DREF operation update

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Malawi: Floods and Cholera

DREF operation n° MDRMW004
GLIDE n° FL-2009-000007-MW1
EP-2009-000015-MW1
Update n° 1
23 March 2009

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 and 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.

Period covered by this update: 20 January to 04 March, 2009.

One of the flood-affected households in Salima

Summary: CHF 71,022 (USD 63,566 or EUR 48,111) has been allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)'s Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to some 3,276 families displaced by floods; and to assist the government in responding to the cholera outbreak. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged. The Netherlands Red Cross has contributed 37,130 Swiss francs to the DREF in replenishment of the allocation made for this operation. The major donors to the DREF are the Irish, Italian, Netherlands and Norwegian governments. Details of all donors can be found on http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp

Heavy rainfalls have inundated Malawi since early December 2008. Flash floods and heavy winds have battered the Nsanje, Chikwawa, Phalombe, Salima and Karonga districts, affecting a total of 5,267 households. An outbreak of cholera has also affected Malawi, as is the case with other countries in the region. The increase in reported new cholera cases is cause for concern; 4,171 cases and 95 deaths have been reported so far. The affected districts have been receiving assistance from the Government and Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS) among other humanitarian organisations.

The implementation of this operation will be over three months, ending by 30 April, 2009; a final report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 31 July, 2009).

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The situation

The heavy rains that started in December 2008 continued into first quarter of 2009 causing Karonga to be the most recent victim of the floods, affecting another 1,791 households. Cumulatively, 5,267 households have been affected in Malawi; with either collapsed or partially damaged houses or crop damage.

Malawi had its first cholera case in 2008 reported and confirmed on 15 November in Blantyre. As at 1 March 2009, a cumulative total of 4,171 cases and 95 deaths had been reported since the onset of the outbreak. MRCS national disaster response team (NDRT) responded by conducting a rapid assessment on the flooded areas and in those with reported cholera cases from 9 to 14 February 2009. The districts assessd were Nsanje, Chikwawa, Phalombe and Salima.

Table1: Summary of Affected Households

District	Households Affected by Floods	Reported Cases of Cholera	Damage Caused	MRCS response so far
Nsanje	2,250	58	• 500 hectares of crops washed away. • 2 deaths as a result of cholera	Distributed • 4,250 tarpaulins, • 500 kgs of sorghum seed • Various cholera supplies for cholera management, e.g. chlorine, Oral Rehydration Salt (ORS) • 10 tents
Phalombe	870	-	• 170 hectares washed away	
Salima	316	151	• About 100 hectares of crops submerged • 3 deaths as a result of cholera	
Karonga	1,791	-	• 363 hectares of crops washed away	
Other districts	40	3,962	• 90 deaths	
TOTAL	**5,267**	**4,171**	**95 deaths as a result of cholera**	

Damage caused

Nsanje district: According to the latest verified figures, floods and cholera have affected 2,250 households and 58 people respectively. Considerable hectares of crops has been washed away, houses constructed from the local building materials such as mud and poles collapsed, and household effects washed away or immersed in water, rendering some of them unusable. The situation also culminated into an outbreak of armyworm, which further destroyed the surviving crops. Approximately 500 hectares of crops have been damaged and the area is still in danger of flooding since further rains are due.

Phalombe District: Out of a total of 870 affected households, 348 had their roofs blown off by heavy winds. About 170 hectares of various crops have either been washed away or submerged under water. These crops will not recover, even after the water dries up. Assessment results indicate the need for agricultural inputs for replanting and/or winter cropping. No cholera cases have yet been reported.

Salima District: Salima reported incidences of flooding on 20 January 2009, especially in the traditional authority (T/A) Kachase; and flooding during the second week of February 2009 was severe in T/A Maganga. About 316 households were affected. Cholera also hit Salima on 12 January 2009 and, to date, 151 cases with three deaths have been reported.

Karonga District: Karonga in the northern region of Malawi is the district most recently affected by floods. The flooding was reported on 22 February 2009, affecting the T/A Mwilang'ombe area, which includes nine villages. A total of 1,791 households and 363 hectares of crops have been affected, and 63 houses have collapsed.

