

# DREF Final Report

## Georgia: Flash Floods

### DREF operation n° MDRGE008 GLIDE n° FF-2013-000097-GEO 11 February 2014

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of unearmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent emergency response. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

**CHF 63,240 was allocated on 22 August 2013 from IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Georgia Red Cross Society (GRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to 200 families (1,000 beneficiaries).**

**Summary:** On 17-18 August 2013 heavy rain flooded villages of Guria region (Konchkati, Tkhinvali, Shrosha, Natanebi, Zemo and Kvemo Aketi, Ureki Tsvermagala territory). Ureki population asked for help as water flooded the first floors and basements of the houses. Agricultural lands were also flooded, cattle and poultry were killed. Georgia Red Cross Society volunteers supported rescuers of the affected region; they also provided psychosocial support to the children and affected population, as well



Red Cross volunteers assisting evacuated citizens.  
*Photo: Georgia Red Cross Society*

as were conducting needs assessment so as to identify the main needs of the population. Based on the information received from the volunteers and on the official request for support for Guria region, Georgia Red Cross Society (GRCS) assisted 200 families (1,000 beneficiaries) with food and non-food items (mattresses, blankets, kitchen sets and hygiene kits) to address their most urgent needs.

The allocated amount of CHF 63,240 was fully spent in accordance with the endorsed budget.

The Netherlands Red Cross Silent Emergency Fund (SEF) donated CHF 52,814 as a replenishment of the DREF allocation. Other major donors and partners of DREF include the Australian, American and Belgian Governments, the Austrian Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross and the Canadian Government, the Danish Red Cross and the Danish Government, the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), the Irish and the Italian Governments, the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Luxembourg Government, the Monaco Red Cross and the Monaco Government, the Netherlands Government, the Norwegian Red Cross and the Norwegian Government, the Spanish Government, the Swedish Red Cross and the Swedish Government, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), the Medtronic and Z Zurich Foundations, and other corporate and private donors.

On behalf of the Red Cross Society of Georgia, the IFRC would like to extend their thanks to all donors and partners for their generous contributions.

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## The situation

On 17-18 August 2013 heavy rain caused the danger of the landslide in the villages of Guria region (Konchkati, Tkhinvali, Shrosha, Natanebi, Zemo and Kvemo Aketi, Ureki Tsvermagala territory). The water channels were damaged and Ureki district was flooded. The water flooded the first floors and basements of the houses. Agricultural lands were also flooded, cattle and poultry were killed.

Around 30 families in the village Chanchati, Lanchkhuti municipality were isolated from the outside world. According to conducted needs assessment, 200 families were affected in the above mentioned region.

Led by the Emergency Management Department under the Ministry of Interior in Georgia, a special task force was established for planning the evacuation activities and damage assessment. Several ministries were involved in the recovery process just after the natural disaster. The ministries mostly focused on infrastructure rehabilitation, cleaning the roads and supported the affected population in cleaning their basements and the first floors. GRCS's support accelerated the recovery process of the population, as there was an urgent need of food and non-food items (NFI), such as blankets, mattresses, hygiene kits as local population was seriously affected by the disaster, with agricultural lands and household appliances being flooded.

## Coordination and partnerships

The Georgia Red Cross Society was coordinating its assistance with the national and local authorities. In the affected area, the Georgia Red Cross Society took the lead in response to the strong rains, coordinating its work with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). A meeting of the non-state actors was conducted by GRCS where all the stakeholders working in the Disaster Management field were invited for information sharing, as well as in order not to duplicate activities in the same location with the same people. The National Society was in close contact with the European Commission (EC) Tbilisi Office, and information was being shared in order to avoid duplication and ensure that the most vulnerable are reached.



Needs assessment and registration in the affected area.  
*Photo: Georgia Red Cross Society*

All the activities done by GRCS and other stakeholders were well coordinated not only between non-state actors, but with state agencies as well. Cooperation was strengthened with local authorities of the affected region. After the disaster, the local authority contacted GRCS so as to provide support to the affected families with food and non-food items, as there was an immediate need for the families, especially for families with elderly and children. Local authorities supported GRCS response teams during the assessment process to identify main needs, as well as the most vulnerable families. Local authorities were also actively involved in the preparation of the distribution process, including allocation of appropriate warehouse for the humanitarian aid, and involvement of the local governors' office staff members to contact affected families to be assisted by GRCS. Representatives of the local authority together with GRCS staff and volunteers were actively involved in the registration and distribution of food and non-food items to the most vulnerable people. For those who could not come to the distribution point, local authorities provided transportation of the aid at their homes. Signed registration lists were sent to the GRCS headquarter. After support from GRCS, its role in DM activities was enhanced at local level and they expressed their willingness to cooperate with the organization and all of its departments (Health, Social, OD, etc.) in the future.

