

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

The Gambia: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRGM006
GLIDE n° FL-2010-000181-GMB
15 September, 2010

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (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 287,661 (USD 282,005 or EUR 221,717) has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Gambia Red Cross Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 1,000 families affected by floods. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: The African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development (ACMAD) regional seasonal forecasts have predicted a higher than normal rainfall in some parts of West Africa including The Gambia. On 5 and 6 September 2010 torrential rain recorded 202.6mm which is 20% of total rainfall normally received by the country. The rainfall caused floods almost nationwide affecting over 25,000 people by destroying their residences, and other basic livelihoods. On 7 September 2010, the Government of the Gambia declared a **State of National Disaster** due to the magnitude and complexity of the floods. The preliminary results collected by the National Society in the communities that have been reached confirmed that a total of 2,711 families (17,767 people) are affected, 8,495 people displaced of which some are hosted in public structures including a nursery school. Among the affected people, 3,218 children are under five and 174 are pregnant women. One person is declared dead and seven other persons injured. A total of 40 diarrhoea cases have been detected as well as 46 fever patients in the western region. Public and family structures are affected, food stuff, clothing, and many other household materials are also been washed away by the floods. In addition to the floods emergency, 8 families of 38 people in Wellingara compounds were completely ravaged by fire. Families lost all their household materials. It would be relevant to note that 95% of Gambians are Muslims and are geared toward preparing for end of Ramadan feast locally known as "Koriteh". In addressing this emergency, the Gambia Red Cross Society (GRCS) in partnership with the International Federation will be immediately distributing Non-Food Items (NFI) covering 756 to the most affected families who are with high vulnerability. Additionally, while conducting a rapid assessment of the situation, the National Society will reinforce the capacity of volunteers to engage in sensitization activities on hygiene, water, sanitation, mosquito nets hang up and other vital information to the flood victims.



Floods in Ebo Town

This operation is expected to be implemented over 3 months, and will therefore be completed by 30 November 2010; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 28 February 2010).

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

The situation

The Gambia Metrological Department prediction for July, August, and September (JAS 2010) rainy season confirmed the ACMAD regional weather forecast. Due to the high level of destruction as a result of the floods, the Vice President of the Gambia visited the population affected by the floods to strengthen their coping mechanism, boosting their morals, invest in them the much needed psychological support and promise for government needed support by not letting them alone during this crisis. While making such commitments by making personal visit which is appreciated by the affected population, few bags of rice although not enough were distributed to the displaced families hosted in schools as well as medication and blankets. Due to the complexity of the floods, the Government of the Gambia declared a State of Disaster with effective on 7 September, 2010. The detail of the preliminary assessment made by GRCS is as follows:

No.	Country	Demography				Flooded Wells	Flooded Latrines	No. Of Houses that are Flooded or collapsed	No. Of people displaced
		Affected Families	Affected Population	Children > 5	Pregnant Women				
	The Gambia	2,711	17,767	3,218	174	162	308	1,332	8,495

Due to the unavailability of the exact number of affected population because of the wideness of the floods, the initial assessment is incomplete. However, the National Society intends to provide immediate support to 1,000 affected families. While conducting assessment of affected populations, it is vital to assess their recovery needs. The International Federation Sahel Regional Representation has dispatched Non-Food Items covering 500 families to be delivered to the Gambia Red Cross Society immediately to complement the remaining NFI for 256 families at National Society level to provide immediate assistance to the most vulnerable families. The earlier floods on 8 August 2010, the preposition stock at GRCS level provided by the Regional Office were used to reach 344 displaced families.

Coordination and partnerships

Following the visit to the field of the Vice President of the Republic, the National Disaster Management Agency headed by her office at political level, held an emergency meeting to decide the next action to take. As a result, the Government declared a State of Disaster requesting for both local and international support. In responding to this call, the Sahel Regional Representation has coordinated with the National Society and will be deploying a multi- discipline team to help support GRCS in the assessment, coordination with other stakeholders and distribution of NFI to the most vulnerable people. Following the Vice President's visit, the displaced persons were distributed with rice, blankets and medication as on the stop assistance.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Although the Gambia Red Cross Society is yet to distribute any support to the affected populations, it has conducted a rapid initial assessment to determine the level of floods, effects, destruction and areas where First Aid services are needed. In the coming days, the Red Cross which is the main actor on the ground particularly on information collection nationwide will conduct an in-depth assessment, distribute NFIs and ensure coordinated efforts to help support the most vulnerable people with the right goods and services. Information will be shared among the Red Cross movement at all times.

