



UGANDA: FLOODS

DREF Bulletin No. MDRUG002

12 September 2007

FINAL REPORT

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 by this Final Report: 18 August to 18 November 2006.

History of this Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF)-funded operation:

- **CHF 41,393 was allocated from the Federations DREF on 18 August 2006 to respond to the needs of this operation. Refer to the [DREF Bulletin](#) for more information**
- **This operation was implemented over 3 months, and was completed on 18 November 2006.**

[<Click here to go directly to the attached final financial report>](#)

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

Background and summary

In August 2006, heavy rains caused devastating floods in Eastern Uganda when rivers Ngenge and Atari in Kapchorwa and Sironko districts respectively burst their banks. The flooding displaced thousands of people and killed several others. Livestock, crop fields and stored food were not spared while houses and household items were completely or extensively damaged. Many water sources were destroyed, with several being contaminated with faecal matter from overflowing sanitary facilities. The most affected areas included five villages of Kapkwot parish, Ngenge sub-county in Kapchorwa District and four villages of Bumufuni parish, Bunambutye sub-county in Sironko District.

The Bumufuni parish has an approximate population of 5,500 people while the Kapkwot parish has 7,200 people. A total of 1,811 people in 503 households were adversely affected. In Sironko District, three people perished and 980 people (320 households) were seriously affected while in Kapchorwa District, 831 people (183 households) were affected. Some communities in Kapkwot parish were forced to relocate to areas where boreholes remained functional. The parish initially had 15 boreholes out of which only six remained functional after the flooding with the rest either blocked or in need of repair.

Ecological sanitation (EcoSan) equipment and pit latrines that collapsed due to the flooding presented risks of contamination of water sources with exposed waste. The eight and six internally displaced persons (IDP) camps¹ in Kapchorwa and Sironko districts respectively – and surrounding trading centres – were congested due to the influx of people displaced by the floods. Such a situation put a lot of pressure on the few water sources, sanitary facilities and social amenities (churches, schools and health units) in the areas. In addition to the flooding, the affected communities faced other challenges such as security threats from the Karamojong cattle rustlers, bleak prospects of returning to their homes (from IDP camps) and potential malaria outbreaks.

¹ The IDP camps were initially meant for people who were internally displaced due to insecurity brought about by attacks by Karamojong cattle rustlers.

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In order to effectively respond to the disaster, Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) local branch action teams were immediately mobilized to conduct preliminary assessments. Headquarter staff later carried out extensive assessments. It is on the basis of the assessment results that a response plan of action was developed. To enable the National Society to implement the action plan, the International Federation allocated it CHF 41,393 from the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF).

With Federation support, the URCS targeted to assist **240** flood-affected households (**1,680** people). However, by the end of the operation the National Society had released **1,006** cooking pots and **1,006** jerry cans from its emergency relief stocks to cover the needs for an additional **263** households, thus exceeding the initial target by 110 per cent.

Analysis of the operation - objectives, achievements and impact

Goal: To provide relief aid to the displaced households in Sironko and Kapchorwa districts in Eastern Uganda.

Objective: To protect the health of the 240 households in Sironko and Kapchorwa districts.

Achievements

The URCS purchased and distributed non-food items (NFI) to a total of 503 households. In Kapchorwa District, 183 households in Kaibowos, Makunga, Seretyo and Sikwo villages of Kapkwot parish were assisted. In Sironko District, relief items were provided to 320 households in Bumuyonga, Bumbocha, Busangai and Bukhayaki villages in Bumufuni parish. Each household received one tarpaulin, three blankets, three bars of laundry soap (per month), two cooking pots, two jerry cans and one insecticide-treated mosquito net. Mosquito nets were specifically for households composed of women and children. The surplus of 3,531 bars of laundry soap was added to the URCS emergency relief stocks.

Table 1: Non-food items purchased and distributed by the URCS

Targeted districts	Tarpaulins	Blankets	Laundry Soap (bars)	ITNs
Sironko	320	960	960	307
Kapchorwa	183	549	549	173
Total Items distributed	503	1,509	1,509	480
Items purchased using DREF	240	480	5,040	480
Items released from the URCS stocks	263	1,029	00	00

From 22 to 24 October 2006, 25 Red Cross volunteers were trained on hygiene promotion techniques. On completion of the training, the volunteers were deployed to Bumufuni and Ngenge parishes in Sironko and Kapchorwa branches respectively to conduct awareness promotion on health and sanitation using the door-to-door method. Within 10 days, the volunteers had reached 1,044 households (583 in Sironko and 461 in Kapchorwa) with key health and hygiene messages. The volunteers also distributed water purification chemicals; 630 boxes, each containing 240 PUR sachets, were distributed (403 in Bumufuni parish and 227 in Kapkwot parish).

