

DREF operation update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Papua New Guinea: Cholera, Dysentery and Influenza Outbreaks

DREF operation n° MDRPG004
GLIDE no. [EP-2009-000185PNG](#)
Update no. 4

28 February 2010

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the International 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:

Update till the 28 February 2010.

Summary:

The Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated CHF 359,058 to the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society to reach 300,000 people in 13 out of 20 provinces.

Initially, CHF 43,878 (USD 41,339 or EUR 28,923) was allocated from DREF to support Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society (PNGRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to some 5,000 beneficiaries on 7 September 2009 in response to the outbreak.

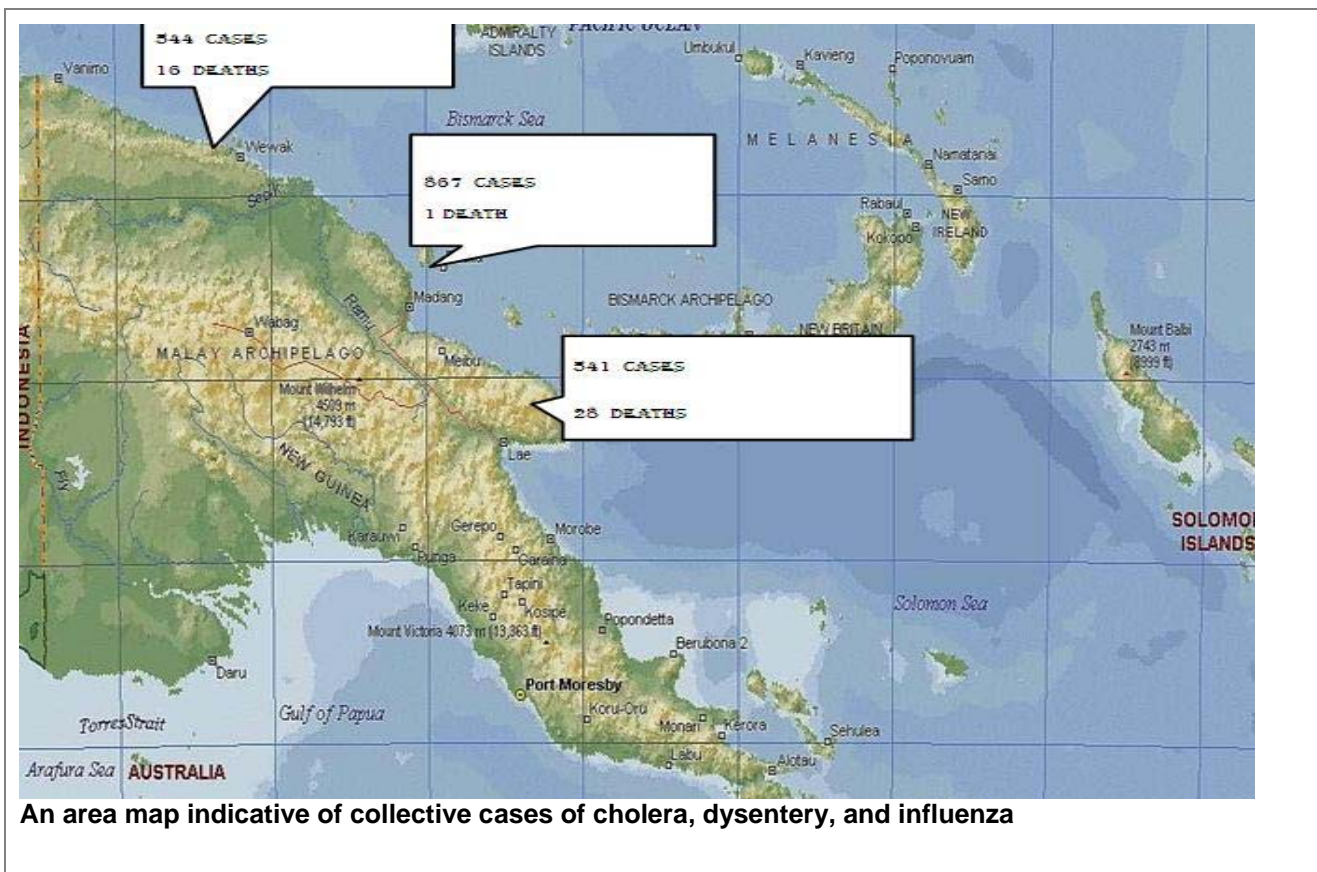
PNGRCS will continue to meet the needs of the people affected by extending the existing DREF and implementing a strategy that includes hygiene information dissemination and community awareness to minimize or contain the spread of cholera, dysentery and influenza over a three-month timeframe.

