

EMERGENCY APPEAL



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

BURKINA FASO, CAMEROON, MALI, MAURITANIA, NIGER, & SENEGAL: HEAVY RAINS AND FLOODS

Appeal no. 20/03

2 October, 2003

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 180 countries.

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In Brief

THIS EMERGENCY APPEAL SEEKS CHF 802,000 (USD 607,934 or EUR 520,406) IN CASH, KIND, OR SERVICES TO ASSIST 29,000 BENEFICIARIES FOR UP TO 4 MONTHS

The situation

The seasonal rains (August to October) across the Sahel region have been the heaviest for many years, causing serious flooding and landslides in several countries. Mali experienced torrential rains in August in the Tomonian District, 480 kms north of Bamako. The resulting floods reportedly destroyed over 700 grain storehouses, flooded 1,800 homes and killed hundreds of farm animals. Bridges and roads were washed away in some regions of Mauritania, making access to flood zones very difficult. In Cameroon, a 48-hour downpour (from 19 to 20 July 2003) occurred in the Magah village, Wabane Subdivision, Lebalem Division, South West Province. The torrential rain caused flooding and a landslide, claiming 20 lives, damaging much property, and leaving about 547 people homeless in that village of about 8,000 inhabitants. Other countries have experienced serious damage to property, including homes and crops. The rains are expected to continue until early October, and in such situations there is the potential for cholera outbreaks and a risk of increased incidence of malaria. In response, the national societies have taken action to provide immediate support by using their available stocks to provide relief and assistance to the affected population. These stocks are now at critically low levels and need to be replenished. CHF 125,000 was released from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to begin activities in the most affected countries. This appeal reflects a preliminary assessment of the situation and the corresponding needs. The Operations Updates will present updates on the evolving nature of the operation, any corresponding changes in needs, and the resulting budgetary implications.

Burkina Faso

Heavy rainfalls flooded 10 major towns of the country and created an emergency situation for over 3,000 families. Some 900 families lost their homes and belongings, local food stocks were destroyed, and many crops were inundated, jeopardizing the next harvest. The Federation estimates that as a result approximately 12,120 persons are in need of assistance in the 14 counties of Kadiogo, Sanmatenga, Boulgou, Yatenga, Nayala, Kéné Dougou, Bazèga, Bam, Séno, Noubiel, Comoé, Loroum, Nahouri, Sebba. In addition to the toll in human lives, several regions, mostly in the northern and the southwestern part of the country, experienced a loss of livestock, food reserves, and crops.

Cameroon

In addition to the affect of the floods in Magah village, the inhabitants of Magha and its environs, North West Province, experienced another 72-hour torrential rainfall leading to more loss of lives, property and livestock. More than a thousand people have again been rendered homeless. The affected villages in the North West Province include:

- Njen and Kon of Batibo Subdivision (four deaths, and 347 people left homeless);
- Olurunti and Egbeachuk of Widikum subdivision (three deaths, and 229 people left homeless);
- Sabri, Soh, Nyebia, Bako of Njikwa subdivision (three deaths and 226 people left homeless).

The following tables highlight key data related to the floods and landslides.

Table 1: Population affected during the 19-20 July rains

Number of Families	Number of Women	Number of Children	Other people	Total Affected Population
46	79	378	37	547

Table 2: Lives claimed and damages during the 19-20 July rains

Lives claimed	Damages			
	Houses	Classrooms	Farms	Loss in Livestock
20 *	37	2	19	Enormous – yet to be determined

Table 3: Population affected during the 27-29 August rains

Locality	Number of families	Number of women	Number of children	Other people	Total population affected
Magha	54	62	180	08	251
Batibo (Njen + Kon)	63	85	260	02	347
Widikum (Olorunti + Egbeachuc)	44	60	160	09	229
Njikwa (Sabri, Soh, Bako, Nyebia)	43	59	150	17	226
Total	204	266	750	38	1,053

Table 4: Lives and property loss during the 27-29 August rains

locality	Lives claimed	DAMAGES			
		Houses	Classroom	Farms	Loss in livestock
Magha	/	50	/	30	20
Batibo (Njen + Kon)	04	39	4	60	/
Widikum (Olorunti + Egbeachuc)	03	40	/	32	/
Njikwa (Sabri, Soh, Bako, Nyebia)	03	20	/	42	29
Total	10	149	04	164	49

Water sources and points have been damaged (with water catchments and about 16 pipes destroyed) and contaminated, exposing the population to the risk of epidemics. In response, the local community has been providing the victims with psychological and material support.

