

www.ifrc.org  
Saving lives,  
changing minds.

## DREF operation update Seychelles: Floods

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

**DREF operation n° MDRSC002**  
**GLIDE n° [FL-2013-000012-SYC](#)**  
**Operation update n° 1**  
**23 May 2013**

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) 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 emergency response. 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:**  
**7 February to 4 May 2013**

**CHF 106,551 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on to support the Red Cross Society of Seychelles for a period of three months in delivering assistance to some 3,000 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.**

**Summary:** This DREF operation was launched on 7 February 2013, following the heavy rains from the Feleng tropical depression in the Indian Ocean that caused severe flooding in the regions of Anse Aux Pins, Au Cap, Point Larue on the main Island Mahe and on the third largest inhabited island La Digue



The Red Cross Society of Seychelles, supported by IFRC, quickly responded to the floods in the aftermath of Tropical Depression Feleng in February, assisting affected communities with non-food items, emergency health and water and sanitation interventions. Photo: RCSS

The Red Cross Society of Seychelles (RCSS) initiated its response with performing rapid needs assessments and developed a plan of action, in coordination with the government office of the Department of Risk and Disaster Management (DRDM) and the local authorities.

Supported by IFRC's DREF, RCSS has been able to provide immediate assistance to flood affected families, with food and non-food items, conduct health, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion activities and replenished its disaster preparedness stock.

RCSS has provided cleaning and sanitation materials and improved sanitary conditions to the flood affected families. Some delay in project activities was experienced due to the need for the government to relocate some of the beneficiaries targeted by this DREF, following the risk that threatened some houses in the Anse Aux Pins district.

This has been a challenge for the both government leading the exercise as some families were unwilling to relocate to a new house at Perseverance and the RCSS due to the topography for relief distribution. Most of the distribution was done on a door to door basis.

The original DREF operation was intended to be completed in mid-May 2013. However, due to delay in project implementation there is a need to extend the DREF for six weeks in order to complete the final part of NFI distribution activities as well as health education and epidemic prevention awareness raising in addition to conducting an internal review and lessons learnt of the operation. There will be no changes to the operation's budget. The DREF operation will be finalized on 30 June 2013, with a final report issued three months later, by 30 September 2013.

The Directorate General of the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (DG ECHO) as well as IFRC's Tsunami Residual Funds contributed to the replenishment of the DREF allocation made for this operation. The major donors and partners of DREF include the Australian, American and Belgian governments, the Austrian Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross and government, Danish Red Cross and government, the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), the Irish and the Italian governments, the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Luxembourg government, the Monaco Red Cross and government, the Netherlands Red Cross and government, the Norwegian Red Cross and government, the Spanish Government, the Swedish Red Cross and government, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), the Medtronic and Z Zurich Foundations, and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of Seychelles Red Cross, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions. Details of DREF contributions are found on: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/Active/MDR00001.pdf>

[\*<click here for interim financial report; or here for contact details>\*](#)

## **The situation**

On 27 and 28 January 2013, the eastern coast of Seychelles main island of Mahe was devastated by tropical depression Feleng and the island La Digue was severely affected. The damage was reminiscent of what happened after the tsunami of 26 December 2004 and the torrential rains in December 2009, which affected many households on the islands.

The districts lying on the eastern coasts of Mahe, including Pointe Larue, Au Cap, Anse Aux Pins and Cascade, were the worst hit. Severe floods and landslides from the heavy rains have devastated these districts, sometimes sending huge boulders crashing into houses at Anse Aux Pins and Cascade.

Assessments indicated that approximately 1,000 families were affected by the floods and landslides. In total, 246 families were registered as having been displaced after their houses were either totally destroyed or partially damaged. All of the displaced families come from the island of Mahe and most of the families were sheltered in temporary accommodations set up by the government with 38 families being hosted by their relatives or friends.

Three months after the disaster, almost all of the families have now either returned to their original home or have been provided with new houses by the government. The stagnant water has now been pumped out and the areas are in a safe and reasonable condition.

The households in Mahe are still using tap water as supply. Some households that had flood waters and debris in their homes had only cleaned the surfaces. The estimated 400 families living

in the affected area that were covered by stagnant water, are still facing the risk of health and hygiene problems due to the fact that the area have not been completely disinfected.

The government has been talking the lead role in responding to the needs of the population and has requested the RCSS to continue complementing their activities and support, in particular in relief distribution, health promotion and prevention of diseases, psychosocial support, water, and sanitation and hygiene activities.

