pipes and other infrastructure were heavily damaged. The road from Khatlon province to Badakhshan was cut off after some parts of the road got washed away, resulting in the disruption of the land connection between those two provinces.

Joint assessments were undertaken by the Committee of the Emergency Situations and Civil Defence (CoES), the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan and the Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team (REACT) consisting of international humanitarian responders in the country.

Summary of current response

Overview of the Host National Society

The Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan's staff and volunteers were in the disaster area from the first hours of disaster and provided first aid to those who needed that. In total, 24 volunteers and six RCST HQ and branch staff were deployed to respond to the disaster, to conduct assessment, to render first aid and to provide immediate humanitarian aid to the most affected people from the RCST's limited stocks in Dushanbe warehouse and Sughd province Emergency Response Centres. The RCST representatives joined the governmental Emergency Response Committee in conducting rapid and detailed assessment in all affected areas and participated in coordination meetings convened by the government in Rudaki district and REACT. Two first aid points were set up by the RCST branches in Rudaki and Gonchi districts in the affected villages of Sughd province. The RCST volunteers also supported the officials in the evacuation of the people to kindergartens and mosques.



Affected population receiving non-food items in Gonchi district.
Photo: RCST

Before the allocation of the DREF funds, the RCST provided 50 families with mattresses, blankets, pillows, bed linen sets, construction tools, cooking sets, hygiene kits, and water cans from its own stocks.

Under this DREF operation, the RCST also addressed the needs of 200 families (1,250 people) for basic emergency non-food items, hygiene kits and appropriate tools for shelter improvement and environmental cleaning. Besides that, 50 family sets including mattresses, blankets, pillows, bed linen sets, construction tools, cooking sets, hygiene kits, and water cans were distributed and replenished. The distributions were implemented on the basis of needs assessment and beneficiary criteria jointly agreed with the local authorities, beneficiary representatives and the CoES. The RCST is also raising the awareness of the targeted population on hygiene practices through the dissemination of informational materials.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The IFRC supported the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) in delivering humanitarian assistance to the families affected by the floods and landslides in Rudaki and Ghonchi districts providing CHF 108,050.

The RCST is coordinating its activities with the IFRC Country Representation in Tajikistan, which is providing technical and financial support in carrying out the planned operation. from the planning phase to the final reporting stage.

The Red Crescent Society of Islamic Republic of Iran jointly with the RCST Rudaki branch have provided some medical services to the affected population. Medical staff consisting of specialists from both national societies made medical examination of 112 highly vulnerable patients (old people, disabled, small children etc.) at the jointly operated polyclinic.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

In each affected district, the Government mobilized its related agencies and restored the damaged infrastructure (cleaned roads and ditches, restored electricity lines, provided clean drinking water) within their capacity. The Local Government and CoES forces supported the affected people in the evacuation and cleaning activities. The Government also provided water, food and home properties to the affected population in need. The "Operation Mercy" in cooperation with the authorities of Zainabobod of Rudaki district distributed hygiene kits to flood victims in the villages of Fayzoba, Komsomol and Adolat. In total, 250 packages of hygiene kits were distributed, each containing: a towel, six bars of soap, two toothbrushes, a tube of toothpaste and two boxes of washing detergent.

Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

According to the results of assessments and in agreement with the local authorities and beneficiaries, the following needs were identified: drinking water for affected households in Rudaki district, hygiene items, food products, shelter and non-food items, support in evacuation and cleaning activities. The humanitarian aid under this project was based on the official requests from the officials, and the Government worked on covering other needs of the population affected by the disaster.

According to the division of roles and based upon request by the local governments and in agreement with the CoES headquarters, the RCST had addressed the needs related to basic emergency non-food items, hygiene kits and appropriate tools for shelter improvement and environmental cleaning.

Assessment and analysis methods will be improved also under this project through discussing and analysing lessons learned from the implementation of this project and the results of the beneficiary satisfaction survey.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall objective

The immediate needs of the population affected by the disaster in southern and northern Tajikistan are met through the provision of basic non-food items and water and sanitation services.

Proposed strategy

With the support of the DREF allocation, the RCST provided immediate emergency response to the needs of the affected population by ensuring emergency shelter and household items including stationary for schoolchildren, hygienic items and sanitation which are urgently required for the 4,585 targeted people.

The distributions were made upon completion of the detailed needs assessment and completion of the beneficiary lists according to the criteria agreed with the local authorities. Hygiene kits and health promotion materials were distributed to 250 families and are planned to be distributed among 100 additional families according to the changes in the operation activities. The targeted 250 families also received non-food items.

Operational support services

Human resources

The Red Crescent Society mobilized 24 trained and experienced volunteers to carry out this project and deliver assistance to the affected population. The deployed volunteers are insured during the implementation of the planned activities under this EPoA. The IFRC staff is responsible for providing technical support to the RCST in implementing this operation, as well as for reporting and communications.

