

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

The Gambia: Storm

DREF operation n° MDRGM004
GLIDE n° ST-2008-000083-GMB
6 June 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 and 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.

CHF 34,000 (USD 32,701 or EUR 20,982) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the national society in delivering immediate assistance to some 300 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: On 2 June 2008 a severe storm hit the area around Darsilameh village in the Western Region of Gambia. The storm caused damage to more than 15 compounds, directly affecting more than 300 persons. Houses were destroyed, and the families therefore have no shelter. The Government (through the Governor of the Western Region) created a crisis committee to coordinate the provision of support and assistance. The Gambia Red Cross Society (GRCS) volunteers from the Western Region branch assisted those affected to move belongings from their ruined houses, and carried out assessments. The GRCS plans to distribute roofing repair kits.

This operation is expected to be implemented over two weeks, and will

therefore be completed by 30 June 2008. A Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 5 August 2008).

[<click here for the budget, and here for contact details>](#)



GRCS volunteers assessing the impact of the situation and the needs created.

The situation

On 2 June 2008 at around 14:00 hours a squall of some 25-30 knots hit the area around Darsilameh village in the Western Region of the Gambia. According to the hydro meteorological reports, the southerly direction of the squall resulted in severe damage to more than 15 compounds affecting more than 300 persons. Houses were destroyed, leaving limited shelter alternatives.

Coordination and partnerships

The government through the Governor Western Region created a crisis committee to coordinate assessments and the delivery of assistance. The Western Region Area Council provided a 10-day food ration (rice). An assessment team comprising representatives of the Governor's office, the Gambia Red Cross (Western Region branch) and the Brikama Area council visited the affected community on 2 June. The team coordinated by the GRCS branch collected secondary information from the Governor's office and compiled a needs assessment report. The team visited 15 compounds in the village, out of the 113 households that were affected.

All planned activities will be implemented by regional teams, branch field coordinators and Red Cross volunteers, with supervision from the GRCS national headquarters.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

GRCS volunteers assisted those affected to move their belongings from the damaged houses, and carried out assessments of the situation before the arrival of the branch team. Taking into account the quick response to the situation a meeting was convened at the Governor's office, Western Region, and those affected were provided a 10-day rice ration.

The needs

The immediate needs include food (rice and vegetable oil) and non-food items (mattresses, corrugated iron sheets, nails, and bed sheets).

The proposed operation

The GRCS will distribute non-food items to those affected based on verification of needs, beneficiary registration, and distribution of shelter kits, post-distribution evaluation and reporting.

Emergency Shelter

Overall objective: the GRCS will contribute to the well being of 60 homeless families.

Specific objective: the GRCS will ensure that affected households receive roofing materials to repair damaged houses (8 packets of corrugated iron sheet to each house destroyed, 10 kilos of nails, and 20 pieces of wood for roofing support. GRCS volunteers will provide support.

Expected result: damaged houses are re-roofed within 2 weeks.

Activity plan:

- Training of 10 volunteers to support the community in the re-roofing process and sensitisation on the risk reduction initiatives.
- Procurement of roofing materials.
- Distribution of the materials to planned beneficiaries.
- Support the community in re-roofing their damaged houses.
- Follow-up the progress, and monitor impact.
- Report (narrative and financial).

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 The Gambia: Mrs Ndey S.Bakurin, Secretary General, The Gambia Red Cross Society, Banjul, Email: ndeyb@gamtel.gm ; redcrossgam@yahoo.com; phone +2204393179, 4392405, 4396989, 4373568
- **In Dakar:** Alasan Senghore, Head of Zone, West and Central Africa Zone, phone:+221 869 36 40, Fax:+221 33 820 25 34, email: alasan.senghore@ifrc.org; Youcef Aitchellouche, Disaster Management Coordinator, email: youcef.aitchellouche@ifrc.org
- **In Geneva:** Niels Scott, Operations Coordinator for West Africa; phone: +41.22.730.4527; email: niels.scott@ifrc.org or Tunay Firat, Officer, Management Support Team, phone: +41.22.730.4415; email: tunay.firat@ifrc.org

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

<i>TYPE</i>	<i>VALUE IN CHF</i>	
Transport & Vehicles	7,000	
<u>Subtotal Land vehicules & equipments</u>		
PERSONNEL	3,225	
<u>Workshops and Training</u>		
Workshop & Training	1,350	
<u>Rhrum Palm stick/ woods fro 60 househols 20 pieces per houshlod</u>		
Sub total relief materials (none Food items)	19,220	
Stationery	295	
#REF!	700	
West Coast Coordintation costs		
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>	2,210	
<u>TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS</u>	34,000	
<u>TOTAL DREF</u>	34,000	