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DREF final report

Ghana/West Africa: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRGH004
GLIDE n° FL-2011-000106-GHA
16 March, 2012

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 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.

CHF 91,510 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 19 August, 2011 to support the Ghana Red Cross Society (GRCS) in delivering assistance to some 2,500 beneficiaries (500 households).

Summary: This operation provided assistance to 500 households affected by floods caused by a 10-hour torrential rainfall in Ghana on 20 July, 2011 and the overflow of the Birim River in the Eastern Region. About 130 communities in 15 districts of the Eastern and Volta regions were affected. Nine lives were lost to the floods with 872 acres of farmlands submerged and crops destroyed. Over 45,000 persons were displaced in 4 regions of Ghana, namely Eastern, Volta, Ashanti and Central. Eastern and Volta regions were the most affected, with 36,517 persons displaced during the early period of the flooding.



Red Cross Volunteers carrying out sanitation campaigns in Eastern Region/ NS

The affected population needed basic non-food items essential for their survival at their temporary settlements, and emergency health assistance for the health risks to which they were exposed. Hence, the assistance of the GRCS, which collaborated with other actors such as Swiss Red Cross, enabled the distribution of non-food items (NFIs), provision of clean and potable water, good hygiene practices, protection of lactating mothers and pregnant women, including children less than 5 years, against mosquito bites and malaria. This was made possible with the technical support of the IFRC, through its West Coast Regional Representation and the collaboration of affected local communities. The GRCS interventions have enabled the most affected households to mitigate the effects of the disaster and recover.

The National Society worked in collaboration with the National Disaster Management Organization and other humanitarian organizations at all levels. The operation strengthened the capacity of the affected Regional branches in disaster relief operation, especially in distribution and sensitization. About 100 Red Cross volunteers were trained on registration and distribution strategies, as well as hygiene promotion, which enabled them to be effectively involved in the implementation of the planned activities. Together with the National Disaster Response Team members of the GRCS, they were able to respond to the immediate needs of the affected communities.

This final report comes after a one month no-cost extension of the operation that was sought due to the delay in the arrival of some supplied replenished items from abroad to enable the closing of this operation. The GRCS and IFRC express their appreciation to ECHO for its contribution of CHF 51,407 and to the Netherlands RC/Govt for contributing CHF 33,994 to the DREF in replenishment of the allocation made for this operation. Details of 2011 contributions to DREF are found at: www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/Active/MAA00010_2011.pdf

[<click here for final financial report; here for contact details>](#)

The situation

Heavy rains in south Ghana that caused flooding in some parts of the country especially in the Eastern and Volta regions since 20 July, 2011 had affected more than 45,000 and destroyed farmlands and infrastructure including bridges and roads. The most affected districts were Akyemansa, Birim South, Birim Central, Kwaebibirem, Fanteakwa, Kwahu West, Kwahu North, Birim North, Atiwa and West Akyem in the Eastern Region, along with South and North Tongu, Keta and Adanyigbe in the Volta Region. The heavy rains caused landslides near Nkwaben in the Atiwa district of Eastern Region, covering several acres of cocoa farms. The floods made lives uncomfortable for the flood victims since they were compelled to sleep in tents, in houses of local chiefs and in some other public buildings. The impact of floods on the affected communities was worsened by the overflow of River Birim and four others affecting mostly Adankrono, Kade, Akwatia and Boadua in the Kwaebibirem District. At Adankrono, the Birim River has flowed more than 500 metres from the toll bridge to the town. At Boadua, the Mmo River also damaged buildings near it and covered a portion of the road to Toppre mang, which cut off the community from the outside world. The Abansa, a tributary of the Mmo River also overflowed its banks at Akwatia and destroyed houses and household effects, especially at Kotokoli Zongo, Kwaladinga and Sadams. After the flood water receded, some 15,000 affected people commenced reconstruction of their houses with the GRCS and other humanitarian organizations providing support.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

At the onset of the disaster, GRCS provided tarpaulins and some NFI to 200 affected households at Akim Oda. With support from the Federation DREF, the GRCS assessed the situation in the affected communities and deployed 100 volunteers in the field. The volunteers went through a rapid orientation on relief distribution and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). With this support, 500 most vulnerable households were identified and provided with non-food items, including mats, jerry cans, mosquito nets, soap and blankets. The death toll was likely reduced due to sensitization of people to move to higher ground by GRCS volunteers at the onset of the disasters. The volunteers educated the affected people on WASH, which helped in reducing waterborne diseases in many of the affected communities. The volunteers also administered First Aid services in the affected communities and provided psychological support and counselling to the affected people.

Achievements against outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Outcome: The 500 most affected households have received specific quantity and quality non-food items based on the assessment and selection criteria from Red Cross

Output	Activities Planned:
Relief items are procured and distributed to 500 most affected households selected through established Red Cross selection criteria.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure and distribute non-food relief distribution items to 500 most affected households; • Mobilize and brief 100 Red Cross volunteers on registration and distribution strategies of the Red Cross; • Carry out needs assessment to ensure the availability of a reliable database; • Control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user; • Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

Achievement and impacts

The GRCS with the DREF support trained 100 Red Cross volunteers on registration and distribution strategies. An in-depth assessment was carried out to determine the extent of basic needs of the most affected persons which the Red Cross addressed through this operation. NFIs including (blankets, mats, buckets and kitchen sets) were distributed to 267 Households in the affected communities of Zongo and its environs in the Eastern Region and 233 Households in the Volta regions. The NFIs assisted in providing the needed relief to the affected population in the temporary camps. In addition when they returned, the assistance helped them in starting up normal life.

