

# DREF operation



## Uganda: Population movement from Kenya

DREF operation n° MDRUG008  
8 January, 2008

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 and 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.

**CHF 200,000 (USD 178,890 or EUR 121,212) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) in delivering immediate assistance to some 3,000 beneficiaries. The operation is expected to last for 2 months and will be completed by 8 March, 2008. A Final Report will be made available by June 2008 (3 months after the end of the operation). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.**

**Summary: Post-election violence has decreased in several districts of western Kenya, but displaced civilians have continued to voluntarily cross the border to seek shelter and assistance in Ugandan border towns. Approximately 3,000 people have reportedly been displaced so far. Most of the affected people have found temporary shelter in schools which are not in session due to the annual school holidays. The URCS participated in joint fact-finding assessments with Uganda government officials and has responded to the emergency by providing immediate assistance<sup>3</sup> in the form of blankets, water buckets, and tents as well as first aid services. This support from the Federation's DREF will enable the URCS to continue to provide shelter and health assistance, and to replenish its disaster preparedness stocks while talks proceed to resolve the situation in Kenya.**

[\*<click here to view contact details, and here to view the map of the affected area>\*](#)

## The situation

The influx of Kenyan refugees into Uganda started on 29 December 2007 following civil unrest and ethnic conflict after the announcement of the results of the Kenyan presidential election. The main areas of entry are; Malaba, Busia and Lwakhakha in Manafwa district. The majority of Kenyans crossing the border are Kikuyus and Luyas. According to information provided by the refugees, most of their property was looted and/or burnt. Some people lost their lives while many others were injured and thus crossed the border with bullet/machete wounds.

The refugees have taken shelter in school buildings which are currently closed for the annual holidays. Living conditions are very basic, with very limited space and no access to water and sanitation facilities. The refugees have been subsisting on donations from local communities, a situation that is unsustainable. Food, shelter, water/sanitation, and basic non-food items are therefore urgently needed.

As of 5 January 2007, assessment reports indicated that people were in the following locations: 1,462 people in Busia, 1,343 people in Malaba, and 300 people in Lwakaka.

## Coordination and partnerships

The ICRC is assumed to provide some in kind support in the area of basic non-food items. Food is expected to be provided by WFP or the government. The Minister for Disaster Preparedness of the Uganda Government has been appointed to lead in the management of the refugee camps.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The URCS has been providing basic non-food item support from prestocked NFI supplies to some of the refugees in Busia and Malaba, and managing the shelters upon request from the government. The URCS is the main actor for the time being and both the Government and the UN expects the URCS to continue to play this vital role. Volunteers are providing first aid services to the injured, and referring them to health facilities for further treatment and management.

## The proposed operation

**Objective: Support some 3,000 refugees with shelter, basic non-food relief items, and basic health care, including water and sanitation for 1 month.**

**Expected result 1:** Intended beneficiaries have been provided with tents.

**Activities planned:** Provide shelter to the planned beneficiaries.

**Expected result 2:** Planned beneficiaries have received blankets, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, soap, buckets and jerry cans.

**Activities planned:** Procure and distribute blankets, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, soap, buckets and jerry cans.

**Expected result 3:** Planned beneficiaries have been provided with emergency latrines, bathing facilities and supply of safe water as well as having increased awareness about hygiene.

**Activities planned:**

- Construct 30 latrines and 30 shower facilities;
- Distribute water through the installation of 5 water tanks with capacity of 10,000 and 20,000 litres;
- Distribute water purification tablets (together with buckets under NFIs) and instruct in use;
- Carry out hygiene awareness campaigns in Swahili.

**Expected result 4:** First aid and psychosocial support has been provided to people affected by trauma.

**Activities planned:**

- First aid made available to persons with injuries;
- Referral made to health clinics/hospital;
- Advocate with the Ministry of Health to ensure sufficient supplies of medication and qualified staff to provide assistance to the refugees;
- Extend current partnership with Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TCO) Uganda from the floods operation to the refugees.

**Expected result 5:** Restoration of family links support has been made available.

**Activities planned:** In collaboration with the ICRC assist families/individuals to trace their relatives.

**Expected result 6:** The operation has been successfully managed by the Ugandan Red Cross Society in terms of internal and external coordination, logistics, security, volunteer and staff management, reporting and finance.

**Activities planned:**

- Organize and participate in meetings with key external partners such as the Government and the UN;
- Ensure internal URCS and Movement partners communication flow;
- Procurement (in line with Federation procedures);
- Provide transport and storage support;
- Ensure mechanisms are in place for staff and volunteer security;
- Ensure staff and the volunteer regulations and policies are respected;
- Ensure timely and accurate financial and narrative monitoring and reporting.

## Capacity of the National Society

The URCS has the capacity to provide assistance as outlined below to the estimated 3,000 number of people having crossed over the border from Kenya. Thirty trained and experienced volunteers are so far engaged in the ongoing operation, this number can easily be increased if needed. Due to the fragile situation in Kenya, it is difficult to predict the development over the coming days and weeks. However, the URCS has the capacity to scale up substantially should there be a further influx of refugees. A contingency plan is being developed together with a plan for how to finance the scale up, which could potentially involve the launching of a national appeal with a funding strategy targeting embassies, existing partners and international organisations based in Uganda.

