

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Tanzania: Floods

Emergency Appeal MDRTZ005

GLIDE no. FL-2006-000164-TZA

25 September 2007

Operations Update no. 1

Period covered: 1 May to 17 September 2007;

Appeal target: CHF 969,519 (USD 797,302 or EUR 598,469);

Appeal coverage: 15.4%;

[<Click here to go to the attached financial report>](#)

Outstanding needs: CHF 820,047 (USD 681,668 or EUR 498,812).

Summary: Tanzania Red Cross National Society (TRCNS) volunteers were mobilized to distribute health and shelter relief items, targeting beneficiaries in Shinyanga, Mwanza, Dodoma, Tabora and Iringa. Most

Red Cross volunteers and community workers involved in disseminating messages on Rift Valley Fever (RVF) have received training.

The National Society, through its branches and in collaboration with the Tanzanian Government and community leaders, has been conducting further assessments to identify gaps in the response actions undertaken. The assessments also aim at identifying communities yet to be reached with assistance and determining whether additional support is required to enable those affected to recover from the effects of the floods and to improve their livelihood situations.

Reports indicate that the RVF epidemic has now been put under control; no new cases were reported by the end of June 2007. Consequently, the quarantine on movement of livestock was lifted countrywide and livestock trade has now picked up. However, the TRCNS plans to pursue community awareness activities in regions which have been affected by floods.

The appeal coverage currently stands at 15.4 per cent (out of the CHF 969,519 sought, CHF 149,472 has been received). The Federation takes this opportunity to thank partners who have contributed to the [Emergency Appeal](#), specifically the Japanese Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross/Swedish Government and the United Arab Emirates Red Crescent. Gaps, however, remain and the Federation renews its call to the international community to support the TRCNS's response; a lack of funding is restricting the capacity of the National Society to assist flood-affected people in rebuilding their lives.

The situation

In the last quarter of 2006 into 2007, the northern parts and some central parts of Tanzania experienced heavy rainfall that resulted in extensive flooding. The floods disrupted normal activities, destroyed farms and infrastructure and claimed some human and livestock lives. Some areas were affected by floods more than once in a span of four months and communities were displaced several times.



The Tanzania Red Cross Society has distributed long lasting insecticide-treated nets (LLITNs) and buckets in Mwanza Region.

A Red Cross assessment conducted in four regions of Tanzania (Dodoma, Shinyanga, Tabora and Mwanza) in March 2007 found that at least 14,000 people were in dire need of humanitarian assistance. Water currents destroyed people's homes, washed away their belongings, and forced thousands to abandon their towns and villages in search of safer grounds. Some 5,000 households had their homes partially or wholly destroyed and more than 2,000 were forced to vacate their homes. Initial estimates showed that the number of affected people could increase to over 30,000. It was also feared that many more would become vulnerable to the approaching long rainy season.

A total of 2,787 households were directly affected by the initial floods. There were displacements, loss of lives as well as loss of livestock and other assets such as food crops. Displaced people in Iringa took refuge at a local police post and in schools while in areas such as Mwanza, Shinyanga Rural and Bahi in Dodoma the displaced were sheltered in temporary camps. The road infrastructure in most areas was damaged, negatively affecting field assessments and transportation of relief items.

Table 1: Effects of the heavy rains and floods

Regions	Districts	Overall situation
Shinyanga	Shinyanga rural, Kishapu and Metu.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 621 families displaced and more than 150 acres of crops destroyed.
Dodoma	Bahi, Chamwino and Kondoa.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 297 displaced and more than 1,500 acres of crops destroyed. At least 34 deaths related to RVF.
Iringa	Iringa Rural District.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 person reported dead. An estimated 400 households affected 14 latrines collapsed. 500 hectares of crops damaged.
Mwanza	Geita and Magu.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 239 families displaced. 126 hectares of crops damaged.
Tabora	Igunga, Sikonge, Nzega, Tabora-Uyui.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,160 households affected. 1,048 houses damaged. 717 livestock heads, mainly goats and sheep, drowned.
Mbeya	Mbeya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 70 households displaced. A bridge swept away.

The heavy rains and floods also brought with them health problems such as Rift Valley Fever (RVF). Cases of RVF, which caused some human and livestock deaths, were reported in Arusha, Tanga, Kilimanjaro, Morogoro, Iringa, Singida and Manyara regions.

Operational developments

According to reports from Tanga Region located in the east, following a 13-hour continuous downpour on 31 May, floods affected the suburbs of Tanga town, claiming one human life and leaving 233 families destitute. 200 mud houses were damaged (walls cracked or roofs pulled off), several others were submerged, and household property – including food stocks – was damaged. During the period May to June 2007, areas of Dar-es-Salaam, Zanzibar and Lake Victoria Basin, particularly Mwanza and Kagera, continued receiving rains.

The affected populations have continued to live in appalling sanitary conditions, lacking access to safe water and feeling the impact of unpredictable climate and the spread of communicable diseases. The situation has largely been a 'silent disaster' which demands for urgent action to help those struggling for survival to return to normal lives. The displaced are the most vulnerable segments of the population whose conditions have been dismal over an extended period and have been aggravated by recent rains.

