

Emergency appeal №: MDRMN020 Emergency appeal launched: 15/03/2024 Operational Strategy published: 04/04/2024	Glide №: CW-2023-000262-MNG
Operation update #2 Date of issue: 23/05/2024	Timeframe covered by this update: From 15/03/2024 to 15/05/2024
Operation timeframe: 12 months (15/03/2024 - 31/03/2025)	Number of people being assisted: 36,000
Funding requirements (CHF): the IFRC Emergency Appeal: CHF 4.5 million through Federation-wide: 5.2 million	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 1,000,000

To date, this Emergency Appeal, which seeks CHF 4,500,000 secretariat ask, is 32.8 per cent funded. Further funding contributions are needed to enable the Mongolian Red Cross Society, with the support of the IFRC, to continue with the response efforts of and provide humanitarian assistance and protection to people affected by Dzud.



Mongolia Red Cross Society (MRCS) staff, as part of National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) conducting Post-distribution Monitoring Survey with targeted population who received Multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) and animal care kit distribution in Arkhangai Province.

(Source: IFRC)

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the crisis

According to the dzud assessment by the 286th government resolution stated by the government authorities, as of 20 January 2024, 118 soums¹ of 18 provinces (Bayan-Ulgii, Uvs, Khovd, Govi-Altai, Zavkhan, Bayankhongor, Arkhangai, Uvurkhangai, Khuvsgul, Bulgan, Tuv, Selenge, Dornogovi, Dundgovi, Umnugovi, Dornod, Sukhbaatar, Khentii) provinces are in white dzud² situation meanwhile 87 soums of 16 provinces (Khovd, Govi-Altai, Zavkhan, Arkhangai, Bayankhongor, Uvurkhangai, Khuvsgul, Bulgan, Orkhon, Selenge, Tuv, Dundgovi, Umnugovi, Dornogovi, Khentii, Dornod) are in near white-dzud situation and 27 soums of 7 (Uvs, Govi-Altai, Arkhangai, Uvurkhangai, Sukhbaatar, Bulgan, Dundgovi) are in “iron” dzud³ situation.

Approximately 27.4 per cent (246,302 households) of all the households (HH) in Mongolia (897,427 households) are pastoral nomads whose livelihoods solemnly depend on livestock production (2021, National Statistics Office). The unprecedented and extreme weather conditions have caused significant humanitarian impacts. A total number of 7.4 million livestock have perished as of 9 May 2024, accounting for 11.5% of the total mort in Mongolia. Nearly 5,000 herder HH have lost over 70% of their livestock. Almost a third of the Mongolian population rely on grazing and livestock for their livelihoods while the livestock face the challenge of grazing due to the heavy snow coverage. Typically, livestock face challenges grazing when the average snow thickness is 12 to 15 centimetres (cm) in the steppe, 8 to 10 cm in the mountains, and 5 to 6 cm in the Gobi region. Additionally, a concurrent fuel shortage between early November and December 2023 has led to prolonged queues for fuel across the country. The ongoing fuel shortages have resulted in the delayed provision of government assistance to areas affected by snowstorms.

On top of responding to the impacts of the Dzud, Mongolia has been experiencing an increase in the prices of consumer goods and inflations, with the national rate of inflation sitting at 8.6 per cent in January 2024, according to the Bank of Mongolia. Alongside the significant weather conditions, the herder community has been experiencing a rising cost of living and business with hay and fodder prices surging as a result of both inflation and availability due to the conditions. Considering historical data, livestock mortality rates are at their highest from February to April, with January having the highest risk for livestock malnourishment due to the conditions.

To respond to the unfolding situation, the EOC introduced a hay and fodder preservation plan for long-term stability, however, due to the severity of the Dzud, more support is required to assist the impacted population. The MRCS team has been working closely with the local authorities and relevant MRCS branches in the provinces to identify the at-risk communities in the areas and assess the damage and needs.

