

Kyrgyzstan Situation

2011 Supplementary Budget Requirements

Protection and assistance to returnees and internally displaced persons in southern Kyrgyzstan



Cover photo: Survivors of the June events in the remains of their home, destroyed in a violent attack in Jalalabad, southern Kyrgyzstan.
UNHCR / S. SHULMAN

Donor Relations and Resource Mobilization Service

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Kyrgyzstan

Communal violence, destruction and looting in southern Kyrgyzstan during June 2010 led to the death of over 400 people and the injury of another 2,000, the destruction of close to 2,000 homes, the looting of many more, and the forced displacement of 375,000 people, of whom 75,000 fled to Uzbekistan, while 300,000 were displaced within Kyrgyzstan. UNHCR has been coordinating the protection, as well as the emergency shelter and non-food relief clusters of the international humanitarian response. During 2011, UNHCR will need to continue supporting the protection and reintegration of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees by delivering humanitarian aid and improving the human rights, rule of law and protection situation, providing livelihood opportunities, as well as supporting community reconciliation, peace and stability in Osh, Jalalabad and Batken provinces of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Inter-communal violence erupted in the city of Osh on 10 June 2010 and spread to Jalalabad province. Lasting several days, the violence was characterised by widespread arson, looting and the destruction of private, commercial and State property. The Government confirmed that 426 people were killed during the events. However, the real figure may be much higher, as many victims were buried without being registered.

Some 375,000 people were forced to flee their homes as a result of these events, which is approximately 18 per cent of the total population of Osh and Jalalabad. Some 300,000 of these people were internally displaced within the affected provinces, while another 75,000 sought refuge in neighbouring Uzbekistan, most of whom repatriated to Kyrgyzstan before the Constitutional referendum of 27 June. By January

2011, most refugees and IDPs had returned. An estimated 169,500 people still remain displaced.

Although the situation stabilised during the second half of 2010 and the beginning of 2011, the security, human rights and protection environment in southern Kyrgyzstan remains precarious. Continuing human rights violations, including arbitrary arrests and detentions, harassment and discrimination are fuelling distrust between the communities and the law enforcement authorities and need to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

In response to acute humanitarian needs generated by the violence and displacement, humanitarian partners launched a Flash Appeal in June 2010. The Appeal was revised twice, in July and November, to reflect changes in the operational environment and

incorporate the results of regular needs assessments. The revised and extended Humanitarian Flash Appeal, covering the period of June 2010 - June 2011, seeks a total of USD 96 million, out of which USD 34 million remains unmet.

To address the needs of the displaced populations in Kyrgyzstan in 2010, UNHCR requested a supplementary budget of USD 23,062,122. Thanks to generous support by donors and partners, the programme was fully funded.

For the entire year of 2011, UNHCR is requesting a supplementary budget of USD 11,442,964 in order to support returnees and displaced persons through protection, assistance and reconciliation activities.

Achievements in 2010

Immediate emergency response

UNHCR's initial emergency response met life-saving protection, shelter and non-food needs of internally displaced persons in Kyrgyzstan and of refugees in Uzbekistan. Within a few days of

the eruption of the violence, UNHCR partners started to address urgent needs for physical security, food, clothing, medical and hygiene items as well as psycho-social and legal assistance. A UNHCR

emergency team was deployed to Kyrgyzstan to support the expanding operation. As soon as security clearance was obtained, UNHCR opened offices in Jalalabad and resumed full

operations in Osh. Between 21-28 June, UNHCR airlifted 120 metric tons of aid to Osh, which was then distributed among those displaced in Osh and Jalalabad provinces. At the end of June, two cross-border

convoys, including 19 trucks brought UNHCR non-food relief items that were no longer needed in Uzbekistan from Andijan to Osh. By August, UNHCR had provided victims of the violence with over

27,600 blankets, 5,300 kitchen sets, 9,600 jerry cans, 5,700 plastic sheets, 7,800 sleeping mats, 2,200 buckets, 1,600 mattresses, 2,600 family tents, and a variety of other relief items.



