

# DREF Bulletin Update



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

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## MALAWI: FLOODS

*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 update: 3 February 2007 to 26 April 2007.

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

- CHF 88,704 allocated from the Federation's DREF on 2 February 2007 to respond to needs in this operation and to replenish disaster preparedness stocks distributed to the affected population.
- This operation was expected to be implemented for three months; a DREF Bulletin Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation.

[<Click here to go directly to the attached interim financial report>](#)

This operation is aligned with the International Federation's 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.

### Background and current situation

In early 2007, Malawi experienced heavy rains which caused flooding in Chikwaka, Nsanje and Mangochi districts of Shire region. The floods caused extensive damage in the three districts:

- **Chikwaka** District experienced heavy rains as of 1 January 2007. Two deaths were reported and a total of 20,061 households were affected. 7,666 hectares of various crops (maize, sorghum, millet, cotton and rice) were destroyed, 917 houses collapsed and a significant number of chickens and goats was swept away.
- In **Nsanje** District, one death was reported and 1,351 households were affected. 475 houses collapsed and 1,804 hectares of crops were damaged.
- In **Mangochi** District, flooding was experienced on 13 February 2007. A total of 503 houses were destroyed, 2,143 families displaced, 50 hectares of maize and 32 hectares of rice destroyed and livestock (goats, cows, sheep and chicken) were swept away. Two bridges were washed away, rendering the district inaccessible.

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Most latrines in the flood affected areas collapsed and pose a health hazard due to a potential outbreak of waterborne diseases such as cholera. Prior to the floods, Malawi had experienced a cholera outbreak which started in August 2006 and recorded 142 cases, with two deaths. The areas flooded in the beginning of 2007 reported nine cholera cases between 5 and 11 February 2007. Furthermore, Mangochi District is prone to malaria and there are still fears of an outbreak since floodwaters in stagnant pools have presented ready breeding spots for mosquitoes.

**Table 1: Damage caused by floods (per district), households affected and agencies intervening**

District	No. of households affected	No. of collapsed houses	Affected crop (in hectares)	No of livestock affected	Organizations providing assistance
Chikwaka	20,016	917	7,666	78	MRCS, UN agencies and government.
Nsanje	1,351	475	1,804	105	MRCS, UN agencies and government.
Mangochi	2,143	503	82	654	MRCS, UN agencies and government.
Karonga	270	100	-	-	MRCS and government.
Rumphu	105	32	-	-	Government.
Mzimba	10	10	-	-	Government.
Kasungu	417	27	-	-	Government.
Mwanza	207	187	-	-	Government.
Salima	335	45	-	-	MRCS and government.
Zomba	102	37	-	-	Government.
Machinga	382	-	-	-	Government.
Ntcheu	72	-	-	-	Government.
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,410</b>	<b>2,333</b>	<b>9,552</b>	<b>837</b>	

### Red Cross and Red Crescent action

As part of the UN/Malawi Red Cross Society 2006/2007 contingency plan, the National Society focused its intervention on provision of shelter. The society pre-positioned tents in flood-prone districts across the country and its action teams were sensitized on their role regarding shelter provision.

The MRCS action teams conducted rapid assessments jointly with the UN and the government. The assessment reports were verified by a team from the National Society's headquarters. Upon verification of affected houses, tarpaulins were distributed for use as roofing materials. Red Cross volunteers assisted in pitching tents in all the areas in which houses were destroyed.

As the rainy season ends, the affected households are rebuilding their houses so that they can move from temporary structures. Malawi Red Cross Society action teams are currently reassembling tents that were being used in the temporary sites; the tents will be stored for future use.

**Table 2: Number of tents pitched and tarpaulins provided**

District	Number of tents provided	Size of tent	Number of tarpaulins provided
Nsanje	4	50x70 metres	1,794
Chikwaka	4	50x70 metres	1,206
Mangochi	3	50x70 metres	298
Ntheu	2	Family size	-
Salima	3	Family size	350
Karonga	10 rolls of plastic sheets were provided		-

On 2 February 2007, the International Federation allocated CHF 88,704 from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to the Malawi Red Cross Society to support the procurement of 2,500 tarpaulins, three tents, 400 metres of plastic sheeting and to cater for some operational costs. The remaining funds will be used to replenish relief stocks earlier distributed by the National Society.

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The United Arab Emirates Red Crescent provided in kind support to Malawi Red Cross Society soon after the government had appealed for assistance for Mangochi District. The relief items provided by the United Arab Emirates Red Crescent included food parcels, tents, medical supplies and blankets. Food parcels were distributed to households affected by floods in Mangochi District. The parcels consisted of 10 kilogrammes of rice, 10 kg of sugar, 10 kg of powdered milk, 2 litres of cooking oil, 2 kg of salt, a variety of tinned vegetables and dates (fruits) per household. Medical supplies and blankets were donated to the district hospital while tents have been stocked for use in future potential emergencies.

### Constraints

Most of the flooded districts were inaccessible by road from the capital city (Lilongwe) and provincial towns, hence conducting assessments and distribution of relief items was a challenge. In some areas, Red Cross volunteers were only able to reach vulnerable communities by using locally made non-motorized canoes.

It was difficult to transport relief items to inaccessible places, and many affected people in those areas could not get timely assistance. The National Society is considering partnering with the Malawi Army so that their helicopters can be used during relief operations.

### Coordination

In response to the disaster, an assessment was conducted by a team comprising of representatives from Poverty and Disaster Management Affairs department of the government, World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Vision, District Health Offices, Malawi Red Cross Society and two local non-governmental organizations. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with UNICEF on the provision of survival kits in Salima and Karonga districts.

#### *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>

[<Interim financial report below; click here to return to the title>](#)

**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**

MDRMW002 - MALAWI - FLOODS

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/1-2007/12
Budget Timeframe	2007/1-2007/12
Appeal	MDRMW002
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		88'704				88'704
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
Other Income						
DREF Allocations		88'704				88'704
C6. Other Income		88'704				88'704
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		88'704				88'704
D. Total Funding = B + C		88'704				88'704

**II. Balance of Funds**

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		88'704				88'704
E. Expenditure		-50'280				-50'280
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		38'424				38'424

**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	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>			88'704				88'704	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	51'400		34'753				34'753	16'648
Total Supplies	51'400		34'753				34'753	16'648
Transport & Storage								
Distribution & Monitoring	11'304		8'625				8'625	2'679
Transport & Vehicle Costs	5'000							5'000
Total Transport & Storage	16'304		8'625				8'625	7'679
Personnel Expenditures								
National Staff	9'284							9'284
Total Personnel Expenditures	9'284							9'284
General Expenditure								
Information & Public Relation	2'000							2'000
Financial Charges			532				532	-532
Other General Expenses	3'950		1'402				1'402	2'548
Total General Expenditure	5'950		1'934				1'934	4'016
Program Support								
Program Support	5'766		4'969				4'969	797
Total Program Support	5'766		4'969				4'969	797
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>88'704</b>		<b>50'280</b>				<b>50'280</b>	<b>38'423</b>
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>			<b>38'423</b>				<b>38'423</b>	