Mali

Reports indicate that the volume of water flowing in the Niger River in July was eight times higher than usual for the time of the year, causing exceptional flooding affecting a much wider area than usual during the rainy season. Additional heavy rainfalls at the end of August and the beginning of September caused widespread flooding of numerous villages, towns and crops in the regions of Timbuktu, Gao, Mopti, Segou and Koulikoro. According to the Malian Red Cross assessment, the villages of Missabougou, Torokorobougou-Bakodjikoroni, N'kolonina and Yirimadjo were among those affected. On the evening of 3 September 2003, the capital city of Bamako faced extensive floods in at least six densely populated residential areas. Approximately 10,000 inhabitants lost their houses and belongings, and many food stocks have been washed away.

Mauritania

Most areas of the country suffered from extraordinarily heavy rainfall between 7 and 20 August. The most affected regions are along the Senegal river and in the central locations of Assaba, Gorgol, Brakna and Adrar where some 3,638 mud houses have been destroyed, leaving 21,000 persons homeless. While there was no organized evacuation, communities have been providing critical assistance. Most roads are in deplorable condition, and several bridges have fallen, making access to the affected area very difficult.

Niger

The heavy rains continued through September. Seven persons have died, and approximately 5,400 families (30,000 people) in the regions of Maradi, Dosso, Tahouna, Tillabéri and Zinder have been seriously affected by the rains and floods; with least 1,100 houses and local food stocks for several thousand people completely destroyed. Road networks and public buildings have also been destroyed, and an estimated 5,000 persons are without shelter.

Senegal

Heavy rains and floods occurred during the early part of August, and have affected various parts of Senegal, mainly Kaolack, Matam, Tambacounda and Kolda. Eight persons have died, while some 5,300 people are homeless, and at least 887 families have partly or entirely lost their household equipment. The water levels of the Senegal River have submerged crops that were about to germinate; parts of the city of St. Louis and many other towns and villages along the river banks are expected to be threatened by more floods in the coming weeks. Roads have been cut off by mudflows and access to many regions in the northern part of the country is slow and difficult. A total of 6,492 people are without shelter, eight people have died, and 1,277 people experienced loss of property.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Action

The respective national societies in each of the affected countries have activated their disaster response teams and have started initial emergency relief operations within the range of their capacities.

Burkina Faso

The Burkinabé Red Cross initiated a quick response in assisting 1,800 of the most vulnerable victims of the floods with mattresses, blankets, rice and millet out of its own emergency relief stocks. The national society has now exhausted all its preparedness stocks.

Cameroon

The Cameroon Red Cross (CRC) contributed basic non-food items (blankets) and five first aid kits from available stocks. As a member of the Crisis Committees, both at the local and national levels, the CRC, supported by the Federation's Regional Office in Yaounde, assessed the number of persons affected and evaluated vulnerability and capacity. The Crisis Committee used data collected from the field as the basis for planning. The Head of the CRC's Aid Department, trained by ERDAC members, is representing the CRC in that National Committee.

The Federation's Regional Office in Yaounde donated 125 blankets to victims of Magha (15 August 2003), Njen, Kon, Olurunti, Egbeachuk (2 September 2003), and Sabri, Soh, Nyebia and Bako (3 September 2003).

Mali

Most of the affected families have received provisional shelter provided by the local authorities in school buildings or community centres. Thanks to the availability of some limited stocks and recent donations of food and non-food items by the Iranian Red Crescent Society, the Mali Red Cross (MRC) was able to distribute dried peas, sugar, oil, blankets, javel water and impregnated mosquito nets to some of the worst affected families in the city of Bamako

and in the regions of Mopti, Segou and Timbuktu. The MRC is continuing it’s detailed needs assessments in all the affected regions and have begun buying and sending dry ration stocks to the affected population under the supervision of the MRC’s disaster management coordinator.

Mauritania

Homeless families have been offered provisional shelter with neighbours and relatives. WFP and its implementing partners have initiated limited food distributions in some central parts of Mauritania. The Mauritanian Red Crescent Society was able to start assessment work in those affected areas where there is an active local Red Cross committee. The national society is supporting the effort with international assistance, including providing 2,700 of the most vulnerable persons with emergency health care, hygiene supplies, blankets, mosquito nets, household equipment and shelter materials.

Niger

From its own disaster relief fund the Niger Red Cross has procured five MT of maize and second hand clothes for immediate distribution among the most affected families in four regions. The national society has mobilized its branches in registering those affected, in collaboration with local authorities. The national society is using its structures, branches and vehicles to provide assistance, with the help of local authorities.

