DREF operation update

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Zambia Floods

DREF operation n° MDRZM006
GLIDE n° FL-2009-000068-ZMB
Update n° 1
19 May 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:
26 March to 30 April 2009.

Summary: CHF132,288 (USD 117,526 or EUR 86,451) was allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC's) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 26 March 2009 to support the Zambian Red Cross Society (ZRCS) in delivering emergency assistance to 1,000 households (approximately 6,000 persons) affected by widespread flooding in Zambia.

ZRCS members checking rice stocks before distribution

Excessive rainfall caused extensive flooding in 18 districts in five provinces. ZRCS targeted 1,000 families to receive immediate relief assistance in the form of food aid, shelter material, clean water and sanitation facilities. ZRCS used its disaster preparedness stock of relief items to meet the immediate needs of the targeted population and has so far reached approximately 800 families. This relief operation is expected to last for two months until the end of May 2009. A final report will be made available by 31 August 2009.

The Netherlands Red Cross contributed CHF 53,321 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, and ECHO. Details of all donors can be found on http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp

The situation

The Zambia Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZVAC) after the 25 to 30 March assessment of the damage caused by flooding, reported 102,469 families (614,814 people) affected by the floods and 31 related deaths. The intensity of rainfall that began in December 2008 caused the worst flooding in Zambia since 1958. The people in the flooded areas suffered loss of crops and livestock, damage to houses, limited access to schools, markets and health centres and exposure to waterborne diseases. Approximately 34,000 households in nine districts were indentified to be in need of food aid for a period of two months (April and May 2009).

In the assessment of the Western, Northern, Central, Eastern and North-Western provinces, the livelihood sources of 80 percent of people was found to be crop production, rearing of livestock, fishing, timber felling and selling, beekeeping and carpentry. These sources of livelihood were negatively impacted by the floods in addition to damage of water sources, sanitation infrastructure, houses and field crops. The floods partially or totally submerged 40 percent of maize, 35 percent of cassava, 20 percent of millet, and 15 percent of sorghum in the fields. As a result, 12,000 households were in need of agricultural inputs to mitigate the loss of these crops.

In terms of the damage to water and sanitation infrastructure, the ZVCA assessment team estimated that over 50 percent of districts found their water sources to be in danger of contamination from faecal matter and other debris due to collapsed sanitation facilities and running floodwaters. These districts have few boreholes and other protected water points, so people rely on shallow wells, open wells and water from rivers and streams for drinking. The most common sanitation facilities were pit latrines, of which 60 percent collapsed due to the floods and 30 percent were flooded and unusable. This situation forced people to defecate in the open, further increasing the risk of water contamination from faecal matter and outbreaks of waterborne diseases.

ZRCS participated in an initial needs assessments in three districts where 3,000 families were affected. Based on its absorption capacity, the National Society targeted 1,000 families for relief assistance, thus providing food, clean water, sanitation facilities and shelter. The later assessment undertaken by the ZVCA established that 15 more districts were flooded and 102,469 households affected, prompting ZRCS to request for additional assistance through a local appeal.

The ZRCS relief operation due to have started in March 2009 began in April after the receipt of the DREF funds, and will go on until the end of May 2009. ZRCS also experienced challenges in financial management, resulting in a delay in the transfer of the second instalment of the DREF allocation. However, the pre-positioned stock was used to keep the operation on track. On receipt of the second instalment of the allocation, ZRCS in consultation with IFRC Southern Africa Zone Office procured additional relief items some of which will be used to replenish disaster preparedness stock.

Coordination and partnerships

ZRCS is a member of the ZVCA and has implementing the floods relief operation in close collaboration and coordination with the government's Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU). The communities targeted to receive assistance were selected in consultation with the DMMU in the two affected districts of Senanga and Shangombo. The ZRCS volunteers work in close collaboration with the environmental health technicians in rural health centres on community sensitization and hygiene promotion.

The IFRC releases CHF132,288 from its DREF at the request of the National Society, which ensured immediate response to the needs of the displaced families. The IFRC Southern Africa Zone office is on standby to deploy additional resources, should the need arise.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: 1,000 flood-affected families are provided with appropriate food and non-food relief items over two months. Distributions are carried out according to assessments and selection criteria that identify actual needs and vulnerable groups.

Activities planned:
- Develop the beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
- Distribute 1,400 food packs to 1,000 affected households over two months.
- Distribute 2,000 blankets to the affected households.

Progress towards objectives:
A total of 400 blankets and 200 kitchen sets have been distributed from the pre-positioned stock and to 440 families indentified by the DMMU as the most affected. These families living in temporary shelters in Shambongo and Senanga districts in the Western Province lost almost all their possessions. A total of 20 volunteers supported by four members from the ZRCS National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) distributed the DMMU-procured beans and sardine cans to these 440 targeted families in the two provinces.