The needs

Following the rapid initial assessment carried out by the National Society, out of 2,711 affected persons have been registered. It is planned to reach the 1,000 most vulnerable families. The assessment highlighted the under mentioned needs as priorities:

- **Assessment:** a multi-sectoral Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) team has been deployed to the National Society to help support in reinforcing the capacities of staff and volunteers to conduct the much needed nationwide evaluation of the situation. The objective will include having an up to date database of flood victims, identification of needs highlighted by victims and the long term rehabilitation needs.

- **Basic Non-food Items:** due to the high number of displaced families, GRCS intends to provide NFI such as blankets, mats, buckets, jerry cans, and reconstruction materials. Since the numbers of displaced families are high and are across all regions, families hosted in schools will be supported with cash disbursement to facilitate their damaged houses rehabilitation. Additionally, to facilitate the operations of volunteers to support affected communities, materials such as boots, rain coats, and other equipment will be provided to ease in the implementation of planned activities.
- **Health and Care:** because of the huge amount of flooded water and the stagnation of flood waters in pot holes, the National Society has planned to contribute to the reduction of Malaria effects and other water borne diseases. Therefore through its volunteers, the Gambia Red Cross Society will embark on provision of Long Lasting insecticide treated nets (LLINs) and conduct hang up activities and sensitization activities on communicable diseases.
- **Water and Sanitation:** many wells and latrines have been flooded due to the runoff waters making access to clean water and latrines difficult. In this regard, GRCS will embark in disinfecting wells, filling in pot holes, conducting general cleaning exercises, hygiene promotion, rehabilitation and reconstruction of damaged family latrines and as well disinfection.
- **Communication:** Almost all the regional offices of the NS are without functional computers and are totally without internet. All communication is done with the use of mobile phone and raw data cannot be easily transferred. This constrains in the communication between the Headquarters and Branches. Towards this end, we solicit the donation of 10 second hand laptops from Geneva. Secondly, to facilitate the much needed transfer of data within the system, there is need for internet connection to facilitate the sharing information.
- **Coordination & Reporting:** Within the Red Cross Movement and along with the local and central government authorities and other actors, coordination meetings will be routinely conducted to ensure complementary efforts in supporting flood victims and ensure timely reporting. The National Society will be supported with an RDRT in the implementation and reporting with particular focus on Cash Disbursement since this is their first time experience with such an activity. Taking into consideration of the transportation difficulties the NS is faced with, it will be prudent to lease a vehicle and hire a driver for three months to help in the implementation of the DREF.

The proposed operation

Rapid Assessment	
Outcome: To conduct rapid detailed assessment including all sectors for affected communities nationwide to identify immediate and recovery needs.	
Expected results:	Activities planned:
To register all accessible affected population and identify both immediate and recovery needs of the most vulnerable flood victims.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapt existing assessment questionnaires to facilitate the timely, comprehensive and accurate data collection form from the field; • Conduct a day decentralized training for 10 volunteers (NDRTs and CDRTs) in each affected region on data collection methodology; • Conduct seven days field assessment to identify affected populations; • Compilation of all data collected from the field; • Periodical sharing of data collected from the field with all stakeholders.
Relief distributions (basic non-food items)	
Outcome: To contribute to the reduction of the vulnerability of 1,000 family flood victims with the provision of relief materials.	
Expected results:	Activities planned:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement and distribution of 2,000 blankets, 2,000 sleeping mats, 1,000 mattresses, and 1,000 bed sheets for 1,000 families affected by the floods;

Relief items are procured and distributed to 1,000 families affected by the floods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement and utilization of boots, bibs, rain coats for 60 volunteers covering the six flood affected regions; • Transport and warehousing of all procured materials to the nearest point for distribution; • Conduct refreshment training for 60 volunteers on relief, health, water, sanitation, and assessment.
Outcome: To contribute to the reduction of the vulnerability of 500 displaced families hosted in schools and other public structures with cash distribution.	
Expected Results	Activities planned:
Provide cash disbursement to 500 displaced families to help in their rehabilitation of destroyed houses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash disbursement of 500 displaced families hosted in schools and public structures.

