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Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) Malawi: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRMW009
GLIDE n°FL-2012-000210-MWI
7 February, 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.

CHF 326,090 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to some 16,370 beneficiaries (3,274 flood-affected families). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Since mid December 2012, Malawi has been receiving heavy rains and storms in many parts of the country. This has led to flash floods, and loss of lives, injuries and destruction of infrastructure, including roads, houses, school blocks and gardens. The Southern Region of Malawi is the most affected with districts of Mangochi, Phalombe, Nsanje and Zomba being the worst hit.



Even strong structures collapsed. A teachers house is badly damaged in Phalombe one of affected area/MRCS

The total number of households affected throughout Malawi is 12,877, according to the Department of Disaster Management Affairs. To date, four deaths have been recorded. The families in the affected communities have either had their houses completely destroyed or partly damaged; crops have been damaged, livestock lost, and water sources have been contaminated. The displaced families are staying in makeshift camps with poor and inappropriate sanitation facilities.

This DREF operation will be implemented in Mangochi district for a period of three months, and will therefore be completed by May 2013. The operation will focus on provision of temporary shelter, NFI distribution, first aid and referral services, as well as hygiene promotion. Mobilization and training of 90 volunteers will support in the DREF operation. A final report will be made available three months after the end of the operation, by August 2013.

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

The situation

Since late December 2012, heavy rains and storms have led to flash floods and loss of lives and destruction of infrastructure in many districts in Malawi. Four deaths have been confirmed to be a direct result of the floods. The Southern Region of Malawi is the most affected with districts like Mangochi, Phalombe, Zomba, Thyolo, Nsanje and Chikhwawa. In the Central Region Ntcheu and Dedza have been affected, and in the

Northern Region Karonga and Nkhata- Bay are among the districts affected. In the districts like Thyolo and Karonga heavy rains accompanied with strong winds blew off house roofs.

The total number of households affected throughout Malawi is 12,877, according to the Department of Disaster Management Affairs. The families in the affected communities have either had their houses completely destroyed or partly damaged, crops have been damaged and livestock lost, and water sources have been contaminated. The displaced families have taken refuge in makeshift camps, in school blocks and other public buildings. The displaced families find themselves without adequate sanitation facilities; water has been contaminated by overflowing latrines, and debris. There are fears of increased risk of cholera and diarrhoea outbreaks. School sessions have been disrupted. In some evacuation camps temporary toilets have been dug, but poorly sited, making it difficult for women to access given the cultural norms in this area.

Malawi is also currently facing acute food shortage, which exacerbates the situation of the flood-affected communities as precious crops, livestock and food stores have been destroyed.

Coordination and partnerships

The Government is leading the efforts of responding to the disaster through the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DODMA), headed by Vice President of Malawi. UNDP is coordinating interagency response team, of which Malawi Red Cross Society is a member. MRCS participates in the National Disaster Response Team represented by the Disaster Management Department at Headquarters and in districts where MRCS has operational projects and division executive committees.

Roles and responsibilities of organizations responding to emergencies are well defined in the Malawi Contingency Plan as members were put in various sectors/clusters. This has proved to be effective for coordination and unnecessary duplications have been avoided.

Coordination between humanitarian agencies is done through the humanitarian cluster system. MRCS participates in three clusters: shelter and camp management; logistics, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).

The National Disaster Response Forum has divided the responsibilities of involved agencies per districts for emergency response. In Phalombe, the following stakeholders are responding: Oxfam, Plan Malawi, Concern Worldwide and some faith based organizations; Zomba has MRCS and Emmanuel International, CADECOM, Save the Children among others, while Nsanje has MRCS, GOAL Malawi, CADECOM and CARD. MRCS is responding to Mangochi because their needs are considerably higher, and the capacity of the MRCS branch in this district is good. The targeting of Mangochi district for the intervention has been done in coordination with the National Disaster Response Forum.

In-country Partner National Societies (PNSs) include the Danish Red Cross and the Finnish Red Cross. Other PNS partners include Belgium Red Cross, Icelandic Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

As an immediate response, MRCS mobilized its volunteers that, together with the Office of the District Commissioner, formed a rescue team which helped to evacuate affected persons from the flooded area. MRCS volunteers participated in rescue operations; conducted initial assessments of damage and needs; mobilized communities for initial response including construction of makeshift shelter, digging and constructing pit latrines; and hygiene promotion campaigns focusing on water management.

