
**DREF operation n° MDRUG028
GLIDE n° LS-2012-000105-UGA
5 July 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 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 111,629 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) in delivering immediate assistance to some 3,480 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Heavy rains on 24 June 2012 in Bududa District caused a serious landslide that buried the villages of Namanga and Bunakasala, affecting approximately 5 acres of land in the mountainous area of Elgon. A similar event occurred in 2010. The affected area has steep slopes and is remote and difficult to access by road. So far, 18 people have been reported by relatives and friends as missing and are believed to be dead, buried under the rubble. In total, 15 houses have been completely buried in mudslides.



On 26 June 2012, the Uganda Red Cross Society staff and volunteers participated in the search and rescue of people affected by the landslides in Bududa

The 112 survivors staying within the area remain at a very high risk because of cracks in the soil that have been identified. A further 421 families (3,368 people) are in imminent danger due to evident cracks in the soil, and as the rains continue the risks increase. The number of affected people is likely to be higher than current predictions and this will only be known after a detailed assessment and given that these people have been displaced from their homes and are being hosted by families, in a school, in open areas nearby.

The URCS will continue with response activities which include relief distribution (food is provided by the Office of the Prime Minister-OPM) to the affected families. There may also be a need to assist the host families as well; especially as their limited resources are being overstretched. URCS will also focus on early recovery initiatives, separately from the operation covered here that have been tabled by the government and will also continue with assessments and monitoring of the situation.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will be completed by end of September 2012. A final report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by the end of December 2012).

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

The situation

Heavy rains on 24 June 2012 caused a serious landslide in Bulucheke Sub County, Bumwalukani Parish,

Bududa District, burying the villages of Namanga and Bunakasala and affecting approximately 5 acres of land. This part of the Elgon area is mountainous, and witnessed a similar disaster in 2010. The affected areas are remote and very difficult to access by road. So far, the landslide has claimed 18 lives. A total of 15 houses have been completely buried. Some 112 survivors are reportedly still living within the affected zone and are considered at a very high risk due to further cracks in the soil that have been identified. Some 421 families (3,368 people) are also considered in imminent danger due to cracks in the soil in adjacent areas. The numbers of dead and affected are likely to be higher than these estimates, and will only be known after a detailed assessment since many people have been displaced from their homes and are being hosted by families, in school and in open areas nearby.

Latest reports received from the branch indicated that more people remain unaccounted for, and that the area is still at great risk of further landslides. Geographically, the affected villages are on the mountain slopes and difficult to access by road due to remoteness and roughness of the terrain, with the road network being very poor in the affected areas. However, the communication system is functional in terms of mobile phones, which has contributed to easy access to regular updates.

Even after the rains stop, the affected people will not return to their homes as they were completely destroyed alongside their farms and/or gardens. In the worst hit villages of Namanga and Bunakasala, large areas that had previously been cultivated, gardens and trees were washed away. The farmers of these villages now face food shortages. In addition, numerous families have lost their livestock, impacting them economically as they try to recover from the landslide. The reports also indicate that several villages are at risk of landslides as more cracks in the soil are being discovered.

The operation, to date, has been hampered by the lack of earth moving equipment and excavation tools, which has affected the speed of search and rescue activities. Some areas on the slopes were also inaccessible due to the continuing heavy rainfall. The rains are expected to increase and experts are warning that further landslides may take place in the area.

The URCS is undertaking the response action as part of a national and district level coordination that has been instituted by the government through pre-established mechanisms, and is mandated by national disaster policy with clearly established roles.

The regional programme manager led the URCS Red Cross Action Teams (RCATs) from Mbale, together with the branch manager of Bududa. They immediately responded to the situation, deploying trained volunteers and staff to the field to conduct assessment as well as distribute relief items. The Government of Uganda, through the Disaster Preparedness and Response Ministry established a coordination mechanism at national level and is following a similar pattern at district level through the Bududa District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC).

Since the rains are expected to continue¹ until the end of August, it is likely that the situation may still deteriorate. The June-August forecast further reports that there are high chances for near normal rains to above normal rains over this region. Direct agricultural implications include: land slides and water logging in the fields. It adds under advisory that:

Proper post harvest handling should be emphasized to avoid losses.

