

# DREF operation final report



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Democratic Republic of the Congo: Floods in Kinshasa

DREF operation n° MDRCD002  
GLIDE n° FL-2007-000197  
COD  
8 July, 2009

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 and 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.

### Period covered by this update:

06 November, 2007 to 31 July, 2008.

**Summary:** CHF 284,893 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 06 November, 2007 to support the National Society in delivering assistance to some 1,500 families, i.e. 11,000 beneficiaries, or to replenish disaster preparedness stocks. The relief distribution was mainly based on essential non food and food items. Each of the 11,000 beneficiaries has received soap, mosquito nets, kitchen set, mattress, blankets, corn and beans. Hygiene promotion and environmental sanitation was carried out by 100 Red Cross and community volunteers. Also an advocacy strategy was implemented with government technical departments through setting up community based early warning teams for longer term mitigation actions.



*Flooded house in Kinshasa*

The major donors to the DREF are the Irish, Italian, Netherlands and Norwegian governments and ECHO. Details of all donors can be found on:

<http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp>

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## The situation

Heavy rains in Kinshasa seriously affected 1,500 families in 11 high risk communes of Kinshasa, whose total population is 2,687,686. According to weather forecast, the volume of water reached 222 mm per square meter, a rate never reached since 1961. The force of the water caused serious landslides and erosion in the 10 communes, killing 31 persons and causing the destruction of or

damage to 1,500 homes. About 11,000 people were directly affected by the effects of the disaster in their localities (lack of food, clothes, and other non food items, etc.).

Following the disaster occurrence, an evaluation was carried out and helped draw up a plan of action with relief operation, sensitization of the populations on hygiene and sanitation, and building capacities of the 11 communes with water and sanitation materials to clean up and unblock drainage systems.

## Coordination and partnerships

From the onset of the disaster, the Federation Representation in DRC was in constant communication with the West and Central Africa zone in Dakar and received adequate technical and managerial support in setting up the intervention.

The Federation Representation assisted the National Society to make the initial needs assessment on the affected areas and prepare an information bulletin which led to a DREF bulletin on 6 November, 2007 with the aim to respond to the needs of 1,500 affected families. The approved DREF allowed carrying out life saving activities in coordination with the crisis committee that was put in place by the national authorities and humanitarian organisations under the coordination of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Other members of the committee were Caritas, World Health Organization (WHO), UNFPA, UNICEF, MERU, FOLECO, and Medical Inspection of the Ministry of Health.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

### Progress towards objectives

**Objective: Floods affected populations in 10 communes of Kinshasa are assisted in food and non food items within one month.**

#### Expected results

- 1,500 families affected by floods are protected against disease, acute respiratory infection, and malaria.
- Affected population has appropriate hygiene information

#### Achievements:

- Distribution of non-food items and food to 1,500 families affected by the floods:  
Based on the needs assessment carried out in coordination with provincial and communal authorities and in order to meet the basic needs of affected households 4,500 blankets; 2,470 mattresses; 4,300 mosquito nets and 1,500 kitchen sets comprising two pots, two cups, two bidets each and 1,500 bars of soap and 3,000 water containers were procured and distributed to 1,500 families in 11 communes. The most vulnerable families among which female headed households received food rations (maize, beans and cooking oil) for a total of 32,2 Mts.

- Hygiene promotion and environmental sanitation:

Two training sessions were organized for 100 selected volunteers from the Red Cross and the community in the eleven affected communes. These training sessions were focused on hygiene promotion and simulation in case of early alert.



*DRC red Cross volunteers distribute NFIs to affected families*

During the operation, the volunteers reached out to 35,000 people with messages on clean and safe drinking water; good hygiene; proper disposal of human excreta and garbage and environmental sanitation to prevent cholera and water borne diseases. In addition to the above mentioned Red Cross and community volunteers disinfected more than 900 homes, chlorinated six wells and carried out cleaning gutters to fight against erosion and further flooding in the affected homes.

Five hundreds (500) pairs of boots, 500 pairs of heavy duty gloves, 250 shovels, 250 pickaxes, 50 wheelbarrows, 10 megaphones and 100 kg of lime were procured and dispatched to support sanitation activities.

