



HAITI: FLOODS FROM TROPICAL STORM ERNESTO

*DREF Bulletin no.
MDRHT001
Final Report
23 May 2007*

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 185 countries.

In Brief

Period covered by this Final Report: 13 September 2006 to 13 December 2006.

History of this Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF)-funded operation:

- CHF 90,000 (USD 72,137.23 or EUR 56,817.08) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund to respond to the needs of this operation.
- This operation was expected to be implemented in 3 months, and completed by 13 December 2006. In line with Federation reporting standards, the DREF Bulletin Final Report (narrative and financial) was due 90 days after the end of the operation (13 March 2007).

[Click here to go to the Final Financial Report attached below](#)

The International Federation undertakes activities that 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.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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 \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Background and Summary

Tropical Storm Ernesto passed over Haiti's Southern coast on the night of Saturday, 26 August 2006. On the morning of Sunday, 27 August Ernesto became a category 1 hurricane as it started to leave Haitian territory. The very powerful rains that accompanied this system considerably affected the coastal areas of the South and Grande Anse Departments and caused lesser damage in the West, Les Nippes and Artibonite Departments.

Gusty winds and heavy rains reaching 150 to 187 mm, hammered the peninsula and the West Department, causing flooding in certain coastal villages of the south-east, the south, Nippes, Grande Anse and the west. The flooding of the Quinte River in Upper-Artibonite, obliged authorities to evacuate communities in Nan Manmye, near Passereine, some 15 kilometres from the city of Gonaïves. Lesser rains and winds were observed in Aquin, Cavaillon, Chantal, Arniquet, Saint-Jean du Sud, Ile à Vache and Port Salut.

The results of coordinated assessments as regards damage and numbers of affected persons are as follows:

Departments Communes	Deaths	Wounded	Missing	Numbers of Affected People	Number of People in shelters	Houses Destroyed	Houses Damaged
Grande Anse	-	3	-	450	-	6	53
Nippes	1	-	1	415	-	-	83
West Anse à Galet	-	-	-	370	-	22	52
South							
Arniquet	-	-	-	35	-	4	-
Camp-Perrin	1	1	1	210	282	7	42
Cavaillon	-	-	-	5	-	-	1
Aquin	-	-	-	100	-	-	20
Ile à Vaches	1	1	-	595	-	29	119
St Jean du Sud	-	-	-	300	180	3	57
St. Louis du Sud	1	-	1	10	-	-	-
South East Bainet	-	-	-	50	-	-	
Total	4	5	3	2,540¹	462	71	427

Furthermore, there were major losses of crops including bananas, coconuts, livestock and sugar cane in the affected Departments. There was also significant damage to fishing boats and nets. Additionally, over a three day period (25 – 28 August) no boats were able to leave the harbours in the South, West and Grand-Anse Departments, accounting for a loss of income for fishermen and others.

¹ 785 of these affected people did not receive relief aid: they were assisted later in the process, during the rehabilitation phase, These were the families whose houses were destroyed or damaged.

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Major needs, as assessed, were for food, clothing, shelter, kitchen kits, hygiene kits, laundry soap, blankets, mosquito nets and water purification tablets.

Those affected were mostly subsistence farmers living in coastal areas: in the South East in Baint, families make a living from fishing, although many boats and nets had been lost in disasters prior to Tropical Storm Ernesto.

Coordination

The HNRCS ensured coordination with the national authorities, the Ministry of Health, the UN system, particularly OCHA and UNICEF and with international NGOs such as the Catholic Relief Service, Care and World Vision. The HNRCS invited local and national media representatives to travel to the field to see the damage caused by Tropical Storm Ernesto and the work being carried out by the Haitian National Red Cross Society. Articles and information have also been published on the Federation's two regional web sites – www.cruzroja.org and www.caribbeanredcross.org and on the global Federation web site www.ifrc.org.

Analysis of the operation – achievements and impact

The Haitian National Red Cross Society activated its emergency operations centre as of the morning of 25 August. In addition, trained national intervention team (NIT) members were mobilized in the affected regions to assist with search and rescue, first aid and damage and needs assessments. Nevertheless, there were certain difficulties in accessing the areas hit by the floods given lack of resources and difficulties with vehicles. In the South, South East, Grande Anse, Les Nippes and Upper Artibonite Departments, the 150 community volunteers trained under the “Kouri di Vwazin ‘W’” project were mobilized before the passage of the tropical depression in order to raise awareness amongst the population with regard to hazards and to measures to take before, during and after the passage of Ernesto. The volunteers traveled by bicycle and on horseback to isolated communities and, through the use of megaphones, provided warning messages to populations living close to the sea and to rivers and whose houses are in areas prone to landslides.

Objective 1: 600 of the most affected families (around 3,000 persons) benefit from the distribution of non food items to boost recovery from the effects of the floods.

Family kits containing detergent, soap powder, toilet paper, toilet soap, tooth paste, a bucket, a jerry can, a soup spoon, a plate, glasses, a pan, a kitchen knife and a kitchen spoon were procured locally in Port-au-Prince and distributions took place in October. Each region made seven volunteers available to assist with the distributions.

