

# EMERGENCY APPEAL



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## SIERRA LEONE: FLOODS

Appeal no. 05EA018  
15 September 2005

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 over 181 countries.

### In Brief

#### THIS EMERGENCY APPEAL SEEKS CHF 235,000 (USD 188,522 OR EUR 153,242) IN CASH, KIND, OR SERVICES TO ASSIST 7,000 BENEFICIARIES FOR 4 MONTHS

*(click here to go directly to the attached Appeal budget)*

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

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For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal.

### The Situation

The Pujehun District of Sierra Leone experienced heavy torrential rains starting on 15 August 2005 leading to flooding in several villages, particularly those of Taninahun, Jorma Jargor, Swao and Bandakoh. The situation worsened over 24 hours as floods continued to wreck havoc within Pujehun District. The latest information (as of 31 August) from the Pujehun Red Cross branch, working in collaboration with the Office of National Security and OCHA, indicates the following:

- Most of the affected locations/villages along the river line (particularly the Gbondapi swampy areas) are still inaccessible due to damaged or flooded roads, including very high water levels. Some villages are still trapped and surrounded by water.

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- The Massahun Kpaka and Dadabu highways and river access to Bandakoh, Linsar, Morjaibo and Kakuani are still inaccessible.
- Over 10,000 people are registered affected in various locations within the 12 chiefdoms of Pujehun District and are deprived of clean drinking water and sanitation facilities.
- Over 60 villages are affected in Swao and the Gallines Perri chiefdom.
- Over 500 houses are completely destroyed, with some partially submerged or damaged.
- Several acres of farmland have been destroyed.
- Outbreaks of cholera, diarrhoeal diseases, malaria, dengue fever and other epidemics are possible (some cases of cholera have already been reported).

The rains are expected to continue until the end of September, and there is a high possibility of further flooding in the Pujehun and other districts of Sierra Leone.

### SUMMARY OF THE FLOOD-AFFECTED AREAS AND PEOPLE (PUJEHUN)

Chiefdoms	No. of Villages Affected	No. of Family Heads	No. of Children (under 5yrs)	Total No. of Dependant	Total Population	No. of Houses Destroyed	No. of damaged Latrines	No. of Damaged Wells	No. of Damaged Farmland**	No. of Cattle lost
Kpaka	45	*291	*175	1455	1746	270	52	*68	370	94
Malen	15	21	16	128	149	37	7	*7	*40	*8
Mano Sakrim	16	*45	*35	*318	363	68	*20	*16	185	*20
Gallines Perri	1	60	*47	474	534	51	9	*2	*70	*30
YKK	3	41	*24	*246	*287	*40	*7	*3	*50	*18
Sowa	4	18	25	98	116	14	*4	*4	*25	*12
Kpaka Krim	4	19	10	99	118	19	0	0	*19	0
Panga Kabondeh	15	281	*300	1356	1637	*280	*14	*12	*290	*91
Makpele	3	7	8	31	40	7	2	*83	*10	*5
Soro Gbema	13	27	13	111	138	27	26	4	*30	*8
Pejeh	1	13	*15	135	148	13	*3	*3	*15	*8
Barrie	5	69	109	570	639	66	18	8	*70	*36
Other		180		*900	*1080					
	125	1,072	777	5,921	6,999	892	162	210	1,174	330

*Statistics compiled by the Office of National Security and OCHA<sup>1</sup>*

These figures may be largely underestimated for two reasons: Most of those who lost their homes are currently living with relatives and neighbours, while other remote villages known to be affected cannot be reached due to limited accessibility. When the ongoing assessment is completed the local authorities, with the support and expertise from relevant stake holders and NGOs, will address the problem of food security, rehabilitation and restoration of acceptable living conditions for those people whose houses have perished or been partly damaged.

### Red Cross and Red Crescent action

CHF 100,000 has been released from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to meet the immediate emergency needs of 7,000 beneficiaries. This fund has allowed the purchase of the items listed in the attached budget, and the budget line therefore provides for the creation or replenishment of a contingency or buffer stock. This Appeal is being launched following assessments and relevant information from the field to complement what has already been assessed. The balance of items needed in addition to new relief materials have been fully incorporated into the emergency appeal.