Recent developments include increasing the scope and the budget for this operation, which will now directly reach approximately 300,000 people, and indirectly reach 2.4 million people. The budget for the operation has been significantly increased and is now approximately CHF 359,058 (USD 348,498 or EUR 237,112).

Initially the operation was expected to be implemented in three months. However the PNGRCS has also been supporting a large number of provinces experiencing flooding over the previous two months. The impact of managing duplicate operations during this period has resulted in a reduced implementation rate for the Cholera, dysentery and influenza operation. (Please see the following map indicative of cases and deaths in the affected areas). In addition new cholera cases have also disrupted operational plans where resources have been reallocated to focus on the immediate lifesaving needs. As a result the operation will be extended until the end of May 2010.

In line with IFRC reporting standards, the narrative and financial final reports will be posted 90 days after the end of the operation (by August 2010).

[<click here to view the interim financial report; or here for the contact list>](#)



The situation

1. Background - Overall

The Papua New Guinea national Government declared a health emergency in Morobe province following the cholera, dysentery and influenza outbreak on 11 September 2009. The provincial authorities, with assistance of the national department of health and partner agencies, established a provincial outbreak response committee (PORC) comprising representatives of the relevant national and provincial authorities and co-chaired by the provincial health advisor and the provincial health director. The co-chairs operate the coordination and command centre at the Lae provincial health office, Morobe Province, with the support of the World Health Organization (WHO)

For this reporting period, the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society (PNGRCS) continues representation at the national task force and contributes to address issues that arise from the interventions as a national coordination body.

1.1 Morobe Province

There have been no new reports regarding dysentery and influenza cases. However, 15 new cholera cases and one death have been reported as outlined in the following table. The increase in cholera cases in Mutzing is due to very poor personal and household hygiene practices in this area, access to safe drinking water is limited and latrines are not commonly used. In addition, the high rainfall and resulting flooding of local rivers, which are the main source of drinking water, have also contributed to the increased cases.

Location		Current Figures		New Cases weekly		Cumulative	
District	Village	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Lae	Angau CTC					311	17
Markham	Mutzing	64	1	15	1	79	2
Finchafen	Bukawa	Still	verifying				
Tewaii	Siassi	156	9	0	0	156	9
TOTAL						541	28

1.2 Eastern Highlands – Cumulative

No new confirmed cases have been reported this period, note the * indicated confirmed.

DISTRICT	CHOLERA		DYSENTERY		INFLUENZA	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Goroka	4	0	15	0	NR	NR
Daulo	1* (1 new)	0	12	0	NR	NR
Henganofi	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Obura Wonenara	NR	NR	193	39	0	0
Unggai Bena	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Lufa	NR	NR	2	NR	NR	NR
Kainantu	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Total	6	0	222	39	0	0

1.3 Western Highlands – Cumulative

No new confirmed cases have been reported this period, note the * indicated confirmed.

DISTRICT	CHOLERA		DYSENTERY		INFLUENZA	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Mt. Hagen	70	2	0	0	NR	NR
Total	70	2	0	0	0	0

1.4 Madang – Cumulative

As in Mutzing, there have been no new reports regarding dysentery and influenza cases. However, six new cholera cases have been reported. The increase in the cases is a result of the high rainfall which has contributed to the spread of diarrheal diseases that has also been affected by people returning to the area for the festive season. Of the 230 cases previously reported, five of them are confirmed cholera cases.

DISTRICT	CHOLERA		DYSENTERY	INFLUENZA		
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
* confirmed						
Madang	*7 & 230	1	29	0	NR	NR
New cases this reporting period	638	0				
Total	875	1	29	0	0	0

1.5 East Sepik – Cumulative

No new cases for cholera, dysentery and influenza have been reported:

Locatio		Current Figures		New Cases report		Cumulative	
District	Village	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Angoram	Kambaramba	228	3	2	0	230	3
	Moim	84	3	5	0	89	3
	Angoram Stn	50	1	0	0	50	1
	Biwat	9	2	1	0	10	2
	Marienberg	14	4	0	0	14	4
	Murik Lakes	59	2	28	0	87	2
Wewak	Wewak	43	1	4	0	47	1
Total		487	16	40	0	527	16

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Strong weather conditions in Papua New Guinea led to flooding and land slips in several provinces across the country during the first half of the cyclone season. In early December, the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society (PNGRCS) responded to flooding in the Oro Province by deploying staff from HQ and the Oro Branch volunteers to conduct assessments. Staff members and volunteers also distributed potable water and water containers. Door to door hygiene promotion was undertaken by volunteers in light of the increased risk of water borne diseases.

