

# Operations update



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Solomon Islands: Tsunami & earthquake

Emergency appeal n° MDRSB001  
GLIDE n° TS-2007-000042-SLB  
Operations update n° 7  
19 May 2008

Period covered by this Ops Update: 18  
January to 31 March 2008  
Appeal target: CHF 1,691,977 (USD 1.4 million  
or EUR 1.04 million);  
Appeal coverage: 104%  
<[click here](#) to go directly to the interim financial  
report, or [here](#) to link to contact details>

### Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on a preliminary basis on 3 April 2007 for CHF 1,118,250 (USD 819,673 or EUR 615,385) for four months to assist 5,000 people.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF): CHF 65,000 was initially allocated from the Federation's DREF to support the national society to respond.
- A Revised Emergency Appeal was launched on 18 April 2007 for CHF 1,691,977 (USD 1,405,645 or EUR 1,035,011) for nine months to assist 9,000 people
- Operations Update no. 6 further revised the plan of action and budget to include water and sanitation, in light of funds available and information gathered during field operations.
- In line with Federation reporting standards, the final report (narrative and financial) will be made available 90 days after the end of the operation.



A boat chartered by the Solomon Islands Red Cross Society/ International Federation to carry 26 metallic tanks, 360 iron roofing sheets, PVC and PE pipes, plus 60 bags of cement, in Honiara wharf (International Federation).

### Summary:

In 2007, the Solomon Islands Red Cross Society (SIRCS), with the support of the International Federation and Red Cross Red Crescent partners, successfully conducted relief distribution activities, with over 37,000 items distributed to more than 1,800 families. Further to this, shelter works have now been completed, including the distribution of over 8,700 tools and 5,500 kilos of nails to 2,546 affected families in 327 communities. In addition, milling operations have been conducted in 82 clusters of communities. In line with the government's development of a rehabilitation strategy for permanent housing, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement has assisted in detailed assessment of damage over the entire disaster area.

In January 2008, the SIRCS and International Federation started the second phase of the relief operation which covers water rehabilitation on the islands of Vella La Vella and Kolombangara, with a total of 20 communities selected approximately 1,000 households (6,264 people). The works involve repairs on the existing gravity flow systems and construction of rain-catchments in the most affected communities, up to the end of June 2008.

A final report will be issued at the end of September 2008, three months after the completion of the operations.

## The situation

On 2 April 2007 at approximately 07:40 local time, an earthquake measuring 8.1 on the Richter scale struck the Western and Choiseul provinces of the Solomon Islands off the coast of Gizo, 350 kilometres north-west of the

capital Honiara, causing a localized tsunami. The combined effect of the earthquake and tsunami resulted in significant damage and loss of life. According to the National Disaster Council (NDC), affected areas included Shortlands, Munda, Noro, Vella la Vella and Kolombangara Islands, with the worst hit being Gizo and Simbo islands, the western coast of Ranonga and the central southern coast of Choiseul Island. The death toll was in excess of 50 people, with an estimated 9,000 people displaced. However, while no accurate figures of those still displaced are currently available, it is estimated that up to 3,000 people continue to occupy temporary shelter.

On 5 May 2007, the Solomon Islands minister of home affairs revoked the order made on 3 April 2007 declaring certain areas in the western and Choiseul provinces to be in a state of disaster. Since the announcement, many stakeholders have scaled down their activities.

During the second half of 2007, the SIRCS with support from the International Federation, worked on a shelter programme. This first relief phase has been successfully implemented and at present SIRCS has commenced a water rehabilitation phase focussing on Vella La Vella and Kolombangara Islands. These activities are supported by an International Federation water and sanitation delegate who arrived in mid-January 2008. It is anticipated that water and sanitation works will be completed by the end of June 2008, with operations conducted primarily from the Federation and SIRCS offices in Gizo. In addition, two delegates from Australian Red Cross have been temporarily deployed in short missions to support in administration and field activities. A French Red Cross water and sanitation consultant was deployed on 5 April, and will remain in support of activities until the end of June.



A group of Solomon Islands Red Cross volunteers fixing pipes for tap-stands in Kena, Kolombangara (International Federation).