Food storage at household level should be encouraged for food security.

Cultivation on steep slopes and cutting of trees in these places should be discouraged.

Coordination and partnerships

The Government of Uganda has developed a plan to support the humanitarian needs of the affected people and those beyond who are at risk in the same Elgon area. A coordination mechanism has been set at the national level through the ministry of disaster preparedness and response and at local level, through the district disaster committee. The government has launched an appeal to assist 400,000 people at risk in the 6 districts that includes the area covered in this DREF.

The budget of this government appeal currently stands at USD 11,607,500 or Ugandan Shillings 29 billion with the immediate and medium-term needs. There has however been an indication that other international organizations such as United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

¹ Normally, June - to - August is a major rainy season for northern and northeastern Uganda- June – August climate forecast from the meteorological department. **Climate outlook for June, July and august 2012 season**

and World Health Organization (WHO) will be involved in joint assessment and some relief assistance but at the moment there are no firm commitments. The government appeal covers shelter, food, clothing, hygiene, non-food items, reconstruction of homes, medical assistance, transport and fuel. There is nothing yet for medium needs but there is an indication that this will be a main focus in the coming days which will include a detailed assessment, recovery and resettlement. The requested DREF support has been discussed with the local leaders and this goes well with the allocated responsibilities of URCS being the lead agency for non food items (NFIs) and food distribution. There is no duplication envisaged, as the government has been clear that they will be dealing with long-term shelter and other essentials if they receive funding, whereas this DREF forms part of the coordinated immediate response as recognized as the URCS role by that appeal. To date however, there have been no contributions towards the appeal, which is casting doubt on whether the plan will actually be realized. Several national level meetings are planned and so far one has been conducted at the national level involving agencies and the government and chaired by the minister for disaster preparedness and response. The state minister visited the areas affected as part of the wider strategy for the response.

The government has set up a coordination mechanism at the national level convened by the disaster preparedness and response ministry and with the participation of the following partner agencies: WHO, UNICEF, FAO and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); line Ministries such as Finance, Internal affairs, Education and Health are also meeting to discuss plans and assistance. URCS is also a vital part of these meetings and has been coordinating its actions with the government authorities through the office of the prime minister (OPM) and the Bududa DDMC. So far, the response to the government appeal from the partners has been the endorsement of a joint plan to conduct a detailed assessment (inter agency assessment).

URCS has also been sharing information and plans with the International Federation, ICRC, German, American, Japanese, Danish Red Cross societies and other national level stakeholders to secure prompt response and fill the gaps that have been observed at district level. The DDMC has asked the URCS to manage emergency relief assistance intervention that include among others shelter which will be through the provision of tarpaulins and non-food relief kits (such as blankets, mosquito nets, soap, jerry cans, cups, plates, tarpaulins, cloths and cooking pots) as well as food distribution that has been provided by the government. At branch level, URCS Bududa branch is in coordination with the Ugandan Police and DDMC (URCS is an official member of the DDMC) that coordinates assistance with all agencies) and is establishing contacts with UNICEF, WHO and ministry of health and other stakeholders at this level. Coordination meetings are being held at district level and the frequency has increased.

URCS started a risk reduction programme in 4 districts supported by DFID through the British Red Cross. However Bududa District, which witnessed a similar disaster in 2010, was not targeted for this programme.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Since the onset of the disaster the URCS regional and branch offices in the affected areas immediately mobilized their staff and volunteer teams and engaged in the search and rescue activities and assessments. To date, the volunteer numbers have been beefed up with support from the regional office for activities in tracing, psychosocial support and distribution of relief supplies- both food and non-food items. Two URCS task force meetings have so far been conducted for the purpose of planning the operation and to reinforce the response structures. URCS will require financial support to the regional and branches in these areas to allow them to continue with the activities.

URCS has launched a national appeal to assist some 100,000 people and spanning six months. The URCS national appeal will target activities and beneficiaries beyond this DREF, and will be targeted in coordination with the government activities through the same mechanism the initial response covered in this DREF. The full plans for the operation based on the URCS national appeal have not yet been finalized.