Challenges

Due to poor accessibility, distribution of relief items was difficult. However, the Red Cross collaborated with community members and local volunteers in devising ways of getting materials to the affected population. These included the use of local trucks and canoes driven by the volunteers.

Emergency Health	
Outcome: Contribution to the prevention of communicable diseases among 500 most vulnerable households in the two most affected regions.	
Output	Activities planned:
The risks of communicable diseases are reduced for the most affected communities and the health status of the community is improved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure and distribute 4,000 sachets of ORS to 500 most affected families in the two target regions; • Procure and distribute 1,000 mosquito nets to 500 most affected families; • Disseminate key messages concerning LLIN use and malaria (targeting pregnant women and caretakers for children under 5); • Provide rapid orientation to 100 volunteers on First Aid, health preventive measures on diarrheal and communicable diseases using the ECV Manuals for volunteers; • Provide Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials for health, and risk reduction sensitization activities; • Conduct health sensitization activities to the most affected communities in the two affected regions.

Achievement and impacts

Fifty Red Cross volunteers were trained on emergency health and basic First Aid. The most vulnerable, including pregnant women and lactating mothers, received mosquito nets. They were sensitized on the importance of hanging the nets. The trained volunteers assisted the health workers in the administration of ORS. The sensitization by the volunteers assisted in reducing waterborne diseases, because the awareness campaign started from the onset of the operation. As such, the spread was effectively contained since most of the affected persons and other community members were sensitized.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome 2: The risks of waterborne diseases are reduced through hygiene promotion, health education and availability of safe drinking water in target communities in the affected districts.	
Output	Activities Planned
500 most affected households in the flooded areas have access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize and train 100 Red Cross volunteers on good hygiene, water purification method and health promotion; • Procure and distribute 10 cartons of Aqua tab and 500 pieces of jerry cans to 500 most affected households; • Procure and distribute 2,000 bars of soap, 500 kitchen sets to the targeted most affected households • Sensitize the target communities on Household

	<p>water treatment techniques, good hygiene and health practices;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide First Aid services to the affected communities.
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Achievement and impacts

One hundred volunteers were taken through rapid orientation on WASH. These trained volunteers passed this information to the community members to help improve sanitation and provision of clean water. Ten cartons of Aquatabs were also distributed for water purification purposes. The GRCS distributed 1,068 bars of soap in Eastern Region, 932 soaps in Eastern Region to 500 families; 500 jerry cans were also distributed to the beneficiaries to encourage hand washing and proper water storage respectively.

Challenges

The distance to water sources is a limiting factor. People have to trek a long distance to the stream. With the distribution of the jerry cans and Aquatabs they are now able to treat and store drinking water.

Logistics

The materials were transported to the affected areas using hired trucks. Some areas were inaccessible, as such, the local people and Red Cross volunteers had to devise other methods especially canoe and wheel barrows in transporting the items.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **Ghana Red Cross Society:** Kofi Addo, Secretary General, Ghana Red Cross Society; phone: +233 206983284; email: kofiaskado@hotmail.com, redcrossghana@yahoo.com ;
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- **IFRC Zone:** Robert Ondrusek, PMER/QA Delegate, Africa phone: +254 731 067277; email: robert.ondrusek@ifrc.org

DREF history:

- This DREF was initially allocated on 19th August 2011 for **CHF 91,510** for 2 months to assist 2,500 beneficiaries.
 - 1 DREF operation update issued, extending operation (and reporting) timeframe.
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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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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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MDRGH004 - Ghana - Flood

Appeal Launch Date: 19 aug 11

Appeal Timeframe: 19 aug 11 to 19 oct 11

Final Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/8-2011/12
Budget Timeframe	2011/8-2011/10
Appeal	MDRGH004
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Funding

	Pledge	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget		91,510					91,510
B. Opening Balance		0					0
Income							
Other Income							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		91,349					91,349
C4. Other Income		91,349					91,349
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)		91,349					178,797,268
D. Total Funding = B + C		91,349					178,797,268
Appeal Coverage		100%					195385%

II. Movement of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	91,349					178,797,268
E. Expenditure	-91,349					-91,349
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	0					178,705,919

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III. Consolidated Expenditure vs. Budget

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		91,510					91,510	
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Clothing & Textiles	14,781	17,583				17,583	-2,802	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	4,500	10,429				10,429	-5,929	
Medical & First Aid	7,500						7,500	
Teaching Materials		1,326				1,326	-1,326	
Utensils & Tools	14,545	14,376				14,376	169	
Other Supplies & Services		1,494				1,494	-1,494	
Total Relief items, Construction, Supplies	41,326	45,209				45,209	-3,883	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage	581	1,804				1,804	-1,223	
Distribution & Monitoring	2,200						2,200	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	11,290	8,982				8,982	2,308	
Logistics Services		667				667	-667	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	14,071	11,453				11,453	2,618	
Personnel								
International Staff	3,675						3,675	
National Staff	2,950	3,952				3,952	-1,002	
National Society Staff	9,979	2,676				2,676	7,303	
Volunteers		10,067				10,067	-10,067	
Total Personnel	16,604	16,695				16,695	-91	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	3,500	3,932				3,932	-432	
Total Workshops & Training	3,500	3,932				3,932	-432	
General Expenditure								
Travel	1,100	1,608				1,608	-508	
Information & Public Relations	3,024						3,024	
Office Costs	4,600	8,775				8,775	-4,175	
Communications	1,500	1,736				1,736	-236	
Financial Charges	200	-3,634				-3,634	3,834	
Total General Expenditure	10,424	8,485				8,485	1,939	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recov	5,585	5,575				5,575	10	
Total Indirect Costs	5,585	5,575				5,575	10	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	91,510	91,349				91,349	161	
VARIANCE (C - D)		161				161		