As of 15 May, the temperature is gradually raising up, and at times decreasing, as it is normal in springtime, all over the country. For example, while most areas are three to eight degrees at night, and nine to fourteen degrees during the day, in mountainous areas of Altai, Khangai, Khuvsgul, it was minus three to two degrees Celsius in the nighttime, and 14 to 19 degrees Celsius during the day. The gradually raising temperatures make the risk of flash floods less and there has not been any flash flood reported.

Livestock mortality and animal carcasses management:

¹ The second smallest administrative unit in Mongolia, above bagh and below province.

² White dzud is when snow density reaches 0.25 gr/cubic centimetre or more in any region and stays for 10 days or more and average monthly temperature is lower than annual average by 3 degree Celsius or more or (average quadratic curve is derived) and snow depth is more than 25 cm in high mountainous or forest steppe areas, more than 22 cm in steppe areas, more than 12 cm in dessert areas, 286th Government resolution, 2015.

³ “iron” or “white” dzud is marked by a very deep snow cover preventing animals from accessing grass combined with a short thaw and subsequent hard freeze that locks up pastures in ice (iron dzud).

According to the EOC, as of 09 May 2024, a total of 7,408,906 animals perished nationwide, which was as equal as 11.5 per cent of the total number of animals in the first year. Provinces with the highest livestock mortality are detailed in Table 1.

Table 1: Number and percentage of perished animals in provinces by 09 May 2024 (Source: National Emergency Management Agency or NEMA)		
Province	No. of perished animal	Percentage of the perished livestock of the year
<i>Sukhbaatar</i>	1,728,241	44.78
<i>Khentii</i>	950,082	21.59
<i>Arkhangai</i>	699,162	17.68
<i>Tov</i>	630,154	12.78
<i>Dornogovi</i>	566,501	26.72
<i>Bulgan</i>	561,674	15.50
<i>Khuvsgul</i>	358,582	6.34
<i>Dornod</i>	326,132	10.35
<i>Dundgovi</i>	285,233	7.79
<i>Zavkhan</i>	235,508	7.68

*Table above is based on available data from 10 province as part of the total figure of 7,408,906 animal perished

Summary of response

Livelihood and Multi-purpose CASH

As stated in first Operational Update (OU) for Mongolia Cold Wave Dzud, MRCS has been monitoring the Dzud situation since the EOC under the State Emergency Commission was activated on 8 December 2023. Since December 2023, MRCS has mobilized resources to provide humanitarian aid and services to communities that have already been affected by the severe weather. Teams have deployed to high and very high-risk areas to provide warm gloves, animal clothes and psychosocial support to affected and vulnerable households. Multi-purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) had been distributed to 5,943 households as of 15 May 2024 and animal care kits had been distributed to 4,700 households as of 14 May 2024 with the support from the IFRC Emergency Appeal, various institutional donors and Partner National Society (PNS). Under this reporting period, MPCA and animal care kits were distributed to 600 HH with support from IFRC under EA. The value of MPCA and animal care kit was MNT 550,300 or around CHF 148 per HH. In total, under this reporting period, MNT 330,180,000 or CHF 88,800 was disbursed. As of 15 May, MPCA and animal care kits have been distributed to 3,900 households. A remaining 2,950 households assistance will be delivered between May and June 2024.

Health

The need gaps of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) has been prominent and urgent among the herder communities who are not only suffered from the loss of livestock, but also the psychological and emotional stress that accompanies such huge loss, compounded by harsh living conditions and future uncertainties about their livelihoods. Many herders who have lost all the livestock often choose to migrate to the capital city to make a living.

