

SUDAN: FLOODS

29 October 1998

appeal no. 26/98

situation report no. 2

period covered: 16 September - 20 October 1998

REVISED BUDGET & INCREASED NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES

The Sudanese Red Crescent Society and the International Federation continued providing relief assistance to flood victims in the Blue Nile, White Nile, Kassala and Northern States during the reporting period. The outbreak and spread of water-borne diseases prompted the development of a plan of action focusing on prevention and treatment. As a result, the budget for this Appeal has been revised and the number of beneficiaries increased.

The context

Between 29 August and 2 September, severe flooding took place in Sudan's Blue Nile, White Nile, Kassala and Northern States. The high water levels of the Atbara, Nile, Blue Nile and White Nile rivers coupled with unusually heavy rains caused many deaths, homelessness and the destruction of homes, schools, health facilities, roads and bridges. Most of the affected are among Sudan's poorest. The Government declared a state of emergency as 338,000 flood victims required emergency food, shelter and medical services.

The Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) immediately carried out 4 assessment missions to the affected areas and confirmed the severity of the situation. In order to facilitate an effective emergency intervention, the International Federation released CHF 70,000 from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF). This coupled with USD 510,000 worth of shelter and medical goods from the United Arab Emirate Red Crescent Society (directly donated to the SRCS prior to the launch of the International Federation's Appeal) made it possible for immediate Red Cross/Red Crescent response in the high risk emergency phase of the operations.

The magnitude of the disaster, however, called for additional and immediate external support. On 6 September, the International Federation launched an Appeal on behalf of the National Society for CHF 2.9 million. However, following reports on the seriousness of the health risks, additional beneficiaries and needs were identified, bringing the total request to CHF 3,855,000 and increasing the number of beneficiaries by 40% to 158,000. There has been a generous response to this intervention from Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, which has enabled the National Society to meet the most urgent needs of the affected population.

Latest events

During the reporting period there was an outbreak of water-borne diseases in all states affected by the floods, but particularly in Khartoum State. The International Federation immediately deployed the head

of its Relief Health Services to assist the National Society and Delegation in assessing the situation and defining a Plan of Action regarding relief health. This plan was immediately implemented and is already fully funded. This plan entailed procurement of 26 New Emergency Health Kits (NEHK) and 4 Cholera kits. It also included additional medicines, sprayers, chemicals, health training and provision of educational materials, such as posters.

The plan of action for relief health targets 158,000 victims of which 28,000 are children under five years of age. All services are provided through the Sudanese Red Crescent Society's clinics and Government referral hospitals. The main contributors to the health plan of action are Spanish Red Cross and ECHO in all states, except in Kassala where United Arab Emirates Red Crescent Society has covered all needs. The Government of Sudan distributed food in the Northern, River Nile and White Nile States from its own stocks, hence no need for general distributions. The state of Kassala received food from WFP and so it was agreed that SRCS will no longer seek in kind or cash support for food distribution as initially sought in Appeal No. 26/98.

Since the last report, the situation in the six affected states has stabilised and no further flooding has occurred. However, problems associated with water stagnation continued for a while and this led to increased incidence of flies and mosquitoes which in turn led to increased occurrences of diarrhoea, malaria and acute respiratory tract diseases, in all states affected by the floods.

In reference to water and sanitation needs, SRC/Federation undertook an assessment mission to River Nile State in September. The situation was found to be poor and the stagnant water not only provided breeding grounds for the mosquitoes, but the sources for outbreaks diarrhoeal disease, including Shigellosis and typhoid fever. Cholera is a threat but yet to be confirmed.

The incidence of diarrhoeal diseases increased rapidly in late September and early October. Viral infections were the main cause, and there have been confirmed reports of bloody diarrhoea, indicating Shigella infections. Typhoid fever also became a problem. Khartoum State was the most affected and one of SRCS clinics in Khartoum's displaced camps, converted to a diarrhoeal treatment centre, still provides care to 70-80 patients a day.

Similar reports were received from major hospitals, which experienced problems coping with the situation. In the Health Plan of Action, it is planned to assist Government referral hospitals with medicines in all states affected by the floods.

At the request of the National Society and recommendation of the Head of Relief Health, a health delegate was recruited to support SRCS health interventions, to include training of trainers, development of health education materials, overseeing the distributions of drugs to SRCS and Government hospitals, and liaising with Government, UN and NGOs, and reporting.

Red Cross/Red Crescent action

Based on the objectives presented in the Emergency Appeal no. 26/98, and the new Health Plan of Action (available upon request) the Sudanese Red Crescent Society has achieved the following, to date, for both Relief and Health.

