

# Operations update



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Senegal: Floods

Emergency appeal n° MDRSN002  
GLIDE n° FL-2009-000172-BFA  
Operations update n° 2  
9 October 2009

### Focus on relief distributions, and a glance at a day in the life of an ERU relief team in action

Period covered by this Ops  
Update: 29 September – 5 October  
2009;

Appeal target (original): CHF 2,113,583; this appeal is in the process of being revised. Based on an assessment of the situation and ongoing discussion with the Senegalese Red Cross Society (SRCS), a draft Plan of Action has been elaborated that will serve as the basis for a revised appeal anticipated to be made available by 9 October 2009. As previously communicated, it is most likely the overall appeal budget will be decreased; the formal revised budget will be made available shortly with the revised appeal (to be issued in the form of an Operations Update).

Appeal coverage (against the current budget): 47%; [click here to go directly to the updated donor response report](#); [or here to link to contact details](#) >

#### Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on a preliminary basis on 9 September 2009 for CHF 2.1m for 6 months to support the National Society in delivering assistance to some 25,000 beneficiaries.
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF):** CHF 200,000 was initially allocated from the Federation's DREF to support regional efforts to prepare and respond.
- This Ops Update (no. 1) communicates a probable appeal budget revision. The full revised appeal budget will be made available shortly. The six-month appeal timeframe remains the same.
- This Ops Update (no. 2) communicates that a draft Plan of Action has been elaborated that will serve as the basis for a revised appeal (anticipated by 9 October 2009). The revised narrative and revised



*The FACT shelter delegate (Spanish Red Cross) assessing a seriously damaged dwelling in Kaolack.*

budget will be made available shortly (in the form of an Operations Update).

**Summary:** The disaster has stabilized with the seasonal rains having decreased or stopped altogether and therefore there is very limited (or no) further risk of flooding or displaced persons. As such, a plan of action has been developed that reflects the work undertaken by the FACT and ERU teams, including more detailed assessments, relief distributions, and the proposed future activities (logframes) upon which the revised appeal (in the form of an operations update) will be based, with a primary focus on the sectors of:

- relief items distributions (already achieved during the emergency phase);
- logistics support (already achieved);
- watsan (emergency and longer-term early recovery);
- shelter (emergency and longer-term early recovery);
- training to complement and support the planned shelter and watsan interventions;
- a proposed pilot cash distribution project to a limited and focused population;
- Improve the livelihoods and capital for the most flood-affected people and facilitate their recovery.

This update (no. 2) focuses specifically on the strong action and progress achieved during the assessment and relief distribution phase of the operation, and in particular presents a “day in the life” of an ERU relief team in action. A summary distribution report is included as an annex. In terms of the other sectoral interventions, objectives, and activities planned in the preliminary appeal (emergency health; water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion; and recovery, livelihoods, and reinforcing coping mechanisms), as communicated in Ops Update no. 1, many actions were carried out within the relief item distribution. Based on the assessments carried out to date (available on DMIS), objectives and related activities have been adjusted. This will be reflected in the plan of action and the revised appeal (in the form of an operations update). Likewise, the health sector-related material was distributed as part of the relief phase. Related to the pilot cash distribution project, the SRCS senior management is considering the details and will revert to the Federation shortly.



While the flooding was not widespread, pockets of areas were particularly affected (here on the outskirts of Dakar). Photo courtesy of the Swiss Red Cross Logistics ERU.

## The situation

Torrential seasonal rains in Senegal during the last week of August and early September 2009 caused heavy flooding in the suburbs of Dakar (the capital city), and in many other regions and villages of the country. Prior to the floods, the Federation had provided significant initial support of CHF 200,000 from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Societies in affected countries in delivering assistance on a regional basis.

The Federation responded to a request from the SRCS by launching a preliminary Emergency Appeal to support an appropriate and timely response in delivering immediate assistance and relief in the following sectors: non-food item relief distribution, emergency shelter, emergency health (basic care), water, sanitation, hygiene promotion, psycho-social support, livelihoods and early recovery, and logistics. The Federation deployed a Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) to support the assessment and coordination efforts, and to work with the regional disaster

response team members already in place. Two Emergency Response Units (ERUs) for the relief and logistics sectors were deployed (a joint American and Danish Red Cross Relief ERU, and a Swiss Red Cross Logistics ERU). This report focuses specifically on the work undertaken by the FACT and ERU teams, including more detailed assessments, distributions, and proposed future activities.