Using prepositioned stock, MRCS distributed relief non-food items in Phalombe, Mangochi and other districts. The items included: 2,000 tarpaulins; nine cholera volunteer modules; 300 collapsible water storage jerry cans.

The assistance by MRCS has helped Ministry of Health to preposition the supplies for preventing cholera.

The MRCS Secretariat in Lilongwe has ongoing communication with the branches in the affected districts, regarding how to best support them in the emergency response.

The operational structures for the IFRC Food Security Emergency Appeal (MDRMW008) in Malawi will be used for providing support and monitoring for the DREF operation. A Food Security Operations Manager will be deployed to Malawi for a period of 6 months. The Operations Manager will support this DREF operation, thereby enhancing synergies and ensure close follow up.

The needs

Some 12,877 households in Malawi have been affected by the floods, mainly from the southern, central and some from the northern regions. Among these affected households, it is estimated that about 40% have been displaced and are currently living in makeshift shelters in tents, with host families, schools or other buildings, with limited access to clean water and sanitation facilities. Many of the families have lost their belongings, food stores and livelihoods. Over 20% of households are considered most vulnerable and this includes women and child-headed households, pregnant women, the elderly, chronically ill and the physically challenged.

An inter-agency assessment identified six priority needs:

1. The affected families lost their food stored in their houses and their gardens have been washed away.
2. Tarpaulins and rolls of plastic papers, to be used in reconstruction of houses by affected communities once water levels recede;
3. WASH related items such as water purification tablets, soap, and containers for storage of water;
4. Long Lasting Insecticide Treated Nets (LLITNs) to protect affected communities from mosquito bites at night;
5. Blankets to keep affected communities warm as the soil is damp and nights are cold;
6. There is also need to put up big tents to allow students continue schooling. Some students claim to have lost note books and text books in the disaster

The Malawi Government, through WFP, is already distributing food (maize flour and beans for next four months beginning January, 2013) to 16 districts in response to general food shortage. Mangochi district is one of the districts included in the distributions. In addition, the government has provided some tents to shelter displaced families.

The Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) has provided six big tents to Mangochi, five to Phalombe, and eight to Salima to shelter the displaced families. Mary's Meals provided 21 similar tents to Phalombe. UNICEF has provided some tents for shelter, and pledged to provide school tents, school feeding and chlorine for water treatment. MRCS volunteers assisted displaced families in the Mangochi district to erect the larger tents provided by UNICEF and the DoDMA

Beneficiary target and selection criteria:

MRCS intends to respond to the needs in Mangochi District, considering the extent of impact of floods to the affected people as compared to other districts. MRCS also intends to implement a community health project in the same district. After the emergency response, the intended project will help to build the resilience of the community to impact of floods.

The assessment indicate that eleven areas were affected by the floods and stormy rains but of concern are the villages of Traditional Authorities (TA) Nankumba (1,954 households), Mponda (1,043 households) and Chimwala (277 households). As a result, a total of 3,274 households had their shelter damaged, hundreds of hectares of the maize crops and scores of cattle, goats and chickens washed away and loss of other household effects.

The Inter Agency assessment team identified 3,274 flood affected households (about 17,000 individuals) in TA Nankumba, Mponda and Chimwala. Out of these, 1,600 households require shelter and non food item (NFI) support as their houses are either completely destroyed, severely damaged or in such a state that they would be hazardous to stay in.

The basic selection criteria for identifying beneficiaries shall include households with limited resources headed by the:

- Elderly
- Chronically ill
- Female and child-headed households,

- Physically challenged
- Pregnant women
- Poor households with limited sources of income

The proposed operation

MRCS intends to target 1,600 households (estimated 8000 individuals) in Mangochi District, with shelter and relief distribution and 3,274 families will be targeted with health education and hygiene awareness campaigns, water and sanitation.

The DREF operation will include provision of temporary shelter, including shelter tool kit materials and tarpaulins, shelter fixings (rope and nails) and basic construction materials. Distribution of basic household items will meet the immediate needs of the affected families. The items planned for distribution include mosquito nets (LLINTN), blankets, jerry cans, buckets, kitchen sets and shelter tool kits. All items will adhere to SPHERE standards.

