

DREF operation



Gabon: Violent wind in Mouila

DREF operation n° MDRGA003
GLIDE n° ST-2010-000083-
GAB
04 May, 2010

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) 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 emergency response. 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 78,481 (USD 72,233 or EUR 57,755) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Gabonese Red Cross Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 230 families, i.e. 1,150 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Violent wind and tornado hit the Mouila locality in the Ngounié region of Gabon on 16 April, 2010. So far, the disaster has caused several damages: deterioration of about 280 houses, destruction of household basic property, and the obstruction of roads by uprooted trees. Red Cross Volunteers have identified 230 families (1,150 people) as the most affected. These are the families whose houses have been so deteriorated that they are left homeless. Immediately when the disaster occurred, Red Cross volunteers were deployed to the field to help evacuate affected people from the scene of the disaster. They conducted a quick evaluation of the situation and administered first-aid assistance to victims with light wounds. Considering that the victims of the violent winds have no means of survival presently, this DREF operation is intended to cover their urgent non-food items needs such as blankets, mats, mosquito nets, tarpaulins, cooking kits and soap. Financial support will be provided to help affected families rehabilitate their houses that have been seriously damaged by the wind. The Gabonese Red Cross volunteers will also contribute in the rehabilitation work. They will also conduct sensitization to first-aid actions in the event of violent wind how to face the consequences of violent winds.



The roofs of several houses have been ripped off by violent wind in Mouila, leaving 250 families homeless / Gabon Red Cross

These are the families whose houses have been so deteriorated that they are left homeless. Immediately when the disaster occurred, Red Cross volunteers were deployed to the field to help evacuate affected people from the scene of the disaster. They conducted a quick evaluation of the situation and administered first-aid assistance to victims with light wounds. Considering that the victims of the violent winds have no means of survival presently, this DREF operation is intended to cover their urgent non-food items needs such as blankets, mats, mosquito nets, tarpaulins, cooking kits and soap. Financial support will be provided to help affected families rehabilitate their houses that have been seriously damaged by the wind. The Gabonese Red Cross volunteers will also contribute in the rehabilitation work. They will also conduct sensitization to first-aid actions in the event of violent wind how to face the consequences of violent winds.

This operation is expected to be implemented over four months, and will therefore be completed by 30 August, 2010; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 30 November, 2010).

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

The situation

Violent wind and tornado started hitting the Mouila locality in the Nonie region of Gabon on 16 April, 2010. So far, the disaster has caused several damages, including the deterioration of about 280 houses, the destruction of household basic property, and the obstruction of roads by uprooted trees. Fifteen government buildings have also been deteriorated. Some examples include the Mouila prison and the Saint Gabriel and Val Marie secondary schools. The Gabonese Red Cross volunteers have identified 230 families, i.e. 1,150 people as the most affected by the disaster. These families are left homeless. Among the 1,150 most vulnerable people, 392 are children aged from 0 to 5 years, 98 are old persons, and 88 are pregnant women. While a good number of these most vulnerable people have been living in the open air, a few ones have been temporarily welcomed into host families, generally relatives. All of the affected people have lost most of their property to the violent wind. No death has been registered. However, a few cases of light wounds were recorded and quickly managed by volunteers. Tornado and violent wind continue, and forecasts show that the situation is not likely to improve for quite a while. The same region experienced a similar disaster in 2009. This situation brings extra cold in the morning and in the evening. This has become a threat to the health of the community, particularly children, old persons and pregnant women. There is therefore an urgent need for intervention.

Coordination and partnerships

The Governor of the Ngounié region of Gabon went to the field to assess the situation. His report showing the scope of the disaster and the damages registered has been sent to the Ministers of Health, Interior, and Civil Protection in charge of Calamities. The Minister of Professional Training who was present in the region at the time of the disaster went to Lébamba, a small town located 100 km from Mouila that was not heavily affected, to assess the scope of the disaster and the damages caused. He was accompanied with the Mayor of Mouila and Gabonese Red Cross local authorities.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Immediately after the disaster, Gabonese Red Cross volunteers of the Mouila locality, conducted by the Mouila divisional disaster management officer, went to the field to conduct rapid evaluation of the situation and identify the victims. Since then, a team of about 10 Red Cross volunteers has been on standby in the field to monitor the evolution of the situation and provide first aid to the injured people and psychological support to all affected families while waiting for more appropriate assistance to be organized.

