

FINAL REPORT



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

TIMOR- LESTE: STORMS AND FLOODS

Appeal No. MDRTP001
1 July 2007

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 185 countries.

In Brief

Period covered: 23 February 2006 to 28 February, 2007; Final appeal coverage: 89%.

[<click here to link directly to the attached final financial report>](#)

Appeal history:

- **Emergency Appeal launched on 23 February 2006 for CHF 569,685 (USD 431,253 or EUR 364,016) to assist some 8,400 beneficiaries for six months.**
- **On 27 July, Operations Update no.3 extended the operations by three months to 30 November 2006 because of the recent civil unrest.**
- **Operations Update no.4 revised the budget to CHF 709,842 (report published on 9 October, reissued with revised budget on 6 November 2006) to align with positive response from donors.**
- **Through agreements with donors, the operation was further extended till the end of February 2006. Relevant donors also allowed the reallocation of a remaining balance (11% of the appeal) to the disaster management programme in the country's Appeal 2006-2007. This Final Report, therefore, covers the period of one year: 28 February 2006 to 28 February 2007.**
- **Disaster Relief Fund (DREF) issued and repaid: CHF 200,000 (USD 155,582 or EUR 128,663)**

Background and summary

A series of storms and flooding from late December through January 2006 affected Timor-Leste, resulting in severe losses of livelihood and shelters. Baucau, Ainaro, Maliana and Oe-cusse (an enclave) districts were badly affected by the strong winds and floods, resulting in damages to some 1,209 households comprising about 8,400 people, and severe losses of livelihood, shelters and crops such as rice and corn. In Oe-cusse, about 100 deep wells were contaminated by floodwater, causing it to be unsuitable for human consumption. Health problems such as diarrhea, malaria and dengue had been reported in some districts, particularly in Oe-cusse as a result of this disaster.

Cruz Vermelha de Timor- Leste (Timor-Leste Red Cross, CVTL) national headquarters took immediate action in responding to the storms and floods by deploying disaster management and health teams to conduct assessments. Water and sanitation teams were also mobilized to clean deep wells in the affected areas restore the availability of safe drinkable water for the affected communities.

Volunteers from the national headquarters and branches were mobilized to assist in the operation, while technical assistance was sought from the Federation country delegation. In response to the prevailing needs of the disaster situation in Timor Leste, the Federation Southeast Asia regional delegation, through its disaster management unit, selected a member of the regional disaster response team (RDRT) for a one-month mission to the country to assist in the operations and implementation of action plans.

In the third week of March 2006, around 591 soldiers from the Timor-Leste defense force were dismissed from service. The dismissed soldiers were from the western part of the country and had grievances over the alleged favored treatment of soldiers from the eastern part of Timor-Leste. The civil unrest which ensued caused significant delays in aspects of the programme's implementation. During the unrest, the CVTL had to shift its focus from this operation to help thousands of internally displaced people (IDP) fleeing their homes for safe camps. About 4,000 houses were burnt down. There were 78,000 IDPs in Dili and another 70,000 in the regions (one sixth of the population). The arrival of an Australian-led military mission, with support from Portugal, New Zealand, Malaysia and UN missions, improved the security situation and projects began to be implemented again.

Delays in programme implementation as a result of the security problems and bad weather in March and April postponed the delivery of materials to target communities. Subsequently, donors agreed to a two-month, then another two-months extension to this operation. Most activities were carried out after September 2006. The first assessment identified 284 families needing shelter materials and the second assessment in October 2006 established an additional 103 families needing assistance. Six deep wells in Oe-cusse were also identified as contaminated.

In the first week of December 2006, two districts namely Baucau and Manufahi were affected by strong winds. The CVTL deployed assessment teams comprised of volunteers and the Federation disaster management delegate to the affected areas to evaluate the situation. According to the assessment report, 87 families were identified as target families for the third distribution of shelter materials.

The emergency response was planned in coordination with the government and other agencies actively working in Timor-Leste. The government had provided initial assistance to the affected families in Ainaro and Oe-cusse by distributing food parcels. The World Food Programme (WFP) supported food distributions, while CVTL/Federation and another NGO supported the distribution of shelter materials, mosquito nets, water containers and the rejuvenation and rebuilding of new wells. The CVTL also mobilized volunteers from its national headquarters and branches to assist in the operation. In the meantime, logistic support was provided by the United Nations Officer in Timor-Leste (UNOTIL).

