

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Guinea: Population Movement

DREF operation n° MDRGN002
09 July, 2009

The International Federation's 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.

Summary: CHF 129,278 (USD 118,723 or EUR 85,129) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Red Cross Society of Guinea in delivering immediate assistance to 400 vulnerable people.

On 10 January 2007, unions in Guinea (Conakry) were protesting against the high cost of living in the country. Lately, these protests turned into a demand for change of government. Disagreements between the unions and the government led to violent public demonstrations that resulted to over 100 people dead and about 400 injured. The escalating violence also led to food shortages which in turn resulted in an increase in the

price of essential products as well as shutdown of most commercial activities. In

addition, the living conditions became deplorable. The situation in Guinea became a major concern as it was likely to deter progress made in neighbouring countries. The violence made some families along the borders to cross into Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal and Mali for safety.



Red Cross volunteers in a rescue operation

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The situation

The 17-day general strike launched on 10 January 2007 by trade unions protesting against the high cost of living in Guinea (Conakry) later turned to a demand for change of government. The resulting violence left more than 100 people dead and about 400 injured. The escalating violence also led to food shortages, resulting in an increase in prices of essential products as well as a shutdown of most commercial activities. After a short period of calm, violence erupted again in Conakry and other towns across Guinea immediately after the President announced the nomination of a new Prime Minister. The rejection of this nomination by the populations prompted the government to impose a 20-hour curfew as from 12 to 23 February 2007, by restricting movement to only between 16:00hrs and 20:00hrs. However, after complaints from the international community, trade unions and the opposition, the curfew was later relaxed to 12 hours. People were permitted to move but gatherings were disallowed and shops remained closed. Hospitals ran short of

blood and it was believed that the shortage contributed to the number of people who died while undergoing treatment.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

As soon as the demonstrations started, the Federation country Delegation in Conakry, together with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), supported efforts of the Red Cross Society of Guinea in providing first aid services. With support of the DREF funding, the Red Cross Society of Guinea was able to assist the affected populations in Guinea (Conakry). The national society attended to over 400 people with minor and/or critical injuries, and handled bodies of 30 people killed during the first part of the general strike (from 10 to 27 January 2007). The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) supplied first aid kits to three provincial hospitals and surgical kits to university hospitals in Conakry.

Achievements against objectives

Emergency health	
Objectives : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To strengthen technical capacities of the Red Cross Society of Guinea in social mobilization for voluntary blood donation; • To mobilize the population to voluntarily donate blood to the National Blood Transfusion Centre as well as to mobilize the existing voluntary blood donor programme of the national society. 	
Expected results	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood donor clubs are functional to allow continuous mobilization of voluntary blood donors; • The population is mobilized to provide voluntary blood donations to the National Blood Transfusion Centre; • Stocks of blood at the National Blood Transfusion Centre are sufficiently replenished. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct refresher training for blood donor club leaders; • Organize 15 national days of blood donation with the National Blood Transfusion Centre (three days per geographic zone); • Publish information, education and communication (IEC) materials, including flyers and posters, for sensitization and mobilization campaigns; • Broadcast sensitization messages through the national media, mostly targeting rural communities by radio.

Impact: As the situation was getting worse, there was a concern that blood banks in health centres within Guinea were depleted, especially since the National Blood Transfusion Centre was unable to satisfy the high demand for blood transfusions. Since a high percentage of deaths were the consequence of loss of blood, there was a need to reinforce mobilization and motivation of voluntary blood donations to replenish the banks. The Red Cross intervention contributed to saving lives of those injured in the ensuing violence. The 600 trained Red Cross volunteers offering first aid services contributed to saving hundreds of lives. As a result, the Red Cross Society of Guinea acknowledged for its humanitarian work by the government, military and members of the public. Furthermore, coordination and networking between the neighbouring national societies led to the formation of an early warning system.

