

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Central African Republic: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRCF001
GLIDE n° FL-2007-000174-CAF
8 May, 2008

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

Summary: CHF 98,717 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 21 September, 2007 to support the national society in delivering assistance to 756 households (3,780 beneficiaries in Bangui and Bossangoa).

Heavy rains occurred in Bangui and Bossangoa on September 2007, resulting in flooding and significant damage to homes and the loss of household belongings. The CAR Red Cross authorities supported by the Federation from Yaoundé conducted an assessment of the situation and launched a DREF operation to assist some 3,780 beneficiaries who had been left homeless in both localities.



CAR Red Cross volunteers chlorinated water points in affected localities to prevent cholera and other waterborne diseases outbreaks.

Within the framework of the implementation of the DREF operation, Red Cross volunteers carried out distribution activities, sanitation, hygiene promotion and general sensitization as planned, and this contributed enormously to improving the living conditions of the beneficiaries as they expressed satisfaction and gratitude to the Red Cross during an evaluation mission in the field.

[<click here for the final financial report or here to view contact details>](#)

The situation

Heavy rains occurred in Bangui and Bossangoa in September 2007, resulting in flooding and other damage such as the partial or complete destruction of homes and personal belongings. The CAR Red Cross authorities, supported by the Federation from Yaoundé, conducted an assessment of the situation and launched a DREF operation to assist some 3,780 beneficiaries who had been left homeless in both localities.

Within the framework of the implementation of the DREF operation, Red Cross volunteers carried out distribution activities, sanitation, hygiene promotion and general sensitization as planned, and this

contributed enormously to improving the living conditions of the beneficiaries as they expressed satisfaction and gratitude to the Red Cross during an evaluation mission in the field. However, the Red Cross could not meet all the needs of the floods victims and has limited its assistance to the most vulnerable that had lost everything, in line with what was planned in the DREF Bulletin.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Achievements against objectives

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: The living conditions of the most vulnerable flood-affected 756 families, i.e. 3,780 beneficiaries are improved through food and non-food items distribution.

Activities planned: Non-food items, including blankets, impregnated mosquito nets, cooking and hygiene kits are distributed to selected 756 families (3,780 beneficiaries).

Achievements: About 125 CAR Red Cross volunteers distributed non-food items to 3,792 beneficiaries (2,372 in Bossangoa and 1,420 in the three subdivisions of Bangui). The non-food items included 1,455 blankets (655 in Bossangoa and 750 in Bangui); 750 tarpaulins (450 in Bossangoa and 300 in Bangui); 2,162 pieces of soap (1,440 pieces in Bossangoa and 722 in Bangui); 950 mosquito nets (450 in Bossangoa and 500 in Bangui); 450 cooking kits and 1,200 mats in Bossangoa. The mosquito nets were distributed to pregnant women and old people in all affected localities. The cooking kits were distributed on the basis of one kit per family. The mats were distributed according to the size of each family identified.

Impact: Distribution activities were timely enough as they provided a real relief to the affected populations in Bangui and Bossangoa and enabled them to regain their human dignity which had been taken away by flood. Seventy-five per cent of the beneficiaries expressed their satisfaction during an evaluation mission in the field, which was attended by Government officials and ICRC Head of delegation in Bangui.

Challenges: Taking into consideration the difficulties encountered at the start of this operation, there is the need for an emergency stock to be pre-positioned at the level of the Federation's Regional Representation in Yaoundé, and/or at the headquarters of CAR Red Cross to ensure quick response or good start while waiting for external support to come, DREF allocation or any other funding source.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Objective: The living conditions of most vulnerable flood-affected families are improved through treatment of water points and cleaning of gutters.

Activities planned:

- At least 75% of the people in affected areas have access to potable water
- Gutters in flooded zones are cleaned
- 90% of the affected population is sensitized to hygiene and sanitation rules and puts them into practice
- The flood management capacities of Red Cross volunteers in Bangui and Bossangoa sub-divisional committees are strengthened
- 90% of the affected population is sensitized to a flood early alert system
- At least 75% of the affected population is protected against waterborne diseases through sensitization by Red Cross volunteers
- Relief and sanitation materials are put at the disposal of the local committees of the Red Cross involved in the operation.

Achievements: Forty-five Red Cross volunteers of the Bossangoa local committee of the Red Cross cleaned gutters in the neighborhoods that were affected by floods. They also treated over 150 water wells in the same localities using the bleach that was made available by UNICEF. In addition, they rehabilitated 255 latrines.

Trained and retrained volunteers sensitized the Bossangoa population to hygiene promotion and to how to avoid waterborne diseases. They also trained the populations on how to treat water before using. The

populations were also trained on how to maintain an early alert system so as to be able to avoid further effects of flood.

In Bangui and Bossangoa, 85 Red Cross volunteers were mobilized to clean gutters and remove garbage in order to avoid cholera outbreak or any other waterborne disease. Impressed by the move of the Red Cross, the populations joined the action as they knew it was in their interest.

Relief and sanitation materials were purchased and put at the disposal of the national society. The materials included 50 pickaxes, 50 shovels, 50 racks, 50 boots, 50 gloves, 10 wheelbarrows, 10 first-aid kits and 100 security patches. These materials enabled Red Cross volunteers to treat about 730 water wells and disinfect close to 350 latrines in the subdivisions of Bangui. An additional 250 water wells were treated and 300 latrines were disinfected in Bossangoa, bringing the total to 980 water wells treated and 650 latrines disinfected in both localities.

