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# Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) Central African Republic: Violent winds in Bogoula, Amada-Gaza and Mbaïki

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

**DREF operation n° MDRCF011  
GLIDE n° ST-2012-000033-CAF  
2 March, 2012**

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.

**CHF 105,335 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Central African Republic Red Cross National Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 384 families, i.e. about 1,920 beneficiaries. Un-earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.**

**Summary:** Torrential rains have been falling in most localities of the Central African Republic (CAR) since 15 February 2012. The situation deteriorated over the weekend of 18 to 19 February as violent winds occurred, causing serious human casualties and material damages in Bogoula, Amada-Gaza and Mbaïki. Bogoula, Mbaïki and Amada-Gaza are located 60 km, 107 km and 650 km respectively from Bangui, the capital of CAR.



**CAR Red Cross Disaster Management Team went to the field to evaluate the situation. This is an example of a house that was partially destroyed in Bogoula. / Photo by CAR Red Cross**

The emergency assessment conducted by CAR Red Cross disaster management team found that the disaster had left 23 people wounded (20 in Bogoula and 03 in Mbaïki). Additionally, 305 houses were reported completely destroyed, and another 79 houses partially destroyed, making a total of 384 families left homeless by the violent winds. Many other families have sustained minor damages, but CAR Red Cross has established that the 384 homeless families—1,920 people—are currently the most vulnerable. These families are estimated to comprise 498 men, 733 children, 579 women, 90 elderly and 20 people with physical disabilities. While some of the most vulnerable people have been accommodated in host families thanks to CAR Red Cross volunteer advocacy, others are sleeping in the open where they are exposed to weather-related diseases. Since weather services have announced that more rains are still to come, CAR Red Cross authorities have expressed the need for rapid intervention to help protect targeted vulnerable people.

In the field, the National Society has already mobilized about 117 volunteers who are assisting vulnerable families with the protection of children, elderly and people with physical disabilities, as well as protection of property. These volunteers also provided the information used in writing this report. The most urgent needs as expressed by the vulnerable people themselves include shelter, tarpaulins, mats, blankets, soap and mosquito nets. If provided, these items will protect them from waterborne diseases, malaria and respiratory infections. This DREF allocation is therefore requested to enable CAR Red

Cross society to assist 384 families in the areas of relief distribution, emergency shelter, emergency health, water, hygiene promotion and sanitation.

This operation is expected to be implemented over 04 months, and will therefore be completed by 30 June 2012. A Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 30 September 2012).

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

## The situation

Torrential rains have been falling in most localities of the Central African Republic (CAR) since 15 February 2012. The situation deteriorated over the weekend of 18 to 19 February as violent winds occurred, causing serious human casualties and material damages in Bogoula, Amada-Gaza and Mbaïki. Bogoula, Mbaïki and Amada-Gaza are located 60 km, 107 km and 650 km respectively from Bangui, the capital of CAR.

The emergency assessment conducted by CAR Red Cross disaster management team reveals that the disaster has left 23 people wounded (20 in Bogoula and 03 in Mbaïki). Additionally, 305 houses are reported to have been completely destroyed, and another 79 houses partially destroyed, making a total of 384 families left homeless by the violent winds. Many other families have sustained minor damages, but CAR Red Cross has established that the 384 homeless families are the most vulnerable at this time. These families are estimated at about 1,920 people, comprising 498 men, 733 children, 579 women, 90 elderly and 20 people with physical disabilities. While some of the most vulnerable people have been accommodated in host families thanks to CAR Red Cross volunteers' advocacy role, others have been sleeping in the open where they are exposed to weather-related diseases. The situation is more preoccupying as weather services have announced that more rains are still to come. The following table summarizes the situation on the field at the time of writing this report:

Localities	Number of houses destroyed completely	Number of houses destroyed partially	Number of people wounded	Number of vulnerable families/people						Total vulnerable people per locality
				Families	men	women	children	Old people	People with physical disability	
Bogoula	111	32	20	143	150	145	223	75	20	613
Mbaïki	111	21	03	131	182	229	207	15	00	633
Amada-Gaza	83	26	00	110	166	205	303	00	00	674
<b>Total</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1,920</b>

In the field, the National Society has already mobilized about 117 volunteers who are assisting vulnerable families with the protection of their property, children, old people and people with physical disability. These volunteers also provided the information used in writing this report. The most urgent needs as expressed by the vulnerable people themselves include shelter, tarpaulins, mats, blankets, soap and mosquito nets. If provided, these items will protect them from waterborne diseases, malaria and respiratory infections.