### Coordination and partnerships

The RCSS is the only humanitarian organization taking part in the national emergency response mechanisms. It has partnered with the Department of Risk and Disaster Management (DRDM) and the local authority, IFRC and the French Red Cross's Plate-forme d'intervention régionale Océan Indien (PIROI).

To support the affected families that were forced to leave their homes due to the flooding and stayed in the temporary shelter, the Seychelles authorities provided them with two cooked meals per day and the RCSS provided food items for breakfasts and sanitation materials for the duration of their stay in the temporary shelter.

The RCSS signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with PIROI for EUR 50,000 to support part of the flood operation cost operation. The support covered items and programme activities that were not covered in the DREF appeal such as pumping of stagnant water, distribution of mosquito nets and mosquito repellents on La Digue and the provision of electrical house hold appliances (cookers, electrical fans, washing machine, iron, refrigerator) to the affected people in the three districts on Mahe.

### Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Throughout this DREF operation, the IFRC supported the RCSS with two RDRT members to provide technical support to the National Society implementing operation. The three-week mission of the RDRT supported in the identification immediate needs in water, sanitation and health in the affected communities developed an action plan and drew up recommendations for implementation by the RCSS.

The water and sanitation and health RDRT arrived in Seychelles on 17 February and started to work immediately with the National Society. The plan of action was concluded and implementation was initiated rapidly. The RCSS performed needs assessments in the areas of intervention which formed the basis for the plan of action with 75 RCSS volunteers (25 supported by the DREF and the remainder supported directly by RCSS) were mobilized and trained in health and sanitation sensitization, as a way of preparing them for community sensitization and sanitation interventions.

So far, the RCSS has distributed basic household items, including mosquito nets, to flood affected families in the targeted area on La Digue and other affected area on Mahe. These items were part of the PIROI pre-positioned NFIs available in RCSS's warehouse.

### Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (basic non-food items)	
<b>Outcome:</b> <b>165 households have benefitted from basic non-food items</b>	
<b>Outputs (Expected Result)</b>	<b>Activity planned:</b>
165 displaced households (825 beneficiaries) in temporary accommodation centres have received complementary basic non-food items to improve their situation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and register beneficiaries in coordination with local authorities</li> <li>• Train volunteers to support and assist in relief distributions</li> <li>• Replenish the relief items distributed, including 100</li> </ul>

	mattresses, 550 bed sheets, 550 pillow sets, and hygiene materials (soap, toothbrush, and toothpaste, sanitary towels for women, diapers and baby wipes for babies). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor, evaluate and report on activities</li> </ul>
--	---

**Progress:**

Volunteers were trained to support and assist in relief distribution. Needs assessment were conducted in the affected areas, and a plan of action developed based on the information collected. The identification and selection of 165 beneficiaries were based on the level of damage on their house structures, i.e. the families who had their homes completely destroyed were selected for assistance, elderly, single mothers and low income household. Distributions for mattresses, bed sheets and pillow sets taken place, with a detailed breakdown to be made available in the final report. There remains a limited number of families to be reached

**Challenges:**

The risk of unstable land and the level of damage to some houses posed challenges to implement the activities, when some of the targeted beneficiaries had to be relocated /evacuated to new areas. This caused delay in implementing some of the activities including NFI distribution and health education awareness rising.

Emergency health	
<p><b>Outcome:</b>  <b>Immediate risks to health caused by floods and landslides reduced for 600 affected families by providing health education and mosquito nets.</b>  <b>Outcome 2: Psycho-social support provided to affected families affected by floods and landslides</b></p>	
<p><b>Outputs (Expected Result)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The affected families of Mahe and La Digue know how to protect themselves from health risks due to water borne/ related diseases, including cholera, other diarrheal diseases, malaria and dengue fever.</li> <li>• The targeted families use mosquito nets to protect themselves from health risks.</li> <li>• Affected families in Mahe and La Digue received psychosocial support.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Activity planned:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct assessment of health needs of the affected population.</li> <li>• Train 35 volunteers in community based health education and hygiene promotion.</li> <li>• Provide 600 families with mosquito nets (2 mosquito nets per family-200 families in accommodation centres and 400 families in La Digue).</li> <li>• Health education for 600 affected families to promote safe health practices and inform about the health risks relating to waterborne/related diseases, including cholera, other diarrheal diseases, malaria, and dengue (This component will be performed coordinated with hygiene awareness mentioned under WATSAN and hygiene)</li> <li>• Train 15 social workers and counsellors, and five volunteers in advanced PSS</li> <li>• Train 25 volunteers in basic PSS</li> <li>• Psychosocial support provided to the affected families in need of support from the two targeted areas (Mahe and La Digue)</li> <li>• Close cooperation and coordination with health authorities.</li> <li>• Monitor the situation and ensure adequate reporting</li> </ul>