To date, URCS staff and volunteers have been involved in the following activities:

- Dispatch of a team of volunteers that carried out a rapid assessment and is now planning for a more detailed assessment alongside government and partners.
- Being part of the response resource assisting with search and rescue, exhuming efforts, as well as evacuation operation.
- Provision of First Aid to 9 survivors who were seriously injured and referred to Bududa hospital.
- Psychosocial support to the affected families and establishment of contacts with resource people in the areas for this purpose.

- Tracing of missing persons began on 26 June 2012 to establish the actual numbers of those missing and/or confirmed dead. A desk has been established in the area, which is coordinating information and figures.
- A detailed assessment that started on 26 June.
- Distribution of repositioned stock (240 NFI kits) for the initial response.

The needs

URCS branch in Bududa supported by the region are closely monitoring the evolving situation and assessments are also ongoing in the affected areas. The team will continue to identify the evolving needs through these assessments, but initial assessments have revealed the needs:

- Food: the government of Uganda through the disaster ministry will be providing the food to the affected families for a period of six months.
- Provisional (emergency) shelter.
- Non-food relief such as blankets, mosquito nets, soap, jerry cans, cups, plates, tarpaulins, clothes and cooking pots. The URCS will assist with part of this from its pre-positioned stock, of 240 NFIS at the regional warehouse to 240 households (1,680 people). This means that there is still a need of 181 NFI kits to be distributed to the remaining households. Experts have warned about the likelihood of an increase in landslides in the area and suggested a relocation of people living on the slopes of the Elgon areas. The 240 NFI kits will be replenished to URCS.
- Sanitation, hygiene and sensitization information.
- First aid services.
- Tracing services.
- Psychosocial support.
- Red Cross volunteers also need intervention materials such as gloves, boots, masks and coveralls for their own security. Financial resources are equally needed to take care of volunteers and coordinate the intervention.

If the government decides on a resettlement approach, there may be a need to assist the affected people with shelter, food and early recovery initiatives based on information from the continuation of assessments.

The proposed operation

Through this DREF, URCS will provide assistance to 3,480 people with non-food relief items to the affected families comprising of: 3 blankets, 2 cooking pots, 3 bars of soap, 2 jerry cans, 2 mosquito nets, 5 cups, 5 plates and 2 tarpaulins. URCS will mobilize 50 volunteers and staff into the field (already insured through the IFRC scheme); and will replenish some relief stock that has already been distributed to the affected population.

The present operation will mainly focus on relief assistance, and raising awareness of the risks of further landslides. This includes volunteer mobilization and logistical support to carry out the operation successfully. For the moment, it is unclear from the government what plans they have for relocating the affected people and those at risk. This DREF covers the process that URCS has started which will complement the government's long-term plans. Based on the full scale of needs identified through the detailed assessment, and depending on the scope of the government operation and URCS national appeals, this DREF may be revised at a later stage.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Outcome: The immediate needs of an estimated 3,480 people affected by the landslide are met.	
Outputs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 421 families and 112 survivors from 15 households (approximately 3,480 people) are provided with NFI kits. • People from affected area are aware of the risks facing them. 	Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize RCATs, volunteers and staff to carry out the operation. • Train volunteers in relief distribution and management. • Conduct assessments and continue to monitor the situation. • Develop beneficiary list targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. • Procure 500 NFI kits. • Provide tracing services. • Distribute NFI kits to identified families and survivors. • Preposition remaining NFI kits at the branch for immediate response in case of further landslides. • Conduct regular detailed monitoring and reporting of distributions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going monitoring and technical advice by the URCS national headquarters and IFRC. • Conduct risk awareness campaigns.
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Health and sensitization

Outcome: Reduced health and environmental risks through the provision of psychosocial support and first aid health services to affected families as well as host families as applicable.

Outputs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The health situation and immediate risks are assessed using agreed guidelines. • Target population is provided with First Aid services and psychosocial support. 	Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess and regularly monitor the health and immediate needs of the people, particularly women, children and the elderly. • Establish a registration and help desk. • Provide trained volunteers working in affected area with first aid kits for on the spot services. • Conduct sensitization for disease prevention. • Provide psychosocial support services. • Conduct community disease surveillance. • Conduct ongoing monitoring and technical advice by the URCS national headquarters.
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Water and Sanitation

Outcome: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities.