1. \* Figures with asterisk are provisional, they are statistics not collected during assessment in some villages

2. \*\* Farmlands (in this context) are plots not necessarily equivalent to one acre.

1. New registration (is ongoing); figures are bound to increase within the next few days, provided water level permits assessment to inaccessible areas.

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Volunteers from the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society's (SLRCS) Pujehun branch are currently assisting in the evacuation of the affected population, and are conducting an initial assessment of the situation; in accessible areas volunteers are conducting registration and distributing non-food items (NFI). The volunteers are also engaged in first aid activities and sensitization. So far, the Pujehun Red Cross branch with support from the Federation, the SLRCS headquarters, and the Bo Red Cross branch has distributed NFI to some 1,400 people in ten villages, and was also able to access some 20 communities that were inaccessible and conducted an initial needs assessment.

The Ministry of Health (MoH), in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), will provide emergency medicine for an estimated affected population of 10,000 people, and will respond to an outbreak of cholera and increased incidences of malaria. The Red Cross will continue to participate in coordination at the national, regional (Bo) and district (Pujehun) levels. The district Red Cross will make fifty Red Cross volunteers available on stand-by for use by the MoH and WHO for awareness raising and response to cholera outbreak.

The Bo regional branch of the national society has also initiated an assessment in locations where the Pujehun branch cannot gain access and has provided experienced volunteers to team up with Pujehun volunteers during field activities. The Movement task force (SLRCS, the ICRC, the Federation, Danish and Spanish Red Cross) are supporting the national society, headquarters, Bo and Pujehun branch and its volunteers. The Federation's head of delegation, Danish Red Cross delegate, and the Federation's logistics officer visited the disaster zone recently to assess the damage caused by the flood and to confirm statistics of the affected population. Most of their food and non food stocks have been destroyed.

To ensure that the National Disaster Management Office and the various levels of the SLRCS play a more effective coordinating, facilitating, and response role, the SLRCS headquarters, in collaboration with the Federation and ICRC delegations, will support the Disaster Management Office and the Pujehun Red Cross branch to improve current coordination, response and future management of disasters.

### **The Needs**

There is increased demand on essential drugs services by the affected populations in the 12 chiefdoms of the Pujehun district. Access to essential drugs is largely limited to lack of cash to purchase the drugs under the Government cost recovery scheme. On going assessments reveal the possibility of an outbreak of cholera, malaria, and dengue in the most affected areas. As most of the mosquito nets supplied by the MoH have either been lost or destroyed, malaria will continue to affect mainly children and women. Since the harvest season is months away, food prices may go up and there is a serious risk of food insecurity and malnutrition.

In terms of shelter, the SLRCS, supported by the International Federation, will support 500 families (3,500 persons) with plastic sheeting and other materials, register and distribute food provided by WFP and other actors, and continue to participate fully in assessments and coordination.

Serious gaps and weaknesses have been noticed during the course of the response to the flood disaster in Pujehun. Even though they are doing their best under the present circumstances, it is clear that the newly established Disaster Management Office under the purview of the Office of National Security needs to be supported in their disaster management activities. There is no contingency plan in place and no pre-positioning of emergency stocks. Data collection and information management are the major challenges in the current relief operation, and the Federation and SLRCS headquarters relief team has focused on facilitating access to some areas and undertaking data collection.

### **Capacity of the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society**

There is a functional disaster management office, 560 active first aiders and regional offices in their 13 branches. The Red Cross has extensive experience in emergency operations and a wide network of radio and telecommunications set up in all the branches. The national society is well respected and relied upon by the Government. A clear manifestation of this was when the Red Cross was asked by local authorities and most NGOs to take the lead in relief operations in Pujehun. The SLRCS has a pool of volunteers and experienced relief staff at

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the Pujehun, Bo and headquarters who are all assigned to the operation. The Pujehun Red Cross branch has a very active field officer and volunteers who supported the initial response. Their human capacity will have to be improved if they are to better manage disaster situations.