Operational Area:	<i>White Nile</i>	<i>River Nile</i>	<i>RELIEF Kassala</i>	<i>Northern State</i>	<i>Sinnar</i>	<i>Gedaref</i>
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Relief Action:	5000 Blankets 500 Tarp. Essential drugs	20 MTs food* 5750 Blankets 5700 Tarp. 15 Sprayers 150 litres Mala 110 litres Abate 1000 Tools	144 mts sorghum 18 mts pulses 5.5 Mts oil	10,750 Blankets 5000 Tarp 1000 tools 150 litres Mala 110 litres Abate 15 Sprayers	800 Blankets	
Beneficiaries:	15,000 (originally 9,750)	15,000	10,000	15,000		
Notes:			WFP			

Operational Area:	<i>White Nile</i>	<i>River Nile</i>	<i>Kassala</i>	<i>Northern State</i>	<i>Sinnar</i>	<i>Gedaref</i>	<i>Khartoum</i>
Health Action:	2 NEHK 200 litres Abate 200 litres Mala 20 sprayers	5 NEHK 800 litres Abate 800 litres Mala 70 sprayers	3 NEHK 200 litres Abate 1600 litres Mala 21 sprayers	3 NEHK 800 litres Abate 800 litres Mala 70 sprayers	1 NEHK 150 litres Abate 150 litres Mala 20 sprayers	3 NEHK 200 litres Abate 200 litres Mala 20 sprayers	3 NEHK 1 Cholera 250 litres Abate 250 litres Mala 20 Sprayers
Beneficiaries:	158,000 individuals in all States						
Notes:	Note that the above kits will be distributed through SRCS clinics and Government referral hospitals.						

Outstanding needs

Since the launch of the Appeal, the needed blankets, tarpaulins, sprayers, chemicals, malaria kits, tools, medicines, vehicle and personnel costs, have been covered. All food requirements have been covered by either WFP, United Arab Emirates Red Crescent or the Government of Sudan. In addition, the entire needs for health intervention have now been fully covered. **There has been no response to need for cooking sets at all.**

Cooking sets 20,000 pieces

External relations - Government/UN/NGOs/Media

The SRCS, with support from the International Federation, is the only national humanitarian organisation currently working in the 6 affected states with the exception of Khartoum, where many international NGOs are present. Close collaboration is in place with the UN agencies and the Government of Sudan. During the period under review, several assessments were undertaken jointly with the UN. The SRCS/Federation's relief health plan of action was developed pursuant to co-ordination with senior Ministry of Health officials, WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, WFP and ICRC in Khartoum.

At the onset of the disaster, international and national media coverage was impressively high. The SRCS/Federation issued many press releases and continue to update the public on this operation through the Federation's information team at the Regional Delegation Nairobi.

Financial information

See Annex 1 for the revised budget to this Appeal. The list of contributions is in Annex 2.

Conclusion

The Sudanese Red Crescent Society proved its response capacities once more with its swift and timely delivery of aid to the victims of these disastrous floods. The International Federation immediately augmented its support services to the National Society and to its country delegation. From the onset of the operation, the water-related health implications of this disaster and the need for preventative measures against outbreaks of malaria and other epidemics were duly noted. The timely support from donors enabled the National Society and the International Federation to provide relief to many vulnerable people. For more information, please contact the Africa department at the Secretariat, +41 22 730 4400.

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BUDGET SUMMARY
SUDAN FLOODS
 REVISED BUDGET

26/98
 IN CHF

	<u>Initial</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Additional</u> <u>Needs</u>	<u>Revised</u> <u>Budget</u>
EMERGENCY RELIEF SUPPLIES			
In Kind items			
Tarpaulins (19.100 sets)	325,000		325,000
Blankets (20.000 pieces)	140,000		140,000
Cooking sets (20.000 pieces)	1,000,000		1,000,000
Food items			
Cereals (1.145 MT)	300,000		300,000
Vegetable oil (86 MT)	112,000		112,000
Pulses (143 MT)	265,000		265,000
Non Food Items			
Water pumps (35 units)	71,500		71,500
Sprayers (35 units)	13,000		13,000
Hand tools (2.000 units)	15,000		15,000
Chemicals (500 litres)	1,500		1,500
Medical equipment (lab. equip./malaria)	11,000	306,500	317,500
Medical kits (5 kits)	40,000	218,500	258,500
Complementary drugs & medical material		61,000	61,000
TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS	2,294,000	586,000	2,880,000
Capital equipment (4 vehicles 4WD)	140,000		140,000
Transport, storage & vehicle costs	240,000	105,000	345,000
Personnel (2 delegates / 2 months)	40,000		40,000
Personnel (local & NS staff / volunteers)	80,000	105,000	185,000
Training (volunteers)		13,000	13,000
Travel & communications	20,000		20,000
Information (Health educational material)	13,000	30,000	43,000
Assesment/Monitoring/Evaluation	8,000	20,000	28,000
Administrative, office & general expenses	10,000	36,000	46,000
Secretariat operational support	100,000	15,000	115,000
NEEDS IN CASH	651,000	324,000	975,000
TOTAL APPEAL CASH & KIND	2,945,000	910,000	3,855,000
LESS CASH ON HANDS			3,035,800
NET REQUEST CASH & KIND			819,200