An additional 360 urban families in need of food aid received a food ration of a 25kg bag of rice in the Western Province. Although the initial planned food ration was 10kg beans, 2x25kg bags maize meal and 15 litres cooking oil, preference by the targeted families for the more expensive rice instead of cheaper maize meal left the National Society with enough resources only to distribute rice.

With the additional resources expected, ZRCS plans to continue the distribution of NFIs and food in the North-West Province, targeting approximately 600 families. This number may change depending on the evolving situation and further assessment by the NDRT. Some 2,000 blankets have been dispatched from the IFRC warehouse in Harare and are expected in Lusaka by mid May.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Objective: The risk of water-borne and water-related diseases is reduced through the provision of safe water, adequate sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion to 1,000 families in the temporary shelters for two months.

Activities planned
- Provide water treatment sachets and storage containers to 1,000 households.
- Provide sanitation facilities and hygiene education to 1,000 families in temporary shelters.

Progress towards objectives
The initial assistance under the provision of clean water and sanitation facilities also targeted the 440 most affected households. ZRCS has so far distributed 95,000 water purification sachets and 400 jerry cans (containers). However, eight latrines were constructed at a school that was submerged by flood water, whilst the volunteers carried out hygiene promotion campaigns in other schools.

Emergency Shelter

Objective: 1,000 most vulnerable flood-affected families displaced from the Zambezi river basin and evacuated to higher ground are living in a safer and healthy environment within two months of the operation.

Activities planned

- Distribute shelter kits to 1,000 households evacuated to higher ground from the Zambezi river basin.
- Train beneficiaries to construct SPHERE compliant shelters with tarpaulins and tools in the shelter kit.
- Coordinate with the District Disaster Management Committee to ensure that camps are organized in a manner that promotes interaction, reduces the risk of discrimination and abuse towards women and children, and promotes collective sharing among family members.

Progress towards objectives

In response to the shelter needs, ZRCS distributed 200 shelter kits, 400 tarpaulins and 1,000 mosquito nets to the 440 families living in temporary shelters. The 24 NDRT members assisted the beneficiaries to construct temporary shelters using the tarpaulins and the tools provided by the National Society.

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 Zambia**: Zambia Red Cross Society: Charles Mushitu, Secretary General, Lusaka: Email: zrcs@zamnet.zm. Phone: +260.211.253661/Fax +260.211.252219
- **In Zambia**: Boyd Siyanga, Disaster Management Coordinator, Lusaka: Email: boydsiyanga@yahoo.com: Phone: +260.211.253661/Fax +260.211.252219.
- **In IFRC Southern Africa Zone**: Françoise Le Goff, Head of Zone Office, Johannesburg; Email francoise.legoff@ifrc.org; Phone: Tel: +27.11.303.9700; +27.11.303.9711; Fax: +27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230
- **In Geneva:** John Roche, Operations Coordinator, Email: john.roche@ifrc.org; Phone: +41.22.730.4400, Fax: +41.22.733.03.95

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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRZM006 - Zambia - Floods

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/1-2009/03
Budget Timeframe	2008/1-2009/12
Appeal	MDRZM006
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	**132,235**					**132,235**
B. Opening Balance	**0**					**0**
Income						
Other Income						
Voluntary Income	*132,288*					*132,288*
C5. Other Income	***132,288***					***132,288***
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	**132,288**					**132,288**
D. Total Funding = B +C	**132,288**					**132,288**
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	132,288					**132,288**
E. Expenditure	-55,881					**-55,881**
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	76,407					**76,407**

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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)		**132,235**					**132,235**	
Supplies								
Clothing & textiles	30,517							**30,517**
Food	42,168							**42,168**
Water & Sanitation	8,435							**8,435**
Medical & First Aid	8,534							**8,534**
Total Supplies	**89,653**							**89,653**
Transport & Storage								
Transport & Vehicle Costs	19,277							**19,277**
Total Transport & Storage	**19,277**							**19,277**
Personnel								
National Society Staff	10,842							**10,842**
Total Personnel	**10,842**							**10,842**
General Expenditure								
Communications	964							**964**
Financial Charges		394					**394**	**-394**
Other General Expenses	2,904							**2,904**
Total General Expenditure	**3,868**	**394**					**394**	**3,474**
Programme Support								
Program Support	8,595	3,632					**3,632**	**4,963**
Total Programme Support	**8,595**	**3,632**					**3,632**	**4,963**
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		51,854					**51,854**	**-51,854**
Total Operational Provisions		**51,854**					**51,854**	**-51,854**
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	**132,235**	**55,881**					**55,881**	**76,354**
VARIANCE (C - D)		**76,354**					**76,354**	