

# Emergency appeal



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## WEST AFRICA: FLOODS IN GHANA AND TOGO

Emergency Appeal no.  
MDR61002;  
GLIDE nos. FL-2007-000153-GHA  
&  
FL-2007-000158-TGO  
18 September 2007

This Preliminary Emergency Appeal has been revised, and now seeks a total of CHF 2,501,246 (USD 2.1 million or EUR 1.5 million) in cash, kind, or services to assist a total of some 82,000 beneficiaries for 6 months in Ghana and Togo.



*Photo courtesy of AP/Pool Alessandro Abbonizi: Severe flooding across east, central and west Africa has destroyed thousands of homes, killing at least 250 people, and washing away much of the continent's most fertile farmland. More rain is expected, and the need for food, shelter and medicine in the affected regions is urgent.*

The Federation is responding to the situation by revising the Preliminary Emergency Appeal initially launched for Ghana on 17 September 2007. The disaster is regional in scope, and the Federation's approach is to adjust this operation into a regional West Africa floods appeal. This revision focuses solely on Togo

[<click here to view the attached revised Preliminary Emergency Appeal Budget;](#)  
[here to link to a map of the affected area; or here to link to contact details>](#)

### The situation

Since the last week of August, 2007, countries throughout West Africa have been affected by heavy rains, resulting in serious flooding. The floods in Togo are reportedly particularly severe, with close to 16,000 affected families. Togo's northern Savane region, with 4 prefectures and one sous-prefecture, has been very hard hit, with many bridges washed away. Access is very difficult, preventing the affected population from evacuating their

homes, or to receive any assistance (except through an airlift). The area is some 600 km from the Togolese capital, Lome, and the state of the roads prevents easy access.

The entire region is highly vulnerable. As a 2006 United Nations studies showed, 62.7 percent of people in the Savanes region do not have access to adequate food and 32% of children under five suffer acute malnutrition. The studies revealed that the Savanes region is the country's poorest with "alarming" rates of child malnutrition, with overall 62.7% of people not having access to adequate food.

The most affected area is Kpendjal prefecture, which shares a border with Benin to the east and Burkina Faso to the north. There are considerable concerns over the possible outbreak of water born disease, and there has been considerable crop loss with productive farmland destroyed. Basic infrastructure (dams and bridges) are damaged, cutting access to about half of Kpendjal prefecture.

According to UNICEF, women and children are the most affected. There are reportedly food shortages that may lead the area's workforce to migrate, abandoning the elderly, women, and children.

According to preliminary assessments, more than 3,000 families are homeless and are temporarily accommodated by some non-affected neighbours in solidarity or family members who have their farms at higher altitude. Most of those affected are dispersed in the region. According to the latest reports from the Togolese Red Cross Society (TRCS), in the field together with the Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) member, by 17 September the death toll stood at 25 people killed and 97 critically injured. The affected prefectures and localities are:

- Tone: Dapaong, Dapaonkpergou, Djangou, Panabagou, Dampieng, Sibortoti, Naki-Ouest, Nanergou, Korbongou. (with a total of 20,691 people affected).
- Kpendjal: Naki-Est, Ogaro, Bogou, Mardjoual, with a total of 33,787 people affected;
- Oti: Mango, Loko, Galaugoshi, Nagbeni, Tchanaga, Tchamonga, Fare, Gando, Mogou, Sagbiebou, Takpamba, Koumtoire, Koumongou, Nali, with a total of 8,667 people affected.
- Tandjoare: with a total of 19,142 people affected.
- Sous-prefecture of Sinkasse: 1,100 people affected.