- Setting up a community-based early warning system on floods and advocating for longer-term mitigation actions

Three meetings were held under the supervision and the coordination of the Federation Representative. The presidents of the eleven communes and their respective disaster management officers attended the three meetings. As a result, eleven (11) early warning teams were set up and were tasked to monitor trigger events and supervise flood prevention activities in the affected communes. Unfortunately these teams failed to continue to be fully operational after the operation due to the lack of appropriate administrative and legal supporting frameworks. Also an important part of the households have relocated to safer areas.

### **Impact**

The flash flood destroyed the houses and personal belongings of the affected households thus leaving without very little means for survival. In that respect distributing of NFI and food rations was essential to enabling the beneficiaries recover them. In addition, sensitisation activities contributed to avoiding in the communes affected outbreaks of epidemics, especially Cholera which has become recurrent in Kinshasa. Also, during the peak of the operation, the 11 early warning teams could adequately monitor water levels and disseminate early warning information to the households most at risk, thus reducing the effect of the disaster. No case of death resulting directly from the floods was reported.

It is also important to mention that skills developed during the flood operation in Kinshasa were later used to respond to flooding in other part of the country (Equateur, Maniema, Oriental provinces). Part of Red Cross Volunteers who participated in the operation has also been incorporated into the National Society's national disaster response team. (NDRT)

### **Challenges**

The National Society does not have warehousing facilities especially dedicated to the storage of strategic emergency stocks that would enable timely response to disasters based on early warning/early action concept. In that view the regional stock that will be based in Kinshasa will be of a great help, even though this will not solve the issue of the lack of warehousing capacities in the provinces.

The lack of a national disaster response plan which could provide a framework for the coordination role of the national disaster management committee (protection civile) was another challenge.

### **Conclusion**

The operation succeeded in meeting the basic needs of the affected households and in avoiding outbreaks of Cholera and waterborne diseases. However, community based early warning teams could not achieve expected results due to lack of adequate administrative and legal supporting frameworks. Subsequently, efforts will be made to help national and local authorities further enhance floods preparedness plans for Kinshasa as well as general disaster mitigation and preparedness plans throughout the country.

DRC Red Cross Society's logistics capacities must also be enhanced both at headquarter and branch (province) levels.

## How we work

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:

- 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:

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# International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRCD002 - Dem Rep Congo - Floods / Landslides

final Financial Report

| Selected Parameters |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Reporting Timeframe | 2007/9-2009/5  |
| Budget Timeframe    | 2007/11-2008/5 |
| Appeal              | MDRCD002       |
| Budget              | APPEAL         |

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

|                                      | Goal 1: Disaster Management | Goal 2: Health and Care | Goal 3: Capacity Building | Goal 4: Principles and Values | Coordination | TOTAL   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|---------|
| <b>A. Budget</b>                     | 284,893                     |                         |                           |                               |              | 284,893 |
| <b>B. Opening Balance</b>            | 0                           |                         |                           |                               |              | 0       |
| <b>Income</b>                        |                             |                         |                           |                               |              |         |
| <u>Other Income</u>                  |                             |                         |                           |                               |              |         |
| <i>Voluntary Income</i>              | 284,886                     |                         |                           |                               |              | 284,886 |
| <b>C5. Other Income</b>              | 284,886                     |                         |                           |                               |              | 284,886 |
| <b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)</b> | 284,886                     |                         |                           |                               |              | 284,886 |
| <b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>      | 284,886                     |                         |                           |                               |              | 284,886 |
| <b>Appeal Coverage</b>               | 100%                        |                         |                           |                               |              | 100%    |

## II. Balance of Funds

|   | Goal 1: Disaster Management | Goal 2: Health and Care | Goal 3: Capacity Building | Goal 4: Principles and Values | Coordination | TOTAL    |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|----------|
| <b>B. Opening Balance</b>               | 0                           |                         |                           |                               |              | 0        |
| <b>C. Income</b>                        | 284,886                     |                         |                           |                               |              | 284,886  |
| <b>E. Expenditure</b>                   | -284,886                    |                         |                           |                               |              | -284,886 |
| <b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b> | 0                           |                         |                           |                               |              | 0        |

