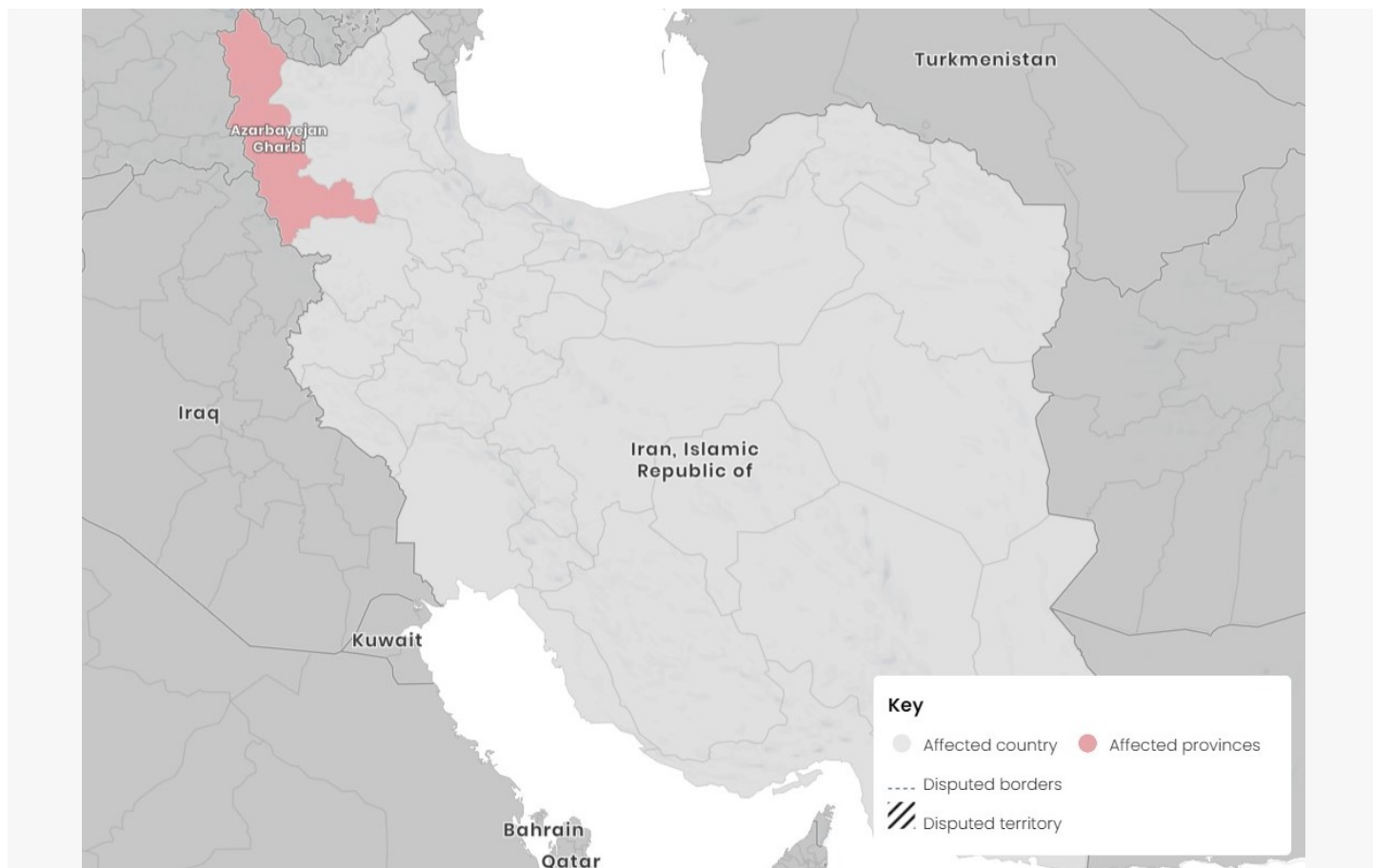




Appeal: <b>MDRIR012</b>	Total DREF Allocation: <b>CHF 296,217</b>	Crisis Category: <b>Yellow</b>	Hazard: <b>Earthquake</b>
Glide Number: <b>EQ-2022-000326-IRN</b>	People Affected: <b>11,288 people</b>	People Targeted: <b>11,288 people</b>	
Event Onset: <b>Sudden</b>	Operation Start Date: <b>17-10-2022</b>	Operational End Date: <b>30-06-2023</b>	Total Operating Timeframe: <b>6 months</b>
Targeted Areas: <b>Azarbayejan Gharbi</b>			

The major donors and partners of the IFRC-DREF include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Britain, China, Czech, Canada, Denmark, German, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, Malta, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, and the Netherlands, as well as DG ECHO, Mondelez Foundation, and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the National Society, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.