## Coordination and partnerships

The SRCS continues its regular participation in the Government-lead national disaster coordination meetings (Plan Orsec.) Co-ordination efforts with other agencies also continues, but there is limited information and formal meetings at the international level, and, as previously reported, UN and other agency activities are restricted in relation to the floods.

The SRCS continues to act as the lead agency in Senegal managing this operation, supported by the Federation (Zone and Geneva) and partner National Societies. As such, the cooperation model is multilateral in nature, though there are some bilateral activities underway. FACT and ERU teams continue their close working relationship with the designated SRCS headquarters counterpart (DM manager) and with local branch structures and volunteers. The coordination activities include information sharing mechanisms, informal coordination meetings, reinforcing the SRCS role in this operation, and reinforcing or formulating agreements. The overall approach remains on adhering to and reinforcing the guiding principles of disaster response.

At the request of the SRCS Secretary General, a joint monitoring mission was carried out with the SRCS (SG and DM manager) and the Federation (head of operation, FACT team leader, and FACT shelter delegate) from 29-30 September 2009 to assess the situation and response in the region.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

### Overview of activities for this reporting period

- Assessments completed: a full summary of the assessments conducted to date is available on DMIS (see special West Africa floods page). The table below presents summary information.
- Relief distributions managed by the SRCS, Zone, and ERU relief team: latest distribution table is attached as an annex.
- Logistics managed by the SRCS, Zone, and ERU Logistics team: end of mission report available upon request.

### Assessment summary:

Date of assessment	Assessment carried out by	Location(s)	Local officials or SRCS staff/volunteers contacted or involved
18.9.2009	FACT & RDRT	Kaolack	President of the SRCS Kaolack chapter and SRCS branch administrative officer).
20.09.2009	FACT & RDRT	Velingala	SRCS Youth Director and Operations Manager, Veringala branch and other youth team members. Three communes assessed
21-23.09.2009	FACT & RDRT	Kolda; Keduoguo and Tambakuonda	SRCS NRCT representative who evaluated Tambacunda and Kolda region and visited the 3 departments. The president of the local branch and a few volunteers joined the field visit.
16/17.09.2009	Relief ERU	Richard Toll.	Branch personnel
24-25.09.2009	FACT & RDRT	Bakel and Matam	SRCS NRCT representative, the presidents of the local branches and a few volunteers.
30.9.2009	FACT & RDRT	Pikine, Dakar	President of the SRCS Pekine chapter and the coordinator of relief efforts in the area.

### Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (basic non-food relief items)
<p><b>Objective: 5,000 most vulnerable households affected by the floods benefit from the distribution of non-food items (blankets, mosquito nets, tarpaulins, sleeping mats, and other required items).</b></p> <p><b>Activities planned:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver the intended assistance.</li> <li>• Procure and distribute non-food items, including mosquito nets, blankets, sleeping mats, and tarpaulin to 5,000 targeted families.</li> <li>• Distribute non-food items at target distribution points.</li> <li>• Replenish the stock used from the Federation stock in the region.</li> <li>• Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.</li> </ul>

**Progress and status:** please refer to the annexed table of NFI distributed from Federation stocks (as of 4 October 2009). The narrative below illustrates a story in the day of a life of an ERU relief team.

**At a glance': a day in a Federation-deployed ERU relief team: non-food relief item distribution on 4 October 2009 to 58 families in Kaolack, Senegal (American Red Cross ERU relief team supporting the Senegalese Red Cross Society. All photos courtesy of the joint American and Danish Red Cross Relief ERU).**

Background on the ERUs: a vital part of the Federation's disaster response system, ERU's were developed for any emergency or disaster situation that requires a quick response that surpasses the capacity of a Federation field office or National Society. Basing their work on existing procedures, guidelines (in particular Sphere standards), and mechanisms, the Relief ERU in particular is normally deployed to support the National Society disaster response operations when there is a significant relief/logistics component (i.e. large-scale relief distributions). Prior to the process described and illustrated below, the ERU Relief team would have carried out the following preparatory actions:

- participated in assessments;
- confirmed the needs, developed a strategy for identifying and selecting beneficiaries (including criteria), and developed the ration package to be distributed; and
- organized the beneficiary lists for carrying out effective distributions, including the actual distribution site and process.

