

OPERATIONS UPDATE



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

RWANDA: DROUGHT

24 April 2006

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 183 countries.

In Brief

Appeal No. MDRRW001; Operations Update no. 1; Period covered: 3 March to 6 April 2006; Appeal coverage: 45.8%; [Click here to go directly to the Contributions List available on the web.](#)

Appeal history:

- Launched on 3 March 2006 for **CHF 902,799 CHF (USD 683,421 or EUR 576,868)** for 6 months to assist 100,000 beneficiaries- refer to http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?06/MDRRW001.pdf
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: **CHF 180,000.**

Outstanding needs: CHF 489,014 (USD 376,454 or EUR 316,719).

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: East Africa Sub-regional Programmes: Appeal 2006-2007- Refer to http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual06/MAA64003.pdf.

East Africa: Regional Drought Response; MDR64001 - http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?06/MDR64001.pdf.

Burundi: Emergency Appeal no. MDRBI001 - http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?06/MDRBI001A.pdf

Kenya: Drought; Appeal no. MDRKE001 - http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?06/MDRKE001.pdf.

Tanzania: Drought; Appeal no. MDRTZ001 - http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?06/MDRTZ001.pdf.

Ethiopia: Drought; Appeal no. MDRET001 - http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?06/MDRET001.pdf.

Operational Summary (Special focus on the distribution of seeds and food): The Rwandan Red Cross¹ undertook the identification and targeting of 32,000 vulnerable families in the eastern regions of Rwanda during the 22 to 25 March period as follows: Bugasera, 14,000 families; Kibungo, 14,000 families and Umutara, 4,000 families. Distribution of seeds was carried out from 27 to 31 March. Supplementary food was purchased for distribution to the nutritional centres in the eastern regions from 1 to 6 April.

The Rwandan Red Cross also received in-kind assistance from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), including 135 metric tonnes (MT) garden peas and 9 MT of and cooking oil. The national society plans to distribute these food items to the affected families and as food for work. The Norwegian Red Cross has provided both in-kind and financial assistance earmarked for 1,005 child-headed households in the southern regions. The in-kind assistance consists of 20.1 MT of beans, 25.125 MT of maize flour, 1.005 MT of salt and 1.005 MT of oil.

Other donors include:

- The Irish government;
- The Japanese Red Cross;
- The Libyan Red Crescent;
- The Monaco Red Cross;
- The Swedish government.

This operation is aligned with the International Federation's Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

¹ Rwandan Red Cross- refer to <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=143>

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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>

Background and current situation

The food insecurity affecting both the East Africa and the Horn of Africa regions also extends to Rwanda, in the nearby Great Lakes region. In Rwanda, 202,239 households (1,011,194 people), in the eastern and southern regions, have been affected, and 33,000 of food assistance is needed for the next six months, when the next harvest is due. Seeds and fertilizers are also needed. In the affected regions, water shortages have caused or contributed to a need for immediate food assistance, as well as a need for interventions to ensure the integrity of the livelihoods of farmers whose crops have withered, pastoralists whose livestock are under quarantine for foot and mouth disease, and a population at increased risk of contracting water-borne diseases as potable water sources dry up and only polluted sources remain. The Rwandan Red Cross, with support from the Federation, is responding to the needs caused or exacerbated by the current food insecurity in some of the most affected areas, including Bugesera, Kibungo, and Umutara.

Operational developments

Further to the receipt of the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) allocation, the Rwandan Red Cross also received in-kind assistance from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), including 135 and 9 metric tonnes (MT) of garden peas and oil respectively. The national society plans to distribute these food items to the affected families and as food for work.

The Norwegian Red Cross has provided both in-kind and financial assistance earmarked for 1,005 child headed households in the southern regions. The in-kind assistance consists of 20.1 MT of beans, 25.125 MT of maize flour, 1.005 MT of salt and 1.005 MT of oil. The national society will also distribute food items provided by the ICRC to about 2,000 vulnerable families neighbouring the child headed households.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Goal: To identify and meet food, livelihood, health, water and sanitation related needs of the most vulnerable through immediate drought related food and livelihood related responses as well as longer-term health, and water and sanitation (WatSan) related interventions.

Objective 1: To contribute towards meeting the food related needs of 100,000 of the most vulnerable families through the delivery and targeted distribution of government provided food items in the eastern region, including Kibungo, Umutara, and northern Kigali.

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Expected result:

- Food distributed to 100,000 targeted families in the eastern region, including Kibungo, Umutara and northern Kigali.

Progress:

No progress was made under this objective during this reporting period.

Objective 2: To support and improve the agricultural production capacities of 50,000 vulnerable families through the distribution of 200,000 kg of selected maize and bean seeds (2kgs of beans and 2kgs of maize per family) and the distribution of 300,000 kg of fertilizer (1 kg of chemical fertilizer and 5 kg of manure fertilizer per family).

Expected result

- 50,000 beneficiary families will have received the 200,000 kg of maize and bean seeds and 300,000 kg of fertilizer to assist them in improving their agricultural production.

Progress

- The Rwandan Red Cross undertook the identification and targeting of 32,000 vulnerable families in the eastern regions of Rwanda during the reporting period of 22 to 25 March as follows: Bugesera, 14,000 families; Kibungo, 14,000 families and Umutara, 4,000 families.
- The Rwandan Red Cross carried out the distribution of seeds from 27 to 31 March. The detailed distribution figures will be communicated in the next update.

Objective 3: To improve the nutrition at status of 800 malnourished children less than five years of age at ten health centres in Rwanda's eastern region (Bugesera, Kibungo and Umutara) through the provision of supplementary food for a period of three months.

Expected result

- Nutritional status of 800 malnourished children less than five years of age in Rwanda's Eastern region (Bugesera, Kibungo and Umutara) is improved through the provision of supplemental food assistance (sugar and sosoma).

Progress

- Supplementary food was purchased for distribution to the nutritional centres in the eastern regions from 1 April to 6 April 2006.

Federation Coordination

The Rwandan Red Cross received in-kind assistance from the ICRC and Norwegian Red Cross including 144 MT and 47.2 MT of various food items respectively for distribution to the affected families.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement - Principles and initiatives

Promoting the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement within the target area will be addressed when the programme is fully operational.

National society capacity building

The regional delegation in Nairobi and the national society are working hand in hand in the implementation of the appeal. Technical support and general guidance is being provided by the regional delegation and the regional food security unit to the national society on procurement and food distribution processes to enhance their capacity.

Communications – advocacy and public information

Information generated and progress made will be communicated to concerned offices/organizations through operations updates.

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