# Description of the Event



## 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-Western of Iran on 5 October 2022 at 03:51 am local time. So far, 42 aftershocks (the biggest one with 4.6 Richter at 17:21 local time has hit the region). The affected area consisted of 2 provinces and 8 cities (53 villages) with a total population of approximately 3,195 households (11,288 people). Azarbayejan Gharbi was the most hit province and the cities of Khoy, Salmas, and Chaypareh were among the most affected cities. Morteza Gholi Kendi was the most hit village located in Khoy City. People in Azarbayejan Sharghi had felt the tremor. The activated fault in this region which caused this earthquake was Siyah Cheshme-Khoy.





Teams from IRCS Responding to EQ Affected People

## Scope and Scale

According to the Emergency Medical Services (EMS), 1,127 individuals were injured. Some 112 buildings had been destroyed, and some infrastructures were damaged, such as gas leakage, water pipes, and electricity. Cracks on the walls of buildings could be seen primarily in the areas near the epicenter and surrounding villages. 53 villages were assessed by the IRCS rapid response teams. One person was injured due to rubble and 1,126 persons while escaping their houses.

## National Society Actions

Have the National Society conducted any intervention additionally to those part of this DREF Operation?	No
Please provide a brief description of those additional activities	-

## IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	IFRC Delegation presents in the country and provided technical support on launching the DREF, donor compliance, reporting standard requirements, coordination with national society in terms of engaging local branches through video conference from RARO EOC, procurement, facilitating PMER training, field visits to monitor the implementation of Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) for the affected communities in the region.
Participating National Societies	No national society supported the IRCS in this operation.



# ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

No support was extended from ICRC to 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 ongoing operation. The IRCS was responsible for responding 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 supported the IRCS in this operation.

### Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

Are there major coordination mechanisms in place?

The National Disaster Management Organization (NDMO) was the government entity responsible for the major coordination mechanism to avoid duplication of efforts among different entities and organizations and to monitor all concerned organizations performing their own assigned mandated roles and responsibilities. Ministries, local authorities, national Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and the IRCS efforts are coordinated by the NDMO. The head of NDMO is assigned by the Minister of Interior (the same setup at the province level, the Director for Provincial DMO is assigned by the General Governor). According to national law, the IRCS is mandated to render search, rescue, relief, and emergency shelter during disasters and crises, while other entities and organizations must be under the IRCS coordination and command setup. Sectoral services are led and implemented by line ministries. The governmental bodies and institutions are engaged in the ongoing operation. UN agencies are present in-country, including WHO, FAO, UNOCHA, UNDP, UNHCR, and UNICEF, however little presence in this operation. Some relief items were donated by WFP. NGOs have a limited presence in the country. IRCS is mandated by the authorities to fully respond to this operation. To fulfill the mandated role of crisis response, the IRCS utilized all its resources from the Relief and Rescue Organization, West Azerbayejan provincial branches, and neighboring provinces. The Managing Director of the West Azerbayejan province was appointed by the IRCS President as the relief coordinator for this operation.

## Needs (Gaps) Identified



### 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. People stayed in the emergency tents until their housing situation stabilized. In the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, the IRCS needed to distribute food, essential household items, and emergency shelter to the 3,195 affected families in 53 villages and one urban point. In addition, it was needed to set up a camp for possible accommodation of further affected households in Khoy City.



### Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The primary needs of the affected populations were emergency shelter, food, and household items, according to the initial assessment done by the IRCS assessment teams and first responders in Helal Houses and local branches.





## Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery

IRCS mobilized rapid response kits from the local branches and Helal Houses, so replenishment of the rapid response kits was needed. 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 enjoyed a total of 6,432 Helal Houses to date. The kits mainly included first aid, torches, hoes, shovels, ladders, uniforms, boots, whistles, rope, and radio communication tools. The local Helal Houses needed rapid assessment and communication reporting training. Local communities also needed to be aware of the disaster risks and risk reduction measures under the national emergency response training scheme.

