

Rapid Response Fund Payment Request No.1

Funds Sent To: World Council of Churches Armenia Inter-Church Charitable Round Table Foundation

Amount Sent: USD 55.000

Date: 8th April 2016

Details of Response

Emergency: Emergency Response to the Nagorno - Karabakh conflict

Date of Emergency: 02.04.2016

ACT Requesting Member(s): ACT Armenia Forum

Armenia Round Table Foundation
"UMCOR Armenia" Foundation
ECLOF Foundation in Armenia

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

DETAILS OF THE EMERGENCY

Heavy fighting erupted between Armenian and Azerbaijan forces on 2 April along the southern, south-eastern and north-eastern parts of the line of contact in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone. This is the largest fighting since the ceasefire agreement of 1994. As of 05.04.2016 official sources from the government of Armenia state that 29 soldiers and 3 civilians (among them a 12 year old school boy) have died and 101 are injured (including 2 children); and 28 announced for missing in action as a result of the fighting. Unofficial sources estimated this number to be higher. Seriously, wounded soldiers are being moved to Armenia.

The fighting was most prominent near the villages of Agdere (Martakert), Khojavend (Martouni) and Hadrut (Hadrou). As a result, a total of 14,400 people are affected. According to ACT Alliance member, the Armenian Inter-Church Charitable Round Table Foundation (ART), the majority of the population in the affected territories has been evacuated to the regional centres. People fleeing the conflict have been left with nothing but only the clothes they wear; and most of them also without documents.

ACTIONS TO DATE, AND EMERGENCY NEEDS

On 5 April 2016, the de-facto government of Nagorno-Karabakh (NKR) announced a call with an aim to support thousands of internally displaced and affected population in NKR mainly women, children and the elderly. Assistance called for, was to provide first aid and attending to social issues.

In this regard, the NKR government through the Ministry of Defence formed an operational team for the effective coordination of the support to internally displaced persons (IDPs). The first action by the operative team was to save lives of the affected population in the emergency-situation and move them from border areas under the shelling. The temporary displacement of the population has raised some social problems acquiring urgent solutions. A hotline is available to reach the operational team members with information on initial needs assessment and for coordination support functions.

The national and international media, TV channels, radio and social media provide regular updates.

The ACT Armenia forum foresees implementing its activities through its local partner the Diocese of Artsakh of the Armenian Apostolic Church (AAC) of Holy Etchmiadzin. Since the outbreak of violent clashes on the 2nd of April 2016, AAC provided necessary assistance such as food and psychosocial support to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Distribution of food, medicine and Non-Food-Items (NFIs) was also made possible with the support of local businesses.

In parallel, AAC carried out a preliminary assessment from 4-5 April 2016. It was found, that the highest pressing needs are food, medical assistance, clothes as well as psychosocial support. Although some first aid support has been provided by the International Committee of the Red Cross/ Red Crescent Society, as the only international organisation present on the ground, resources are insufficient and more humanitarian support from different actors is required to cover the humanitarian needs of the conflict-affected people.

Based on the assessment results, the ACT Armenia forum is applying to the ACT Alliance Rapid Response Fund to support 2,000 displaced and affected population in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone. The response will particularly target the most vulnerable groups such as women, children and elderly people who will be assisted with “emergency kits”. The emergency-kits comprise of food and essentials such as medicines and food lasting one month to affected people. Additionally, the local partner AAC will provide psychosocial support to the target population. All proposed activities will be implemented in accordance with the humanitarian principles and human dignity, which is also a core component of the current ACT Alliance global strategy.

PROPOSED EMERGENCY RESPONSE**OVERALL GOAL:**

To contribute to the provision of emergency assistance to conflict affected people in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone

Objectives:

1. Conflict affected peoples’ basic needs such as food, medicine and clothes are adequately addressed.
2. Conflict affected people have improved their psychosocial well-being.

PROPOSED ASSISTANCE:**a. Food Security and NFI (Corresponding to Objective 1)****Activities:**

- Purchase of food and NFIs (medicine and clothes) for at least 2,000 conflict-affected people.
- Distribution of emergency-kits containing food and NFIs to at least 2,000 conflict-affected people in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone.

Indicator: Until the end of the project, 2,000 people received adequate food and NFIs.

Means of Verification: Purchase Order, Distribution list, List of beneficiaries:

b. Psycho-social support (Corresponding to Objective 2)

ACT Armenia Forum local partner, the Armenian Church of Artsakh (AAC), provides psychosocial support to the affected target population through the assistance of clergymen. AAC comprises years of experience and expertise in this field. Additionally, ART Armenia provides support and guidance to AAC in Community Based Psycho-Social Support (CBPS).

Indicator: Until the end of the project, 2,000 conflict-affected people improved their psychosocial well-being.