Other branches, including several of those playing a key role in the cholera operation were placed on high alert for flooding taking volunteers and staff offline to conduct preparedness activities. Heavy rain fall around Mumeng Station in Morobe resulted in flash flooding and a landslide that left 300 people displaced. Volunteers and staff in the Western Highlands were called upon to respond to flooding effecting 200 households. This impact was further compounded by tribal conflict that resulted in 72 houses being burned down at the beginning of January. The branch has been key in trying to resolve the conflict situation. The Eastern Highlands branch has also been on high alert following a landslide blocking access to the area in the middle of January as a result of heavy rain.

Hygiene Promotion

2. Volunteer Training – Intermediate Level – Orientation & Health

Under the Volunteer training component, PNGRCS will provide volunteers of the 13 PNGRCS Branches engaged in the operation with training to enable them to implement hygiene promotion activities in their respective communities. To date the training has been delivered to eight branches out of 13 in the following eight Provinces of PNG: Morobe, Eastern Highlands, NCD Central, Oro, Madang, West New Britain, Western Highlands, Manus and Sandaun. In addition the health team used the opportunity of disseminate and training volunteers on good hygiene practices during a recent disaster risk management forum in Boera.

The delay in finalizing the training in all 13 branches has been result of the national society's response to the appointed facilitators being engaged in response to the recent floods. As a result, only four of the seven facilitators have been available. In looking to the future activities, a revised plan of action has been developed to fast track the training for the remaining five branches.

In addition, there have been a number of changes to the health team, where one staff member has resigned. The recruitment process for replacing this staff member is in the final stages. However, their departure has placed further limitations on the human resource capacity of PNGRCS. Furthermore, ongoing communications difficulties are being addressed, but at times, this hampers the implementation of the operation. This is because difficulties are faced when accessing internet and facsimile services, while mobile phone coverage is often poor. The delays in reporting, and information flow between the national office and the branches has had a negative impact on the overall management and coordination of the operation.

See the **volunteer training progress chart** to note progress on [Annex 1](#).



The Island Province of Manus is ready to carry out hygiene promotion activities after training from the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society health staff members.

The branch has 21 active volunteers.

The Manus branch plans to carryout their awareness and cholera preparedness prevention activities in the Western Islands those closer to the most affected provinces of East Sepik, Madang and Morobe.

Photo credit: IFRC

3. Public Place Awareness

Public place health awareness activities were suspended due to heavy rainfall over the reporting period, which required Branches to assist communities affected by floods. The updated implementation plan has addressed this delay and it is expected that activities will be completed in early April.

Although, there have been challenges with regard to responding to multiple operations. The National Capital District (NCD), Central -- Port Moresby branch has been able to host a disaster risk management forum in a remote village.

While Madang branch is working with the provincial government to extend awareness activities to additional affected districts and island communities. These areas have been included into the revised plan of action which is considered important as the inland communities are isolated in mountainous areas. To respond to their needs branch representatives will prepare to camp in the villages over a number of days to carry out and complete health and hygiene awareness activities as far as possible.



The volunteers from NCD Central get hands on training on how to use the VHF and HF radios as well as the satellite phone and GPS tracking systems at the disaster risk management forum provided by the New Zealand Red Cross.

Photo credit: IFRC

4. Use of Media

PNGRCS continues to work with local radio stations across the affected areas by broadcasting hygiene promotion; and the prevention of cholera messages to communities. These stations broadcast key messages outlined in the face to face public awareness sessions, emphasizing person to person contact and the distribution of information, education and communication (IEC) materials. The Western Highland branch Chairperson reported that peer education undertaken by Red Cross volunteers is gaining momentum in the Western Highlands Communities: Community members are providing positive feedback because of the radio announcements and there is active discussion related to the awareness and prevention of cholera.

To date PNGRCS has reached three million people through all forms of mass media.

5. Challenges and Lessons Learnt

The major challenges in the reporting period have been related to PNGRCS responding to multiple operations and the impact this has had on available human resources. In addition, the heavy rainfall and resulting flooding has impacted on the spread of diarrheal disease is partly a cause for the new cases of cholera.

In addressing the challenges faced, PNGRCS has revised its plan of action and will work towards fast tracking the training of remaining volunteers; and the dissemination of health and hygiene education in the most affected provinces - particularly those that have seen recent increases of cholera while continuing to undertake mass media awareness through radio programmers. The PNGRCS plan to have completed activities in ten provinces by the beginning of April, allows for greater focus on the remaining provinces to ensure the overall completion of the operation by May 2010.

Following the above schedule, PNGRCS' 13 will receive the training package for "Orientation & Health".

The second monitoring two-day visits to the branches by PNGRCS' senior governance and management was planned for the month of February 2010.