Senegal

Thanks to a network of approximately 1,500 branch volunteers, the national society immediately started its own response activities to affected families by assisting in emergency evacuations and equipment of provisional shelter facilities, and by distributing basic food and non-food items. It has also distributed impregnated mosquito nets and put bags of sand to check flooding in the disaster prone areas. The national society is strengthening its contingency planning and disaster preparedness and continues to respond to further heavy rains and floods. Disaster response teams remain on high alert and quick refresher trainings have been organized.

Government Action

Government’s in the affected countries have initiated a number of responses. For example:

- The Senegalese Government formed a floods crisis committee chaired by the Minister of the Interior, and flood response co-ordination groups have been formed in most of the affected areas.
- The Burkina Faso Government quickly organized the “Comité National Secours Urgence et Réhabilitation” and assisted the affected population with its limited means and capacity.
- The Niger Government launched a national and international appeal and sheltered the affected population in public buildings and schools. Government aid is being sent to the people through the early warning system and disaster management committees.
- The Cameroon Government Director of Civil Protection (DCP) at the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization called an emergency meeting to set up a Crisis Committee which went to the field the next day to evaluate the situation. The members of that Committee who are representatives of DCP, the Fire Brigade, and the CRC, met with the Governor of the South West Province. The Minister of Public Health donated a set of essential drugs to the victims, which included anti-malarial drugs and antibiotics. On 15 August, an inter-ministerial delegation donated 200 pullovers, 100 bed sheets, 100 mattresses and some essential drugs.

Current Needs

The most urgent needs in most of the affected countries are food items, blankets, mattresses, household equipment, mosquito nets and javel for sanitising water.

	Beneficiaries	Period
Mali	1,511	1 month
Niger	5,000	1 month
Senegal	6,492	1 month
Burkina Faso	5,636	2 months
Mauritania	8,700	4 months
Total	27,338	

The proposed operation

Burkina Faso

The Burkina Faso Red Cross Society has mobilized assistance for a total of 5,600 person in the most affected regions in the southwest areas (Comoe and Batie with some 3,600 beneficiaries), and three regions in the northern part of the country (Bam, Soum, and Yagha) with some 2,036 beneficiaries. This appeal would provide assistance for a two-month period.

Objective 1: Provide basic emergency assistance in the form of food (dry rations) and non-food items (see table below for details) to meet the immediate needs of the affected

Regions	Beneficiaries
Batie	1,600
Comoe	2,000
Soum	1,000
Bam	800
Yagha	236

Food and non food items	Quantities
Rice	55.632 mt
Mil	55.632 mt
Paracetamol and aspirin	60 boxes
Chloroquine	60 boxes
Javel	160 liters

Cameroon

The operation will focus on

- decontaminating water sources, replacement of stocks of food and crops destroyed by water, and preventing the risk of epidemics;
- replenishment of seed stocks to enable the affected population to begin economic activities, largely based on agriculture;
- sanitation tools, chlorination tablets, Information, Education and Communication (IEC);
- training of volunteers in the Local Committees;
- providing the Local Committees with equipment needed for sanitation activities.

Objectives:

The CRC has elaborated a three-part plan with the emergency and rehabilitation team to assist approximately 1,600 persons (250 families) with:

- support to reinforce economic activities to reduce dependence and vulnerability, and accelerate rehabilitation;
- reducing epidemic risks;
- repairing or rebuilding shelters.

Expected Results

- emergency food needs of affected population, especially children, women and the elderly provided;
- affected families develop their own economic activities thereby reducing dependence;
- population have access to safe water sources.

Activities planned to reach the objectives and expected results:

- 250 of the most-affected families will be provided a ration of food items (rice, beans, corn, cooking salt) and non-food items (blankets, buckets, basins). The distribution will be carried out by CRC volunteers following the list of vulnerable people established by the Red Cross after the first and second evaluation missions;
- seeds will be distributed at the beginning of the agricultural season;

- affected families will be administered Aquatab tablets, while the CRC advocates for the treatment of water sources;
- trained CRC volunteers ensure community-based health education to prevent epidemics;
- CRC encourages civil protection authorities to develop a disaster management plan, with an emphasis on floods and landslide.

Mali

Objective 1: Provide basic emergency assistance in the form of food (dry rations) and non-food items (see table below for details) to meet the immediate needs of the most vulnerable affected population (estimated at 1,511) in Bamako District (619 persons), and Segou and Mopti regions (160 and 732 persons respectively), as well as the regions in the northern parts of the country, for a one month period.

Objective 2: Prevent malaria and diarrheal diseases in the affected areas by disinfecting wells and latrines and distributing 906 impregnated mosquito nets for 302 families (three mosquito nets per family).