Means of Verification: Focus Group Discussion, Human Touch Story

c. Overarching Activities

1. Maintain communication with the Armenian Church in Artsakh and coordinate the relief work with the primate of the Armenian Church of Artsakh: ACT Armenia Forum has already established communication with the Armenian Church in Artsakh and will keep it further. It is worth to mention that under the emergency-situation, there is limited access to communication with the Armenian Church in Artsakh and problems in information sharing for security purposes. Constraints are envisaged with lack of immediate information, which however will be tackled by using phone and internet for direct contacts with the Church leadership to ensure relief work coordination in the place.

2. Set up an action group (under the supervision of the Primate) for relief activities: An action group of ACT Armenia Forum members and clergy and a distribution point as well will be established upon the approval of funds in the lead of the primate of the Armenian Church of Artsakh H.E. Archbishop Pargev Martirosyan. The action group members will be in charge of organization and implementation of the aid distribution as well as other activities in the frames of the project.

TARGET POPULATIONS:

Project target populations are the displaced and affected 2,000 IDPs in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone. They are accommodated in regional centres and will be involved in the aid distribution process. Additionally, meetings and interviews with affected target population, local authorities and partners for identifying future needs and prospects will be arranged. This will ensure that activities are tailored to the needs of the affected people and the most vulnerable people are reached.

The IDPs fall into the following gender and age range:

Age range	Number of male	Number of female
0-18	100	332
18-60	120	740
60+	160	548
		Total number 2000

IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS:

On Monday, 4 April 2016, ACT Armenia forum members discussed the conflict and possible support mechanisms. Since the Rapid Response Fund was drafted, ACT Armenia Forum members: ART, UMCOR and ECLOF received the proposal and made their inputs, making suggestions, mainly indicating their roles and active participation in all phases of the programme implementation process.

ACT Armenia Forum is planning to carry out the emergency response project in cooperation with the Diocese of Artsakh of the Armenian Apostolic Church. ACT Armenia Forum members signed the forum's Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in 2011 and they work according to the regulations of MOU.

Regarding the Church partner in Artsakh, it is important to mention that:

- ✓ The Armenian Apostolic Church is a founding member of ART.
- ✓ ART cooperates with the Dioceses of AAC since its establishment.
- ✓ ART has an established network of clergy from all Dioceses and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and is continuously strengthening capacities for responding to emergencies. ACT Armenia Forum members participated in the formulation of its Emergency Preparedness Response Plan (EPRP). They also participated in the Community Based Psychosocial Support (CBPS) Training of Trainers (ToTs), organized by ART, ACT Alliance and Norwegian Church Aid (NCA). Forum members are involved in the Disaster Management Country Team and are conversant with policies and standards for quality delivery of humanitarian assistance and mainstreaming psychosocial support guiding principles in their work. Since 2011, ACT Armenia Forum had the opportunities to work with the landslide-affected people in Tavoush region, Armenia, later in 2012-2016 with Syrian refugees providing them both, humanitarian and psychosocial support.
- ✓ All members of the action group will sign the ACT Alliance Code of Conduct for the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, fraud and corruption and abuse of power.
- ✓ ART has cooperated with church partners in implementation of humanitarian response projects and has experience of working with refugees in 2012 and 2013.

COORDINATION:

The emergency response project activities have been discussed together by ACT Armenia forum members. They have agreed on coordination during project implementation. Administrative and organizational tasks and purchases. Aid distribution and counselling will be done by the Diocese of AAC in Artsakh.

Needs assessment has been made by the Diocese of Artsakh (AAC) in conjunction with the operational team of the government. ACT Armenia Forum will cooperate with the Church for the coordination of the response. Monitoring/reporting will be implemented by the action group, under the leadership of the primate of AAC and representatives of ACT Armenia Forum members.

COMMUNICATIONS:

The displaced are the centre of attention of media and the government. Information on this ACT response will be widely disseminated through local, regional and international media and TV Channels, on web sites of ACT Armenia Forum members and in social networks. ACT Armenia forum will ensure communication flow through: a) preparing a list of the communications contacts; b) establishing close cooperation and

communication with AAC and action group members; c) providing information to media, journalists, photographers, etc; e) holding meetings between in-country communicators to generate collegiality among member organizations, such as Disaster Management Team of the United Nations and sharing resources, itineraries and contacts, etc.

PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS:

ACT Armenia forum members will adhere to ACT policies and codes of conduct. Distributed food will be minimum 2,000 Kcal/ day and follow the nutrition recommendations of the SPHERE standards. A detailed list will be submitted to the ACT Secretariat with the first situation report.

As a member of the ACT Alliance, ACT Armenia forum members strive to protect, without discrimination, the rights and dignity of affected populations with whom they seek to serve with their response activities. This principled approach in conjunction with the participative approach ensures human dignity.

PLANNED IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD:

The duration of the project implementation is 2 months from the date of receipt of funding. The ACT Armenia forum will provide full reporting (narrative and financial) to ACT Alliance within 2 months (60 days).