The Federation country delegation's technical assistance was instrumental in coordinating the response. The Federation Southeast Asia regional delegation deployed an RDRT member for a one-month mission in Timor-Leste to assist in the disaster operations and implementation of action plans.

The CVTL/Federation has completed all planned activities for the 2006 storms and flood programme and as the appeal was oversubscribed, funds were also used to cover damages caused by further strong winds in December 2006 and January 2007.

Analysis of the operation - objectives, achievements, impact

Provision of immediate relief assistance (non-food items)

Objective 1: 500 families in Oe-cusse are protected from immediate health threats in terms of unsafe water and mosquitoes.

Soon after the flooding, CVTL deployed a water and sanitation team as well as equipment and goods such as pumps, generators and chlorine to the affected areas in Oe-cusse. Assessments were carried out in cooperation with Caritas and Oxfam. 100 wells were cleaned and treated in coordination with Oxfam and the local district government. A total of 400 households comprising 3,000 people benefited from this operation.

A further assessment was made by local volunteers, who identified safer locations for 12 new wells that are more protected from future flooding. These wells were constructed accordingly. As identified by the needs assessment, 2,000 mosquito nets and 1,000 jerry cans were procured and distributed to 500 families. The community members collected water safely and were protected from malaria and dengue.

Provision of shelter materials in five districts (Baucau, Ainaro, Maliana, Viqueque and Same)

The assessments indicate that 650 houses were damaged or destroyed in four districts: Ainaro, Baucau, Viqueque and Maliana. The government provided materials to repair or rebuild these houses and requested CVTL to provide supplementary assistance.

Information below outlines the assistance in chronological order:

- The CVTL initially distributed shelter materials to 284 families.
- Another assessment revealed an additional 103 families requiring shelter materials.
- On the first week of December 2006, strong winds hit Baucau and Same. According to the branch assessment report, 19 houses in Baucau and 330 houses in Same were damaged. The CVTL deployed two assessment teams to analyze the needs and identify recipient families. The second distribution plan was revised after it was discovered another NGO was distributing shelter materials in the villages (31 families) in Baucau. Consequently, sets of shelter materials were distributed to 19 families in Same and 11 families in Baucau who were recently affected by the storms.
- A further assessment report from Same was submitted to the national society's headquarters requiring shelter materials assistance for an additional 87 families. A door-to-door visit was done on the first week of January 2007 by CVTL headquarters' volunteers and branch coordinators to confirm the beneficiary list. An additional 87 families were later supported until their shelters were completed by the end of February 2007.
- Similarly, four families in Dili were supported as their houses were destroyed by strong winds and floods.

Table showing total no of families supported with shelter materials

District	No of Families supported
Baucau	105
Maliana	72
Ainaro	183
Viqueque	7
Same	102
Dili	4
Total	473

Objective 1: Target communities are more aware of improved construction techniques.

Achievements:

- A local builder was engaged short- term to design structures and provide training for 16 volunteers in four districts.
- These 16 volunteers participated in construction training. They returned to their own districts to work with affected families to raise awareness of improved housing techniques. They built 12 demonstration houses for the communities to learn about improved construction techniques.

Objective 2: 386 families are provided with housing materials and are aware that improved construction techniques to their homes are more storm resistant.

Some 200 families were identified as direct beneficiaries of the shelter materials distribution as CVTL played a complementary role to the government. However, this increased to a total of 386 families after further assessments of the affected areas ensured the affected population was adequately assisted. The number of beneficiary households increased further to 473 by the end of February 2007.

Achievements:

- According to the needs assessment, procurement of various shelter materials, such as iron roofing sheets, timbers, nails, screws with washers and spanners was completed.
- Distribution of shelter materials according to standard procedures was completed for 473 families in six districts.

- A team of volunteers worked with target communities to construct demonstration houses. The affected families benefited from improved construction techniques through the demonstration houses.
- Volunteers and officers at branch level conducted regular visits to the target communities, and working together with families to assist them in building their shelters.
- Following re-assessments, extra sets of materials were procured to support additional affected families.
- As a result of the response to the appeal, CVTL was able to scale-up support to more affected people: a 22 percent increase in number of families from the original objective. The families have moved into their new homes.

