

# DREF operation



## Gabon: Violent wind and floods

DREF operation n° MDRGA005  
GLIDE n° FL-2010-000261-GAB  
17 January, 2011

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 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 96,960 (USD 100,601 or EUR 75,156) 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 203 families, i.e. 1,015 beneficiaries. Un-earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.**



Many houses like this one have been destroyed in four localities of Gabon / **Gabonese Red Cross**

**Summary:** Since the last week of December 2010, several localities of the Republic of Gabon have been facing violent wind and torrential rains. The situation deteriorated in early January 2011 as the Tchimbanga, Franceville, Mimongo and Dzenzele localities experienced serious torrential rains and violent wind, leading to massive destruction of houses and other considerable damages. On 2, 3 and 4 January, 2011 serious violent wind and torrential rains caused flooding and

the destruction of houses and other household property in the above-mentioned localities. The disaster affected 353 families, i.e. 1,765 people, claimed one death in Tchimbanga and wounded many in all four localities. Moved by the scope of the disaster, the volunteers of the Gabonese Red Cross Society (GRCS) conducted an emergency evaluation of the situation and identified 203 families, i.e. 1,015 people, as the most vulnerable. These are people that have been left homeless, with no household property. They are living in the open air under extremely precarious conditions as it continues to rain. They are currently exposed to the risks of water borne diseases and other weather-based diseases such as respiratory infections. The most vulnerable people identified by the Red Cross include 197 children below five years, 32 pregnant women, 201 old people and four disabled persons.

The DREF allocation will enable the National Society carry out activities in four sectors, namely relief distribution, emergency health, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion, and emergency shelter. The Tchimbanga local committee of the GRCS has so far assisted some families with shelter materials but lacks the necessary means to do more.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by April, 2011; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by July, 2011).

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

## The situation

Since the last week of December 2010, several localities of the Republic of Gabon have been facing violent wind and torrential rains. The situation deteriorated in early January 2011 as the Tchimbanga, Franceville, Mimongo and Dzenzele localities experienced serious torrential rains and violent wind, leading to massive destruction of houses and other considerable damages. On 2, 3 and 4 January, 2011 serious violent wind and torrential rains caused flooding and the destruction of houses and other household property in the above-mentioned localities. The disaster affected 353 families, i.e. 1,765 people, with one death in Tchimbanga and several people injured in all four localities. In Tchimbanga, the violent wind took away the roofs of the local Government technical secondary school, the Nazaire Boulingui General secondary school, the professional training centre, and the Saint-Joseph catholic primary school. Red Cross volunteers conducted an emergency evaluation of the situation and identified 203 families, i.e. 1,015 people, as the most vulnerable. These most vulnerable populations are living in the open air under extremely precarious conditions as it continues to rain and are currently exposed to the risks of water borne diseases and other weather-based diseases such as respiratory infections. The Tchimbanga local committee of the GRCS has assisted two families that were almost dying with two tarpaulins, but lacks the necessary means to do more. The following table summarizes the situation as of 5 January, 2011:

Localities	Number of affected families	Number of people affected	Number of most vulnerable families	Houses completely destroyed	Houses partially destroyed	Number of children below 5 years affected	Number of pregnant women affected	Number of old people affected	Number of disabled people affected
Tchimbanga	126	630	80	33	25	149	15	86	04
Franceville	37	185	22	10	07	15	05	12	00
Mimongo	100	500	56	21	17	23	07	62	00
Dzenzele	90	450	45	00	00	10	05	41	00
Total	353	1765	203	64	49	197	32	201	04

## Coordination and partnerships

A delegation of the inter-ministerial committee composed of emergency management experts travelled to Tchimbanga under the chairmanship of the Secretary General of the Ministry of Interior to evaluate the situation and identify the people affected.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Gabonese Red Cross Society has already deployed 22 volunteers and members of the national disaster response team, on the basis of 10 in Tchimbanga, 5 in Franceville, 4 in Mimongo and 3 in Dzenzele. These volunteers conducted the emergency evaluation of the situation and identified the most vulnerable people as described above. The Tchimbanga local committee of the GRCS has assisted two families that were almost dying with two tarpaulins.

## The needs

**Selection of people to be reached:** After the emergency evaluation of the situation, the volunteers have identified the most vulnerable 1,015 people as described above to be assisted. These most vulnerable people include the families that have lost their houses, those whose roofs have been taken away, 197 children below five years, 32 pregnant women, 201 old people and 4 disabled persons. They have also established that these people will need non-food items such as 508 mats and 508 blankets (on the basis of

one mat and one blanket for two people); 609 mosquito nets (3 mosquito nets per family); 1,015 cooking kits (with at least a bucket per family); 1,015 pieces of laundry soap of 200 g each (a piece of laundry soap per person); 226 tarpaulins (two tarpaulins per family). There is also the need to provide financial support to help build temporary shelters for the most vulnerable. The affected local committees of the Gabonese Red Cross will need 15 sanitation kits to help the populations keep their environment clean on the basis of 5 kits for Tchimbanga, 4 for Franceville, 3 for Mimongo and 3 for Dzenzele. Sensitization activities to promote hygiene will be carried out using leaflets. The Federation's Central Africa Representation (CARREP) noticed that the National Society is still facing difficulties in emergency planning and reporting. A practical briefing on that will be organized in the affected localities. To carry out all the activities planned, the NS will have to deploy 50 Red Cross volunteers, on the basis of 20 in Tchimbanga, 10 in Franceville, 10 in Mimongo and 10 in Dzenzele. These volunteers will be supervised by four members of the national disaster response team (one in each affected locality) under the coordination of the national disaster management officer. CARREP will also deploy an RDRT member to Gabon to assist the national disaster management officer.