## Coordination and partnerships

No concrete action has been taken yet in the field in favour of vulnerable people. Government local authorities are looking forward to receiving support that will enable them to respond to the situation. The Amada-Gaza Member of Parliament wrote a letter to the CAR Red Cross society soliciting emergency assistance for vulnerable people.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The National Society has already mobilized about 117 volunteers (40 in Bogoula, 57 in Mbaïki and 20 in Amada-Gaza) who are assisting vulnerable families with the protection of children, elderly people and people with physical disability, as well as protection of their property. The National Disaster Management Coordinator led a team to affected localities to evaluate the situation. These volunteers provided the information used in writing this report.

## The needs

**Selection of people to be reached:** The people to be reached by this operation are the 1,920 people classified as the most vulnerable because they have been left homeless. Non food items are needed to assist these people. The non-food items needed include 768 tarpaulins (02 for each of the 384 families targeted), 960 mats (01 mat for 02 people multiplied by the 1,920 people targeted), 1,152 insecticide treated mosquito nets (03 for each family), 384 cooking kits (01 for each family), 3,840 pieces of soap of 200 g each (5 pieces for each family per month X 2 months). Leaflets, image boxes and sanitation kits are needed to facilitate sensitization and hygiene promotion work. The sensitization work will be extended to the entire populations in affected localities. The CAR Red Cross local committees of the affected localities have also expressed the need for capacity building in emergency response planning and reporting, as well as health, water and sanitation and finance. A combined briefing will be organized to that effect in Bogoula, Mbaïki and Amada-Gaza. Moreover, 50 Red Cross volunteers will be mobilized and trained for the operation, on the basis of 10 in Bogoula, 20 in Mbaïki and 20 in Amada-Gaza. These volunteers will be supervised by 3 members of the CAR Red Cross national disaster response team, one supervisor assigned to each of the three localities affected. This national team will be coordinated by the National Disaster Management Coordinator of the National Society. CARREP will also deploy a member of the regional disaster response team (RDRT) to support the National society with the implementation, monitoring and reporting on this operation. Transport will also take a considerable part of the budget as most items will have to be transported from Yaoundé to Bangui, and then from Bangui to the affected localities. Bogoula, Mbaïki and Amada-Gaza are located 60 km, 107 km and 607 km respectively from Bangui.

## The proposed operation

<b>Relief distributions (basic non-food items)</b>	
<b>Outcome: Contribute to improving the living conditions of the most vulnerable 384 families (1,920 people) identified as the most vulnerable to violent winds in Bogoula, Mbaïki and Amada-Gaza by distributing them basic non-food items for 02 months.</b>	
<p><b>Expected results:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The non-food items planned are purchased and put at the disposal of the national society.</li> <li>• The most vulnerable 384 families (1,920 people) targeted by this operation have received non-food assistance from the CAR Red Cross society.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Activities planned:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purchase 768 tarpaulins, 960 mats, 768 blankets, 1,152 insecticide-treated mosquito nets (ITN), 384 cooking kits, and 3,840 pieces of soap of 200 g each; and put them at the disposal of the CAR Red Cross society for distribution.</li> <li>• Transport these items to affected localities.</li> <li>• Train/retrain 50 volunteers on distribution and sensitization techniques. This training will be coupled with the combined briefing on emergency response planning and reporting, as well as health, water and sanitation and finance.</li> <li>• Prepare distribution tools.</li> <li>• Distribute the non-food items purchased to the most vulnerable 384 families, i.e. 768 tarpaulins (02 for each of the 384 families targeted), 960 mats (01 mat for 02 people multiplied by the 1,920 people targeted), 768 blankets (2 per family), 1,152 insecticide treated mosquito nets (03 for each family), 384 cooking kits (01 for each family), 3,840 pieces of soap of 200 g each (5 pieces for each family per month X 2 months). The tarpaulins will enable the vulnerable families to erect temporary shelters while a more appropriate solution is being found to rebuild their houses.</li> <li>• Ensure monitoring, evaluation and reporting on distribution activities.</li> </ul>

## Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

**Outcome: Contribute to improving the living conditions of the most vulnerable 384 families (1,920 people) identified as the most vulnerable to violent winds in Bogoula, Mbaïki and Amada-Gaza by carrying out water, sanitation and hygiene promotion activities in their localities for 4 months.**

### Expected results:

- The populations affected by violent winds in Bogoula, Mbaïki and Amada-Gaza live in a healthy environment.
- About 90% of the populations affected are sensitized to how to reduce the risks of violent wind and prevent diseases such as malaria.
- The populations in Bogoula, Mbaïki and Amada-Gaza know how to install and use mosquito nets.
- The populations affected by violent winds in Bogoula, Mbaïki and Amada-Gaza know hygiene and sanitation rules and obey them.