Distribution set-up: At 09:00 hours, the ERU relief team meets with the SRCS branch lead at the distribution site (a local school) to assess the initial set-up for the distribution to 58 families in the village of Tabangoye. The series of photos below illustrate the process.



Photo above: Using a school as a distribution site, the SRCS branch leader and volunteer anticipate the arrival of families to present identification cards for verification purposes (against assessment lists).



Photo above : Volunteers direct beneficiaries to the verification area.



Photo above: Once families are verified from the list, a volunteer directs the beneficiaries to the distribution site about 350 meters away from the verification point.



Photo above: A beneficiary presents a voucher/ticket to the volunteer managing the relief distribution; volunteer checks the ticket and requests the beneficiary to sign the ticket for receipt of items.



Photo above: SRCS volunteers hand-out relief items to the families.



Photo above: Volunteers continue to organize and prepare the relief items to be given to the beneficiaries.



Photo above: A reality of relief work – verifying quantities and controlling losses: At 14:00 hours, the ERU relief team contacted logistics colleagues to inform them of an issue related to some 420 blankets discovered missing from one delivery. Some 14 bales (see photo above) marked as containing 130 pieces per bale in fact had only 100 pieces per bale -- 30 blankets short per bale for a total shortage of 420 missing blankets (the pictures below illustrate how shipments do sometimes vary in quantities and need to be verified, in the process reinforcing accountability to the donors who support emergency operations).



Photo above: The external cover of the bale of blankets was opened.....(and below.....)



.....but the second cover shows that 100 pieces were actually packed. SRCS volunteers verified the actual quantities, and the missing blankets were recovered with the help of the logistics ERU (Swiss Red Cross). A successful outcome of this situation illustrates the effective collaboration of two Federation-deployed ERU teams (Relief and Logistics) working together to maximize operational efficiency.



Last step: Assess, evaluate, report. Between 15: 30 – 17:00 hours, the ERU relief team met with the SRCS branch team and volunteers to:

- Obtain an update regarding the distribution of items.
- Complete distribution reports to be sent to the ERU team leader for compilation.

The photo above shows the end result – follow-up assessments confirm that the items distributed (in this case a kitchen set) are being used appropriately and as planned

## 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 Sénégal: Adama Kamara , Secretary Général, Sénégal Rd Cross Society ; phone: +221 77

5284766 email :[crsnational@orange.sn](mailto:crsnational@orange.sn)

- **In Senegal:** Alasan Senghore, Head of West and Central Africa Zone, phone: +221.33.869.36.41, Fax:+221.33.820.25.34, email: [alasan.senghore@ifrc.org](mailto:alasan.senghore@ifrc.org); Youcef Aitchellouche, Disaster Management Coordinator, phone: +221.33.869.36.44, Fax:+221.33.820.25.34, email: [youcef.aitchellouche@ifrc.org](mailto:youcef.aitchellouche@ifrc.org)
- **In Geneva:** Christine South, Operations Coordinator for West Africa, phone: +41.22.730.45.29, email: [christine.south@ifrc.org](mailto:christine.south@ifrc.org)

For mobilization of relief items & logistic enquiries:

- Pete Glenister, Regional Logistics Coordinator Dubai; **Phone: +971 4 883 3887, Mobile +971 50 6009 166, Fax: +971 4 883 2212, email: [peter.glenister@ifrc.org](mailto:peter.glenister@ifrc.org)**
- Gorkhmaz Huseynov, Head of RLU & Fleet Base- Dubai **Phone: +971 4 883 3887, Mobile +971 50 4583 254, Fax: +971 4 883 2212, email: [gorkhmaz.huseynov@ifrc.org](mailto:gorkhmaz.huseynov@ifrc.org)**

