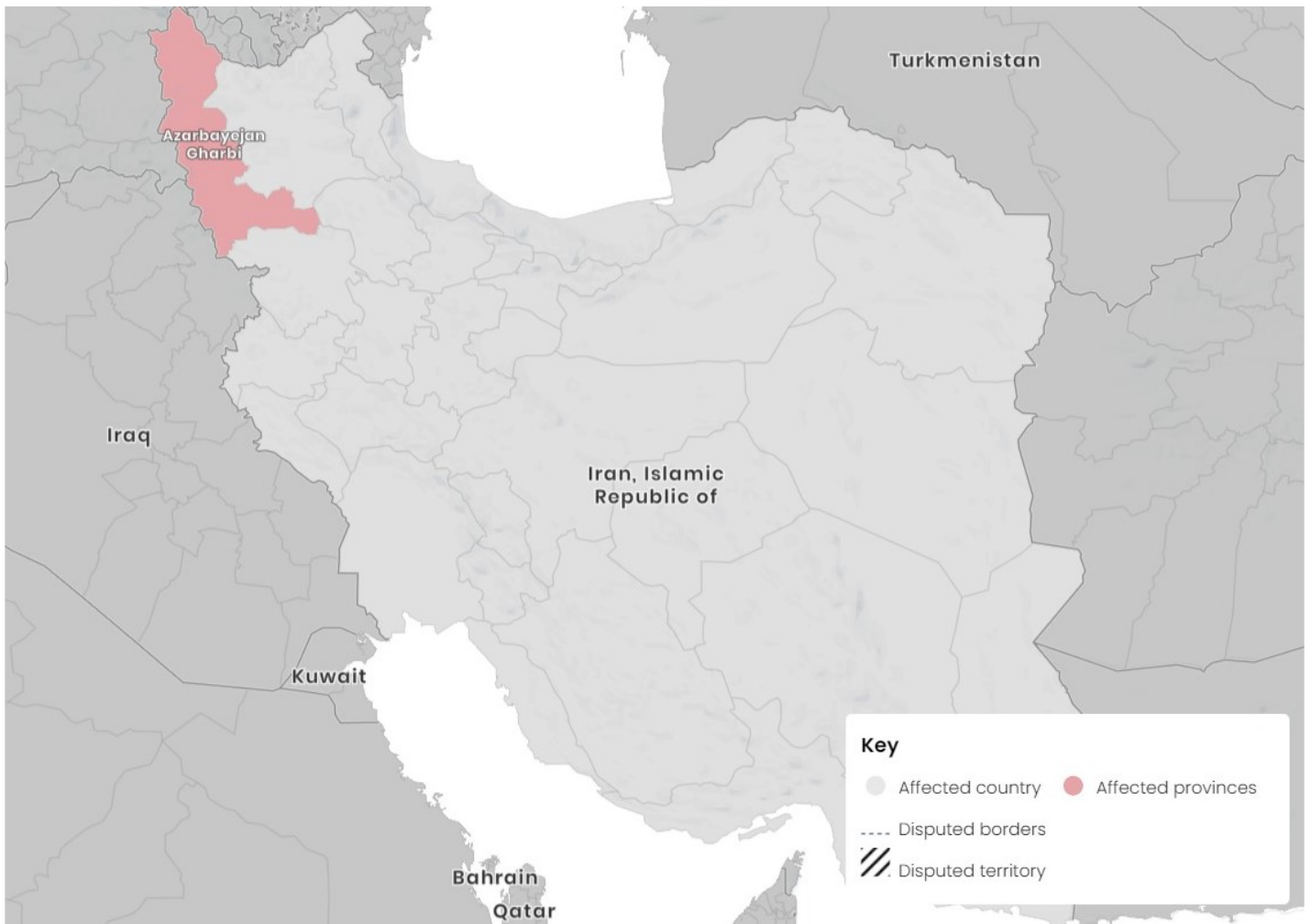




**IRCS setting up tents in response to the earthquake**

Appeal: <b>MDRIR012</b>	Total DREF Allocation <b>CHF 296,217</b>	Crisis Category: <b>Yellow</b>	Hazard: <b>Earthquake</b>
Glide Number: <b>EQ-2022-000326-IRN</b>	People Affected: <b>11,288 people</b>	People Targeted: <b>11,288 people</b>	
Event Onset: <b>Sudden</b>	Operation Start Date: <b>2022-10-17</b>	New Operational end date: <b>2023-04-30</b>	Total operating timeframe: <b>6 months</b>
Additional Allocation Re- quested -	Targeted Areas:	<b>Azarbayejan Gharbi</b>	

