

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA: MENINGITIS

DREF operation n° MDR61001
1 April 2008

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

Summary: CHF 200,000 was allocated from the Federation's DREF on 7 March, 2007 to respond to the needs of the population affected by the Meningitis outbreak in various parts of the West and Central Africa Region.

An increased number of meningitis cases were registered in several countries since January 2007. The outbreaks caused a total of nearly 31,000 cases and over 2,300 deaths between January and early May with the majority of over 25,000 cases and nearly 1,700 deaths in Burkina Faso. At the end of the emergency operation, the outbreaks had clearly passed the peak period in all countries and were down to only small numbers of cases per week.

Red Cross volunteers mobilized communities, helped identify affected persons and sensitized populations on the prevention of new infections. This action contributed to stopping the progression of the epidemic. However, more needs to be done to prevent similar outbreaks and efforts need to be oriented towards preparedness and prevention.

[<Click here for the final financial report, or here to view contact details>](#)

Background and Summary

Yearly outbreaks of meningitis are registered along the meningitis belt in Africa, which stretches across the continent – from Senegal in the West to Ethiopia in the East – and includes all or part of 15 to 18 countries, majority being in West and Central Africa. The outbreaks mainly occur throughout the dry season (between January and May).

Since January 2007, an increased number of meningitis cases were registered in the West and Central African Region. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), several countries in the region were affected. The latest available reliable regional data in week six showed a total of over 3,200 cases and over 400 deaths throughout the region. The most affected countries included Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Chad. Some of these countries had already surpassed the alert (five) and epidemic (one) thresholds in some of their districts.

In order to respond to the situation, the Red Cross launched a regional appeal for the eight most affected countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Chad) that was funded by the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF).

Coordination

National societies worked in close collaboration with the ministries of health and regional health authorities in their respective countries. They took part in the coordination meetings lead by the MoH at central level and district health authorities at regional level.

Coordination and technical assistance during the regional operation was provided by the Federation country delegation in Chad, the sub-regional offices in Dakar (Senegal), Lagos (Nigeria) and Yaoundé (Cameroon), and the Zonal Office in Dakar. A Public Health specialist, sent by the Dakar Sahel Office, assisted the Burkinabe Red Cross Society during the emergency intervention.

Analysis of the operation - objectives, achievements and impact

Strategy

The strategy of the operation was based on four main pillars. National Societies in the affected countries were to work closely with their ministries of health and support government efforts through community-based activities. Red Cross action focused on:

- Social mobilization;
- Community training;
- Capacity building activities;
- Early case identification.

Objective: The Red Cross will contribute to the control of the epidemic in the eight directly-affected countries in the region during the next two months.

Expected results

- § 2,000 volunteers and 225 supervisors are trained;
- § 1,000,000 people are reached through sensitization activities;
- § IEC materials are produced and distributed;
- § The meningitis outbreak is controlled by the end of the operation.

Achievements and impact

The eight National Societies were involved in their respective countries in similar activities to mitigate the impact of the meningitis outbreak. Training sessions were organized for volunteers and over 2,500 volunteers in the eight countries set to work with their respective communities after they had received refresher training. Training sessions were very often conducted jointly with local government staff.

Volunteers not only did community education but participated in various vaccination campaigns carried out. IEC materials were produced and distributed among communities' members for them to become aware of meningitis risks and prevention measures. Radio broadcasts were arranged with local radio stations reaching even distant communities and informing them about the outbreak and prevention and response measures.

How we work	
<i>All International Federation 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 is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.</i>	
The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".	Global Agenda Goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.• Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.• Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.• Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact: In Senegal: Alasan Senghore, Federation Head of West and Central Africa Regional Delegation, Dakar; Email alasan.senghore@ifrc.org; Phone +221.869.36.41; Fax +221. 860.20.02.

[<Final financial report below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDR61001 - West & Central Africa - Meningitis

FINAL Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/03-2007/11
Budget Timeframe	2007/03-2007/11
Appeal	MDR61001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget	0					0
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>DREF Allocations</i>	179,077					179,077
C6. Other Income	179,077					179,077
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	179,077					179,077
D. Total Funding = B + C	179,077					179,077

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	179,077					179,077
E. Expenditure	-179,077					-179,077
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	0					0

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III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		0					0	
Supplies								
Clothing & textiles		377				377	-377	
Water & Sanitation		3				3	-3	
Teaching Materials		3,144				3,144	-3,144	
Total Supplies		3,524				3,524	-3,524	
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles		8,375				8,375	-8,375	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment		8,375				8,375	-8,375	
Transport & Storage								
Transport & Vehicle Costs		15,253				15,253	-15,253	
Total Transport & Storage		15,253				15,253	-15,253	
Personnel								
International Staff Payroll Benefits		2,179				2,179	-2,179	
National Staff		1,965				1,965	-1,965	
National Society Staff		47,602				47,602	-47,602	
Total Personnel		51,746				51,746	-51,746	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training		41,603				41,603	-41,603	
Total Workshops & Training		41,603				41,603	-41,603	
General Expenditure								
Travel		8,513				8,513	-8,513	
Information & Public Relation		31,363				31,363	-31,363	
Office Costs		4,525				4,525	-4,525	
Communications		1,434				1,434	-1,434	
Financial Charges		-80				-80	80	
Other General Expenses		1,181				1,181	-1,181	
Total General Expenditure		46,935				46,935	-46,935	
Programme Support								
Program Support		11,640				11,640	-11,640	
Total Programme Support		11,640				11,640	-11,640	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)		179,077				179,077	-179,077	
VARIANCE (C - D)		-179,077				-179,077		