GRCS's activities were well coordinated and cooperated with GRCS branches in the affected regions. Branch representatives were actively involved in cooperation with local authorities. GRCS branch was coordinating local volunteers' activities during needs assessment and humanitarian aid distribution process. All the information from local level was sent to the GRCS headquarter through the local branch.

The National Society seeks to fulfil its auxiliary role to the Government of Georgia and its role (according to the Presidential Decree No. 415/2008, the Georgia Red Cross Society has an exclusive role in the response to natural disasters and other emergencies, as well as the role of coordinator of all in-country non-

governmental organizations and agencies' activities in case of a national emergency) as the sole Georgian humanitarian organization being included in the National Disaster Response Plan of Georgia.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Following the described events, the Georgia Red Cross Society (GRCS) Disaster Management (DM) Department activated their disaster response teams in order to assess the situation and respond accordingly. Five DM staff and 30 volunteers took active part in the rescue activities supporting relevant structures, as well as they were providing psychosocial support (PSS) and First Aid (FA) to the affected population. The teams were coordinating with the local authorities in the affected regions. They assessed the situation and identified the main needs of the population. Based on that information, as well as data received from the local government, DREF report was prepared.



Relief items packed and ready for distribution after the floods.  
*Photo: Georgia Red Cross Society*

After the approval of the DREF allocation, the most vulnerable families were identified based on the assessment done by the GRCS volunteers and information received from the local authorities. Main criteria according to which beneficiaries were selected are: elderly people living alone; people living with disabilities; families with small children; female headed households.

Relief items have been procured and distributed among them. All assessments and procurement procedures were conducted according to IFRC standards.

### Achievements against outcomes

#### Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

**Outcome: The needs of the most vulnerable 200 families (or 1,000 beneficiaries) were met through distribution of essential relief items.**

**Output 1:** 200 families were able to cope with the consequences of the heavy rain through distribution of essential relief items.

#### Conducted activities:

- Affected area assessment to identify the most affected households
- Coordination with local authorities to avoid duplication of efforts
- Development of beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance
- Procurement of relief supplies from local suppliers according to Federation standards
- Distribution of relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user
- Monitoring and evaluation the relief activities and provision reporting on relief distributions supplies and amounts to be procured and distributed.

**Impact:** All the activities carried out by GRCS were based on the assessment of the response teams and data received from the local government. Main needs of the affected population were identified and they were supported from GRCS accordingly. GRCS response teams conducted a kind of beneficiary satisfaction survey with interviewing 30 per cent of the beneficiaries, which showed that they were very satisfied with the items received, as the necessary things they need in everyday life were flooded. Receiving food items, first of all, made it possible for the families to feed themselves, their children and old people. There was also a need of food items as agriculture lands were flooded and all the most of the food items in the basements and the first floors of the houses were damaged.

Non-food items such as mattresses, blankets, hygiene kits and kitchen sets were urgently needed as these items were also damaged by the water. All the interviewed beneficiaries noted that received humanitarian aid supported them after the serious disaster they faced. Now they have new blankets, mattresses, kitchen sets which is necessary for continuation of the normal life. It is worth mentioning, that during the interviews beneficiaries stressed the fact that GRCS was the first organization which supported them after the disaster and this support was based on the main needs of the population. It was timely and proper support.

After the detailed needs assessment, it was identified that several families in the affected villages had already been supported by local authorities, so during identification by RC of the affected families this issue was taken into consideration. Based on the detailed needs assessment and cooperation with local authorities, vulnerable families from the below mentioned villages were supported.

#	Name	Families
1.	Lanchkhuti	17
2.	Nigvziani	16
3.	Khajaga	23
4.	Archeuli	2
5.	Jurukveti	12
6.	Baglefi	5
7.	Etseri	2
8.	Shuhuti	4
9.	Chochkhati	10
10.	Shromis ubani	1
11.	Djikhanjuri	1
12.	Gvimbalaure	10
13.	Djunetseri	2
14.	Nigoiti	9
15.	Cholobrgvi	1
16.	Djapana	5
17.	Chkonagora	1
18.	Lesa	12
19.	Chibati	1
20.	Kvemo Chibati	10
21.	Zemo Chibati	7
22.	Chala	2
23.	Atsana	2
24.	Aketi	2
25.	Machkvareti	1
26.	Supsa	10
27.	Akhalsopeli	4
28.	Grmagele	15
29.	Tskaltsminda	2
30.	Grigoleti	2
31.	Mamati	6
32.	Ninoshvili	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>

The following items were distributed among the 200 affected families (1,000 beneficiaries) in Guria region (Western Georgia):

- Two food parcels were provided per family in one round in order to optimize distribution expenses. Food parcels included vegetable oil, sugar, buckwheat, rice, flour, condensed milk and salt.
- Two mattresses were provided per family.
- Two blankets were provided to the families.
- Kitchen sets containing frying pan, cooking pot, knife, spoon, plate, and cup were distributed.
- Hygiene kits included such items as shampoo, tooth paste, tooth brush, toilet paper, soap, bath towel, washing powder.