## 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, livelihoods, and basic items in Khoi County for 6 months.

### 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 planned to distribute almost 7,000 food parcels among needy families (for 72 hours). People whose houses were damaged received the emergency family tents by the IRCS, as emergency accommodation. This DREF aimed to replenish the emergency items and stocks used including shelter, food, basic needs, and livelihoods among the target affected families, to address the needs of the targeted population 11,288 people (3,195 HHs). It was aligned 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 continued to assess how emergency operations in response to disasters and crises should adapt to this crisis and provide necessary guidance to its membership on the same. The National Society continued to closely monitor the situation, focusing on health risks, and revise accordingly wherever necessary, considering the evolving operational risks that may arise, including operational challenges related to access to the affected population, availability of relief items and procurement issues, and mobilization of IRCS volunteers and staff as well as international staff.

## Targeting Strategy

### Who was targeted by this operation?

The IRCS prioritized the most vulnerable households amongst affected populations in the affected districts of West Azarbayejan province. Priority was given to those in need who resided in homes that were either completely or partially damaged.

### Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

Food and essential household items were provided to the most vulnerable households with a focus on:

- 1- People with severely or completely damaged houses.
- 2- People living in houses in 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.

The selection was carried out and registered in coordination with the local authorities particularly Iran Welfare Organization as per the mandate and coordination by the National Disaster Management Organization (NDMO). However, the IRCS is developing a registry system



to record the details of the services and supports extended to the categories of the most vulnerable households mentioned above in upcoming operations.

## Total Targeted Population

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

## Risk and Security Considerations

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

Risk	Mitigation action
Funds transfer delays	The IFRC legal, financial, treasury, and management circles worked to unblock the banking transfers at various levels. At the national, MENA, and GVA levels, efforts were underway to strictly adhere to agreed protocols and were in constant communication with stakeholders to meet the needs so that funds transfers happened with high speed. Banking channels and related compliance protocols were regularly consciously looked into. To keep donor-compliant/operational advances reconciliations intact, IFRC/IRCS offices received daily technical financial/support services support at the country level.
Aftershocks	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 was no high risk of security for the operational staff and volunteers. IRCS is very well accepted in the region.

## Implementation



### Shelter Housing And Settlements

**Budget:** CHF 116,298

**Targeted Persons:** 3,100

**Assisted Persons:** 2,841

### Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
-------	--------	--------



# of ground mats replenished	2,000	2,549
# of blankets replenished	3,100	2,841
# of relief tents replenished	500	702

## Narrative description of achievements

In terms of Shelter Housing and Settlements, IRCS utilized its volunteers and staff in an exemplary coordinated way to reach the needs. IRCS's achievements regarding this intervention were: Rapid and timely activation of EOC, agility and rapid dispatching of initial assessment teams from the neighboring branches, dispatching household items to support for backing Khoy warehouse system, mobilizing the capacity of volunteers, timely distribution of relief items among the affected communities, setting up emergency camps in 3 rural and 1 urban areas, and managing procurements despite fluctuations in the market, though the number of procured items changed compared to the initial planning. All in all, the most significant achievement was the improvement in terms of internal coordination within the IRCS itself and with the other stakeholders/organizations engaged in this operation.

## Lessons Learnt

The IRCS released to mobilize all capacities and enhance the EOCs capacity for better management in terms of the distribution of relief items. In addition, avoiding duplication of efforts will be a top priority for the IRCS in future operations.

## Challenges

Excessive demands for tents due to fear of aftershocks resulted in leaving houses and preferring to stay in tents. There were extra demands by the affected population for relief items namely blankets, heaters, and tents due to the severe cold situation and winterization which was a key challenge for the operational personnel.



## Livelihoods And Basic Needs

**Budget:** CHF 133,059

**Targeted Persons:** 11,288

**Assisted Persons:** 25,960

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of food parcels replenished to be pre-positioned for future emergencies.	6,941	6,490

## Narrative description of achievements

IRCS could manage the timely distribution of food parcels successfully among the target population though the target number of food parcels (6,941) was not met, and 6,490 food packages could be procured due to fluctuations in the market and increased prices. It was planned to distribute 10-day food parcels among the affected families, later it was decided to change it to 72-hour food parcels to cover more individuals. Thus, since the prices are lower, a greater number of people could be reached compared to the target.