Shelter is still a major concern as most of the affected communities have not been able to secure safe and reliable alternatives. Some of the affected people living in tents are struggling to re-build their homes while still occupying make-shift shelters. The Tanzanian Government and humanitarian agencies have continued to urge those living in lowlands to move to higher grounds. This has been positively accepted, especially in some of the areas which were critically affected by floods. In Ikonda village, Shinyanga Rural – which was visited by the Red Cross assessment team – the villagers have agreed to shift to higher grounds to avert future flooding crises. The government conducted surveys of more than 600 new plots which could be given to those affected. The government has also sensitized the communities on the need to build their structures using fired bricks. During an official tour in August 2007, the president of the United Republic of Tanzania visited Ikonda village and inaugurated a campaign on building houses using fired bricks. The TRCNS has expressed its wish to support this initiative so as to improve conditions for the most vulnerable households.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Following an assessment¹ by the Red Cross, it was established that up to 50 to 70 percent of the affected rural communities were consuming untreated water and risked the associated health consequences given that most water sources were contaminated by floodwater. The assessment had identified gaps in the relief response and recovery needs for about 14,000 people. This information enabled the National Society to prioritize areas of intervention.

In response to these gaps, TRCNS volunteers were mobilized to distribute relief items. The National Society has provided a total of 3,210 blankets, 1,020 bars of soap and 1,500 water buckets to targeted beneficiaries in Shinyanga, Mwanza, Dodoma, Tabora and Iringa districts. Some 500 blankets were distributed in Dodoma and 200 in Manyara/Morogoro regions. Additionally, 350 mosquito nets have been distributed to affected communities in Mwanza and 3,000 information, education and communication (IEC) leaflets have been circulated in Morogoro and Manyara regions. In Tanga, 277 households have received 500 blankets, 400 water buckets and 400 long lasting insecticide-treated nets (LLITNs). Thirty blankets were also sent to Dar-es-Salaam from the disaster preparedness stocks to support the response. Volunteers from the Tanga branch of the National Society assisted flood-affected families to salvage some of their household property and relocate to schools and churches where they were temporary hosted. The volunteers also participated in distributing relief items.

Latest reports indicate that the RVF situation has significantly improved. By the end of June 2007, no new patients were admitted with the disease. Consequently, the quarantine on movement of livestock was lifted countrywide and livestock trade has now picked up. However, the TRCNS plans to pursue community awareness activities in regions which have been affected by floods.

A total of CHF 93,000 was allocated to the TRCNS from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to enable an effective flood response. CHF 43,000 was allocated on 13 December 2006 to support the National Society in improving the status of flood-affected households through provision of non-food items (NFIs), health interventions and provision of shelter. An additional CHF 50,000 was allocated to support joint TRCNS/Federation field assessments. The DREF funds were also to support the development of IEC materials on Rift Valley Fever, conducting initial awareness campaigns and provision of non-food items to communities not yet reached with humanitarian assistance.

With the launch of an Emergency Appeal on 1 May 2007, the geographical coverage of the Red Cross intervention was widened to cover other flood-affected areas.

¹ The assessments set out to determine the impact of the flooding on the affected communities, measures put in place to respond to the effects and the coping mechanisms and community recovery needs.

Objectives, progress, impact and challenges

Goal: To improve the health and wellbeing of the most vulnerable people in Tanzania affected by a succession of devastating floods and health epidemics.

Shelter

Objective: To restore shelter conditions of 600 displaced households (3,000 persons) in Dodoma and Shinyanga regions.

Progress

Some 400 galvanized iron sheets from the National Society's disaster preparedness stocks were distributed to flood-affected households in Shinyanga (200 households) and Dodoma (200 households). Procurement and distribution of complete shelter-kits is pending donor funding. Provision of technicians to oversee the implementation of shelter activities will also be implemented as funds become available.

Health

Objective: To reduce vulnerability of 10,000 households (50,000 people) in Dodoma and Shinyanga to Rift Valley Fever and other epidemics.

Progress

TRCNS volunteers conducted RVF awareness sessions in affected communities of Dodoma. Orientation workshops on proper dissemination of RVF message were conducted for the benefit of the volunteers and community workers. Up to 74 volunteers and community workers from 56 villages affected by RVF were trained. The trained volunteers disseminated messages on RVF to more than 7,400 households. Some 4,000 leaflets bearing RVF messages were circulated in Dodoma Region in May 2007. Additionally, 200 LLITNs were distributed to health facilities and to patients admitted in hospitals in Dodoma while 300 more were procured locally and distributed in Shinyanga region. Follow-up is being made to monitor the impact of these interventions and the rate of recovery of the affected communities.

Constraints

The rapid spread of RVF epidemic vis-à-vis relatively limited resources hindered an effective initial response. The TRCNS responded to this challenge by prioritizing interventions aimed at addressing the spread of the epidemic. In addition, earthquakes and tremors felt in Arusha and Kilimanjaro in July and August 2007 also disrupted settlement patterns as areas previously thought to be safe from flooding became dangerous due to their proximity to the earthquakes' epicentre. Disaster preparedness stocks – such as blankets, stretchers and first aid kits – pre-positioned for the flood interventions were deployed to the Arusha branch of the National Society thus slowing down flood interventions.

