

OPERATIONS UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

CHAD: CHOLERA

25 September 2001

This Ops Update is intended for reporting on emergency appeals.

Appeal No. 28/01

Launched on 31 August 2001 for CHF 100,053 for 2 months

DREF Allocated: CHF 50,000

Beneficiaries: 84,425

Operations Update No. 1; Period covered: 1 - 18 September 2001

“At a Glance”

Appeal coverage: 63.3%

Related Appeals: 01.07/2001 (Central Africa Regional Appeal)

Outstanding needs: CHF 36,428

Summary/Update: The appeal has had a reasonable level of donor support, with a coverage rate of over 63%. Additional contributions are needed to complete the planned activities and to reimburse the DREF allocation. Meanwhile, the regional delegation is monitoring the situation as the forthcoming rains and floods may worsen the cholera situation in the region.

Operational Developments

The area most affected by the cholera epidemic lies in the semi-humid tropical region of Chad where the disease was first reported on 25 June in the capital of N'djamena. The epidemic quickly spread, affecting the towns of Moundou and Bongor in the south, Bol Massakory and Guitté near Lake Chad, and Mao in the Kanem region. On 20 September a total of 4,421 cases had been registered with a total of 155 deaths.



The table below provides details of the situation as of 20 September:

Region/City	Registered cases	Confirmed dead
Ndjaména	3,396	90
Bongor	87	9
Bouso	9	4
Léré	39	6
Mao	7	2
Bol	127	9
Massakory	499	17
Mousson	3	1
Mandelao	7	3
Moundou	10	2
Guitté	237	12
Total	4,421	155

Red Cross and Red Crescent action w

The Red Cross of Chad (RCC) has been working as an auxiliary to the Ministry of Health, and in its response to the disaster the RCC has focused on activities within the community that break the chain of transmission of the disease by:

- Increasing people's awareness of hygiene (cleanliness, use of latrines).
- Cleaning the environment (chlorinating wells, draining stagnant water).
- Opening a treatment centre for two months (providing care for 200 to 300 sick persons in the form of intensive use of ORS).

The allocation of CHF 50,000 from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) and timely support to the Red Cross of Chad (RCC) from the French and Spanish Red Cross followed by a good response from Red Cross and Red Crescent partners resulted in a strong response to the cholera epidemic.

Awareness

The Red Cross network rapidly deployed 50 volunteers to 5 cholera camps in N'djamena, 10 in Bongor, 10 in Moundou, 9 in Bol, and 10 in Massakory. The volunteers have been working concentrating on social mobilization, raising public awareness on the risks of water born diseases, distributing pamphlets, posters and basic equipment such as boots, gloves, hygiene masks and chlorine powder donated by the regional delegation in Yaoundé and the French Red Cross. Volunteers have been visiting neighborhoods on bicycles using megaphones and going door-to-door to the affected areas sensitizing and showing the population how to avoid contagion by chlorinating wells and informing on basic preventive hygiene measures to avoid the spread of the disease. Dissemination efforts have been further helped thanks to the help of a local radio station which has promoted the efforts made by the Red Cross.

Environmental Sanitation

In N'djamena where the highest concentration of cholera has been detected, the RCC, together with the Federation's regional health team, launched an aggressive campaign and action plan where 150 volunteers were trained in social mobilization, promoting basic hygiene measures in the community. In ten days 2,000 families have been visited, with particular attention paid to women who play a major role in family hygiene. Volunteers equipped with spades, forks, wheelbarrows and buckets assisted by community members are cleaning up and removing garbage from affected sections of the town. In a week, 5 markets were cleaned.

Chlorinating wells and draining waste water

Major markets in Maïlao, Mandelao and Massakory have also been targeted for the hygiene awareness and sanitation programmes. Together with technicians from the Ministry of Health, the volunteers have chlorinated water points (a total of 1,700 wells have been treated) and spread pulverized chlorine concentrate solutions on rubbish heaps to stop the spread of infections, and are mobilizing support for a major clean up of litter. Insecticides have also been used to eliminate locations where flies breed, an element that plays a major role in the transmission of the disease. The sanitation efforts which have been going on for the last three weeks are

particularly important in view of the coming rains, and it is expected that the clearing of major waste will allow better drainage.

Health w

Care for the sick and setting up a care centre

As soon as the first cholera cases were detected in the town of Guitté, the RCC opened a treatment, the national society dispatched 1 medical doctor and six nurses to work with and give technical support to the volunteers. The center has a capacity of 20 beds for adults and 6 for children. Since early September 226 patients were admitted with 12 deaths. At the same time, social mobilization and basic hygiene training were carried out in the neighboring villages. Women volunteers from N'djamena assisted in this task.

Coordination and Management

The RCC has played an active role on the cholera co-ordinating committee with the Ministry of Health, WHO, UNICEF and MSF. The regional delegation in Yaoundé has been providing technical and material support to the operation.

Outstanding needs

The appeal has had a reasonable level of donor support, with a coverage rate of over 63%. Additional contributions are needed to complete the planned activities and to reimburse the DREF allocation.

For further details please contact: Terry Carney, Federation Desk Officer, Phone: +41 22 730 42 98; Fax: +41 22 733 03 95; email: carney@ifrc.org

All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

This operation seeks to administer to the immediate requirements of the victims of this disaster. Subsequent operations to promote sustainable development or longer-term capacity building will require additional support, and these programmes are outlined on the Federation's website.

For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal

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Chad - Cholera						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 28/2001		PLEDGES RECEIVED				24.09.2001
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				100'051		TOTAL COVERAGE 63.6%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD						
BRITISH - RC		5'000	GBP	12'442	10.08.2001	
SPANISH - RC		12'020	EUR	18'168	23.08.2001	
SWEDISH - RC		150'000	SEK	24'645	03.09.2001	
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - RC		5'000	USD	8'368	09.09.2001	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				63'623	CHF	63.6%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%