



Volunteers have been conducting monitoring visits to the flood-affected areas. Photo credit: Red Crescent Society of the Republic of Kazakhstan (RCS RK)

Appeal: MDRKZ013	Total DREF Allocation: CHF 499,997	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Flood
Glide Number: FL-2024-000039-KAZ	People Affected: 120,000 people	People Targeted: 5,000 people	
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 10-04-2024	New Operational End Date: 31-08-2024	Total Operating Timeframe: 4 months
Reporting Timeframe Start Date: 10-04-2024		Reporting Timeframe End Date: 30-06-2024	
Additional Allocation Requested: 0		Targeted Areas: Akmolinskaya, Severo-kazachstanskaya, Zapadno-kazachstanskaya	

Description of the Event

Kazakhstan - Floods

8 July 2024



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities. Map data sources: GADM, IFRC. Map produced by: IFRC Europe Region Office, Budapest.

Map of the Republic of Kazakhstan showing the flood-affected areas and those targeted by this DREF operation.

Date of event

27-03-2024

What happened, where and when?

As a result of increasing temperatures and melting snow at the end of March 2024, several regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan were affected by heavy flooding. In response, local authorities have declared a state of emergency in ten regions of the country.

At this time, the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation has confirmed that the flooding has already peaked in Akmola, Aktobe, and Karaganda regions, while the peak in East-Kazakhstan was anticipated in the following week, in addition to a second wave of floods in the West-Kazakhstan region.

Weather forecasts further highlighted continued rising temperatures in the near future, melting snow at a high pace and filling reservoirs to their limits. At the time of this IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) application, the area of snow cover in Kazakhstan was 15 per cent, with an approximate 40 per cent in the northern, eastern, and central regions of the country.

The flooding has led to significant displacement and damage to property. Response efforts by the Red Crescent Society of the Republic of Kazakhstan and other actors to combat the floods have been extensive, involving more than 16,000 personnel, over 1,600 pieces of equipment, and numerous watercrafts and aircrafts. Volunteers have also played a crucial role, with more than 25,000 individuals providing essential support to the affected populations.





Registration of people to be assisted with multi-purpose cash (MPC) in Burlinski district of West-Kazakhstan region. Photo credit: RCS RK

Scope and Scale

In March 2024, state authorities declared local states of emergency in 30 locations of 10 regions. More than 118,000 people have been evacuated, while more than 12,000 residential buildings and over 7,000 summer houses have been flooded. As of 25 June 2024, more than 67,000 people have returned home and 3,664 people stay in evacuation centres.

While initial estimates confirmed that the floods have killed 5,711 heads of livestock, a total of 12,000 heads of cattle have died as a result of the floods (12,000 heads), which amounts to one per cent loss to the total livestock in the country, which is not expected to affect the meat market. According to the Ministry of Agriculture, based on the information collected from flood-affected regions, the sowing campaign and cereal harvest are not expected to be affected.

Summary of Changes

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

Please explain the summary of changes and justification:

Geographical Change:

While the original IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) operation targeted the regions of Akmola, Aktobe, and West-Kazakhstan, with this DREF Update a slight geographical change is reflected. Instead of Aktobe region, North-Kazakhstan was included in the targeted areas. Due to this shift, Akmola, North-Kazakhstan, and West-Kazakhstan have become the three areas targeted by the response. This geographical shift was necessary to ensure support is provided to flood-affected people in one of the most affected regions (North-Kazakhstan), while also avoiding duplication of assistance in Aktobe region, where humanitarian aid is distributed by the Red Crescent with support from a corporate donor.

Timeframe Extension:

The operation timeframe was further extended by one month to allow completing the registration of people assisted, distributions, post-distribution monitoring, as well as to ensure that the lessons learned workshop is conducted within the operation timeframe. Registration of the target number of people to be assisted, initiated in line with the criteria established in the DREF application, experienced delays in two regions (Akmola and North-Kazakhstan) as the number of families with more than three children below the age of 18 turned out to be less in the affected communities compared to West-Kazakhstan region, where families with three or more children prevail. Accordingly, the criteria were further expanded to include families with two children, resulting in the delay of registration, which is currently ongoing.

