

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Senegal: Floods

Emergency appeal n° MDRSN002
GLIDE n° FL-2009-000172-BFA
Operations update n° 1
2 October 2009

Period covered by this Ops Update: 29 September – 2 October 2009;

Appeal target (original): CHF 2,113,583; this appeal is in the process of being revised. Based on an assessment of the situation and ongoing discussions with the National Society and the corresponding activities articulated below, it is most likely the overall appeal budget will be decreased. The formal revised budget will be made available shortly.

Appeal coverage (against the current budget): 47%; [click here to go directly to the updated donor response report](#); [or here to link to contact details](#) >



Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on a preliminary basis on 9 September 2009 for CHF 2.1 m for 6 months to support the National Society in delivering assistance to some 25,000 beneficiaries.
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF):** CHF 200,000 was initially allocated from the Federation's DREF to support regional efforts to prepare and respond.
- This Ops Update (no. 1) communicates a probable reduction in the appeal budget. The full revised appeal budget will be made available shortly. The six-month appeal timeframe remains the same.

Joint Danish and American ERU relief team member conducting an assessment.
Photo courtesy of the Joint American and Danish Red Cross ERU Relief team.

Summary: Since the launch of the preliminary appeal, the support received to date has enabled the Senegalese Red Cross Society (SRCS) to meet the initial and immediate needs (relief distributions) of some 1,300 households. Further support and contributions are strongly encouraged to carry out the remaining planned activities. The operation has, however, evolved considerably; based on ongoing FACT/SRCS assessments and complementary reports from the ERU teams, and there appears to be an emerging consensus that the scope and severity of the floods is widespread in pockets of affected areas but more limited in severity than initially reported. Efforts have therefore been focused on supporting the National Society to re-assess the needs, and agreeing to develop activities that will meet the following criteria: implementing projects that are within the capacity of the SRCS while making efficient and effective use of the available resources. This Operations Update conveys the basis of a revised budget due shortly that tentatively reflects proposed activities to be implemented in the

following two sectors: a well designed and targeted water, sanitation, and hygiene, shelter, and recovery/livelihoods (tools and seeds) interventions to mitigate some of the underlying and chronic challenges faced by the affected population; and on a provisional pilot basis (still to be formally agreed and discussed with the National Society), a limited cash distribution project (to reinforce coping mechanisms).

Based on the needs assessment and discussions with the SRCS, the need for a second ERU Relief rotation is under consideration, with the understanding that the SRCS will manage the remaining distributions and other proposed interventions with the support of the Federation.

The situation

Torrential seasonal rains in Senegal during the last week of August 2009 caused heavy flooding in the suburbs of Dakar (the capital city), and in many other regions and villages of the country. Prior to the floods, the Federation had provided significant initial support of CHF 200,000 from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Societies in affected countries in delivering assistance on a regional basis, and was in the process of implementing a relatively new initiative in the form of an Early Warning/Early Action Emergency Appeal (no. MDR61005 launched on a preliminary basis on 10 August 2009) primarily focused on disaster preparedness, including the readiness of trained staff and volunteers, and delivering vital relief items from pre-positioned emergency stocks in the region. The Early Warning and Early Action Appeal reflects the Federation's commitment to putting plans into action, and the effectiveness of collaborative efforts and partnerships. With the recent rains, the Federation responded to a request from the SRCS by launching a preliminary Emergency Appeal to support an appropriate and timely response in delivering immediate assistance and relief in the following sectors: non-food item relief distribution, emergency shelter, emergency health (basic care), water, sanitation, hygiene promotion, psycho-social support, livelihoods and early recovery, and logistics. The Federation 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 the relief and logistics sectors were deployed (a joint American and Danish Red Cross Relief ERU, and a Swiss Red Cross Logistics ERU). This report focuses specifically on the work undertaken by the FACT and ERU teams, including more detailed assessments, distributions, and proposed future activities.

Coordination and partnerships

The SRCS participates regularly in the Government-lead national disaster coordination meetings. Co-ordination with other agencies has also been carried out, with various meetings attended. More specifically, the ERU FACT has initiated coordination with OCHA, but no reports or further information have been made available. UN and other agency activities are minimal in relation to the floods. There exist some ongoing programs related to the floods that may be of interest for Federation and SRCS complementary activities, and these are being explored in terms of longer-term engagements. There appears to be limited overall interest in the floods from NGO's and other agencies.

The SRCS continues to act as the lead agency managing this operation, supported by the Federation (Zone and Geneva) and partner National Societies. As such, the cooperation model is multilateral in nature, though there are some bilateral activities underway (see photo at right). The coordination activities include information sharing mechanisms, coordination meetings, and reinforcing or formulating agreements. The overall approach is to adhere to and reinforce the guiding principles of disaster response.



