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## DREF final report Russian Federation: Floods

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

### DREF operation n° MDRRU016 GLIDE n° FF-2013-000100-RUS

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross Red Crescent response to emergencies. 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.

**Summary: CHF 412,626 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 23 August 2013 to support the Russian Red Cross in delivering assistance to some 9,000 beneficiaries.**

Originally, this operation was expected to be implemented in four months, and completed by 31 December 2013. However, the operation was extended until 31 January 2014 due to harsh weather conditions that were hampering the distribution.

Russian Red Cross provided food, non-food, personal hygiene and sanitary items for the most 9,000 vulnerable people, affected by massive floods in three regions of Far East area: Amur region, Khabarovsk krai, and Jewish Autonomous Oblast. Relief distribution was implemented according to the initial schedule. The Russian Red Cross branches demonstrated high commitments and disaster response actions that allowed to public authorities to identify RRC branch in Khabarovsk krai as a leading agency on receipt and distribution of all humanitarian aid, arriving to the region by different channels.

The Russian Red Cross launched a country-wide resource mobilization campaign that allowed to attract an unimaginable amount of funds internally in the country – during October-December 2013 around CHF 7 million was mobilized that will be utilized for mid- and long term recovery and rehabilitation phases of disaster response. IFRC was only international agency that responded to this disaster and through its Regional Representation in Moscow provided overall coordination of this humanitarian operation with Russian Red Cross and ensured inter-agency coordination with state authorities: Russian EMERCOM at federal and regional levels, Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Authorities of three affected regions: Amur region, Khabarovsk Krai and Jewish Autonomous Oblast.

There is a final balance of CHF 2,382 which will be returned to the DREF account.

The 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



Distribution point for food and non-food items of the Khabarovsk branch of the Russian Red Cross Society  
Photo: IFRC

Government, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), the Medtronic and Zurich Foundations, and other corporate and private donors.

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

[<click here for the final financial report, or here to view contact details>](#)

## The situation

At the beginning of August 2013, massive floods caused by torrential rain have swept the Far East Region of Russia covering three big regions: Khabarovsk krai, Amur region, and the Jewish Autonomous Oblast (JAO). The level of water in Amur river significantly increased to its historical maximum from the last 100 years of 9.0 meters above normal that resulted in significant negative consequences. According to the Emergency Report of Russian EMERCOM, altogether 137 settlements, 6,321 houses populated by 34,135 people, 216 sections of local roads and 59 road bridges were flooded in 25 municipalities in the Far Eastern Federal District. Russian EMERCOM mobilized more than 20,000 rescuers to provide immediate rescue assistance for the population in affected area. Upon decision of Russian Government, more than 5,000 militaries were also deployed to assist EMERCOM.

According to the assessment conducted by the Russian Red Cross, 3,000 families (9,000 people) were considered to be worst affected by the floods in the Far East Region of Russia. The local authorities did their utmost to stabilize the situation but they from first days after disaster contacted the Russian Red Cross regional branches, asking for humanitarian aid. The Russian Red Cross Society asked for the support of the International Federation in the provision of funds for food parcels, hygiene kits, bed linen sets, blankets, and pillows to be distributed to the 3,000 affected families. During August –September 2013 large territories of Far East with total population more than 134,000 people, were in the disaster area: more than 10,000 people were evacuated to safe places: local authorities jointly with EMERCOM and Russian RC established more than 20 temporary shelter points to accommodate more than 5,000 people that could not return to their houses.

## Coordination and partnerships

### ***Coordination with state authorities, non-state partners and mass media***

The regional Russian Red Cross branches of all three regions, Khabarovsk, Amur and JAO from the first days of disaster established close information sharing and coordination with local authorities and Task Force and reported that the local EMERCOM division in Far East of Russia had contacted the Russian Red Cross Headquarters to coordinate the joint effort to support the local RC activity for address the needs of the affected population.

From the first days of disaster, Khabarovsk branch of Russian RC was identified by local authorities as a main operator for receipt and distribution of all relief goods delivered to the Far East by different donors and different channels. In total during October-December 2014 Khabarovsk branch received and distributed more than 300 metric tons of food and non-food items.

