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Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF)

Democratic Republic of Congo: Elections

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRCD010 **30 November, 2011**

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) 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 emergency response. 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.

CHF 67'867 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the DRC Red Cross national society in delivering First Aid to casualties in case of eventual social and political disturbance that may result from the November 2011 presidential and legislative elections. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Democratic Republic of Congo held presidential and legislative elections beginning 28 November, 2011. While the political rallies which began several weeks ago did not initially result in any large-scale social or political disturbances, isolated tension and incidents were reported in some provinces, including the capital, Kinshasa. There have since been reports of post-election violence, including deaths. Supported by Movement partners (mainly ICRC, IFRC and Belgian Red Cross) the National Society has trained, equipped and put on standby some 100 First Aid teams in all 11 provinces in the country.

This DREF allocation will help provide additional support for the mobilisation of First Aid volunteers and activities from the National Society contingency plan.

This operation is expected to be implemented over 3 months, and will therefore be completed by end-February 2012. A final report will be made available 3 months after the end of the operation (by end-May 2012).

[<click here for DREF budget; here for contact details; here to view a map of the affected area>](#)

The situation

The November 2011 elections will be the second democratic elections in the country. According to the media, clashes have been reported during the pre-electoral period in Kinshasa, Katanga, Kasaï Oriental, Equateur and Bandundu Mbuji-Mayi. There are reports of post-election violence, including deaths. It is worth mentioning that in addition to the 28 November presidential and legislative elections, local (municipal) elections have been planned for 2012.

Coordination and partnerships

The Red Cross of DRC coordinates its preparedness activities with the Ministry of Health, which has requested the National Society to provide First Aid services as part of its contingency planning process and to evacuate the wounded to adequate reference hospitals.

In early November, an assessment of the surgical capacities of 6 reference hospitals, as well as the

capacities of the First Aid posts and hospital brigades in main hospitals was undertaken by the ICRC in close coordination with the DRC RC. Contacts were developed with the hospital management in order to facilitate medical evacuation of wounded and secure adequate medical care.

The Red Cross also coordinates its action with OCHA and other actors such as Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF).

Internal Movement coordination is done according to the Seville agreement and its supplementary measures. A steering committee supervises the contingency plan and is composed of the Head of delegation of the ICRC, the ICRC Coordinator, the Country Representative of the IFRC, the National Coordinator of the National Society Contingency Plan and the President of the Red Cross of DRC.

Operational coordination is done by the National Society (mainly managers located in the headquarters and in the Kinshasa Branch for Communication, Emergency Response and Health), in cooperation with technical delegates of all components of the Movement.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

With support from mainly ICRC, the IFRC and PNSs, the Red Cross of DRC has so far:

- Trained about 300 First Aid team leaders during 13 training sessions supported by the ICRC (May-October) and a training of approximately 180 First Aiders (CBHFA training sessions), in Bandundu Branch (Belgium Red Cross),
- Dispatched First Aid material to 11 Provinces : 10 emergency kits, 750 First Aid kits, 20 stretchers for the 10 First Aid posts in Kinshasa, identification items (750 Red Cross bibs and 95 flags), communication equipment to be used by First Aid teams and management (8 hand sets for Kinshasa, 6 Thuraya phones in 5 Branches), with the logistical support provided by ICRC (by cargo plane and ICRC plane); complete family kits for 600 families.
- Conducted dissemination of the plan and 7 Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to national authorities and to the leadership of the various political parties, media (*Club des journalistes amis de la Croix Rouge*), traditional and youth leaders (via the communication and dissemination partnership with the ICRC). Two radio spots on neutrality/impartiality and the respect of the emblem were produced (with support of the ICRC) and a TV spot was produced (with support of the IFRC).
- The plan contains a restoration of family links (RFL) strategy: RFL volunteers will be deployed within the First Aid teams and be able to register unaccompanied minors (UAMs), vulnerable persons, and to organize RFL via MCR and phone. Dead body management is also part of the RC response. The ICRC delivers material to support both activities (a kit to manage 200 dead bodies and RFL material such as stationary, RFL forms, bibs, etc.)
- Activated its early warning system.
- All Movement components have deployed vehicles, equipped as ambulances, in Kinshasa and in the provinces. Additionally, during the days close to the announcement of the results (December 6-8), vehicles will be deployed again to patrol and undertake medical evacuation of wounded persons if need be.

