

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Burkina Faso: Floods

Focus on the Field Assessment and Coordination Teams (FACT) and Emergency Response Units (ERUs)

Emergency appeal n° MDRBF008
GLIDE n° FL-2009-000172-BFA
Operations update n° 2
28 September 2009

Period covered by this Ops Update: 18-21 September 2009;

Appeal target (current): CHF 2,765,053

Appeal coverage: 83%; [<click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details >](#)

Appeal history:

- This preliminary Emergency Appeal was initially launched on 9 September 2009 for CHF 2.7m for 6 months to assist 40,000 beneficiaries.
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF):** CHF 200,000 was initially allocated on a regional basis from the Federation's DREF to support the National Society to respond.

Summary: During the night of 31 August to 01 September, 263,3mm of rain fell over a 12-hour period. This event was unforeseen and exceptional for the month of August, catching the population completely off guard in and around the capital Ouagadougou. According to the initial assessment data provided by CORESUR (Provincial Council of Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation), the number of people severely affected by the flooding was between 109,000 and 150,000 (representing 10% of the population of the capital). The floods affected all 5 districts of Ouagadougou Commune (Bogodogo, Baskuy, Signoghin, Boulmiougou, and Nongremasson) as well as the neighbouring villages. Consequently, homes were flooded, or damaged; the dams overflowed, as did the gutters flooding the main arteries of the city. The affected population sought refuge in public facilities such as schools and other public buildings (Emergency Centres); host families and friends welcomed others, while others remained on their property to preserve what remained of their belongings. Between 01 and 20 September, over 50,000 people affected by the flooding were living in 97 Emergency Centres while an estimated 15,000 people affected were sheltered by host families and friends. The 12 other provinces of Burkina Faso also received heavy rain on the night of 31 August to 01 September and initial assessments by the BRCS show that 19,000 people were affected. More detailed assessments are in the process of being completed. The BRCS responded immediately. Fourteen teams of volunteers participated in the evacuation of the affected population and reported back on their preliminary assessments of the situation. The BRCS with the support of their Movement partners in country (ICRC, Spanish Red Cross, and Belgian Red Cross) began distribution of Non Food Items stocks that had been pre-positioned in the BRCS warehouse of the course of the previous year.



Distribution of Non Food Items by volunteers/Photo: Federation FACT and BRCS.

The situation

Following unusually severe rains on 01 September when 263mm fell in 12 hours, widespread displacement occurred within and around Ouagadougou (Greater Ouagadougou), affecting all five districts. The affected population sought refuge in public facilities such as schools and other public buildings while host families welcomed others. Rain season is continuing and the current situation remains precarious, as temporary shelters are overcrowded and the city remains vulnerable to flooding should similar rainfall to that of 01 September reoccur. The BRCS mobilized its teams of volunteers to assist the affected communities to reduce the impact of the disaster and prevent the outbreak of water related diseases, and the Federation has deployed a Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) to support the assessment and coordination efforts, and to work with the regional disaster response team members already in place. Two Emergency Response Units (ERUs) for relief and logistics were deployed. This operations update reflects the activities of the work undertaken by these Federation resources. Immediately following the flooding, on September 3, 8 and 9 the BRCS distributed NFIs to 152 families from the stocks they had in their warehouse. The BRCS with the support of Movement partners began distribution of NFIs on 17 September in the district of Nongre-Massom. On 17 and 19 September the BRCS with the support of Relief ERU distributed NFIs to 604 families (3,527 people) from the 1,000 ICRC pre-positioned stocks. The family kits were completed with Spanish Red Cross pre-positioned stocks on 19 September. The National Society has offered to the authorities, to provide water distribution, sanitation and hygiene promotion to one of the pilot sites.