## Coordination and partnerships

SIRCS has been supported by the International Federation's Pacific regional office and the French Red Cross in facilitating Movement operations in the affected areas. In January 2008, a Federation technical water and sanitation delegate replaced the shelter delegate based in the field at Gizo. Under the revised plan of action, the International Federation shares facilities and resources in the Honiara office however, main activities are conducted from the field operation office in Gizo. To date, a total of 13 staff from various national societies have worked in the operation at different times, including those from Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Tonga, France (Pacific) and Vanuatu Red Cross societies. Areas of activity have included field assessment and coordination, disaster management, health, logistics, media, relief, shelter and water and sanitation. The field teams have been further supported by the Federation secretariat, regional office in Suva and the Asia Pacific Zone office in Kuala Lumpur. These human resources have been acknowledged by the SIRCS as of significant value, seeing as the disaster created its own set of human resource capacity issues for the national society.

Water cluster meetings have been held monthly in Gizo with the active participation of SIRCS/ International Federation in order to coordinate relief efforts in the water sector as well as coordinating with governmental agencies such as the Public Works Division (PWD), Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (RWSS) and the Environmental Health Division (EHD). At present the geographical working areas per agency are as follows:

- Caritas' focus is on rainwater harvesting and wells with some water systems rehabilitation in Shortlands;
- Oxfam is working on water and sanitation in the internally displaced persons' camps in Gizo; and
- Red Cross Red Crescent Movement is focussed on rehabilitating water systems and constructing rain-catchment on the Kolombangara and Vella La Vella Islands. The French Red Cross has completed their water and sanitation programme in Choiseul.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) have recently come into with the aim to work on the rehabilitation of water supply and sewage of Gizo town, supported by the Japanese International Aid Agency (JICA) with a time frame that goes up to the end of 2009.

## Red Cross Red Crescent action

### Overview

The present water rehabilitation constitutes a post-emergency phase, following the previous shelter emergency phase, which includes a total of 20 villages with 1,012 households (6,264 people). A previous field assessment on water population needs was conducted at the end of 2007 with the collaboration of the RWSS. Based on this assessment across 53 villages, the most affected and populated communities have been selected for water system rehabilitation by repairing the existing gravity flow systems and/or setting up rain-catchments structures in those places where the populations have been relocated to.

The main water rehabilitation works consist of repairs on leakages on the main and distribution pipelines, damaged catchments/dams as well as tap-stands. The rain-catchments' works involve milling and construction of small rain harvestings structures as well as guttering, roofing and placement of three-by-three metre aluminium metallic tanks. However, the logistics involved are considerable as works require reaching communities by boat.

Table A. Communities under water rehabilitation phase detailing scope of works

Island	Village	Total Population	House holds	Scope of Works
Kolombangara	Hapi	147	21	Tank and roofing
Kolombangara	Kuzi	392	56	Tank and roofing non relocation standpipe, repair leaks
Vella La Vella	Iringila	1008	168	Tanks roofing non relocation repair stream and taps
Vella La Vella	Leona	420	70	Tanks and roofing non relocation tanks only
Vella La Vella	Paraso	63	9	Roofing, repair dam, pipeline and new standpipe
Vella La Vella	Sosolokamu	210	35	Tank and roofing
Vella La Vella	Vatoro	270	45	Tank and roofing
Kolombangara	Kena	300	50	Repair leaks mainline, reticulation taps and stand pipes
Vella La Vella	Maravari	750	125	Tank and roofing non relocation repair leak taps
Kolombangara	Sunfly	60	10	Repair leaks mainline, 1 new pipeline/standpipe,
Vella La Vella	Liangai	196	28	Roofing, new dam, repair leak dam, pipeline, extension pipeline and taps
Kolombangara	Hambere	126	21	Repair leaks mainline
Vella La Vella	Eloteve	618	103	Tank, new standpipe, repair leak pipeline and taps
Kolombangara	Poporo	66	11	Repair damage dam, leak pipeline, taps and standpipe
Vella La Vella	Boro	390	65	Tank, roofing, repair leak taps and pipeline
Kolombangara	Varu	108	18	1 New dam, 3 low taps up grade pipeline 2 Tank and roofing
Kolombangara	Korare	150	25	Repair dam, leak pipeline, taps and standpipe, 2 new standpipe
Vella La Vella	Lambu Lambu	511	73	Tank and roofing, repair leak pipeline and standpipe extension pipeline
Kolombangara	Hunda	65	10	Reconnection the submarine pipeline
Vella La Vella	Kolo kolo	414	69	Tank and roofing
	Total	6264	1012	

\* Some of this data are submitted to changes as it is based on RWSS field assessment, end f 2007 and scope of works must be verified

The appeal coverage for this phase is approximately CHF 718,420 (USD or EUR), with 60 per cent of the budget on water supplies.