Assessments are currently underway, and the figures on the impact of the floods are expected to change. Many affected areas remain inaccessible. While the Federation is responding to the urgency of the situation and a request from the Togolese Red Cross Society (TRCS) by revising this Preliminary Emergency Appeal, the Federation's disaster response strategy continues to be regional in scope and nature, and the Federation will adjust this operation based on the evolving situation and updated assessments. Updated information on the situation in other countries is being continually updated, and is available on the Federation's Disaster Management Inform System (DMIS) at page: <https://www-secure.ifrc.org/dmis/prepare/prepare.asp>

## **Red Cross and Red Crescent action**

With the emergency intervention of the government, TRCS volunteers were mobilized in providing first aid and various humanitarian services such as rescue and evacuation, and distribution of food and non-food items to the victims. The national society also dispatched its local volunteers to educate communities about hygiene and the prevention of waterborne illnesses.

Technical support from the Federation's West Coast regional office in Lagos and its Zone Office in Dakar is being provided to the national society's headquarters in monitoring and coordinating the operations in partnership with other partners such as UNICEF in Watsan and ECHO in the assessment.

With the support of some Partner National Societies (PNS) present in the country, updated data is available based on the assessments carried out in the country. The Danish Red Cross has been supporting the TRCS with a watsan project in collaboration with the German Red Cross, while the Swiss Red Cross and Canadian Red Cross are also operational.

UNICEF has made available sanitation materials and other non-food items to the Togolese Red Cross for distribution and implementation of Watsan activities using Federation expertise. An RDRT has been deployed to support the national society in the activities with UNICEF.

In response to the immediate needs, the Federation released CHF 15,000 from its Zone office in Dakar, and is providing logistical support from its sub-regional office in Lagos to support the TRCS's response. Preliminary assessment and water and sanitation activities combined with basic relief items were provided with the support of the Federation Watsan on mission in the country during the period. This intervention will be to assist these families to cover the main needs in terms of shelter, distribution of food and medicines from partners, non-food items such as mosquito nets, hygiene kits and support the household chlorination of water in the affected area.

The TRCS has indicated critical humanitarian needs to be met as the events unfold; hence more support from the Federation is being sought. An in-depth assessment is being undertaken by a two-person Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) and two Field Assessment Coordination Team (FACT) members in the field in support to the TRCS response strategy.

## **Coordination and partnerships**

The Federation's Secretariat in Geneva and its Zone Office in Dakar are coordinating closely with the TRCS, with various forms of support provided to the affected population. TRCS branches are collaborating with other humanitarian agencies and the government in the affected areas, and, in accordance with its mandate, are providing first aid and assistance in the emergency response. The TRCS is working closely with UNICEF and ECHO in the field to conduct joint assessment missions.

The Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC) has convened the natural disaster emergency working group under the coordination of the UN Office of Coordination Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). The Federation is participating in this body. UN agencies have reinforced the country team with a coordination body from OCHA and a UNDAC has been deployed to the country for a rapid assessment in support to the government.

## **The needs**

**Immediate needs:** the affected area is primarily semi-arid land, and food is the most urgent need to the affected population, as well as shelter, basic relief items, and the provision of water and sanitation facilities.

**Medium and longer-term needs:** will be considered in terms of rehabilitation and reconstruction of damaged houses, infrastructure such bridges and dams, agriculture, including health care activities as well as water and sanitation.

## The proposed operation

### Objectives, activities planned and expected results

The TRCS's operation in the Savanes Region (specifically in Tone, Tandjoure, and Oti prefectures, as well as the sous prefecture of Sinkassé) continues to focus on the provision of essential relief items and preventive health and water and sanitation activities targeting some 11,000 affected people (2,200 households), further assessments will enable the extension of the plan of action for the inaccessible areas in Kpendjal prefecture.

The TRCS will distribute 1,000 shelter kits to support some communities to rebuild their homes in Kpendjal and Cinkassé; distribute food (in partnership with WFP) and non-food items such as blankets, mosquito bednets, kitchen sets, jerry cans, basic relief items (soap, candles); and continue with the ongoing preventative watsan activities and health care. Meanwhile, some 2,000 people will be enrolled in the food for work programme in order to rehabilitate some useful infrastructures such as small bridges and dams for water irrigation. The food will be supplied by WFP.

This relief operation will provide an opportunity to the national society to invest in strengthening the capacity of its branches in the affected areas to address risk reduction as well as the coordination of relief operations in future emergencies. The Federation will be providing technical expertise by deploying international staff in the required technical areas to support the Togolese Red Cross Society.

