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Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) Gabon : Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRGA006
GLIDE n° FF-2012-000101-GAB
18 June 2012

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) 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 and Red Crescent emergency response. 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 117,612 was allocated from the IFRC Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Gabonese Red Cross National Society to provide emergency assistance to some 1,606 beneficiaries (321 families). Unearmarked funds to replenish DREF are encouraged.

This operation is expected to be implemented over 4 months, and will therefore be completed by the end of October, 2012; a Final Report will be made available by end January, 2013 (3 months after the end of the operation).

[<click here for the DREF budget;](#) [here for contact details;](#) or [here to view the map of the affected areas>](#)

The situation

Heavy rains hit the capital city of Libreville in early June 2012, causing serious floods that impacted the residential areas of SOTEGA, Cocotier, Avea, Boulevard Akébé frontier, Apostrophe, Belle Vue 3, Awendje CES B2, Plein ciel/ODEKA, PK 5 and Nzeng'Ayong. One person died and a total of some 77,845 people (15,569 families) have been affected. Of these families, 321 (some 1,606) are considered most vulnerable and are considered in particular need. Most of the affected families have lost many household possessions (furniture, beddings, cooking utensils). Since no resettlement site has been identified, some of the families made homeless are being hosted by their relatives while the majority is still in their destroyed or damaged residences. The Gabonese Red Cross has responded by providing immediate emergency assistance to the most vulnerable in the form of non-food relief supplies, and by reinforcing hygiene and sanitation promotion efforts to reduce the risk of contamination from dirty water (this intervention plans to focus on community sensitization for some 400,000 people in 4 affected districts).



Volunteers of the Gabonese RC assisting those affected by the floods.

Picture: Arthur Ghislain Mackossot, DM, Gabonese Red Cross

The following table summarizes the situation in Libreville based on initial assessments:

Administrative Unit	Neighborhood	Houses destroyed completely	Houses destroyed partially	Number of completely flooded houses that lost all property	Number of most vulnerable families	Vulnerable people						Total vulnerable people per locality
						Children below 5 years	Pregnant women	Other women	Other Men	Old people	People with physical disability	
2 nd District	SOTEGA	0	1	2	3	4	1	6	5	1	0	17
	Cocotier	0	0	4	4	5	0	9	7	2	0	23
	Avea	0	0	24	24	34	3	39	33	10	1	120
	Boulevard	0	1	22	23	15	2	49	41	1	0	108
3 rd District	Akébé frontière	0	5	8	13	7	0	20	16	0	0	43
	Apostrophe	0	0	30	30	31	0	64	53	6	0	154
	Belle-vue 3	2	26	10	38	41	1	79	66	0	0	187
	Baie des cochons	0	0	82	82	140	11	143	116	10	0	420
4 th District	Awendje CES B2	0	0	22	22	25	3	45	38	2	0	113
	Plein ciel/ODEKA	1	1	29	31	34	2	65	55	1	0	157
	PK 5	0	0	33	33	42	4	60	51	5	1	163
6 th District	Nzeng-Ayong,	0	1	17	18	10	0	47	39	4	1	101
Total		3	35	283	321	388	27	626	520	42	3	1606

Source: Gabonese Red Cross

Coordination and partnership

The Gabonese Prime Minister issued a press release on this situation in the Gabonese capital, and the Ministry of Interior, Public Security, Immigration and Decentralization is working in collaboration with the Gabonese Red Cross in setting up a system to register the number of flood-affected people in order to assess the needs and damage caused by this flood. Further assessments are underway.

The Gabonese first lady launched a project in “La baie des cochons” district where the sanitation situation is particularly acute. Assistance is being coordinated by the Ministry of the Interior civil protection unit. Within the Red Cross Movement, the Gabonese Red Cross is leading the coordination of assistance. Regular coordination meetings are being organized, and one regional disaster response team (RDRT) will be deployed to support the Gabonese Red Cross.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Gabonese Red Cross has deployed 33 first-aid volunteers in the field under the supervision of 7 other volunteers trained as members of the National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) in January 2012. These volunteers have combed nearly 12 affected neighborhoods to identify those in need of assistance, assess needs, and damage. The volunteers have also been assisting the affected families in transporting some of their property and administering first aid.