In preparation for Phase 3 (Shelter) BRCS/IFRC are conducting damage and needs assessments of the homes that were affected by floods. Where possible, the plan is to assist families in returning home with shelter material (shelter tool kits and tarpaulins) or to build a temporary shelter on the property of friends and family. The assessments are ongoing. Following, the site planning of temporary re-settlement camps that has been elaborated by the government authorities and shared with humanitarian actors, BRCS/IFRC offered to review site planning with authorities and other actors in line with SPHERE guidelines. The proposal was welcomed by the authorities. A meeting was convened on 19 September with the Technical counsel and Architect from the Ministry of Habitat and Urbanism, BRCS/IFRC FACT, UN-Habitat, ECHO, UNHCR, UNICEF WASH Coordinator, OXFAM, and Enfants et Développement.

The emergency response timeline established by the Government and humanitarian actors is divided into 3 phases:

- Phase 1: Emergency phase. Temporary shelters in public building until 21 September (Schools open on 01 October).
- Phase 2: Re-settlement of families from 97 emergency centres to 37 temporary re-settlement sites for approximately 3 months.
- Phase 3: Re-construction and re-location.

Coordination and partnerships

'Sectoral' Coordination:

The United Nations Cluster has not been activated however, 'sectoral' groups have been set-up to coordinate activities on the ground and identify needs and gaps.

Inter-Agency Coordination:

Government authorities, UN OCHA, RC/RC Movement, NGOs (chaired by the UN-Resident Coordinator). UNDAC team has departed.

Multi-Sectoral Coordination:

CONASUR, UNDAC (UNDP-OCHA, BRCS/IFRC CNSA, CONAREF,

- Health sector : WHO, BRCS/IFRC, MoH, MSF-F
- WASH sector: CRS, BRCS/IFRC, OXFAM, ACF, Plan International, CREPA, WATERAID, CCFC, MSF-Lux, and UNICEF
- Food Security sector: WFP, AFRICARE, CRS, BRCS/IFRC, FOA
- Protection sector: Civil Protection, Christian Aid, Plan International, Save the Children, BRCS/IFRC, UNHCR, CARE
- Shelter/Relief: UNICEF, UNFPA, UNHCR, BRCS/IFRC, SCF-Canada, HELP, ODE, Shelter-Box, UN-Habitat, OXFAM, and Enfants et Développement)
- Education: (Plan International, Save the Children, UNICEF)

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (Basic non-food items)
Objective: 8,000 most vulnerable flood affected households (some 40,000 people) benefit from the distribution of non-food items (blankets, shelter kits, family tents, mosquito nets, tarpaulins, sleeping mats, kitchen sets)
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. • Procure and distribute non-food items, including mosquito nets, blankets, sleeping mats, tarpaulins, to 8,000 targeted families. • Distribute non-food items at target distribution points. • Replenish the stock used from the federation stock in the region. • Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

Progress, achievements: The BRCS will assist 8,000 families affected by the floods. The BRCS is initially targeting those affected in 3 of the 5 districts of Greater Ouagadougou (Nongre-massom, Baskuy, and Bogodogo). The BRCS have registered 3,940 families living in emergency centres in those three districts, and is monitoring changes that occur in the emergency centres as they affect NFI distribution planning. Identification of those affected who are living with host families is underway, and BRCS branches have identified 2,015 families outside the Ouagadougou area who have been displaced by the floods. Burkina Red Cross Society is also monitoring the interaction of the resettlement planning, food distribution and the need for NFI and is prepared to modify its distribution in the event the execution of the movement from emergency centres to temporary resettlement centres demands. On 17 and 19 September, the BRCS assisted by ERU Relief and Movement partners has distributed NFI to 604 families (3,527 people) from BRCS/ICRC stocks and some items from BRCS/SpRC stocks. On 19 September, ICRC NFIs included tarpaulins. These distributions took place in the district of Nongre-Massom to families living in Emergency Centres such as schools and public buildings (see table below).

Date	Distribution Point District of Nongre-masson Ouagadougou	Households	Persons*
17-Sep-09	Nioko 2	217	1,037
17-Sep-09	Ecole Kiswend-Sida Sect 24	24	177
17-Sep-09	Ecole le Messenger Sect 24	36	248
19-Sep-09	Ecole Witoguin, Sect 27	75	517
19-Sep-09	Kossodo A, B et C	128	636
19-Sep-09	Espace rencontre, Set 23	62	423
19-Sep-09	Ecole Malgre, Sect 24	62	489
	TOTAL	634	3,527

*Considering the BRCS have assessed households based on the number of family members, they have planned distribution of NFIs in quantities that relate to the number of family members.