**Table 2: Distributions to date**

Items	AnseAux Pin	Point Larue	Aux Cap	La Digue	Living in temp
-------	-------------	-------------	---------	----------	----------------

					<b>shelters</b>
<b>Hygiene materials</b>					75
<b>Mosquito nets</b>	60	40	15	2,150	
<b>Mosquito repellents</b>				200	

### Progress:

A total of 25 mobilized RCSS volunteers in Anse Aux Pins and Point Larue were trained in health promotion and sanitation sensitization, supported by the DREF. An additional 15 volunteers from La Digue branch were similarly trained. Their acquired skills and knowledge from the training was used in community health education and awareness raising campaigns on the prevention of water-borne and communicable diseases.

A training programme was developed to train the targeted 15 social workers and counsellors as well as 25 volunteers in PSS. The training, initially planned for the second week of May, was moved to the end of the month due to the availability of the people involved. The mosquito nets from the pre-position PIROI stock at the headquarters were sent to La Digue and have already distributed to the families. To prevent any health related issue, authorization was sought from the Ministry of Health prior to the distribution of the repellent tubes.

A total of 30 volunteers and five social workers were also identified in this reporting period to attend two PSS trainings at the end of May and beginning of June. Training programme and training materials have been developed, and the training will be conducted by Red Cross staff and volunteers who have experience in this field.

### Challenges:

Some of the beneficiaries on La Digue did not follow the instructions given to them in terms of the use of the mosquito net and to this effect some allergic reaction were reported but with minor effect.

## Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

**Outcome: Detailed information on the situation and emergency needs in affected areas is available and used for planning of continued intervention.**

<b>Outputs (Expected Results)</b>	<b>Activity planned</b>
The National Society has conducted an in-depth assessment of the situation and emergency needs in affected areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct a detailed assessment of the situation and emergency needs in Mahe and La Digue.</li> <li>Use the data for planning the emergency operation.</li> </ul>

### Progress:

A total of 25 RCSS volunteers were mobilized in the Anse Aux Pins, Au Cap and Pointe Larue and La Digue for water, sanitation and hygiene activities (including collection of information and hygiene promotion, etc.).

Prior to the activities being carried out, the water and sanitation RDRT conducted a three-day training with the aim of strengthening the capacity of the National Society's volunteers to carry out sanitation and hygiene promotion in the community. The same training was conducted on La Digue for the branch volunteers by both the water and sanitation and health RDRT members.

The RCSS, in collaboration with the Ministry of Local Government, conducted a one day training on hygiene promotion and sanitation on 27 April with some 30 members of the Aux Cap community. The aim of the training was to provide the participants with basic knowledge on sanitation and hygiene promotion and how to collect information in preparation for their response to sanitation and health promotion needs in their communities.

### Challenges:

Due to the need for the relocation of some of the displaced targeted families, part of the health education and awareness raising activities were delayed. These activities shall take place at their

new location if the need arises.

According to the Ministry of Health (MoH) the situation has been stabilizing, however much emphasis is being made on the prevention side of epidemics related to the post-disaster situation. The RCSS has emphasised the need for extension of the health education and hygiene promotion activities and working in close collaboration with the Ministry of Local Government.

---

## Contact information

### For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **Seychelles Red Cross Society:** Collete Servina, Secretary General; phone: +248 437 4543 / 437 4544 ; email: [servinac@ymail.com](mailto:servinac@ymail.com)
- **IFRC Regional Representation:** Finnjarle Rode, Regional Representative for East Africa; Nairobi; phone: +254 20 283 5000; email: [finnjarle.rode@ifrc.org](mailto:finnjarle.rode@ifrc.org)
- **IFRC Africa Zone:** Daniel Bolaños, Disaster Management Coordinator for Africa; Nairobi; phone: +254 (0)731 067 489; email: [daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org](mailto:daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org)
- **IFRC Geneva:** Christine South, Operations Quality Assurance Senior Officer; phone: +41 22 730 45 29; email: [christine.south@ifrc.org](mailto:christine.south@ifrc.org)
- **IFRC Regional Logistics Unit (RLU):** Ari Mantyaara Logistics Coordinator, Dubai; phone +971 50 4 584 872, Fax +971 4 883 22 12, email: [ari.mantyaara@ifrc.org](mailto:ari.mantyaara@ifrc.org)