Current National Society Actions

Start date of National Society actions

29-03-2024

Livelihoods And Basic Needs	Within the emergency response the RCS RK reached 26,000 people by distributing: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- more than 10 tons of clothes and footwear;- over 25,400 pcs of sanitary and hygiene items;- 19 tons of food items;- over 34,000 litres of bottled water;- 365 warm blankets, heaters, boots;- 4,260 sets of bedding items (mattresses, blankets, pillows, and bedding sets);- 110 shovels;- 955 litter bags.
Multi Purpose Cash	The multi-purpose cash grant modality has been identified as the most efficient tool to meet basic needs of people assisted by the RCS RK. The National Society has been distributing cash and voucher assistance (CVA) as part of its response.
Health	Information on measures to prevent the spread of communicable diseases during the floods has been disseminated via social media and leaflets distributed with aid items and during the registration process of people to be assisted. Psychological First Aid (PFA) has been provided by involved staff and volunteers as they visited evacuation centres. Online training was arranged for selected volunteers to strengthen their capacities in PFA.
Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	<p>The RCS RK distributed 200 sets of sanitation and hygiene items, made available by the Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction (CESDRR) and UNICEF, for 1,000 people, including 600 children, in Aktobe region. Affected branches have also distributed over 25,400 hygiene items and over 34,000 litres of bottled water.</p> <p>Recommendations on measures to prevent spread of infectious diseases in time of flooding developed by the committee of sanitary and epidemiological control (Ministry of Health) have been disseminated by the RCS RK in social media and through printed materials.</p>
Community Engagement And Accountability	A Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) Officer has been deployed from the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) for Central Asia to support CEA activities of the RCS RK. Information about the planned financial assistance and feedback channels



	(WhatsApp, electronic mail) was shared with people to be assisted in Akmola, North-Kazakhstan, and West-Kazakhstan regions before and during the registration process of people to be assisted.
Coordination	<p>The state established national and regional headquarters on liquidation of the floods consequences. Branch directors have been participating in the work of headquarters as members of local interagency commissions on emergencies.</p> <p>The RCS RK maintains liaison with the CESDRR, based in Almaty, as well as UNICEF.</p> <p>Local authorities of Turkestan region have provided humanitarian aid cargo with items to be distributed by the RCS RK among the affected population in Aktobe region.</p> <p>At field level, the RCS RK branches collaborate with local authorities, as well as with local representatives of state agencies, such as the MoES, Ministry of Interior (Mol) and others.</p>
Assessment	<p>Initial assessments have been conducted from 29 March 2024 onward on a daily basis by local staff and volunteers of the RCS RK branches and reported to the RCS RK HQ and partners. The affected branches carried out assessments by visiting evacuation points.</p> <p>The RCS RK visited the affected locations when water recessed and people came back to their homes. KoBo toolbox was used to monitor evolving (recovery) needs and identify gaps in meeting them. The assessments showed the needs for housing, construction materials and home appliances. The RCS RK worked with corporate donors to find ways to address further needs.</p>
Resource Mobilization	The RCS RK has mobilized support from corporate donors and has been distributing humanitarian aid (food items, sanitary and hygiene items, bedding sets) in Aktobe, Atyrau, North-Kazakhstan and West-Kazakhstan regions with a plan to reach 9,200 people from vulnerable families (multi-children families, single parent families, older people living alone). Furthermore, a total of 10,000 people are planned to be reached with CVA in the recovery phase of the response.
Activation Of Contingency Plans	The RCS RK has a contingency plan in place with the scenario of severe floods; elements of the plan have been activated during the current response operation. The overall response strategy is defined by the Standard Operation Procedures (SOP) with adjustments linked to regional differences.
National Society EOC	From the onset of the disaster, the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) has been activated to provide regular communication within the RCS RK, as well as with partners and local authorities. The EOC is headed by the General Director who arranges regular meetings to discuss key issues during the response operation.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is present in the country and is part of the in-country movement coordination team. The IFRC Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) for Central Asia is currently working with the RCS RK on the identification of the needs and development of the DREF application.
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Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	The government allocated resources from its contingency reserves (including food, essential household items and fuel) and established special accounts to raise funds locally. Local helplines were set up to register and address the needs of the affected