This lessons learnt exercise is aimed at identifying the impact of the trainings and subsequent activities as well as the gaps and ways forward for maximum hygiene awareness promotion. As the cholera outbreak is spreading to more and more areas, the authorities are placing a much bigger emphasis on hygiene awareness. (See **lessons learnt chart on Annex 2**)

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 Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society:

- Ms. Esmé Sinape (Secretary General), email: hqpngrcs@online.net.pg, phone +675 325 2145. Pacific regional office in Suva, Fiji:
- Ms. Aurélia Balpe, Head of regional office, email: aurelia.balpe@ifrc.org, or Ms. Ruth Lane, Regional disaster risk reduction delegate, ruth.lane@ifrc.org, phone: +679 3311 855, fax: +679 3311 406

Asia Pacific Zone office in Malaysia:

- Jagan Chapagain (Deputy head of Asia Pacific Zone), email: jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org, phone: +6 03 9207 5700
- Disaster management unit: Mr. Daniel Bolaños González (Regional disaster response delegate), email: daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org; phone: + 60 3 9207 5729, mobile: +60 12 283 7305
- Resource mobilization & PMER unit: Ms. Penny Elghady (RM & PMER coordinator), email: penny.elghady@ifrc.org, phone: +60 3 9207 5771

For pledges of funding: zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org

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

ANNEX 1

The volunteer training progress chart

Activities	Branches x Provinces									PNG
	Morobe	Eastern Highlands	NCD Central	Oro	Madang	West New Britain	Western Highlands	Manus	Sandaun	Total
Trained Volunteers - Basic Level	79	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	99
Trained Volunteers -	21	22	20	26	22	21	24	21	26	203

ANNEX 2

The lessons learnt chart

Where	Who	Dates	Activity
Morobe Branch	Senior Management & Governance	Carried out during the month of February (2 days per Branch)	Lessons learnt on training provided, hygiene awareness activities, coordination, leadership and other related issues
Sandaun Branch	Senior Management & Governance		Lessons learnt on training provided, hygiene awareness activities and other related issues
Eastern Highlands Branch	Senior Management & Governance		Lessons learnt on training provided, hygiene awareness activities and other related issues
Western Highlands Branch	Senior Management & Governance		Lessons learnt on training provided, hygiene awareness activities and other related issues
Manus Branch	Senior Management & Governance		Lessons learnt on training provided, hygiene awareness activities and other related issues
West New Britain Branch	Senior Management & Governance		Lessons learnt on training provided, hygiene awareness activities and other related issues
Madang Branch	Senior Management & Governance		Lessons learnt on training provided, hygiene awareness activities and other related issues

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRPG004 - Papua New Guinea - Cholera, dysentery and

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/9-2009/11
Budget Timeframe	2009/9-2010/1
Appeal	MDRPG004
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	359,058					359,058
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	359,058					359,058
C5. Other Income	359,058					359,058
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	359,058					359,058
D. Total Funding = B + C	359,058					359,058
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	359,058					359,058
E. Expenditure	-171,952					-171,952
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	187,106					187,106

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MDRPG004 - Papua New Guinea - Cholera, dysentery and

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/9-2009/11
Budget Timeframe	2009/9-2010/1
Appeal	MDRPG004
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

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)		359,058					359,058	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief		2,848				2,848	-2,848	
Clothing & textiles	11,739						11,739	
Water & Sanitation	28,930						28,930	
Teaching Materials	9,828						9,828	
Other Supplies & Services	120,413						120,413	
Total Supplies	170,910	2,848				2,848	168,062	
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	2,340						2,340	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	2,340						2,340	
Transport & Storage								
Distribution & Monitoring	3,068	115				115	2,953	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	34,906	3,498				3,498	31,408	
Total Transport & Storage	37,974	3,613				3,613	34,361	
Personnel								
National Society Staff		293				293	-293	
Total Personnel		293				293	-293	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	72,342	1,039				1,039	71,304	
Total Workshops & Training	72,342	1,039				1,039	71,304	
General Expenditure								
Travel	7,736	14,354				14,354	-6,618	
Information & Public Relation	31,682	7,380				7,380	24,302	
Office Costs	5,803	773				773	5,030	
Communications	6,931	10,521				10,521	-3,590	
Financial Charges		12				12	-12	
Total General Expenditure	52,153	33,040				33,040	19,113	
Programme Support								
Program Support	23,339	11,177				11,177	12,162	
Total Programme Support	23,339	11,177				11,177	12,162	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		119,942				119,942	-119,942	
Total Operational Provisions		119,942				119,942	-119,942	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	359,058	171,952				171,952	187,106	
VARIANCE (C - D)		187,106				187,106		