Outputs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of water, sanitation, and hygiene situation is carried out. • Access to safe water which meets Sphere and WHO standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to 421 households and 112 survivors from 15 households (3,480 people). • Adequate sanitation and hygiene promotion which meets Sphere standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to 421 households and 112 survivors from 15 households (3,480 people). 	Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess and monitor the water and sanitation situation, and immediate needs of the affected communities particularly women, children and the elderly. • Conduct sensitization campaigns through volunteers for, hygiene/sanitation promotion, together with the affected families. • Produce and distribute information, education, communication (IEC) materials that address key/common health and sanitation problems. • Conduct orientation/community sessions on safe use of water treatment products and distribute water purification tablets (readily available and covered).
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Logistics

Outcome: Efficient and effective logistical support to the operation.

Outputs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated delivery of food and NFIs to the operational areas, ensuring proper transport and storage of relief items. • Effective fleet management is maintained during the operation • Effective communication mechanisms in place. 	Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation of non-food relief item sets to Bududa. • Management of distribution points. • Management of warehouses. • Maintain communication mechanism from affected area to national headquarters.
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Monitoring

The Red Cross Society Headquarters in Kampala, in line with the regional office of the IFRC Nairobi, will organize with the field teams to participate in the monitoring of the implementation of the disaster response operation. The Red Cross regional board representatives and the local board members will also participate in the monitoring of the operation. Beneficiaries and their leaders will be regularly consulted in all aspects of the operation (beneficiary selection, registration at the site as well feed back into the systems on the operations). A review to share experiences and lessons learnt during the operation is planned at the end of the operation.

Communication

Visibility of the work of the operation is provided through publications, the URCS website and regular information to media, which the communication department has already started and will follow. This includes the development of a communication strategy. The operation will provide monthly updates to the IFRC regional office.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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- **IFRC Zone:** Daniel Bolanos, Disaster Management Coordinator, Africa; , Phone: +27 (0)11 303 9735, mobile: +27 (0)835566911; email: daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org
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For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

- **IFRC Regional Representation:** Douglas Masika, Senior Resource Mobilization Officer; phone: +254 20 283 5000; email: douglas.masika@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting)

- In IFRC Africa Zone: Robert Ondrusek, PMER/QA Delegate, Johannesburg; Phone: +27.11.303.9700; Email: robert.ondrusek@ifrc.org

æClick [here](#) to return to the title page

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.

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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.