### For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

- **IFRC Africa Zone:** Loïc de Bastier, Resource Mobilization Coordinator for Africa; Addis Ababa; phone: +251 93 003 4013; fax: +251 11 557 0799; email: [loic.debastier@ifrc.org](mailto:loic.debastier@ifrc.org)

### For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting):

- **IFRC Africa Zone:** Robert Ondrusek, PMER/QA Delegate for Africa; Nairobi; phone: +254 731 067277; email: [robert.ondrusek@ifrc.org](mailto:robert.ondrusek@ifrc.org)

---

## How we work

All IFRC 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 the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

[www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)  
Saving lives, changing minds.



The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
  2. Enable healthy and safe living.
  3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
-

**Disaster Response Financial Report**

MDRSC002 - Seychelles - Floods

Timeframe: 06 Feb 13 to 06 May 13

Appeal Launch Date: 06 Feb 13

Interim Report

**Selected Parameters**

Reporting Timeframe	2013/2-2013/4	Programme	MDRSC002
Budget Timeframe	2013/2-2013/5	Budget	APPROVED
		Project	*

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**I. Funding**

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
<b>A. Budget</b>		106,551				106,551	
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>		0				0	
<b>Income</b>							
<u>Other Income</u>							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		106,551				106,551	
<b>C4. Other Income</b>		106,551				106,551	
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)</b>		106,551				106,551	
<b>D. Total Funding = B +C</b>		106,551				106,551	

**II. Movement of Funds**

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>		0				0	
<b>C. Income</b>		106,551				106,551	
<b>E. Expenditure</b>		-106,474				-106,474	
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>		77				77	

## Disaster Response Financial Report

### MDRSC002 - Seychelles - Floods

Timeframe: 06 Feb 13 to 06 May 13

Appeal Launch Date: 06 Feb 13

Interim Report

#### Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2013/2-2013/4	Programme	MDRSC002
Budget Timeframe	2013/2-2013/5	Budget	APPROVED
		Project	*

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability		
	A					B	A - B	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>			<b>106,551</b>			<b>106,551</b>		
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>								
Clothing & Textiles	38,050						38,050	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	13,202						13,202	
Utensils & Tools	1,850						1,850	
<b>Total Relief items, Construction, Sup</b>	<b>53,102</b>						<b>53,102</b>	
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Distribution & Monitoring	3,000						3,000	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	3,000		525			525	2,475	
<b>Total Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>6,000</b>		<b>525</b>			<b>525</b>	<b>5,475</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>								
Volunteers	6,920		564			564	6,356	
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>6,920</b>		<b>564</b>			<b>564</b>	<b>6,356</b>	
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	7,675						7,675	
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>7,675</b>						<b>7,675</b>	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	14,202		5,333			5,333	8,869	
Information & Public Relations	6,399						6,399	
Office Costs	4,750						4,750	
Communications			210			210	-210	
Financial Charges	1,000						1,000	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>26,351</b>		<b>5,543</b>			<b>5,543</b>	<b>20,809</b>	
<b>Operational Provisions</b>								
Operational Provisions			93,344			93,344	-93,344	
<b>Total Operational Provisions</b>			<b>93,344</b>			<b>93,344</b>	<b>-93,344</b>	
<b>Indirect Costs</b>								
Programme & Services Support Recov	6,503		6,498			6,498	5	
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>	<b>6,503</b>		<b>6,498</b>			<b>6,498</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>106,551</b>		<b>106,474</b>			<b>106,474</b>	<b>77</b>	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>			<b>77</b>			<b>77</b>		



**Disaster Response Financial Report**

MDRSC002 - Seychelles - Floods

Timeframe: 06 Feb 13 to 06 May 13

Appeal Launch Date: 06 Feb 13

Interim Report

**Selected Parameters**

Reporting Timeframe	2013/2-2013/4	Programme	MDRSC002
Budget Timeframe	2013/2-2013/5	Budget	APPROVED
		Project	*

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**IV. Breakdown by subsector**

Business Line / Sub-sector	Budget	Opening Balance	Income	Funding	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Deferred Income
<b>BL2 - Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people</b>							
Disaster response	106,551	0	106,551	106,551	106,474	77	
Subtotal BL2	106,551	0	106,551	106,551	106,474	77	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>106,551</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>106,551</b>	<b>106,551</b>	<b>106,474</b>	<b>77</b>	