

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MALI: DROUGHT

DREF operation n° MDRML002
20 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 156,400 (USD126,845 or EUR 99,247) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 2 August 2006 to support the national society in delivering food assistance to some 25,000 beneficiaries over a period of 1 month.

A poor seasonal harvest, compounded by renewed insurgency activity, led to a situation of food insecurity in 11 communities within the region of Kidal. Despite the huge distances, the nomadic nature of many of the communities and the onset of rains – all of which contributed to rendering transportation difficult - the Mali Red Cross Society, with support from Federation operations in Niamey and Dakar, successfully distributed over 370 MT of food to 27,702 beneficiaries.

In addition, MRCS capacities were reinforced through training on registration and distribution techniques, provided to 63 Red Cross team members, of which 44 volunteers.

The operation raised awareness of the nutritional value of food rations and provided over 5,000 families with a 30-day ration of food at a critical time, thereby enhancing their food security and helping to reduce the displacement of the local population.

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



Mali Red Cross Society distributes food to drought-affected beneficiaries in Kidal Region.

The situation

A scarcity of rains led to renewed drought in the Kidal Region of Mali – situated in the far north of the country, some 1,500 km from the capital in Bamako. Regional authorities launched an appeal in early August 2006 to assist members of the 11 most affected communities in the region.

Apart from being the poorest and most remote region of Mali, Kidal is also the largest region, covering 21% of the country. It receives an average of less than 200mm of rain per year and is characterized by arid desert conditions. In addition, the region is threatened by insurgency activity from time to time – with the most

recent incident occurring in May 2006, leading to pillaging of food crops and destruction of stocks, thereby depleting the few reserves that the community possessed.

Prior to the recent appeal by the local authorities, the Red Cross Red Crescent had been implementing an emergency operation in response to food insecurity in four Sahel countries, of which Mali was one. The Sahel Operation, which had been launched in July 2005, was scheduled to be phased out by the end of September 2006.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

In response to the local authorities' appeal, CHF 156,400 was allocated from the Federation's DREF to the Mali Red Cross, to enable the national society to provide a one-month food ration to 25,000 people in the 11 affected communities. The Federation's Regional Delegation in Dakar facilitated the transportation of some 375 MT of food, most of which was drawn from Sahel Operation stocks, for a one-off distribution in Kidal.

A joint MRCS/Federation team was deployed to assess relief needs and help manage logistical challenges in reaching the target communities. A plan of action for distributions was developed, targeting families with children under five, pregnant women, the elderly and people with disabilities as a priority. A team of volunteers was trained in beneficiary registration and distribution techniques.

Over 377MT of food, consisting of a 30-day ration, was distributed to 27,702 beneficiaries over a 2 week period. Despite some delays in transporting foodstuffs from Niamey and Gao to distribution points, the operation was successfully completed by the end of September 2006.

Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (food)

Objective: To provide an emergency 30-day food ration to 25,000 of the most affected people in the Kidal Region.

Activities planned:

- Transport food from Niamey to Gao and Kidal,
- Organize distributions of food rations.
- Distribute food rations to affected populations.
- Sensitize the populations to gather at distribution points.
- Carry out sensitization activities.

Activities carried out

- Beneficiaries were identified in the 11 communities.
- 63 volunteers and staff were trained in beneficiary registration and distribution techniques.
- 377MT of food was transported from Niamey to warehousing in Gao, then onward to distribution points in the 11 communities.
- Distributions of a 30-day food ration were carried out as follows:
 - 24,682 beneficiaries received a normal ration consisting of: 0.4kg rice, 0.025 oil, 0.06kg beans, 0.015kg sugar and 0.005 kg salt per person;
 - 3,020 beneficiaries received a reduced ration consisting of: 0.3 kg rice and 0.025 kg oil.
- Populations were sensitized as to the benefits of food rations during distributions.

Impact:

- Food security of a vulnerable population of 27,702 people was enhanced during the lean period, and resultant food insecurity exacerbated by the recent drought and insurgency activities in the region.
- Due to the sensitization carried out by Red Cross and community volunteers at distribution points, beneficiaries became more aware of the nutritional value of food rations being provided.
- Local capacity in distribution management was enhanced.
- The visibility and credibility of MRCS and the Red Cross were enhanced amongst local authorities and the population.

Challenges:

- Difficult access to the remote and distant communities, particularly with the onset of the rainy season in September.
- High cost of transport between the different operational bases.
- Lack of proper identification papers amongst volunteers, posing administrative and financial challenges for allocating per diems.
- Lack of knowledge of Federation logistics procedures (i.e. way bills, goods received notes, etc.) on the part of local support staff.

Conclusion

Lessons learned:

The food distribution was concluded successfully, reaching slightly more than the targeted number of beneficiaries despite challenges due to transportation and seasonal rains. Red Cross visibility and national society capacity were enhanced in the process.

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:

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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRML002 - Mali - Drought

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/8-2007/10
Budget Timeframe	2006/8-2007/10
Appeal	MDRML002
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
A. Budget		0				0
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
<u>Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)</u>						
DREF		151,306				151,306
C3. Reallocations (within appeal or		151,306				151,306
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		151,306				151,306
D. Total Funding = B + C		151,306				151,306

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		151,306				151,306
E. Expenditure		-151,306				-151,306
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		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
BUDGET (C)		0					0	
Supplies								
Construction Materials			193				193	-193
Clothing & textiles			154				154	-154
Food			26,823				26,823	-26,823
Utensils & Tools			40				40	-40
Other Supplies & Services			17				17	-17
Total Supplies			27,228				27,228	-27,228
Transport & Storage								
Storage			5,354				5,354	-5,354
Distribution & Monitoring			67,015				67,015	-67,015
Transport & Vehicle Costs			19,650				19,650	-19,650
Total Transport & Storage			92,019				92,019	-92,019
Personnel								
International Staff Payroll Benefits			216				216	-216
National Staff			2,113				2,113	-2,113
National Society Staff			13,587				13,587	-13,587
Total Personnel			15,916				15,916	-15,916
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training			427				427	-427
Total Workshops & Training			427				427	-427
General Expenditure								
Travel			3,020				3,020	-3,020
Information & Public Relation			749				749	-749
Office Costs			1,403				1,403	-1,403
Communications			1,456				1,456	-1,456
Financial Charges			-747				-747	747
Total General Expenditure			5,880				5,880	-5,880
Programme Support								
Program Support			9,835				9,835	-9,835
Total Programme Support			9,835				9,835	-9,835
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)			151,306				151,306	-151,306
VARIANCE (C - D)			-151,306				-151,306	