

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Uganda: Floods and Landslides in Eastern Uganda

DREF operation n° MDRUG015

GLIDE n° LS-2010-000040-UGA

4 March 2010

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.

CHF 256,963 (USD 237,929 or EUR 176,002) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) in delivering immediate assistance to some 5,000 beneficiaries affected by floods and landslides in Eastern Uganda. Un earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Heavy rains over the last one week in some parts of Eastern Uganda have resulted into floods, water logging and landslides affecting more than 10,000 people in the districts of Bududa, Butaleja Katakwi, Amuria, Pallisa, Mbale, Moroto, Nakapiripirit, Sironko, Manafwa, Bukwo and Budaka in Eastern and North eastern Uganda. Preliminary assessment by URCS have confirmed 75 people dead, 307 people have been reported missing and over 1,031 people displaced in Bududa district alone.



URCS volunteers carrying out assessment in the area affected by landslides in Bududa district.
Photo by URCS

There has been destruction of houses, pit latrines have been submerged, food crops destroyed; affecting 6,023 people in the district of Butaleja. River Manafwa and Namatala have burst their banks causing flooding. The rains are still continuing and more areas are likely to be affected. URCS intends to support the most vulnerable among the affected households with search and rescue, essential household items, emergency medical services and household water treatment.

This operation is expected to be implemented over 1 ½ months, and will therefore be completed by mid-April 2010; a Final Report will be made available by mid-July 2010.

[<click here for the DREF budget, here for contact details or here to view the map of the affected area>](#)

The situation

Parts of Eastern and Northern Eastern Uganda are experiencing flooding, water logging and landslides due to the heavy rains that started late February 2010 and are still on-going. The occurrence of landslides has resulted in death, displacement of people, destruction of property, a health centre has been submerged and people around the area have no access to health services as the nearest health centre is 7km a way in mountainous terrain. Food crops and roads are inaccessible and bridges are breaking down, a number of people have been injured and some families have been separated. A total of 81 people have been confirmed dead, and the rescue efforts are continuing with difficulties as a result of continuing rains and poor terrain; 10 people were injured and hospitalised, 307 are still missing and feared dead, and 1,031 people have been displaced in Bududa district alone while 6,023 people are affected in Butaleja district alone.

Other districts that are experiencing water logging and flooding are Katakwi, Amuria, Pallisa, Mbale, Moroto, Nakapiripirit, Sironko, Manafwa, Bukwo and Budaka with an estimated total population of 3,572,228 people. Flooding has resulted into submerging of latrines with a possible risk of water borne diseases, poor health conditions, destruction of roads and bridges causing inaccessibility problems, damaging of crops from farm yields thus exposing the affected communities to famine.

The rainy season in the affected areas have come earlier than usual and the rains are expected to continue up to late April and/or early May according to the current forecasts. This implies that there may be more flooding and possible landslides. The Government of Uganda has relocated the whole population from the affected parishes and high risk areas to safer areas and/or resettlement camps that have been established at the sub-county headquarters.

Table 1: The number of households affected in the various districts.

District	Families affected	Families displaced	Homes damaged and/or destroyed/Comment
Bududa	206	206	206
Butaleja	1,204	219	154
Katakwi	107	69	0
Mbale	388	183	144
Manafwa	56	44	17
Sironko	113	102	55
Bukwo	0	0	Assessment still going on
Budaka	211	98	0
Moroto	0	0	Assessment still going on
Nakapiripirit	0	0	Flooding of bridges
Amuria	97	56	28
Paliisa	175	79	0
Total	2,557	1,056	604

It should be noted however that these are preliminary assessment figures, assessments are still on-going and the rain is continuing thus these figures are likely to change in the near future.

Coordination and partnerships.

Implementation of the planned activities will be done in the affected districts by the URCS with technical support from the Eastern Africa Regional office. A national task force has been formed at the national headquarters and at the Eastern Africa Regional office. The URCS branches in the affected districts are working in coordination with the district disaster management committees.

