



ICRC



FACT SHEET

Uzbekistan, June 2010

Assistance provided in Uzbekistan by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to refugees from the Kyrgyz Republic

1. Summary

After widespread unrest and violence erupted in the Osh and Jalal-Abad provinces of the Kyrgyz Republic on 11 June 2010, tens of thousands of people fleeing their homes were allowed to cross the border and find refuge in the Andijan, Fergana and Namangan regions of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Within a couple of days the authorities of the Republic of Uzbekistan announced that over 75,000 refugees had been registered – mostly women and children, as well as elderly people. Subsequently, the authorities and UN agencies put at close to 100,000 the number of people estimated to have found refuge in Uzbekistan. The Uzbek government immediately took measures to accommodate the refugees and provide them with basic necessities. On 13 June, having organized a visit for agencies, including the ICRC, to the border with the Kyrgyz Republic and to the nearby camps established by the Uzbek authorities, the Government of Uzbekistan issued an urgent appeal to the international community for support for its efforts to care for the refugees. Within days, substantial aid started to arrive in Andijan from foreign governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and private individuals and entities. This response included efforts by components of the International Red Cross and Red



Disaster coordinators from the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan in discussion.
Photographer: Jurabaev Shukhrat / RCSUz

Crescent Movement.

The figures below summarize the humanitarian response of the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and several National Red Cross or Red Crescent societies of other countries to the plight of refugees in Uzbekistan.

2. Response of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

In summary, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement provided the following support:

Contribution	Quantity
Camps visited	40
Planes	7
Staff deployed in Andijan	49
Staff working/deployed in Tashkent	79
Trucks	12

3. ICRC response

Following the influx of refugees from Kyrgyzstan on 11 June, an ICRC team travelled from Tashkent to Andijan on 16 June to support the staff members and later volunteers of the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan, who were the first to arrive on the scene. Following an assessment of the needs of refugees in 27 camps and with a view of stepping up the humanitarian response of the Movement, the ICRC and the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan provided targeted aid and worked on restoring communication between families separated as a consequence of the violence.

Between 17 and 20 June, the ICRC delivered three plane loads of relief materials: 125 MT of food, medical supplies, tents and household and emergency hygiene items. This enabled the ICRC and its Red Cross and Red Crescent partners to boost the support being provided by the authorities of the Republic of Uzbekistan dealing with the crisis. The ICRC's activities focused on



Showers installed by the ICRC in one of the refugee camps in Pakhtaobod district.
Photographer: Aslanov Ikhtiyar / ICRC

restoring or maintaining contact between refugees and their relatives in Kyrgyzstan, and on meeting water and sanitation needs in the camps of Pakhtaobod district in Andijan province.

Within the first week, 36 showers, 52 latrines, 74 water points, four water tanks and 100 rubbish bins were installed in four camps hosting around 7,500 refugees and a water pump was replaced, providing water to 1,380 refugees and 3,500 residents. After the refugees had returned to Kyrgyzstan, the water tanks and rubbish bins were handed over to the local authorities.

While ICRC delegates and volunteers of the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan offered tracing services in all camps visited, particular attention was given to the cases of two young refugee girls, whose families had approached the ICRC mission in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, requesting help in returning their children. In Andijan, the ICRC managed to trace the two girls, who were registered, regularly visited and assisted. After her return to Osh, one of the girls was flown on a Red Cross flight to Bishkek, where she was reunited with her mother on 25 June. The other unaccompanied minor flew from Tashkent to Bishkek on 30 June, where she was met by her relieved mother.



Aizirek, 12 years old, reunited with her mother after 16 days of separation.
Photographer: Dena Fisher / ICRC

The 16 ICRC staff deployed to Andijan worked together with the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan and coordinated their activities with the International Federation's FACT team there until the refugees returned to Kyrgyzstan on 25 June and operational activities ceased. The ICRC's specific contribution was as follows:

- 27 camps visited to assess the needs of refugees
- 3 planes brought 125.3 metric tonnes of relief goods costing 587 783 CHF (509 000 USD) in total: 650 tents, 4,200 blankets, 1,400 jerrycans, 1,400 hygiene kits, 1,400 kitchen sets, 1,400 tarpaulins, 4,500 buckets, 40 tonnes of BP5 high protein biscuits, 10 emergency health kits for 1,000 people/3 months, 10 dressing kits for 1,000 people.
- 36 showers, 52 latrines, 74 water points, 4 water tanks, 100 rubbish bins installed in 4 camps (for around 7,500 refugees); a water pump serving 1,380 refugees and 3,500 residents
- tracing services – including phone calls to re-establish family links – offered to refugees. An unaccompanied minor and a minor separated from her family located, registered, assisted, and reunited with their mothers in Bishkek on 25 June and 30 June respectively.

4. Response by the International Federation and Partner National Societies

The Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan responded from the first day of the influx of refugees into Uzbekistan, helping the authorities to set up camps and cooking food for refugees. It also sent eight truckloads with shelter assistance, clothes and first-aid kits. The International Federation issued a preliminary Emergency Appeal for 4.15 million CHF (approx 3.59 million USD) and sent two planeloads of relief goods to Uzbekistan. A FACT team with specialists in disaster management, relief, shelter provision, logistics, health, media relations and planning, monitoring and evaluation and two senior staff from the

Regional Representation and Europe Zone were deployed to assess the situation and coordinate the response with partners. Partner National Societies (from Turkey, Finland and the United Arab Emirates) sent two planes and four trucks with food and other items.



First-aid kits being unloaded.
Photographer: Jurabaev Shukhrat / RCSUzb

The International Federation's FACT logistics specialist assisted the government warehouse in Andijan by labelling goods received by the Movement in Russian. The media team member has kept the world's media updated on the crisis from a Red Cross Red Crescent perspective and on the activities of the Movement.

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