The needs

Of the 321 families (some 1,606 most affected and vulnerable people), most are women and children living in precarious conditions. They expressed the immediate need for non-food items in the form of tarpaulin for emergency shelter, kitchen sets, buckets and jerry cans for drinking water and storage, hygiene kits for women of childbearing age, soap, mattresses (foam), blankets and treated mosquito nets. Sanitation and sensitization equipment will be made available to volunteers for environmental sanitation and hygiene promotion.

The 40 mobilized volunteers will also be briefed on the various activities to be undertaken. Concerning sensitization (mass and door-to-door) and hygiene promotion, they will be given brochures, poster, images boxes, megaphones and sanitation kits for the disinfection of latrines and houses completely flooded by sewage and dirty water. Megaphones will be made available to each district committee to facilitate mass sensitization.

Part of relief materials needed for this operation are being sent from the IFRC's emergency stock in Yaoundé to the National Society headquarters in Libreville, then onward to the 12 affected neighborhoods. The IFRC emergency stock in Yaoundé will be subsequently replenished. Local Gabonese Red Cross committees of the 4 districts concerned will also provide 12 sanitation kits to support clean-up efforts.

The proposed operation

Relief distributions (basic non food items)

Outcome: Immediate non-food items need of 321 most vulnerable families (1,606 persons) in 4 districts of Libreville are met through the distribution of NFIs.	
Output: Appropriate non-food items (relief supplies) are distributed to vulnerable households.	Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase and distribution of 642 tarpaulins, 642 mosquito nets, 803 blankets, 803 mattresses, 4,818 bars of soap (200g), 321 buckets, 321 jerry cans, 321 kitchen kits, and 300 hygiene kits. • Training (refresher) of 40 volunteers in Libreville in distribution techniques. • Preparation of equipment and other tools distribution. • Ensure monitoring, evaluation of, and reporting on distribution activities.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: Contribute to the improvement of living conditions of some 400,000 people in 4 districts of Libreville affected by floods through sanitation and hygiene promotion activities for 3 months.	
Output: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities	Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refresher training of 40 volunteers in Libreville on reducing the risk of flooding. • Produce image boxes, leaflets and posters on how to reduce flooding risks and epidemics and other diseases related to dirty water and poor hygienic conditions. • Community sensitization in the 4 districts on the risks of flooding and epidemics and other diseases related to dirty water and poor hygienic conditions. • Purchase of 4 megaphones and handing over to the National Society • Purchase of 12 sanitation kits and handing over to the National Society. • Implementation of hygiene and sanitation promotion activities. • Complete disinfection of latrines and houses. • Ensure monitoring, evaluation of, and reporting on activities related to water, sanitation and hygiene promotion.

Contact information:

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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How we work

All IFRC 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 the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

DREF OPERATION

15/06/2012

Gabon: Floods

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	8,223
Shelter - Transitional	
Construction - Housing	
Construction - Facilities	
Construction - Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	19,918
Food	
Seeds & Plants	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	8,202
Medical & First Aid	962
Teaching Materials	
Ustensils & Tools	13,272
Other Supplies & Services	9,021
Emergency Response Units	
Cash Disbursements	
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	59,597
Land & Buildings	
Vehicles Purchase	
Computer & Telecom Equipment	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	
Medical Equipment	
Other Machiney & Equipment	
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	346
Dsitribution & Monitoring	11,112
Transport & Vehicle Costs	1,624
Logistics Services	
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	13,082
International Staff	5,808
National Staff	
National Society Staff	1,923
Volunteers	9,146
Total PERSONNEL	16,877
Consultants	
Professional Fees	
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	5,365
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	5,365
Travel	4,936
Information & Public Relations	8,538
Office Costs	500
Communications	1,058
Financial Charges	481
Other General Expenses	
Shared Support Services	
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	15,513
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	7,178
Total INDIRECT COSTS	7,178

TOTAL BUDGET

117,612



Gabon: Flash flood