### Capacity of the Federation

The Federation currently has a head of delegation who is experienced in emergency response, a finance development delegate and a capacity building and HIV/AIDS delegate who will put all their efforts to support the SLRCS in the emergency operations, while the Regional Delegation's disaster management team based in Dakar will provide technical support. A supervising pharmacist/medical doctor will guide the national society in the delivery of health care assistance to the displaced populations. This will be done in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health. Three SLRCS local staff (logistics, telecom and finance) will be attached to the response operations to support their counterparts in the national society. The Federation delegation will facilitate the timely production of narrative reporting and financial processing through its reporting and finance offices, respectively.

### Coordination

The national society and the Federation have set up a task force in Freetown, composed of the head of delegation, the disaster management (DM) director, the DM coordinator, the DM assistant and the logistics and communication units of the Federation, the ICRC, Danish and Spanish Red Cross delegates in SL. The task force is coordinating the action with the Office of National Security (ONS) responsible for disaster management, UNOCHA, UNICEF, WHO, UNAMSIL, MILOPS, WFP, Transitional Support Team (TST) and other interested partners.

Several coordination meetings are being held between the national society and the government to coordinate the response to the disaster. The Sierra Leone government, through the ONS, has written a letter to both the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society headquarters and the Federation's delegation in Sierra Leone seeking support for victims of the flood disaster. The letter emphasizes how heavily the Movement is relied on to support the humanitarian needs of this disaster.

The Federation Regional Delegation for West & Central Africa in Dakar and the Regional DM delegate covering Sierra Leone are closely monitoring the situation in coordination with OCHA Regional Office in Dakar and other agencies.

## The proposed Operation - August to December 2005

**Goal: Provide emergency assistance to 7,000 people affected by the floods in Pujehun.**

**Objective 1: Emergency Health and Care.**

Activities planned to reach this objective:

- The SLRCS headquarters will purchase a stock of 10,000 sachets of Oral Re-hydration Salts (ORS) to distribute to targeted populations in the 12 chiefdoms.
- Promotion/preventive health and nutrition training will be conducted for 100 people from the Women's Groups.
- Support will be provided to mother's clubs on house to house visits with the 100 trained persons
- Participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation training will be conducted for 50 volunteers.
- 50 trained volunteers will assist the MoH in their disease surveillance activities for a period of 30 days
- One refresher course on sensitization techniques, surveillance and referrals will be conducted for 50 volunteers from 12 chiefdoms for a period of 5 days. Two (2) MoH officials will also facilitate the workshop.
- 2 cholera kits will be pre-positioned at the SLRCS Bo and Pujehun office for use in collaboration with the WHO/MoH and other actors.
- 50 first aid kits will be procured to support the relief operation.
- Volunteers will be supplied with 100 aprons, 100 first aid bags, 200 T shirts, 100 pairs of boots, 50 tents, 50 stretchers and other necessary gadgets to facilitate their work.

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- The National Health coordinator, the Regional Officer in Bo and Field officer in Pujehun will participate in interagency coordination meetings, assessments and evaluations.
- 24 volunteer (2 per chiefdom) will be deployed to assist in tracing, providing first aid services and referrals of the dislocated populations.
- 3 field monitoring and evaluation missions will be organized.

### Objective 2: Shelter, food and non food

Activities to achieve objective:

- The following NFI will be procured, transported, and distributed to 500 families.
  - Ø Assorted clothing and shoes for 7,000 children and adults.
  - Ø 7,000 blankets.
  - Ø 7,000 plastic sheeting
  - Ø 3,500 mats.
  - Ø 7,000 bars of laundry soap.
  - Ø 500 cooking sets.
  - Ø 2,000 buckets/jerry cans.
  - Ø 2 water tanks of 500 and 1,000 litres each.
- Planning sessions will be organized with the District coordination team to finalize the list of beneficiaries and their locations.
- 1 volunteer from the Bo regional office will be assigned to support the Pujehun branch for a 30-day period.
- 1 orientation session will be organized with 50 volunteers on registration and distribution techniques to conform to national and international standards (UNHCR, SPHERE).
- 15 volunteers will be deployed for a period of 30 days to register and distribute food provided by WFP and other actors.
- An agronomist will join the assessment team in Pujehun.
- Participation will be organized in interagency food security assessment team.
- Community-based food security activities will be organized when needs are determined.
- Basic NFI stocks will be pre-positioned at headquarters, in Bo and Pujehun.
- 3 field monitoring and evaluation missions will be organized.