### Activities planned:

- Train/retrain 50 volunteers on distribution and sensitization techniques. This training will be coupled with the combined briefing on emergency response planning and reporting, as well as health, water and sanitation and finance. The volunteers will also learn how to install and use mosquito nets
- Train the 384 families targeted in Bogoula, Mbaïki and Amada-Gaza on how to install and use mosquito nets.
- Produce leaflets and posters on the reduction of the risks of violent wind, epidemics and other weather and poor hygiene-related diseases.
- Sensitize communities on the risks associated with violent wind, epidemics and other weather and poor hygiene-related diseases.
- Purchase 15 sanitation kits and put them at the disposal of the NS. Each kit will comprise a shovel, a rack, a raincoat, a pair of boots, a pair of gloves, a muffler, etc.
- Carry out sanitation activities in Bogoula, Mbaïki and Amada-Gaza.
- Ensure monitoring, evaluation and reporting on water, sanitation and hygiene promotion activities.

## Contact information

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

- **IFRC Regional Representation:** Denis Duffaut, IFRC Central Africa Regional Representative; Office phone: +237 22 21 74 37; Mobile phone: +237 77 11 77 97; email: [denis.duffaut@ifrc.org](mailto:denis.duffaut@ifrc.org)
- **IFRC Zone:** Daniel Bolanos, Disaster Management Coordinator, Africa; phone: +254 (0)731 067 489; email: [daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org](mailto:daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org)
- **In Geneva:** Christine South, Operations Support; phone: +41.22.730.45 29; email: [christine.south@ifrc.org](mailto:christine.south@ifrc.org)
- **Regional Logistics Unit (RLU):** Ari Mantyvaara Logistics Coordinator, Dubai; phone +971 50 4584872, Fax +971.4.883.22.12, email: [ari.mantyvaara@ifrc.org](mailto:ari.mantyvaara@ifrc.org)

### For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

- **West and Central Africa hub:** Elisabeth Seck, Resource Mobilization Officer, Dakar; phone: +221 33 869 36 60; mobile: +221 77 450 59 49; email: [elisabeth.seck@ifrc.org](mailto:elisabeth.seck@ifrc.org)

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

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

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## 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.

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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.

