

DREF operation update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Chad Floods

DREF operation n° MDRTD003
GLIDE n° FL-2009-000186-TC
Update n° 01
17 November, 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.

Period covered by this update:
1 October to 2 November, 2009.

CHF 246,522 (USD 231,432 or EUR 162,656) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 1,136 families (or 5,680 beneficiaries). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: On 10 and 11 August, 2009, torrential rains poured down in the area of Bongor, a town located 240 kilometres from the Capital N'Djamena. Up to three deaths were reported, 7,120 persons were affected by the floods and 2,050 houses have been fully or partially damaged.

The Red Cross of Chad (RCC) with the support of the International Federation responded quickly to the disaster. Immediately after the flooding, a preliminary assessment was carried out and relief items including plastic sheeting and blankets were distributed to the affected population. Volunteers from the Red Cross of Chad Regional Committee of Bongor were mobilized to provide support in search and rescue.

The European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) has contributed EUR 130,000 and the Netherlands Red Cross/Government EUR 30,000 towards the replenishment of the DREF for the allocation made to this operation. The major donors and partners of the DREF include the Danish Red Cross, Irish Red Cross/ Irish government, Japanese Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross/ Monaco government, Netherlands Red Cross/ Netherlands government, Norwegian Red Cross/ Norwegian government, Swedish Red Cross/ Swedish government, Italian government, United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), ECHO, OPEC Fund for International Development, and corporate and private donors. Details of all donors can be found [here](#).

[<click here to view contact details>](#)



Volunteers from the Red Cross of Chad regional committee assisting a beneficiary to transport Non Food Items.

The situation

The torrential downpour and flooding in Bongor on 10 and 11 August has affected more than 7,120 persons and left 900 of them homeless. There was an excessive amount of stagnant water in the cultivable and inhabited areas. The floods led to the destruction of houses and had a severe impact on the population killing three people. The rains were particularly violent and heavy, causing a major rise in the level of the Logone river water and leading to the destruction of a dam. Two districts located in the northern part of the city have been completely flooded. These floods also caused the destruction of crops and left many areas and roads inaccessible. Regarding water and sanitation infrastructures, the National Society with the support of the International Federation assessed that over 50 percent of the disaster area found their water sources to be in danger of contamination from faeces and other debris due to collapsed sanitation facilities and running floodwaters. The most common sanitation facilities were pit latrines, of which 50 percent collapsed due to the floods. As a result the affected people were living in an unhealthy environment, with the related range of health risks. They also continued living in camping sites and makeshift shelters along the paved roads thereby increasing the risk of car accident. Rambling of venomous reptiles such as snakes and scorpions have been exposing the vulnerable people to further dangerous situations. The Red Cross of Chad with the support of the International Federation procured relief items from the neighboring country of Cameroon and pre positioned them in the affected areas by the end of September. On 1st of October, distribution of relief items to targeted beneficiaries started in the town of Bongor. During a whole week volunteers from the Red of Chad's main office and the regional committee of Bongor with the support of the International Federation logistic teams dispatched non food items to the remotest affected areas and distributed them to the extreme vulnerable. The planned activities related to water, sanitation and hygiene promotion will carried out after the training of the volunteers.

Coordination and partnerships

The Red Cross of Chad (RCC) supported by the International Federation worked in close coordination in delivering humanitarian assistance to the vulnerable. Regular coordinating meetings were held with local administrative authorities, the Ministry of Social Affairs and other humanitarian Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs). Concern World Wide and World Vision distributed relief items to the vulnerable non - covered by the RCC. Some staff from local government authorities attended distributions sessions thereby enabling transparency and security. Briefings for local government authorities on the distribution process were made on a daily basis by the International Federation and the Red Cross of Chad team. Local authorities as well as beneficiaries lauded the prompt move of the Red Cross and recognized its humanitarian action during disaster. The International Federation released CHF 246,522 from its DREF at the request of the National Society, which ensured response to the immediate need of the displaced families.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: To provide basic non-food items to respond to the urgent needs of some 1,136 families in the Bongor Region which are seriously affected by the floods.

Activities planned:

- Conduct an assessment of the most vulnerable people;
- Carry out distribution of non-food items such as blankets, plastic sheeting, jerry cans, mats and mosquito nets.

Progress: In the field of assessment, the RCC and the International Federation joint team retrained volunteers from the regional committee of the disaster area on distribution techniques. Special registration forms were handed out to volunteers to prevent double counting of beneficiaries. Following is the overall assessment of the population in the flooded area:

- 7,120 persons affected by the floods;
- 2,040 huts destroyed;
- 400 Homeless people, accommodated in temporary shelters.