MRCS conducted MHPSS training to 45 volunteers (37 Female and 8 Male) from 21 provinces from 22 to 24 April in Youth Training Centre in collaboration with National Center of Mental Health, Ministry of Health. The main objective of this training was to strengthen the capacity of mid-level branch (MLB) staff and volunteers on MHPSS in Emergencies, especially during the Dzud response and establish MHPSS counselling rooms and hotlines at the MLB offices in which these group of trained staff and volunteers will operate these activities. MHPSS key messages have been circulated on social media including Facebook and Instagram reaching approximately 133,000 people. A total of 8 different key messages have been developed together with the National Center of Mental Health on insomnia, stress management, alcohol consumption, stress management for pregnant women, lactating mothers, and elderlies,

managing anxiety, and breathing exercise along with the MHPSS consultation phone-number of the National Center of Mental Health.

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)/ Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (PMER)

As part of the Operation Strategy, strengthening the CEA capacity of MRCS is one of the key targets for the ongoing Dzud response operation. It is of utmost importance to capture the challenges and identify the solutions to facilitate the integration of CEA as well as to establish an effective feedback mechanism to inform key messages and collect feedback from the herder communities throughout the operation.

A lessons-learned workshop was conducted with MRCS mid-level branch managers for the Dzud operation on 18 April 2024. Four main topics were covered in this workshop: 1) Progress and achievements of the Dzud operation, from MRCS's efforts on disaster preparedness, the establishment of early warning triggers, implementation of need assessment, and the Dzud operations with IFRC and other PNS; 2) Revision of Rapid Need Assessment (RNA) in IFRC framework, and MRCS's reflections and lessons learned of the RNA implementation in the Dzud operation; 3) Challenges and solutions of the reporting process from MRCS's branch level to mid-level, addressing how the headquarter could provide support and facilitate the quality assurance of MRCS; and 4) Reflections on incorporating Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) in the selection and distribution process, including an evaluation of the communication channels used and the key messages shared with the herder families.

The main challenges of MRCS encountered including the misconception on the way of conducting needs assessment and a lack of pro-active information sharing practices with the herder communities. The latter is also reflected by the feedback data that has been collected during the reporting period, around 16% of a total 167 feedback submissions (55% received from women and 45% received from men) inquired about 'the timing of when they would receive the cash assistance'. Overall, the feedback received the most is 'appreciation for the support from MRCS' (31%) and 'requests for support' (22%). Most requests received are general, while some are more specific requests. Of the more specific requests, food support is requested the most, followed by requests for hay and fodder and cash. 75% off all requests for support are made by women.

The CEA force field analysis was finalised with key stakeholders from MRCS HQ on 22 April 2024. With this analysis, the key enablers and the key blockers for strong CEA within MRCS have been identified and prioritized. In addition, a CEA orientation session was conducted with 40 volunteers from nine mid-level branches as part of a three-day training in Mental Health Psychosocial Support Service (MHPSS) between 22 and 24 April 2024. The session started with the CEA foundations and then focused on communication with communities: the different types of communication that can be used depending on the purpose and the context and included an exercise to identify good and bad communication characteristics.

Field monitoring visit

In the week of 29 April – 5 May 2024, the IFRC Surge PMER officer and the IFRC Surge CEA officer visited the mid-level branches in Arkhangai, Zavkhan and Uvs together with the MRCS DM & CEA officers. The main objectives of this field visit were to test the PDM survey, to create a more detailed overview of the (branch level) activities across the four main phases of the response and to identify gaps, opportunities and priorities of the branches, specifically on PMER and CEA. The field visit included working sessions with the mid-level branch teams, house visits to herder families who received the MRCS support and interviews with soum government officials, bagh leaders and MRCS primary level branch managers.

Needs Analysis

According to the NEMA, it is crucial to consider the types of animals and their specific eating habits during the Dzud response operation, particularly in the Spring season when animals give birth to ensure that the livestock at the nutrition and food intake needed. This results in herders being unable to generate income from the animals, and additional resources such as mineral blocks or salt licks need to be provided for the newly born animals.