Objective 3: Replenish the emergency contingency stock (non-food items) to enable an immediate in the event of future disasters.

Food and non food items	Quantities
Rice	18,132 mt
Beans	2,266 liters
Vegetable oil	2,266 liters
Mats	1,105 pcs
Soap	1,000 pcs
Buckets:	500 pcs

Mauritania

The Mauritania Red Cross is a member of the national crisis committee, which supports and coordinates the overall disaster response operation. Other members of the coordination committee include the government, WFP and OXFAM, Lutheran World Federation (LWF), the Federation, the French Red Cross, and Italian Red Cross. The ICRC supports the Mauritania Red Cross from its office in Tunisia.

The Mauritania Red Cross, supported by the Federation and with the involvement of 4,117 volunteers, will deliver assistance over a four month period, focusing on shelter construction, health, water and sanitation in the areas of Gorgol, Assaba, Guidmaka, and Adrar.

Niger

Objective: Provide basic emergency assistance to meet the immediate needs of the most vulnerable persons (estimated at 5,000) in the five regions of Dosso, Tilaberi, Maradi, Tahoua, Zinder, and Agadez for a one-month period.

Activities planned for this objective: procurement and distribution of basic non-food (blankets) and food items (millet).

Senegal

The Senegalese Red Cross Society is strengthening its contingency planning and disaster preparedness through sensitisation, recruitment, and training of new volunteers. It plans to have five refresher courses for its current First Aiders in the affected zones and to continue to respond to heavy rains and floods: Disaster response teams remain on high alert and are active in many zones. The national society will purchase the following relief goods for a one month distribution to assist some 6,492 beneficiaries: 6,500 blankets, 6,500 mattresses, 6,500 impregnated mosquito nets, 400 tents, five medical kits, and tools for cleaning and protection work. The national society also plans to carry out actions to motivate its former volunteers.

Regions	Beneficiaries
Kaolack	3,080
Matam	1,752
Tamba/Kolda	1,760

Food and non food items	Quantities
Rice	78 mt
Blankets	6,500
Mats	6,500
Impregnated mosquito net	6,500
Tents (big size)	400
Wheelbarrows	(to be decided)
Shovels	(to be decided)
Gloves	(to be decided)

Objective 1: Shelter - provide shelter assistance to flood-affected victims.

Activities to reach this objective are:

- distribution of 450 tents to 2,700 persons.
- identification of 40 families among the most vulnerable (10 per region).
- construction of 40 houses.
- Training of eight masons.
- Sensitization of the population.

Objective 2: Health, water and sanitation training - training of community agents to sanitize the area and carry out water purification.

Activities planned to reach this objective: Some 8,700 affected people will benefit from the community organization of the following types of hygiene and sanitation activities.

- water purification, disinfection of the area, and draining of stagnant water.
- Distribution of 900 mosquito nets.
- Chlorination of wells.
- Sensitization of communities on how to access potable water.
- Providing hygiene education.
- repair of damaged irrigation pipes and dams.

Monitoring and evaluation

In line with the Federation’s regionalization process, a Federation regional office is located in close proximity to each of these national societies. The Federation Regional Delegation in Dakar will closely monitor each operation, with the support of the regional disaster management delegate.

Capacity of National Societies

Each national society has operational branches in the affected regions, and volunteers are being re-trained to begin operations.

Capacity of the Federation

The Federation’s West Africa Regional Delegation in Dakar will provide support to each national society involved in this operation. The regional finance development delegate has carried out considerable work with the finance departments of most of the national societies. The regional disaster management delegate will supervise the operation and will facilitate information with partners.

Budget summary

See Annex 1 for details.

For further information please contact:

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All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Abbas Gullet
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BUDGET SUMMARY

APPEAL No. 20/2003

Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mali, Mauritania, Niger: heavy rains and floods

TYPE	VALUE
RELIEF NEEDS	IN CHF
Shelter & constructions	42,000
Clothing & textiles	173,000
Food	225,000
Water and sanitation	1,000
Medical & first aid	6,000
Teaching materials	3,000
Utensils & tools	60,000
TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS	510,000
<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>	
Vehicles	30,000
Computers & telecom. equipment	4,000
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>	
Programme support (6.5% of total)	52,000
<u>TRANSPORT STORAGE & VEHICLE COSTS</u>	
Transport and storage	22,000
Vehicle costs	35,000
<u>PERSONNEL</u>	
Expatriate staff	43,000
National staff	50,000
Workshops & seminars	12,000
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL SERVICES</u>	
Travel & related expenses	22,000
Information expenses	2,000
Administrative & general expenses	20,000
TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS	292,000
TOTAL APPEAL CASH, KIND, SERVICES	802,000
LESS AVAILABLE RESOURCES (-)	0
NET REQUEST	802,000