The BRCS/ICRC family kits contain the following items:

- Kit cuisine : 1 per family ;
- Bucket : 1 per family ;
- Soap : in relation to family members ;
- Cloth :1 pack/6 pagnes per family ;
- Sleeping mat : according to the number of family members ;
- Mosquito nets : accordingly 1 net for 2 people ;
- Tarpaulin : 1 per family.

As further items on the Mobilization Table arrive, BRCS/IFRC will continue to issue a standard package, and supplement previous distributions with those items missing from the initial distribution. BRCS is controlling the distribution using ration cards, and is able to identify shortages by family, but shortages will seriously constrain the distribution operations within the week.

Emergency shelter

Objective: At least 500 affected households have safe and adequate shelter and settlement solutions through the provision of locally appropriate materials, tools, or tents.

Activities planned:

- Assess the extent of the shelter needs and preferred shelter solutions.
- Enable the provision of safe and adequate locally appropriate shelter solutions through appropriate programming methodologies.
- Promote safe and durable shelter where possible through the provision of technical assistance and guidance to all involved in the shelter activities.
- Promote increased awareness and understanding of safe and adequate shelter response programming with the National Society and affected communities.

Progress, achievements: Data collection

The data collection for this preliminary shelter and settlement report was based upon:

- Briefing from key focal persons in the BRCS and other key informants;
- Field visit to an emergency centre;
- Sectorial Coordination Meeting “Shelter and NFIs”;
- Attendance at technical meeting, Shelter and Watsan with the Ministry of Habitat and Humanitarian agencies;
- Visit of three sites (of a total of 35) re-settlement sites, with the Ministry of Housing and NGOs;
- Meeting with the Shelter person of the ERU Relief;
- Existing reports both Red Cross and external;
- Shelter Kit exercise;
- Shelter and Settlement coordination meeting;
- Beneficiary types.

On 16 September the Interagency coordination meeting took place. During this meeting an extraordinary technical meeting was called for the same day, to talk about all related issues to shelter and settlement so the Interagency could be focused in other issues. The attendees to the second meeting, technical meeting were: Echo, Oxfam, Save the Children, CRS, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, Ministry of Habitat, BFRC and IFRC (TL, FACT Shelter and FACT Watsan). The most relevant outcome of this meeting was that the Government proposed one possibility for re-settlement: to move the families that are currently in the temporary centres to different re-settlement sites (37 in total). The only proposal for shelter solution in said sites is tents (family and communal tents). Six pilot sites (out of 37) have been already designed and their preliminary layout has been done. Following the meeting, a group of technical experts including BRCS, FACT Shelter and FACT Watsan, with the Ministry of Habitat, gathered to reconnoitre the sites with the preliminary layout proposed by the Government. The total number of people that the Government plans to re-settle in these sites is 10,150 people. The Government with support of the Military has started (on the 17 September) to set up some tents in two of these sites (Injeps and Hipodrome). These sites will be composed with the following types of tents:

- Military tent (French) – capacity of 30 people;
- UN tent – capacity of 16 people;
- Algerian tent – capacity of 12 people;
- Maronite tent (protection civile) – capacity of 8 people.

BRCS/IFRC agreed that they will be involved in some of these resettlements sites, up to 5,000 people with water and sanitation support. This will be possible with the arrival of the Water and Sanitation Kit5 from Dakar expected on 22 September.