A water distribution in Camp Medina Montaga carried out by the Spanish Red Cross.

Photo courtesy of the Joint American and Danish Red Cross ERU Relief team.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

The following main tasks, achievements, and challenges were reported by the Joint American and Danish Red Cross Relief ERU, and the FACT:

- The planned distributions of relief items continued in the two areas previously selected for this intervention (distribution figures are provided in tables below).
- The SRCS has very provisionally agreed that cash distributions are an appropriate intervention, and the Relief ERU has been developing a detailed proposal to be further discussed with the National Society.
- Further relief assessments were carried out in Camp Medina Muntaga, including with women's groups to determine and define the needs for hygiene items.
- For capacity building purposes, a Relief ERU training video was produced for the distribution process in Kaolack. Video footage involved planning; beneficiary selection (targeting); volunteer training; distributions; and planning monitoring visits.
- Tent distributions are mostly completed for the areas of Richard Toll and Koalack.
- The logistics pipeline will continue to be monitored to carry out the planned distributions.
- Hygiene items have been procured locally by the Logistics ERU and will be distributed.

Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (basic non-food relief items)

Objective: 5,000 most vulnerable households affected by the floods benefit from the distribution of non-food items (blankets, mosquito nets, tarpaulins, sleeping mats, and other required items).

Activities planned:

- Develop a beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver the intended assistance.
- Procure and distribute non-food items, including mosquito nets, blankets, sleeping mats, and tarpaulin to 5,000 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.

NFI distributed from Federation stocks (as of 26 September)

Department (Location) & date	Families	Tarpaulin	Blankets	MII	Sleeping mats	Jerrycans	Buckets
Dakar (Pikine); 28 August	54	54	0	54	108	54	
Dakar (Pikine); 27 August	70	70	0	70	140	70	
Dakar (Pikine); 28 August	70	70	0	70	140	70	
Dakar (Rufisque); 4 September	150	0	300	300	300	150	150
Thies (Mbour); 7 September	150	5	300	300	300	150	150
Kaolack (Ndiebel); 9 September	190	0	380	380	380	190	190
Dagana Rosso Senegal; August	179	0	358	358	358	179	179
St.Louis (Medina Montaga); 25 September	127	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kaolack (Gawane); 25 September	114	228	228	0	228	114	114
Kaolack (Gawane); 26 September	64	128	128	0	128	64	64
St.Louis (Rosso); 27 September	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
St.Louis (Ndiatene); 27 September	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
St.Louis (Wassou); 27 September	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
St.Louis (Richard Toll); 27 September	27	0	0	0	0	0	0

St.Louis (Fouy); 27 September	32	40	70	0	128	32	32
St.Louis (Ndiebel); 27 September	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,264	595	1,338	1,532	1,726	863	669

Department (Location) & date	Bladders 5m3	Kitchen sets	Soap	Tents	ORS	PUR	Hygiene Kit	Mosquito nets	Shelter kits
Dakar (Pikine); 28 August						3,996			
Dakar (Pikine); 27 August						5,180			
Dakar (Pikine); 28 August						5,180			
Dakar (Rufisque); 4 September			1,800		750	900			
Thies (Mbour); 7 September			1,800		750	900			
Kaolack (Ndiebel); 9 September			2,280		950	1,140			
Dagana Rosso Senegal, August	2	127	2,148		895	1,074			
St.Louis (Medina Montaga); 25 September	0	0	0	125	0	0	0	0	0
Kaolack (Gawane); 25 September	0	114	342	0	570	8,436	0	228	0
Kaolack (Gawane); 26 September	0	64	192	0	320	4,480	0	128	0
St.Louis (Rosso); 27 September	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
St.Louis (Ndiatene); 27 September	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0
St.Louis (Wassou); 27 September	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
St.Louis (Richard Toll); 27 September	0	0	0	27	0	0	0	0	0
St.Louis (Fouy); 27 September	0	0	0	20	0	2,500	0	0	12
St.Louis (Ndiebel); 27 September	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	127	8,028	189	3,345	18,370			12

Senegalese Red Cross stock released and distributed

Location & date	Families	Tarpaulin	Blankets	MII	Soap	Mosquito nets	Shelter kits	Shoes
Pikine; 26 August	54	0	108	0	54			
Pikine 27 August	70	0	140	140	70			
Pikine 28 August	70	0	140	140	70			
Rufisque; 4 Sept.	150	150	300	300	900	900	300	600
Mbour; 7 Sept.	150	0	0	0	0			
Kaolack 9 Sept.	190	0	0	0	0			380
Dagana Rosso; 11-12 Sept.	127	127	254	254	762	762		
Total	811	277	942	834	1,856	1,662	300	980

Challenges: reconciling beneficiary needs and figures from the SRCS and the more recent FACT assessments has been an ongoing challenge, and has delayed the formulation and final agreement on the revised operation. This constraint has been resolved during the recent assessment missions and follow-up discussions with the National Society, and the revised appeal budget will reflect the agreed operational adjustments.