HUMAN RESOURCES AND ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDS:

ACT Armenia forum members with support of the Armenian Apostolic Church of Holy Etchmiadzin will spend the Rapid response Funds (RRF). Necessary relief items will be purchased and distributed to the displaced population of all nationalities that found shelter in regional centres.

The ACT Armenia Forum will involve the following staff in project implementation:

1. ART Executive Director
2. ART Emergency Programme Officer and Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
3. Chief Accountant
4. Driver and the Administrative secretary
5. ACT Armenia Forum member representatives.

Armenia Round Table is responsible for the administration of the funds and will control to spend RRFs according to the planning. Financial expenses will be done in Armenia, financial documentation will be provided to ACT Alliance with the lists of beneficiaries and other materials - pictures, records, if possible. ART programme and administrative staff will be responsible for the management of the project implementation. The ART Executive Director and Artsakh Primate will have oversight of the project. Additionally, UMCOR and ECLOF will support in procurement and logistics as well as aid item distribution. ART will ensure the auditing of the project and submit both, narrative and financial reports to the secretariat.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION:

The ACT Armenia forum members and the implementing partner – Diocese of Artsakh (AAC), will carry out monitoring and reporting. ACT Armenia forum members will be in charge of monitoring the project implementation. ACT Armenia forum will be responsible for the evaluation of the results and verifying progress against indicators of the project.

REPORTING SCHEDULE

Type of Report	Due date
Situation report	Weekly
Final narrative and financial report	08 July 2016
Audit report	08 August 2016

FINANCIAL SUMMARY/BUDGET ACTION

Requesting ACT member: World Council of Churches Armenia Inter-Church Charitable Round Table Foundation

Appeal Number: RRF 1/ 2016

Appeal Title: Emergency Response to the Nagorno - Karabakh conflict

Implementing Period: 07.04-06.06.2016

	Appeal Budget AMD	Appeal Budget USD
<u>INCOME</u>		
INCOME - Received by Requesting Member via ACT Secretariat, Geneva		
Date		
Donor Name	Payment advice #	
List by date & donor name and fill in amount- indicate original currency amount and payment advice #	0.00	0.00
INCOME - Cash received directly from donors		
Date		
Donor Name		
List by date, donor name and fill in amount- indicate original currency amount	0.00	0.00
Interest earned	0.00	0.00
INCOME - In-kind donations received		
Date		
Donor Name		
List by date, donor name and fill in amount- indicate items received in brief	0.00	0.00
INCOME- FIRM PLEDGES (made both through ACT Secretariat and directly)		
Date		
Donor Name		
List by date, donor name and fill in amount - indicate original currency amount	0.00	0.00
TOTAL INCOME	0.00	0.00

EXPENDITURE						
		Type of	No. of	Unit Cost	Appeal Budget AMD	Appeal Budget USD
		Unit	Units	AMD	AMD	USD
DIRECT COST (LIST EXPENDITURE BY SECTOR)_						

	Food Security, medicals and clothing (for 2000 people x 1 month)	Package	2'000	12'000	24'000'000	50'209
TOTAL DIRECT ASSISTANCE					24'000'000	50'209

TRANSPORT, WAREHOUSING & HANDLING

	Transport (of relief materials)					
	Hire/ Rental of Vehicles	Estimate			184'000	385
	Fuel	Litre	400	370	148'000	310
	Accommodation and meals for 4 people related to distribution and monitoring activities	Day	5	144'000	720'000	1'506
	Salaries / wages for Drivers	Estimate			200'000	418
TOTAL TRANSPORT, WAREHOUSING & HANDLING					1'252'000	2'619
TOTAL CAPITAL ASSETS					0	0

TOTAL DIRECT COST**25'252'000 52'828****INDIRECT COSTS: PERSONNEL, ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT**

	Staff salaries					
	Salaries 40 % for Programme Director)	month	2	134'400	268'800	562
	Salaries 15 % for Finance Director)	month	2	98'100	196'200	410
	Office stationery	Estimate			47'800	100.00
	Communications					
	Telephone and fax	Estimate			47'800	100.00
TOTAL INDIRECT COST: PERSONNEL, ADMIN. & SUPPORT					560'600	1'172

AUDIT, MONITORING & EVALUATION

	Audit of ACT appeal	Estimate			478'000	1'000
TOTAL AUDIT, MONITORING & EVALUATION					478'000	1'000

TOTAL EXPENDITURE exclusive International Coordination Fee**26'290'600 55'000****TOTAL EXPENDITURE inclusive International Coordination Fee****26'290'600 55'000****BALANCE REQUESTED (minus available income)****26'290'600 55'000****EXCHANGE RATE: local currency to 1 USD**

Budget rate

1.00 USD =

478 AMD

The ACT Secretariat has approved the use of US\$55,000 towards the budget from its Rapid Response Fund and would be grateful to receive contributions to wholly or partially replenish this payment. Should there be an appeal for this emergency, the RRF payment will be considered as an advance.

For further information, please contact:

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