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# Emergency appeal operation update

## Senegal: Food insecurity

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

### Emergency appeal n° MDRSN007 GLIDE n° OT-2011-000193-SEN Operation update n°1 7 June, 2012

**Period covered by this Ops Update:** 20 April to 31 May, 2012;

**Appeal target (current):** CHF 3,765,905;  
<[click here to view the interim financial report](#)>

**Appeal coverage:** 18%; <[click here to go to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details](#)>

#### Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on 20 April 2012 for CHF 3,765,905 for 12 months to assist 258,000 beneficiaries.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF): CHF 166,428 was initially allocated from the Federation's DREF to support the Senegalese Red Cross Society (SRCS) in delivering assistance to some 1,000 households.



Distribution of food items in the village of Kalassane/ IFRC/SRCS

**Summary:** This Appeal has been launched in response to a request from the Senegalese Red Cross Society (SRCS) to support food security and nutrition for approximately 258,000 people (about 30% of the directly affected population and approximately 10% of the potentially indirectly affected population) through activities including food and improved seeds distributions, as well as cash transfers, cash for work in disaster risk reduction, establishment of seed banks, and malnutrition screening and referrals.

This appeal has extended assistance to areas not covered by the initial DREF, in eight departments not already covered by other humanitarian organizations: Diourbel, Kaffrine, Tambacounda, Kédougou, Kolda, Kaolack, Fatick, and Louga. The DREF operation launched late December 2011 supported emergency needs through provision of food, cash, seeds, farming tools and fertilizer in Saint Louis, Podor, Matam, Ranérou, Kanel and Dagana. As part of the DREF activities, assistance was provided in the form of food rations distributed for two months to 500 households. Agricultural equipment, seed and fertilizer were distributed to 300 households and 200 households received cash transfers. All DREF-related activities were implemented by 16 March 2012.

With the beginning of the emergency appeal, several new activities were initiated. The procurement process for the improved seeds to be distributed to the 4,800 most vulnerable households has been launched. The beneficiary selection is under progress, and distributions should start early June. Moreover, The Senegalese Red Cross, in partnership with the French Red Cross, has launched its nutrition program in the region of Diourbel. This nutrition program targets the screening of 100,000 children under 5 years old and the management of 3,674 severe acute malnourished (wasting) children under five from June 2012 to April 2013.

In general, further implementation of this appeal's activities is jeopardized by a lack of funding. There is an urgent need to finance this appeal to allow the SRCS to start the immediate distribution of seeds before the start of the rains and the agricultural season in order to mitigate as much as possible further negative impact on people's livelihoods.

## The situation

Rains in 2011 were irregular, late and short in the majority of the Sahel countries. The annual harvest statistics of Senegal show that many departments (geographical units in Senegal) have been experiencing a food deficit of up to 31% in the production of cereals compared to the previous year. Alerted by these results, a rapid joint assessment was done by the main Senegalese government partners WFP, FAO and World Vision in mid-December, indicating that by the end of January 2012, already more than half of the rural households would have no cereals in stock and would need to obtain food from national and international markets. Moreover, malnutrition rates have been reaching 10.1%, slightly above the serious threshold standard of 10% according to UNICEF. Most lowland farmers and pastoralists usually experience annual food shortages or lean periods just before the rainy season. Drought is chronic in several locations in north and middle Senegal, and for the past two years, crop production has been below normal. The last major drought in 2010 killed around 35% of the livestock in the country. This year, due to the severity of the drought in 2011 and continuing into 2012, the majority of affected households are relying on an array of coping mechanisms that include men in the family seeking temporary work in the cities, households reducing the number and/or quality of meals, and households resorting to selling their assets including livestock, bicycles, radios and other movable items. This weakens their livelihoods status as they are reducing their future coping capacities and facing a precarious situation for the 2012/2013 agricultural year.