Emergency health

Objective: Respond to the immediate health needs and prevent a further deterioration in the basic health of the targeted communities.

Activities planned:

- Provide community sensitization and referral services.
- Distribute mosquito nets and oral rehydration salt (ORS) in an appropriate manner.

Progress: activities related to this objective have been carried out within the relief item distribution above.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Objective: The risk of waterborne diseases has been reduced through the provision of potable water and sensitization on good hygiene practices to 5,000 most vulnerable households affected by the floods.

Activities planned:

- Strengthen the capacity of the SRCS volunteers in water treatment and the use of purification materials and good hygiene practices.
- Equip the volunteers with protection materials (boots, rain coat).
- Distribute water purification tablets and sensitize the population on their use.
- Distribute jerrycans, soap, buckets detergent.
- Sensitize the population on good hygiene and sanitation practices.

Progress: assessments have taken place and proposed revised objectives and very provisionally planned activities are outlined below. This is simply intended to show a notional idea of the direction of the operation. Detailed figures will be provided shortly with the revised detailed budget.

Objective 1 (0-1 month): To ensure that flood affected families have access to safe water and have taken measures to reduce flood related health risks.

Expected results	Activities planned
Families have access to safe water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning and shock chlorination of wells. • Training of volunteers in methods of household water treatment and the use of PUR sachets • Training of community by volunteers of methods of Household water treatment and the use of PUR sachets • Distribution of PUR water treatment sachets to households • Vector control and hygiene sensitization training for volunteers • Hygiene and vector programmes with community through the volunteers • Distribution of and training of volunteers in the use of Oral Rehydration Salts • Distribution of tools and materials for vector control to ... households • Distribute of hygiene kits • Pump out inundated latrines • Distribute housecleaning kits
Families have reduced the health risk associated with flooding , especially in the areas of vector and diarrhoea control	

Objective 2 (early recovery 0 – 3 months): To ensure that flood affected families are properly assessed and are trained and given means to resist the negative health effects of flooding.

Expected results	Activities planned
Improved evaluation tool is created and volunteers trained in its use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop accurate evaluation tool • Train volunteers in the use of the new evaluation tool • Train volunteers to recognize symptoms connected to flood related diseases and epidemics • Identify latrines to be emptied • Work with local authorities to empty latrines • Identify latrines to be raised • Train volunteers in methods of raising latrines • Raise latrines using local and volunteer labour • Identify families most in need of sandbags • Distribute the bags and work with community to create anti-flooding strategies for their homes/latrines
Latrines inundated latrines have been emptied	
Families have raised latrines mitigating the effects of flood	
Families have means to prevent flooding of their houses, latrines and other living areas using sandbags	

Objective 3 (Recovery phase 3-6 months) :To develop capacity of SRCS branches in order that they have the means to respond to future flooding events and to demonstrate infrastructural flood avoidance measures in the community.	
Expected results	Activities planned
Pumps are prepositioned in branches and volunteers are trained in their operation and maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train volunteers to use and maintain pumps • Distribute pumps to branches • Train volunteers in relevant aspects of response and assessment in floods • Distribute personal volunteer equipment to the branches • Discuss the concept with local authorities • Excavator used to reduce road level • Beneficiaries carry out household drainage, feeding into the road drainage
Volunteers are equipped and trained in order to both assess and respond to flooding disasters	
A pilot project has provided a community area with lowered roads in order to facilitate drainage away from housing	

Livelihoods

Objective: Restore livelihoods for families affected in the Saint-Louis and Dagana departments.

Activities planned:

- Identify needs and targeted beneficiaries.
- Procure and distribute agricultural tools and adapted seeds in collaboration with partners (FAO).
- Provide veterinary treatment for livestock.

Progress: An early recovery and livelihoods pilot project has been provisionally developed to support the most affected families, particularly the main affected areas of Richard Toll and surroundings. These areas have various levels of flooding, including duration and damage, and needs vary widely also in terms of livelihoods, shelter local customs and commercial activity. This includes a proposed program to be implemented on a pilot basis for families that are completely displaced. The proposed cash transfer program is designed to promote empowerment and dignity to the affected persons by providing beneficiaries a choice in how they can use the assistance themselves. Further details and methods of implementation will be made available in due course, following discussions and agreement with the SRCS, and possible methods of implementation.

