

# PROGRAMME UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## DISASTER RELIEF EMERGENCY FUND (DREF)

7 July 2005

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries. For more information: [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)

### In Brief

Appeal No.05AA084; Programme Update no. 1, Period covered: January to June 2005; Appeal target: CHF 4,000,000; Appeal coverage: 70.2%

*(click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List (also available on the website).*

**Programme summary:** as of 28 June 2005, the balance of DREF is 8,016,748. A total of 47 allocations have been made to various emergencies, for a total of CHF 3,918,183. The allocations target a variety of natural disasters or civil disturbances, and they range from CHF 11,000 to CHF 300,000. CHF 465,000 of these allocations for emergency appeals has been reimbursed to the fund so far. Direct contributions to the DREF Appeal are 2,610,705, a coverage of 65.3%. The Federation will continue to use the fund as extensively as needs require, and will ensure regular refunds when emergency appeals are launched, and as the level of un-earmarked funds allows.

*For further information specifically related to this programme, please contact: In Geneva, Operations Support Department, Linda Stops, phone: +41 22 730 4300, email [Linda.stops@ifrc.org](mailto:Linda.stops@ifrc.org)*

This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning. All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

### Context

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) was established in 1985 and has since been growing in terms of both size and utilization. One of the four core areas of the International Federation's Strategy 2010 is that of international disaster response. The Fund is one of the Federation's main, and essential, disaster response tools. It aims to provide national societies and delegations with the initial funds to help provide immediate assistance to alleviate the suffering of disaster affected communities in the cases of rapid, slow onset and forgotten disasters.

**Goal:** The goal of the DREF is to provide immediate funding in response to major and minor disasters and preparedness activities thereby enabling the Federation and national societies to react rapidly, effectively and efficiently.

**Objective:** To make the DREF a secured line of funding for new emergencies of all sizes as well as a source of funding for disaster preparedness.

## Programme Update and achievements/lessons to date

### Increase in the Utilization of DREF

In the first half of 2005, 47 allocations have been made using the DREF fund. This is a significant increase over the previous 3 years when the average number of allocations was 47 per year. In 2005 a total of CHF 3,918,183 has been allocated from the fund. In the previous 3 years the yearly average was CHF 3,300,000. The allocations target a variety of natural disasters or civil disturbances, and they range from CHF 11,000 to CHF 300,000. Of the 47 allocations 35 (74.4%) have been for minor emergencies in which no appeal was launched and 11 (23.5%) were allocated for disasters for which there was an emergency appeal. In 2004 overall allocations for minor emergencies and emergency appeals was 52.7% and 43.6% respectively. See appendix 1 for detailed statistics related to the DREF allocations.

### Impact of DREF on beneficiaries and national societies

In the past year DREF has been used by national societies and delegations around the world to meet humanitarian needs for those affected by natural and man-made disasters. The situations summarized below are a sampling of the innovative ways DREF was used to meet humanitarian needs around the world.

#### Africa – Angola – Marburg Virus Outbreak

Amount Allocated: CHF 252,000

Status: Reimbursement of DREF is encouraged.



Angola has recently experienced an outbreak of Marburg hemorrhagic fever (MHF) with the first cases reported in Uige Province in October 2004. Since then, the number of reported cases has steadily increased. Children under fourteen years of age represent nearly half the total, though the incident is falling. There is currently no known cure against the virus.

As of 20 April, the government reported 266, cases with 244 fatalities. The cases were identified in Uige, Luanda, Cabinda, Mlange, and Kuanza Norte Provinces. Uige was the epicentre of the outbreak, and cases detected in other provinces are thought to have originated in Uige.

With the initial DREF allocation (CHF 65,000), the Angola Red Cross started immediately to assist 400 MHF affected families in Uige province. Volunteers distributed mattresses, blankets, bed sheets, plastic buckets, jerry cans, water purification supplies and soap items listed below to families in eight villages of Uige municipality (from a total of 176 families in 21 villages). An additional DREF allocation of 187,000 was used to mobilize 45 volunteers, three staff members and one Federation delegate for information, education and communication activities in the affected area for a period three months. These activities were designed to heighten awareness of the disease and provide potentially lifesaving information in and around the affected communities. Psychological support for families affected was also given. Training was also conducted for 20 new volunteers to prepare them to respond to future outbreaks.

#### MENA – Lebanon – Ambulance Services

Amount Allocated: CHF 100,000

Status: Appeal for CHF 387,000 launched. Current coverage is at 65.1%.

Following a period of political turmoil in Lebanon, on 14 February 2005, a powerful car bomb ripped through the motorcade of former Prime Minister Rafik al Hariri. The assassination was followed by demonstrations in the centre of the city, and on 18 March a series of car bombs occurred, targeting predominantly Christian neighborhoods of Beirut. The assassination of Hariri provoked further turmoil, preventing the Lebanese Parliament from passing a budget law in preparation for the 2005 state budget.