## The proposed operation

<b>Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)</b>	
<b>Objective: To contribute to improving the living conditions of the most vulnerable 203 families (1,015 people) affected by violent wind and floods in Tchimbanga, Franceville, Mimongo and Dzenzele.</b>	
<p><b>Expected results:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The most vulnerable 203 families (1,015 people) have actually received the planned non-food items, and these have contributed to improving their living conditions following the disaster.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Activities planned:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Purchase and transport 406 mats; 406 blankets; 1,015 cooking kits; 203 hygiene kits, 1,015 buckets; 1,015 pieces of soap of 200 g each; and 406 tarpaulins to the affected localities;</li> <li>Train/retrain Red Cross volunteers on distribution techniques and methods;</li> <li>Prepare distribution tools using the list of the targeted beneficiaries;</li> <li>Distribute the non-food items to the targeted beneficiaries;</li> <li>Ensure monitoring, evaluation and reporting on distribution activities.</li> </ul>
<b>Emergency health</b>	
<b>Objective: To contribute to preventing and reducing the risk of floods and weather-related diseases in the localities affected by floods and violent wind (Tchimbanga, Franceville, Mimongo and Dzenzele).</b>	
<p><b>Expected results:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Gabonese Red Cross has made a contribution to ensure that the most vulnerable 203 families are free from floods and weather-related diseases.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Activities planned:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Purchase 609 insecticide-treated mosquito nets and distribute to the 203 most vulnerable families;</li> <li>Provide five water purification tablets for 30 days to the 203 most vulnerable families;</li> <li>Train 50 Red Cross volunteers in key malaria messages and hanging up and the proper use of bed nets;</li> <li>Train the 203 families on how to install and use the insecticide-treated mosquito nets;</li> <li>Ensure monitoring, evaluation and reporting on emergency health activities</li> </ul>

## Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

**Objective: To contribute to the reduction of morbidity and mortality due to malaria among all families affected by floods and violent wind in Tchimbanga, Franceville, Mimongo and Dzenzele.**

### Expected results:

- Measures are taken to ensure that all the families affected by violent wind and floods in Tchimbanga, Franceville, Mimongo and Dzenzele live in a healthy environment.
- All affected families are aware of key hygiene promotion messages.
- The outbreak of water and sanitation related diseases are prevented

### Activities planned:

- Purchase 15 sanitation kits, each comprising shovels, racks, raincoats, boots, gloves, mufflers, etc.;
- Organize sanitation and hygiene promotion campaigns in Tchimbanga, Franceville, Mimongo and Dzenzele;
- Sensitize population on hygiene rules using leaflets;
- Ensure monitoring, evaluation and reporting on water, sanitation and hygiene promotion activities.

## Emergency shelter

**Objective: To contribute to providing at least a temporary shelter to the most vulnerable 203 families affected by floods and violent wind in Tchimbanga, Franceville, Mimongo and Dzenzele.**

### Expected results:

- The most vulnerable 203 families affected by floods and violent wind in Tchimbanga, Franceville, Mimongo and Dzenzele have been sheltered, at least on a temporary basis.

### Activities planned:

- Purchase and distribute tarpaulins to families whose houses have been completely or partially destroyed
- Provide financial support for the most vulnerable 203 families to help them rebuild their houses;
- Ensure monitoring, evaluation and reporting on shelter activities.

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

The International Federation'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 International Federation'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: [president.crg@cosnac.org](mailto:president.crg@cosnac.org)
- 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](mailto:denis.duffaut@ifrc.org)
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[<DREF budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

## DREF Appeal Budget Summary

### **RELIEF NEEDS**

Shelter	14,380
Shelter - Transitional	6,090
Construction Materials	0
Clothing & Textiles	7,911
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water & Sanitation	914
Medical & First Aid	1,000
Teaching Materials	5,200
Utensils & Tools	6,090
Other Supplies & Services	8,120
Emergency Response Units (ERUs)	0

**Total Relief Needs 49,705**

### **CAPITAL EQUIPMENT**

Land & Buildings	0
Vehicles Purchase	0
Computers & Telecom Equipment	0
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.	0
Medical Equipment	0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0

### **TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES**

Storage - Warehouse	1,938
Distribution & Monitoring	22,000
Transport & Vehicles Costs	1,200