Also country wide donation campaign was conducted: since the beginning of operation, RRC at HQ level with involvement of more than 30 RRC branches collected around 280 million rubles (around 7 million CHF). Part of this amount (15 million rubles or CHF 375,000) spent to procure water pumps, air heaters, and other facilities for urgent response that delivered to Far East. Other part of funds allocated for basic needs of affected population to recover their losses: more than 3,000 beneficiaries whose houses had been fully damaged, received basic furniture, TV sets and freezers. The Russian RC continues its assistance to the vulnerable in the mid term perspective.

### ***Cooperation with corporate partners***

In the framework of Global Partnership between the IFRC and the Coca Cola Company, in first week after disaster, Coca Cola Russia provided 56,000 bottles of drinking water “Bon Aqua” to the Far East that was distributed to the people without safe access to drinking water.

In addition to it, a number of Russian private companies and state authorities provided cash donations to the Russian RC bank account. Russian RC actively cooperates with local and Federal Russian mass media that allowed to widely highlight DREF operation and contributed to positive image of the Russian RC. During the relief operation more than 20 articles and reports in different mass media, including TV reflected the Russian RC’s DREF-related activities.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

During the implementation of the DREF operation, more than 40 Russian RC staff and volunteers were involved to the response operation, and in total more than 250 staff and volunteers was mobilized from the beginning of operation.

The following activities were conducted by the Russian RC from the beginning of the disaster:

- Russian RC HQ opened a bank account to collect donations for the affected population;
- All three branches of RRC in the affected areas started to collect humanitarian assistance (clothes and non-food items);
- The Red Cross volunteers and staff are actively involved in the disaster response actions at the community level: conducting needs assessment and participating in evacuation of disaster victims.



Distribution point for food and non-food items of the Khabarovsk branch of the Russian Red Cross Society *Photo: IFRC*

Based on the assessment of the results, it has been agreed that the operation implemented by the Russian Red Cross regional branches will support the affected families according to the following criteria (the average family size in Russian Federation is rather low, 2-3 people per family):

- Families whose houses were damaged by the floods and are put up in temporary accommodation;
- Single-parent families;
- People living with disabilities;
- Elderly living in remote areas without family support.

The list of beneficiaries was developed by the Red Cross regional branches and its volunteers in close cooperation with the local Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare and its Committees for Social Protection at the district level. The list of beneficiaries was also checked and approved by RRC branch chairpersons and Social Welfare Departments.

## Achievements against outcomes

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

**Outcome 1: Families most affected by the massive floods are supported through provision of essential food and non-food items.**

**Outputs: 3,000 families (9,000 persons) in the most affected areas have received food parcels, hygiene kits, and bed linen.**

#### Activities implemented:

- Conduct needs and capacity assessments.
- Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
- Preparation of final beneficiary lists.
- Procurement of relief items in the region
- Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.
- Distribution of emergency items by RC branches and their volunteers according to the prepared beneficiary lists.
- Coordination with local emergency departments and social welfare authorities.
- Monitoring and evaluation of the relief activities and quality of items and reporting on relief distributions

In September 2013, the procurement of the following relief items was conducted by Russian RC:

- Food parcels – 9,000 pcs. (90 metric tons)
- Hygiene kits – 9,000 pcs. (13.5 metric tons)
- Bed linen + pillows and blankets – 3,000 kits (4,5 metric tons).
- Chlorine tablets – 270 packs (270,000 tablets)



Content of distributed food parcel.

Photo: IFRC

All food and non-food items were available in local market at an appropriate price.

All procurements were made based on a tendering process: advertisements were posted on the websites of Khabarovsk and JAO. The tender documents were submitted to RRC HQ and IFRC Regional Representation in Russia and after checking all bids, the best offer was selected. The relief items were procured locally in the Far East region based on detailed specification of contents of the parcels and kits.

All food parcels, hygiene kits, bed linen, pillows and blankets were packed in suitable individual bags for beneficiaries, marked by IFRC and Russian RC logos and title: "Humanitarian Aid" in Russian language.