In 2009, the Mouila locality experienced a similar disaster, and local Red Cross volunteers acquired violent wind management know-how through on-the-job learning approach. Nevertheless, the national disaster management team has been recently renewed as the former disaster management officer has now become the President of the Gabonese Red Cross Society. This implies that the National Society still requires Federation's technical support to properly implement this operation. The opportunity will be used to strengthen the capacities of the newly installed disaster management team.

The needs

Selection of people to be reached: The evaluation conducted by Red Cross volunteers revealed that about 280 families are affected by the disaster. Among the 280 families, 230 (1,150 people) have been considered as most vulnerable by Gabonese Red Cross authorities. These are mostly children aged from 0 to 5 years, pregnant women and old persons. Considering the precarious

situation in which these people have been living since 16 April, 2010, the Red Cross of Gabon, after consultation with the victims, has decided that they urgently need support to help rehabilitate their houses. They also need food, tarpaulins, cooking kits, soap, blankets, mats and mosquito nets.

The calculation based on internationally recognized standards for the 230 families, i.e. 1,150 people, shows that they need 575 blankets, 575 mats, 460 tarpaulins, 460 mosquito nets, 230 cooking kits, and 1,150 pieces of soap of 200g each. To contribute to the rehabilitation of the houses, each of the 230 families will also need financial support to locally purchase purchasing building materials.

Most of the non-food items needed here are already available in the regional stock in Yaoundé. The Federation logistics department in Yaoundé will liaise with the Gabonese Red Cross authorities to make sure that these materials are transported to Gabon as soon as possible. The materials will be transported to Mouila by road. This DREF will then be used to replenish the regional stock.

Intervention strategy

Considering the scope of the disaster, the Federation will continue supporting the National Society throughout the implementation of this operation, particularly its new disaster management department. It is planned that the Federation will deploy a regional disaster response team (RDRT) member to Mouila to ensure close technical support to the National Society. The Federation’s PMER Officer, who is also acting as Communications Officer, will travel to Gabon to strengthen the communication and reporting capacities of the National Society. This will be a good opportunity for the Gabonese Red Cross as they will learn how to report on an emergency. A retraining session (the volunteers were first trained last year) will be organized in Mouila on distribution techniques and on the prevention and reduction of the risks of disaster, with special focus on violent winds. Moreover, the trained Red Cross volunteers will organize sensitization sessions aimed at preparing the community on the attitude to be adopted should this kind of disaster occur again in their locality to prevent the loss of lives. For the removal of the uprooted trees from the roads, the National Society will advocate before the Mouila local council authorities for the latter to provide the additional equipment needed for this kind of job, for example the chain saw. Local populations will also contribute to the smooth implementation of the operation with their own materials such as brooms and scrapers to show their owning of the action.

The proposed operation

Relief distributions (basic non-food items)	
Outcome: To contribute to improving the living conditions of 230 families (1,150 people) affected by violent winds in Mouila, Gabon.	
Outputs (expected results) The non-food items needed are made available to the Gabonese Red Cross Society as soon as possible; The 230 families have received Red Cross assistance.	Activities planned <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In collaboration with the Federation’s logistics department in Yaoundé, make available to the Gabonese Red Cross 460 insecticide treated mosquito nets, 460 tarpaulins, 230 cooking kits, 575 blankets, 575 mats, and 1,150 pieces of soap of 200g each; • Distribute the items to the 230 families • Ensure monitoring and evaluation of the distribution activities • Report on the distribution activities.