Wovwe primary school currently hosts 70 households, including 85 children who are homeless and who sought refuge at the school. The sanitation situation is dire since toilets are not adequate and there is only one borehole. In fact, these refugees share the toilets with 985 pupils.

Coordination and partnerships

A cholera camp in Lilongwe

The MRCS works closely with the Government and other agencies in case of emergencies such as flooding and cholera outbreaks. The MRCS, together with the WHO Country Office, UNICEF, GTZ among other agencies continued operations in response to the request by the Ministry of Health (MoH) on 12 December 2008 for support to the cholera initiative. According to the National Contingency Plan, each partner has a well-defined role in order to avoid unnecessary duplication of efforts. MRCS continues to carry out its mandate as a leader in shelter and camp management (although its activities are not limited to this aspect). MRCS is also part of the National Cholera Task Force and attends all meetings accordingly. This has helped the National Society in its coordination with the MoH and other partners.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

With the DREF from the IFRC, MRCS procured some cholera management supplies, including chlorine lime (50kgs x 15), ringers lactate (200), ORS (40), disposable gloves (200), Cannula iv (Venflon x 800), disposable aprons (300) and water purification chemical (560,000 sachets). These were donated to the Malawi government through the MoH.

The MRCS has also provided 4,250 tarpaulins (4m x 5m) and 500kgs of sorghum seed to the households affected by floods, and managed to pitch ten tents in some of the isolated treatment centres that the government has set up. These include Likuni, Area 24 and Kawale. The tents are on loan to the government and the National Society expects their return when the situation has normalised.

Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: To restore and strengthen the capacity of the affected farmers to meet their needs in terms of food security and nutrition through the provision of agricultural inputs.

Activities planned:

- MRCS' regional disaster response teams (RDRT), trained staff members and volunteers, in collaboration with agricultural extension workers, conduct rapid assessments in the flood-affected districts.
- Register beneficiaries according to agreed criteria based on the government standards.
- Procure and distribute agricultural inputs (cassava cuttings and/or sweet potato vines).
- Coach the beneficiaries on better cropping in collaboration with agricultural extension workers.
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reports on all distributions.

Progress:

PLANNED ACTIVITY	TARGET	ACHIEVED	REMARKS
Conduct rapid assessment	3 affected districts (Nsanje, Phalombe & Salima)	4 districts reached (Nsanje, Phalombe, Salima & Chikwawa)	The target districts were increased to 4
Conduct registration of beneficiaries	4 affected districts	5,267 households registered	Registration was done in collaboration with district assemblies
Procure and distribute agri-inputs	2 districts	1 district	The other district to receive input in due course

Challenges:
Households, especially those affected by floods in Karonga, have not been reached despite the efforts by MRCS in responding to the disaster. According to the government's assessment, affected families urgently need agricultural input to plant their fields. The inputs required are: maize seeds, fertilizers, cassava cuttings and sweet potato vines.

Emergency shelter

Objective: To protect displaced households and provide basic survival measures through provision of temporary shelter and basic kitchen utensils.

Activities planned:
- Verification of beneficiaries using shelter needs criteria.
- Procure and distribute shelter relief materials sourced locally, such as plastic sheets.
- Trained volunteers assist the beneficiaries in constructing shelter kits, roofing partly damaged houses and pitching tents, according to need.
- Distributing kitchen utensils to households displaced by the flash floods.
- Develop an exit strategy.

Progress:

PLANNED ACTIVITY	TARGET	ACHIEVED	REMARKS
Procure and distribute shelter materials	4 districts (425 households)	4 districts (425 households)	850 pieces of tarpaulins were distributed

Challenges:
Materials are still required for the remaining affected households still in need of support, including food, mosquito nets, health education, plastic sheets, jerry cans, cooking utensils, seeds and fertilizers, tarpaulins for the reconstruction of homes and water purification tablets.

Emergency health (Cholera)

Objective: To complement the Ministry of Health in the treatment of cholera cases through the provision of some of the treatment and protective materials.

Activities planned:
- Conduct awareness campaigns on water treatment, sanitation, and hygiene promotion in collaboration with MoH local level staff.
- Procure and distribute chlorine, disposable aprons and gum boots.