Consequently, herders continue to face financial difficulties until the autumn when the animals can be typically harvested. Moreover, the harsh winter weakens the health of animals, leading to some mother animals being unable to produce enough milk for their offspring. This further impacts the herders' financial situation as they have to purchase formula milk to feed the young animals. In the worst-case scenario, weakened animals may fail to give birth to a new generation, prolonging the time it takes for each herder family to reach the same number of animals they had before the Dzud affected their livestock. In some cases, herder families may need to buy new teenage animals to increase the size of their animal pack.

The Mongolian Cabinet has proposed the draft law ⁴on mitigating the negative effects of climate change on traditional livestock husbandry and improving the livelihoods of herder communities to the State Great Khural of Mongolia. The draft law aims to promote the sustainable and efficient development of the livestock industry, and to encourage herders to voluntarily collaborate and join cooperatives to improve their livelihoods, satisfy their common needs, and increase the economic returns of livestock products. Meanwhile, Minister of Mongolia and Head of the Cabinet Secretariat have introduced the “New Cooperative - Wealthy Herder” Program, which aims to improve the supply system by reducing seasonal price fluctuations for livestock products in order to stabilize herders' income and improve their social security and well-being. Ultimately, it is targeted to contribute to the development of sustainable livestock production that is environmentally friendly, innovative, and meets green criteria.

Operational risk assessment

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
1. Snowstorms or other types of disasters such as floodings may occur during the operation, increasing the scale of response and recovery, there is a concern about the safety risks to NS staff and volunteers onsite.	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase preparedness including relief items stocks. • Ensure CP is updated. • The IFRC security plans will apply to all IFRC staff throughout the operation. Area-specific Security Risk Assessment will be conducted for any operational area should any IFRC personnel deploy there; risk mitigation measures will be identified and implemented. • All IFRC staff must, while RC/RC staff and volunteers are encouraged, to complete the IFRC Stay Safe e-learning courses, i.e. Stay Safe 2.0 Global edition Level 1 to 3. • On 25 April 2024, MRCS organized WASH in emergencies training of trainers (ToT) training four times with the relevant government agencies, such as NEMA, particularly focusing on urban flash floods in collaboration with UNICEF.
2. Access to the targeted communities due to hard-to-reach areas	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain existing collaboration with local authorities. For example, the Branch Office have been working with Barkh and Sum Leaders (sub-district and district administrative division) to closely follow

⁴ Самбууням.М, “Government to Implement "New Cooperative - Wealthy Herder" Program”. Mongolian National News Agency. (11 April 2024). <https://montsame.mn/en/read/341571>

			up and communicate with targeted people either by phone or home-visit. This was ensured by PDM visit in which navigators were with Barkh and Sum Leaders. This was shown that the leader keep contact with targeted beneficiaries.
3. Overdue financial consolidation resulting to delayed cash transfer to implement operation	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan for scheduled financial monitoring visits.
4. Finalisation of Framework Agreement for Financial Services Provider	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous follow-up to ensure process are followed through
5. Data Management and Reporting including assessment report	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure PMER capacity building with MRCS
6. Staff and Volunteers Safety	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRCS and IFRC will provide training and equipment to staff and volunteers to help them stay safe. All MRCS staff and volunteers are encouraged, to complete the IFRC Stay Safe e-learning courses, i.e. Stay Safe 2.0 Global edition Level 1-3.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Update on the strategy

The EA was launched on 15 March 2024, and the OS was finalised and published on 4 April 2024 and is available here: [Operational Strategy: Dzud Cold Wave, Mongolia 2024](#). More information on the operation can be found on the GO platform - [Mongolia](#).

To ensure that this emergency operation will lead to sustainable response, the OS tackles both emergency intervention, transition period and the long-term strategy to strengthen the capacity of MRCS. This includes distributing animal care kits in the livelihoods sector; distributing multi-purpose cash; establishing a PSS centre at branch office level and providing PSS to the affected population as part of the health and well-being sector; constructing WASH facilities and conducting hygiene promotion activities for the WASH sector; revisiting child safeguarding policy and sensitizing PGI in emergency for staff and volunteers working in the operation as part of PGI strategy; and, last but not least, establishing a feedback mechanism and creating contextualized CEA SOPs that will support the mainstreaming of CEA in every program and activity, also beyond this response.