Shelter Kit Training/Capacity Building of BRCS:

On 19 September a “Shelter Kit Exercise” session for 6 volunteers of BRCS took place. The FACT Shelter and the Shelter-Relief ERU facilitated the training. The training consisted in 3 parts, both with participatory approach:

- The theoretical part (2 hours): Presentation/description of the IFRC Shelter kit package components. Presentation of the various guidelines: sphere standards, plastic sheeting guidelines, ideas on possible shelter upgrading, presentation of shelter kit experiences in other countries.
- Practical exercise (3 hours): two groups of 3 members each developed two possible examples of emergency shelter solution, adapted to their culture identifying local appropriate designs.
- Feedback (½ hour): After the training-exercise an informal feedback session was done among the group of volunteers and the shelter counterpart BRCS. All volunteers considered a good exercise and thought that it was a very good option to help the people that are still living in the schools. They said that for many families it would be possible, if they receive a shelter kit with some materials that some could recover from their previous houses, could start to repair their houses or build some shelter with some families or friends (copying mechanisms).

Water and sanitation
<p>Objective: The risk of waterborne diseases has been reduced through the provision of potable water and sensitization on good hygiene practices to the most vulnerable flood-affected households through the distribution of jerrycans, provision of water bladders in the districts, construction of family pit latrines, and sensitizing the communities on good hygiene practices.</p>
<p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen the capacity of volunteers of BRCS in water treatment and the use of purification materials and good hygiene practices. • Distribute water purification tablets and sensitize the population on their use. • Distribute jerrycans, soap, buckets. • Sensitize the population on good hygiene and sanitation practices. • Position bladders in the sites. • Construct family latrines. • Monitor and evaluate the watsan activities and provide reporting.

Progress, achievements:

The FACT water and sanitation delegate, in collaboration with BRCS counterpart, produced an assessment report (see prior Operation Update) and proposed a plan of action and budget on 18 September. Participation in sectoral meetings and coordination with other humanitarian actors was implemented to share information and define needs and gaps and will be ongoing with the new delegate arriving. The FACT handover to BRCS was completed on 19 September with the participation of FACT Watsan, FACT TL and BRCS counterpart. The FACT watsan delegate departed on 20 September as planned and conducted a briefing/handover session in Dakar (on 20 September) with the head of Operations. A Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) Watsan arrived in the country on 20 September.

Emergency health
<p>Objective: Basic emergency health needs have been responded to by preventing diseases such as malaria, cholera, and diarrhoeal</p>
<p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide community sensitization on disease identification and referral advice. • Distribute mosquito nets and oral rehydration salt (ORS) in an appropriate manner. • Manage and conduct a basic health campaign. • Monitor and evaluate the health activities and provide reporting.

Progress, achievements:

The FACT Health delegate completed an initial assessment (see prior Operation Update). A close monitoring is ongoing and necessary as the situation in Emergency centres is precarious due to over crowding, sanitary facilities being over-stretched and increasing the amount of vectors (mosquitoes and flies) that have been noted. Mosquito nets are being distributed with NFI family kits as a preventive measure. Timely distribution of mosquito nets is of utmost importance. The National Society is conducting a sensitization and hygiene promotion in emergency centres in all 5 districts as a preventative measure to reduce the health risks to the population living in the centres. Moreover, during NFI distributions, volunteers are showing beneficiaries the proper use and installation of mosquito nets. According to the Ministry of Health, report of 15 September, there have been no major communicable disease outbreaks. During the second week of September in Greater Ouagadougou, 1,500 patients sought treatment from primary health care services. Most patients suffered from

malaria, diarrhoeal disease and ARI (acute respiratory infections). It was confirmed during the last sectoral meeting that assessments are underway in Burkina Faso to determine how many people require immunization (measles). The FACT Health delegate is working with BRCS Health and Watsan counterparts to elaborate a Plan of Action based on an integrated Health/Watsan approach. The FACT Health delegate participated in weekly sector meetings with BRCS Health counterpart to share information and identify needs and gaps. (see previous reports for Sector Health participants).

Recommendations/Needs

Refresher training for the BRCS team leaders and supervisors of the volunteers on prevention of spread of communicable diseases and key messages would be necessary. The World Health Organization (WHO) will be supporting refresher courses and guideline sharing to deal with water-borne diseases. WHO's West Africa Emergency and Humanitarian Action Inter-country Support Team (EHA IST) is also sharing tools, including for health assessments that are related to health response and coordination of health providers. Some extra Information Education and Communication material for sensitization (will be coming with KIT 5, expected on 22 September). There is a need for covering the costs for volunteer per diems working in sensitization on the sites as well as a need for covering the costs for fuel to do above mentioned sensitization visits.

