



MADAGASCAR: CYCLONE CLOVIS

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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 98,000 (USD 80,328 or EUR 60,964) 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 13 April, 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 directly 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 early January 2007, Cyclone Clovis hit the south-eastern coast of Madagascar accompanied by heavy rains and strong winds which had an average speed of 90 km/hr. The resultant flooding in Mananjary, located approximately 250 km to the south-east of Antananarivo (the capital), destroyed roofing of an undetermined number of houses and public buildings as well as the electricity networks. Approximately 400 people were forced to abandon their homes and move to temporary accommodation centres.

In Nosy-Varika, located approximately 220 km south-east of the capital, 298 houses have been destroyed and rice fields have been flooded. Electricity and telephone networks have been damaged, limiting communication. Roads have also been rendered impassable. To this effect, 1,060 people were evacuated from their homes and moved to temporary shelters. Most of the affected areas are only accessible by boat due to poor road networks and communication linkages.

Prior to this, Cyclone Bondo (severe tropical storm) had hit Mariarano, a small town 50 km north-east of Mahajanga in the north-western coast of Madagascar, in 25 December 2006. At that time, strong winds with gusts of up to 150 km/h and heavy rains were recorded in the region. The storm later moved to the south-south-west side of western Madagascar, but with less intensity. The immediate needs of the people affected by Cyclone Bondo have been met by the government and its partners, including the Malagasy Red Cross Society (MRCS).

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Following cyclone Clovis, a team from the MRCS national disaster response team (NDRT) was deployed in Mananjary District equipped with water treatment equipment. A national task force has been put in place to monitor the situation and coordinate intervention in the field, in collaboration with partners.



MRCS delivers relief items to the affected populations.

The Federation has allocated CHF 98,000 from its DREF to support the MRCS in implementing an initial response to the needs of those affected by Cyclone Clovis in Mananjary and Nosy-Varika districts. Volunteers in the field have been mobilized to relay early warning messages issued by meteorological services at community level, assist people with disabilities and expectant women as well as provide first aid. As other partners embark on field operations, the MRCS intends to adapt its programme to promote rapid coordination.

Needs

Reports from MRCS local committees identified 500 families (in Mananjary and Nosy-Varika districts) in need of immediate support.

The affected community is also at a risk of contracting malaria as

well as diseases related to lack of proper hygiene and safe water. Preliminary assessment results indicate an urgent need for non-food items (NFIs), including insecticide-treated mosquito nets (ITNs), as well as food. There is also the need to inform the affected population about the available humanitarian response and services.

Coordination

The MRCS head office, Mananjary and Nosy-Varika branches field staff and volunteers are working closely with the Indian Ocean Regional Intervention Platform ([PIROI](#)¹), the Federation's Indian Ocean Islands (IOI) sub-regional office, the Federation's regional delegation in Nairobi, the local government as well as other humanitarian agencies supporting the affected communities.

Good relations existing between the national society and PIROI contributed to the effectiveness of relief distribution in the affected areas. PIROI provided a water treatment unit and deployed a water and sanitation (WatSan) engineer.

Plan of Action

Objective: To reduce the vulnerability of households adversely affected by Cyclone Clovis in Mananjary and Nosy-Varika districts.

Specific objective 1: To provide essential non-food items to 500 affected households.

Planned activities

- Purchase and distribute 500 kitchen sets, 1,000 water containers/buckets, 1,000 bars of soap, 500 plastic sheeting and 1,200 blankets.
- Mobilize, train and deploy volunteers to distribute NFIs.

Expected result

- 500 households are able to prepare their own meals and have provisional shelter.

Specific objective 2: To provide a one-time food basket to the affected population.

Planned activities

- Identify and register affected households.
- Purchase and distribute rice (5kg/family), oil (5 litres/family), lentils and milk powder to the identified households, focusing on the most vulnerable.

¹ In French: Plate-forme d'Intervention Regionale pour l'Océan Indien

Expected result

- The Nutritional status of the 500 households is well maintained during the first phase of the emergency intervention.

Specific objective 3: To promote hygiene awareness among the population affected by the cyclone.

Planned activities

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

Expected result

- The affected population has knowledge on how to avoid possible outbreaks of vector borne or waterborne diseases.

Specific objective 4: Contribute towards the repair of the damaged houses by providing iron sheets and nails.

Planned activities

- Identify and register beneficiaries.
- Distribute iron sheets and nails.