To have volunteer working on this operation insured by an insurance company, and brief on safety and security policy are initiatives of this EA, as part of strengthening the capacity of MRCS. Having Surge capacity to help supporting CEA, PMER, and MPCA for MRCS is part of the plan to sustainably strengthen their capacity in these sectors.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL REPORT

STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

	Livelihoods	Target	Female > 18: 11,978	Female < 18: 6,102
		Actual	2,007	1,914
		Target	Male > 18: 10,990	Male < 18: 6,930
		Actual	2,006	1,970


Objective: *Mitigate livestock loss, assist vulnerable herder families in livelihood recovery, and enhance resilience to severe Dzud conditions.*

Indicator	Actual	Target
Number of people reached with livelihood assistance	5,803 (1,300 HH + 600 HH =1,900 HH)	36,000
Number of people provided with livelihood training	N/A	140

On top of the previous 1,300 animal care kits distributed, MRCS has distributed another 600 animal care kits in seven targeted provinces: Bayan Ulgii, Darkhan, Dundgovi, Govisumber, Khovd, Umnugovi, Uvs, with the support under EA. In total, 5,803 people from 1,900 herder households have received animal care kits from MRCS to support their livestock to survive until the pasture condition improves.

List of 1,350 targeted HH are now on beneficiaries' verification process for the animal care kit distribution with the support from European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).


Procurement of 1,900 animal care kits is in the process of being approved at the IFRC APRO and HQ level. This is the support from IFRC under EA.

	Multi-purpose Cash	Target	Female > 18: 11,798	Female < 18: 6,102
		Actual	2,007	1,914
		Target	Male > 18: 10,990	Male < 18: 6,930
		Actual	2,006	1,970

Objective: *Address the immediate priority needs of small herders through MPCA, provided to the most-at-risk herder families to meet their food and other immediate basic needs, including for their livestock (see above).*

Indicator	Actual	Target
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Key indicators:	<i>Number of people (and households) that received cash for basic needs after being identified and processed for transfers</i>	5,803 (1,300 HH + 600 HH =1,900 HH)	21,100 (5,862 HH)
<p>The overall targeted number of households for MPCA assistance is 5,862, with the number of households reached standing at 1,900 as of May 15, equivalent to 32% of the overall targeted population.</p> <p>Financial Service Providers Agreement: Khan Bank With the support of IFRC, MRCS established a two-year long-term framework agreement with a Financial Service Provider (FSP), in February 2024, with the potential extension for the implementation, to support the MRCS Cash and Voucher Assistance Program.</p> <p>The agreement with FSP provides to utilize the bank's system as a means of transferring MRCS's cash assistance directly to beneficiaries' own accounts. The FSP network comprises 554 branches covering all 9 districts, 21 provinces, and 330 Soums (districts) in Mongolia. The FSP shares beneficiary payment reports with the MRCS after transferring cash amounts to beneficiaries' accounts, in accordance with the agreement, as well as per the relevant laws and banking regulations.</p>			

	Health & Care <i>(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health / Medical Services)</i>	Target	Female > 18: 11,978	Female < 18: 6,102
		Actual	N/A	N/A
		Target	Male > 18: 10,990	Male < 18: 6,930
		Actual	N/A	N/A


Objective: *Health risks of the targeted herder communities are reduced, and their health and well-being are improved.*

	Indicator	Actual	Target
Key indicators:	<i>Number of people reached through MHPSS services</i>	Direct = 10,919 (Indirect: Social media: like/clicking/post engaging/messenger conversation 133,000)	36,000
	<i>Number of MHPSS stations established at branches</i>	N/A	21

As of 15 May, MRCS staff and volunteers reached and provided MHPSS support to a total number of 10,919 people through in-person visits and phone calls to identify the difficulties of herder households for further mental health and psychosocial interventions.