In the period between October and December 2013 the Russian RC branches started relief distribution in all three regions of Far East according to a timetable of distribution (see distribution tables below):

#### Consolidated data on distribution of humanitarian aid

Settlement	Bed linen pillows and blankets	Hygiene kits	Food parcels	Chlorine tablets (1 pack-30 tablets)
Khabarovsk krai	1,000	1,000	3,000	3,000
Amur Region	1,500	1,500	4,500	4,500
Jewish Autonomous Region	500	500	1,500	1,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>9,000</b>

#### Impact:

Food and non-food relief assistance, provided by the Russian RC in the framework of the DREF operation provided immediate support to the most vulnerable group of beneficiaries to allow them to keep their basic living conditions in the post-disaster period until local authorities and social services mobilized resources allocated by State budget to make compensations and payments.

During the selection of beneficiaries, special attention was paid on the group of beneficiaries evacuated from their houses, affected by flooding and settled in the temporary shelters. Taking into account the fact that more than 50 per cent of beneficiaries out of 9,000 were evacuated and spent the whole winter period in temporary shelters (located in schools, hostels of colleges and other educational institutions), relief assistance provided by RRC was vital and timely to allow the beneficiaries to survive the harsh winter period and to cover their basic needs.

#### Challenges

It is necessary to mention that some groups of beneficiaries were located in very remote areas, with difficult access: around 10-12 small villages were isolated from the main settlements and transport facilities and flooded by Amur river. Relief assistance was delivered by the Russian RC jointly with EMERCOM rescuers using their boats and launches that was highly appreciated by the affected beneficiaries.

## Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

**Outcome 2: The risk of waterborne and water related diseases has been reduced through the provision of access to safe water to 3,000 households**

**Outputs and activities planned: 3,000 households (9,000 beneficiaries) were assisted with access to safe water via chlorine tablet distribution.**

### Activities implemented:

- Conduct rapid assessments in coordination with local authorities
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Conduct rapid water and sanitation emergency needs and capacity assessments in coordination with local authorities
- Print and distribute disaster awareness and hygiene promotion materials to the target population.
- Arrange public awareness campaigns among the affected population  
(leaflets/posters were distributed among the affected population in disaster affected districts).

### Progress:

From the beginning of the disaster response operation, the Russian Red Cross branches in the affected areas, jointly with health authorities, conducted a joint assessment of situation, aimed at identifying the most at risk areas of spreading water born infection diseases.

The following risk sources of water borne diseases were identified:

- Central water supply systems of urban and rural settlements due to contamination by river water;
- Draw-wells in the rural areas, flooded by river water.

Taking into account the large number of population, living in the above indicated risk areas, local authorities conducted wide vaccination of population, particularly children on typhoid, Hepatitis A, etc.

The Russian Red Cross, in its turn, concentrated its efforts on information-awareness campaigns among the affected communities.

Due to the fact that a significant part of population was evacuated to the temporary shelters: schools, hotels, etc., and another part returned to their houses, the risk of water-borne diseases still remained high, it was decided that the community awareness campaigns would concentrate on these two groups of population.

In September 2013, the Russian Red Cross with the technical support of IFRC, developed an information leaflet containing information about the main types of water borne diseases and the ways of its prevention. The leaflet was tested at branch level and in total, 9,000 copies were printed.

In addition, the Russian RC set up information desks at 14 temporary evacuation points, where the evacuated population could also receive basic information about the prevention of water-borne diseases.



Wat San leaflet.

Photo: IFRC

During September – December 2013, volunteers of the Russian RC distributed information leaflets with information about sanitary and hygiene measures in disaster situations and chlorine tablets with instruction of how to use them. (30 tablets per person for one month. A tablet can purify 20 liters of water).

Please see the distribution table below:

Settlement	Chlorine tablets (1 pack-30 tablets)	Information leaflet
Khabarovsk krai	3,000	3,000
Amur region	4,500	4,500
Jewish AO	1,500	1,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>9,000</b>

In the coming period after the disaster, the local authorities organized the timely delivery of drinking water to rural areas that also contributed to the prevention of spreading water borne diseases.

It is important to underline that due to coordinated activity of local authorities and Russian Red Cross, no epidemic or event increase of level of water borne diseases in the affected area observed.

### Monitoring:

During the operation, two monitoring visits to Khabarovsk krai: Khabarovsk city and Komsomolsk in Amur rayon, as well as to Jewish Autonomous Oblast were conducted by IFRC Regional Representation in Russia jointly with the RRC. Disaster areas, distribution points and temporary shelters were visited, meetings with representatives of local authorities, beneficiaries, staff, volunteers and representatives of mass media also took place.