Shelters built by UNHCR are warm, safe and durable. UNHCR/ T. Bjorvatn

Shelter

While some displaced people were accommodated in tents pitched near their destroyed homes and others were staying with host families or in collective centres, the priority for UNHCR was to provide the displaced population with warm shelters before winter. In late June 2010, the shelter cluster of the international humanitarian response, led by UNHCR, undertook a rapid joint shelter assessment. By late July, an emergency shelter strategy had been developed and endorsed by

the Government and donors. By late August, UNHCR received permission from the authorities to start reconstruction and remove large amounts of rubble in all affected areas. Despite formidable logistical challenges to source, purchase and deliver to all sites large amounts of mainly locally purchased construction materials, within 100 days, UNHCR and its shelter partners (ACTED, the Danish Refugee Council and Save the Children), supported by the State Directorate for Reconstruction

and Rehabilitation and local authorities, completed the construction of 1,301 transitional shelters (built on the foundations of destroyed houses). The successful completion of the UNHCR emergency transitional shelter programme provided more than 13,400 people with durable, safe and warm two-room shelters before the onset of winter. This facilitated the reintegration of these residents on their own property in their neighbourhoods of origin.



A mobile team of NGO lawyers and authorities helps in restoring documents. UNHCR/ T. Bjorvatn

Protection

As lead agency for the protection cluster of the international humanitarian response, UNHCR immediately coordinated closely with other protection agencies on key issues such as human rights, gender-based violence and child protection, as well as land and property rights issues. Protection assessments, monitoring and interventions by UNHCR and partners commenced in mid-June. Protection monitoring first assessed and assisted populations on the move, including at the border with Uzbekistan. Focus then turned to communities of origin, return and internal displacement. By early autumn, community mobilisation activities complemented individual monitoring through a community-based approach.

One key protection concern identified in the aftermath of the

June violence was the loss or destruction of personal identity, property and other documents. To address this concern, UNHCR-funded mobile documentation teams – composed of State Registration Service (OVIR and ZAGS) officers and NGO lawyers – assisted persons in affected communities in re-issuing their personal identification documents and civil status registration. This allowed authorities to assist citizens who could not approach government offices for security or other reasons. By the end of the year, these mobile documentation teams had conducted close to 10,500 consultations on the restoration of documentation. Advocating for a waiver of fees and reimbursing some of them, UNHCR ensured that many persons affected by the violence were able to restore their lost passports or

other documents, which are vital to access rights and services.

To ease reintegration and prevent further displacement – and in tandem with its emergency shelter project – UNHCR also focused on housing, land and property (HLP) rights issues. During the second half of 2010, UNHCR partner lawyers established a mobile legal clinic and provided 1,943 individual consultations on housing, land and property rights to affected persons who needed to restore or establish their property ownership rights.

A free protection helpline, established by UNHCR shortly after the outbreak of violence, received, addressed and referred almost 3,300 calls.

Other protection activities focused on the specific needs of vulnerable

victims of the events, including separated children, disabled

persons and the elderly, ensuring their access to existing services

and assistance, or supplementing it as needed.

Winter aid

In October, UNHCR and partners launched winter aid activities by distributing non-food items such as blankets, warm clothing and heating support (stoves, coal) to thousands of families who urgently needed it. These activities were also extended to social institutions such as hospitals, elderly homes,

and orphanages. By early December, UNHCR completed the distribution of winter clothing, donated by the Japanese retail company UNIQLO, to almost 25,000 people from all communities. A similar number of vulnerable persons received heating support in the form of one

ton of coal per family from UNHCR. The Office also distributed 13,700 folding beds, 19,600 mattresses, 35,200 bedding sets and 30,000 pillows, donated by the IKEA Foundation to persons who had lost all furniture when their homes were burned or looted as well as to some 100 social institutions.

Key activities and needs in 2011

In 2011, UNHCR will address the remaining humanitarian and protection needs of some 280,000 persons in southern Kyrgyzstan. As coordinator of the protection cluster and through its own projects, UNHCR will strengthen human rights protection and rule of law, facilitate the sustainable reintegration of returnees, and assist IDPs as well as host communities. The Office will facilitate and support peacebuilding and reconciliation among communities and between communities and authorities. UNHCR will focus on the legal and socio-economic needs of persons affected by the violence and displacement and pay particular attention to women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities and other persons with specific needs. As long as peace and stability in southern Kyrgyzstan remains fragile, UNHCR will continue preparedness activities.