## 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

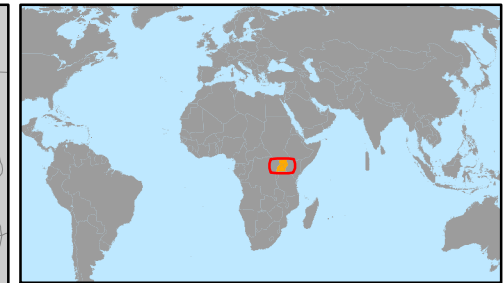
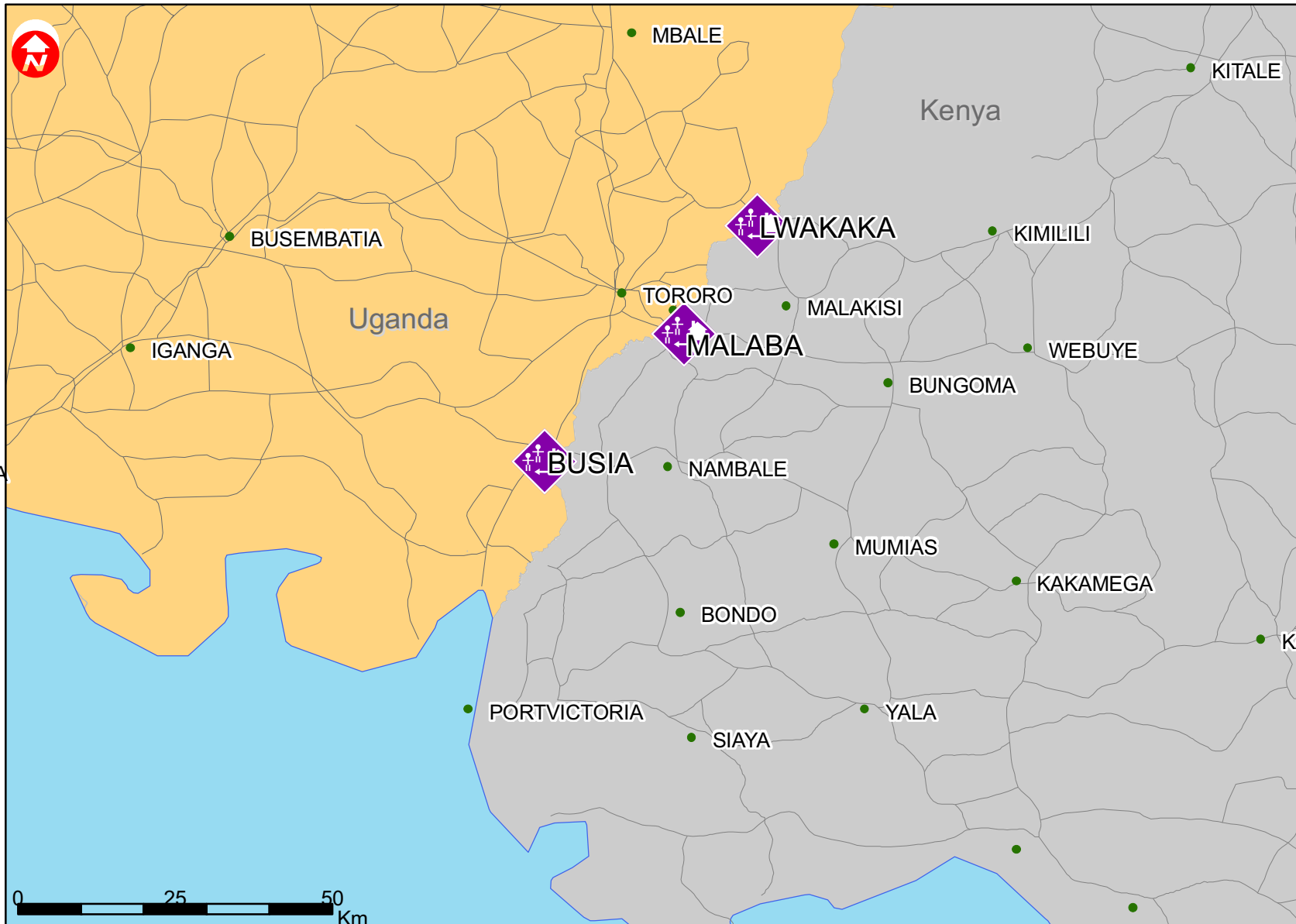
### For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In Uganda:** Alice Uwase Anukur, Secretary General, Uganda Red Cross Society, Kampala, Email: [aanukur@redcrossug.org](mailto:aanukur@redcrossug.org); telephone: +256 41 258 701/2; fax: +256 41 258 184, Robert Akankwasa Email: [rakankwasa@redcrossug.org](mailto:rakankwasa@redcrossug.org); telephone: + 256775210500
- **In Kenya:** Dr. Asha Mohammed, Federation Eastern Africa Zone, Nairobi, phone: + 254.20.283.51.24; Fax: + 254.20.271.27.77; email: [asha.mohammed@ifrc.org](mailto:asha.mohammed@ifrc.org) or Knut Kaspersen, Deputy Head of Eastern Africa Zone and a.i Federation Head of East Africa Sub-Zone, Nairobi, phone + 254.20.283.52.53;
- **In Kenya:** Philimon Majwa, Disaster Management Manager, Nairobi, phone + 254.20.283.52.11; fax + 254.20.271.27.77; email: [philimon.majwa@ifrc.org](mailto:philimon.majwa@ifrc.org)
- **In Geneva:** John Roche, federation Operations Coordinator (Eastern and Southern Africa), email: [john.roche@ifrc.org](mailto:john.roche@ifrc.org); phone + 41.22.730.4400.

[<map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)



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-  Areas of entry
-  Cities
-  Roads

The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Map data sources: ESRI, GIST, Federation