The fragile food security situation of these populations and this year's drought is likely to aggravate the poor nutritional status that characterizes most lowland farmers and pastoralists in the affected areas. Meanwhile, the government, in collaboration with the UN, SRCS and other non-governmental organizations, launched a food security and nutrition assessment in order to identify the food and nutrition insecure and vulnerable populations resulting from food availability, accessibility and utilization problems, to establish the magnitude of the problem, and to determine and recommend appropriate interventions for the affected population. Indeed, the drought has aggravated the food insecurity situation for particularly vulnerable households. This includes women-headed households, child-headed households, isolated individuals, and elderly people who have limited labour and coping capacity and fewer livelihoods opportunities. High food prices this year are a major hurdle for poor households, limiting their access to food over the lean season. The poor harvest, combined with high food demand from Dakar, increased transportation costs, inflation and high agricultural input prices, has led to significant increases in the prices of food commodities (at least 80%). There are no reported problems of food availability in major markets at the national level as most of the food required is available in the southern part of the country.

## Coordination and partnerships

The National Society works closely with the government's disaster management department as well as the Ministry of Agriculture, to provide relief assistance to the most vulnerable people. The Senegalese Red Cross Society (SRCS) is a permanent and active member of the food security and nutrition assessment team coordinated by the Government. This team regularly assesses malnutrition rates throughout the country, an activity that SRCS actively participates in. Several UN agencies are present in Senegal, including Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nation's Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR). WFP activities include school feeding programmes in targeted areas. Due to the food security crisis in Senegal, they are also undertaking targeted food distributions in the most affected areas, working with several organizations including SRCS. UNICEF is highly involved in nutrition interventions, and SRCS and the French Red Cross are in close contact with them regarding their upcoming nutrition programme in Diourbel. With the government declaring the emergency, UN actors and non-governmental organizations such as Action Against Hunger (ACF), Oxfam, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), and World Vision have been preparing to intervene in the different affected areas with food distributions; cash distributions; seeds and National Society Capacity Building: tools distributions; screening, referral and cure of severe acute malnutrition. Besides, SRCS is represented through the IFRC's Regional Representation in the regional food security and nutrition working group and the regional nutrition working group (inter-agency working group), and is an active member of the national food security ad hoc working group.

A 'twin track' approach that focuses on African solutions and joint advocacy on the worsening Sahel Food Crisis were two of the agreed outcomes of a Forum hosted by the African Union (AU) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) on 25 and 26 April in Dakar, Senegal. As a major step in addressing the situation in the Sahel, the meeting was jointly convened by the AU and the IFRC and attended by Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies from the affected region and around the world, international organizations, regional economic institutions, civil society and donor governments. The Secretary General of IFRC, the IFRC Regional Representative for Sahel as well as the President of the Senegalese Red Cross Society seized the opportunity of the Forum to meet the Senegalese Prime Minister and other government ministers to discuss about the Food Crisis in Senegal and in the Sahel Region.

In early May, a Head of Emergency operations (HeOps) was deployed to Dakar to reinforce the Regional Representation's structure in response to the various ongoing food security operations. The HeOps will provide strategic and operational leadership to the Sahel Operations team, and will subsequently hand over to a dedicated Operations Coordinator.

Kermel Voyages, a private travel Agency that has a long-standing partnership with IFRC contributed to the relief activities in providing sugar and rice. The Senegalese Red Cross Society (SRCS), with logistic support from IFRC Sahel Regional Office conducted the distribution of those food items. 42 disabled people from Saint-Louis city benefited each from 12.5 kg of rice and 1.5 kg of sugar. In Kalassane village also located in Saint-Louis, 59 households received each 25 kg of rice and 3 kg of sugar.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

### Overview

To conduct this operation, over 180 volunteers and 25 supervisors have been mobilised. To address the different needs the Senegalese Red Cross Society distributed food to targeted households in Matam, Dagana and Ranerou. Food distribution targeted 500 of the most food insecure households in Matam, Ranerou and Dagana departments. The food aid basket comprised cereals (maize and rice grain) and beans. Furthermore, cash distribution to households was conducted in the affected departments. It targeted vulnerable households already affected by drought, many of whom have had to sell their assets and who therefore required asset protection / replacement support and assistance in meeting household needs. This initiative was helpful to vulnerable households (a group including female-headed households, child-headed households, isolated individuals, and elderly people) in retaining important productive assets. Additionally, the DREF supported improving food production in affected communities through provision of agricultural inputs (fertilizer and seeds), non-food items and farming tools (hoes, machetes, axes and shovels). This process facilitated through SRCS agronomists in collaboration with the government agricultural extension services, emphasized dry farming techniques, and improved local food storage facilities.

### Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)	
<b>Outcome: Immediate needs of 43,000 households (258,000 beneficiaries) in Kédougou, Kafrine, Kaolack, Tambacounda, Matam, Sédhiou, Louga, Fatick, and Kolda are met for 3 months through food and cash transfer distributions.</b>	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Appropriate food rations are distributed to 30,000 of the most vulnerable households for 3 months.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop beneficiary identification and targeting strategy and Registration system to deliver intended assistance.</li> <li>• Local procurement, storage, transport and distribution of 80 tonnes of maize, 60 tonnes of millet and of 40 tonnes of beans.</li> <li>• Monitor distribution of food relief supplies to 30,000 households and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end-user.</li> <li>• Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.</li> </ul>
Cash transfers are provided to 13,000 of the most vulnerable households for 3 months.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop beneficiary identification and targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.</li> <li>• Assess and partner with relevant stakeholders including financial institutions to deliver cash transfers.</li> </ul>

- Disburse funds to 13,000 most vulnerable households. Each household will receive CHF 150 for the 3 months.
- Monitor and evaluate cash transfer activities.

**Progress:** Assistance has been provided in the form of food rations distributed for two months to 500 households. The kits of support for agricultural production (agricultural equipment, seed and fertilizer) were distributed to 300 households and 200 households received an unconditional financial assistance. The response activities have relieved the beneficiary households at all points of view. Their situation was critical before such assistance, they are now out of this insecurity because the provided rations have permitted to hold out for two months, but also to make provisions for the coming months, even if they are not sure of being able to hold it out until the next rainy season, nor have the means to conduct a proper crop. Indeed, this assistance was much needed, given the level of vulnerability of households combined with the gravity of the food crisis in the rural and agro-pastoral world. Furthermore, the experience of the Senegalese Red Cross Society in food security has increased. Indeed, it is the first time in over two decades that Senegal goes through a food crisis. Thus, Red Cross staff has built up experience and capacities in elaborating, implementing, monitoring and evaluating food security emergency activities. The cash activities required careful monitoring to ensure that there is no misappropriation of objectives.

The following table gives more details about the distribution activities

DEPARTMENTS	TYPE OF RESPONSE	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	RED CROSS ACTION	REMARKS
Saint Louis	Distribution of kits of agricultural equipment, seeds and fertilizers	150	The rural area of St-Louis has access to a water source throughout the year, however, the bad campaign put them in such a vulnerable position that the out-of-season promised to be difficult to finance. SRCS supported the 150 most affected households and most capable of leading a good out-of-season agriculture.	
	Support in the form of unconditional cash flow.	10	A minority of households was not able to lead an out-of-season culture because of the lack of able men. The Senegalese Red Cross Society supported them through cash so that they receive assistance because they were on the verge of collapse.	The cash has been used for food purchasing in the markets of the city. Food has been stockpiled for two to three months.
Dagana	Assistance in the form of food kits (millet, maize and beans) with rations for two months.	150	Populations in these areas depend entirely on rain, and poor agro pastoral season has put them in a difficult position. They are already in a weld with no possibility of out-of-season because even the river is too low for local residents. Thus, given the emergency, the National Society has provided direct food rations for two months, enough to relieve them for at least one period.	
	Support in the form of unconditional	40	200 people with access to a well-supplied market have received financial unconditional assistance; widows or single	They used the money to stock, and some of this support served