Logistics and supply chain

All relief items have been and will be procured and dispatched locally following the IFRC's standard procurement procedures. The IFRC Country Representation in Tajikistan provides the necessary support to local procurement that will be done in accordance with IFRC and RCST procurement guidelines.

Information technology (IT)

The RCST HQ is maintaining regular communication with its field branches through the mobile telephone network, and for sending reports and pictures, through the internet.

Communications

A press release was prepared for and disseminated through the local media, along with posts on the official web-site of the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan. Pictures from the operation site are being taken and posted on the web-site. The field staff and volunteers are available for media interviews with preliminary coordination with the RCST Communications Officer.

Security

No security issues or challenges have been reported during the operation so far.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

The RCST and IFRC Tajikistan continue closely monitoring the whole project implementation. IFRC provides technical support in terms of operation management including monitoring and reporting where necessary. Updates are being provided by RCST to IFRC on the general progress of the operation. IFRC will publish a final report after the completion of the operation. A beneficiary satisfaction survey will be carried out as part of the monitoring and evaluation activities. A "lessons learned" workshop will also be arranged to share the experience and challenges faced during the operation among the Red Crescent staff, IFRC and other partners.

A monitoring and evaluation mission will be conducted by IFRC Europe Zone Office.

This operation was planned to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 15 August 2014; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation, by 15 November 2014.

Administration and Finance

The RCST ensures the proper use of financial resources in accordance with the conditions laid down in the project agreement signed between the National Society and the donor. The IFRC ensures that financial resources management takes place according to IFRC standards and DREF guidelines.

Budget

The budget sum has not been revised; only the budget structure has been slightly modified in connection with water transportation costs as explained in the introduction.

Contact information

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 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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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.

C. Detailed Operational Plan

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

The disaster destroyed access to safe drinking water and left the population in bad sanitary conditions forcing them to use the water from unsafe sources. This situation raises the risk of water-borne diseases and epidemics. Also, the affected population lost all their properties and currently has no adequate hygiene supplies, such as soap, tooth paste/brushes, etc. This operation supports the provision of hygiene kits to some 350 families. The hygiene kits contain toilet soap, washing powder, towels, toilet paper, toothpaste and toothbrushes, shampoo, and disinfection powder under this project.

Outcome 1: The risk of water and sanitation related diseases is reduced through supporting the transportation of safe drinking water to be provided by the authorities, appropriate sanitation and hygiene promotion.

Output 1.1: Hygienic practices are promoted through dissemination of informational materials among 4,585 people

Develop informational materials promoting hygiene safety	■	■																		
Disseminate informational materials among targeted population	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

Output 1.2: Provision of hygiene kits to 350 families (1,750 people) according to the officials requests

Conduct detailed emergency needs assessments	■	■																		
Prepare lists of beneficiaries together with local authorities		■	■																	
Conduct monitoring of beneficiary lists		■	■																	
Procure selected items, transport and pre-position stocks			■	■																
Transport and distribute hygiene kits among beneficiaries				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Monitor the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions						■	■	■												
Conduct evaluation of implemented activities																■	■			

Progress towards Outcomes

Some 250 families out of targeted 350 families received the hygiene kits. The selection of beneficiaries was conducted according to the agreed criteria. Priority was given to: the families most affected by the floods and landslides who are displaced from their homes; families with women as breadwinners (widows), elderly couples, young couples with small children, as well as families who are not recipients of any substantial assistance, especially housing by the Government, NGOs and other organizations.

One more hundred families will receive hygiene kits under the changes in the operation activities. Funds previously planned for the transportation of water will be re-directed to procure and distribute hygiene kits to 100 more families. An informational leaflet promoting hygiene practices was developed in the Tajik language, printed, and distributed among the affected population.

Emergency shelter and household items

Outcome 1: The Red Crescent Society distributed shelter assistance and non-food assistance to affected population under national coordination mechanism.																	
Output 1.1: 250 households received basic emergency non-food items and appropriate tools for shelter improvement and/or environmental cleaning.																	
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Conduct detailed emergency needs assessments.		■	■														
Prepare lists of beneficiaries together with local authorities.			■	■													
Conduct monitoring of beneficiary lists.			■	■													
Procure selected items, transport and pre-position stocks.				■	■	■											
Transport and distribute items to beneficiaries.				■	■	■	■	■									
Control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Monitor the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.							■	■	■								
Beneficiary Satisfaction Survey.													■	■			
Output 1.2: Lessons learnt are captured from the operation and incorporated into preparedness planning for coming seasons																	
Conduct a lessons learned workshop														■			
Conduct an evaluation of the implemented activities														■			

Progress towards Outcomes
Most houses got covered with mud. The population has lost almost all of their belongings, including bedding and clothing. Kitchen and cooking sets are either damaged or lost. The affected population needed bed sets, cooking sets, as well as some simple cleaning materials to clean the houses from the mud. Some 250 families were targeted under this component.