### Emergency relief (food and non-food)

#### Objective 1: To distribute food to some 2,200 flood-affected families.

**Activity planned:** pack, transport and distribute food.

**Expected result:** no increase of malnutrition cases is reported; 2,200 flood-affected households have received a 45-day food ration and some seeds for planting.

#### Objective 2: To provide shelter items for flood-affected families.

**Activity planned:** procure, airlift, transport and distribute shelter items, 2,200 kitchen sets, 6,600 blankets and other relief items.

**Expected result:** 700 families in Kpendjal and 300 flood-affected displaced households in Cinkassé have been provided shelter from the effects of the environment and minimum basic household equipment is replenished.

#### Objective 3: To prevent the outbreak of epidemics and water borne diseases.

**Activity planned:** procure, airlift, transport and distribute 20000 jerry cans, water purification tablets, 15 million bars of soap (250 gr. p/p month), 5,000 treated bed nets, and other basic relief items, together with community-based health and hygiene promotion.

**Expected result:** more than 80% of the affected population have access to safe water, occurrence of less than 10 % of the water borne disease average in the area of operation and the affected area has a community based hygiene promotion programme.

#### Objective 4: To distribute 2,000 tonnes of food for work (WFP-supplied food).

**Activity planned:** identify the infrastructures for rehabilitation, recruit workers, and transport and distribute food to workers.

**Expected result:** access to the remote areas has been established with small bridges repaired, schools are able to attend classes, and community reservoirs for water retention are prepared.

#### Objective 5: To provide air and road transport of personnel and goods.

**Activity planned:** Rental of – or sole or joint access to - a helicopter (capacity: 400 kilos of freight) and acquisition of a land-cruiser and two zodiacs.

**Expected result:** personnel and relief goods will access the affected towns and areas where assistance is being delivered; coordinated mobilization of relief goods; coordinated reception of all incoming goods; coordinated warehousing, as required; and coordinated and efficient dispatch of goods to the final distribution points."

#### **Logistics:**

The logistics objective is to provide support to the operation, delivering a range of relief items in line with operational priorities. Logistics will focus on support to the air, sea and road freight reception of relief goods, and to arrange transportation to distribution points. Meanwhile, a detailed and up-to-date mobilization table is available on the Federation's Disaster Management Information System (DMIS) of specific relief items to respond to needs in the field and donors in coordination, working with the support of the Federation's Dubai Regional Logistics Unit (RLU).

#### **Communications – Advocacy and Public information**

The TRCS flood response and recovery activity provides an excellent opportunity to demonstrate the added value of the Red Cross and Red Crescent to the public, especially in this remote zone. The TRCS has requested the Federation's zonal office to assist in strengthening their ability to disseminate and communicate Red Cross activities. The Federation's Zone information delegate together with the regional information officer will continue to assist their counterparts in formulating strategies to address the public and media.

The TRCS information officer will continue to profile and increase the visibility of the Togo Red Cross Society by travelling to the affected area, documenting the distribution process, witnessing the interaction between Red Cross staff and volunteers and beneficiaries, and producing relevant articles and photographs.

#### **Capacity of the National Society**

Despite the magnitude of the disaster, the TRCS has quite an extensive floods-related disaster experience, relief operations and social mobilization for health hazards. However this is not the case in the currently affected areas where the TRCS has requested the support of the Federation due to its limited capacity. At headquarters a programme coordinator oversees TRCS activities countrywide and the disaster management coordinator is leading the assessment and response activities together with the regional programme coordinator. Meanwhile, the national society has a good network of volunteers managing community healthcare programmes.

#### **Capacity of the Federation**

The Federation has no representation within the country but has a sub-regional office in Lagos and the Zone office in Dakar with the required technical staff to support an emergency operation. From its pool of technicians, disaster response skills (through the RDRT and ERU tools) are available. This includes public health (including Watsan) as well as health in emergencies, relief and shelter, IT & telecom, logistics, finance and communication.

