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Information bulletin Ghana: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time.

The situation

As a result of three days of the continuous torrential rains on 29 August 2013 in Bunkpurugu/Yunyuo district, 28 communities were affected displacing 6,021 people whilst 805 houses 538 acres of farmlands were destroyed. Some of the displaced persons who were occupying school buildings as temporary shelter in the wake of the floods are now living with relatives and friends as schools have reopened. Some of the affected people have also started removing the nails from the damaged iron sheets, whilst those with thatched roofing have also supported the badly damaged walls with sticks to prevent them from falling.



A collapsed house in Bunkpurugu. Photo: GRCS

In East Mamprusi, floods caused by heavy rains in the first two weeks of September have affected 14 communities displacing 1,625 people and destroying 64 houses and 1,663 acres of farmlands. The breakdown of displaced population in the two districts is as below:

District	Male adults	Female adults	Male Children	Female Children	TOTAL
Bunkpurugu/Yunyuo	923	1,456	1,756	1,886	6,021
East Mamprusi	420	362	350	493	1,625
Total	1,343	1,818	2,106	2,379	7,646

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

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

30 volunteers have been engaged in immediate activities such as support to medical referral, registration of affected population in the communities of Jilik, Najong no.1, Najong no.2, Gbankoni, Binde, Kparisok, 5 communities in the Bunkpurugu Township and support to the activities of the authorities and on-going assessments of the situation.

The Ghana Red Cross Society (GRCS) is collaborating with other organizations and agencies whilst the National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO) is coordinating with all the stakeholders in humanitarian action. The office of the UN Resident Coordinator is also coordinating with other organizations and the UN agencies in Accra to ensure that information of the situation is available and shared among the humanitarian community in the country.

The GRCS is closely monitoring the situation supported by the IFRC which is providing technical support to the operational planning process.

Actions taken by Government and other actors:

The Inter-agency Humanitarian Working Group met on 11 and 13 September at the instance of the UN Resident Coordinator and deliberated on the situation. NADMO and the GRCS updated the meeting participants on the situation on the ground. The UNHCR has released 40 family tents as an immediate support. The UNFPA has also given a total of 700 dignity kits for women and young girls who are in their reproductive stages, 300 kits for pregnant women and nursing mothers as well as emergency reproductive health kits for HIV prevention (a kit for a population of 10,000). Food has been seen as dire need, temporary shelter, whilst water and sanitation also needs a critical consideration.

On 12 September, the Disaster Risk Reduction Platform also held a meeting and deliberated on the flood situation particularly on the number of persons displaced in the two districts, registration and analysis of needs. NADMO has also provided 1000 bags of rice, 1000 bags of maize and some quantities of food and non-food items as follows:

Item	Quantity
Rice	1,000 bags
Maize	1,000 bags
Buckets	200 pcs
Mats	200 pcs
Blankets	400 pcs
Basins	200 pcs
Mosquito Coil	10 ctns
Matches	10 ctns
Used clothing	20 bales
Mosquito net	100 pcs
Plastic plates	1,000 pcs
Plastic cups	1,000 pcs
Lanterns	500 pcs

NADMO is to launch an appeal for humanitarian assistance to the flood victims.

The WASH situation is being assessed too.

Immediate Needs:

- Support NS to conduct detailed needs and capacity assessments
- Assess the health risks of the affected populations in term of health and sanitation needs and risk of communicable diseases
- Reinforced coordination/cooperation with NADMO and other partners in sharing information at local and national level.
- Provision of relief items
- Prepare recovery and livelihoods activities

The GRCS is assisting NADMO in delivering relief items and assessments are ongoing to assess further needs and plan the adequate support for the affected and vulnerable people.



Damage caused as a result of torrential rains. Photo: GRCS

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation, please contact:

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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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