

DREF Bulletin



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

PAPUA NEW GUINEA: MOUNT TAVURVUR VOLCANO

*Final Report for
DREF Bulletin
no. MDRPG001
Date 21 August 2007*

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 185 countries.

In Brief

Period covered by this final report: 14 October to 14 November, 2006.

History of this Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF)-funded operation:

- CHF 30,000 has been allocated from the Federation's DREF on 14 October 2006 to respond to the needs of this operation, recover initial distribution costs and replenish disaster preparedness stocks.
- This operation was completed in mid November 2006.
- Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

The Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society (PNGRCS) in collaboration with the Federation office in Port Moresby has a mutual agreement to facilitate, coordinate and implement the Mt. Tavurvur volcanic eruption disaster operation. The operation was focused on relief distribution to the displaced and vulnerable people of Matupit, Baai and Nordup Matalau communities, as well as the marginalized population along the coastline of Kokopo and Raluana communities, in addition to the Duke of Islands communities.

Distribution of relief items was conducted in two care-centres, namely Gelegele and Sikut, where the displaced population of the most affected communities was settled in the high lands of the Kokopo district. The relief distribution was also extended to the most affected areas such as the Matupit, Baai, Nordup and Matalanu, where the families were unable to move due to reasons of cultural and traditional beliefs, social and environmental factors as well as personal and family reasons.

A total of CHF 18,114 was spent on the operations, with the balance returned to the DREF fund.

The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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All International Federation 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 is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Background and Summary

It was identified that Mt. Tavurvur volcano is situated in the mainland of Rabaul local level government comprising of four villages, namely Matalu, Baai, Nordup and the Talwat communities. The volcano erupted on Saturday, 7 October 2006 as early as 7.00 am. Thick volcanic clouds rose over 18 kilometres, affecting villages to the south and south-east, and scattering over the Kokopo township and villages along the Raluana coastline. The absolute devastation of infrastructures and the environment of Baai and Nordup villages was a result of location; due to their facing the mouth of the volcano, these villages bore the brunt of initial volcano mud and rocks..

Similarly, the thick volcanic ashes were also scattered throughout Matupit, Matalau, Rabaul, Kokopo and the Duke of York Islands, affecting water catchments as a result of the 18 kilometres-high thick volcanic clouds and the direction of the wind.

The two current care centres located in Sikut and Gelegele were established by the provincial government during the 1994 Mt. Vulcan and Mt. Tavurvur volcano eruption restoration exercise. However, this time around the care centres needed more attention as the infrastructure and facilities have deteriorated, leaving the displaced population vulnerable to water and sanitation problems and other social-related issues such as HIV and sexually-transmitted infections.

The Sikut care centre consists of four shelters accommodating the displaced population of Matupit 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 village communities. Likewise, the Gelegele care centre consists of two shelters accommodating the displaced population of Baai and Nordup village communities.

Coordination

Catholic Church:

On the morning of the eruption, the Vunapope Catholic Church on Kokopo alerted the church-owned Rabaul coastal shipping agent to evacuate the people of Talwat, Baai and Nordup. The people were evacuated and sheltered in the Catholic community hall. The church also assisted the people by providing food and water to them for a week while waiting for the provincial government response.

Provincial Government:

The provincial government provided coordination and logistics support in transporting the displaced from Vunapope, Nonga Base Hospital and Rabaul to the care centres. The government also established a committee to monitor and coordinate the allocation of land spaces to each family affected. Furthermore, families were provided with assistance to recover and transport their assets and rebuild their properties in government-allocated land in Sikut and Gelegele areas. The provincial health department also assigned health workers to visit care centres and affected communities to monitor the health situations and conditions of the affected people.

Further transportation logistics support was provided by Telikom, public transport board of department of works and the provincial health office.

Police Sector:

The police sector was on duty around the clock, monitoring the disaster situation and to control and protect local people from entering the disaster zone or from taking advantage of the situation to loot the affected peoples' assets and properties. In addition, the police went to care centres and affected communities, advocating to the displaced not to enter the affected area until the government deemed it safe to do so, based on reports from the volcanologist in Rabaul observatory.

UNICEF

UNICEF donated two water bladders to the Red Cross which are currently set up in the in two identified locations to assist with the supply of clean water for the community. Soon after the usage the water bladders will be stored in the Red Cross branch office for future use.

Analysis of the operation – achievements and impact

Achievements:

Experienced PNGRCS East New Britain branch volunteers were the first team to arrive at the disaster site to assess its impact and to rescue and evacuate the people. PNGRCS was given the task of coordination and distribution of the relief supplies, as well as humanitarian work with the affected families, by the provincial government and administration.

In response to the disaster, the Federation released CHF 30,000 from the DREF. At the end of the operation, CHF 18,114 was used on shelter, water and sanitation, as well as personnel, transportation and programme support. The balance amounting to CHF 11,886 was returned to DREF.

The emergency preparedness task force committee of the national society, consisting of Federation staff, project officers and volunteers, facilitated the coordination, logistics and distribution of relief support and assistance. Similarly, the branch volunteer team, headed by the disaster coordinator, continued to distribute relief supplies to vulnerable and displaced people affected by the eruption in care centres and affected areas. The Federation disaster management delegate also played a key role in facilitating funding support and assistance, as well as maintaining an effective role in sharing updated reports by communicating with other humanitarian actors such as the United Nations, national disaster and regional office.