Logistics	
Objective: To contribute to restoring human dignity to the most vulnerable people as well as improving the welfare of displaced populations	
Expected results	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Red Cross Society of Guinea has mobilized trained volunteers to assist people during the demonstrations; • The Red Cross volunteers are recognized, appreciated and motivated for their commitment; • Red Cross branches along the borders with Guinea are well prepared for receiving refugees and/or returnees into their 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing logistical support to the Red Cross Society of Guinea and national societies of neighbouring countries; • Mobilizing and motivating volunteers; • Building the capacity of the local committees and providing first aid material to emergency response teams; • Pre-positioning relief materials (especially non-food items such as blankets, mats, buckets and soap) for 5,000 displaced families; • Training and re-training of emergency brigade

<p>respective countries;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic non-food items (NFIs) for 5,000 families are pre-positioned in the sub-region. 	<p>volunteers along the borders;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploying and installing telecommunication equipment; • Deploying Regional Disaster Response Teams (RDRT); • Strengthening the early warning system (EWS) mechanism; • Monitoring and regional coordination.
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Impact

To attain this objective, Red Cross Society of Guinea deployed 39 first aid brigades in strategic locations throughout the country. The brigades attended to casualties and ferried them to different hospitals. For the safety of Red Cross volunteers, rescue operations usually took place after calm returned and demonstrators dispersed. The national society benefited from logistical support provided by ICRC, which provided a fleet of 14 vehicles. In Mali, a radio network was established, covering the border regions with a high potential of population Influx. The Mali Red Cross reactivated its contingency plan and alerted four of its emergency brigades and National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members for possible deployment. Refresher training for 25 volunteers was conducted in Nyafwila and Kourémalé.

The Federation West and Central Africa Zone office in Dakar provided support in Conakry while at the same time coordinating with the national societies of countries neighbouring Guinea. Some emergency stocks for 100 families (mats, blankets and bars of soap) were prepositioned in Sierra Leone, Mali, Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire for use in the event of population movement. The main impact of these achievements was that the displaced populations were given back their dignity. The capacities of the most neighbouring national societies also were strengthened, in terms of preparedness to respond to any influx of refugees

Challenges

The operation did not experience any major challenges apart from the delay in fund transfer due to some banking administrative procedure. However, the national society was able to start activities with its available resources before the availability of the DREF funds.

How we work

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.

The International Federation's activities 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.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRGN002 - Guinea - Population Movement

FINAL Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/1-2009/5
Budget Timeframe	2007/1-2007/4
Appeal	MDRGN002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	0					0
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
Voluntary Income	129,278					129,278
C5. Other Income	129,278					129,278
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	129,278					129,278
D. Total Funding = B + C	129,278					129,278
Appeal Coverage	#DIV/0					#DIV/0

II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	129,278					129,278
E. Expenditure	-129,278					-129,278
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	0					0

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III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		0					0	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief		12,374				12,374	-12,374	
Clothing & textiles		5,725				5,725	-5,725	
Medical & First Aid		6,183				6,183	-6,183	
Total Supplies		24,282				24,282	-24,282	
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Others Machinery & Equipment		361				361	-361	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment		361				361	-361	
Transport & Storage								
Storage		8,661				8,661	-8,661	
Distribution & Monitoring		1,934				1,934	-1,934	
Transport & Vehicle Costs		11,312				11,312	-11,312	
Total Transport & Storage		21,908				21,908	-21,908	
Personnel								
International Staff		1,963				1,963	-1,963	
National Society Staff		17,670				17,670	-17,670	
Total Personnel		19,633				19,633	-19,633	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training		21,910				21,910	-21,910	
Total Workshops & Training		21,910				21,910	-21,910	
General Expenditure								
Travel		1,945				1,945	-1,945	
Information & Public Relation		24,987				24,987	-24,987	
Office Costs		1,385				1,385	-1,385	
Communications		2,030				2,030	-2,030	
Financial Charges		406				406	-406	
Other General Expenses		2,029				2,029	-2,029	
Total General Expenditure		32,781				32,781	-32,781	
Programme Support								
Program Support		8,403				8,403	-8,403	
Total Programme Support		8,403				8,403	-8,403	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)		129,278				129,278	-129,278	
VARIANCE (C - D)		-129,278				-129,278		