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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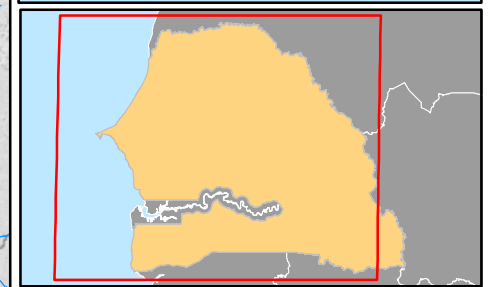
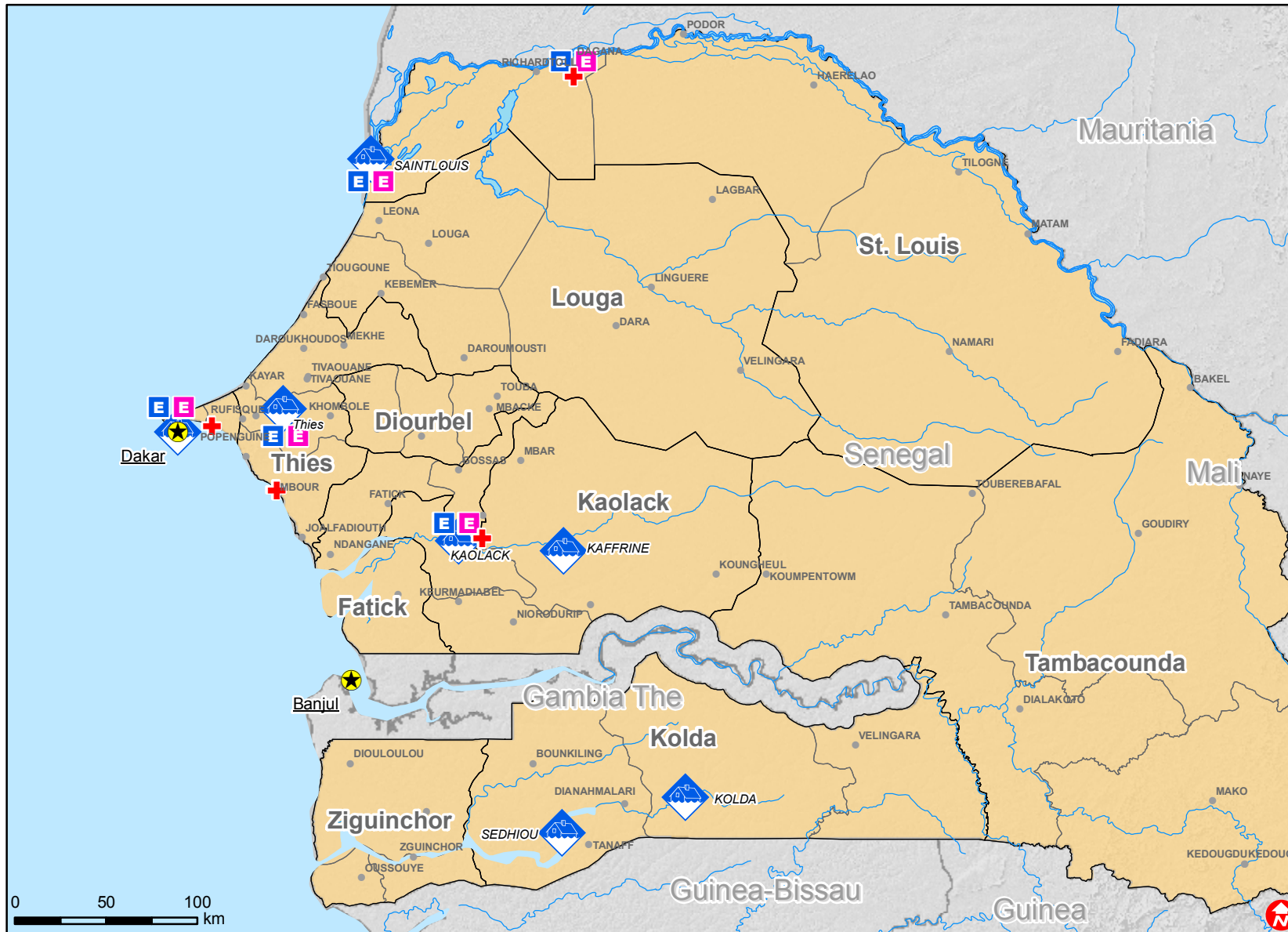
For mobilization of relief items & logistic enquiries:








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Senegal: Floods



-  Affected cities on 9 September
-  Capitals
-  Cities
-  Rivers
-  Lakes
-  Provinces
-  SRC stock distribution
-  ERU non food items (NFI) distribution