Emergency shelter

Outcome: To contribute to improving the living conditions of 230 families (1,150 people) whose houses have been seriously deteriorated by the violent winds in Mouila, Gabon.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
<p>The beneficiaries and the general population have understood the need to adopt risk-free behaviour; and know how to manage violent winds;</p> <p>Shelter solution is proposed to the targeted 230 families.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organize sensitization sessions on what to do if violent winds occur again;• Assist the local populations in removing uprooted trees from the roads; and exploring whether some parts of those trees could be useful for the rehabilitation of damaged houses;• Provide financial support to each of the 230 targeted families to locally purchase rehabilitation materials• Assist the 230 families in rehabilitating their houses;• Report on activities carried out.

How we work

All IFRC 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 the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- In **Gabon**: Edou Nze Constant, President, Gabon Red Cross, phone: +241 06 23 42 03; email: edouconstant@yahoo.fr
- In **Central Africa Region**: Denis Duffaut, IFRC Central Africa Regional Representative, phone: (Office) +237 22 21 74 37, (Mobile) +237 77 11 77 97; Fax: +237 22 21 74 39; email: denis.duffaut@ifrc.org
- In **Dakar**: Youcef Ait-Chellouche, DM Coordinator, email: youcef.aitchellouche@ifrc.org; tel: +221 33 869 3644; fax: +221 33 820 25 34
- In **Southern Africa**: Alasan Senghore, Director for Africa Zone, Johannesburg, email: alasan.senghore@ifrc.org; phone +27 11 303 9700; mobile +27 71 872 5111; fax +27 11 884 0230.
- In **Geneva**: Christine South, Acting Operations Coordinator for Africa; phone: +41 22 730 4529 (direct) Mobile: +41 79 308 98 24; Fax: +41 22 733 03 95; email: christine.south@ifrc.org