Protection

Through systematic protection monitoring, the protection helpline and community mobilization, UNHCR will continue to identify protection gaps and vulnerable groups, with a particular focus on remaining IDPs, families who lost the bread-winners, elderly people without care-givers, people with disabilities, and women and children. Individual cases will be referred to service providers and relevant clusters. Through its legal NGO partners as well as direct advocacy, interventions, and technical assistance, the Office will improve equal, non-discriminatory access to social services and benefits, and an enjoyment of social rights.

Following the successful completion of its shelter project in 2010, UNHCR will continue to focus on ownership documentation and the official registration of all shelters with the respective State organs. The Office, through its implementing partners, will also continue to provide legal advice and representation to people who need to restore or establish their property ownership rights. This remains a priority, as almost 50% of beneficiaries of the shelter project lost their property documentation during the conflict and over 70% did not have legalised property ownership rights registered. These housing, land and property rights activities aim to protect victims of

forced eviction, illegal expropriation, harassment and other threats.

The provision of non-food winter aid to affected and vulnerable families will continue until March 2011.

Through targeted training and technical assistance, the Office will improve survivors' access to professional psycho-social counselling and assistance.

In early 2011, UNHCR will complete a verification of the affected population in the south of Kyrgyzstan, which will provide a solid basis for the planning and implementation of projects for protection and other clusters.

Quick-impact projects

In order to facilitate a smooth transition from an emergency to a sustainable reintegration phase, UNHCR will implement community-based quick impact projects. Local infrastructure, community development, and livelihoods projects will be designed and implemented to promote

reconciliation and peace, targeting and connecting communities of different backgrounds. Projects identified by local communities that aim to address protection, social, health and other concerns revealed during protection monitoring will be prioritized. These projects will be implemented in close coordination

with local authorities and will contribute to building trust between them and local communities. These small-scale and short-term projects will also assist a smooth transition from humanitarian to recovery responses and aim at filling gaps between larger-scale developmental interventions.

Reconciliation and peace-building

In line with the Office's efforts to focus on rebuilding relationships among different ethnic groups and communities in southern Kyrgyzstan, it will continue to design and implement activities to promote human rights, rule of law, reconciliation, diversity, tolerance and inter-ethnic dialogue. These will mainly be community-based

confidence-building activities, including those that facilitate dialogue between communities and authorities and support community development by rehabilitating community infrastructure. Needs of special groups, such as women, children and the elderly will be mainstreamed and a specific focus will be placed on youth. Advocacy

and awareness activities to enhance transparency and accountability of State agencies will also be undertaken. These activities will be linked with findings of protection monitoring, and whenever possible, will be supplemented by quick impact projects.

Emergency preparedness

The Ferghana valley remains key for UNHCR's preparedness and response capacity in Central Asia. As long as peace and stability remains precarious, UNHCR will need to maintain an adequate level of emergency preparedness. Activities will include the

establishment of early warning mechanisms, including border monitoring, inter-agency contingency planning, the replenishment of emergency stocks of relief items as well as the strengthening of the capacity of local actors.