### Challenges and the “lessons learned” workshop (22-23 February 2014)

In the framework of the DREF operation, the IFRC and the Russian RC conducted a lessons learned workshop, where different actors involved in the operations took part. In total, 32 people participated in the workshop.

During the workshop, the following topics were discussed: Russian RC response to massive flood, achievements, challenges, lessons learned and further opportunities. Participants reflected such challenges and lessons learned related to massive scale of disaster, lack of communication and transport opportunities from the main cities to the villages, and consequently the lack of access to the village population, no contingency stocks at RRC branch level. Special attention was paid to the existing mechanisms of disaster response, standard procedures, needs assessment, process of relief distribution, monitoring and reporting.



IFRC field visit, Komsomolsk district, Khabarovsk krai.  
Photo: IFRC

## Contact information

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

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## DREF history:

- This DREF was initially allocated on 23 August 2013 for CHF 412,626 for four months to assist 9,000 beneficiaries.
- A DREF Operation Update was issued on 28 November 2013 extending the operation`s timeframe until 31 January 2014 due to harsh weather conditions that were hampering the distribution.



**Click here**

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2. Click [here](#) to return to the title page

## 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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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**

MDRRU016 - Russia - Flash Floods

Timeframe: 23 Aug 13 to 31 Jan 14

Appeal Launch Date: 23 Aug 13

Final Report

**Selected Parameters**

Reporting Timeframe	2013/8-2014/2	Programme	MDRRU016
Budget Timeframe	2013/8-2014/1	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

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>		412,626				412,626	
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>							
<b>Income</b>							
<u>Other Income</u>							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		412,626				412,626	
<b>C4. Other Income</b>		412,626				412,626	
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)</b>		412,626				412,626	
<b>D. Total Funding = B +C</b>		412,626				412,626	

\* 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>							
<b>C. Income</b>		412,626				412,626	
<b>E. Expenditure</b>		-410,244				-410,244	
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>		2,382				2,382	



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## III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		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>412,626</b>			<b>412,626</b>		
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>								
Clothing & Textiles	105,000		100,184			100,184	4,816	
Food	180,000		177,383			177,383	2,617	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	60,042		60,214			60,214	-172	
<b>Total Relief items, Construction, Sup</b>	<b>345,042</b>		<b>337,782</b>			<b>337,782</b>	<b>7,260</b>	
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage			225			225	-225	
Distribution & Monitoring	10,000		8,521			8,521	1,479	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	7,000		923			923	6,077	
<b>Total Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>17,000</b>		<b>9,668</b>			<b>9,668</b>	<b>7,332</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>								
International Staff			400			400	-400	
National Society Staff	6,600		8,777			8,777	-2,177	
Volunteers	8,200		6,855			6,855	1,345	
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>14,800</b>		<b>16,032</b>			<b>16,032</b>	<b>-1,232</b>	
<b>Consultants &amp; Professional Fees</b>								
Professional Fees			594			594	-594	
<b>Total Consultants &amp; Professional Fees</b>			<b>594</b>			<b>594</b>	<b>-594</b>	
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	6,000		5,426			5,426	574	
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>6,000</b>		<b>5,426</b>			<b>5,426</b>	<b>574</b>	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel			2,812			2,812	-2,812	
Information & Public Relations	1,000		2,503			2,503	-1,503	
Office Costs	1,200		1,216			1,216	-16	
Communications	2,200		831			831	1,369	
Financial Charges	200		7,941			7,941	-7,741	
Shared Office and Services Costs			400			400	-400	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>4,600</b>		<b>15,704</b>			<b>15,704</b>	<b>-11,104</b>	
<b>Indirect Costs</b>								
Programme & Services Support Recover	25,184		25,038			25,038	145	
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>	<b>25,184</b>		<b>25,038</b>			<b>25,038</b>	<b>145</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>412,626</b>		<b>410,244</b>			<b>410,244</b>	<b>2,382</b>	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>			<b>2,382</b>			<b>2,382</b>		

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Subsector:	*		

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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	412,626		412,626	412,626	410,244	2,382	
Subtotal BL2	412,626		412,626	412,626	410,244	2,382	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>412,626</b>		<b>412,626</b>	<b>412,626</b>	<b>410,244</b>	<b>2,382</b>	