# Description of the Event



Map depicting the targeted areas for this operation

## What happened, where and when?

According to the Iranian Seismological Center, a 5.4 magnitude earthquake hit Khoy city in Azarbayejan Gharbi province of North-West of Iran on 5 October 2022 at 03:51 am local time followed by 42 aftershocks. The affected area consisted of 2 provinces and 8 cities (53 villages) with a total population of approximately 3,195 households (11,288 people). The most affected villages were Salmas, Chaypareh, and Morteza Gholi Kendi. The activated fault in this region which caused this earthquake is called Siyah Cheshme-Khoy. IRCS has reached the disaster through the distribution of food parcels and basic household items among the most affected quake-affected population. Out of 3,195 HHs (11, 288 people), 1,127 individuals were injured, 116 were hospitalized, and 1,011 received outpatient services and were discharged. Basic infrastructures in the most-hit villages were partially damaged, water and gas supplies were temporarily cut off to reduce the risks of leakage and explosions. Eventually, the situation was stabilized through the interventions by the concerned estate institutions and organizations coordinated by NDMO.

## Scope and Scale

According to the Emergency Medical Services (EMS), 1,127 individuals were injured. 112 buildings have been totally destroyed, and some infrastructures damaged, such as gas leakage, water pipes, and electricity. Cracks on the walls of buildings were seen in the areas near the epicenter and surrounding villages. The winterization intensified the living conditions for the affected population. 53 villages were assessed by the IRCS rapid response teams. Consequently, the detailed assessment by governmental bodies like Housing Foundations resulted in identifying the families to receive loans and grants for repairing and renovating of their damaged houses and properties.

# Summary of changes

Are you changing the timeframe of the operation	<b>Yes</b>
Are you changing the operational strategy	<b>No</b>
Are you changing the target population of the operation	<b>No</b>
Are you changing the geographical location	<b>No</b>
Are you making changes to the budget	<b>No</b>
Is this a request for a second allocation	<b>No</b>
Has the forecasted event materialize?	<b>No</b>

**Please explain the summary of changes and justification**

The two-month extension is requested to enable the National Society to complete the procurement process within the timeframe; the procurement process started earlier in the operation and will be concluded within the extension period.

# Current National Society Actions



Setting of emergency camps by IRCS

<b>Resource Mobilization</b>	The IRCS mobilized its relief and rescue resources from the affected province and neighboring provinces. This included search and rescue personnel, light and heavy fleet, food items, shelter, and bottled water. Senior management visited the area to oversee the operation and assess the needs of those affected.
	The IRCS deployed 14 youth volunteers to provide psychological support to the affected families. These teams, known as SAHAR, are made up of trained

