

# 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° 5  
21<sup>st</sup> March 2010

**Period covered by this Ops Update:** 1<sup>st</sup> February to 21<sup>st</sup> March 2010.

**Appeal target:** With the available resources, the recovery appeal has reached additional 500 beneficiaries (families) in the region of Matam.

**Appeal coverage:** 47% [<click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details >](#)

In partnership with the Senegalese National Society, a revised plan of action was developed to support 500 beneficiaries in the region of Matam following a financial analysis of all income generated from the appeal. With this support, the appeal has now covered 2,046 families totalling to 10,230 benefiting people.

### Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on a preliminary basis on 9 September 2009 for CHF 2.1m 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.
- Ops Update (no. 1) communicated a probable appeal budget revision as the six-month appeal timeframe remains the same.
- Ops Update (no. 2) communicated that a draft Plan of Action will be revised. While there had been plans for a revised appeal budget (reduced), the current budget will remain the same.
- Ops Update (no.3) communicated the recovery activities targeting 14,000 people (2,800 households) according to the situation changing and the beneficiaries' real needs.
- Ops update (no. 4) communicated the implementation of the recovery phase of the appeal to help support affected families. Out of 2,800 targeted families 1,546 families in 43 villages (communities) and one camp has been reached with agricultural tools, seeds, fertilizer, and unconditional cash support to help in their recovery process.
- This Ops Update (no. 5) communicates the support of additional 500 families in the region of Matam. Secondly, to conduct monitoring visits to 21 communities in the regions of Saint-Louis, Kolda, Kaolack, and Fatick.

**Summary:** Torrential seasonal rains in Senegal, beginning in June and climaxing during the last week of August 2009 caused heavy flooding in the suburbs of Dakar (the capital city), in major towns like Kaolack and Saint-Louis and other regions and villages of the country. To respond to the flooding, the following actions have been carried out:

- The Federation had provided significant initial assistance through DREF allocation to allow the National Society support the affected communities.
- An Emergency Appeal (EA) was launched on 9 September, 2009. With this EA, the Federation supported the SRCS to provide an appropriate and timely response to the immediate needs of the affected communities through non-food items (NFI) relief distribution, emergency shelter, emergency health (basic care), water, sanitation, hygiene promotion, psycho-social support, livelihoods and early recovery, and logistics.
- The Federation has also deployed a Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) and two Emergency Response Units (ERUs) to support assessment and coordination efforts, and to work with the regional disaster response team members (RDRT) who were already in place.
- Another RDRT member from the Gambia Red Cross Society was deployed to support the SRCS in the implementation of recovery appeal to purchase and distribute agricultural tools, seeds, fertilizer, livestock, and cash to affected families in the regions of Fatick, Kaolack, Saint-Louis, and Kolda.
- Following financial analysis of all expenses against income and based on the funding available, as of 3 March, 2010 the SRCS in partnership with the Federation has executed the following: 500 households (2,500 people) have received agricultural kits and all beneficiaries were identified based on the set down criteria; monitoring visits to 21 communities that received support in January 2010 to assess the benefits yield, follow up any problem that has resulted from distribution activities and record any other recommendation.

The same approach use during the first distribution phase has been applied in this February-March 2010 phase. Out of 25 communities, seven communities have been assisted at community level while the remaining has received individual assistance. Prior to the distribution, the concerned community has to make its choice. Once the beneficiaries are identified and sensitized, the distribution activities have started.

The monitoring team (Federation RDRT delegate and a representative from the SRCS) visited 21 communities: nine communities in the region of Saint-Louis, five in Vélingara, two in Kaolack, and five in Fatick. Direct interviews were conducted with families that received support in the form of agricultural tools, seeds, fertilizer, livestock and unconditional cash support. This was done in the presence of all the village heads. The discussions with beneficiaries were complemented with a visit to field works and construction sites to verify information received.

## The situation

Torrential seasonal rains in Senegal, beginning in June and climaxing during the last week of August 2009 caused heavy flooding in the suburbs of Dakar (the capital city), in other major towns like Kaolack and Saint-Louis and in other regions and villages of the country. On December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009, a RDRT team leader from the Gambia Red Cross Society was deployed to help support the Senegalese National Society in the implementation of the recovery appeal. The operation manager was to purchase and distribute agricultural tools, seeds, fertilizer, livestock, and cash to affected families in the regions of Fatick, Kaolack, Saint-Louis, Matam, Tambacounda, Kédougou, and Kolda. Following financial analysis of available funding on 10 February, 2010, based on the remaining funding, a plan of action was developed to support 500 families (2,500 people) in the region of Matam. This was carried out together with monitoring visits to four regions that received support in January 2010. The

monitoring visit was meant to evaluate the support provided to beneficiaries, the utilization, find out problems encountered and collect recommendations from beneficiaries on future support.

Five hundred (500) agricultural tool kits/sets were purchased to cater for equal number of families in the region of Matam. Seventeen (17) out of 25 communities have received individual farming tools (by family) and while the rest has opted for a community approach. A monitoring tour was conducted as well.