### **PERSONNEL**

International Staff	1,550
Regionally Deployed Staff	4,500
National Staff	1,200
National Society Staff	5,200
Consultants	0

### **WORKSHOPS & TRAINING**

Workshops & Training	0
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### **GENERAL EXPENSES**

Travel	0
Information & Public Relations	1,250
Office running costs	500
Communication Costs	1,500
Professional Fees	0
Financial Charges	500
Other General Expenses	0
Depreciation	0

**PROGRAMME SUPPORT**

Programme Support - PSR

5,918

**SERVICES & RECOVERIES**

Services & Recoveries

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**Total Operational Needs**

**47,256**

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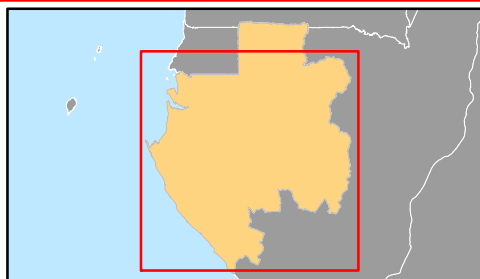
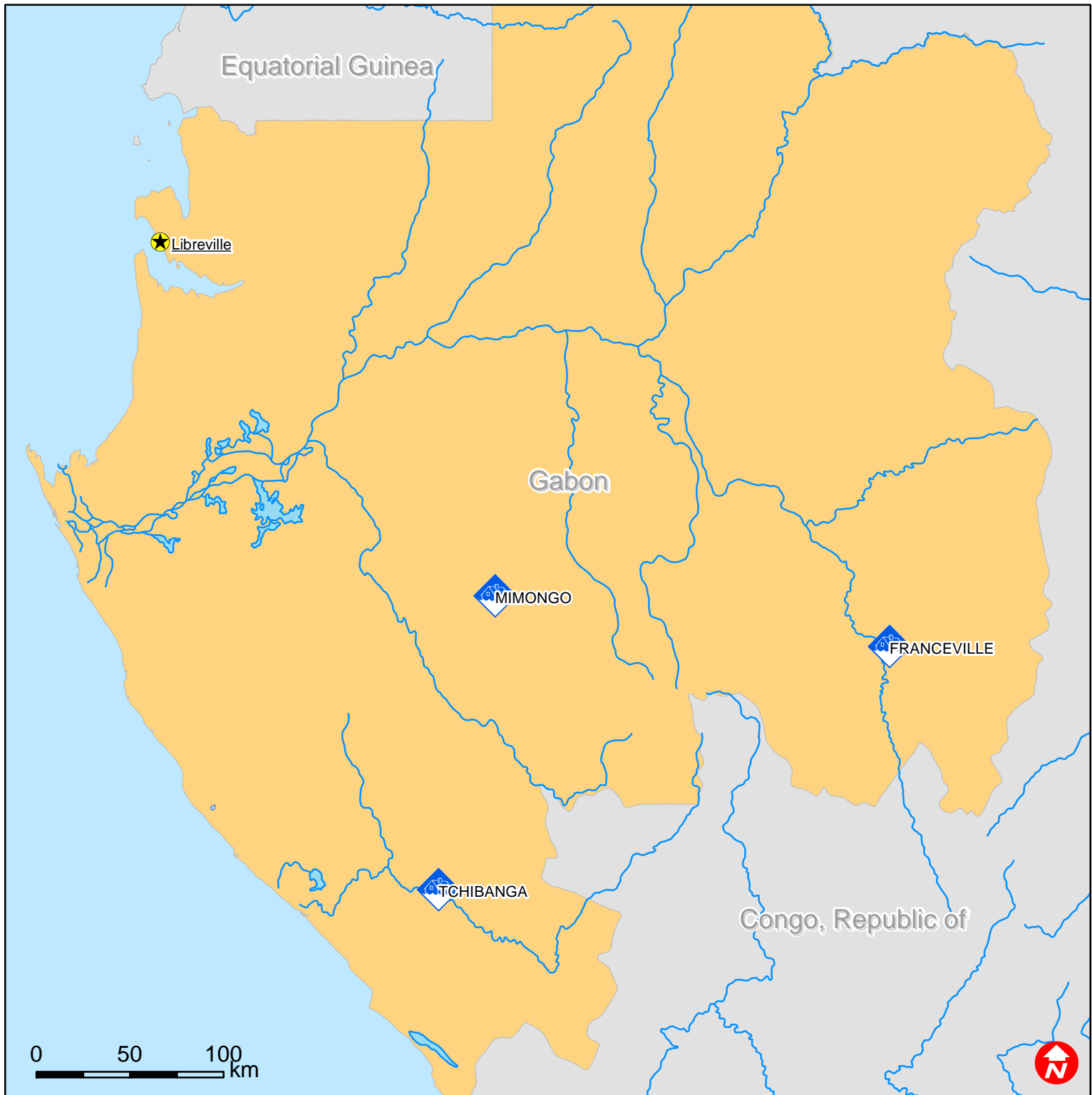
**TOTAL**

**96,960**

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# Gabon: Floods



Affected places