DREF OPERATION
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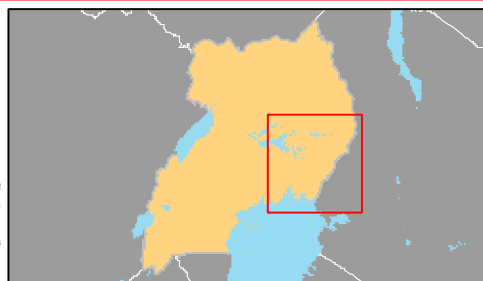
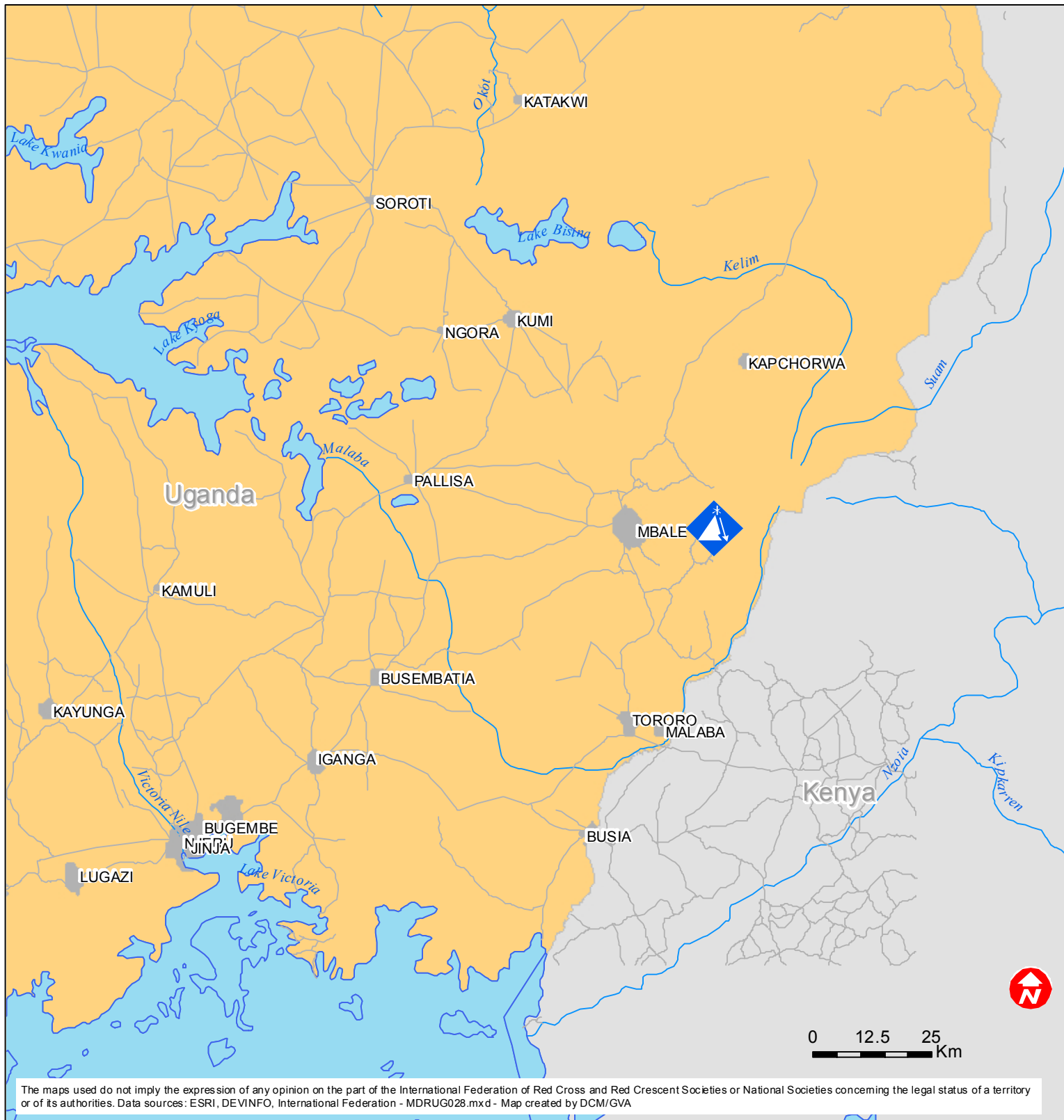
29/06/2012

Uganda: Bududa landslides

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
500 Shelter - Relief	15,083
501 Shelter - Transitional	0
502 Construction - Housing	0
503 Construction - Facilities	0
505 Construction - Materials	0
510 Clothing & Textiles	19,318
520 Food	0
523 Seeds & Plants	0
530 Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	11,157
540 Medical & First Aid	4,091
550 Teaching Materials	0
560 Utensils & Tools	11,674
570 Other Supplies & Services	1,860
578 Cash Disbursements	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	63,182
580 Land & Buildings	0
581 Vehicles	0
582 Computer & Telecom Equipment	0
584 Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	0
587 Medical Equipment	0
589 Other Machinery & Equipment	0
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
590 Storage, Warehousing	413
592 Distribution & Monitoring	0
593 Transport & Vehicle Costs	12,836
594 Logistics Services	0
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	13,250
600 International Staff	0
661 National Staff	2,942
662 National Society Staff	2,417
667 Volunteers	14,132
Total PERSONNEL	19,492
670 Consultants	0
750 Professional Fees	0
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
680 Workshops & Training	3,116
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	3,116
700 Travel	1,500
710 Information & Public Relations	1,240
730 Office Costs	1,240
740 Communications	1,736
760 Financial Charges	62
790 Other General Expenses	0
799 Shared Office and Services Costs	0
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	5,777
830 Partner National Societies	0
831 Other Partners (NGOs, UN, other)	0
Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS	0
599 Programme and Services Support Recovery	6,813
Total INDIRECT COSTS	6,813
TOTAL BUDGET	111,629



Uganda: Landslide



Landslide in Bududa