

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

MADAGASCAR: CYCLONE GAFILO

21 June 2004

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.

In Brief

Appeal No. 08/2004; Operations Update no. 02; Period covered: 18 March to 18 May 2004; Appeal coverage: 93.6%; ([click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List, also available on the website](#)).

Appeal history:

- Launched on 17 March 2004 for CHF 427,000 (USD 334,211 or EUR 272,606) for three (3) months to assist 25,000 beneficiaries.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 50,000.

Outstanding needs: CHF 27,230 (USD 21,540 or EUR 17,730)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: [Indian Ocean sub-regional programmes Appeal no. 01.09/2004](#)

Operational Summary: The Federation Relief Delegate arrived 10 days after the launch of the Emergency Appeal; the initial contract has been extended two additional months to support the national society with the second round of distribution. A total of 9,827 beneficiaries in Betroka received blankets, jerry cans, tarpaulins and soap during April; a further 1,400 families received relief items in Vangaidran, Voudrozo and Midongy in May.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- *In Madagascar:* Mariette Pindray D'ambelle, President, Malagasy Red Cross Society, Antananarivo; Email crm@dts.mg; Phone 26. 20.22. 21.11; Fax 261.320.775.50.556
- *In Kenya:* Susanna Cunningham, Federation Focal Person, Nairobi; Email ifrcke43@ifrc.org; Phone 254.20.271.42.55; Fax 254.20.271.84.15
- *In Geneva:* Josse Gillijns, Federation Regional Officer for Eastern Africa, Africa Dept.; Email josse.gillijns@ifrc.org; Phone 41.22.730.42.24; Fax 41.22.733.03.95

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Madagascar; Appeal no. 08/2004; Operations Update no. 2

Background

Cyclone Gafilo first hit the northeastern part of Madagascar on 7 March 2004 and returned on 8 March as a tropical storm in the southwest before disappearing over the Indian Ocean on 12 March 2004. The cyclone killed 172 people and injured 879 people. The total number of people reported to have lost their homes was 214,260 while OCHA¹ estimated that 773,000 people were affected.

The succession of two cyclones - Elita and Gafilo - hitting Madagascar greatly increased the pressure on the population which was already facing the effects of a socio-economic crisis in the country: acute famine and insufficient water supply in the south and south-east zones due to silting of rivers, increased insecurity, food insecurity, and environmental and health problems.

Operational developments

A Relief Delegate arrived in Antananarivo on 27 March for a two month mission to assist the national society in the operation. A vessel from Durban carrying relief items was delayed due to mechanical problems; this in turn delayed the commencement of relief distribution. FAO and WFP are planning to distribute seeds shortly.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action - objectives, progress, impact

Emergency relief (food and basic non-food items)

Objective 1: To provide shelter materials for 5,000 floods affected families in the Morombé region.

Progress

A consignment of 5,000 tarpaulins, 10,000 blankets, and 5,000 jerry cans arrived from Durban, South Africa on 11 April 2004 for distribution to beneficiaries in Betroka, Vangaidran, Voudrozo and Midongy. A total of 9,827 beneficiaries in Betroka were provided with blankets, jerry cans, tarpaulins and soap in April 2004. Fifty trained volunteers distributed relief items to a further 1,400 families in the three remaining areas in May.

Impact

The relief items have provided the beneficiaries with basic requirements. The tarpaulins and blankets have sheltered the beneficiaries thereby preventing illnesses related to exposure to the element.

Constraints

The shipping vessel carrying relief items was delayed for mechanical reasons. The distribution sites in Betroka, Vangaidran, Voudrozo and Midongy are very isolated with poor road access; damage to the roads by the cyclone further slowed transportation of the items. These factors delayed the commencement of distribution.

Objective 2: To prevent the outbreak of epidemics and water borne diseases among 25,000 of the most affected people in the Morombé region.

Progress

The national society undertook continuous assessments and identification of the most vulnerable populations parallel to the distribution of relief items. A large number of mothers, old people with minors, and female headed households were found to have settled in high risk flood zones. There has also been an increase in mosquitoes following flooding caused by the passage of Gafilo that has exposed the populations especially children and women to risks of malaria attacks. Significant needs for mosquito nets, clothing and cooking sets were also identified

Quotations are currently being sought for the procurement of mosquito nets and kitchen sets. The Swedish Red Cross has offered clothing. The transport of relief items by ship instead of by air has resulted in budget savings; this allows for the possibility of revising the budget to cater for these needs..

¹ OCHA – (UN) Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

Madagascar; Appeal no. 08/2004; Operations Update no. 2

Open rivers remain the main source of drinking water in 80% of these localities; however, these rivers pose attendant health risks. Despite efforts to chlorinate drinking water, there is need for health hygiene promotion in the community. There is a total absence of family or public latrines in the villages. Food sold in the open by the roadside is exposed to contamination.

Objective 3: To strengthen the disaster response capacity of Malagasy Red Cross at headquarters, provincial and local levels.

Progress

The Federation Relief Delegate has trained 50 volunteers who are assisting in the distribution of relief items and in conducting assessments. Following the request by Malagasy Red Cross, the mission of the Federation Relief Delegate was extended by two months to support the national society in the second round of distribution and to train staff in stock control, distribution and monitoring techniques.

Constraints

The capacity of the national society to implement relief operations at local level is still very weak.

Federation Coordination

The national society continues to attend coordination meetings with the *Comité National de Secours (National Rescue Committee)* and other humanitarian organizations. Close links have been maintained with the PIROI².

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and initiatives

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

The national society has specifically requested the support of the Regional Information Delegate in building up the capacities and skills of the Malagasy counterpart. In the first phase, the counterpart will travel with the Federation Relief Delegate to the affected areas and write articles on Malagasy Red Cross and Federation response. Coaching and editing will be done by the Regional Information Delegate. A digital photo camera for the national society information unit will be purchased through the present Appeal. The counterpart attended a regional communications forum at the end of April 2004 in Nairobi. At a later stage the possibility for the Regional Delegate travelling to Madagascar, according to requests formulated by the national society, will be taken into account.

[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

² PIROI - Plate-forme d'Intervention Régionale Océan Indien (in French) ; Indian Ocean Regional Intervention Platform (in English)

Madagascar - cyclone Gafilo

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 8/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

23/06/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
-------	----------	----------	------	-----------	------	---------

CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->					TOTAL COVERAGE	
					427,000	93.6%
CANADIAN - GOVT/CIDA-IHA		50,000	CAD	47,100	29.03.04	
DANISH - GOVT		4,989	USD	6,353	05.04.04	PROGRAMME SUPPORT
FINNISH - RC		20,000	EUR	31,510	23.03.04	
JAPANESE - RC		11,000	USD	13,932	29.03.04	
MONACO - RC		10,000	EUR	15,595	07.05.04	
NORWEGIAN - RC		539,374	NOK	101,402	03.06.04	
SWEDISH - GOVT		500,000	SEK	85,500	23.03.04	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				301,392	CHF	70.6%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
DANISH - GOVT		77,250	USD	98,378	05.04.04	10'000 BLANKETS, 5'000 TARPAULINS
Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				98,378	CHF	23.0%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT

Madagascar - cyclone Gafilo

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 8/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

23/06/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	