The needs

The analysis of the situation shows that the preparedness capacities already deployed by the Red Cross of DRC supported by the ICRC, the IFRC and other Movement partners will be not enough to adequately respond to the expected needs. More First Aid teams must be trained and put on standby.

The proposed operation

Emergency health

Outcome: Increased readiness of Red Cross First Aid teams to provide timely First Aid services to casualties during and after presidential and legislative elections in November 2011	
Output: 250 Red Cross First Aid volunteers are trained, equipped and ready to provide life saving First Aid services to casualties in cities most at risk	Activities:
	Train additional 250 First Aid volunteers
	Provide equipment to 50 Red Cross First Aid teams (200 First Aid kits)
	Provide transportation and incentives for the deployment of 250 additional volunteers
	Monitor the deployment of First Aid teams

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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- **IFRC Country Representation:** Yawo Gameli Gavlo, Country Representative, DRC Country Representation; phone: +243 818 801 400; email: yawogameli.gavlo@ifrc.org;
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For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting)

- **IFRC Zone:** Robert Ondrusek, PMER/QA Delegate, Johannesburg; phone: +27.11.303.9744; email: robert.ondrusek@ifrc.org



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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 (NGOs) 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.

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Saving lives, changing minds.



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.
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DREF OPERATION

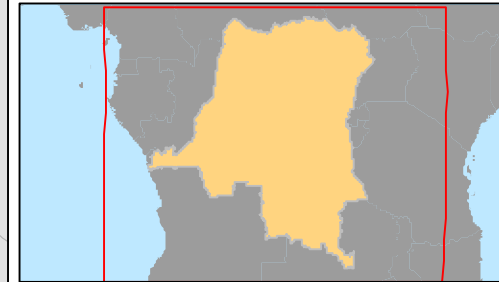
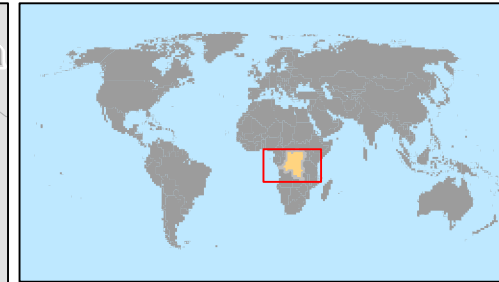
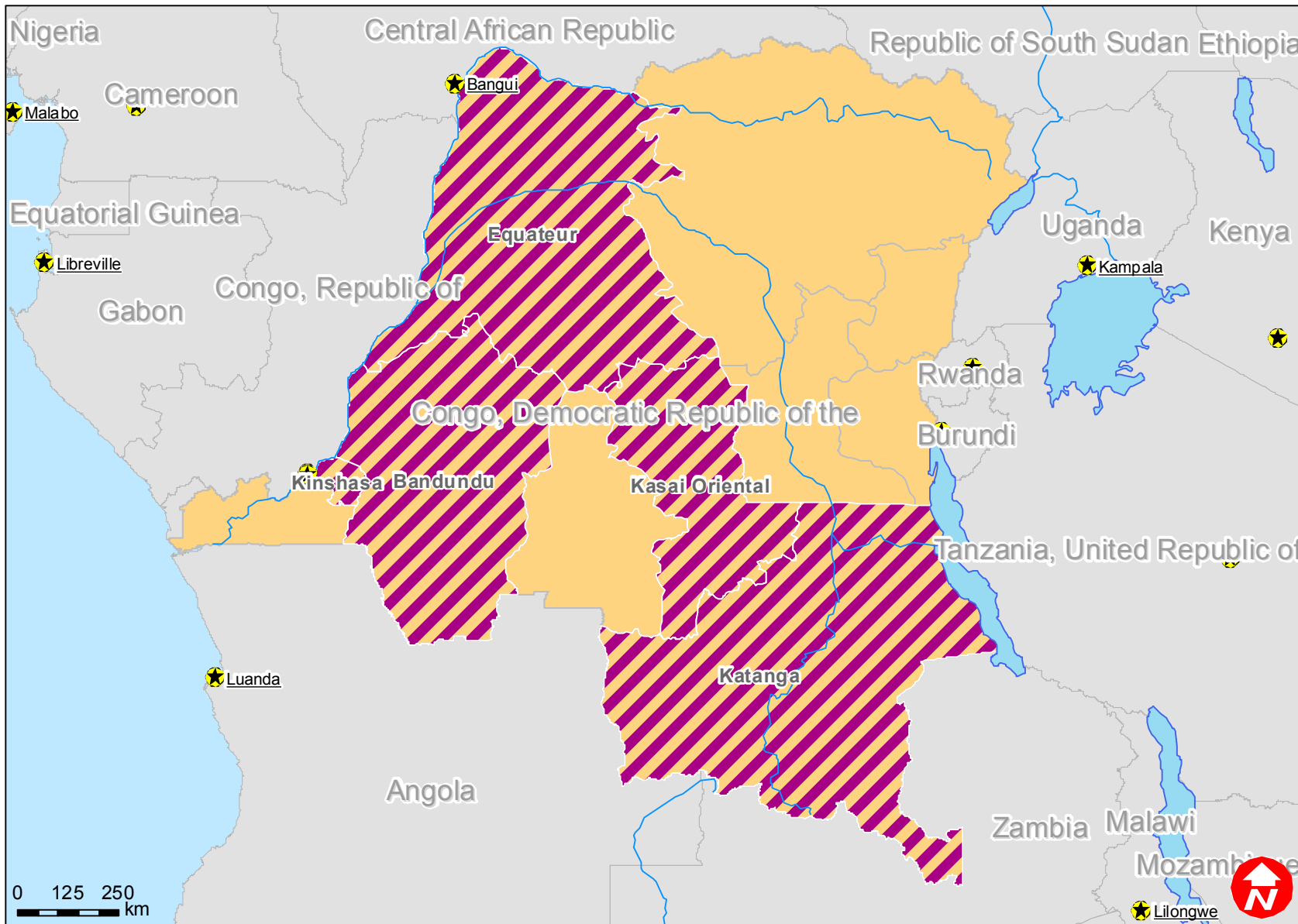
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MDRCD010 DRC: ELECTIONS

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	0
Shelter - Transitional	0
Construction - Housing	0
Construction - Facilities	0
Construction - Materials	0
Clothing & Textiles	0
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	0
Medical & First Aid	18,500
Teaching Materials	0
Utensils & Tools	0
Other Supplies & Services	0
Emergency Response Units	0
Cash Disbursements	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	18,500
Land & Buildings	0
Vehicles Purchase	0
Computer & Telecom Equipment	0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	0
Medical Equipment	0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	0
Distribution & Monitoring	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	3,200
Logistics Services	
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	3,200
International Staff	
National Staff	
National Society Staff	2,750
Volunteers	9,000
Total PERSONNEL	11,750
Consultants	
Professional Fees	
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	22,950
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	22,950
Travel	2,000
Information & Public Relations	2,000
Office Costs	900
Communications	775
Financial Charges	500
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Support Services	1,150
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	7,325
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	4,142
Total INDIRECT COSTS	4,142
TOTAL BUDGET	67,867



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 Areas affected