This impasse has had consequences for the Lebanese Red Cross (LRC) which, since 1975, has built a reputation as a reliable, effective, and professional paramedical service provider. In 1995, the Government of Lebanon decreed

**DREF; Appeal no.05AA084; Programme Update no. 1**

that the LRC would be the national provider of First Aid and ambulance services for the entire population. Funding has been provided by the Government to the LRC, and services have been provided free of charge for the population. Because of the halt in Government funding, the LRC's nation-wide ambulance services have been left without support in 2005 to continue implementation of its mandate, directly impacting the population that rely on these critical services.

In 2004, the LRC First Aid/Ambulance services responded to over 161,000 requests for assistance (over 440 a day). The LRC covers more than 80% of all ambulance missions in Lebanon; the remaining 20% is covered by private operators and the Civil Defense.

The DREF was used in conjunction with an emergency appeal to provide lifesaving support in addressing urgent and critical medical needs, ensuring a continuous delivery of emergency medical services to the entire population of the country for a three month period, particularly during this time where political instability may result in civil disturbance and the increased need of emergency medical services.

**Europe - Georgia– Flooding**

Amount Allocated: CHF 50,000

Status: Appeal for CHF 467,007 launched. Current coverage at 61.6%.



Heavy rainfall, warm temperatures and a sudden onset of the seasonal snow melt resulted in floods in the western Georgian regions of Racha-Lechkhumi, Lower (Kvemo) Svaneti, Imereti and Samegrelo-Upper (Zemo) Svaneti on 25-26 April 2005. On 27-30 April the eastern regions of Inner (Shida) Kartli, Lower (Kvemo) Kartli, Mtskheta-Mtianeti, Adjara and part of Samtskhe-Javakheti were also affected. Landslides and mudflows occurred in many mountainous areas. While fortunately there has been no loss of human life, the damage to already poor infrastructure, residential buildings and agriculture was extensive. Populations from a number of villages were relocated due to fears for their safety. Families from damaged or destroyed houses have mostly found temporary shelter with relatives, friends, or neighbors.

Transport infrastructure was heavily affected. Many bridges and kilometres of road were washed away isolating some of the villages. On 28 April 2005, the government appealed for international assistance.

On the same day the Federation issued a Minor Emergency alert an allocated DREF funds. These funds was used to help support the assessment activities of the Field Assessment Coordination Team (FACT) as well as the distribution costs for food and hygiene parcels, jerry cans and water purification tablets.

**Asia Pacific – Pakistan - Floods**

Amount Allocated: CHF 50,000

Status: Reimbursement of DREF is encouraged.

Two months of rain, snowfall and floods caused widespread damage to the infrastructure in Balochistan, North West Frontier province (NWFP) and Northern Areas. Water supplies, sanitation systems, electricity, communication and road links were seriously affected, and there were food supply shortages in remote areas. The death toll was reported to be around 600, with around 700 injured. The country also faces another challenge as the snow has started to melt. With rain and snowfall this year 30 to 40 percent above normal; there is a great danger of flash floods in case of heavy monsoon rains.



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The DREF allocation was used to replenish the emergency stocks of tents, blankets and plastic sheeting so that the Pakistan Red Crescent Society would be ready to immediately respond to the needs of beneficiaries from the expected flooding during the coming monsoon season.

**Americas – Boliva – Social Crisis**

Amount Allocated – CHF 60,000

Status: Reimbursement of DREF is encouraged.

Dramatic social unrest in Bolivia which worsened over several weeks caused a humanitarian crisis in parts of the country. La Paz and El Alto is where most of the demonstrations took place and is also the location of the most affected populations. Protestors called for economic reforms and, in particular, increased rights for indigenous peoples who make up the majority of the country's population, together with nationalization of the gas and mining industry and the urgent convening of a constitutional assembly, clashing with those who are demanding greater autonomy for the western and eastern regions of the country. As a part of the demonstrations the road network in the country was blocked for more than three weeks with transportation reduced to 5 per cent of normal volume given to a lack of fuel, water supplies were limited in several areas and food became much more expensive and scarce day by day.

The CHF 60,000 DREF has been used to support the Bolivian Red Cross in the purchase and distribution of food parcels to 1,000 of the most vulnerable families as well as purchasing and distributing dried food supplies to 10 orphanages and rehabilitation centers.

*Additional information about these examples as well as all other appeals and minor emergencies may be found on the Federation website.*

**DREF Reporting for Minor Emergencies**

To better inform donors, national societies and the general public about the utilization of DREF for minor emergencies the Federation has initiated a new reporting format to complement the current Emergency Appeal and Information Bulletin formats. The Minor Emergency report is issued whenever a DREF allocation is made without an emergency appeal. Additionally a Minor Emergency Final Report will be completed within 90 days after the completion of the minor emergency operation. These reports will be posted in the same manner as the emergency appeals and information bulletins.