***<click here to go to the donor response update, or here to return to the title page>***

**FLOODS: SENEGAL**  
**Federation Zone stock**  
**Distributed**

Date	Location	RC Targeted Distributed	Tarpaulins	Blankets	Millet	Sleeping mats	Jerrycans	Buckets	Bladders 5m3	Kitchen sets	Soap	Tents	ORS	PUR	Hygiene Kit	Mosquito nets	Shelter kits	Shoes
26-Aug	Dakar, Pikine	54	0	108	0	0	0	0	0	0	54	0	0	0	108	0	0	0
27-Aug	Dakar, Pikine	70	0	140	140	0	0	0	0	0	70	0	0	0	140	0	0	0
28-Aug	Dakar, Pikine	70	0	140	140	0	0	0	0	0	70	0	0	0	140	0	0	0
04-Sep	Dakar, Rufisque	150	150	300	300	0	0	0	0	0	900	0	0	0	300	900	300	600
07-Sep	Mbour, Thies	150	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
09-Sep	Kaolack, Kaolack	190	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	380
12-Sep	Dagana, Rosso, St. Louis	127	127	254	254	0	0	0	0	0	762	18	0	0	0	762	0	0
28-Aug	Dakar, Pikine	54	54	0	54	108	54	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,996	0	0	0	0
27-Aug	Dakar, Pikine	70	70	0	70	140	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,180	0	0	0	0
28-Aug	Dakar, Pikine	70	70	0	70	140	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,180	0	0	0	0
04-Sep	Dakar, Rufisque	150	0	300	300	300	150	150	0	0	1,800	0	750	900	0	0	0	0
07-Sep	Thies, Mbour	150	5	300	300	300	150	150	0	0	1,800	0	750	900	0	0	0	0
09-Sep	Kaolack (Ndiebiel)	190	0	380	380	380	190	190	0	0	2,280	0	950	1,140	0	0	0	0
	Dagana Rosso Senegal	179	0	358	358	358	179	179	2	127	2,148	0	895	1,074	0	0	0	0
25-Sep	St.Louis (Camp Medina Montaga)	127	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	125	0	0	0	0	0	0
25-Sep	Kaolack; Gawane	114	228	228	0	228	114	114	0	114	342	0	570	8,436	0	228	0	0
26-Sep	Kaolack , Gawane	64	128	128	0	128	64	64	0	64	192	0	320	4,480	0	128	0	0
27-Sep	St.Louis, Fouy	32	40	160		128	32	32	0	0	0	20		2,368	32	0	12	0
29-Sep	Kaolack , Sam	66	132	132	0	132	66	66	0	66	198	0	330	4,620	0	132	0	0
30-Sep	Kaolack, Sam	40	80	80	0	80	40	40	0	40	120	0	200	2,800	0	80	0	0
01-Oct	Kaolack, Sam	10	20	20	0	20	10	10	0	10	30	0	50	700	0	20	0	0
01-Oct	Kaolack, Kaolack	20	40	40	0	40	20	20	0	20	60	0	100	1,400	0	40	0	0
02-Oct	Kaolack, Tabangoye	88	176	176	0	176	88	88	0	88	264	0	440	6,160	0	176	0	0
02-Oct	Kaolack, Gawane	4	8	8	0	8	4	4	0	4	12	0	20	280	0	8	0	0
02-Oct	Kaolack, Sam	4	8	8	0	8	4	4	0	4	12	0	20	280	0	8	0	0

02-Oct	Kaolack, (Ecole)	61	122	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	61	0
03-Oct	Kaolack, Tabangoye	66	132	132	0	132	66	66	0	66	198	0	330	4,620	0	132	0	0
03-Oct	Kaolack, Gawane	20	40	40	0	40	20	20	0	20	60	0	100	1,400	0	40	0	0
03-Oct	St.Louis, Pekine Gloria	83	0	166	0	166	83	83	0	83	249	0	415	4,980	83	166	0	0
04-Oct	Kaolack, Tabangoye	58	116	116	0	116	58	58	0	58	174	0	290	4,060	0	116	0	0
	<b>Total distributed by IFRC</b>	<b>2,531</b>	<b>1,746</b>	<b>3,714</b>	<b>2,366</b>	<b>3,128</b>	<b>1,532</b>	<b>1,338</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>11,795</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>6,530</b>	<b>64,954</b>	<b>803</b>	<b>2,936</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>980</b>