Provision of Water and Sanitation

Objective 1: Communities in Oe-cusse have secured source of portable water

Achievements:

- The enclave of Oe-cusse was one of hardest hit by the flooding. There was damage to several houses but in most cases, communities were able to organize local resources and initiate repairs themselves. Water was the major concern as approximately 100 deep wells were contaminated by heavy flooding water. The wells were cleaned and treated by CVTL's water and sanitation team and were used by the communities again.
- A further assessment was carried out in November and the need for six more wells was recognized. In total, 12 wells were built in safer locations for future flooding.
- The procurement of materials for wells and 20 hand pumps was carried out according to Federation's standard procurement procedure. All the materials were delivered to Oe-cusse by boat for fitting in wells. The installations of three hand pumps have been completed. The others are on hold because the communities are more familiar with using the traditional bucket to get water from the well. The branch officer has explained to the communities how the hand pump system works to address community worries that they may not be able to obtain water if the hand pumps break. More time is to be spent on familiarizing and helping the communities understand the concept and usage of hand pumps.

National Society Capacity Building

Objective 1: The national society disaster management capacity is strengthened.

Timor-Leste is vulnerable to natural, technological and social/political disasters; therefore, a continuous process to strengthen capacity of the national society is critically important. To consolidate the improvements witnessed during the implementation period, the Federation country delegation has focused its efforts on ensuring that national society is developed and a response preparedness mechanism is in place. CVTL learned many lessons from this operation and the civil conflict.

Achievements:

- A standard national society emergency assessment package and monitoring checklist has been developed to be used for assessment and monitoring.
- Branch volunteers and staff of the affected districts were trained in standard disaster assessment, procurement of supplies, relief management, and the utilisation of appropriate forms such as the emergency assessment checklists, beneficiaries sheets, family record sheets and standard information management and reporting systems.
- A ten-day intensive training of the national disaster response team was conducted. A total of 36 volunteers and staff were trained. The regional delegation in Bangkok provided support through a regional trainer in disaster response and preparedness.
- Preliminary work to formulate a CVTL disaster plan and emergency response procedures has started.
- Following the emergency operation and ongoing security situation, there has been a significant improvement in CVTL coordination with other stakeholders, specifically with the national disaster management office of Timor-Leste. Information sharing and discussions of functions prior and during disaster is a priority.
- A two-day review meeting of the storms and floods operation was organized in late January 2007. Participants from five branches sat down together with the team members at the national headquarters to review successes, as well as difficulties and limitations experienced over the last ten months. The meeting used methods such as

the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) analysis, group discussions and presentation. A total of 27 CVTL staff and volunteers as well as Federation/International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) delegates participated the meeting.

Federation Coordination and overall challenges

The Federation country delegation, with assistance from the regional disaster management unit in Bangkok, supported CVTL in implementing the emergency operation. Regular meetings and follow ups organized by the head of delegation with CVTL counterparts to monitor progress and ensure smooth coordination.

Conclusion

The Federation country delegation also provided technical support in training and developing volunteers in preparedness and response. The regional delegation in Bangkok supported the training. As a result, a national disaster response team was formulated and trained. Despite the progress made over the last few months in reaching the affected communities, CVTL will continue to face challenges, which include:

- **Mobilization of resources:** A number of supplies were difficult to find in country and had to be imported.
- **Timely delivery:** The timely delivery of supplies to affected families has been difficult. Poor road conditions, scattered communities, bad weather and insecurity affected the operation.
- **Limited human resource:** The CVTL disaster management unit struggled to provide adequate services because of limited human resources and expertise.
- **Overwhelming needs:** The ongoing security disturbances and the large number of displaced people in Dili and the regions severely strained the capacity of CVTL. Activities in support of internally displaced people reduced the national societies' ability to work elsewhere in terms of this emergency operation and other more routine support.

Lessons Learned:

A two-day review meeting of the storms and floods operation was organized by CVTL in cooperation with Federation on 29-30 January 2007. Participants from five districts, as well as disaster management, health, logistic and finance departments at headquarters attend the meeting and discussed mainly on the following aspects:

- What achievements were made,
- What was done well,
- What problems and difficulties were encountered and
- What can be done better for the future.

The meeting revisited the past and made some recommendations for improvements for the future programmes as follows:

- Limited staff members and capacity of the available staff and volunteers were the main bottleneck in delivering services. Poor road condition and bad weather made delivering materials to the community very difficult and also limited the CVTL's service to the community. Therefore, it is important to develop contingency plans at the beginning so that the over all operation would not be affected.
- Lack of transportation support and poor communication means with the communities and the national headquarters affected the operation.
- Project was not implemented in line with the original plan because of security problems and the continuous wet weather in the mountains.
- Community's involvement throughout the whole process – from operation planning through implementation and monitoring – needs to improve.