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**III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure**

| Account Groups                        | Budget         | Expenditure                 |                         |                           |                               |              | TOTAL          | Variance      |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
|                                       |                | Goal 1: Disaster Management | Goal 2: Health and Care | Goal 3: Capacity Building | Goal 4: Principles and Values | Coordination |                |               |
| A                                     |                |                             |                         |                           |                               |              | B              | A - B         |
| <b>BUDGET (C)</b>                     |                | <b>284,893</b>              |                         |                           |                               |              | <b>284,893</b> |               |
| <b>Supplies</b>                       |                |                             |                         |                           |                               |              |                |               |
| Clothing & textiles                   | 148,500        | 145,467                     |                         |                           |                               |              | 145,467        | 3,033         |
| Food                                  | 21,765         | 23,729                      |                         |                           |                               |              | 23,729         | -1,964        |
| Water & Sanitation                    | 18,308         | 16,460                      |                         |                           |                               |              | 16,460         | 1,848         |
| Utensils & Tools                      | 44,040         | 35,848                      |                         |                           |                               |              | 35,848         | 8,192         |
| Other Supplies & Services             | 1,058          | 1,301                       |                         |                           |                               |              | 1,301          | -243          |
| <b>Total Supplies</b>                 | <b>233,670</b> | <b>222,805</b>              |                         |                           |                               |              | <b>222,805</b> | <b>10,865</b> |
| <b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>        |                |                             |                         |                           |                               |              |                |               |
| Distribution & Monitoring             |                | 6,054                       |                         |                           |                               |              | 6,054          | -6,054        |
| Transport & Vehicle Costs             | 3,348          | 4,824                       |                         |                           |                               |              | 4,824          | -1,476        |
| <b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>  | <b>3,348</b>   | <b>10,878</b>               |                         |                           |                               |              | <b>10,878</b>  | <b>-7,530</b> |
| <b>Personnel</b>                      |                |                             |                         |                           |                               |              |                |               |
| International Staff                   |                | 441                         |                         |                           |                               |              | 441            | -441          |
| National Society Staff                | 16,528         | 13,366                      |                         |                           |                               |              | 13,366         | 3,162         |
| <b>Total Personnel</b>                | <b>16,528</b>  | <b>13,807</b>               |                         |                           |                               |              | <b>13,807</b>  | <b>2,721</b>  |
| <b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>       |                |                             |                         |                           |                               |              |                |               |
| Workshops & Training                  | 6,500          | 5,727                       |                         |                           |                               |              | 5,727          | 773           |
| <b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b> | <b>6,500</b>   | <b>5,727</b>                |                         |                           |                               |              | <b>5,727</b>   | <b>773</b>    |
| <b>General Expenditure</b>            |                |                             |                         |                           |                               |              |                |               |
| Office Costs                          | 2,400          | 7,526                       |                         |                           |                               |              | 7,526          | -5,126        |
| Communications                        | 2,208          | 2,538                       |                         |                           |                               |              | 2,538          | -330          |
| Financial Charges                     | 1,721          | 3,088                       |                         |                           |                               |              | 3,088          | -1,367        |
| <b>Total General Expenditure</b>      | <b>6,329</b>   | <b>13,152</b>               |                         |                           |                               |              | <b>13,152</b>  | <b>-6,823</b> |
| <b>Programme Support</b>              |                |                             |                         |                           |                               |              |                |               |
| Program Support                       | 18,518         | 18,518                      |                         |                           |                               |              | 18,518         | 0             |
| <b>Total Programme Support</b>        | <b>18,518</b>  | <b>18,518</b>               |                         |                           |                               |              | <b>18,518</b>  | <b>0</b>      |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>          | <b>284,893</b> | <b>284,886</b>              |                         |                           |                               |              | <b>284,886</b> | <b>7</b>      |
| <b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>               |                | <b>7</b>                    |                         |                           |                               |              | <b>7</b>       |               |