MRCS conducted a MHPSS training to 45 volunteers (37 Female and 8 Male) who are staff and volunteers from 21 provinces from 22 to 24 April in Youth Training Centre in collaboration with National Center of Mental Health, Ministry of Health. The main objective of this training was to strengthen capacity of mid-level branch (MLB) staff and volunteers on MHPSS in Emergencies, especially during the Dzud response.

MHPSS key messages have been circulated on social media including Facebook and Instagram reaching approximately 133,000 people as of May 15. A total of 8 different key messages have been developed together with the National Center of Mental Health along with the MHPSS consultation phone-number of the National Center of Mental Health.

	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Target	Female > 18: 11,978	Female < 18: 6,102
		Actual	0	0
		Target	Male > 18: 10,990	Male < 18: 6,930
		Actual	0	0

Objective: *The main risks of WASH-borne diseases during the spring are mitigated and environmental health is improved at collective animal shelters.*

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of people reached through WASH assistance</i>	0	36,000
	<i>Number of toilets constructed</i>	0	30
	<i>Number of people reached by hygiene promotion activities in the response period</i>	0	36,000
	<i>Number of handwashing stations constructed</i>	0	30

A total of 1,000 hygiene kits donated by the Japanese Red Cross Society are in the process to be delivered in containers directly from the warehouse in Kuala Lumpur. The hygiene kits are planned to arrive in Mongolia in mid-July 2024 and to be distributed to 1,000 households on the needs basis due to potential flood/flash flood in the summer season.

There is no other progress so far under this strategic sector due to lack of funding, but MRCS will consider including some of the planned activities upon the increasing coverage of the Emergency Appeal funding.

	Protection, Gender and Inclusion	Target	Female > 18: 11,978	Female < 18: 6,102
		Actual	28	N/A
		Target	Male > 18: 10,990	Male < 18: 6,930
		Actual	17	N/A

Objective: *PGI is integrated into the needs analysis, including details of the most affected groups and consideration of specific groups in the selection criteria.*

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of RCRC staff and volunteers briefed and signing policies, including orientation for</i>		

	<i>staff and volunteers on PGI, Code of Conduct, with an emphasis on PSEA and Child Safeguarding before deployments to field</i>	45	
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MRCS's Child Protection and Child Safeguarding Policy is being reviewed and revised according IFRC standards.

	Community Engagement and Accountability	Target	Female > 18: 11,978	Female < 18: 6,102
		Actual	N/A	N/A
		Target	Male > 18: 10,990	Male < 18: 6,930
		Actual	N/A	N/A

Objective: *Targeted community members are consulted and able to share their views about the assistance received or planned, and programmes and operations are planned and adapted accordingly.*

	Indicator	Actual	Target
Key indicators:	<i>Methods established to communicate with communities about what is happening in the operation, including selection criteria if these are being used</i>	Ongoing	Yes
	<i>Number of staff/volunteers involved in emergency operations oriented in CEA</i>	85	1,000


Around 20 MRCS mid-level branch managers participated in the CEA session conducted during the lesson learned workshop on 18 April 2024, the session has covered the overview of the communication channels established to communicate with the herder communities about the information and key messages about the Dzud response operation including the selection criteria of distribution, the main challenges and opportunities of establishing an effective feedback mechanism are identified and discussed during the CEA session.


40 volunteers from nine mid-level branches participated in a CEA orientation session of a three-day training in Psychosocial Support on 24 April 2024. The session introduced the core concept of CEA, overview of feedback mechanism and the tips to achieve good communications with communities.

