

**Project:** Southern Russia Flood Relief  
**Donor:** USAID  
**Grant No.** 118-G-00-02-00102-00  
**Grant period:** July 12 – December 31, 2002

## FINAL PROGRAM REPORT

### Background



Unusually heavy rains– the worst in 70 years – resulted in unprecedented flash flooding that caused landslides in nine southern regions of Russia in the last half of June 2002. Muddy waters swept through towns taking with them buildings and leaving thousands of residents homeless. Over 335,000 inhabitants of 343 settlements suffered the consequences of the disaster, and about 195 persons have been confirmed dead or missing. Most victims either died in collapsed homes or succumbed to hypothermia.

About 45,000 houses were significantly damaged, and over 7,000 destroyed completely. The local infrastructure has subsequently sustained significant damage with bridges, roads, power grids and gas pipelines temporarily incapacitated or rendered completely inoperable.



The massive rainfall and ensuing landslides have not only discounted any possibility of a harvest this year but they have washed away fertile soil needed for future cultivation.

The tragedy was further exacerbated by poor response to the disaster by local officials who received criticism from Russian President Putin for their insufficient preventive measures, slow reaction to the disaster and inability to meet the most essential needs of the victims.

As a result of discussions between the USAID Mission in Moscow and the American Red Cross, the US Government approved a grant of \$50,000 earmarked for assistance to flood victims in Southern Russia. Based on the information from the federal/local Ministry of Emergency, regional Russian Red Cross branches and assessments/site visits by international humanitarian organizations, the American Red Cross in close cooperation with the Russian Red Cross, its operational partner in country, decided to focus on the Republic of Dagestan as one of the most affected regions which received the least support from the federal sources or humanitarian agencies. After thorough analysis of the immediate and essential needs in the region, it was decided to use the donation for

procurement of the following relief items for distribution to the flood victims in the most affected districts of Dagestan:

District	Relief supplies	
	Food parcels, pcs	Mattresses, pcs
Botlikhsky	351	351
Tsuntinsky	326	326
Tsumadinsky	485	485
Gergebelsky	442	442
Levashinsky	290	290
Kizlyarsky	24	24
Babayurtovsky	140	140
Buynaksky	42	42
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>2,100</b>

The content of the food parcels included 2 kg of buckwheat, 2 kg of pasta, 2 kg of sugar, 3 cans (0.325 kg each) of beef, 4 cans (0.4 kg each) of condensed milk, 1 package (0.250 kg) of tea, 1 kg of salt and 1 package of washing detergent (0.9 kg).

Due to the damaged economic infrastructure the availability of good in the regions was very limited and the prices were high. Comparing quotations from potential suppliers in Moscow and several southern regions of Russia, it was decided to procure food parcels and mattresses in Moscow. The procurement process was handled by the Russian Red Cross headquarters with the participation of American Red Cross representatives. In line with standard procedures, a tender process took place with price, terms and conditions determining selection of supplier. The most reliable and cost-

efficient procurement source was identified through the tender. As a result, the food parcels and mattresses were purchased at prices lower than expected, and the Red Cross later was able to purchase additional relief supplies locally– 2,100 packages of detergent – that had not been included in the original budget. Purchase contracts were signed in early August and all relief supplies were delivered in the central warehouse in Makhachkala, the capital of the Republic, by early September. The grant finance report is attached.



An experienced Russian field representative was assigned by the American Red Cross to oversee the operation in the region, ensure full compliance to donor’s requirements and provide technical support to the local RRC branch in all aspects of the operation. The field representative arrived in Dagestan on July 31, 2002 and started working on identifying direct beneficiaries in close cooperation with local authorities, selecting warehouse and tendering amongst local transportations companies. The well-functioning system for receipt, delivery and distribution of relief supplies was established in full cooperation with the local government and the Ministry for Emergencies.

However, the August 12, 2002 kidnapping of the head of mission of an international humanitarian agency in Makhachkala led to establishment of security restrictions on all humanitarian

organizations operating in the area. This unfortunately interfered with Red Cross operational plans. The ARC representative's movements within the region were restricted to Makhachkala only, and his monitoring of distribution sites and beneficiaries was no longer possible. The ARC representative remained in the region long enough to verify that all goods were received by local administrations in their respective districts in accordance with approved distribution plan. He also instructed the local RRC branches on the procedures for maintaining beneficiary records and follow-up monitoring. The ARC representative was then pulled from the region for security reasons.

By mid-November 2002, all beneficiary lists from eight districts have been collected, and selective monitoring of beneficiaries was completed by the local RRC staff who verified that donated humanitarian goods were received by needy beneficiaries. The relief items were distributed on the following basis:



<b>Family members</b>	<b>Food parcels</b>	<b>Mattresses</b>
1-3	1	1
4 –more	2	2

Priority was given to those with the poorest coping mechanisms, including but not limited to: multi-children families, single mothers, disabled and elderly people living alone.

As reflected in the actual beneficiary lists, the exact numbers of beneficiary families/individuals who received humanitarian aid within the framework of this operation are as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b># of beneficiary families</b>	<b># of people</b>
Botlikhsky	223	848
Tsuntinsky	142	1,063
Tsumadinsky	281	1,297
Gergebelsky	228	1,217
Levashinsky	144	657
Kizlyarsky	13	59
Babayurtovsky	140	363
Buynaksky	34	325
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,205</b>	<b>5,829</b>

The Russian Red Cross and the American Red Cross express our sincere gratitude to the US Government for their generous donation that made possible assistance to the flood victims in Dagestan.

The Russian Red Cross in cooperation with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and other international donors will continue its humanitarian efforts in support of the population of Southern Russia affected by the floods.

Annex I

**Flooding in Southern Russia**

**USAID grant finance report**

Amount transferred		#	Expenditure <i>Description</i>	Amount received		Amount Expended	
<i>RUR</i>	<i>USD</i>			<i>RUR</i>	<i>RUR</i>	<i>USD</i>	
1,419,285.02	45,000		<b>Russian Red Cross</b>	1,419,285.02			
		1	Food parcels		719,250.00	22,804.38	
		2	Mattresses		660,450.00	20,940.08	
		3	Cargo Transportation		17,000.00	539.00	
		4	Monitoring		6,830.00	216.55	
		5	RRC HQ Admin expenses		10,092.80	320.00	
		6	Bank charges		5,662.22	180.00	
			<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>		<b>1,419,285.02</b>	<b>45,000.00</b>	
	5,000		<b>American Red Cross</b>	166,078.15			
		7	Distribution costs		83,197.50	2,520.46	
		8	Local hire travel/expenses		82,880.65	2,947.01	
			<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>		<b>166,078.15</b>	<b>5,467.47</b>	
	<b><u>50,000</u></b>		<b><u>TOTAL:</u></b>	<b><u>1,585,363.17</u></b>	<b><u>1,585,363.17</u></b>	<b><u>50,467.47</u></b>	

<b>Funded by USAID</b>	<b>50,000.00</b>
<b>Funded By American Red Cross</b>	<b>467.47</b>