## Coordination and partnerships

During the entire implementation of the recovery appeal, there has been minimum or limited co-ordination with other institutions. All activities have been coordinated and implemented in partnership with the National Society. The Federation through its deployed RDRT members has worked with the Senegalese National Headquarters' staff and regional presidents, coordinators and volunteers. The relationship has been cordial; however there have been few obstacles from the local Red Cross authorities.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent Action

### Progress towards objectives

Sector	Objectives
Recovery	<b>Objective 1:</b> To improve the livelihoods of 500 families (2,500 people) through the provision of agricultural tools in the flooded region of Matam.
	<b>Expected Results:</b> 1. Agricultural tools are purchased and distributed to 500 flood affected families in the region of Matam to help support in their recovery process.
	<b>Activities executed:</b> • Five hundred (500) agricultural kits/sets were purchased and distributed to 500 families in 25 communities.
Monitoring	<b>Objective 2:</b> To conduct assessment in 21 communities in the four regions of Saint-Louis, Vélingara, Kaolack, and Fatick that received support.
	<b>Expected Results:</b> 2. Monitoring visits are conducted in the regions of Saint-Louis, Vélingara, Kaolack and Fatick to assess their recovery process, problems and provide recommendations where necessary.
	<b>Activities executed:</b> • 21 communities have been visited to assess the impact of the recovery support to the regions, find out problems encountered by the beneficiaries and provide recommendations for improvement in future interventions.

The recovery appeal which targeted to support 2,800 families in their recovery process was able to assist 2,046 families (10,230 out of 14,000 people).



Map of Senegal

Table 1. The agricultural kits beneficiaries

No.	Region	Districts	Villages	Households	No. of beneficiaries	Agricultural kits
1	Matam	Matam	12	240	1,200	240
		Commune	2	40	200	40
		Kanel	10	200	1,000	200
		Ranérou	1	20	100	20
<b>Total</b>			<b>25</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>500</b>

Each family has received one agricultural tool kit including: 01 wheel barrow, 01 cutlass, 01 rake, 01 spade, 01 roll of wire net, and 01 roll of binding wire.

### Evaluation visits

The monitoring team visited the regions of Saint Louis, Vélingara, Kaolack and Fatick to assess the recovery support provided to beneficiaries. The aim was to assess the impact the support had on people, the challenges they could have faced, and what recommendations could be provided to improve future recovery interventions.

### Agricultural kits

During the entire monitoring visit to all communities that received kits, the populations have expressed their appreciation to the support and highlighted that the support is a long term one. Although the kits were meant to support families in their farming activities, people have started using the kits to rehabilitate their damaged houses. Some of the communities said they are using the materials to repair flood routes to prevent flooding from happening again. Some of the interviewees highlighted that they used the wheelbarrows to transport local manure to help improve their farm lands fertility. In the community members of Ndiabel in the region of Kaolack are supported by Caritas to construct

accommodation; they are utilizing the kits to dig and transport sand as their contribution since it's a requirement. The head of the community is helping in lightening the plight of the flood victims. Generally, all communities visited expressed their satisfaction and are commending the Red Cross action.



***Beneficiaries using kits to rehabilitate their damaged houses***

### **Livestock**

According to the beneficiaries, the geographical relocation constituted a big challenge to the rearing process. Moreover, there has been a disease outbreak causing the death of the livestock. Some of the beneficiaries lost two animals while others lost one. Those who feared losing their animals have sold theirs and replace them with local ones. Others have used the funds generated from the sale to purchase donkeys to do business to raise income for the family. Despite all these problems, over 80% of beneficiaries still possess their livestock. Some of the livestock have started multiplication increasing the prospect of improving the hopes of beneficiaries in their recovery process.



***Livestock of beneficiaries***

### **Seeds and fertilizer**

The five communities that were supported with seeds and fertilizer have started preparing their farm lands while the residents of the Camp Madina Montaga have started showing their seeds. Others have also used the fertilizer to improve the soil fertility to develop their production. The community approach used in the seeds and fertilizer has contributed in improving unity at Camp Medina Montaga.



*Rice field of Camp Madina Montaga*

## Monitoring and Evaluation

The Federation provided monitoring and advice to the SRCS throughout the operation to ensure appropriate accountability, transparency and financial management of the activities. This was mainly done by the RDRT deployed members who prepared periodical updates as to what happened and what are the next steps and resolve any problems the teams were facing. The team on the ground have proposed changes for operational feasibility.

## Impact

All 500 beneficiaries in the region of Matam have received their agricultural kits and generally they have expressed their appreciation. During the monitoring visits, it was visible that people have started rehabilitating their damaged houses. Others particularly those residing in Ndiabel are using the materials to provide their contribution in the construction of accommodation funded by Caritas. The community farming also improved the unity among beneficiaries. Despite the breakout of diseases among the livestock within the region of Vélingara, the animals are growing and multiplication has started. Beneficiaries highly appreciated the support provided to them. Some of the beneficiaries' that have been interviewed expressed their satisfaction; this has contributed to the image building of the National Society.

## How we work

All IFRC 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 the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

## Contact information

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