Coordination and partnerships

The Federation's Eastern Africa Zone office in Nairobi, Kenya, provided technical support to the TRCNS during the initial phase of the intervention, including support during production of information leaflets. Regular exchange of information has been maintained between the TRCNS and the Federation to monitor the spread of the RVF epidemic. The Spanish Red Cross provided some non-food items.

The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) provided tarpaulins and tents to displaced families. Other humanitarian agencies involved in the emergency response provided food, non-food items, seeds and temporary shelter. They included Caritas Internationalis, Oxfam GB, World Vision Tanzania, several faith-based organizations and institutions.

Tanzanian government agencies, village disaster management committees and TRCNS conducted rapid assessments and search/rescue operations in the affected districts. The government also joined forces with the Tanzania Peoples Defence Force to assist in rescue efforts and to provide relief assistance. Military helicopters were deployed to drop food and non-food items to the cut-off areas in Tabora (Ganyawa, Igunga district) and Shinyanga regions. In addition to mineral water and water purification tablets, the government, in collaboration with district councils, provided food items to displaced families. Government schools were used to provide temporary refuge for displaced families. The government mobilized 13 tents (from the Tanzania Peoples Defence Force), food stuffs and appealed for funds to rehabilitate destroyed bridges in order to make roads passable. The TRCNS worked closely with the Ministry of Health during the production and distribution of IEC materials to affected communities.

National Society Capacity Building

The findings of the assessment conducted indicated that the flow of information from the branches and disaster sites in the regions to the TRCNS national headquarters in Dar-es-Salaam was inadequate and resulted in poor coordination of the flood response. To address these challenges, the TRCNS plans have included regular monitoring visits to implementation areas (at least twice per month) as well as use of telecommunications. This will be done with support from the Eastern Africa Zone office in Nairobi.

How we work

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.

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>

The International Federation's activities are carried out under 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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[<Appeal financial status report below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRTZ005 - TANZANIA - FLOODS

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/1-2007/8
Budget Timeframe	2007/1-2007/12
Appeal	MDRTZ005
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		969,519				969,519
B. Opening Balance		-109				-109
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>Japanese Red Cross</i>		32,349				32,349
<i>Monaco Red Cross</i>		16,500				16,500
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>		88,650				88,650
<i>United Arab Emirates Red Crescent</i>		12,082				12,082
C1. Cash contributions		149,581				149,581
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		149,581				149,581
D. Total Funding = B + C		149,472				149,472

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		-109				-109
C. Income		149,581				149,581
E. Expenditure		-135,382				-135,382
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		14,090				14,090

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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)		969,519					969,519	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	480,000						480,000	
Clothing & textiles	57,000		13,254			13,254	43,746	
Food			5,990			5,990	-5,990	
Water & Sanitation	15,000		4,696			4,696	10,304	
Teaching Materials	12,500						12,500	
Utensils & Tools			42,108			42,108	-42,108	
Other Supplies & Services			290			290	-290	
Total Supplies	564,500		66,338			66,338	498,162	
Transport & Storage								
Storage	50,000		119			119	49,881	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	20,000		1,561			1,561	18,439	
Total Transport & Storage	70,000		1,680			1,680	68,320	
Personnel Expenditures								
International Staff Payroll Benefits			970			970	-970	
Regionally Deployed Staff	5,000						5,000	
National Staff	57,750		1,420			1,420	56,330	
Total Personnel Expenditures	62,750		2,390			2,390	60,360	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	95,500		1,389			1,389	94,111	
Total Workshops & Training	95,500		1,389			1,389	94,111	
General Expenditure								
Travel			6,668			6,668	-6,668	
Information & Public Relation	48,750		293			293	48,457	
Office Costs	45,000		8,434			8,434	36,566	
Communications	20,000		38			38	19,962	
Financial Charges			262			262	-262	
Other General Expenses	0						0	
Total General Expenditure	113,750		15,695			15,695	98,055	
Program Support								
Program Support	63,019		8,800			8,800	54,219	
Total Program Support	63,019		8,800			8,800	54,219	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			39,089			39,089	-39,089	
Total Operational Provisions			39,089			39,089	-39,089	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	969,519		135,382			135,382	834,137	
VARIANCE (C - D)			834,137			834,137		

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MDRTZ005 - TANZANIA - FLOODS

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/1-2007/8
Budget Timeframe	2007/1-2007/12
Appeal	MDRTZ005
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

IV. Project Details

Project	Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Budget	Variance
		A	B	C	A + B + C	D	D - C
Disaster Management							
PTZ008	Tanzania Floods Dec 06	-109	149,581	-135,382	14,090	969,519	834,137
PTZ009	Floods -March 2007	0	0		0	0	0
Sub-Total Disaster Management		-109	149,581	-135,382	14,090	969,519	834,137
Total	TANZANIA - FLOODS	-109	149,581	-135,382	14,090	969,519	834,137