Logistics and relief item mobilization

The total value of items to be mobilized is 2,194,620 CHF (including value of Relief ERU). The Appeal has secured contributions for 83% of the required amount, to meet the needs in NFI for 8,000 families. Stocks in country allow beginning distribution of NFIs, however because of limited stocks, NFI family kits are not complete and will require second round of distribution. As of 21 September, at the rate of distribution planned for the coming days, BRCS NFI family kit stock items in country will be depleted. Items in the pipeline are scheduled to arrive at the end of September. The BRCS is currently operating two warehouses and has procedures in place to receive, document and secure commodities received for the response. Logistics ERU arrived on 20 September to assist the BRCS with stock management and reporting and will implement LOGIC System. Regarding the IT/Telecom area, the main constraint is that Internet connection is irregular throughout the day with lack of access for several hours at times.

Mobilization Situation Update:

Mobilisation Table Burkina Faso

21.09.09

Item description	Quantity requested for 8000 families	Total Value CHF	Stock Received (Qty)	Pipeline (Qty)	Mobilized Value CHF	%	Balance to be Mobilized (Qty)	Balance value CHF
PUR sachet 4gr	296000	11840	0	0	0	0%	296000	11840
ORS	20000	1200	0	0	0	0%	20000	1200
Kit Watsan Nr5	1	80000	1	0	80000	100%	0	0
86%								
Jerry Can	7500	15225	0	4341	8812	58%	3159	6412,77
Soap	8000	6480	3250	0	2633	41%	4750	3847,5
Blanket	37500	221250	0	6346	37441	17%	31154	183808,6
Sleeping Mat	40000	20000	7375	0	3688	18%	32625	16312,5
MosNet	15000	97500	2500	5897	54581	56%	6603	42919,5
Tarpaulins	4000	74160	2123	1639	69747	94%	238	4412,52
Kitchen Set	7500	247500	1750	1241	98703	40%	4509	148797
Buckets	7500	44925	1750	500	13478	30%	5250	31447,5
Hygiene Kits	7500	150000	0	500	10000	7%	7000	140000
34%								
Tent 4x4	500	175000	0	0	0	0%	500	175000
Family Kits	500	12500	0	500	12500	100%	0	0
Rapid Latrine	100	60000	0	100	60000	100%	0	0
Relief ERU	1	100000	1	0	100000	100%	0	0
		2194620			850664,22			765997,89

Comments:

PUR quantity reduced by 50%

Mobilization Planning

21 September				1st 2000 Families		2nd 2000 Families	
Item description	Quantity requested for 8000 families	Stock mobilized	Needs for 2000 Family	Coverage	Gaps	Coverage	Gaps
PUR sachet 4gr	296000	0	NA	NA			
ORS	20000	0	NA	NA			
Jerry Can	7500	4341	2000	2000	0	2000	0
Soap	8000	3250	2000	2000	0	1250	750
Blanket	37500	6346	10000	6346	3654	0	10000
Sleeping Mat	40000	7375	10000	7575	2425	0	10000
MosNet	15000	8397	4000	4000	0	4000	0
Tarpaulins	4000	3762	NA	NA			
Tent 4x4	500	0	NA	NA			
Kitchen Set	7500	2991	2000	2000	0	991	1009
Buckets	7500	2250	2000	2000	0	250	1750
Hygiene Kits	7500	500	2000	500	1500	0	2000
Kit Watsan Nr5	1	500	NA	NA			
Family Kits	500	500	NA	NA			
Rapid Latrine	100	100	NA	NA			
Relief ERU	1	1	NA	NA			

3rd 2000 Families	
Coverage	Gaps
341	1659
0	2000
0	10000
0	10000
397	4000
0	2000
0	2000
0	2000

4th 2000 Families	
Coverage	Gaps
0	2000
0	2000
0	10000
0	10000
0	4000
0	2000
0	2000
0	2000

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.

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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