### Further revisions to the plan of action

Water rehabilitation works have been scheduled up to the end of April. However, difficulties finding reliable suppliers (hardware), environmental conditions such as seasonal rainfall, logistical constraints for material distribution and lack of skilled staff, made it necessary for the original timeframe to be revised. In addition, part of the field assessment conducted at the end of last year by RWSS, due to time constraints, lacked the details required for implementation This has resulted in the required extensions to conduct the rehabilitations on the water systems.

Further future activities such as participatory health and sanitation transformation (PHAST) are proposed to run simultaneously with the current programme, reinforcing and reactivating existing water committees. Targeted sanitation interventions would be considered when necessary as a part of a SIRCS capacity building strategy, complementing the on-going water activities.

## Progress towards objectives

**Overall objective: Identified beneficiaries have the necessary immediate support to meet their basic needs of non-food items; and recovery support through the provision of shelter.**

1,500 families in the islands of Vella La Vella, Kolombangara and Choiseul have been identified as those in need of assistance.

### Non-food relief items

**Objective: Basic household kits composed of tarpaulin, hygiene kit, kitchen set, family kit and water containers for targeted 1,500 households, is provided.**

This objective was completed by the end of May as reported in [Operations Update no. 04](#). A detailed list of distributions is reproduced from the update, below.

Table B. Final distribution phase

	Kitchen sets	Tarps	H/lamps	Hygiene Kits	Bush knives	W/containers	Shampoo	Clothes	Kerosene	Tents
<b>Choiseul</b>	765	407	612	1899	547	84	455	234	37	15
<b>Vella Lavella</b>	940	1155	876	54	371	576	39	9	94	8
<b>Kolombangara</b>	256	145	213		81	17			1	
<b>Rendova</b>	87	0	88	0	57	152	0	0	110	47
<b>Gizo</b>	4	21	8	0	5	0	0	12	16	90
<b>Total</b>	<b>2052</b>	<b>1728</b>	<b>1797</b>	<b>1953</b>	<b>1061</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>160</b>

### Shelter

**Objective: Selected local construction materials and tools with safer/disaster resilient building knowledge to build 1,500 houses are provided.**

This objective was completed by the end of May as reported in [Operations Update no. 06](#). A detailed list of distributions is reproduced from the update, below.

Table C: Communities assessed and damage totals by classification

Island	Total Communities	Total Clusters	Total Dwellings	Loss	Collapsed Dwellings	Damaged Dwellings	Total Affected
Vella La Vella	139	50	83		215	740	1038
Kolombangara	74	32	21		70	203	249
						<b>Total</b>	<b>1287</b>

Table D: Total distributions of tool kits and nails, Kolombangara and Vella La Vella

Carpentry Kits	Digging Kits	Demolition Kits	Lifting Kits	Wheelbarrows	Nails
564 (3948 items)	143 (429 items)	95 (380 items)	72 (288 items)	44	2985 kg

In addition to these activities tools and equipment and nails have been distributed in four additional areas as per the two tables below.

Table E: Total distributions of tool kits and nails, Rendova, Roviana Lagoon, Kohigo, and Parara

Carpentry Kits	Digging Kits	Demolition Kits	Lifting Kits	Wheelbarrows	Nails
564 (3948 items)	143 (429 items)	95 (380 items)	72 (288 items)	44	2985 kg

### Water and sanitation

**Objective: Restoration of damaged water system facilities for the targeted affected population, provide clean water and increase knowledge on safe hygiene and sanitation.**

Previous consultation with the selected communities resulting in a signature of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SIRCS/ International Federation, the RWSS and the local authorities, rehabilitation works have started in six villages of Kolombangara and Vella La Vella Islands. Simultaneously, in mid-February, the first distribution of materials (metallic tanks, fittings, pipes, valves and other construction materials) was done over the first ten villages through a landing craft ship supported by SIRCS canoes (40HP outboard motors).

Currently, three villages have seen rehabilitation works successfully completed and work in three more villages are ongoing (see progress completion on Table F).