<b>Health</b>	youth members who work alongside operational teams to create child-friendly spaces.
<b>National Society Readiness</b>	The IRCS operational teams from neighboring provinces were on stand-by. Logistics, warehouses, and fleet facilities were called for deployment. Psychosocial Support (PSP) teams were organized to be deployed to support families affected by the disaster. The IRCS deployed 226 operational personnel (45 teams: 34 from Azarbayejan Gharbi and 11 from Azarbayejan Sharghi), 74 operational vehicles, one rescue chopper with a three-hour flight to carry 31 relief workers and 500 KG of relief items and one mobile telecommunication unit from Tabriz city.
<b>Assessment</b>	The IRCS Helal Houses first responders in the affected cities mobilized to do the initial rapid assessments. A technical assessment team was deployed at a later stage and conducted a detailed assessment. These teams operated under the local branches and reported to the relief division of the local branch in Khoy city. More information on these assessments will be provided in the final report of this operation.
<b>National Society EOC</b>	The IRCS emergency operations center in Relief and Rescue Organization (RARO) was activated immediately after the alert by the Seismological Center, and the provincial Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) were also activated for integrated response actions. A video conference connection was also set up for the management and coordination between the provincial branches and HQ in RARO. The IRCS EOC was in connection with the provincial government's Health and Road departments, and EOCs.
<b>Livelihoods And Basic Needs</b>	IRCS had distributed a total of 6,941 72-hour food parcels from its own stock and warehouse. The procurement process to replenish these items was started and will be concluded within the requested extension period.
<b>Shelter, Housing And Settlements</b>	Basic household items including 2,000 ground mats, 3,079 emergency relief tents (500 covered by this DREF), and 3,100 blankets were distributed by the RARO, IRCS.
<b>Community Engagement And Accountability</b>	In terms of CEA, 10 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trainings for the local communities via the Helal House in West Azarbayejan have been conducted. In addition, 10 Helal Houses were equipped with basic response kits.
<b>Coordination</b>	IRCS is a key member of the inter agency coordination mechanism at the national and provincial levels. The Disaster Management Taskforce under the General Governor (at the provincial level) is organized and meetings are held with the participation of the city Governorate, the IRCS province managing director, the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) team, road, and other relevant departments to prepare and mobilize the resources for emergency accommodation. In this taskforce, IRCS is responsible for search and rescue, emergency food and shelter, and public awareness. Social media are also informing the public about the response operation. Video conference is set to allow for clear observation and assessment from the field to the headquarters.

## Movement Partners Actions Related To The Current Event

<b>IFRC</b>	The IFRC regional office and country delegation continue to closely coordinate and support IRCS in its response efforts on the ground. IFRC supported the deployment of one Surge finance officer to support the country delegation on timely and accurate financial reporting of the DREF operation. A PMER training for the provincial and HQ pertinent personnel/ departments will be conducted before 20-21 Feb 2023 supported by the IFRC RO and Country Delegation.
<b>ICRC</b>	The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has a delegation based in Tehran with a various number of humanitarian activities in cooperation with the IRCS. ICRC had no intervention in this operation.
<b>Participating National Societies</b>	No partner national society had a role in this operation.

## Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

<b>Government has requested international assistance</b>	No
<b>National authorities</b>	The humanitarian efforts of the ministries, local authorities, national Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and the IRCS were coordinated by the National Disaster Management Organization (NDMO) under the Ministry of Interior. The governmental bodies and institutions were engaged in the on-going operation. The IRCS was responsible to respond to this earthquake. The IRCS utilized all its resources from the center and the neighboring provinces to fill in the mandated role of crisis response.
<b>UN or other actors</b>	None of the UN agencies present in the country had a role in this operation.
<b>Are there major coordination mechanisms in place?</b>	

# Needs (Gaps) Identified



## Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery

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



## Shelter Housing And Settlements

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



## Livelihoods And Basic Needs

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

# Operational Strategy

## Overall objective of the operation

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

The two-month extension is requested to enable the national society to complete the replenishment process of relief items used by IRCS in this operation, the procurement process started earlier in the operation and will be concluded within the extension period.

## Operation strategy rationale

Following the rapid assessments in the affected districts, the IRCS identified the immediate needs and priorities and was responding through the provision of relief items and basic need commodities. The IRCS provided lifesaving assistance, search and rescue, first aid, food distribution, and emergency sheltering as part of its initial response. IRCS distributed 7,000 food parcels among needy families (for 72 hours) and 3,374 emergency family tents. This DREF covered the emergency shelter, food, basic needs, and livelihoods of the target affected families, totaling 11,288 people, in order to address the needs of the targeted population (3,195 HHs). It was in concert with and contributed to the current global strategy developed by the IFRC Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region, in coordination with global and regional partners. IFRC continues to assess how emergency operations in response to disasters and crises should adapt to this crisis and provides necessary guidance to its membership on the same. The National Society monitored the situation, focusing on health risks, operational challenges related to access to the affected population, and availability of relief items.