An emergency preparedness task force committee member was despatched to the branch to assist the disaster field coordinator to assist in coordination and planning of the disaster relief operation, based on the branch's needs assessment, capacity of volunteers, relief supplies and the logistics of the operation, further to developing a plan of action for additional supplies and needs assessment. The East New Britain branch was also supported by the task force member in management and coordination of the volunteers and teams participating in the operation, outlining their respective roles and responsibilities during the operation in the field and in the office. The task force member also reported consistently to the emergency preparedness task force at the national level, including the secretary general.

The chairperson of the East New Britain branch was designated to take the leadership and decision-making role in the provincial administration and disaster committee meeting. In addition, the chairperson also facilitated meetings and reported on the decisions to the emergency preparedness task force committee at the national society and volunteers, as well as overseeing field operation plans and the financial management aspects of the operation.

Volunteers were mobilized and briefed on organizational principles, the mission and mandate of working in the disaster operations. A roster of three teams was scheduled, covering the respective key focus areas, namely administrative support and assistance, relief distribution and needs assessment.

Branch volunteers played a key role in facilitating the coordination of relief operations and maintaining collaboration at provincial government level. They also addressed the humanitarian needs of the affected population at the affected sites and the displaced population at the care centres.

Logistic support in terms transporting relief supplies from the airport to the field operation site and office was supported by the private sector organization Telikom at no cost. The provincial government also supplied a vehicle to Red Cross to assist in the needs assessment in the affected areas and the care centres.

The Red Cross successfully covered all the affected communities and distributed water containers and tarpaulins to families in Matupit 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, Nordup, Baai and Matalu villages, and the displaced families in the care centres of Gelegele and Sikut. The relief supplies were also distributed to the less affected communities along the Kokopo and Raluana coastlines as the water catchments were contaminated as a due of volcanic dust and ashes.

The team also was dispatched to the Duke of York Island communities of Narakoi, Raputput, Urukuk, Nakukur, Utaunau, Mioko and Karawara to carry out the distribution of relief supplies and to conduct further needs assessment as a result of volcanic dust and ashes.

Impact:

The Red Cross implemented a significant activity of the response operation by distributing water containers filled with clean water. These were distributed to both displaced families and those whose water catchments were affected by the volcanic dust and ashes as the result of the wind and high volcanic clouds. Another significant activity implemented by Red Cross volunteers is the distribution of huge canvases and assisting the displaced families to erect temporary shelters as a result of overcrowding in the established care-centres.

The Red Cross also carried out an impact and needs assessment in the affected areas and the care centres. Further to this, the Red Cross made relevant recommendations to the provincial administration, government and its disaster committee based on the findings, issues and concerns addressed and raised by the affected people.

One of the major key issues discussed with the provincial government administration and disaster committee was to address the need for land allocation to the affected families. The land allocation is viewed as part of the restoration exercise, to prevent people from returning to the devastated or disaster-prone areas. This issue was raised as a similar incident was encountered in the 1994 eruption and restoration exercise.

The Red Cross also addressed long-term initiatives with the provincial government and disaster committee. This included considering further community development aspects such as integrating a resettlement exercise with economic-generating prospects to prevent people from returning to their cultural and traditional lands to live for self-sustainability in terms of food and cash income.

Table of consolidated stock distributed:

Items: Water Containers, Tarpaulins, Canvas, Tumblers, Face Masks	
Period From: 7 th October 2006	To: 1 st November 2006
Total Number of Beneficiaries: 5, 908	
Description of Relief Supplies	Issued or supplied
Water Containers	1, 352
Tarpaulins	126
Face Masks	350
Tumblers	176
Canvas	12
Water Bladders (donated by UNICEF)	2

Constraints:

While experienced, it was noted that the Red Cross branches need more capacity building in financial and volunteer management as well as leadership to better organize and coordinate the various aspects of this emergency. This lack of capacity led to some of the most vulnerable and displaced receiving delayed assistance. These capacity-building aspects will be tackled through the long-term country appeal.

[Final financial report below; click here to return to the title page or contact information.](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRPG001 - PNG - VOLCANO MOUNT TAVURVUR

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/10-2007/7
Budget Timeframe	2006/10-2007/12
Appeal	MDRPG001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget		0				0
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
DREF		-11,886				-11,886
C1. Cash contributions		-11,886				-11,886
<u>Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)</u>						
DREF		30,000				30,000
C3. Reallocations (within appeal or		30,000				30,000
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		18,114				18,114
D. Total Funding = B + C		18,114				18,114

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		18,114				18,114
E. Expenditure		-18,114				-18,114
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		0				0

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Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/10-2007/7
Budget Timeframe	2006/10-2007/12
Appeal	MDRPG001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		0					0	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief			1,850				1,850	-1,850
Water & Sanitation			2,528				2,528	-2,528
Total Supplies			4,378				4,378	-4,378
Transport & Storage								
Distribution & Monitoring			1,708				1,708	-1,708
Transport & Vehicle Costs			1,905				1,905	-1,905
Total Transport & Storage			3,613				3,613	-3,613
Personnel Expenditures								
National Staff			2,597				2,597	-2,597
National Society Staff			4,669				4,669	-4,669
Total Personnel Expenditures			7,267				7,267	-7,267
General Expenditure								
Travel			751				751	-751
Information & Public Relation			54				54	-54
Office Costs			295				295	-295
Communications			579				579	-579
Total General Expenditure			1,679				1,679	-1,679
Program Support								
Program Support			1,177				1,177	-1,177
Total Program Support			1,177				1,177	-1,177
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)			18,114				18,114	-18,114
VARIANCE (C - D)			-18,114				-18,114	