#### **Revised preliminary budget summary**

See Budget Annex for details.

Thomas Gurtner  
Director, ai  
Coordination and Programmes Division

Markku Niskala  
Secretary General

## 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 International Federation's activities are aligned with its 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:**

- In Togo: Gagno Norbert Paniah, President of Togolese Red Cross Society (TRCS), [crt siege@laposte.tg](mailto:crt siege@laposte.tg) , [npaniah@yahoo.fr](mailto:npaniah@yahoo.fr) , Phone:+228 904 16 00
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[<Appeal budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

**APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY**

Annex 1

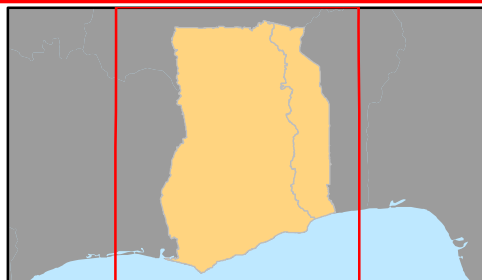
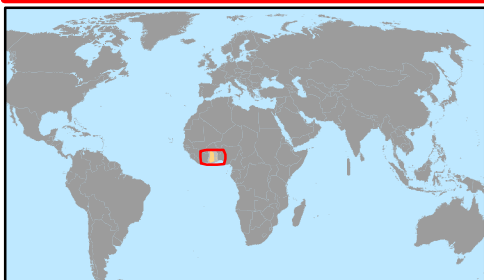
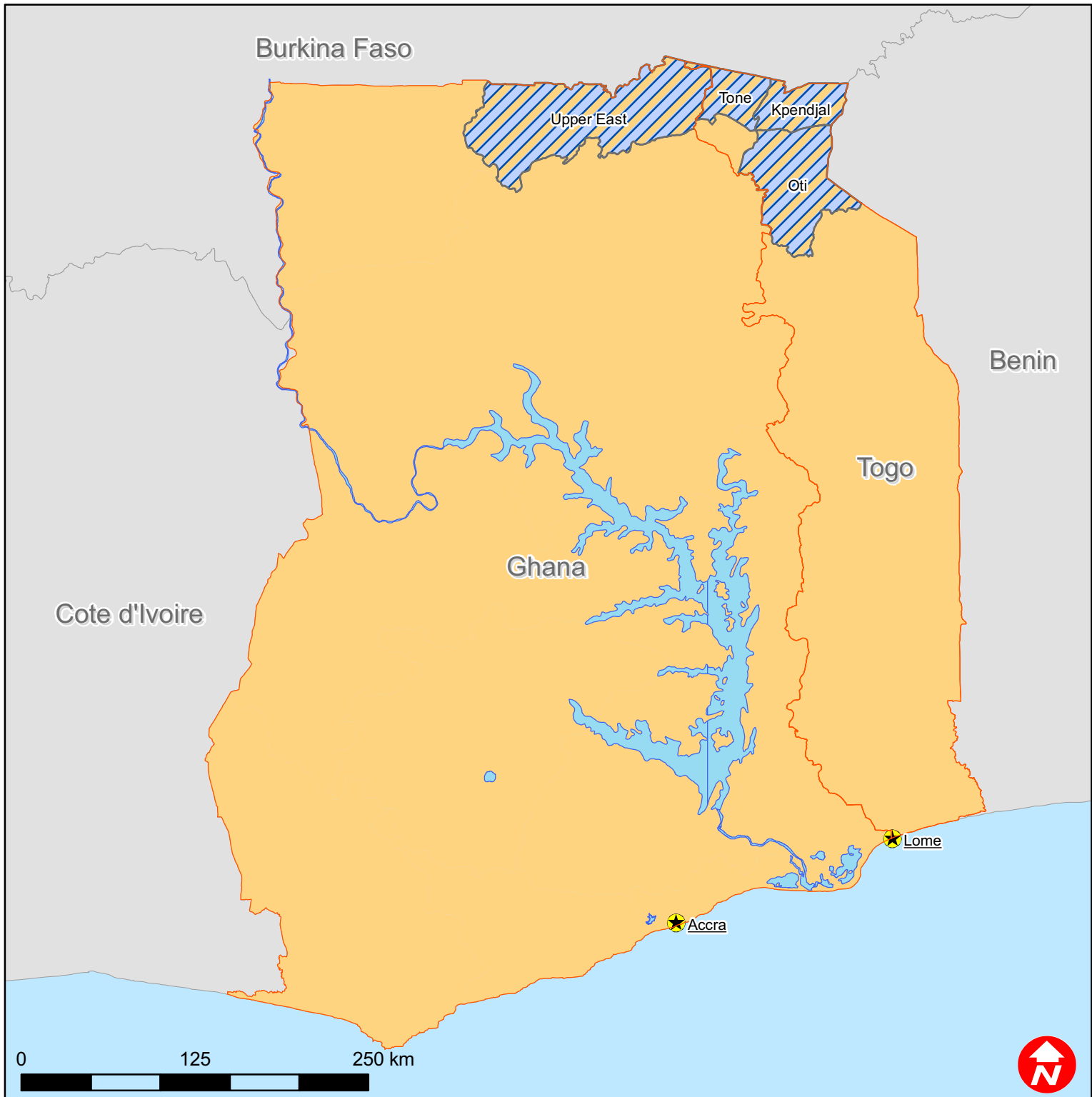
## Floods in West Africa