Distributions of relief goods took place as follows:

Region	Number of Beneficiary Families	Place of Distribution	Relief Goods Distributed
South Camp Perrin	50 families	Camp Perrin Local Red Cross branch	50 family kits 100 blankets 100 mosquito nets 50 jerry cans 50 buckets (15 litres) 50 boxes of aquatabs
Aquin	50 families	Aquin Local Red Cross branch	25 family kits 100 blankets 100 mosquito nets 50 jerry cans 50 buckets (15 litres) 50 boxes of aquatabs
Saint Louis du Sud	55 families	Saint Louis	50 family kits 100 blankets 100 mosquito nets

			50 jerry cans 50 buckets (15 litres) 50 boxes of aquatabs
Ile à Vache	130 families	Ile à Vache Community leader's premises	100 family kits 200 blankets 200 mosquito nets 100 jerry cans 100 buckets (15 litres) 100 boxes of aquatabs
Grande Anse Jérémie	150 families	Jérémie Regional Red Cross branch	100 family kits 300 blankets 300 mosquito nets 150 jerry cans 150 buckets (15 litres) 150 boxes of aquatabs
West Grand Goâve	50 families	Grand Goâve Town hall	50 family kits
Les Nippes	100 families	Anse-à-Veau Regional Red Cross branch	100 family kits 200 blankets 200 mosquito nets 100 jerry cans 100 buckets (15 litres) 100 boxes of aquatabs
South East Bainet	80 families	Bainet -Bord de la Mer, La Plaine School	50 family kits 100 blankets 100 mosquito nets 50 jerry cans 50 buckets (15 litres) 50 boxes of aquatabs
Total	665 families		

Note: The amount of families does not necessarily correspond to the amount of family kits that have been distributed. The family kits are for 5 people, but not every beneficiary family had five family members; some of them had only two or three. It was then decided to distribute the extra family kits among the families that were not selected initially.

Impact:

An additional 65 families received non-food relief items since results of assessments indicated that they were much in need of assistance. Beneficiary criteria included the degree of damage to housing, loss of property, lack of income, and also focused on large families, female headed households, pregnant women, the disabled and the ill. The relief items provided helped families to recover from the effects of the floods and to resume their normal patterns of living.

Constraints:

The inaccessibility of certain areas during the hurricane season made it challenging to deploy national intervention team members rapidly in order to carry out damage and needs assessments. The fact that local Red Cross branches do not have resources or well-maintained vehicles also complicates mobilization to the areas hit by the floods. As a result, the distribution of relief items took place in October.

Objective 2: 3,000 families (around 15,000 families) directly or indirectly affected by Tropical Storm Ernesto benefit from water and sanitation activities that will enable them to quickly recover from the damages suffered.

Each of the five Regional Red Cross branches involved in the response operation were provided with 15 wheelbarrows, 15 shovels, 15 picks, 100 masks, 20 pairs of gloves and 200 pairs of boots.

Impact:

The planned activities were carried out and the HNRCS, the local authorities and the communities worked closely together in the Nord Ouest Region. Thanks to the cleaning activities of the canals and sewerage systems, the lower part of the village was not flooded by heavy rains in March.

Constraints :

There was a delay in the launch of the activities in the Grande Anse region because of the heavy rainfall in November. As a result, some of these activities are being wrapped up. Volunteers have been working closely with authorities and communities to achieve progress in this area.

Objective 3: The Disaster Management Department at the Headquarters and the Regional HNRCS Branches receive a fund for the implementation of emergency activities and vehicle repair in order to speed up the response and intervention timeframe.

After careful consideration by the Federation, in coordination with the HNRCS, it was decided not to go ahead with providing emergency relief funds for HNRCS branches. Following an assessment of the situation, the National Society decided to concentrate its efforts and prioritize the repair of the ambulance of the Les Cayes branch.

Impact

Because the ambulance was repaired, it was possible for the Branch to transport NITs to carry out immediate damage and needs assessments. This will also enable the National Society to transport the injured to hospitals in the event of emergencies. The availability of the ambulance also contributes to the National Society's visibility and credibility.

Constraints:

None to report.

[Final financial report below;](#)
[click here to return to the title page or contact information](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRHT001 - HAITI - TROPICAL STORM ERNESTO

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2007/07
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/06
Appeal	MDRHT001
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
A. Budget		90,000				90,000
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>DREF</i>		-25,938				-25,938
C1. Cash contributions		-25,938				-25,938
<u>Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)</u>						
<i>DREF</i>		90,000				90,000
C3. Reallocations (within appeal or		90,000				90,000
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		64,062				64,062
D. Total Funding = B + C		64,062				64,062

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		64,062				64,062
E. Expenditure		-64,062				-64,062
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		0				0

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Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2007/07
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/06
Appeal	MDRHT001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

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	
BUDGET (C)		90,000					90,000	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	5,230						5,230	
Clothing & textiles	33,215		20,025			20,025	13,190	
Water & Sanitation	2,838		298			298	2,540	
Utensils & Tools	35,709		22,222			22,222	13,487	
Other Supplies & Services			5,390			5,390	-5,390	
Total Supplies	76,992		47,934			47,934	29,057	
Transport & Storage								
Storage	237		51			51	186	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	3,667		4,368			4,368	-700	
Total Transport & Storage	3,904		4,419			4,419	-515	
Personnel Expenditures								
Regionally Deployed Staff			288			288	-288	
National Staff	931		1,599			1,599	-669	
National Society Staff	1,550		3,743			3,743	-2,193	
Total Personnel Expenditures	2,481		5,630			5,630	-3,149	
General Expenditure								
Travel	315		1,230			1,230	-914	
Office Costs	348		544			544	-196	
Communications	110		123			123	-12	
Other General Expenses			19			19	-19	
Total General Expenditure	774		1,915			1,915	-1,141	
Program Support								
Program Support	5,850		4,164			4,164	1,686	
Total Program Support	5,850		4,164			4,164	1,686	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	90,000		64,062			64,062	25,938	
VARIANCE (C - D)			25,938			25,938		