# DREF OPERATION

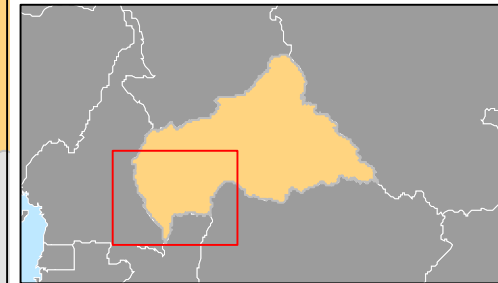
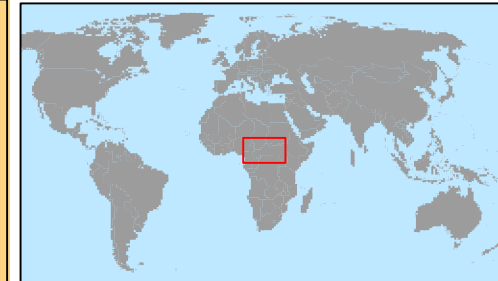
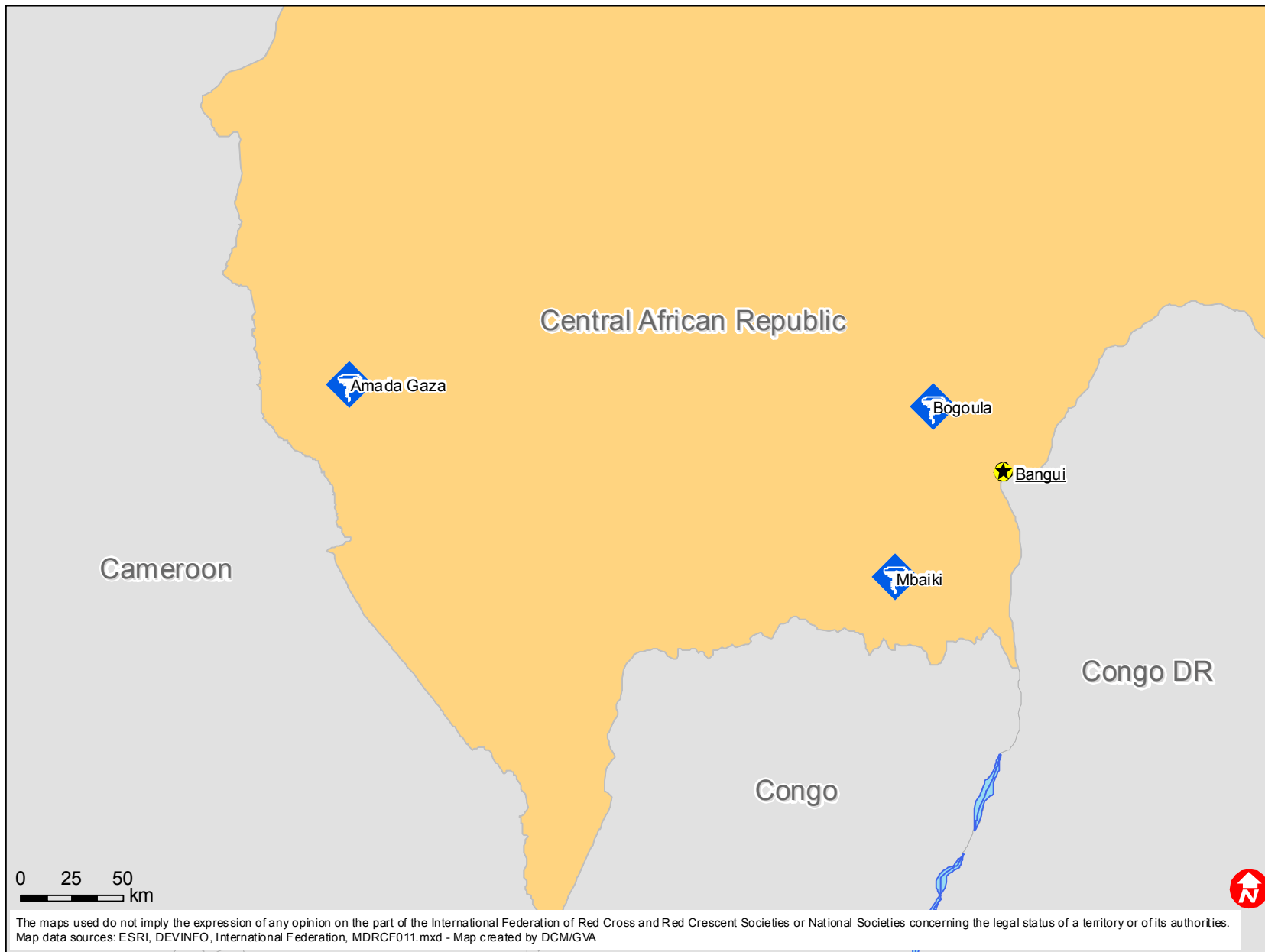
02-03 2012

## Central African Republic: Violent Winds (MDRCF011)

<b>Budget Group</b>	<b>DREF Grant Budget CHF</b>
Shelter - Relief	9,394
Shelter - Transitional	
Construction - Housing	
Construction - Facilities	
Construction - Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	12,253
Food	
Seeds & Plants	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	6,887
Medical & First Aid	230
Teaching Materials	
Utensils & Tools	10,579
Other Supplies & Services	4,231
Emergency Response Units	
Cash Disbursements	
<b>Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES</b>	<b>43,574</b>
Land & Buildings	
Vehicles Purchase	
Computer & Telecom Equipment	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	
Medical Equipment	
Other Machinery & Equipment	
<b>Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>0</b>
Storage, Warehousing	1,322
Distribution & Monitoring	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	22,590
Logistics Services	
<b>Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE</b>	<b>23,912</b>
International Staff	5,831
National Staff	
National Society Staff	826
Volunteers	8,131
<b>Total PERSONNEL</b>	<b>14,789</b>
Consultants	
Professional Fees	
<b>Total CONSULTANTS &amp; PROFESSIONAL FEES</b>	<b>0</b>
Workshops & Training	3,949
<b>Total WORKSHOP &amp; TRAINING</b>	<b>3,949</b>
Travel	4,867
Information & Public Relations	6,483
Office Costs	15
Communications	859
Financial Charges	459
Other General Expenses	
Shared Support Services	
<b>Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>12,683</b>
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	6,429
<b>Total INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>6,429</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>105,335</b>



# Central Africa Republic: Local storm



Places affected by local storm