Recommendations:

- Training and support needed to increase staff and volunteers' skill and knowledge about project management and implementation. Moreover, it is important to increase overall organizational capacity to manage emergency operations.
- Improved communication with government, community and stakeholders is important. This could be facilitated through a better coordination mechanism.

- Improvements in the framework for working with communities required. There is a need to work together with communities and develop community-based approaches to increase their participation in emergency operations.
- Improvements in transportation and communication to support the community needed.
- Radio communication and the volunteer networks need to be strengthened for this purpose.
- Activities need to be carried out according to the plan.
- Operation schedule to be developed in consultation with districts as well.
- Regular monitoring, reporting and evaluation should be in place.
- Evaluation should be done by a third party to avoid biases.

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 Federation's Global Agenda

The International Federation's activities are aligned with under a 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".

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.

Contact information

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[Final financial report below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRTP001 - EAST TIMOR - STORMS & FLOODS

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2007/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/5
Appeal	MDRTP001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget		709,842				709,842
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
American Red Cross		64,950				64,950
Danish Red Cross		39,100				39,100
Finnish Red Cross		78,250				78,250
German Red Cross		78,926				78,926
Irish Red Cross Society		15,638				15,638
Japanese Red Cross Society		28,930				28,930
Korea Republic National Red Cross		10,000				10,000
Monaco Red Cross		15,790				15,790
Netherlands Red Cross		57,597				57,597
New York Office		3,137				3,137
New Zealand Government		125,280				125,280
Norwegian Red Cross		109,493				109,493
Swedish Red Cross		82,750				82,750
C1. Cash contributions		709,841				709,841
<u>Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)</u>						
Balance unspent is reallocated to East Timor Disaster Management Appeal for the use of CVTL (NS) Disaster Response programme.		-78,167				-78,167
C3. Reallocations (within appeal or		-78,167				-78,167
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		631,674				631,674
D. Total Funding = B + C		631,674				631,674

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		631,674				631,674
E. Expenditure		-631,674				-631,674
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		0				0

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Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2007/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/5
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III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		709,842					709,842	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	312,810		20,940			20,940	291,870	
Construction Materials			175,383			175,383	-175,383	
Clothing & textiles	2,500						2,500	
Food			20			20	-20	
Seeds,Plants	2,250						2,250	
Water & Sanitation	15,932		24,303			24,303	-8,371	
Medical & First Aid			7			7	-7	
Utensils & Tools	18,312		1,268			1,268	17,044	
Other Supplies & Services	2,500		-661			-661	3,161	
Total Supplies	354,304		221,260			221,260	133,044	
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	90,000		49,351			49,351	40,649	
Computers & Telecom	23,723		293			293	23,430	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.			223			223	-223	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	113,723		49,867			49,867	63,856	
Transport & Storage								
Storage	3,244		621			621	2,623	
Distribution & Monitoring			4,671			4,671	-4,671	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	29,712		37,745			37,745	-8,033	
Total Transport & Storage	32,956		43,037			43,037	-10,081	
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll			1			1	-1	
Delegate Benefits			3,387			3,387	-3,387	
Regionally Deployed Staff	53,612		37			37	53,575	
National Staff	9,010		6,328			6,328	2,682	
National Society Staff			61,082			61,082	-61,082	
Consultants	9,823		4,921			4,921	4,902	
Total Personnel Expenditures	72,445		75,755			75,755	-3,310	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	35,492		16,052			16,052	19,440	
Total Workshops & Training	35,492		16,052			16,052	19,440	
General Expenditure								
Travel	5,739		19,302			19,302	-13,563	
Information & Public Relation			257			257	-257	
Office Costs	4,281		13,218			13,218	-8,937	
Communications	2,259		10,102			10,102	-7,843	
Financial Charges	248		51			51	197	
Other General Expenses	42,255		20,293			20,293	21,962	
Total General Expenditure	54,782		63,223			63,223	-8,441	
Program Support								
Program Support	46,140		41,059			41,059	5,081	
Total Program Support	46,140		41,059			41,059	5,081	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			121,420			121,420	-121,420	
Total Operational Provisions			121,420			121,420	-121,420	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	709,842		631,674			631,674	78,168	
VARIANCE (C - D)			78,168			78,168		