

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Central African Republic: Violent winds in Kembe, Grimari, Zangba, Mboki, Obo and Mbaïki

DREF operation n° MDRCF005
GLIDE n° VW-2009-000082-CFA
16 October, 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 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 81,924 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 04 May, 2009 to support the Central African Red Cross Society in delivering assistance to some 1,230 beneficiaries.

Since February 2009, heavy rains accompanied by violent winds and tornados have been hitting the Central African Republic (CAR) causing important damages. The disaster started in Bangui, the capital city, and extended to Berberati, Eastern CAR. Funds were allocated in February 2009 from the International Federation's DREF to assist 278 vulnerable families identified in the affected localities. However, on April 2009 new localities including Kembe, Grimari, Zangba, Mboki and Obo in Southern CAR, and Mbaïki located 110 km from Bangui, were hit by violent winds, and new funds were allocated from the Federation's DREF to assist the newly affected people.

This final report highlights the activities that have been carried out in the field within the framework of this operation, and the corresponding results obtained in the sectors of non-food items distribution, training of Red Cross volunteers on the Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) process, and the disinfection and treatment of water points to avoid the spread of diseases. The actions taken improved the living conditions of about 1,230 beneficiaries in Kembe, Grimari, Zangba, Mboki and Obo in Southern CAR, and Mbaïki, and contributed to strengthening the visibility of the CAR Red Cross Society as well as encouraging Government authorities not only to be interested in Red Cross activities, but also to get themselves involved in Red Cross actions within the country. This was demonstrated through their efforts to find offices for the local committees of the CAR Red Cross society that have been affected by the violent winds.



Treatment of a water well in the lobo locality Jean Moïse Modessi Waquedo/CAR Red Cross

The Netherlands Red Cross contributed CHF 22,672 to the DREF in replenishment of the allocation made for this operation. 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>

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

The situation

While CAR Red Cross volunteers were still busy assisting the most vulnerable people that were affected by violent winds in Berberati and Bangui in February 2009, the situation deteriorated in new localities within the country. In fact, violent winds extended to new localities of the country on 23 March 2009, with limited damages. However, in the night of 14 to 15 April 2009, heavy rains accompanied by violent winds occurred, causing countless material damages in the Kembe, Grimari, Zangba, Mboki and Obo localities in Southern Central African Republic CAR, as well as Mbaïki located 110 km from Bangui, the capital of the country. The damages registered included the destruction of school buildings, and the partial or complete destruction of houses. A total of 10,500 people were affected by the violent winds, 1,230 (146 families) of whom completely lost their houses, including their cooking kits and other household properties, and thus needed urgent assistance.

New funds were allocated from the International Federation's DREF to assist the most vulnerable 1,230 families affected by the disaster through non-food items distribution, the training of Red Cross volunteers on the PHAST process, and the disinfection and treatment of water points to avoid the spread of diseases. Although all of the activities planned have been carried out, the operation did not pass off hitch-free. The access to some affected localities was extremely complicated due to impassable roads. The CAR Red Cross society did not have either enough transportation means, and this delayed the implementation of the operation, which was finally extended with no cost (see [DREF operation update No 1 on http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/09/MDRCF005du1.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/09/MDRCF005du1.pdf)). The miscalculation by the national society of the quantity of fuel required at the time of drafting the plan of action was the cause of that issue. The President of the CAR Red Cross society used his advocacy know-how to get support from local partners who facilitated the transportation of relief materials to the remaining localities of Obo, Mboki and Kembe.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Achievements against objectives

Relief distributions (basic non-food items)

Objective: To contribute to improving the living conditions of at least 246 most vulnerable families, i.e. 1,230 people affected by violent winds in Kembe, Zangba, Grimari, Mboki, Obo and Mbaïki.

Activities planned

- Purchase the items to be distributed: 615 blankets, 492 impregnated mosquito nets, 615 mats, 246 tarpaulins, 246 cooking kits, and take them to the affected localities;
- Distribute these items to the 246 vulnerable families identified;
- Produce a report of the distribution.

