



DREF Bulletin no. MDRTZ005

Glide no. FL-2006-000164-TZA

13 December 2006

## TANZANIA: FLOODS

*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

This DREF Bulletin is being issued based on the situation described below reflecting the information available at this time. CHF 43,000 (USD 35,002 or EUR 27,301) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to respond to the needs in this operation. This operation is expected to be implemented over 3 months, and will be completed by 11 March, 2007; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

[<Click here to go to the attached map>](#)

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".

#### 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.

### Background and current situation

In October 2006, heavy down pours, accompanied by strong winds, were experienced in the Kigoma Region of western Tanzania resulting in flooding. A total of 28 people were injured and admitted at the government regional hospital while several others got minor bruises. Approximately 500 households were left homeless after their houses and property of unknown value was destroyed. A school and a church were among institutions that were affected following the heavy rains. The two most affected suburbs in Kigoma Urban District were Kibirizi and Burarangabo, situated some five kilometres from Kigoma town with a population of about 15,000 people (approximately 2,000 households). Other areas reported to be affected by the floods include the Lake Victoria basin and the lower land areas in Moshi-Kilimanjaro Region.

Several parts of the country, including Lake Victoria basin, western Tanzania, south western highlands and north eastern Tanzania have been receiving heavy rains. According to meteorological forecasts, the rains are expected to continue up to the end of the year, increasing the likelihood of more damage on people and their property. In early November, floods occurred in Tanga, resulting to one death and leaving more than 50 families homeless. The floods also destroyed crop fields and rendered some villages inaccessible. The flooded villages made it impossible for children to go to school. Five houses, two churches and one mosque were also completely destroyed by the floods.

The government, together with various humanitarian agencies, agreed to provide the flood-affected communities with the following food items and non-food items (NFIs):

**Table 1: The current relief requirements**

<b>Relief items</b>	<b>Relief agency</b>
Food items for 3,000 beneficiaries (maize and pulses)	World Food Programme (WFP)
3,000 iron sheets, cement, Iron bars and paints.	Tanzania government
Roofing timber, nails for affected structures (vulnerable households and school classrooms), 600 cooking sets, 800 water containers/buckets and 750 bars of soap.	Tanzania Red Cross National Society
2,000 blankets and 1,000 insecticide-treated mosquito nets (ITNs).	TRCNS/United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
1,200 plastic sheeting.	United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)
Medical drugs/supplies.	UNICEF/ Tanzania government

**Red Cross and Red Crescent action**

Results of the preliminary assessment conducted by the Tanzania Red Cross National Society (TRCNS) and the government’s Regional Disaster Committee indicate an urgent need for food and NFIs. Items needed included blankets, roofing materials for rebuilding (iron sheets, timbers and nails), plastic sheeting for temporary shelter/sanitation facilities, cooking sets, ITNs, water containers/buckets and laundry soap.

The national society has provided 300 cooking sets from the refugee programme stocks to support the affected families. Food items such as rice, canned fish, canned beans and pulses – donated by the Iranian Red Crescent – have been distributed in Tanga.



*A TRCNS official handing over relief items to the Tanga regional commissioner*

The local government authorities deployed a response team of 50 persons including 25 TRCNS peer educators and volunteers to assist in the rescue efforts. The injured were taken to hospital for check-up and treatment. The Federation approved a DREF allocation of CHF 43,000 to support the TRCNS in implementing the initial disaster intervention which focuses on provision of NFIs, promotion of health and hygiene and support to reconstruction efforts.

**Coordination**

A task force consisting of the TRCNS, United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Food Programme (WFP), the Tanzanian police, heads of local authorities (regional medical officer, regional health officer) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) was constituted and immediately visited the affected areas. The Kigoma local authorities appealed to all agencies to support the government in assisting affected families and the larger communities. UNHCR provided 28 tents for temporary shelter and 400 blankets for the homeless families.

**Plan of Action**

**Goal: To improve the status of the flood-affected households in Tanzania**

**Objective 1: To reduce the impact of the floods on 500 affected households in Kigoma Region through the provision of essential NFIs for at least three months.**

**Expected result:** The affected people are able to prepare meals and are protected from extreme weather conditions.

**Planned activities**

- Purchase and distribute 500 kitchen sets, 1,000 water containers/buckets, 1,500 bars of soap and 1,000 blankets to the 500 displaced households.
- Mobilize and deploy volunteers to distribute household items.

## **Tanzania: Floods; MDRTZ005; DREF Bulletin**

**Objective 2: To safeguard health and promote hygiene awareness among the population affected by floods in Kigoma Region.**

**Expected result:** The affected community is protected from possible outbreaks of vector borne or waterborne diseases.

### **Planned activities**

- Conduct community hygiene sensitization and education meetings.
- Purchase and distribute 1,000 insecticide-treated mosquito nets (ITNs) to 500 floods-affected households.

