

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Madagascar: tropical cyclone Ivan

DREF operation n° MDRMG003
GLIDE n° TC-2008-00023-MDG
27 February 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 108,718 (USD 99,256 or EUR 65,981) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the national society in delivering immediate assistance to some 46,000 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Tropical cyclone Ivan passed over Madagascar from 17-19 February, causing widespread damage. This allocation of CHF 108,718 from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) provides support to the Malagasy Red Cross assessments and the initial distribution of relief supplies. An Emergency Appeal is under consideration, to potentially provide assistance to some 10,000 families in Sofia, Menabé, and Boeny.



Floodwaters and inundated land in Madagascar.

This operation is expected to be implemented over 3 months, and will therefore be completed by May, 2008; a Final Report will be made available by August 2008 (three months after the end of the operation).

[<click here for contact details, or here to view the map of the affected area>](#)

The situation

Intense tropical cyclone Ivan hit the island of Madagascar on 17 February 2008, crossing the island before exiting on 19 February 2008. Initial reports from the national disaster management office (the Bureau National de Gestion des Risques et Catastrophes, or BNGRC) indicated 26 deaths and more than 300,000 persons affected, particular by the heavy general rainfall and subsequent floods in the north and east of the island. Severe damage occurred to agricultural crops, houses, administrative and educational building, and health centres. The number of affected continues to rise.

- **Alaotra Mangora Region (northeast Madagascar):** over 22,986 people are in need of assistance. Floods and rising waters indicate further hardship for thousands of persons. This region, known as the breadbasket of Madagascar, was also ravaged by violent winds which destroyed tens of thousands of hectares of rice crops.
- **Analamanga Region (Antananarivo Plain):** Over 18,800 persons are reportedly without shelter in the capital of Antananarivo.
- **Atsinanana Region (northeast):** some 12,000-13,000 persons are reportedly affected.
- **Northwest Region:** rising waters inundated fields, roads, and houses. According to the Malagasy Red Cross situation report of 21 February, some 2,000 people re affected in Sofia, 4,000 in Boeny, 1,500 in Ménabé and the surrounding area, and 15,000 in Analamanga.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

This allocation of CHF 108,718 from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) provides support to the Malagasy Red Cross assessments and the initial distribution of relief supplies. An Emergency Appeal is under consideration, to potentially provide assistance to some 10,000 families in the following locations:

Northwest locations	Number of families affected
Sofia	6,000
Boeny	2,500
Menabé	1,500
Total	10,000 (50,000 people)

With the anticipated passage of cyclone Ivan, the Malagasy Red Cross put in place a crisis unit consisting of the Secretary General, heads of departments (response, logistics, Monitoring and Evaluation), supported by the French Red Cross and Federation delegates. Local branches were mobilized to conduct rapid field assessments of the damage.

After the initial evaluation in the northeast of the country (in collaboration with the national disaster response authorities) and in line with existing procedures, the Malagasy Red Cross requested the support of the French Red Cross' Plateforme d'Intervention Régionale de l'Océan Indien (PIROI) to assist the response operation in delivering relief to those affected in the northeast. The first evaluation mission delivered tools to help with access (lamps, flashlights, generators, chain saws, etc.), and continues assessment efforts in the Analanjirofo Region, Sainte Marie district. Over 120 Red Cross volunteers were deployed in the most affected regions (Alaotra Mangoro, Atsinanana et Analamanga) in order to determine needs that could be used to plan a more detailed operation. In northwestern Madagascar, local National Society branches and volunteers were mobilized to conduct rapid assessments in Sofia, Boeny et Menabé. More detailed evaluations are planned in the coming days. Other operational partners such as UNICEF and Care have delivered non-food items, tents, and watsan kits.

The proposed operation

Based on the assessment already carried out or in course, the Malagasy Red Cross will deliver non-food item assistance from pre-positioned stocks in Tana (PIROI) for 200 families in Antsohihy (Sofia), 6,000 families et Antalaha (Sava), and 3,000 families in need in other locations. Initial figures and reports indicate the needs are for water & sanitation, shelter, food, and construction material. These needs exceed the capacity of the country (the Government declared an emergency and requested international assistance). The Malagasy Red Cross is responding to this request with the distribution of watsan kits (buckets, washing basins, and soap), shelter, (tents and tarpaulin) and mosquito nets to prevent malaria outbreaks.

