

# DREF operation final report



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Togo: Cholera

DREF operation n° MDRTG002  
GLIDE n° EP-2009-000012-TGO  
10 July, 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 75,376 (USD 68,548 or EUR 50,254) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 12 January, 2009 to support the national society in delivering assistance to some 300,000 beneficiaries.

The Togolese Red Cross with funding support from the Federation mobilized and deployed 285 Red Cross volunteers to carry out sensitization activities in districts affected by the outbreak of cholera epidemics in Lomé and its environs during the first quarter of 2009. The National Society mobilized the volunteers to sensitize the



A Red Cross volunteer sensitizing members of one of the affected communities/Togolese Red Cross

target communities on good hygiene practices, symptoms and prevention of cholera. The National Society was also a lead member of the coordination team set up for the operation. The Red Cross volunteers assisted UNICEF in distributing cholera kits and worked with health authorities in the clearing of refuse dump sites. The collaborative efforts of the Red Cross contributed to the reduction in cases. The Red Cross reached a total of 353,120 persons during the operation and enhanced its collaboration with government agencies and other stakeholders in Togo.

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

On 12 December 2008, the Togolese Government officially confirmed the outbreak of cholera epidemic in the country's capital, Lomé and its environs. The epidemic which started during the last week of August 2008 recorded 10 cases though with no death during that period. By December, the outbreak had spread to other areas in the city and to the neighboring Plateaux region. During this period 686 cases with six deaths were reported. This prompted the government to make an official appeal to the Red Cross and other humanitarian agencies in the country for assistance to stop the spread of the disease. The cholera outbreak was attributed to the poor hygiene habits of the population, lack of potable water source and the impact of the 2008 floods in the country.

The Togolese Red Cross had intervened at the initial stage of the outbreak in August 2008 by mobilizing its volunteers to carry out sensitization activities in the affected communities. The increase in reported cases and deaths coupled with the call by the government for assistance prompted the Red Cross to intensify its activities in collaboration with other members of the Cluster WASH (UNICEF, UNDP, Plan Togo, CREPA Togo, the Togolese Directorate of Water and Sanitation) as well as community development committees in the target districts. With cases on the decrease by January 2009, the Red Cross continued to intensify its sensitization activities in the affected areas in Lomé. The Red Cross also carried out its sensitization to other neighboring communities prone to the epidemic. The trained Red Cross volunteers also assisted in the distribution of cholera kits provided by UNICEF. The activities of the Red Cross with good and effective collaboration from other humanitarian agencies and government health authorities contributed to curtailing the spread of the epidemic in the country.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Togolese Red Cross set up a committee within its systems to coordinate its intervention activities. The National Society took the step as to ensure continuity in its other programmes and activities. Members of the committees were drawn from the governance and the management. For effective intervention, the Togolese Red Cross mobilized volunteers from all its teams of volunteers from community first-aid volunteers, members of Mothers' club to peer educators from the affected local branches. The National Society participated in all the coordination meetings. To reach the target households, the Togolese Red Cross use door-to-door strategy to sensitize the communities. The National Society also printed leaflets and refreshed the knowledge of its volunteers while the newly recruited were trained in community sensitization. The Red Cross volunteers also assisted UNICEF in the distribution of family cholera kits. To reach more communities, the Red Cross carried out radio messages on cholera sensitization in one of the most listened to FM radio station in Togo (Radio Nana). The Red Cross reached more than the target number of persons as it deployed its volunteers to the prefecture of Lacs where other cholera cases were reported during the operation. The National Society carried out sensitization in the affected area and distributed 40,000 water purification tablets to the beneficiaries after a demonstration session. In appreciation of the efforts of its volunteers deployed for the exercise, the Togolese Red Cross printed and distributed certificate of participation. This effort also served as motivation to the volunteers as they received their certificate from the Togolese Honourable Minister of Health in the presence of the representatives of other stakeholders.

## Progress towards objectives

### Hygiene promotion

**Objective: To complement government's effort in the prevention and control of the disease by reducing the morbidity and avoiding mortality from the cholera, like watery diarrhoea epidemic in the most affected communities of Lomé and its environs.**

Activities planned	Expected outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate actively at coordination meetings at the national level in Lomé in order to obtain the relevant statistics;</li> <li>• Train 250 Red Cross volunteers and 15 members in Lomé as well as coaches to be deployed to support the activities planned;</li> <li>• Intensify the collaboration with the MoH, the World Health Organization (WHO) and other actors in the cholera control efforts by looking for suspect cases and reporting them to health authorities (surveillance), referring and/or transporting sick persons to or from a health facility (referrals); sensitizing communities on refuse disposal and hygiene and health promotion, deploy a regional health resource team from West Coast regional office to support the Togolese Red Cross in the management of the epidemic;</li> <li>• Provide the volunteers and teams with welfare, logistics support and protective materials as detailed in the budget attached;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Red Cross activities are implemented in a coordinated way thus avoiding duplication of services with other actors. Red Cross experience is also shared with others at coordination meetings and during surveillance, reporting, response and advocacy activities at the national and district levels;</li> <li>• 250 well trained and motivated Red Cross volunteers and 15 members of the Togolese Red Cross have been able to reach the most affected people and have provided life saving support to those falling sick from the epidemic;</li> <li>• Hygiene and health education, early case detection and referral as well as sensitizations have been useful in reducing the number of victims;</li> <li>• The regional resource team from the West Coast regional office will have increased the capacity of the Togolese Red Cross by</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote and respect the fundamental principles of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing technical support and advice;</li> <li>Volunteers have been provided with welfare, insurance, protective materials and logistics;</li> <li>The public has come to know more about the role of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement.</li> </ul>
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### Impact

The participation of the Togolese Red Cross in all the coordination meetings organized by Cluster Wash ensured effective implementation of activities and prevented duplication of tasks among all the stakeholders. During one of such meetings, the strong network of the Red Cross was recognized and UNICEF requested the assistance of the Red Cross in the distribution of family cholera kits to target beneficiaries. The coordination forum also afforded the Red Cross volunteers to assist the Ministry of Health in the collation of accurate statistics which were shared among the stakeholders during meetings. This contributed to the prevention of conflicting statistics on the epidemics as all statistics were validated and confirmed by the team before release.