First Aid and referral services will be provided in the affected communities. In addition, MRCS also intends to support the government in cholera prevention through awareness raising and social mobilization of flood-affected communities. The operation plans to provide four cholera treatment kits to government clinics in the target area, as well as cholera volunteers' modules and training of MRCS hygiene promotion volunteers and government health frontline staff (health surveillance assistants) in cholera management.

The water, sanitation and hygiene component of the DREF will target the entire community and includes hygiene promotion, water treatment and cholera prevention. During home visits for hygiene promotion, household water treatment products will be distributed. MRCS will review the water and sanitation facilities, in particular having in mind the situation of the women and how to enhance their access to sanitation facilities. A solution will be discussed with the communities and resources mobilized in collaboration with the WASH partners in the country.

The emergency response operation is coming at the time when there is already a food distribution programme in the country by the Government. As the emergency response will be progressing, a thorough assessment will be conducted to determine needs which might be met by a medium term recovery operation.

In total, 90 volunteers will be mobilized. There will be three groups of 30 volunteers: first aid volunteers; hygiene promotion volunteers; and shelter/relief distribution volunteers. The DREF operation will be headed by the Disaster Management Department. To facilitate efficient process of beneficiary identification and registration, distribution and post-distribution monitoring, a multi-disciplinary team will be constituted and given orientation in sphere standards relevant to non-food items distribution, erection of temporary shelter using the shelter toolkits and hygiene promotion. In order to ensure safety of staff, ten sets of protective wear will be provided. Each protective gear set will compromise: a pair of boots; workman's suit; raincoat; and bush jacket.

Key gender issues include participation of both genders in decision-making, participation in the implementation of activities and monitoring of the situation. MRCS encourages adequate representation of gender and diversity in community structures such as committees. Both male and female volunteers will be involved in the implementation of activities. Because people are displaced and therefore vulnerable to exploitation, MRCS will engage Civil Protection Committees to work with communities to sensitize them on rights and responsibilities of the all categories of people. MRCS will also include in its hygiene and health promotion campaigns issues of HIV prevention.

Shelter, Settlements and Non Food Items	
Outcome: The immediate sheltering and basic needs of 1,600 displaced households in TAs Nankumba, Mponda and Chimwala are met.	
Outputs (expected results) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency shelter assistance is provided to the target households • Essential household items/NFIs are provided to the target population 	Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments using Malawi Government Disaster Assessment Checklist • Training of volunteers in erecting shelter using the shelter toolkit and good practice in non-food items (NFI) relief distribution • Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance in transparent manner.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct beneficiary registration and verification • Distribute relief supplies for 1600 households. Each family will receive 2 LLITNs , 2 blankets, 2 jerry cans, 1 bucket, 1 kitchen set, 1 shelter toolkits (per five families); shelter fixings, 2 tarpaulins, and soap for hand washing. • Support 1,600 beneficiaries in constructing temporary shelter through procurement of 3,200 tarpaulins and associated construction materials • Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and report.
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Emergency health

Outcome: The risks of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases reduced among 3,274 households in affected communities through the provision of preventive measures at community level.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
First Aid provided and referrals made to sufficiently resourced health facilities to those affected by the disaster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and train 36 volunteers (10 in each TA and 6 from Mangochi District) in First Aid • Provide First Aid and referral to health facility • Purchase 15 first aid kits (5 kits per TA)
The risk of contracting cholera and other waterborne related diseases is reduced.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize and recruit 30 volunteers at community level for the prevention of cholera and other diarrhoea diseases • Conduct training of 30 volunteers and 6 Health Surveillance Assistants (HSAs) on hygiene promotion using the CBHFA curriculum for five days • Produce and distribute IEC materials to communities for disease prevention with focus on cholera, diarrhoea and malaria