	cash transfer.		mothers were privileged.	as a starting base for small businesses in 28 of 40 cases.
Podor	Distribution of kits of agricultural equipment, seeds and fertilizers.	150	Podor department has access to water and the out-of-season agriculture is one of their main sources of income. But rising prices and the overall context of food insecurity put them in an uncomfortable situation. Assistance has been provided for the most vulnerable households to exogenous shocks in order to support them to cope with this situation.	
Matam	Assistance in the form of food kits (millet, maize and beans) with rations for two months.	150	The Matam region is very difficult to access due to bad roads. The affected households are people who have as unique source of income the rain-fed agriculture. Market gardening being not really practiced in the area. It belonged to red cross targets. Food kits were chosen especially for rural areas where markets were poorly supplied and prices really high. Households located in urban areas have benefited from financial support in the form of cash.	The beneficiaries of cash were usually ladies, widows or single women. The use of cash has revolved around two formulas: the implementation of emergency stocks for these households, and the establishment of income generating activities as petty trade etc..
	Support in the form of unconditional cash flow.	50		
Kanel	Assistance in the form of food kits (millet, maize and beans) with rations for two months.	100		
	Support in the form of unconditional cash flow.	50		
Ranerou	Assistance in the form of food kits (millet, maize and beans) with rations for two months.	100		
	Support in the form of unconditional cash flow.	50		
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,000</b>		

Disaster risk reduction (DRR), food security and livelihoods	
<b>Outcome: To contribute to reducing the effects of food insecurity of up to 70,000 vulnerable people through increasing agricultural production and reducing risk through environmental protection measures in Kaffrine, Tambacounda, Kaolak, Matam, Kédougou and Kolda regions.</b>	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Cash for work in 15 departments to carry out DRR and environmental projects for 1,500 persons.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Train volunteers, foremen and supervisors.</li> <li>• Equip villages with soil working tools.</li> <li>• Implement and supervise cash for work activities.</li> <li>• Supply lunch for all "cash for work" workers every day.</li> <li>• Monitor and evaluate cash transfer actions and their impact on the harvest.</li> <li>• Evaluate cash for work impact on beneficiaries.</li> </ul>
74 villages in six regions will receive cereal donations to seed banks to have cereals to sell at village level and to replenish their accounts (10 tonnes for the new ones and 5 tonnes for existing seed banks).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify villages with seed banks that need to be reinforced.</li> <li>• Assist in the creation of seed banks.</li> <li>• Organize training/refreshing sessions for the management committee of the seed banks.</li> <li>• Select the existing seed banks to reinforce.</li> <li>• Carry out monitoring and evaluation activities of the cereal management by the seed bank.</li> </ul>
The most vulnerable 4,800 households in 120 communities have received improved seeds (15 kg) for the forthcoming seasons.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide improved seeds to 4,800 households from certified seed producers.</li> <li>• Identify 40 most vulnerable households in each of the 120 communities.</li> <li>• Implement a mechanism to distribute seeds (training of volunteers).</li> <li>• Identify certificated improved seed producers.</li> <li>• Train farmers on the use of seeds of improved varieties.</li> <li>• Monitor and evaluate distribution activities.</li> </ul>
Replanted maize, millet and ground nuts are promoted in 90 villages in 6 regions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify short cycle maize.</li> <li>• Identify households with cropping potential in rural zones.</li> <li>• Train 30 volunteers in 20 departments on replanted maize.</li> <li>• Disseminate replanted maize.</li> <li>• Test plots of replanted maize.</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation of replanted maize activities.</li> </ul>
Out of the 120 communities, 10 are identified for long-term interventions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct assessments for long-term support needs.</li> <li>• Identify the most vulnerable villages with the highest potential in agricultural production increase through long-term food security interventions.</li> <li>• Support in developing a concept note for a long-term food security project for the 10 villages.</li> </ul>

**Progress:**

The procurement process for the improved seeds to be distributed to the 4,800 most vulnerable households has been launched. The beneficiary selection is under progress, and distributions should start early June.

**Challenges:**

The timeframe to distribute seeds before the rain starts, to mitigate as much as possible further loss to the communities, is very short and distribution will have to be done in early June. The Plan of Action might need to be reviewed to adjust the outcome of the rains and prepare for the *contre-saison*.