2011 Supplementary budget requirements for Kyrgyzstan situation

Original Kyrgyzstan 2011 budget: USD 2,472,711

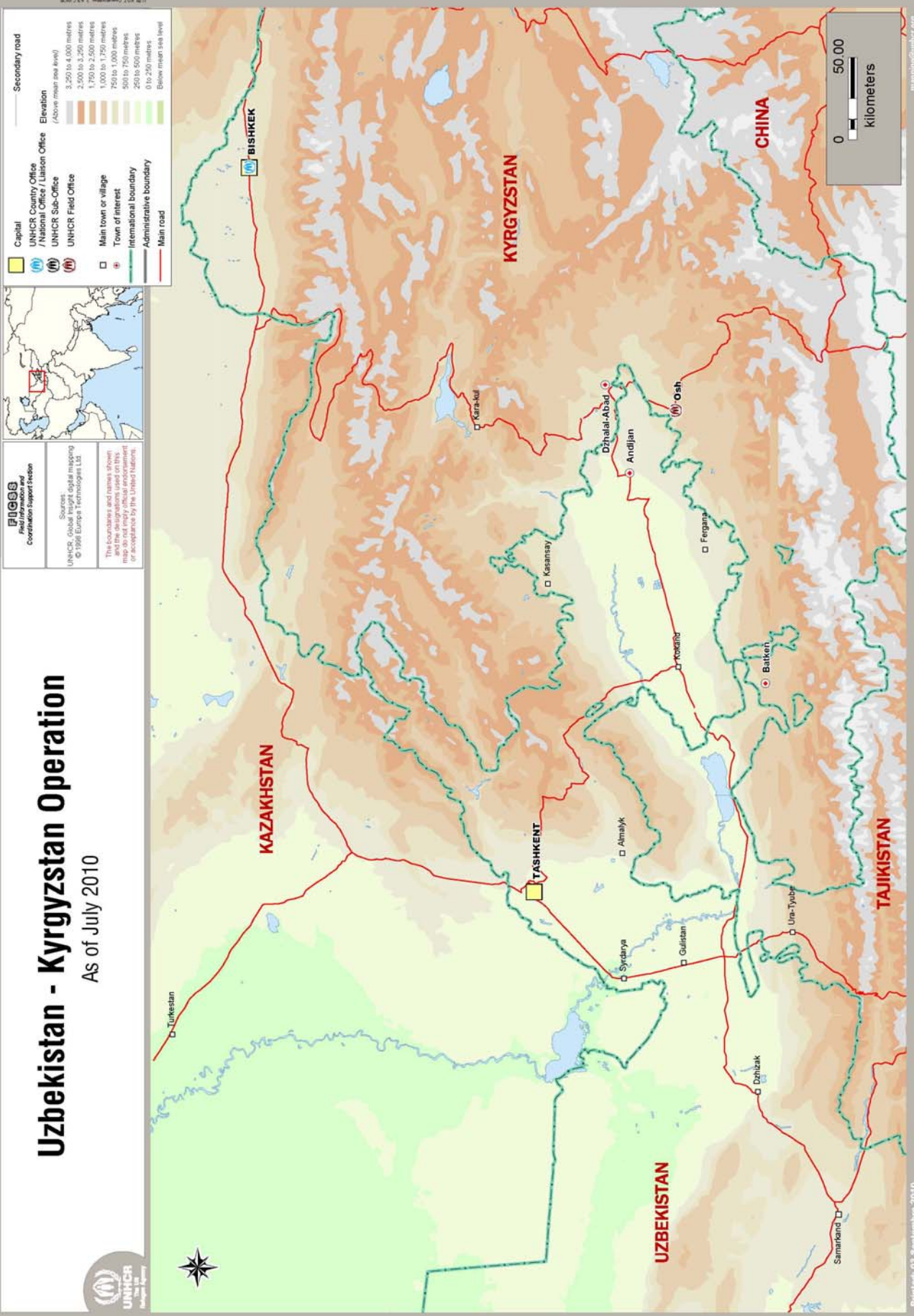
Original Kazakhstan Regional Office 2011 budget: USD 6,682,278

RIGHTS GROUPS AND OBJECTIVES	in USD
Favourable Protection Environment	
Prevention of displacement is strengthened	658,019
National legal framework developed or strengthened	283,019
National administrative framework affords better protection	822,419
Cooperation with partners strengthened	258,019
Emergency management strengthened	458,019
Subtotal	2,479,495
Fair Protection Processes	
Level of individual documentation increased	802,210
Subtotal	802,210
Basic Needs and Services	
Population has sufficient basic domestic and hygiene items	1,849,655
Services for groups with specific needs strengthened	1,414,655
Subtotal	3,264,310
Community Participation and Self-Management	
Level of self-reliance and livelihoods improved	2,169,581
Community self-management and equal representation strengthened and expanded	1,081,981
Subtotal	3,251,562
External Relations	
Public information improves quality of protection	215,324
Subtotal	215,324
Logistics and Operations Support	
Logistics and supply optimized to serve operational needs	201,606
Programme management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized	316,206
Subtotal	517,812
Headquarters and Regional Support	
Emergency response capacity and effectiveness reinforced	163,646
Subtotal	163,646
SUBTOTAL	10,694,359
7 per cent support cost	748,605
TOTAL SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET REQUIREMENTS¹	11,442,964

¹ Out of the total supplementary budget, USD 682,291 is for activities in the Kazakhstan Regional Office; USD 10,760,673 is for activities in Kyrgyzstan.

Uzbekistan - Kyrgyzstan Operation

As of July 2010



FIGGIS
Field Information and
Coordination Support Section

Sources:
UNHCR, Global Insight digital mapping
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