## Lessons Learnt

The IRCS learned to register the details of the distributions to the prioritized vulnerable groups/ households and a tracking system must be in place to provide inputs and statistics wherever needed in terms of reporting. A digitalized platform will expedite and facilitate the registration and distribution process. This issue is under discussion to be funded and developed with the coordination of the Relief and Rescue Organization.



The coordination for item distribution must be enhanced with relevant organizations. IRCS mobilized its communication and social media channels for collecting donations and channeled the interventions of local NGOs and public donations so that the duplication of efforts can be avoided and minimized.

## Challenges

There were excessive demands for food and household items (especially tents) by the people due to fear of aftershocks and gas cut off in the initial hours after the earthquake. Thus people in the affected areas preferred to stay in tents which resulted in increased demand for food items they could not prepare their own.



## Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery

**Budget:** CHF 15,975

**Targeted Persons:** 50

**Assisted Persons:** 50

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of volunteers at Helal Houses have access to basic response kits	10	10

## Narrative description of achievements

As part of the IRCS mandate to respond to disasters, a network of local community-owned network (Helal House) is established in remote areas and villages. These houses (as the smallest unit of the NS) need to be equipped with basic response kits and standard rescue and relief training. Under this DREF, 10 Helal Houses in affected villages of West Azarbayejan were equipped with the basic response kits (including a first aid kit, extrication tools, torch, rope, shovel, etc.). People from the local affected communities received standard training from the NS education experts so that they became familiar with the initial basic relief and rescue activities.

## Lessons Learnt

As a large network with full access to the local communities. The IRCS Helal House network needs to be equipped and members to be trained (minimum 10 volunteers) to be resilient and prepared to respond efficiently at the initial stage of a disaster so that the operational teams will arrive for further professional interventions. The agile, prepared, and equipped Helal Houses will enhance the assessment and mapping of the affected areas. This approach is according to the DRR and risk mitigations in line with the IRCS strategic plan and will lead to less resources and time with maximum impact.

## Challenges

The Helal Houses network needs to be budgeted for their equipment and training. At least 10 local volunteers for each Helal House need the equipment and training.



## Secretariat Services

**Budget:** CHF 10,650

**Targeted Persons:** 1

**Assisted Persons:** 1

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
-------	--------	--------



# of surge deployments	1	1
------------------------	---	---

## Narrative description of achievements

The IFRC country Delegation could successfully manage the backlogged financial bookings, clearances, and reconciliations on time which was a major issue earlier in previous operations. A finance surge delegate was deployed to deal with the financial bookings and reconciliation of the required documents with the country office and continuous follow up with IRCS focal points.

## Lessons Learnt

With the presence of the finance delegate and recruitment of finance officers in the IRAN IFRC country office, the process for booking and reconciliation of the reports is significantly improved. Still, the IRCS systems need to be more agile, sustained, and accountable towards financial reporting and donor compliance. As the previous operations financial reconciliation was overdue due to several internal and external reasons, in this operation the process was expedited and implemented more effectively led by engagement of concerned divisions in a PMER committee at the HQ. This committee is composed of the focal points from the relevant units (finance, Helal House, education, international operations department, logistics, procurement, and the IFRC Program Team). It starts the kick-off meeting soon after the funds are approved and it monitors the implementation of activities, timeframe, and monitoring visits, in line with the NSD, the improvement of the procurement process was seen as the required knowledge and expertise was transferred/exchanged to the relevant divisions. Meanwhile, the IFRC Country Office recruited a procurement, Admin officer to closely coordinate with the NS counterparts and better follow up the process.

For the treasury and financial affairs division, there was not a clear understanding and image of the IFRC rules, procedures, and frameworks, and considered a major challenge. Eventually, after conducting the training, a clear understanding of the procurement procedure, replenishment process, and whole process of operation response for the staff engaged was achieved. Thus, the concerned staff learned how to proceed with the procedures next time in future operations.

## Challenges

Several financial backlogs were seen due to back-to-back operations, load of works for the concerned divisions with less resources at the country delegation and at the IRCS focal units.