Impact: Involving the community directly in activities contributed enormously to strengthening the visibility of Red Cross action. Moreover, the action consolidated the position of CAR Red Cross as auxiliary to Government.

Challenges: It has been proven that recurrent flooding is due to poor sanitation and the fact of not removing garbage. The main challenge will therefore be to organize regular sensitization campaigns with the participation of the populations. To that effect, some relief and sanitation materials have been put at the disposal of the national society.

Advocacy

Objective: A larger number of partners are involved in the operation to assist flood-affected populations.

Activities planned: Advocating before other partners.

Achievements: The report of the joint CAR Red Cross/Federation evaluation of the situation was presented to both Movement and non-Movement partners in order to inform them about the situation and encourage them to intervene alongside with the Red Cross. This effort resulted in the following reaction from various partners. The ICRC Delegation in Bangui put at the disposal of CAR Red Cross for distribution to affected people 670 blankets; 756 tarpaulins; 290 hygiene kits; 1,440 pieces of soap; 500 mosquito nets and 756 cooking kits. UNICEF donated 2,192 pieces of soap of 250g each; 216 sachets of bleach (for the treatment of water and disinfection of latrines); 150 mosquito nets; 2,000 jerry cans of 15 litres each; 92 tarpaulins and 184 mats to beneficiaries in Bossangoa.

Impact: Advocacy activities carried out by the Red Cross enabled it to consolidate its position as auxiliary to Government, and to polish its visibility. In addition, more non-food items were collected and distributed to the beneficiaries.

Challenges: The CAR Red Cross Society needs to collaborate with other partners not only during the emergency response phase, but also during preparedness, risk prevention and reduction to ensure better response when the time comes.

Lessons learned:

- The distribution phase of the operation came as a real relief to the beneficiaries who did not hesitate to show their appreciation.
- Although the two localities involved were too distant from each other, and despite the fact that the road from Bangui to Bossangoa is impassable, the operation did not encounter any major constraint. In fact, some executives from the headquarters in Bangui succeeded in travelling to Bossangoa and in the subdivisions of Bangui to assist flood-affected populations.
- The operation facilitated capacity building for local Red Cross volunteers who did not have such an opportunity before. Moreover, the operational capacities of the national society were built through the operation.
- The Federation's leading position in humanitarian action enabled her to contact other organizations, especially UN agencies and other Movement partners, to encourage them to intervene in the operation. This facilitated the mobilization of the non-food items that were distributed to flood-affected people in Bangui and Bossangoa. However, some partners that were contacted proved to be more concentrated on the assistance to Sudanese refugees in Sam-Ouandja.

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 CAR: Antoine Mbao Bogo, President, Central African Republic Red Cross Society, Bangui ; email : sn_crca@yahoo.fr ; phone : +236 75 50 14 11 / +236 77 09 18 00 or Albert Yomba Eyamo, Secretary General ; phone : +236 75 50 27 54 / +236 21 61 26 09
- In Cameroon: Javier Medrano, Federation Regional Representative for Central Africa, Yaoundé, email: javier.medrano@ifrc.org, Phone: (237) 22 21 74 37 OR (237) 96 29 87 89, Fax: (237) 22 21 74 39
- In Senegal: Alasan Senghore, Federation Head of West and Central Africa Zone Office, Dakar, Senegal, email: alasan.senghore@ifrc.org , Phone: (221) 33869 3641, Fax: (221) 22 820 25 34; Youcef Ait-Chellouche, DMC, Phone: (221) 77 638 98 61, email: youcef.aitchellouche@ifrc.org

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

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRCF001 - Central African Rep - Floods 2007

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/9-2008/3
Budget Timeframe	2007/9-2007/11
Appeal	MDRCF001
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		0				0
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		98,248				98,248
C5. Other Income		98,248				98,248
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)		98,248				98,248
D. Total Funding = B + C		98,248				98,248
Appeal Coverage		#DIV/0				#DIV/0

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		98,248				98,248
E. Expenditure		-98,248				-98,248
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		0				0

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRCF001 - Central African Rep - Floods 2007

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/9-2008/3
Budget Timeframe	2007/9-2007/11
Appeal	MDRCF001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

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)		0					0	
Supplies								
Clothing & textiles			63,068				63,068	-63,068
Medical & First Aid			1,250				1,250	-1,250
Utensils & Tools			10,506				10,506	-10,506
Total Supplies			74,824				74,824	-74,824
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom			4,452				4,452	-4,452
Total Land, vehicles & equipment			4,452				4,452	-4,452
Transport & Storage								
Transport & Vehicle Costs			168				168	-168
Total Transport & Storage			168				168	-168
Personnel								
International Staff Payroll Benefits			6,513				6,513	-6,513
National Staff			2,096				2,096	-2,096
National Society Staff			660				660	-660
Total Personnel			9,269				9,269	-9,269
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training			1,163				1,163	-1,163
Total Workshops & Training			1,163				1,163	-1,163
General Expenditure								
Information & Public Relation			731				731	-731
Communications			1,256				1,256	-1,256
Financial Charges			1				1	-1
Total General Expenditure			1,988				1,988	-1,988
Programme Support								
Program Support			6,386				6,386	-6,386
Total Programme Support			6,386				6,386	-6,386
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)			98,248				98,248	-98,248
VARIANCE (C - D)			-98,248				-98,248	