At national level, the URCS headquarter is working in coordination with, the Office of the Prime Minister for Disaster Preparedness and Response and other partners such as the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), Oxfam GB and Save the Children.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has provided 900 household family kits to the URCS for immediate distribution.



Red Cross volunteers and community members identifying the bodies of persons killed as a result of landslide.
Photo by URCS.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

URCS through its network of branches and volunteers are conducting rapid assessments, evacuating victims of landslides and providing First Aid services to the persons injured by the landslides. URCS has dispatched emergency stock for 1,000 households to Mbale region for distribution but the needs are still overwhelming. A team from the headquarters are already on the ground carrying out a detailed assessment. Red Cross Action teams have been mobilised in all the affected districts and are carrying out assessments as well as on standby for further action.

The needs

Immediate needs

- Conduct search and rescue of the affected communities.
- Distribution of essential household items such as tarpaulins, hygiene soap, blankets, kitchen utensils (saucepans, cups and plates), and Jerry cans to displaced families.
- Provision of First Aid services to the affected population.
- Health sensitization with specific focus on cholera and malaria controls and distribution of treated mosquito nets. Treatment of available water sources through distribution of water purification tablets (water guard) to reduce possible outbreak of water borne diseases.

Medium term needs

- Provision of safe water to the affected persons.
- Health sensitization with specific focus on cholera and malaria controls and distribution of treated mosquito nets and should be given due consideration.
- Provision of construction tools.
- Seeds such as beans, maize and agricultural tools should be distributed to compensate the anticipated loss of crops already covered by water.

The proposed operation

The immediate response activities will be implemented in the 5 districts of Bududa, Mbale, Butaleja, Manafwa and Sironko, targeting 5,000 vulnerable beneficiaries.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective 1: To provide 1,000 most affected families with basic households items.

Activities planned:

- Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments.
- Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
- Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

Emergency health, sanitation and hygiene promotion.

Objective 2: To reduce the risk of waterborne and water related diseases through community sensitization and provision of safe water to the affected communities.

Activities planned:

- Provision of emergency First Aid services.
- Conduct health education to the affected communities.
- Distribution of information, education and communication (IEC) health promotion materials.
- Provision of water treatment products such as chlorination tablets.

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 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.

The International Federation'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.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In Uganda:** Uganda Red Cross Society (Michael Nataka, Secretary General), phone: +256 41 258 701/2; fax: +256 41 258 184; email: natakam@redcrossug.org
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[<DREF budget and map below below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

	<u>DREF BUDGET SUMMARY</u>	Annex 1
	DREF NAME Uganda – Floods and Landslides in Eastern Uganda	DREF Number MDRUG015
	<u>RELIEF NEEDS</u>	
500	Shelter	70,000
505	Construction Materials	0
510	Clothing and Textiles	0
520	Food	0
523	Seeds and Plants	0
530	Water and Sanitation	31,400
540	Medical and First Aid	3,920
550	Teaching Materials	0
560	Utensils and Tools	31,675
570	Other Supplies & Services	0
	Total Relief Needs	136,995
	<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>	
580	Land and Buildings	0
581	Vehicles Purchase	0
582	Computers and Telecom Equipment	0
584	Office/Household Furniture and Equipment	0
587	Medical Equipment	0
589	Other Machinery and Equipment	0
	<u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND VEHICLES</u>	
590	Storage - Warehouse	1,306
592	Distribution and Monitoring	0
593	Transport and Vehicles Costs	33,479
	<u>PERSONNEL</u>	
600	International Staff	0
640	Regionally Deployed Staff	4,930
661	National Staff	0
662	National Society Staff	43,164
670	Consultants	0
	<u>WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING</u>	
680	Workshops and Training	0
	<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>	
700	Travel	2,000
710	Information and Public Relations	0
730	Office running costs	1,670
740	Communication Costs	3,116

750	Professional Fees	0
760	Financial Charges	0
790	Other General Expenses	13,600
	<u>SERVICE FEES</u>	
	Service Fees	
	<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>	
599	Programme Support - PSR	16,703
	Total Operational Needs	119,968
	Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind)	256,963
	Net Request	256,963



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