Impact

- Provision of water purification chemicals contributed to reducing the risks of waterborne and water-related diseases while provision of impregnated mosquito nets contributed to minimizing malaria incidences. The two, combined, ensured that affected households were protected from health threats that could result due to poor sanitation conditions and stagnant water occasioned by the floods.
- The shelter items provided (tarpaulins and blankets) were useful in protecting displaced households from the harsh environmental conditions resulting from the flooding.
- The hygiene promotion training provided for Red Cross volunteers – prior to conducting sensitization activities and distributing NFI – prepared them to respond effectively in case of future potential disasters. The coverage of the Red Cross flood intervention by the national media increased the visibility of the National Society. It also enhanced the image of URCS as well as its operational activities. The people assisted received first hand knowledge of some of the work the Red Cross does.

Constraints

- Delays in implementing some activities were experienced due to limited or unreliable means of transport within the two Red Cross branches. Moreover, some areas were difficult to reach by road because they were isolated and roads had been rendered impassable.
- Lack of adequate communication equipment within the two URCS branches, compounded by insufficient airtime on the volunteer's cell phones, resulted in delays in information sharing.
- Some communities were reluctant to use the water purification chemicals distributed due to allegations that their use would be harmful to their reproductive health.
- The flood-affected communities faced other challenges such as insecurity threats from Karamojong cattle rustlers and bleak prospects of returning to their original homes. A government policy for the disarmament of Karamojong cattle rustlers and the establishment of an army barracks near the affected area significantly improved the security situation in the area. Though the IDPs expressed their willingness to return to their original home areas, they lack basic needs.

Coordination

Prior to developing an intervention plan, the Uganda Red Cross Society conducted assessments. In some areas, they utilized findings of assessments already conducted by Action Aid Uganda, an international non-governmental organization (NGO). In order to minimize duplication of efforts, the National Society did not include provision of food items in its response plan as Action Aid and the government adequately covered food needs.

Ugandan government authorities in Kapchorwa and Sironko districts visited affected areas and advised members of the communities to relocate to higher and safer grounds. The local government officials also appealed to humanitarian organizations in the country to assist in flood mitigation efforts.

The Red Cross kept the local media informed of its intervention. By involving the media, the plight of the flood-affected people was highlighted in order to encourage support from several quarters. The media also provided visibility for the Red Cross.

Lesson learned

There is still a need for URCS to pre-position relief materials in branches to facilitate timely interventions in future. With Federation support, the National Society responded efficiently by distributing non-food items and creating awareness. DREF support enabled the society to effectively respond to the needs of flood-affected people; DREF is thus a useful tool that enables National Societies to provide assistance in a timely manner.

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.

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>

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

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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<[Financial report below; click here to return to the title page](#)>

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRUG002 - UGANDA - FLOODS

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Budget Timeframe	2006/8-2006/12
Appeal	MDRUG002
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		41,393				41,393
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
<u>Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)</u>						
DREF		41,393				41,393
C3. Reallocations (within appeal or		41,393				41,393
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		41,393				41,393
D. Total Funding = B + C		41,393				41,393

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		41,393				41,393
E. Expenditure		-41,393				-41,393
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		0				0

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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)		41,393					41,393	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	3,516						3,516	
Clothing & textiles	4,920						4,920	
Water & Sanitation	19,656						19,656	
Other Supplies & Services	3,024						3,024	
Total Supplies	31,116						31,116	
Transport & Storage								
Transport & Vehicle Costs	2,695						2,695	
Total Transport & Storage	2,695						2,695	
Personnel Expenditures								
National Staff	3,050						3,050	
Total Personnel Expenditures	3,050						3,050	
General Expenditure								
Office Costs	1,842						1,842	
Financial Charges			-1			-1	1	
Total General Expenditure	1,842		-1			-1	1,843	
Federation Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societies			38,703			38,703	-38,703	
Total Federation Contributions & Tr			38,703			38,703	-38,703	
Program Support								
Program Support	2,691		2,691			2,691	-0	
Total Program Support	2,691		2,691			2,691	-0	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	41,393		41,393			41,393	-0	
VARIANCE (C - D)			-0			-0		