The CEA force field analysis was finalized with key stakeholders from MRCS HQ on 22 April 2024, the key enablers and the key blockers for strong CEA within MRCS have been identified and prioritized. One of the key enablers is leadership buy-in, also reflected by the prominent place of CEA in the MRCS 2030 strategy that was written last year (2023). One of the key blockers are challenges with mainstreaming and implementing CEA at the MRCS local (branch) level due to a lack of contextualized guides, tools and procedures in place. The Feedback Coding Framework is updated and the CEA feedback dashboard in [Power BI](#) has been published. The feedback analysis process helps identify MRCS's gaps in how to handle sensitive feedback in the CEA SOPs. The dashboard serves as a useful platform to share the feedback data with IFRC and MRCS focal points for follow-up actions.

A CEA one-pager that covers an overview of the main CEA insights that contributes to the operational decision making of the Dzud operation has been developed. The one-pager is based on the triangulation of the feedback data that collected from different feedback channels throughout the distributions, home visits and interviews that took place during the field visit.

Enabling approaches

	<h3>National Society Strengthening</h3>		
Objective:	<i>Support the MRCS with the implementation of pre-existing capacity strengthening efforts as outlined in the MRCS strategy.</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of volunteers insured throughout the operation</i>	900	1,000
	<i>Number of volunteers trained or briefed on safety and security for the operations</i>	45	1,000
<p>Throughout the response operation, national society-strengthening efforts are integrated. Based on the lessons learned during the operation, improvements have been made in the CEA Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), the feedback mechanism has been strengthened including the creation of a feedback dashboard, minor changes in terms of when and how frequently the messages are provided to recipients. MRCS purchase agreements have been revised to add several clauses to strengthen penalties or charges against any quality changes or delays by suppliers. This approach of mainstreaming national society strengthening will be continued throughout the operation.</p> <p>As of May 15, 900 volunteers mobilized by the MRCS mid-level and primary-level branches and involved in the Emergency Operation for Dzud response have been insured by MRCS.</p>			

	<h3>Secretariat Services</h3>		
Objective:	<i>Strengthening coordination within both the IFRC membership and within the Movement to bring technical and operational complementarity and enhance cooperation with external partners</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of surge staff deployed for the operation</i>	7	4
	<i>Number of IFRC monitoring and support missions</i>	4	4
	<i>Percentage of financial reports respecting IFRC procedures</i>	100%	100%
	<i>Department provides constant support to the National Society's logistics unit for replenishment and other procurements</i>	Yes	Yes
<i>Number of evaluations conducted for this operation</i>	Planned	1 (Final Evaluation)	

The IFRC Surge PMER officer and the IFRC Surge CEA officer conducted a monitoring trip to the mid-level branch in Arkhangai together with the MRCS DM and CEA officers as part of conducting PDM survey, CEA and PMER capacity assessment, and field monitoring visit on 29 April 2024.

The IFRC promoted the activities related to the Emergency Appeal through various online platforms and channels:

For website publication, [a press release](#) detailing the launch of the appeal, along with the appeal itself and [an in-depth article](#) vividly portraying the lives and needs of the affected herders witnessed during the field trip to call for more support and actions are published on the IFRC website. These contents were posted on the IFRC Chinese social media platforms, IFRC Asia-Pacific Twitter account and IFRC account, and shared by the leadership on their own accounts.

For social media, nearly **170,000** views reached from **43** social media posts on both IFRC Chinese platforms – Weixin and Weibo, IFRC and IFRC Asia-Pacific Twitter platforms and IFRC leadership accounts. The advocacy publication includes Twitter update recording, infographic presentations, interview sharing, field trip video sharing, situation analysis, response updates and calls for action.

For media engagement, there are more than 10 major media agencies covering the Dzud situation in Mongolia and the response from the IFRC and MRCS through interviewing with the IFRC & MRCS and media pitching.

D. FUNDING

As of the reporting period, the Emergency Appeal currently has a funding coverage of 32.8 per cent out of the total secretariat funding request (CHF 4.5 million). This percentage excludes the IFRC DREF loan amount, which has already been approved for the operation and stands at CHF 1 million.

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Reference documents



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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to **Principles of Humanitarian Action** and **IFRC policies and procedures**. 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.