

# DREF operation final report



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## **NIGER: HARSH WEATHER IN BILMA**

**DREF operation n° MDRNE001  
13 June 2008**

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

**Summary: CHF 48,000 (USD 38,400 or EUR 29,629) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 8 February 2007 to support the national society in delivering assistance to 600 families displaced by floods and vulnerable to the sudden onset of cold weather.**

**The living conditions of these families, still living in shelters, were improved through the provision of blankets and mats, to help protect them from the cold. In addition, branch capacity in community-based first aid was strengthened, with 20 new volunteers receiving training. Rehabilitation efforts at community level were reinforced through the provision of building materials.**

[\*<click here for the final financial report, or here to view contact details>\*](#)

## **The situation**

In August 2006, the town of Bilma – located in the region of Agadez, some 1,600 km north-east of Niamey, Niger – experienced flooding, following what was reported to be the highest rainfall recorded in the area since 1923. As a result, more than 1,194 homes were destroyed and 4,369 people rendered homeless (of which 1,520 children).

The affected population was housed in temporary emergency shelters. In January 2007, temperatures of less than 10° C were recorded in the area, exacerbating the already difficult conditions of the families rendered homeless by the floods, and still without permanent accommodation.

The Red Cross Society of Niger (RCSN), in collaboration with the Federation's Regional Delegation in Dakar and with support from the Irish Red Cross, had provided food, emergency shelter and essential non-food items in the wake of the floods. Despite these earlier interventions, more than 600 households remained in a precarious situation, vulnerable to the extreme temperature variations. This DREF allocation aimed to enable the national society to fulfill immediate needs for blankets and warm clothing – especially for children. Plans also included sensitization activities for preparedness in case of future flooding.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Following on the food and non-food relief assistance provided during the flooding, NRCS proceeded with the procurement of blankets and mats, which were then transported to Bilma for distribution to some 610 households, previously displaced by the floods, living in temporary shelters and vulnerable to the cold weather.

In addition, NRCS provided reconstruction materials to the Coordinating Committee established in Bilma for this purpose, with which NRCS and the local branch worked in close cooperation. Twenty volunteers received training in community-based first aid, ready to provide basic health care assistance in future disasters in the area.

### Progress towards objectives

#### Relief distributions (basic non-food items)

**Objective: Contribute to improve the living conditions of the affected populations, during the cold season, and promote preparedness for future potential floods amongst the population.**

#### Activities planned:

- Procuring NFIs, including blankets, clothes and mats.
- Distributing NFIs, including blankets, clothing and mats.
- Recruiting new volunteers.
- Training the new volunteers on good practices in disaster management and community-based first aid.
- Social mobilization on floods preparedness, including building dykes and gutters.

#### Impact:

The living conditions of families displaced by the floods and subject to the harsh weather were improved, through the provision of essential NFI:

- NRCS procured and distributed 2,000 blankets and 390 mats to 610 households.
- Distributions were carried out by a team of 12 volunteers and 2 supervisors over a period of 4 days.
- Reconstruction materials were procured and handed-over to the President of the local Coordinating Committee, responsible for post-floods rehabilitation activities.

The disaster management capacity of the Bilma branch has been enhanced and its volunteer base strengthened:

- 20 volunteers received training in community-based first aid over a period of 10 days.

#### Challenges:

- Deteriorating security situation in the area caused delays in distributions.
- Huge distances between points of procurement and distribution (1,600km - of which 700km over desert terrain) and need to travel in convoy added to the delays.

### Conclusion

#### Lessons learned:

- Good collaboration between partners at national and local levels created good will and effective operations in the field.
- Reinforcement of branch capacity in community-based first aid needs to be complemented by strong national-level driven training in disaster preparedness and response as a matter of priority. A cascading approach from regional to local level is envisaged.

## How we work

*All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.*

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

### Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

## Contact information

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

- In **Niger**: Aly Bandiaré, President, Red Cross Society of Niger, Niamey; email: [crniger@intnet.ne](mailto:crniger@intnet.ne); telephone +227.73 30 37, fax 227 73 24 61
- In **Senegal**: Alasan Senghore, Federation Head of West and Central Africa Zone, Dakar; email: [alasan.senghore@ifrc.org](mailto:alasan.senghore@ifrc.org); telephone +221 33 869 36 41; fax +221 33 820 25 34;
- In **Geneva**: Niels Scott, Federation Operations Coordinator (Africa); email: [niels.scott@ifrc.org](mailto:niels.scott@ifrc.org); telephone +41 22 730 4527; fax + 41 22 733

[<final financial report below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

# International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRNE001 - Niger - Cold Wave Floods Bilma

Finance Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/2-2008/4
Budget Timeframe	2007/2-2008/4
Appeal	MDRNE001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
<b>A. Budget</b>		48,800				48,800
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>		0				0
<b>Income</b>						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		44,877				44,877
<b>C5. Other Income</b>		44,877				44,877
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)</b>		44,877				44,877
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>		44,877				44,877
<b>Appeal Coverage</b>		92%				92%

## II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>		0				0
<b>C. Income</b>		44,877				44,877
<b>E. Expenditure</b>		-44,877				-44,877
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>		0				0

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## III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A							B	A - B
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		<b>48,800</b>					<b>48,800</b>	
<b>Supplies</b>								
Shelter - Relief	20,172						20,172	
Construction Materials			1,161			1,161	-1,161	
Clothing & textiles			27,638			27,638	-27,638	
Water & Sanitation	4,400						4,400	
Medical & First Aid	200						200	
Teaching Materials	600						600	
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>25,372</b>		<b>28,799</b>			<b>28,799</b>	<b>-3,427</b>	
<b>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>								
Others Machinery & Equipment			322			322	-322	
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>			<b>322</b>			<b>322</b>	<b>-322</b>	
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Distribution & Monitoring			755			755	-755	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	5,200		3,486			3,486	1,714	
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>5,200</b>		<b>4,241</b>			<b>4,241</b>	<b>959</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>								
International Staff Payroll Benefits			279			279	-279	
National Society Staff			2,008			2,008	-2,008	
<b>Total Personnel</b>			<b>2,287</b>			<b>2,287</b>	<b>-2,287</b>	
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	3,020		1,552			1,552	1,468	
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>3,020</b>		<b>1,552</b>			<b>1,552</b>	<b>1,468</b>	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	4,927		1,567			1,567	3,360	
Information & Public Relation			350			350	-350	
Office Costs	500		380			380	120	
Communications	2,000		577			577	1,423	
Other General Expenses	4,609		1,886			1,886	2,723	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>12,036</b>		<b>4,760</b>			<b>4,760</b>	<b>7,276</b>	
<b>Programme Support</b>								
Program Support	3,172		2,917			2,917	255	
<b>Total Programme Support</b>	<b>3,172</b>		<b>2,917</b>			<b>2,917</b>	<b>255</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>48,800</b>		<b>44,877</b>			<b>44,877</b>	<b>3,923</b>	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>			<b>3,923</b>			<b>3,923</b>		