

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Solomon Islands: Tropical Cyclone Ului

DREF operation n° MDRSB002
GLIDE n° **TC-2010-000060-SLB**
22 March 2010

The IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money that was created 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 74,976 (USD 70,602 or EUR 52,184) has been allocated from IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Solomon Islands Red Cross Society (SIRCS) in conducting rapid assessments in the affected areas and in delivering immediate assistance to at least 2,250 beneficiaries through distribution of non-food relief supplies. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Tropical cyclone Ului formed west of Santo Island in Vanuatu around 1200 hours at coordinated universal time (UTC) on 12 March. The cyclone gained strength as it moved on a westerly course toward the Solomon Islands. By 15 March, the cyclone intensified to a 'category four' cyclone as it moved through the Solomon Islands. It maintained its intensity on 16 and 17 March, while moving slowly to the west. The cyclone weakened to a 'category three' on 18 March and to a 'category two' on 19 March, while it moved towards Australia, with storm force winds and heavy rains still affecting the provinces of the Solomon Islands. The cyclone caused flooding and damage in the provinces of Isabel, Malaita, Guadalcanal, Temotu, Makira and Uluawa (Makira/Uluawa) and Rennel and Bellona (Rennel/Bellona). Initial aerial assessments have been conducted over the weekend in the Rennel/Bellona province and indicated that at least 25 per cent of the population has been affected. Support is needed to mobilize additional teams to the cyclone-hit areas to assess the extent of damage as well as to provide immediate assistance to affected families.

Through this operation, the Solomon Islands Red Cross Society plans to mobilize its emergency response and assessment teams as well as relief items (tarpaulins, jerry cans, family kits and hygiene kits) to assist more than 2,250 people. The operation is expected to be implemented over three months. The operation will be completed by 22 June 2010; and a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation, by 22 September 2010.

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

The situation

Tropical cyclone Ului formed west of Santo Island in Vanuatu on 12 March and gained strength on 15 March as it moved over the Solomon Islands. The cyclone affected the provinces of Isabel, Malaita, Guadalcanal, Temotu, Makira/Uluawa and Rennel/Bellona, while moving west slowly towards the coast of Australia. Damages in the Solomon Islands were mainly caused by strong winds, rough seas, storm surges and flooding due to heavy rains. Deployment of assessment teams were delayed due to bad weather, with initial

aerial assessments taking place only over the last weekend. The full picture on the extent of damages was unclear as communications with the provinces proved unreliable.

The preliminary information from the national disaster council (NDC) suggested the following damages in the affected provinces:

- 11 houses were destroyed, seven houses and 70- 90 per cent of food gardens were damaged in Rennel/Bellona province.
- 17 houses were destroyed and 80-90 per cent of food gardens were damaged in South Makira.
- 31 houses were destroyed and 34 houses were damaged in South Guadalcanal, while 80-90 per cent of food gardens were damaged.
- One house was destroyed and 80-90 per cent of food gardens were damaged in Isabel province.
- 58 houses were reportedly destroyed in Malaita province.
- Central Guadalcanal experienced flooding caused by heavy rains.

The national emergency operations centre (NEOC) and the national disaster management office (NDMO) have mobilized joint assessment and response teams, consisting of representatives from the government agencies, the Solomon Islands Red Cross Society and non-governmental organizations. The teams are expected to be deployed on 23 March. In addition, AusAID indicated that it will support the deployment of two government patrol boats to Rennel/Bellona and Makira provinces for assessment and the provision of initial relief supplies.

Coordination and partnerships

The Solomon Islands Red Cross Society (SIRCS) has been liaising closely with the national disaster management office (NDMO) to monitor the situation and to support arrangements for the deployment of assessment teams. In addition, the national society has been coordinating with non-governmental organizations, including OXFAM, CARE, World Vision and Save the Children.

The IFRC is liaising directly with SIRCS on the need for support and coordinating closely with partner national societies (PNSs) in the region to assist in mobilizing personnel and relief items. The IFRC is liaising with the Australian Red Cross and the New Zealand Red Cross on the mobilization of resources to support the operation.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

SIRCS has been maintaining communications with branch and sub-branch officers and volunteers in the affected areas. SIRCS headquarters have been briefing 15 national disaster response team volunteers, located in six provinces and who are on standby, on a daily basis to keep them abreast of developments and possible deployment with inter-agency rapid assessment teams, led by the Solomon Islands NDMO. The national society also has additional trained additional emergency response staff members and volunteers in Temotu, Malaita, Rennel and Guadalcanal who can be mobilized to support the response.