Works will continue up to the end of April, involving more volunteers and materials. The active and committed volunteers are at the same time receiving continuous training in methods and techniques to repair and fix damaged water systems. The volunteers and community members have been lead by experienced field officers form RWSS or former RWSS workers.

Currently, the water rehabilitation phase involves a total of 32 volunteers, four field officers and four outboard motor-powered canoes full time in the daily field operations.

Table F. Progress completion summary report for the first 10 villages (P: Planned)

Village	Total Population	System		Feb					March					April					Water points rehabilitated
		GFS	RC	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
Hapi	147		Y		100%													3	
Kuzi	392	Y	Y		100%													10 out of 12	
Iringila	1008	Y	Y						P										
Leona	420		Y		90%														
Paraso	63	Y	Y						P										
Sosolokamu	210		Y							P									
Vatoro	270		Y		80%														
Kena	300	Y			100%													15 out of 14	
Maravari	750	Y	Y							P									
Sunfly	60	Y				20%													
TOTAL		2	1															28	

\*Sphere Standards recommend 250 people per tap (based on a flow of 7.5 litres/minute)

### Capacity building of SIRCS

**Objective: Capacity building of SIRC including its branches and volunteers to further enhance the national society's capacity to respond to future disasters.**

At present, the SIRCS, and particularly the branch in Gizo's role during the emergency phase has been highly recognized and appreciated by population, other agencies and the government. The general population have good knowledge of Red Cross activities and the communities welcomed the Movement's presence. In both the emergency phase as well as the present activities, a close collaboration was set up between the International Federation's delegate and the branch in implementing the project. The branch capacity to provide assistance in water and sanitation for eventual relief operations is still low. However, with the present intervention, the International Federation is strengthening SIRCS capacity in the water sector for future relief interventions.

The Gizo branch, staffed by a branch officer and a team of 20 core volunteers, has grown considerably as a result of increased relief operations, going up to 32 volunteers at present. Many of the sites are areas that are difficult to access, requiring following water channels back up into the hills to reach the central catchment's point.

Capacity building efforts will continue to focus in the Gizo branch, increasing the skills of both staff and volunteers. Essential repairs to the branch office including upgrading the building and repairs to the water and sanitation facilities that have now been partially completed.

Branch staff and volunteers are entirely responsible for logistics including both volunteers displacement by sea, tools/materials distributions and management of volunteer assessment teams.



Community members and SIRCS volunteers working together to fix leakages on a PVC main pipe at Kuzii, Kolombangara Island (International Federation).

## 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 Federation's Global Agenda

The International Federation's activities are aligned with under a 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:

- Solomon Islands Red Cross: Charles Kelly (secretary general), satellite phone: 8816 3185 0301, email: [ckelly\\_sirc@solomon.com.sb](mailto:ckelly_sirc@solomon.com.sb)
- Pacific regional office in Suva: Frank Kennedy (head of regional office), Martin Blackgrove (disaster management coordinator), phone: +679 3311855; fax: +679 3311406; email: [frank.kennedy@ifrc.org](mailto:frank.kennedy@ifrc.org) or [martin.blackgrove@ifrc.org](mailto:martin.blackgrove@ifrc.org)
- Asia Pacific Zone in Kuala Lumpur: Amy Gaver (acting head of the disaster management unit), phone: + 60 3 9207 5700, fax: +60 3 2161 1210, mobile +60 12 220 1174, email: [amy.gaver@ifrc.org](mailto:amy.gaver@ifrc.org)
- Federation secretariat in Geneva: Christine South (Asia Pacific operations coordinator), phone: +41 22 730 4529; mobile: +41 79 308 9824; email: [christine.south@ifrc.org](mailto:christine.south@ifrc.org)