**Objective 3: To support reconstruction of 50 houses and a school in Kigoma urban district.**

**Expected result:** Normal life in the affected community is restored as soon as possible.

### **Planned activities**

- Procure and transport roofing timber and nails to the affected community.
- Distribute roofing timber and nails to the affected households and school.

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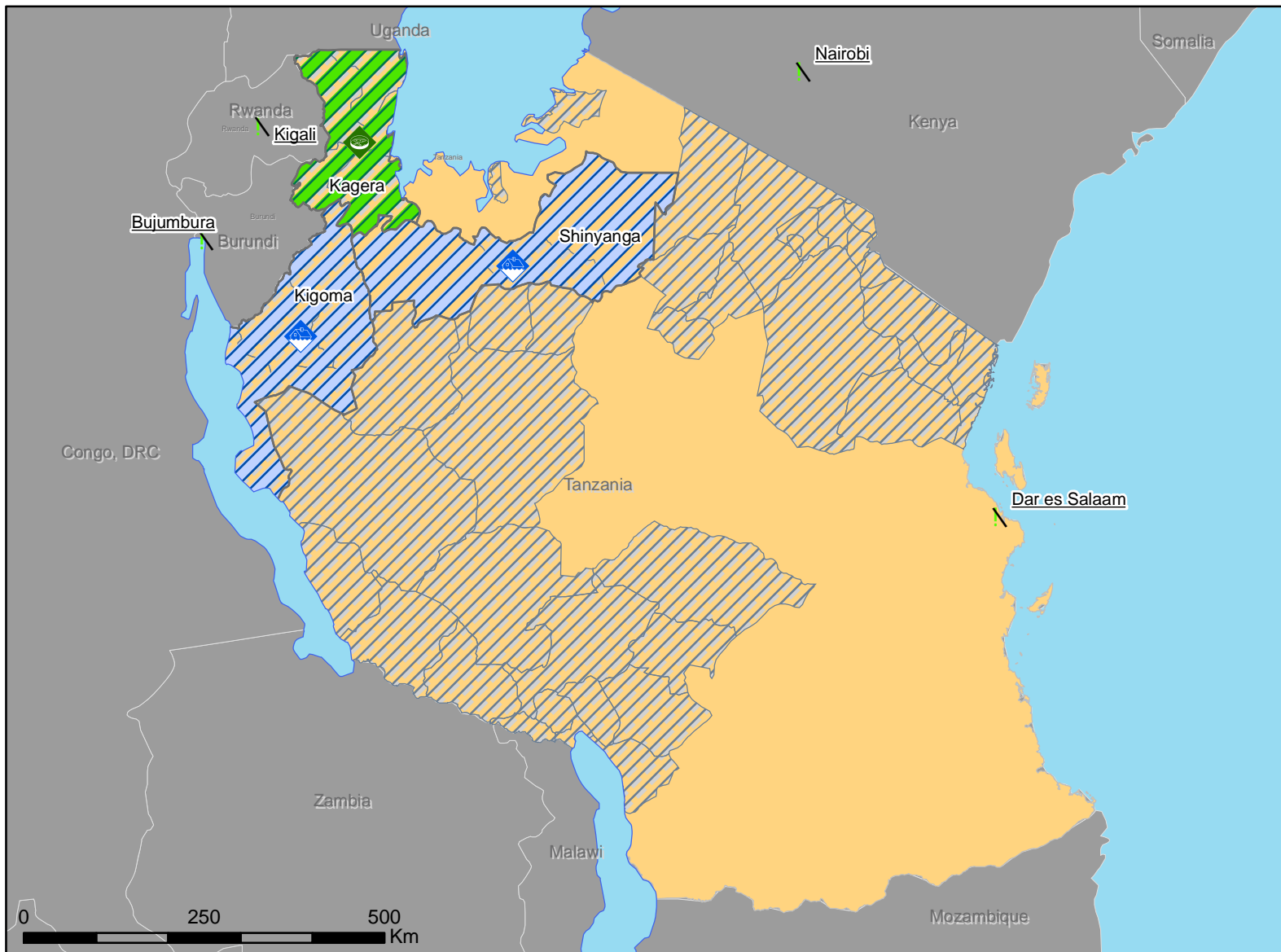
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For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

[Map below; click here to return to the title page](#)



# Tanzania: Floods



- Capital cities
- Epidemic
- Floods
- Affected by epidemic
- Affected by floods
- Heavy rain

The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Map data sources: ESRI, GIST, Federation