Emergency relief items located in pre-positioned containers have been consolidated and prepared for distribution, including 250 family kits, 250 hygiene kits, 100 tarpaulins and 400 10-liter collapsible jerry cans which will be deployed with the assessment teams departing on 23 March. Additional relief stocks required have been identified, some of which will be procured locally in the coming days.

The needs

Initial aerial assessments of the Rennel/Bellona province, which took place over the weekend, suggested that at least 25 per cent of the population has been affected. The government estimates that the situation will be similar in the other cyclone-hit provinces. Preliminary information from the government indicates that cyclone Ului caused significant damage to infrastructure and food crops, largely banana and pawpaw. As such, it was predicted that emergency shelters will be in demand as well as food supplies. Based on the preliminary information, the main needs identified include food, emergency shelter, water, and essential households items.

The proposed operation

Through this DREF operation, SIRCS plans to provide immediate assistance to more than 2,250 people by conducting assessments in the cyclone-affected provinces and the provision of non-food relief items. The operation will provide tarpaulins, jerry cans, family kits and hygiene kits. The scale of the operation may change as the assessment outcomes become available.

Relief distributions (basic non-food items)

Objective 1: To ensure that at least 2,250 people affected by cyclone Ului receive essential non-food items to meet their immediate needs for up to three months.

Expected Results	Activities
Immediate needs of 2,250 people have been met through distribution of non-food items (tarpaulins, jerry cans, family and hygiene kits)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploy assessment and response teams to the affected provinces to assess the current situation and identify needs for the Red Cross actions (immediate and longer-term) in order to assist the most-affected individuals; • Develop a beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance; • Mobilize relief supplies and procure relief items locally in accordance with IFRC's procurement standards; • Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user; • Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

Proposed Timeline

No	Activities	Timeline (in month)			Remarks
Objective 1: To ensure that <i>at least 2,250 people affected by cyclone Ului</i> receive essential non-food items to meet their immediate needs <i>for up to three months</i> .					
		1	2	3	
1.1	Deploy assessment and response teams				In progress. Teams to be deployed on 23 March.
1.2	Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance				Strategy and system developed. Template assessment, registration and distribution forms developed and volunteers trained in use of templates and methodologies.
1.3	Mobilize relief supplies and procure items locally in accordance with IFRC's procurement standards				Pre positioning in progress.
1.4	Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user				
1.5	Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions				

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

In Solomon Islands

Solomon Red Cross Society

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- Ruth Lane, Regional Disaster Management Coordinator, Suva, phone: +679 331 1855; email: ruth.lane@ifrc.org

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For pledges of funding, please email: zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org

[<DREF budget \(if available\) and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