## APPEAL NUMBER MDR61002

	Ghana	Togo	Total
<b><u>RELIEF NEEDS</u></b>			
Shelter	549,000	91,500	640,500
Construction Materials		25,000	25,000
Clothing & Textiles	75,000	67,520	142,520
Food		0	0
Seeds & Plants	40,000	40,000	80,000
Water & Sanitation	93,750	26,000	119,750
Medical & First Aid	50,000	74,000	124,000
Teaching Materials	5,000	12,000	17,000
Utensils & Tools	160,000	74,000	234,000
Other Supplies & Services	220,000	95,000	315,000
<b>Total Relief Needs</b>	<b>1,192,750</b>	<b>505,020</b>	<b>1,697,770</b>
<b><u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u></b>			
Land & Buildings	0	0	0
Vehicles Purchase	0	35,000	35,000
Computers & Telecom Equipment	10,000	36,200	46,200
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.	0	8,000	8,000
Medical Equipment	0	0	0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0	0	0
<b><u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE &amp; VEHICLES</u></b>			
Storage - Warehouse	30,000	20,000	50,000
Distribution & Monitoring	20,000	38,000	58,000
Transport & Vehicles Costs	30,000	55,000	85,000
<b><u>PERSONNEL</u></b>			
			0
International Staff	30,000	100,000	130,000
Regionally Deployed Staff	30,000	22,600	52,600
National Staff		15,750	15,750
National Society Staff	10,000	63,750	73,750
Consultants		0	0
<b><u>WORKSHOPS &amp; TRAINING</u></b>			
Workshops & Training		6,000	6,000
<b><u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u></b>			
Travel	10,000	8,000	18,000
Information & Public Relations	10,000	20,000	30,000
Administration costs	5,000	4,000	9,000
Communication Costs	2,000	16,000	18,000
Professional Fees	0	0	0
Financial Charges	0	2,000	2,000
Other General Expenses		20,000	20,000
<b><u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u></b>			
Programme Support - PSR	89,684	56,492	146,176
<b>Total Operational Needs</b>	<b>1,469,434</b>	<b>526,792</b>	<b>1,996,226</b>
<b>Total Appeal Budget (Cash &amp; Kind)</b>	<b>1,469,434</b>	<b>1,031,812</b>	<b>2,501,246</b>
<b>Available Resources**</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Request</b>	<b>1,469,434</b>	<b>1,031,812</b>	<b>2,501,246</b>



# West Africa: Floods in Ghana and Togo



- ★ Capitals
- ▨ Affected region