When the DREF operation was finished and all the food and non-food items were distributed, GRCS conducted a lessons learned workshop, which was attended by RC staff from the headquarters, GRCS local branch representatives and volunteers who participated in the needs assessment and distribution process. During the workshop all the issues related to the DREF were discussed. Participants shared their thoughts about what went well and about minor challenges they faced.

Among the challenges, first of all, volunteers noted that representatives of the local authority were quite new and at first, when the disaster happened, it was not very easy to coordinate with them, but soon, when they saw capacity, motivation and support from the volunteers, cooperation and coordination strengthened. Local

authorities received RC local volunteer lists from GRCS and in case of eventual emergency operations in the future, local government representatives are to call experienced volunteers.

It was necessary to prioritize and identify the most vulnerable and the most affected families, but there were other less affected families as well, who also wanted to receive humanitarian aid after the disaster. So it proved to be a challenge for the RC volunteers to explain to the families who did not receive support why other beneficiaries did. Another minor challenge for GRCS was that younger trained volunteers (under the age of 18) also wanted to participate in evacuation and rescue activities, however, it was not possible due to their young age.

All the good practices will be used during eventual emergency operations in the future.

## 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.

[www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)  
Saving lives, changing minds.



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.

**Disaster Response Financial Report**

MDRGE008 - Georgia - Floods

Timeframe: 22 Aug 13 to 22 Nov 13

Appeal Launch Date: 22 Aug 13

Final Report

**Selected Parameters**

Reporting Timeframe	2013/08-2013/12	Programme	MDRGE008
Budget Timeframe	2013/08-11	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**I. Funding**

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
<b>A. Budget</b>		63,240				63,240	
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>		0				0	
<b>Income</b>							
<u>Other Income</u>							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		63,240				63,240	
<b>C4. Other Income</b>		63,240				63,240	
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)</b>		63,240				63,240	
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>		63,240				63,240	

\* Funding source data based on information provided by the donor

**II. Movement of Funds**

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>		0				0	
<b>C. Income</b>		63,240				63,240	
<b>E. Expenditure</b>		-63,240				-63,240	
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>		0				0	

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### III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Expenditure						TOTAL	Variance
	Budget	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability		
	A					B	A - B	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>			<b>63,240</b>			<b>63,240</b>		
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>								
Clothing & Textiles	26,000		24,763			24,763	1,237	
Food	8,800		8,278			8,278	522	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	8,000		6,971			6,971	1,029	
Utensils & Tools	8,400		8,061			8,061	339	
<b>Total Relief items, Construction, Sup</b>	<b>51,200</b>		<b>48,073</b>			<b>48,073</b>	<b>3,127</b>	
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage	400						400	
Distribution & Monitoring	1,100		1,058			1,058	42	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	2,800		2,066			2,066	734	
<b>Total Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>4,300</b>		<b>3,124</b>			<b>3,124</b>	<b>1,176</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>								
International Staff			200			200	-200	
National Staff			1,105			1,105	-1,105	
National Society Staff	1,500		1,775			1,775	-275	
Volunteers	1,200		1,875			1,875	-675	
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>2,700</b>		<b>4,954</b>			<b>4,954</b>	<b>-2,254</b>	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Information & Public Relations	360		72			72	288	
Office Costs			494			494	-494	
Communications	400		206			206	194	
Financial Charges	40		2,457			2,457	-2,417	
Other General Expenses	380						380	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>1,180</b>		<b>3,229</b>			<b>3,229</b>	<b>-2,049</b>	
<b>Indirect Costs</b>								
Programme & Services Support Recovr	3,860		3,860			3,860	0	
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>	<b>3,860</b>		<b>3,860</b>			<b>3,860</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>63,240</b>		<b>63,240</b>			<b>63,240</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>			<b>0</b>			<b>0</b>		

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**IV. Breakdown by subsector**

Business Line / Sub-sector	Budget	Opening Balance	Income	Funding	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Deferred Income
<b>BL2 - Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people</b>							
Disaster response	63,240	0	63,240	63,240	63,240	0	
Subtotal BL2	63,240	0	63,240	63,240	63,240	0	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>63,240</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>63,240</b>	<b>63,240</b>	<b>63,240</b>	<b>0</b>	