

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Central African Republic: Yellow Fever

DREF operation n° MDRCF003
GLIDE n° EP-2009-000014-CAF
15 January 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.

CHF 30,100 (USD 26,954 or EUR 20,118) is requested from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Central African Red Cross Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 300,000 beneficiaries. Un-earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Recurrent yellow fever outbreaks have been registered in the Central African Republic. The recent outbreaks are requesting a response in 2 separate geographic areas of the country, with one of them being close to the capital Bangui. The national society is part of the crisis team and has been approached by the government to take part in the vaccination campaign. The campaign to vaccinate around 300,000 people between age of 9 months and 60 years will take place as soon as vaccines are received within the coming days.



This operation is expected to be implemented over 1 month, and will therefore be completed by mid February 2009; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by mid May 2009).

[<click here for the DREF budget ,](#)
[here for contact details,](#)
[or here to view the map of the affected area>](#)

The situation

Five Yellow Fever outbreaks have been discovered in the Central African Republic (CAR) in 24 months (September 2006 to October 2008), namely Boali (September 2006), Bozoum (April 2008), Boda (August 2008), Liton Village (October 2008), and Bria (Kalaga village in October 2008). Central African Government has already organized 3 Yellow Fever response operations in Boali, Bozoum and Boda, and is currently

planning to organize 2 new operations in the health zones of Ombella Mpoko (suburbs of Bangui) and Haute Kotto (600km North-East of Bangui).

The Ministry of Public Health and Populations (MoPH & P), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) who supported the previous 3 response operations have all declared that there is an urgent need to launch the above-mentioned 2 operations to help prevent a generalized outbreak of a Yellow Fever epidemic in Bangui. The other most important reason why this intervention is urgent is that "CAR is just waking up from a conflict, with fragile economic and financial situations that are far from being able to stand the consequences of such a wide-spread epidemic, the control of which is somehow the responsibility of the international community in accordance with the 2005 International Health Regulations".

The presentation of the two health zones concerned is provided below:

- Ombella Mpoko: this is an area considered to be the suburbs of Bangui, composed of six surrounding towns, namely Bimbo, Boali, Damara, Bogangolo, Bossembélé and Yaloké, with a total population of 220,000 inhabitants;
- Haute Kotto: this area located 600km North-East of the country forms part of the Meningitis belt of the Central African Republic. It is composed of three towns, namely Bria, Yalinga and Ouadda, with a total population of 102,296 inhabitants.

Note: The immunization campaign officially targets 297,127 people aged from 9 months to 60 years.

Coordination and partnerships

A crisis meeting took place on 5 January 2009. On that occasion, WHO promised to cover the charges for vaccines while UNICEF covers those for inputs like syringes, thinners and security boxes. The Ministry of Public Health appealed on the CAR Red Cross society, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Holland and International Medical Committee (IMC) to take care of the social mobilization aspect of the campaign, to which Central African Red Cross Society (CARCS) is responding favourably through this DREF request.

So far, Government has already set up an epidemiological surveillance team composed of experts from the Ministry of Public Health, WHO and the Institut Pasteur. This team participated in the above-mentioned crisis meeting and declared that there is an urgent need to launch the immunization campaign, taking into consideration the high number of infected mosquitoes in the country, especially as the rainy season is fast approaching (March).

An International Coordinating Group (ICG) request for the vaccines has been made and is in the process of being approved by the group.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

On their part, the volunteers of the Central African Republic Red Cross society are involved in epidemiological surveillance activities, with the specific task to detect and refer jaundice cases to health centres.

The International Federation, through its delegation in Yaoundé, Cameroun, continues to work closely with the national society by supporting its staff and volunteers in all activities of the Red Cross and ensuring that management as well as operational issues are directed and implemented within the principles and core values of the Red Cross Movement to reach the needs of the most vulnerable.

The needs

An emergency vaccination campaign covering 300,000 people is needed in the concerned district to prevent the immediate spread of the disease following epidemiological examination by the MOH and WHO. To allow the national society to take part in the emergency vaccination campaign and sensitize the population to take part in the campaign, financial support through the DREF mechanism is needed to train and mobilise volunteers and allow for adequate supervision of the activities. Details of the activities are found below.

The proposed operation

Volunteers will be recruited in each health zone, and trained by the respective physician-in-chief. The trained volunteers will then be appointed in the various towns targeted by the operation where they will sensitize the populations before, during and after the immunization campaign, which will last for seven days as decided by the Ministry of Public Health and Populations. Nine local supervisors will be appointed to control the work of the volunteers under their authority, while two supervisors from CARCS national headquarters will be

deployed in each of the two health zones targeted by the operation. The Secretary General of the Central African Republic Red Cross Society shall be the coordinator of the project.

Objective: Contribute to the success of the campaign against the Yellow Fever epidemic by sensitizing the maximum number of people.

Activities planned:

1. Training of 200 volunteers on Yellow Fever management and social mobilisation techniques for immunisation campaign;
2. Door-to-door and public awareness sessions;
3. Participating in the organization of the Yellow Fever immunization campaign;
4. Purchasing first-aid materials.

Expected outcomes:

1. 200 volunteers are trained on Yellow Fever management and public sensitisation activities;
2. The trained volunteers are involved in Yellow Fever public awareness activities;
3. The trained volunteers are involved in the organization of the immunization campaign;
4. The operational capacities of the Central African Republic Red Cross society are built in the area of potentially epidemic diseases surveillance.

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:	
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[<DREF budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

YELLOW FEVER IN CENTRAL AFRICA REPUBLIC 2009

Budget Code	Budget Code Name	Number	Unit.	Unit price CHF	Amount
	SUPPLIES FOR BENEFICIARIES				
540	Medical Kits and First Aid				
	Boots	200	Piece	15	3,000
	Gloves	200	Piece	3	600
	Masks	200	Piece	1	200
550	Teaching Materials				0
	Volunteers retraining materials (note books, etc.)	200	Lumpsum	2	400
	Posters and leaflets	1,000	Piece	1	1,000
	<i>Subtotal Suplies for beneficiaries</i>				<i>5,200</i>
	TRANSPORT AND STORAGE				
593	Transport & Vehicles				
	01 vehicle (fuel, maintenance)	1	Lumpsum	1,000	1,000
	<i>Subtotal Transport and Storage</i>				<i>1,000</i>
	PERSONNEL				
660	National & NS Staff				
	T-shirt	250	Piece	8	2,000
	Sandwiches for volunteers during training and retraining	200	pers/day	4	800
	Fees of 2 local coordinators	2	pers/month	125	250
	Sandwiches for 200 volunteers during 10 days	2,000	pers/day	7	14,000
	Sandwiches for 9 coaches	90	pers/day	13	1,170
	<i>Subtotal Personnel</i>				<i>18,220</i>
	GENERAL EXPENSE				
700	Travel				
	Hotel National Health Director	10	person-night	75	750
	Hotel driver	10	person-night	75	750
730	Other General Expense				0
	Stationery	1	Lumpsum	500	500
740	Communications				0
	Telephone, internet, fax	1	Lumpsum	1,000	1,000
	Video and photos	1	Lumpsum	700	700
	<i>Subtotal General Expense</i>				<i>3,700</i>
	Total 1				28,120
599	PROGRAMME SUPPORT				1,965
	TOTAL GLOBAL				30,085



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