Emergency health

Outcome 1: To contribute to the prevention of communicable disease outbreaks among 1,000 of the most vulnerable families.	
Expected results	Activities planned:
The risks of communicable diseases outbreaks are reduced for 1,000 families and the health status of the community is maintained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize the above stated trained volunteers on health preventive measures on communicable diseases; • Conduct health sensitization activities in the communities affected by the floods; • Provide Information, Education and Communication (IEC) material for the health, water, sanitation and risk reduction sensitization activities.
Outcome 2: To reduce morbidity and mortality attributable to malaria.	
Expected results	Activities planned:
Target beneficiaries are reached by volunteers disseminating messages regarding malaria and LLIN use and assisting the correct hanging of LLINs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement of 2,000 mosquito nets for 1,000 families affected by the floods; • Disseminate key messages concerning LLIN use and malaria (pregnant women and children under 5 being prioritized for LLIN use); • Procurement of nail and strings for mosquito nets hang-up campaign for 1,500 families affected by floods

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: To contribute to the improvement of access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation facilities for 1,000 families affected by the floods.	
Outputs (expected results):	Activities planned:
All 1,000 families affected by the floods in the six regions have access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure 45,000 purification tablets for 1,000 families affected by the floods for a period of three months; • Procure and distribute 2,000 buckets and 2,000 jerry cans for 1,000 families affected by floods; • Construct 75 family latrines for the most vulnerable families affected by the floods and that have no access to proper latrines due to damage; • Procure and distribute 1,000 hygiene kits (bleaches and disinfections) for 1,000 families affected by the floods; • Conduct hygiene promotion for 1,000 families affected by floods.

Communications/IT/Reporting and monitoring

Outcome: To contribute to the improvement of the capacity of the National Society to engage in social mobilization to reach families affected by the floods and to ensure timely reporting and monitoring of the activities.	
Expected results	Activities planned
Communications materials are developed to reach flooded victims, and vulnerable populations at risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen media corporation at national level • Solicit the support for support of 10 second hand lap-tops to help regional officer to improve on their communication. • Provide internet connection for period of three months to speed up the reporting process from regional to national level.
Populations at risk are sensitized on flood detection, evacuation and risks reduction associated with floods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce GRCS social mobilization capacities; • Reinforce GRCS in the sensitization of affected populations • Lease a vehicle for a period of three months to facilitate timely implementation. • Recruit a National driver for a period of three months following a passing a driver test.
Timely and accurate reports are prepared and shared.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share information with all partners and prepare timely reports; • The National Society to report on the activities carried out. • Deployment of an RDRT for three months to help support in the implementation and timely reporting.

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:

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

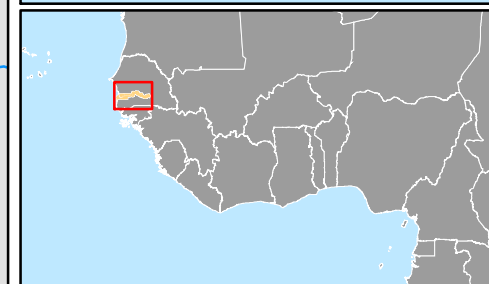
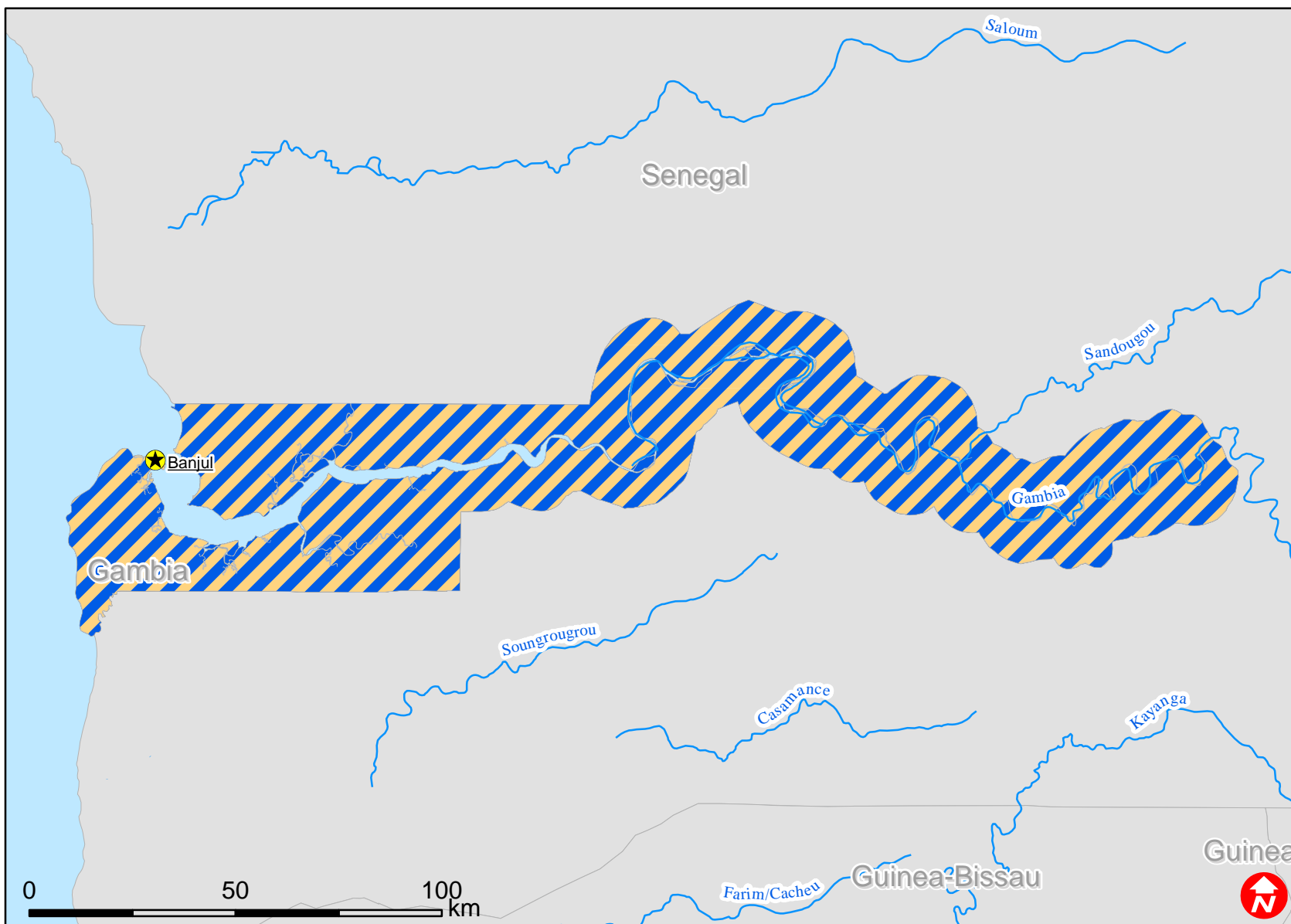
BUDGET SUMMARY



Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Shelter - Relief	0	0
Shelter - Transitional	42,500	42,500
Construction - Housing	0	0
Construction - Facilities / Infrastructure	0	0
Construction - Materials	0	0
Clothing & Textiles	80,003	80,003
Food	0	0
Seeds & Plants	0	0
Water & Sanitation	44,200	44,200
Medical & First Aid	0	0
Teaching Materials	0	0
Ustensils & Tools	15,440	15,440
Other Supplies & Services & Cash Disbursements	11,025	11,025
Total Supplies	193,168	193,168
Land & Buildings	0	0
Vehicles	3,000	3,000
Computer & Telecom	0	0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	0	0
Medical Equipment	0	0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0	0
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	3,000	3,000
Storage	1,050	1,050
Distribution & Monitoring	2,400	2,400
Transport & Vehicle Costs	10,500	10,500
Total Transport & Storage	13,950	13,950
International Staff	0	0
Regionally Deployed Staff	21,000	21,000
National Staff	0	0
National Society Staff	3,600	3,600
Other Staff benefits	0	0
Consultants	0	0
Total Personnel	24,600	24,600
Workshops & Training	10,000	10,000
Total Workshops & Training	10,000	10,000
Travel	2,000	2,000
Information & Public Relation	13,260	13,260
Office Costs	1,500	1,500
Communications	3,750	3,750
Professional Fees	0	0
Financial Charges	0	0
Other General Expenses	4,500	4,500
Total General Expenditure	25,010	25,010
Cash Transfers to National Societies	0	0
Cash Transfers to 3rd parties	0	0
Total Contributions & Transfers	0	0

Program Support	17,532	17,532
Total Programme Support	17,532	17,532
Services & Recoveries		0
Shared Services		0
Total Services	0	0
TOTAL BUDGET	287,261	287,261



Gambia: Floods



-  Capitals
-  Affected area