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: To reduce the occurrence of water and sanitation related diseases among 3,274 households through provision of clean drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities including hygiene promotion.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Increased access to safe and portable water, sanitation and improved hygiene practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct assessment of water supply and sanitation facilities in the affected area to understand critical needs, with special focus on the needs of women. • In discussion with the communities and WASH cluster identify possible solutions to problems identified in the assessments and perform resource mobilization activities with the communities and WASH cluster. • Rehabilitate three boreholes to improve access to safe/clean drinking water; • Provide household-level water treatment products like chlorine tablets, PUR sachets for water filtration and treatment to 3,274 families. (included in cholera kits, and chlorine products in the budget) • Supporting Government health facilities with 4 cholera treatment modules • Facilitate hygiene promotion campaigns in Traditional Authorities Nankumba, Mponda and Chimwala

Logistics

Outcome: Relief operation is supported and delivers a range of relief items in line with the operational priorities in a cost effective and timely manner.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The operation has coordinated mobilization of relief items and efficiently and timely dispatch of goods to the final distribution points in good order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure relief items and other material needed for the operation. Reference to procurement plan below. • Preposition stocks in strategic areas • Establish the best sourcing strategy for relief materials so that cost efficient and timely delivery of relief is ensured • Control efficient supply movements to end user

Procurement Plan

Procurement of items locally will be done in line with MRCS procurement policy. However, special consideration will be needed to expedite the process. This consideration generally implies local shopping where three quotations are sourced from eligible suppliers.

In this DREF, MRCS proposes to procure the following locally:

- 3,200 Blankets
- 3,200 LLINs (mosquito nets)
- 9,600 pieces of soap
- 1,600 buckets/Hand wash basins
- Chlorine
- IEC materials
- Construction material and fixing
- 15 First Aid kits

For the other relief items detailed below, regional procurement will be done through the IFRC in line with IFRC procurement guidelines:

- 3,200 Tarpaulins
- 1,600 Cooking sets
- 3,200 Jerry cans
- 4 Cholera Kits

Communication

MRCS will ensure a steady flow of timely and accurate information between field and other internal and external stakeholders. Through the IFRC Communications Office, with support of IFRC, MRCS will implement the following:

- Conduct media awareness campaigns
- Facilitate the development/adaptation or reproduction of IEC materials on health and hygiene
- Implement a beneficiary feedback/complaints procedures

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring and evaluation activities will be conducted to ensure accountability and transparency and that minimum standards are met. The following activities will be conducted:

- Facilitate assessments, beneficiary identification and verification
- Facilitate consultative meetings with relevant district stakeholders
- Support volunteers to conduct post distribution monitoring and producing reports for sharing with stakeholders
- Conduct lessons learnt workshop at the end of the operations
- Produce and circulate fortnightly and end of operations reports

The IFRC will conduct joint monitoring with MRCS through several structures set up to facilitate this operation. The IFRC in country operational structure to implement the food security emergency appeal will be used as a support for close monitoring of the DREF operation, including financial management by the IFRC. The RDRT staff will also ensure close technical support and monitoring of the implementation, with back up from the regional office and zone structures. An evaluation will be performed by IFRC at the end of the operation

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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- **IFRC Africa Zone:** Robert Ondrusek, PMER/QA Delegate for Africa; Nairobi; phone: +254 731 067277; email: 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 (NGOs) 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

07-02-13

Malawi Flood Budget (MDRMW009)

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	86,687
Shelter - Transitional	0
Construction - Housing	0
Construction - Facilities	0
Construction - Materials	0
Clothing & Textiles	87,200
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	7,125
Medical & First Aid	29,100
Teaching Materials	875
Utensils & Tools	43,200
Other Supplies & Services	4,800
Emergency Response Units	0
Cash Disbursements	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	258,987
Land & Buildings	0
Vehicles Purchase	0
Computer & Telecom Equipment	0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	0
Medical Equipment	0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	200
Distribution & Monitoring	4,500
Transport & Vehicle Costs	10,562
Logistics Services	0
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	15,262
International Staff	0
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	7,950
Volunteers	740
Total PERSONNEL	8,690
Consultants	0
Professional Fees	0
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	15,125
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	15,125
Travel	3,500
Information & Public Relations	810
Office Costs	1,588
Communications	1,227
Financial Charges	1,000
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Support Services	0
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	8,124
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	19,902
Total INDIRECT COSTS	19,902
TOTAL BUDGET	326,090

