

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Nigeria: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRNG004

19 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 200,000 (USD 166,251 or EUR 121,655) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 10 August, 2007 to support the national society in delivering assistance to 3,045 beneficiaries.

The DREF Operation enabled the Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS) to provide emergency relief assistance to some 609 households (3,045 beneficiaries) in the nine most flood-affected states in Nigeria. This included the distribution of basic food and non-food relief to 609 vulnerable families displaced by the floods. In addition, NRCS carried out health and hygiene education, as well as HIV/AIDS awareness-raising activities in the various IDP camps in the affected states, with a view to preventing potential health problems.



Red Cross volunteers assisting in the distribution of food items to flood victims

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

The situation

The exceptionally heavy rains in Sub-Saharan Africa throughout July, August and September 2007 resulted in severe flooding, leading to loss of life and extensive displacement of families across the region. In Nigeria, the nine most seriously affected states were: Lagos, Ogun, Plateau, Nasarrawa, Bauchi, Sokoto, Yobe, Borno and Kebbi. By August 2007, more than 46 people had lost their lives and more than 2,500 families had been displaced. In addition, the flood waters destroyed a number of homes, contaminated farmland and crops, and depleted livestock and other household assets. Poor drainage systems, the untimely release of water from dams and the indiscriminate building of houses on river banks all contributed to exacerbating the effects of the flooding.

As a result, many of the most affected people had to be sheltered in camps and other temporary sites set up by the government, throughout the nine states.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

In line with its humanitarian commitment to the population, and to complement the efforts of the government and other humanitarian organizations, the Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS) quickly responded to meet the most immediate needs of the victims. Initial interventions were facilitated thanks to a contribution from the British Red Cross Small-scale Disaster Fund. NRCS staff, volunteers and members of the Emergency and First Aid Team (EFAT) were all involved from the start in rescue and evacuation efforts, the provision of first aid and referral services, as well as in providing psychological support and counseling. EFAT members also sensitized communities at risk on appropriate safety measures (i.e. danger of electrocution from downed wires).

In light of the deteriorating situation and the difficult living conditions of the internally displaced people (IDP) at the various camps, NRCS subsequently scaled-up its emergency relief activities, supported by the present DREF allocation, to provide basic food and non-food relief assistance to the affected population, as well as undertaking hygiene and sanitation promotion, and health education activities - including HIV/AIDS awareness-raising campaigns.

NRCS headquarters monitored and coordinated the operations undertaken by state branches in the affected states, with back-up from the Federation's Zonal Disaster Management Officers, and with technical support provided by the Federation's West Coast sub-zone office in Lagos. NRCS demonstrated a strong capacity to work with the affected communities and deliver appropriate messages, thanks to the dedication of its volunteers, and in particular their ability to communicate with a number of IDP in their local languages.

Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective 1: To contribute to improving the lives and health of 3,045 displaced people.

Objective 2: To sustain the lives and health of 3,045 displaced people through the provision of basic food items for one month.

NRCS mobilized and deployed a team of over 238 volunteers to the nine affected states, to undertake the distribution of food and non-food items (NFI) to a total of 609 affected households (3,045 beneficiaries), and participate in health and hygiene promotion activities.

Procurement and distribution of food and NFI consisted of the following items:

Number of households reached	Non Food Items procured and distributed	Food items distributed
609 HH (3,045 beneficiaries) in 9 states.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,400 blankets • 1,400 sleeping mats • 2,800 bars of toilet soap • 2,800 plastic plates, cups, bowls and spoons • 1,000 plastic buckets • 1,000 cooking pots 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 700 (50kg) bags of rice • 70 bags of beans • 200 (10L) gallons of vegetable oil • 60 (50kg) bags of granulated sugar • 50 (50kg) bags of salt

Activities undertaken to achieve this objective included:

- Identification and registration of the most vulnerable families, with special emphasis on children and women, as being the most affected and least able to cope.
- Coordination with national, state and local authorities.
- Procurement, warehousing, dispatch and transportation of relief items to distribution points.
- Mobilization and deployment of volunteer relief teams for distribution.
- Reporting on distribution.

Impact: The most immediate nutritional and basic household needs of vulnerable families displaced by the floods in 9 states were met. The coordinated action of the Red Cross in the procurement and provision of

these items respected Federation standards and served to help alleviate hunger among IDP as well as reduce problems associated with malnutrition. The provision of basic household items and buckets also assisted in preventing an outbreak of cholera and diarrhea in the camps. The fact that the beneficiaries had access to food and that their basic needs were being met for at least one month provided them with much needed psychological 'breathing space' - thereby giving them an opportunity to consider their options for recovery.