Expected result

- 500 affected families benefit from appropriate shelters.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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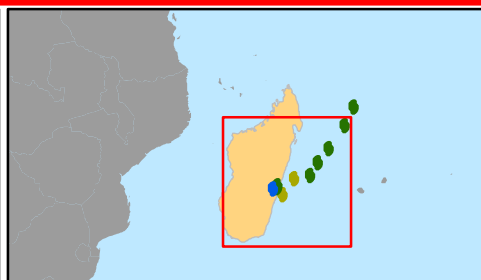
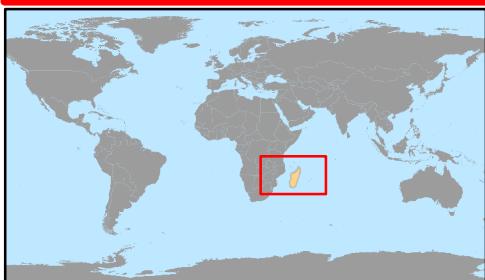
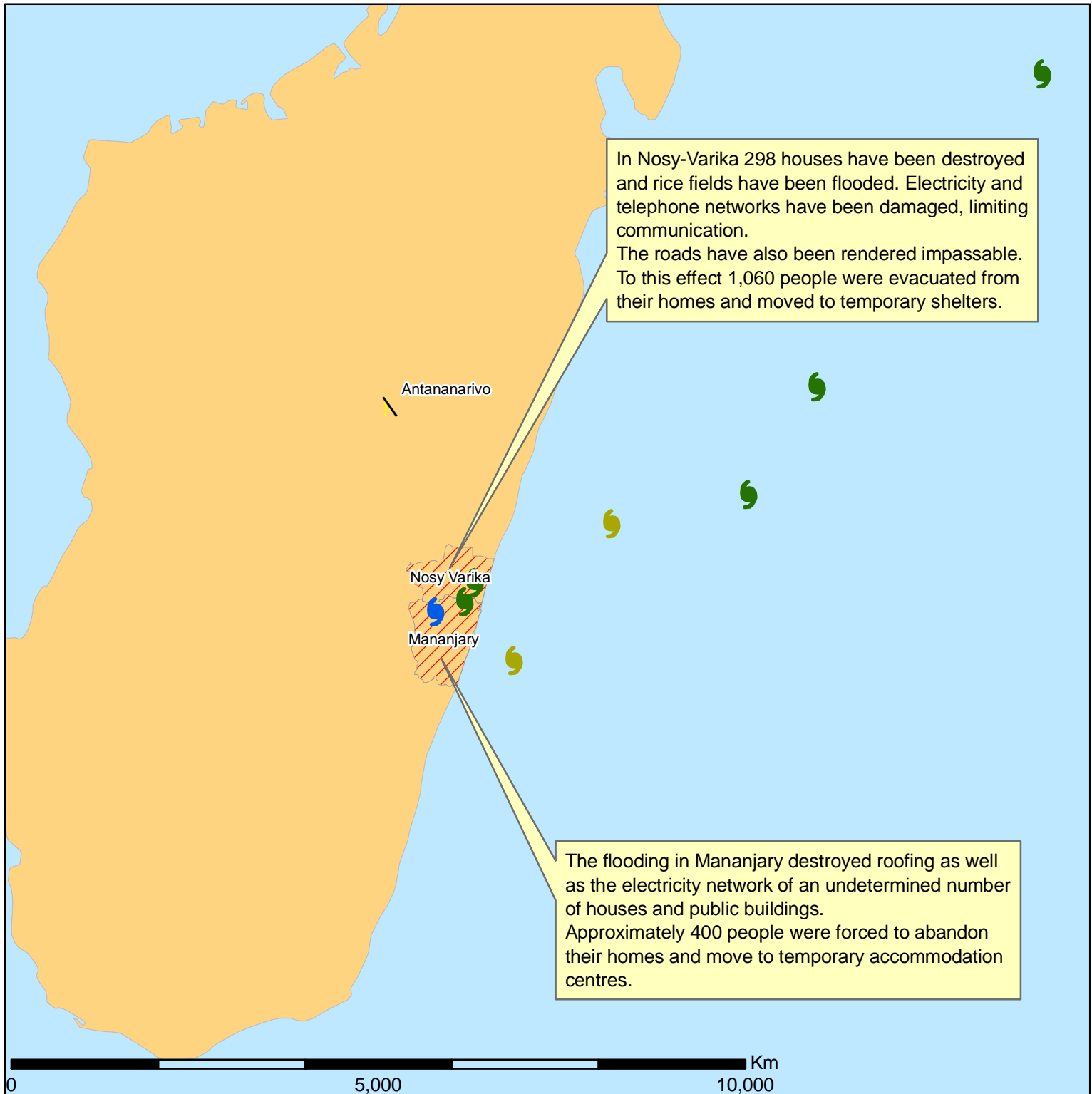
All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For 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>](#)



Madagascar: Cyclone



Legend

- Capitales
- Tropical Cyclone Category 1
- Tropical Depression
- Tropical Storm
- Affected districts