Sahelian Countries - Heavy Rains & Floods

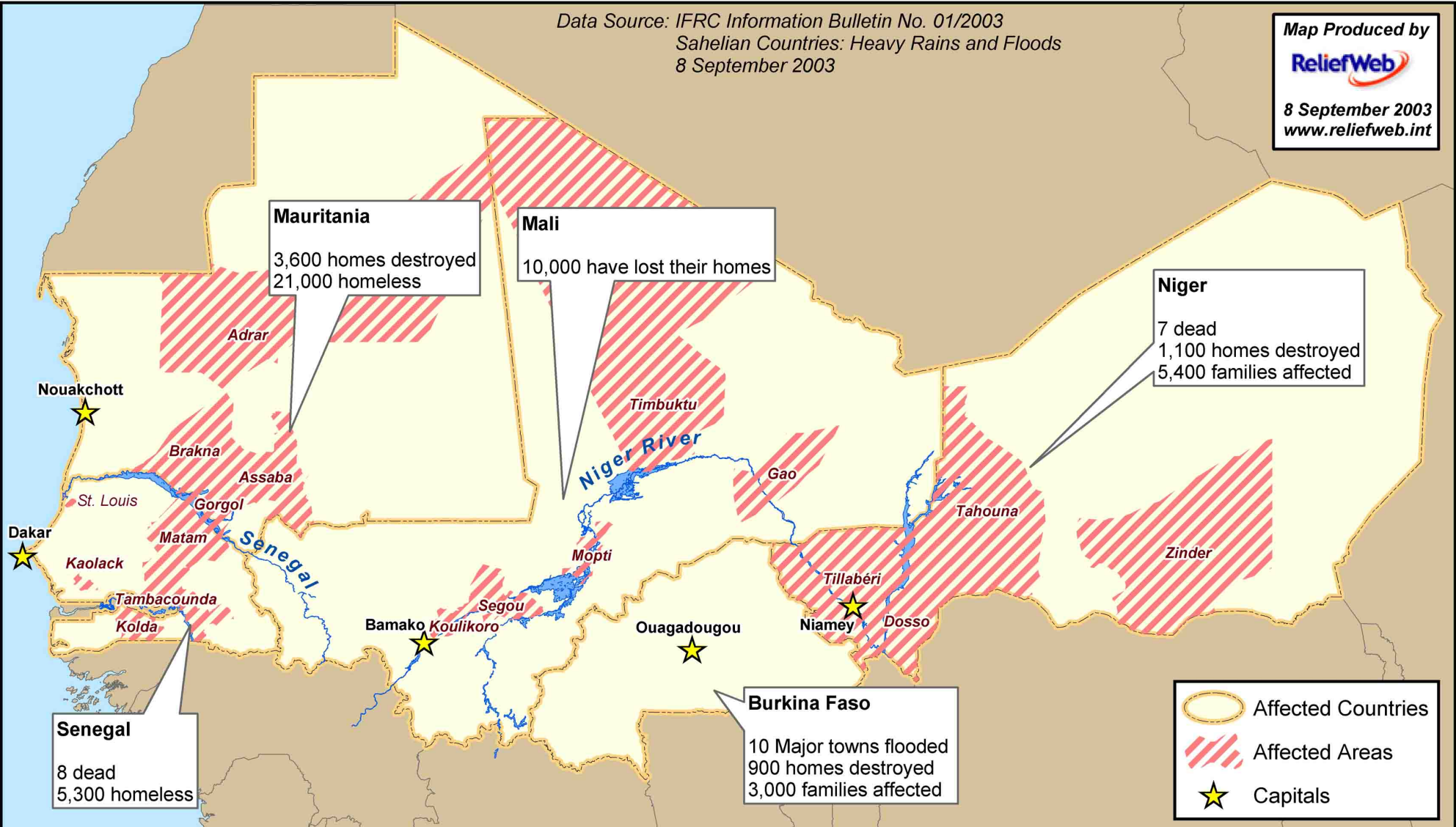
8 September 2003

IFRC Information Bulletin No. 1

"Exceptionally heavy rains and severe floods in the Sahel region have caused the loss of life of several dozen people, the destruction of homes, and the loss of food crops of several tens of thousands..."

Data Source: IFRC Information Bulletin No. 01/2003
 Sahelian Countries: Heavy Rains and Floods
 8 September 2003

Map Produced by
ReliefWeb
 8 September 2003
www.reliefweb.int



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