Challenges: Though the intervention of the Red Cross was well appreciated by both the beneficiaries and other stakeholders, the limited resources available made it difficult to reach additional victims of the floods – the number of which kept increasing throughout the period.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Objective 3: To prevent disease outbreaks in the camps established to shelter the displaced people.

Objective 4: To contribute towards controlling and preventing HIV infections in the camp.

With a well coordinated and trained team of volunteers made up of members of the Health Action Team and Mothers' Clubs in the affected states, the NRCS was able to deliver health and hygiene messages to the IDP in the various camps, using both English and local languages. The Red Cross volunteers actively participated in sanitation activities in the camps, by undertaking clean-up activities, promoting good hygiene practices. They also assisted in maintaining orderliness during distributions and referred health problems to the relevant medical staff. The main achievements are listed below:

Planned Activities	Achievements
§ Procure and distribute Insecticide-Treated mosquito Nets (ITN) to some displaced families in the camps;	§ 600 ITN were procured and distributed to target beneficiaries in the 9 affected states;
§ Carry out health education/disease preventive measures in the camps;	§ Members of the Mothers' Clubs and the Health Action Team carried out public health education on disease prevention, hygiene and sanitation in all the IDP camps in the 9 states;
§ Produce and distribute Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials in the camps;	§ 3,000 health education posters and 3,000 HIV/AIDS awareness posters were produced and distributed in the IDP camps in 9 states;
§ Procure and distribute sanitation tools to the camps;	§ 50 shovels and 50 rakes were procured and distributed to the IDP camps in the 9 states.
§ Conduct HIV/AIDS campaigns in the camps;	§ Red Cross volunteers carried out HIV/AIDS to the affected families who were sheltered in the camps;

Impact: The distribution of ITN, followed-up by monitoring on the part of the volunteers to ensure their effective use (i.e. how to hang them up) helped in controlling the spread of malaria in the camps. The health and hygiene education activities fostered a greater appreciation of the importance of a clean environment amongst IDP. Based on beneficiaries' reactions, this new attitude should continue even when they return to their various homes. HIV/AIDS awareness messages delivered to a number of IDP in local languages helped foster understand of the danger associated with unsafe sex.

Challenges: Limited financial resources constrained the ability of the NRCS to distribute ITN to a greater number of households, despite obvious needs.

Conclusion

Lessons learned:

- § As one of the first humanitarian agencies to come to the aid of the victims, the image and visibility of the Red Cross was enhanced;

- § Pre-positioned/readily available stocks of basic relief items would have enabled the Red Cross to be more pro-active in its early response;
- § Ensuring appropriate levels of funding, in line with changing needs on the ground, would ensure that the Red Cross could reach more beneficiaries;
- § Good collaboration and coordination with other stakeholders ensured effective service delivery to beneficiaries;
- § A special commendation was awarded to the Red Cross volunteers for their commitment and selfless service to the IDP in the various camps.

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:

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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRNG004 - Nigeria - Floods

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/8-2008/4
Budget Timeframe	2007/8-2008/4
Appeal	MDRNG004
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		200,035				200,035
B. Opening Balance		200,000				200,000
Income						
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)		0				0
D. Total Funding = B + C		200,000				200,000
Appeal Coverage		100%				100%

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		200,000				200,000
C. Income		0				0
E. Expenditure		-165,853				-165,853
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		34,147				34,147

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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)		200,035					200,035	
Supplies								
Clothing & textiles			19,399				19,399	-19,399
Food	88,923		67,726				67,726	21,197
Medical & First Aid	54,988							54,988
Teaching Materials	1,425							1,425
Utensils & Tools			23,555				23,555	-23,555
Other Supplies & Services			1,330				1,330	-1,330
Total Supplies	145,336		112,010				112,010	33,326
Transport & Storage								
Distribution & Monitoring			7,173				7,173	-7,173
Transport & Vehicle Costs	11,590		3,425				3,425	8,165
Total Transport & Storage	11,590		10,598				10,598	992
Personnel								
National Staff			1,141				1,141	-1,141
National Society Staff			6,655				6,655	-6,655
Total Personnel			7,796				7,796	-7,796
General Expenditure								
Travel	3,344		11,053				11,053	-7,709
Information & Public Relation	13,110		6,919				6,919	6,191
Office Costs			5,340				5,340	-5,340
Communications	653		1,356				1,356	-703
Other General Expenses	13,000							13,000
Total General Expenditure	30,107		24,668				24,668	5,439
Programme Support								
Program Support	13,002		10,780				10,780	2,222
Total Programme Support	13,002		10,780				10,780	2,222
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	200,035		165,853				165,853	34,183
VARIANCE (C - D)			34,183				34,183	