## National Society Strengthening

**Budget:** CHF 20,235

**Targeted Persons:** 90

**Assisted Persons:** 195

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of trainings conducted	10	10
# of people equipped with necessary skills to implement the DREF operation	90	195

## Narrative description of achievements

Under this DREF, 10 Community-Based Emergency Response Training (CERT) were conducted, each covered a minimum of 15 participants from the local communities in the affected villages/areas and the standard modules conducted covered basic first aid, CPR, emergency shelter, basic search and rescue. Both male and female participants especially youth members received basic response training (for example how to set up a tent, how to evacuate people from the small rubble, basic first aid, etc). These people gathered in Helal Houses (run and managed under the local branch) to be trained by the IRCS-trained experienced personnel as first responders to assist their community at times of emergencies. They receive more technical specialized training and ToT according to the IRCS educational standards so that become resilient and can respond initially till professional teams from local branches arrive to the field.



At the provincial level, a DREF/PMER induction course was conducted during which 45 personnel from the engaged units (finance, procurement, logistics, Helal House, fleet management) participated.

The facilitators were from the IFRC country office (covering IFRC rapid response tools, crisis categorization, DREF and its process PDM, practical sessions), the IRCS International Operations division (covering Go platform introduction, good report features, practical session), and the IRCS Finance department (covering financial documents requirements, financial reports and reconciliation) according to the agreed agenda.

The 45 participants were selected according to the level of engagement in the EQ operation (including 17 heads of local branches of west Azarbayejan, 21 desk officers and managers from relief, logistic, procurement, finance, EOC, and education departments, as well as 7 personnel of the finance, procurement, and International Operations Department from the IRCS HQ: 6 female, 39 male)

## **Lessons Learnt**

An effective coordination and engagement of concerned divisions will result in better planning, and effective monitoring and lead to donor compliance and quality assurance. The provincial branches will be also engaged directly from the planning to reporting and learning phases. With proper follow-up and continuous support from the relevant staff, the whole trainings were conducted on time and the reporting was delivered appropriately. The evaluation results indicate that the IRCS branches need to be trained on the IFRC financial procedures, standard reporting, DREF application, etc.

## **Challenges**

- NA



# Financial Report

## DREF Operation

### FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

#### MDRIR012 - Iran - Azarbayejan EQ 2022

Operating Timeframe: 17 Oct 2022 to 30 Apr 2023

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2022/10-2023/11	Operation	MDRIR012
Budget Timeframe	2022/10-2023/11	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 06/Dec/2023

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### I. Summary

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Funds &amp; Other Income</b>	<b>296,217</b>
DREF Response Pillar	296,217
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>-283,319</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>12,898</b>

### II. Expenditure by planned operations / enabling approaches

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items	116,298	113,616	2,682
PO02 - Livelihoods	133,059	130,864	2,195
PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash			0
PO04 - Health			0
PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene			0
PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion			0
PO07 - Education			0
PO08 - Migration			0
PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	15,975	14,077	1,898
PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability			0
PO11 - Environmental Sustainability			0
<b>Planned Operations Total</b>	<b>265,332</b>	<b>258,557</b>	<b>6,775</b>
EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships			0
EA02 - Secretariat Services	10,650	4,529	6,121
EA03 - National Society Strengthening	20,235	20,234	1
<b>Enabling Approaches Total</b>	<b>30,885</b>	<b>24,762</b>	<b>6,123</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>296,217</b>	<b>283,319</b>	<b>12,898</b>

[Click here for the complete financial report](#)



# Contact Information

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

**National Society contact:** Mansooreh Bagheri, USG for International Affairs and IHL, intdep@rcs.ir, 00982188662618

**IFRC Appeal Manager:**

Hossam Faysal, Regional Head of Health, Disasters, Climate & Crises (HDCC) Unit - MENA, hosam.faysal@ifrc.org, +96171802916

**IFRC Project Manager:** Atta Durrani, Head of Delegation IFRC Islamic Republic of Iran, atta.durrani@ifrc.org, +989046447146

**IFRC focal point for the emergency:** Atta Durrani, Head of Delegation, Iran CO, atta.durrani@ifrc.org, +989046447146

**Media Contact:** Mey El Sayegh, Head of Communications s, mey.elsayegh@ifrc.org, +96176174468

[Click here for reference](#)