population. The state authorities (including local administrations, MoES, and others) addressed immediate needs of the affected population through evacuation and accommodation in temporary shelters. Manpower and resources of the MoI, Ministry of Defense, National Guard, National Security Committee are involved in the response alongside the MoES.

Local authorities continue registering claims for assistance from affected people. As of 24 June, 33,321 families have received a one-time compensations equal to 100-fold monthly calculation index (MCI). Rehousing of affected people is also ongoing. Please see further details under the Shelter, Housing, and Settlements section under Needs Assessment.

6,176 families received compensations for repair and reconstruction of housing. Additional support to compensate for the loss of essential items is being provided based on assessments. The support reaches up to 150 MCIs (KZT 553,800) per family. 15,355 families have already received compensations for a total of 7.6 billion KZT. State compensation for the livestock deaths totalled 2.8 billion KZT.

The affected businesses have also filed claims for compensation: 124 claims from small and medium-sized businesses for 833.8 million KZT have been satisfied. According to the assessments, 797 business premises have been affected by floods.

UN or other actors

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Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

At the local level, flood recovery activities are coordinated by regional headquarters.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

According to the Government, 18,228 flooded residential buildings have been monitored and assessments of 15,651 residential buildings have been completed. 9,306 buildings will be repaired, while 8,190 are beyond repair. For owners whose properties cannot be repaired, 5,714 apartments will be purchased and 2,576 houses will be built.

Based on RCS RK (KoBo) assessments, the following needs remain and may be addressed by the CVA (in order of importance, with the first being mentioned the most):

- Housing and construction materials for repair
- Household appliances and furniture



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Based on KoBo assessments, the following needs still exist and may be covered by the cash support (in order of importance, with the first being mentioned the most):

- Housing and construction materials for repair
- Household appliances and furniture
- Clothing/ footwear
- Food items
- Hygiene items



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Hygiene items (washing and toilet soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, washing powder, sanitary napkins, sanitary pads, diapers, and razors), as well as bottled water were primary needs expressed by people in evacuation points. The RCS RK has been addressing water and other needs with support from corporate donors.



Community Engagement And Accountability

People affected by the floods will require information on the RCS RK response, as well as the available challenges to report cases of misconduct or abuse of power.

Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

N/A

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The overall objective of the current DREF operation is to meet the immediate basic needs of approximately 5,000 people from the most affected areas of three regions of Kazakhstan - Akmola, North-Kazakhstan and West-Kazakhstan - through a one-off multi-purpose cash grant of CHF 80 per person. The flood-response further focuses on hygiene promotion, as well as information dissemination, while ensuring the integration of community engagement and accountability of all response areas.

The original DREF included Aktobe in the target areas, which was replaced by Northern Kazakhstan. This geographical change was necessary to ensure that people affected by the floods received assistance in one of the most affected regions (Northern Kazakhstan), while avoiding duplication of assistance in the Aktobe region. See the Summary of Changes section for more details.

Operation strategy rationale

The rationale for the overall strategy is to provide support to those who were directly impacted by the floods and who are the least resilient to meet their immediate needs. With the assumption that the Kazakhstan Government will lead recovery and restoration efforts, especially in terms of rebuilding damaged and destroyed houses, the RCS RK, guided by its auxiliary role, will support those most impacted with immediate and temporary support.