## Targeting Strategy

### Who will be targeted through this operation?

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

### Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The selection criteria were:

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

## Total Targeted Population

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

## Risk and security considerations

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

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


Set up evacuation centers in the safe zone in case there is a displacement.

**Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation**

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



# Planned Intervention

	<b>Shelter Housing And Settlements</b>	<b>Budget</b>	CHF 116,298
		<b>Targeted Persons</b>	3100
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>	
# of relief tents replenished	500	500	
# of blankets replenished	3100	3100	
# of ground mats replenished	2000	2000	

## Progress Towards Outcome

Basic livelihood items including 2,000 ground mats, 3,079 emergency relief tents (500 covers by this DREF), and 3,100 blankets had been distributed by the IRCS operational personnel.

Challenges: Due to serious challenges namely back-to-back 3 earthquakes in same province, economic crisis and inflation and its impact on suppliers' bids validity, unclarity of the exchange rate for the IRCS to convert the swapping statutory contribution fee to IRR, and huge load of orders on the selected supplier (Iran Helal Textile Industries).

	<b>National Society Strengthening</b>	<b>Budget</b>	CHF 20,235
		<b>Targeted Persons</b>	90
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>	
# of people equipped with necessary skills to implement the DREF operation	90	0	
# of trainings conducted	1	0	

## Progress Towards Outcome

One PMER/DREF training and 10 CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Training for the Helal House in West Azarbayejan are ongoing and will be completed before the 28 Feb.

	<b>Secretariat Services</b>	<b>Budget</b>	CHF 10,650
		<b>Targeted Persons</b>	1
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>	
# of surge deployments	1	1	


## Progress Towards Outcome

The IFRC Country Delegation managed the support of one surge deployment finance for checking, facilitating the finance requirements of the DREF, and supporting the field to reconcile open working advances successfully.

	<b>Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery</b>	<b>Budget</b>	CHF 15,975
		<b>Targeted Persons</b>	10
<b>Indicators</b>		<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of volunteers at Helal Houses have access to basic response kits		10	0

## Progress Towards Outcome

Basic response kits for equipping the Helal Houses were purchased and will be allocated accordingly.

	<b>Livelihoods And Basic Needs</b>	<b>Budget</b>	CHF 133,059
		<b>Targeted Persons</b>	11288
<b>Indicators</b>		<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of food parcels replenished to be pre-positioned for future emergencies.		6941	6941

## Progress Towards Outcome

A total of 6,941 72-Hr food parcels were distributed by IRCS from its own stock and warehouse.  
 Challenges: Due to serious challenges namely back-to-back 3 earthquakes in the same province, economic crisis and inflation and its impact on suppliers' bids validity, unclarity of the exchange rate for the IRCS to convert the swapping statutory contribution fee to IRR, and huge load of orders on the selected supplier (Iran Helal Textile Industries).

# About Support Services

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

There were 223 operational teams in total, 75% of which are comprised of volunteers. There were 44 teams from 2 provinces present at the field. Volunteers were covered under the IRCS insurance scheme. Food, transportation, and accommodation costs of the relief workers and youth volunteers were covered by the IRCS.

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

A finance surge was deployed to support the IFRC country delegation and Iranian RCS on financial reporting.

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

It was a local procurement according to the IRCS standard financial and audit rules and regulations. IFRC provided technical support whenever necessary.

## **How will this operation be monitored?**

The IRCS Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (PMER) is currently under a working group consisting of relevant and engaged divisions (finance, procurement, international department, EOC, and education). IRCS Branches will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of this emergency operation. The monitoring activities entail Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) surveys which have been created for this operation by the technical support of the IFRC RO, to be implemented by the qualified and trained IRCS field researchers. The PDM will measure the satisfaction of targeted people, along with the timeliness, relevance, and reach of the support provided.

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

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

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

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

# Contact Information

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

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[Click here for the reference](#)