**Funding for Silent Emergencies**

In a special initiative with the Netherlands government and the Netherlands Red Cross, significant funding has been provided for the reimbursement of DREF used for minor or silent emergencies. To date, 14 minor emergencies, six of which resulted in launching an Emergency Appeal have been supported with CHF 757,323. This funding has been instrumental in facilitating the Federations increase its use of DREF for minor emergencies. The ability to increase the number of allocations for minor emergencies helped to assure that more victims of silent or forgotten emergencies could be assisted. There is tremendous potential with this program and it is hoped it can be expanded in the future.

**Appeal Contributions in 2005**

The response to the annual appeal has been moderately strong. A total of CHF 2,610,705 has been received in response annual appeal amount of CHF 4.0 m. This is 65.3% of the appeal amount. The main contributions were provided by the Swiss Government for CHF 1,000,000, British Government (DFID) – CHF 500,000 the Netherlands Government – CHF 476,793, Norwegian Red Cross for CHF 407,767, and the Luxembourg Red Cross for CHF 153,750. Other contributions came from a variety of donors (see attached).

*[Contributions list below; click here to return to title page and contact information.](#)*

## DREF; Appeal no.05AA084; Programme Update no. 1

Allocations by Type		
Type	Number	%
Floods/Storms/Tornados	18	38
Tropical Storm	1	2
Winter Weather	5	11
Health Related	7	15
Earthquake	1	2
Explosions	1	2
Population Movement	3	6
Drought	2	4
Volcano	2	4
Food Crisis	2	4
Disaster Preparedness	1	2
Other	4	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>100</b>

DREF Allocations for Minor Emergencies 2005				
Region	Number of Allocations	% of Allocations	Total Value of Allocations	% of Allocations
Africa	18	52	1,377,273	56
Americas	5	14	475,000	19
Asia/Pacific	4	17	240,000	11
Europe	5	11	258,482	10
MENA	2	6	71,000	3
Global Programs	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2,421,755</b>	<b>100</b>

DREF Allocations with Emergency Appeals 2005				
Region	Number of Allocations	% of Allocations	Total Value of Allocations	% of Allocations
Africa	4	37	485,000	34
Americas	2	18	300,000	21
Asia/Pacific	2	18	300,000	21
Europe	2	18	260,428	18
MENA	1	9	100,000	6
Global Programs	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1,445,428</b>	<b>100</b>

DREF Allocations for Preparedness 2005				
Region	Number of Allocations	% of Allocations	Total Value of Allocations	% of Allocations
Africa	0	0	0	0
Americas	0	0	0	0
Asia/Pacific	1	50	29,000	57
Europe	0	0	0	
MENA	0	0	0	
Global Programs	1	50	22,000	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>51,000</b>	<b>100</b>

# Disaster Relief Emergency Fund

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 05AA084

## PLEDGES RECEIVED

07/07/2005

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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### CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->	4,000,000					TOTAL COVERAGE 70.2%
BELGIUM - PRIVATE DONOR	2,166	EUR	3,330	11.05.05		
BRITISH - GOVT/DIFD GRANT			500,000	01.01.05		
DANISH - GOVT			196,777	27.06.05		
ICELANDIC - RC	300,000	ISK	5,430	14.04.05		SERBIA & MONTENEGRO SNOWFALLS
LUXEMBOURG - RC	100,000	EUR	153,750	03.05.05		
NETHERLANDS - GOVT	32,086	EUR	49,685	20.01.05		COSTA RICA FLOODS
NETHERLANDS - GOVT	24,603	EUR	37,876	17.02.05		SWAZILAND
NETHERLANDS - GOVT	42,781	EUR	65,861	22.03.05		SUDAN EXPLOSION IN JUBA
NETHERLANDS - GOVT	17,326	EUR	26,837	30.03.05		SENEGAL CHOLERA
NETHERLANDS - GOVT	34,497	EUR	53,436	13.04.05		ZAMBIA DROUGHT
NETHERLANDS - GOVT	34,497	EUR	53,436	13.04.05		ANGOLA MARBURG FEVER
NETHERLANDS - GOVT	42,781	EUR	66,054	10.06.05		KENYA FLOODS
NETHERLANDS - GOVT	42,781	EUR	66,054	10.06.05		YEMEN FLOODS
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC	2,157,496	NOK	407,767	12.04.05		
PRIVATE DONORS ON LINE			122,376	20.01.05		
SWISS - GOVT			1,000,000	16.05.05		
UNITED STATES - PRIVATE DONORS			170	23.03.05		
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH</b>			<b>2,808,839</b>	<b>CHF</b>		<b>70.2%</b>

### KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>CHF</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

### ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>CHF</b>	