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

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/1-2008/3
Budget Timeframe	2007/1-2008/6
Appeal	MDRSB001
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>		1,691,976				1,691,976
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>		0				0
<b>Income</b>						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>American Red Cross</i>		60,800				60,800
<i>Australian Red Cross</i>		52,570				52,570
<i>Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government)</i>		212,482				212,482
<i>Australia - Private Donors</i>		4,926				4,926
<i>Austrian Government</i>		83,000				83,000
<i>Canadian Red Cross</i>		105,000				105,000
<i>Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)</i>		105,000				105,000
<i>Finnish Red Cross</i>		81,000				81,000
<i>Hong Kong Red Cross</i>		3,696				3,696
<i>Icelandic Red Cross</i>		18,979				18,979
<i>Japanese Government</i>		242,000				242,000
<i>Japanese Red Cross</i>		86,353				86,353
<i>Kuwait - Private Donors</i>		1,321				1,321
<i>Liechtenstein Red Cross</i>		500				500
<i>Monaco Red Cross</i>		27,880				27,880
<i>New York Office (from Israel Govt)</i>		9,272				9,272
<i>New Zealand Red Cross</i>		57,357				57,357
<i>New Zealand Red Cross (from New Zealand Government)</i>		419,369				419,369
<i>On Line donations</i>		12,777				12,777
<i>Other</i>		-458				-458
<i>Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)</i>		88,650				88,650
<i>United Arab Emirates Red Crescent</i>		12,142				12,142
<b>C1. Cash contributions</b>		<b>1,684,615</b>				<b>1,684,615</b>
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
<i>Australian Red Cross</i>		65,100				65,100
<i>Japanese Red Cross</i>		7,040				7,040
<b>C4. Inkind Personnel</b>		<b>72,140</b>				<b>72,140</b>
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)</b>		<b>1,756,755</b>				<b>1,756,755</b>
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>		<b>1,756,755</b>				<b>1,756,755</b>
<b>Appeal Coverage</b>		<b>104%</b>				<b>104%</b>

**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>		1,756,755				1,756,755
<b>E. Expenditure</b>		-1,302,367				-1,302,367
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>		<b>454,388</b>				<b>454,388</b>

### 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>		1,691,976					1,691,976	
<b>Supplies</b>								
Shelter - Relief	230,756		29,377			29,377	201,379	
Shelter - Transitional			341			341	-341	
Construction - Housing			73,384			73,384	-73,384	
Construction Materials	3,278		15,070			15,070	-11,792	
Clothing & textiles	2,440		4,740			4,740	-2,300	
Food	3,819		3,819			3,819	0	
Water & Sanitation	314,000		129,932			129,932	184,068	
Medical & First Aid	1,354		493			493	861	
Utensils & Tools	111,199		164,807			164,807	-53,608	
Other Supplies & Services	97,365		60,823			60,823	36,542	
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>764,210</b>		<b>482,785</b>			<b>482,785</b>	<b>281,425</b>	
<b>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>								
Computers & Telecom	4,595						4,595	
Others Machinery & Equipment	9,600						9,600	
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>	<b>14,195</b>						<b>14,195</b>	
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage	1,152		3,857			3,857	-2,705	
Distribution & Monitoring	299,829		301,396			301,396	-1,566	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	102,434		82,437			82,437	19,997	
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>403,416</b>		<b>387,690</b>			<b>387,690</b>	<b>15,725</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>								
International Staff Payroll Benefits	184,998		116,483			116,483	68,515	
National Staff	8,616		2,111			2,111	6,505	
National Society Staff	35,714		63,000			63,000	-27,286	
Consultants	2,454		2,454			2,454	0	
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>231,781</b>		<b>184,048</b>			<b>184,048</b>	<b>47,734</b>	
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training			657			657	-657	
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>			<b>657</b>			<b>657</b>	<b>-657</b>	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	91,100		93,814			93,814	-2,715	
Information & Public Relation			607			607	-607	
Office Costs	30,287		24,208			24,208	6,079	
Communications	35,885		30,586			30,586	5,299	
Professional Fees			3			3	-3	
Financial Charges	11,124		4,739			4,739	6,385	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>168,396</b>		<b>153,958</b>			<b>153,958</b>	<b>14,437</b>	
<b>Programme Support</b>								
Program Support	109,978		83,921			83,921	26,057	
<b>Total Programme Support</b>	<b>109,978</b>		<b>83,921</b>			<b>83,921</b>	<b>26,057</b>	
<b>Services</b>								
Services & Recoveries			134			134	-134	
<b>Total Services</b>			<b>134</b>			<b>134</b>	<b>-134</b>	
<b>Operational Provisions</b>								
Operational Provisions			9,173			9,173	-9,173	
<b>Total Operational Provisions</b>			<b>9,173</b>			<b>9,173</b>	<b>-9,173</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>1,691,976</b>		<b>1,302,367</b>			<b>1,302,367</b>	<b>389,610</b>	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>			<b>389,610</b>			<b>389,610</b>		