### Objective 3: Capacity building for response to potentially new emergencies

Activities planned to reach this objective:

- Support the Government structures (Office of National Security which is responsible for DM) at national, regional and District level with stationery and office materials.
- Support the SLRCS headquarters, Bo and Pujehun branches with stationery and office materials.
- Support the HQ DM office with 1 laptop computer, accessories, and a printer.
- Support the headquarters reporting officer with 1 laptop computer, accessories and a printer.
- Support the Pujehun branch with 1 desktop computer, accessories and a printer.
- Support the Pujehun branch with CHF 2,000 to identify and implement income generating/fundraising activities with the view to developing resources to prepare for new emergencies.
- Organize 1 crash Disaster Management training and contingency planning for 25 Bo branch volunteers.
- Organize 1 national training session in Freetown on Disaster Management training and contingency planning for 25 government and Red Cross officials.
- Organize 1 training session in Pujehun on Disaster Management training and contingency planning for 25 regional officials and Red Cross members.
- Train an additional 50 volunteers on basic first aid.

### Objective 4: Logistics, administration and telecommunications

Activities planned to reach this objective:

- The Federation will mobilize resource and provide support to coordination and implementation by deploying the delegation's CB/HIVAIDS delegate, the supervising pharmacist, and finance officer to monitor and provide reports.

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- Support Pujehun with VHF/HF radio equipment.
- Replace the radio communications system in Bo. A prior assessment of the state will be carried out.
- Organize crash training on telecommunications techniques for 10 Pujehun Red Cross volunteers and staff.
- Support to the SLRCS DM team during the operation.
- The ICRC delegation will provide a truck to transport materials to the Bo regional branch.
- The Federation delegation will make available 250 gallons of fuel to ICRC truck.
- The ICRC will support the SLRCS with communications and tracing and deploy a SAFER ACCESS Expert to assist Red Cross first aid teams.
- Organize media coverage to promote SLRCS and stakeholder visibility.
- Organize 1 final evaluation.

**Monitoring and evaluation**

The SLRCS Director of Health and DM and the Federation's DM coordinator will provide the general and specific guidance in the management of the operation. A Federation representative will be working closely with the team. At the District branch level the field officer and his team will support the volunteers in the implementation of the activities, reporting regularly to headquarters and the Federation.

The Federation Regional Delegation for West & Central Africa in Dakar is monitoring the situation at regional level in close coordination with OCHA and other agencies. The regional DM Delegates will assist the Sierra Leone Delegation in monitoring and evaluating the operation.

**Budget summary**

See Annex 1 for details.

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**[Budget below; click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)**

**BUDGET SUMMARY**

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**Sierra Leone - floods**

TYPE	VALUE
<b>RELIEF NEEDS</b>	<b>IN CHF</b>
Shelter & constructions	19,000
Clothing & textiles	42,000
Medical & first aid	30,000
Utensils & tools	20,000
Other relief supplies	21,000
<b>TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS</b>	<b>132,000</b>
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<b><u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u></b>	
Computers & telecom. equipment	6,000
<b><u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u></b>	
Programme support (6.5% of total)	15,000
<b><u>TRANSPORT STORAGE &amp; VEHICLE COSTS</u></b>	
Distribution and storage	5,000
Transport and vehicle costs	7,000
<b><u>PERSONNEL</u></b>	
National staff	4,000
Workshops & training	39,000
<b><u>ADMINISTRATIVE &amp; GENERAL SERVICES</u></b>	
Travel & related expenses	7,000
Information expenses	4,000
Administrative & general expenses	16,000
<b>TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS</b>	<b>103,000</b>
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<b>TOTAL APPEAL CASH, KIND, SERVICES</b>	<b>235,000</b>
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<b>LESS AVAILABLE RESOURCES (-)</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>NET REQUEST</b>	<b>235,000</b>
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