As far as the distribution of Non Food Items (NFIs) is concerned, a total of 12,130 NFIs have been distributed from the stock procured by the International Federation to 7,530 targeted beneficiaries. The RCC has assessed households based on the number of family members. The distribution of NFIs has been planned in quantities related to the number of families' members as well. The National Society and the International Federation distributed family kits containing the following items:

- Kitchen set: one per family;
- Bucket: two per family;
- Soap : according to the number of family members;
- Jerry cans : two per family;
- Tarpaulin : one per family;
- Sleeping mats : two per family;
- Mosquitoes net : three per family.

The number of neighborhoods, villages and families reached by the distribution is further detailed in the table below (Source: IFCR logistic department):

Distribution statistics									
	Registered	Absent	Served						
Total of families	817	12	805						
Place of Distribution	Number of families	Jerry cans 20 L	Tarpaulins	Blankets	Sleeping mats	Mosquito nets	Kitchen set	soap	Bucket 15 L
Mailaou	558	72	96	183	198	167	85	385	96
Goulmounbass	628	47	47	128	128	88	45	225	47
Djambalbar	619	63	63	174	174	152	61	305	63
Fordamba	394	50	50	124	124	124	44	220	50
Heling 2 (Sile 2)	244	55	55	83	83	83	29	145	55
Sile 1	400	61	61	114	114	114	44	220	61
Diarabo	269	73	73	118	118	118	45	225	73
Helain (Sile 2)	463	48	48	115	115	115	42	210	48
Mouroup 1	214	47	47	83	83	83	30	150	47
Mouroup 2	156	24	24	56	56	56	20	100	24
Djobongor	562	65	65	166	166	166	60	300	65
Podi	160	20	20	45	45	45	15	75	20
Waydi	149	16	16	45	45	45	15	75	16
Gollom Happa	129	17	17	45	45	45	15	75	17
Abena	151	28	28	45	45	45	15	75	28
Bogol	203	15	15	45	45	45	15	75	15
Guiling et Tchoro	114	29	29	47	47	47	16	80	29
Bongor Sieke	474	47	47	128	128	128	45	225	47
Rawna	589	65	65	136	136	136	47	235	65
Lama Lama	429	48	48	127	127	127	43	215	48
Thiakay (Sile 2)	244	43	43	81	81	81	30	150	43

Moyobougoula	381	46	46	129	129	129	44	220	46
Total distributed	7,530	979	1,003	2 217	2,232	2,139	805	3 ,985	1,003

Challenges:

The delay in the transportation of NFI in the disaster area and the lack of motivation of some volunteers constitute the main challenges.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Objective: To reduce for three months the risk of waterborne diseases through the provision of drinkable water, and sensitization on good hygiene practices to the 1,136 most vulnerable families in Bongor Region.

Activities planned:

- Strengthen the capacity of the volunteers of the RCC in water treatment and the use of purification materials and good hygiene practices;
- Equip volunteers with protection materials (boats, raincoats etc);
- Distribute water purification tablets and sensitize the population on their use;
- Sensitize the population on good hygiene and sanitation practices;
- Rehabilitate the wells and the latrines damaged by the flood water.

Progress:

The National Society's water and sanitation coordinator was deployed in the field to train 11 persons from the regional committee of RCC in the promotion of hygiene and sanitation techniques. The persons trained are expected to train 200 volunteers to carry out door to door sensitization campaigns thereby reducing the risk of water borne diseases among the victims of flood. Special topics were presented during the training session which lasted three days. The topics discussed included water, food and environmental hygiene. The volunteers trained to conduct sanitation and hygiene promotion activities will be equipped with protection materials including raincoats and boats to carry out chlorination of wells and pulverization of latrines thus reducing the health risk of targeted beneficiaries. Wells and latrines damaged by the floods will be rehabilitated in November.

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 report, please contact:

- **In Red Cross of Chad:** Bongor Zam Barminas, Secretary General; phone: +235.629.88.82;

Fax:+235.252.02.55; e-mail: sec.general@croix-rouge.td

- **In IFRC Country Representation, Chad:** Denis Duffaut; phone:+235.267.84.84; or + 235.252.23.39; Fax +235 252.23.99; e-mail: denis.duffaut@ifrc.org
- **In the West and Central Africa sub-Zone, Senegal:** Alasan Senghore, Director, Africa Zone; phone: +221.33.869.36.41; Fax: +221.33.860.20.02; email: alasan.senghore@ifrc.org;
- **In Geneva:** Christine South, Operations Coordinator for West Africa; phone: +41.22.730.45.29; fax: +41.22.730.03.95; email: christine.south@ifrc.org
- **In Dubai:** Peter Glenister, Regional Logistics Coordinator, phone or Name, phone:+971.4.88.33.887 ext 14; Mobile: +97.150.600.91.66; email: peter.glenister@ifrc.org

[<Click here to return to the title page>](#)