Emergency health	
<b>Outcome: To improve the nutritional status of 10,000 children under 5 and pregnant / breast feeding women in seven departments of Kaffrine, Tambacounda, Kaolak, Matam, Kédougou, Diourbel and Kolda.</b>	
Outputs	Activities planned
Assist in the screening and referral to existing health facilities in 100 villages of malnourished children under 5 and pregnant and breast feeding women until the end of the lean period (September 2012).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Train 60 volunteers per department (some 420 out of the planned total of some 3,000 volunteers) on malnutrition screening, delivery of messages on nutrition and health;</li> <li>• Disseminate key messages: best practices about nutrition and their proper use; screening of malnourished children and pregnant and breast feeding women; use of ORS; and hygiene promotion;</li> <li>• Activities to support nutritional centers and referral centers where possible.</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation of the activities at regional, national and</li> </ul>

**Progress:**

The Senegalese Red Cross, in partnership with the French Red Cross, has launched its nutrition program in the region of Diourbel. This nutrition program targets the screening of 100,000 children under 5 years old and the management of 3,674 severe malnourished (wasting) children under five from June 2012 to April 2013. Key staff and volunteers to support the program are being recruited. Planning for training and procurement has been done.

**Communications – Advocacy and Public Information**

The communications activities are as follows:

- Press conference during the Stakeholder forum;
- Video testimonies of a beneficiary farmer;
- Interviews and web stories

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## 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 (NGOs) 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.

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Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/12-2012/4
Budget Timeframe	2011/12-2013/4
Appeal	MDRSN007
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## I. Funding

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
<b>A. Budget</b>	3,765,905					3,765,905	
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	0					0	
<b>Income</b>							
<u>Cash contributions</u>							
<i>Finnish Red Cross</i>	333,654					333,654	
<b>C1. Cash contributions</b>	333,654					333,654	
<u>Other Income</u>							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>	166,428					166,428	
<b>C4. Other Income</b>	166,428					166,428	
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)</b>	500,082					500,082	
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>	500,082					500,082	
<b>Coverage = D/A</b>	13%					13%	

## II. Movement of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	0					0	
<b>C. Income</b>	500,082					500,082	
<b>E. Expenditure</b>	-160,357					-160,357	
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>	339,725					339,725	

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/12-2012/4
Budget Timeframe	2011/12-2013/4
Appeal	MDRSN007
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		<b>3,765,905</b>					<b>3,765,905</b>	
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>								
Food	212,000	24,631				24,631	187,369	
Seeds & Plants	159,120	21,496				21,496	137,624	
Teaching Materials	14,386						14,386	
Utensils & Tools	372,100	11,051				11,051	361,049	
Cash Disbursement	1,950,000	37,319				37,319	1,912,681	
<b>Total Relief items, Construction, Su</b>	<b>2,707,606</b>	<b>94,497</b>				<b>94,497</b>	<b>2,613,109</b>	
<b>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>								
Vehicles	99,000						99,000	
Computers & Telecom	48,942						48,942	
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>	<b>147,942</b>						<b>147,942</b>	
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Distribution & Monitoring	57,500	11,224				11,224	46,276	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	153,000	10,993				10,993	142,007	
<b>Total Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>210,500</b>	<b>22,217</b>				<b>22,217</b>	<b>188,283</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>								
International Staff	117,819						117,819	
National Staff		366				366	-366	
National Society Staff	24,000						24,000	
Volunteers	84,300	24,761				24,761	59,539	
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>226,119</b>	<b>25,127</b>				<b>25,127</b>	<b>200,992</b>	
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	166,833	1,567				1,567	165,266	
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>166,833</b>	<b>1,567</b>				<b>1,567</b>	<b>165,266</b>	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	10,000	483				483	9,517	
Information & Public Relations	12,000	3,075				3,075	8,925	
Office Costs	17,000	993				993	16,007	
Communications	12,000	504				504	11,496	
Financial Charges	4,000	2,105				2,105	1,895	
Other General Expenses		1				1	-1	
Shared Office and Services Costs	22,061						22,061	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>77,061</b>	<b>7,161</b>				<b>7,161</b>	<b>69,900</b>	
<b>Indirect Costs</b>								
Programme & Services Support Recov	229,844	9,787				9,787	220,057	
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>	<b>229,844</b>	<b>9,787</b>				<b>9,787</b>	<b>220,057</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>3,765,905</b>	<b>160,357</b>				<b>160,357</b>	<b>3,605,548</b>	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>		<b>3,605,548</b>				<b>3,605,548</b>		