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

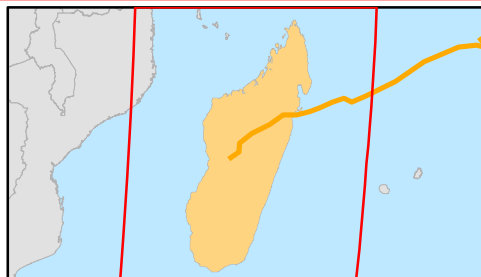
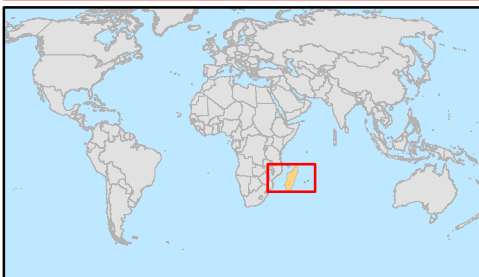
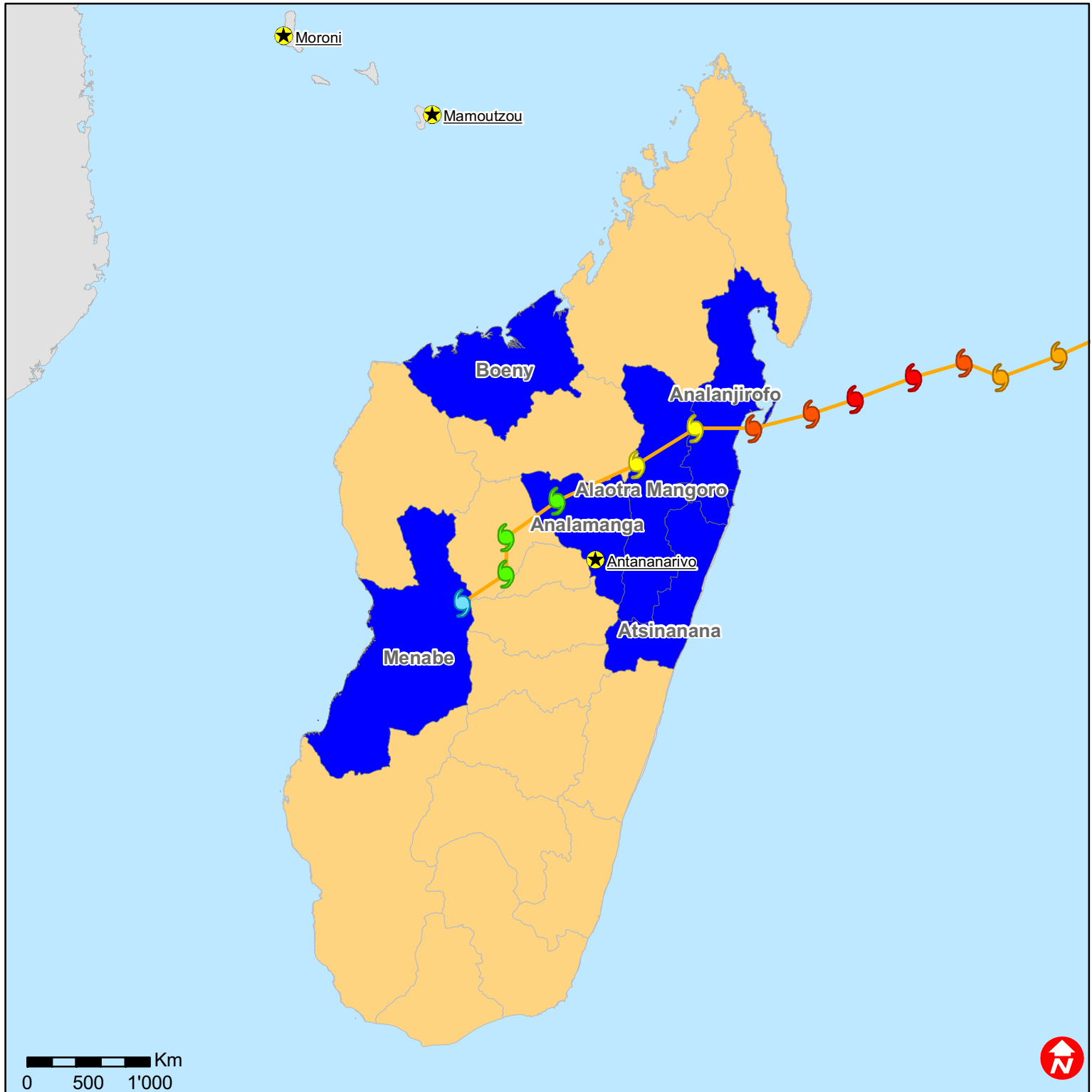
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- CYCLONE-4
- CYCLONE-3
- CYCLONE-2
- CYCLONE-1
- TROPICAL STORM
- TROPICAL DEPRESSION
- Affected areas

The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Map data sources
 ESRI
 SALB
 Federation