Progress:

PLANNED ACTIVITY	TARGET	ACHIEVED	REMARKS
Awareness on water treatment, sanitation, and hygiene promotion using local MoH staff	4 affected districts (Lilongwe, Nsanje, Chikwawa & Salima)	4 affected districts (Lilongwe, Nsanje, Chikwawa & Salima)	A team of volunteers led by heath surveillance assistants went around the affected communities to do awareness campaigns
Procurement & distribution of critical cholera supplies like chlorine, disposable aprons and gum boots.	3 districts	All the 3 districts received the procured items.	See Table 2

Table 2: Distribution plan per district

ITEM	NSANJE	CHIKWAWA	SALIMA
Chlorine (drums of 50kg)	8	2	5
Lingers lactate (cartons)	100	50	50
ORS (pkts)	20	10	10
Disposable Gloves (boxes)	100	50	50
Disposable Aprons (boxes)	150	75	75
Water makers (sachets)	200,000	180,000	180,000
Tarpaulins (pieces)	200	100	350

Challenges:
Despite the support provided, there are still gaps in the provision of critical cholera supplies such as chlorine, beds, disposable aprons, gumboots and funds for the printing of information, education and communication (IEC) materials. Indications are that the current cholera supplies within the country's Central Medical Stores are being depleted. MRCS would like to continue assisting through the provision of other materials that are in short supply, but are hampered by the insufficiency of DREF.

Looking ahead
MRCS will continue to provide temporary shelter to the affected households within the criteria for such assistance. The temporary shelter will include the provision of shelter kit materials, basic household cooking utensils and roofing materials to households that are missing only their roofs.

The National Society will also provide agricultural inputs in the form of cassava cuttings and sweet potato vines to the affected farmers as a recovery measure to their farming activities. Procurement arrangements for the seeds are under way and distribution will be carried out in due course. MRCS will also continue to support the government on cholera management through the provision of necessary materials essential in the treatment of cholera cases, such as disposable aprons and more tents.

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

MDRMW004 - Malawi - Floods and Cholera

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/1-2009/5
Budget Timeframe	2009/1-2009/4
Appeal	MDRMW004
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	**71,050**					**71,050**
B. Opening Balance	**0**					**0**
Income						
Other Income						
Voluntary Income	*71,022*					*71,022*
C5. Other Income	***71,022***					***71,022***
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	**71,022**					**71,022**
D. Total Funding = B +C	**71,022**					**71,022**
Appeal Coverage	**100%**					**100%**

II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					**0**
C. Income	71,022					**71,022**
E. Expenditure	-4,406					**-4,406**
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	66,616					**66,616**

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III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure						Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	
	A						B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		**71,050**					**71,050**	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	3,225							**3,225**
Clothing & textiles	8,000							**8,000**
Other Supplies & Services	26,405							**26,405**
Total Supplies	**37,630**							**37,630**
Transport & Storage								
Transport & Vehicle Costs	11,690							**11,690**
Total Transport & Storage	**11,690**							**11,690**
Personnel								
National Society Staff	12,376							**12,376**
Total Personnel	**12,376**							**12,376**
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	1,512							**1,512**
Total Workshops & Training	**1,512**							**1,512**
General Expenditure								
Information & Public Relation	3,225							**3,225**
Financial Charges		355					**355**	**-355**
Total General Expenditure	**3,225**	**355**					**355**	**2,870**
Programme Support								
Program Support	4,618	4,051					**4,051**	**567**
Total Programme Support	**4,618**	**4,051**					**4,051**	**567**
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	**71,050**	**4,406**					**4,406**	**66,645**
VARIANCE (C - D)		**66,645**					**66,645**	

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IV. Project Details

Project	Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Budget	Variance
		A	B	C	A + B + C	D	D - C
Goal 1: Disaster Management							
PMW024	Malawi Floods and Cholera 2009	0	71,022	-4,406	66,616	71,050	66,645
Sub-Total Goal 1: Disaster Management		**0**	**71,022**	**-4,406**	**66,616**	**71,050**	**66,645**
Total	**Malawi - Floods and Cholera**	**0**	**71,022**	**-4,406**	**66,616**	**71,050**	**66,645**