The main focus of the RCS RK's response under the current DREF operation is to provide multi-purpose cash or voucher assistance (CVA) to the families affected most by the floods. All other interventions, such as hygiene promotion and information dissemination, will be integrated with CVA activities.

The RCS RK will target approximately 5,000 people from the most impacted communities through a CVA modality with unconditional family grants depending on the number of family members and calculated as KZT 40,000 (about CHF 80) per person per month. As a part of humanitarian aid, multi-purpose cash grant is not subject to taxation in Kazakhstan. Peoples state welfare support will remain the same even if they receive cash assistance from other additional sources. The number of people assisted is defined by the recommended level of allocation fitting the "Yellow" categorisation of the response operation. If the situation worsens, the scale of outreach may expand. The RCS RK has been partnering with a season Financial Service Provider (ForteBank Kazakhstan) to deliver cash assistance.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

Given the large scale of areas and people affected by the floods, it is difficult to reach and support all those impacted. The RCS RK and partners, in coordination with the MoES and local authorities, prioritised support provided through the current DREF operation to reach the most vulnerable areas. The RCS RK is also working with corporate donors to allow expanding support to affected people in other regions beyond this allocation.

Based on the developments and changes in the flood situation, the RCS RK targets approximately 5,000 people from the most affected communities in evacuation points or as they return to their homes, focusing on four vulnerable groups: affected large families (three or more children), single-headed families, families with persons with disabilities, and families with pregnant and lactating women.



Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The National Society has been providing assistance to the most vulnerable families affected by the floods, in collaboration and consultation with local administrations, community leaders and other partners.

The primary selection criteria focuses on people who have been evacuated because their houses were flooded.

Priorities are given to groups in most vulnerable situations (secondary criteria):

- Multi-children families (3+ children)
- Single-headed households, with preference given to female-headed households
- Households with people with disabilities
- Households with pregnant and lactating women

The original selection criteria has been expanded to include families with two children in Akmola and North-Kazakhstan regions. For further details, please see the Summary of Changes section of this DREF Operations Update.

Total Targeted Population

Women	1,400	Rural	100%
Girls (under 18)	1,200	Urban	0%
Men	1,200	People with disabilities (estimated)	3%
Boys (under 18)	1,200		
Total targeted population	5,000		

Risk and Security Considerations

Please indicate about potential operation risk for this operations and mitigation actions

Risk	Mitigation action
Misuse of the unconditional funds provided.	A Post-Distribution Monitoring will be conducted to understand how the support has been spent. Selection criteria will be followed to ensure that people in need selected are likely to use the funds properly. A consent paper, listing eligible costs, will be signed at the time of application for RCS RK assistance to prevent misuse.
Risk of delayed flooding in affected regions or involvement of new areas.	RCS RK will monitor changes in the flood situation and adjust the implementation of the response operation as necessary.
Inability to use a card for the cash grant due to debts / credits.	In case this risk is present, an option to provide cash grants via regional branch cashier desk or postal service points will be introduced.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

The RCS RK team in the field has been monitoring the security situation before visiting communities. All volunteers are provided with security briefing/update before going to the target districts for assessments, monitoring, or satisfaction survey interviews.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?

No

Planned Intervention



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 13,537

Targeted Persons: 260

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
People reached with household items	260	260

Progress Towards Outcome

The RCS RK has replenished the distributed 260 mattresses, blankets, bedlinen sets, and towels.



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 430,303

Targeted Persons: 5,000

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people supported with multi-purpose cash grants	5,000	2,833

Progress Towards Outcome

The list of people assisted continues to be completed in North-Kazakhstan and Akmola regions. In West-Kazakhstan, the registration of people supported via multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) has been completed. Transfers started from 11 June 2024. At the time of this update, a total of 2,833 people (on a family basis) have been reached out of the overall target of 5,000 people supported with MPCA.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 484

Targeted Persons: 5,000

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people reached with hygiene promotion messages	5,000	-

Progress Towards Outcome

Hygiene promotion materials have been distributed during the registration of people to be assisted in the target regions. The number of people reached was not available at the time of the DREF update and will be provided in the final DREF report.





Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 607

Targeted Persons: 500

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Percentage of people who consider well-informed about RCRC activities	90	-
Number of volunteers trained in CEA in CVA	20	-
Number of feedback mechanisms available for people assisted	3	3
Percentage of people interviewed who confirm the provided assistance corresponds to their needs	90	-

Progress Towards Outcome

A CEA Officer has been deployed from the IFRC CCD for Central Asia to support CEA activities of the RCS RK. Initial sensitisation sessions have been arranged for staff and volunteers in the headquarters and three target regions. Information about the planned financial assistance and feedback channels (WhatsApp, electronic mail) was shared with people to be assisted in Akmola, North-Kazakhstan, and West-Kazakhstan regions before and during the registration process.

A post-distribution monitoring (PDM) questionnaire has been developed. The monitoring will take place in July 2024 following the training of the target branches. Online sessions on CEA for staff and volunteers are planned for August 2024.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 47,566

Targeted Persons: 50

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of RCS RK volunteers insured	50	50
Number of participants at the LLW	20	-

Progress Towards Outcome

- All 50 of the volunteers participating in the operation have been insured.
- The humanitarian aid items distributed from RCS RK's stocks have been replenished.
- A timeframe extension has been requested partly to be able to conduct the Lessons Learned Workshop (LLW) during the timeframe of the operation. The LLW is scheduled for 31 July - 1 August 2024; the number of participants are yet to be confirmed. Best practices, lessons, and challenges will be further elaborated on in the DREF Final Report.



About Support Services

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

As of 3 April 2024, the number of mobilized employees and volunteers has reached 35, using four vehicles. Part of the team is based in regional branches, the rest are spread in several districts. The staff and volunteers carry out assessments and distribution of essential household items from the early days of the floods.

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

IFRC operations manager has been deployed to Almaty since 18 April 2024 to support the RCS RK efforts.

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

The RCS RK led procurement of items for replenishment of disaster stocks as per national procurement regulations. IFRC ensured that the Federation's procurement standards and procedures were duly adhered to.

The RCS RK has gained the IFRC exceptional approval to contract FSP ForteBank.

How will this operation be monitored?

Monitoring and evaluation will be an integral part of the operation and will be carried out involving the assisted people and other stakeholders utilizing participatory approaches throughout the operation's timeframe. Regular internal operation updates (biweekly or monthly) will be developed by the implementing teams of the RCS RK branches, feeding to the RCS RK headquarters and further distributed to key stakeholders as necessary.

Monthly financial and operation progress reports will inform of the key operation's achievements and planned activities for the next period. The reports will reflect the number of people assisted disaggregated by gender, age, and disabilities, if possible. Furthermore, a satisfaction survey/PDM will be conducted in line with the IFRC standards to find out about people's satisfaction with the assistance received through this DREF operation. In addition, the RCS RK will hold a lesson learned workshop at the end of the operation to evaluate key achievements and challenges in order to improve the NS response operations in the future.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

The RCS RK has experienced communications specialists at its headquarters in Almaty, who have been sharing information on actions undertaken by the National Society through social media. The RCS RK will continue to update the population and stakeholders on the operation progress. Stories and photographs that depict the situation and response as well as challenges will continue to be shared on different platforms, including through local mass media, social media, RCS RK social media accounts among others.



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRKZ013 - Red Crescent Society of the Republic of Kazakhstan Floods 2024

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	444,931
Shelter and Basic Household Items	13,537
Livelihoods	0
Multi-purpose Cash	430,303
Health	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	484
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	0
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	607
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	55,066
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	7,500
National Society Strengthening	47,566
TOTAL BUDGET	499,997

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)



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