Impact:

The International Federation's Regional Representation in Yaoundé facilitated the purchase of the relief materials to be distributed and put them at the disposal of the CARCS for distribution. These materials included 615 blankets, 492 impregnated mosquito nets, 615 mats, 246 tarpaulins and 246 cooking kits. The National Society mobilized 180 Red Cross volunteers and trained them on distribution techniques, on the basis of 30 volunteers in Grimari, 30 in Kembe, 30 in Zangba, 30 in Mbaïki, 30 in Obo and 30 in Mboki. These trained volunteers then distributed the non-food items put at their disposal to 246 families, i.e. 1,230 beneficiaries, on the basis of 202 beneficiaries in Kembe, 270 in Grimari, 273 in Zangba, 155 in Mbaïki, 150 in Obo and 180 in Mboki. The items distributed included 246 tarpaulins, 615 blankets, 492 mosquito nets, 615 mats and 246 cooking kits, as well as 120 toilet kits for the females at childbearing age that were identified by Red Cross volunteers. The volunteers also distributed 2,460 pieces of soap of 200g each, on

the basis of 10 pieces of soap for each of the 246 families targeted by the operation, and for two months. Each family received 1 tarpaulin, 2 blankets, 2 mosquito nets, 2 mats and 1 cooking kit. Forty-one families with over 5 members each received 3 blankets and 3 mats.

The following table summarizes the distributions as obtained in the various localities targeted by the operation.

Localities	Number of families	Tarpaulins	Blankets	Mats	Mosquito Nets	Cooking kits	Toilet Kits: 1/per female at childbearing age	Soap : 2/person for months ²
Kembe	40	40	101	101	80	40	28	404
Zangba	55	55	136	136	110	55	24	546
Grimari	54	54	135	135	108	54	32	540
Mboki	36	36	90	90	72	36	10	360
Obo	30	30	75	75	60	30	10	300
Mbaïki	31	31	78	78	62	31	16	310
Total	246	246	615	615	492	246	120	2460

The items distributed contributed to improving the living conditions of the beneficiaries as they had lost all of their properties. They also helped protect the beneficiaries from bad weather and the risk of being contaminated by opportunistic diseases. The Government appreciated Red Cross action and commended the efforts made to help save lives. The distribution capacities of the Central African Red Cross Society were built through the training of about 180 Red Cross volunteers on distribution techniques.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Objective: To facilitate the access of the affected populations to potable water, and promote hygiene and sanitation rules in the Kembe, Zangba, Grimari, Mboki, Obo and Mbaïki localities.
Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase and transport sanitation and female hygiene kits, including 120 hygiene kits, 2,460 pieces of soap of 200g each, and six water point treatment kits to the 6 localities affected; • Retrain Red Cross volunteers on water point treatment and on disaster prevention (risk reduction) measures; • Treat 360 water points in the various localities affected; • Sensitize the populations to hygiene and sanitation rules; • Advocate before other actors on behalf of the affected populations; • Produce the report on the activities carried out.

Impact:

The International Federation's Regional Representation in Yaoundé facilitated the purchasing and transportation of sanitation kits to Bangui, and put them at the disposal of the CARCS. The National Society (NS) then ensured the transportation of these materials to Mbaïki, Grimari, Zangba and Kembe, as well as obo and Mboki, with the support of some local personalities following intensive advocacy activity by the president of the National Society. These sanitation kits included 120 toilet kits, 2,460 pieces of soap of 200g each, and four water point treatment kits.

The Central African Red Cross Society mobilized 180 Red Cross volunteers (the same that were used in the distributions as described above) and trained them on how to treat water points and prevent the outbreak of water borne diseases, on the basis of 30 volunteers in Grimari, 30 in Kembe, 30 in Zangba, 30 in Mbaïki, 30 in Obo and 30 in Mboki. These trained volunteers then treated and improved 162 water points out of the 360 that were planned, with the participation of community volunteers, on the basis of 21 water points treated in Grimari, 11 in Mbaïki, 15 in Zangba and 9 in Kembe, 13 in Obo and 93 in Mboki. The volunteers failed to treat all the water points identified because most of them had been destroyed by the heavy rains. In addition, these volunteers conducted 18 sensitization sessions to help prevent the outbreak of water borne diseases, and carried out a clean-up campaign in each of the affected localities, with the participation of the beneficiaries themselves. Each of the affected localities also received 2 wheelbarrows and 2 machetes to be used for clean-up activities.