Solomon Islands :Tropical Cyclone Ului

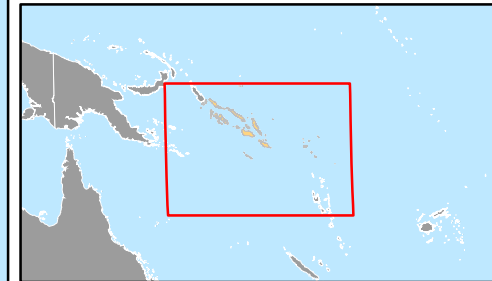
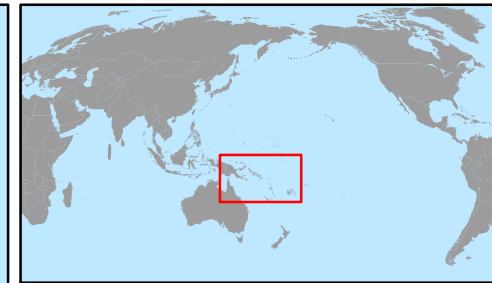
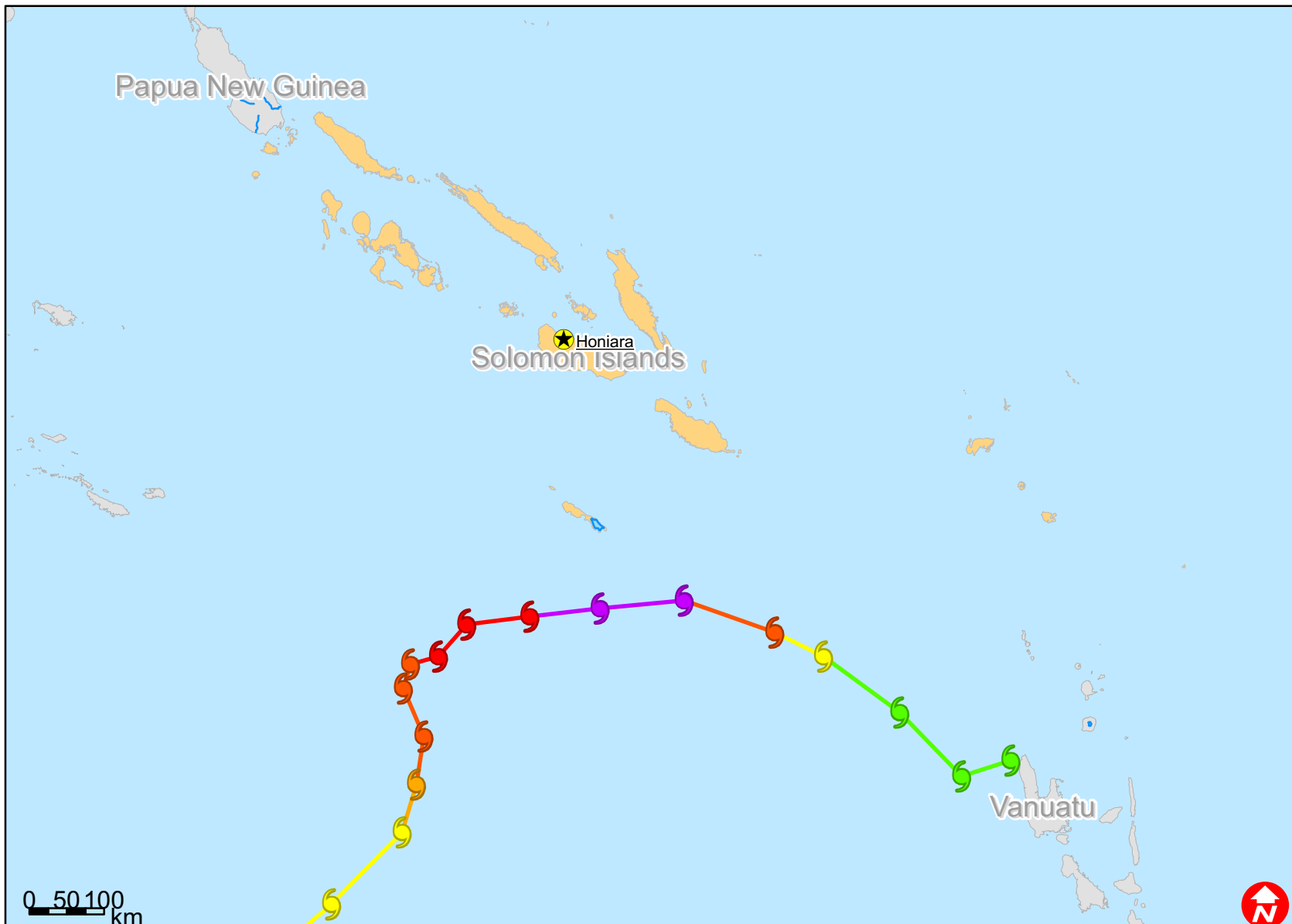
MDRSB002








BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Shelter - Relief	33,000	33,000
Water & Sanitation	10,000	10,000
Medical & First Aid	2,500	2,500
Total Supplies	45,500	45,500
Vehicles	1,700	1,700
Computer & Telecom	3,000	3,000
Other Machiney & Equipment	3,500	3,500
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	8,200	8,200
Dsitribution & Monitoring	1,200	1,200
Transport & Vehicle Costs	1,000	1,000
Total Transport & Storage	2,200	2,200
Other Staff benefits	5,000	5,000
Total Personnel	5,000	5,000
Office Costs	2,000	2,000
Communications	7,500	7,500
Total General Expenditure	9,500	9,500
Program Support	4,576	4,576
Total Programme Support	4,576	4,576
TOTAL BUDGET	74,976	74,976



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-  TROPICAL DEPRESSION
-  TROPICAL STORM
-  CYCLONE-1
-  CYCLONE-2
-  CYCLONE-3
-  CYCLONE-4
-  CYCLONE-5