

Information Bulletin n° 1

15 August, 2012

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation. The Red Cross of Chad will, however, accept direct assistance to provide support to the affected population.

[<click here for detailed contact information>](#)

Summary: Similar to last year, the rainy season started very late in several regions of the country. This year, however, late rains have brought heavy downpours triggering floods in several districts.

The districts of Rig Rig and Mangalmé, as well as five out of ten

arrondissements of the capital N'Djamena were among the most affected areas. The flood caused heavy damage in the semi desert area of Rig Rig where torrential rains were very rare. A total of 4,782 persons were left homeless by the flood. The affected families found refuge in schools and other government buildings waiting for the stagnant flood waters in their neighbourhoods to subside. Volunteers from the local committee in the affected districts supported families to evacuate from flooded areas and carried out damage assessment. The National Society and the IFRC office sent a team for a detailed damage/needs assessment.



Volunteers from the RCC branch of Rig Rig visiting a totally destroyed house. Photo/RCC

The situation

Rig Rig, a district located 420 Kilometers from the capital N'Djamena has experienced unprecedented rain between Monday 6 and Tuesday 7 August, 2012. The rain has lasted 24 hours and brought 800 mm of water according to the weather service of the region, leading to serious flooding. The flood caused heavy material damage with 3,000 persons registered homeless and 200 houses destroyed. Flood victims found shelter in school buildings and market places. Several families lost their food and livestock.

In Goz Beida, a town located in the east of Chad, heavy rain followed by storms damaged 227 houses partially and destroyed 109 houses. Destruction of houses has caused the loss of food stock of 600 affected

victims. The district of Mangalmé in the region of Guerra also registered the loss of 62 houses, 70 huts, 25 wells, and 19 latrines due to heavy rains. As a result, a total of 1,182 persons have been affected there.

In the capital N'Djamena, volunteers are working to collect data in the five affected arrondissements.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The RCC volunteers in the affected districts promptly responded to the disaster and provided the following support:

- Evacuate the flood victims and their belongings from their houses to safe shelters;
- Carry out hygiene promotion to avoid water borne diseases;
- Erect sand bag barriers to avoid water from overflowing.

The National Society and the IFRC office have deployed a team to conduct a detailed assessment and plan the needed support for affected vulnerable.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In Chad, Red Cross of Chad:** Bongor Zam Barminas, Secretary General; email: croixrouge.tchad@yahoo.fr; phone: +235.66.29.88.82; fax: +235.25.20.255
- **In Chad, IFRC Country Representation:** Belly Mamadou Diallo; email: belly.diallo@ifrc.org; phone: +235.66.27.84.84
- **IFRC Zone:** Daniel Bolaños, Disaster Management Coordinator, Africa; phone: +254 (0)731 067 489; email: daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org

For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

- **IFRC Zone:** Loïc de Bastier, Resource Mobilization Coordinator; email: loic.debastier@ifrc.org; phone: +251.93.003.4013; fax: +251.11.557.0799

For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting)

- **IFRC Zone:** Robert Ondrusek, Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Delegate; email: robert.ondrusek@ifrc.org; phone: +254.73.106.7277

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.

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Saving lives, changing minds.



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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