Conclusion:

In broad terms, the operation to assist people affected by violent winds in Kembe, Grimari, Zangba, Mboki and Obo in Southern Central African Republic, as well as Mbaïki contributed to consolidating the position of the National Society as an auxiliary to the Government. In addition, the operation contributed to stimulating the adherence of the communities to Red Cross activities. This was perceived in the participation of community members in Red Cross actions; which is highly required in a country exposed to a wide range of disasters, as skilled and devoted human resources will be needed to respond to subsequent disasters rapidly and efficiently.

Although Central African Red Cross Society is present all over the 16 prefectures that make up the country, there is the need to set up a national disaster response team to ensure smooth coordination of disaster management activities. There is also the need to train Red Cross and community animators on the PHAST process and equip Red Cross local committees with first-aid and sensitization materials.

The operation was implemented as planned, and this contributed to building the operational capacities of the Kembe, Grimari, Zangba, Mboki and Obo in Southern Central African Republic, as well as Mbaïki local committees of CARCS. In addition, the Federation coaching and technical support gave the national society's coordination and supervision team an opportunity to acquire new skills as each operation has its own peculiarity.

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:

- In **Bangui**: Albert Yomba Eyamo, Secretary General, Central African Red Cross Society, email: sn_crca@yahoo.fr; phone: +236.75.50.27.54 or +236.21.61.26.09
- In the **Central Africa Regional Representation**: Javier Medrano, Federation Central Africa Regional Representative, Yaoundé, email: javier.medrano@ifrc.org, phone: +237.22.21.74.37 or +237.96.29.87.89, Fax: +237.22.21.74.39
- In **Dakar**: Alasan Senghore, Director of Africa Zone, email: alasan.senghore@ifrc.org, Phone: +221.33.869.36.41, Fax: +221.33.820.25.34; Youcef Ait-Chellouche, Disaster Management Coordinator, email: youcef.aitchellouche@ifrc.org; phone: +221 33.869.36.44
- In **Geneva**: Christine South, Operations Coordinator for West Africa, phone: +41.22.730.45.29, email: christine.south@ifrc.org
- In **Dubai**: Peter Glenister, Regional Logistics Coordinator Dubai; Phone: +971.48.83.38.87, Mobile +97.15.06.00.91.66, Fax:+97 14.88.32.212, email: peter.glenister@ifrc.org

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

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRCF005 - Central African Rep - Violent Winds

FINAL Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/4-2009/9
Budget Timeframe	2009/4-2009/7
Appeal	MDRCF005
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
A. Budget	81,924					81,924
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	81,924					81,924
C5. Other Income	81,924					81,924
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	81,924					81,924
D. Total Funding = B + C	81,924					81,924
Appeal Coverage	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. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	81,924					81,924
E. Expenditure	-81,122					-81,122
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	802					802

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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
BUDGET (C)		81,924					81,924	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief		20,329				20,329	-20,329	
Clothing & textiles	32,592	13,142				13,142	19,450	
Food		11,681				11,681	-11,681	
Water & Sanitation		1,936				1,936	-1,936	
Teaching Materials	625						625	
Utensils & Tools	18,683	13,282				13,282	5,401	
Other Supplies & Services		3,564				3,564	-3,564	
Total Supplies	51,900	63,934				63,934	-12,034	
Transport & Storage								
Storage		583				583	-583	
Distribution & Monitoring	5,800	4,124				4,124	1,676	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	1,121	3,033				3,033	-1,912	
Total Transport & Storage	6,921	7,740				7,740	-819	
Personnel								
International Staff		92				92	-92	
Regionally Deployed Staff		4,722				4,722	-4,722	
National Staff	2,430	785				785	1,645	
National Society Staff	8,700	2,824				2,824	5,876	
Total Personnel	11,130	8,423				8,423	2,707	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	1,823	169				169	1,654	
Total Workshops & Training	1,823	169				169	1,654	
General Expenditure								
Travel	2,700	2,193				2,193	507	
Information & Public Relation		939				939	-939	
Office Costs	1,000	1,377				1,377	-377	
Communications	1,125	1,254				1,254	-129	
Financial Charges		-2,007				-2,007	2,007	
Total General Expenditure	4,825	3,756				3,756	1,069	
Programme Support								
Program Support	5,325	4,514				4,514	811	
Total Programme Support	5,325	4,514				4,514	811	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		-7,414				-7,414	7,414	
Total Operational Provisions		-7,414				-7,414	7,414	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	81,924	81,122				81,122	803	
VARIANCE (C - D)		803				803		