The Togolese Red Cross mobilized and trained 285 volunteers including members of the Mothers' Club, emergency first-aid team and peer educators. The number increased to 285 from 250 as additional 35 volunteers were mobilized, trained and deployed in the prefecture of Lacs where other cases of cholera were reported during this operation. The prefecture was not among the target areas in the initial PoA. Among this group of volunteers were newly recruited volunteers who were deployed to communities where the Red Cross had no presence. The Red Cross volunteers were trained on community mobilization, sensitization and health education including water purification method and all what the communities needed to know about the cholera epidemic. The volunteers carried out door-to-door sensitization activities and sensitized the target population. Public sensitization awareness sessions were also carried out in public places including markets and schools for 30 days.

The Red Cross messages included regular hands washing with soap, water treatment, washing of fruits before eating, defecating in the latrine, covering of food against flies, regular clearing of waste, symptoms of cholera and steps to take when a case is detected. The Togolese Red Cross also produced and distributed sensitization materials and leaflets to facilitate the activities of the volunteers. About 2,000 leaflets on cholera messages were produced and distributed during the exercise. Twenty ARCHI 2010 cholera forms and 110 bibs were also produced for the operation. The activities of the volunteers deployed in the affected communities were well received by the communities as some communities members sought to know more about cholera by freely asking questions to better understand how to prevent the disease in their communities. The volunteers also carried out follow up activities after the sensitization to ensure that beneficiaries put into practice the good hygiene habits they have learned. Many of the households now keep their environment clean and tidy.

The National Society's volunteers assisted UNICEF in the distribution of 285 family cholera kits to beneficiaries in the target districts. Each kit contained water purification tablets, two plastic buckets, two water jerry cans and bars of soap. They also collaborated with government health authorities in referral of cases to health facilities and assisted in the interment of the deaths. The collaborative efforts of the Red Cross in this regard have strengthened the good relation existing between the Togolese Red Cross and health authorities in Togo. To strengthen the public sensitization activities of the Red Cross, the National Society used the electronic media to carry out its sensitization activities. Radio messages were transmitted in French, Ewé and Kabye in order to reach wider population. The Togolese Red Cross in collaboration with other partners was able to reach a total of 353,120 persons of 102,846 households and cleaned up a total of 2,699 dumping sites. The activities of the Red Cross volunteers during the operation contributed to the drastic reduction in cases and have also enhanced the visibility of the Red Cross in the communities reached. The selection of some community people who were trained as volunteers where Red Cross structure does not exist has made these communities to request for the creation of Red Cross structure.

### Challenges

The operation did not experience any major challenges apart from the delay in fund transfer due to some banking administrative procedure. However, the National Society was able to kick start activities with its available resources before the availability of the DREF funds.

## Conclusion

### Lessons learned:

The Togolese Red Cross was able to demonstrate again its mobilization and sensitization capacity to government authorities and other stakeholders. Many people in the communities are ignorant of good hygiene practices hence the need to regularly carry out sensitization in this regard. There is the need for funding of these regular sensitization activities.

## 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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# International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRTG002 - Togo - Cholera

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/1-2009/6
Budget Timeframe	2009/1-2009/4
Appeal	MDRTG002
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
<b>A. Budget</b>	75,422					75,422
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	0					0
<b>Income</b>						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	71,119					71,119
<b>C5. Other Income</b>	71,119					71,119
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)</b>	71,119					71,119
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>	71,119					71,119
<b>Appeal Coverage</b>	94%					94%

## 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>B. Opening Balance</b>	0					0
<b>C. Income</b>	71,119					71,119
<b>E. Expenditure</b>	-71,119					-71,119
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>	0					0

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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
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		<b>75,422</b>					<b>75,422</b>	
<b>Supplies</b>								
Medical & First Aid	1,000	839				839	161	
Teaching Materials	4,360						4,360	
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>5,360</b>	<b>839</b>				<b>839</b>	<b>4,521</b>	
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Transport & Vehicle Costs	1,925	1,242				1,242	683	
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>1,925</b>	<b>1,242</b>				<b>1,242</b>	<b>683</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>								
National Society Staff	61,430						61,430	
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>61,430</b>						<b>61,430</b>	
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	655	54,845				54,845	-54,190	
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>655</b>	<b>54,845</b>				<b>54,845</b>	<b>-54,190</b>	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel		1,362				1,362	-1,362	
Information & Public Relation		3,748				3,748	-3,748	
Communications	900	697				697	203	
Other General Expenses	250	3,764				3,764	-3,514	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>1,150</b>	<b>9,571</b>				<b>9,571</b>	<b>-8,421</b>	
<b>Programme Support</b>								
Program Support	4,902	4,623				4,623	280	
<b>Total Programme Support</b>	<b>4,902</b>	<b>4,623</b>				<b>4,623</b>	<b>280</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>75,422</b>	<b>71,119</b>				<b>71,119</b>	<b>4,303</b>	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>		<b>4,303</b>				<b>4,303</b>		