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

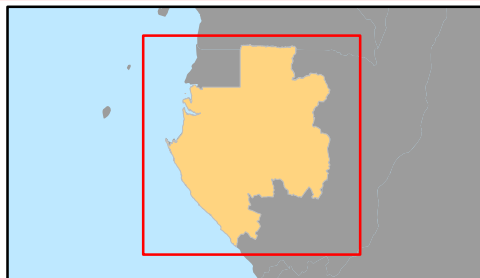
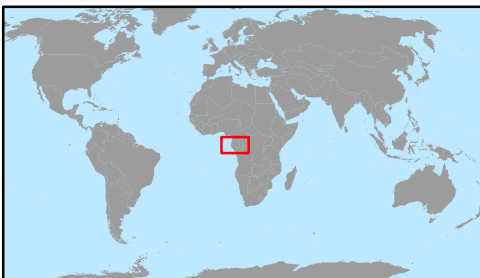
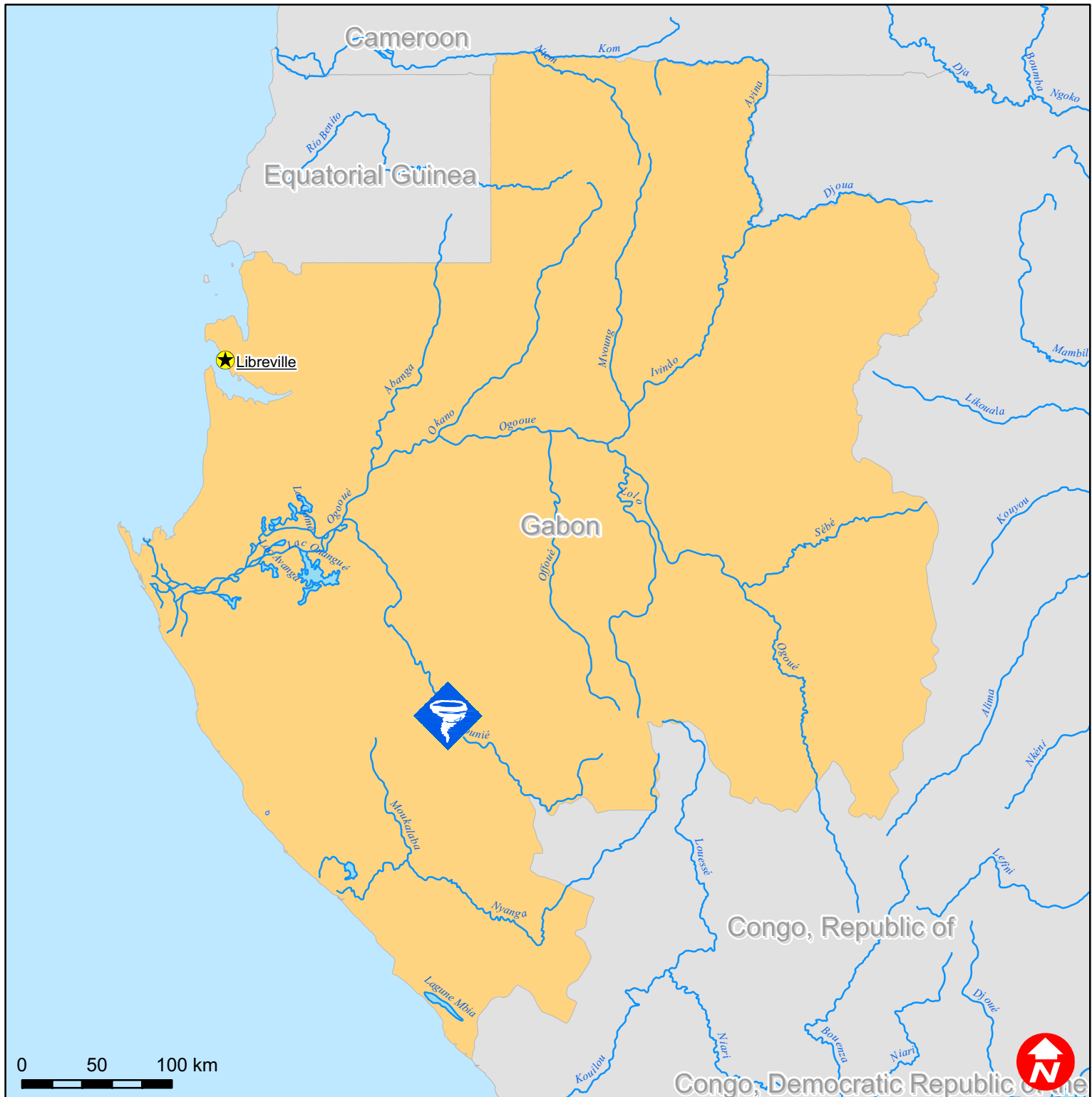
BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Shelter - Relief		0
Shelter - Transitional		0
Construction - Housing		0
Construction - Facilities / Infrastructure		0
Construction - Materials		0
Clothing & Textiles	15,134	15,134
Food	3,520	3,520
Seeds & Plants		0
Water & Sanitation		0
Medical & First Aid	1,563	1,563
Teaching Materials		0
Utensils & Tools	6,469	6,469
Other Supplies & Services & Cash Disbursements		0
Total Supplies	26,686	26,686
Land & Buildings		0
Vehicles		0
Computer & Telecom		0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment		0
Medical Equipment		0
Other Machinery & Equipment		0
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	0	0
Storage		0
Distribution & Monitoring	500	500
Transport & Vehicle Costs	24,875	24,875
Total Transport & Storage	25,375	25,375
International Staff		0
Regionally Deployed Staff	6,650	6,650
National Staff		0
National Society Staff	6,470	6,470
Other Staff benefits		0
Consultants		0
Total Personnel	13,120	13,120
Workshops & Training	3,290	3,290
Total Workshops & Training	3,290	3,290
Travel		0
Information & Public Relation	250	250
Office Costs	595	595
Communications	3,750	3,750
Professional Fees		0
Financial Charges	625	625

Other General Expenses		0
Total General Expenditure	5,220	5,220
Cash Transfers to National Societies		0
Cash Transfers to 3rd parties		0
Total Contributions & Transfers	0	0
Program Support	4,790	4,790
Total Programme Support	4,790	4,790
Services & Recoveries		0
Shared Services		0
Total Services	0	0
TOTAL BUDGET	78,481	78,481



Gabon: Severe local storm



Affected locality of Mouila