

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Central African Republic: Storm in Bangui

DREF operation n° MDRCF004
GLIDE n° ST-2009-000029-CAF
2 February, 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 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 75,084 (USD 67,243 or EUR 49,826) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Central African Republic Red Cross Society (CARCS) in delivering immediate assistance to some 1,390 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Windstorm and torrential rain occurred in the second subdivision and other neighbourhoods of Bangui, the capital of the Central African Republic (CAR), in the night of 17 to 18 January 2009, causing serious material damages and killing a 17-year old boy. A joint team from the Ministry of Family and Social Affairs, the Central African Republic Red Cross Society, local authorities and volunteers carried out an evaluation of the situation in the field



This house, like many others, was destroyed by the storm

and realized that most of the people affected were women, children and old persons. They also noticed that the victims have been sleeping on the floor and in a seriously mosquito-infected locality since the disaster occurred. These vulnerable people are exposed to malaria, respiratory and diarrhoeal diseases. The wells from where they get water have been polluted by rain and other waste water. The level of vulnerability is such that there is an urgent need to provide non-food items (NFI) like mosquito nets, blankets, Kitchen and hygiene kits, in order to avoid the deterioration of the situation for 278 targeted families.

This operation is expected to be implemented over 3 months, and will therefore be completed by 27 April 2009. A Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation, by 27 July 2009.

[<click here for the DREF budget,](#)
[here for contact details,](#)
[or here to view the map of the affected area>](#)

The situation

Windstorm and torrential rain occurred in the second subdivision and other neighbourhoods of Bangui, the capital of the Central African Republic (CAR), in the night of 17 to 18 January 2009, causing serious material damages and killing a 17-year old boy. A joint team from the Ministry of Family and Social Affairs, the CARCS, local authorities and volunteers carried out an evaluation of the situation in the field and realized that most of the people affected were women, children and old persons. They also noticed that the victims have been sleeping on the floor and in a seriously mosquito-infected locality since the disaster occurred. Concretely, the following figures were registered during the evaluation:

- About 278 houses destroyed completely and 105 others cracked;
- A 17-year old boy killed (he was electrocuted as he tried to escape from their house that was collapsing);
- Some 2,886 people were affected by the disaster; 1,390 of whom have been made homeless (278 families) and are therefore the most vulnerable. These 1,390 most vulnerable people include 467 children below the age of five, 178 pregnant women, 118 old people and 591 females above the age of 15.

These vulnerable people are exposed to malaria, respiratory and diarrhoea diseases. The wells from where they get their water have been polluted by rain and other waste water. Just a few lucky ones of these vulnerable people have found refuge in their friends and relative places, but for how long?

Coordination and partnerships

When the disaster occurred, the heads of affected neighborhoods joined CARCS' volunteers in evaluating the situation. As far as Government is concerned, the Minister of Social Affairs, Solidarity and Family went on the field to assess the situation and provide psychological support to affected people. She also instructed her collaborators at neighborhood levels to join the Red Cross in evaluating the situation and reporting to her for Government action. She also appealed on humanitarian organizations to assist vulnerable people.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

So far, the only action taken has been to evaluate the situation and identify the beneficiaries and their needs. The volunteers also helped the affected people to save their belonging and move to friends and relative places for shelter. The volunteers are conducting health promotion sessions to aware the affected people on water born diseases. The CARCS needs support to assist the vulnerable people.

The needs

Beneficiary selection: After an evaluation of the situation, the Red Cross identified 1,390 beneficiaries (278 families) for its action. These people mostly include women and children below the age of five, as well as old people, all of whom have been made homeless by the disaster. They urgently need non-food items (NFI) like blankets, impregnated mosquito nets, and tarpaulins, cooking kits, toilet kits, soap, potable water and sanitation kits. In addition, taking into consideration the fact that all water points have been contaminated by waste waters, there is an urgent need to facilitate the access of the beneficiaries to potable water. This will imply treating water and promoting environmental hygiene to avoid epidemic outbreaks.

The proposed operation

Relief distributions (basic non-food items)

Objective: Contribute to improving the living conditions of the most vulnerable people affected by the windstorm in the second subdivision and other neighbourhoods of Bangui (1,390 beneficiaries).

Activities planned:

- Purchasing the items to be distributed, namely 556 blankets, 278 impregnated mosquito nets, 278 tarpaulins, 278 cooking kits and transporting them to the affected localities;
- Distributing these items to the 1390 vulnerable people identified;
- Producing a report of the distribution.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Objective: Facilitate the access of the affected populations to potable water, and promote hygiene and sanitation rules in the areas of Bangui affected by the windstorm.

Activities planned:

- Purchasing 591 hygienic kits for females above 17 years; 1,738 pieces of soap of 200g each and transporting sanitation kits to the affected localities ;
- Retraining 30 Red Cross volunteers on water treatment ;
- Treating water points ;
- Sensitizing the populations to hygiene and sanitation rules;
- Advocating before other actors on behalf of the affected populations ;
- Producing the report on the activities carried out.

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 **Bangui**: Albert Yomba Eyamo, Secretary General, Central African Red Cross Society, email: sn_crca@yahoo.fr; phone: +236.75.50.27.54 or +236.21.61.26.09
- In **Yaoundé**: Javier Medrano, Federation Regional Representative for Central Africa, email: javier.medrano@ifrc.org, phone: +237.22.21.74.37 or +237.96.29.87.89, Fax: +237.22.21.74.39
- In **Dakar**: Alasan Senghore, Federation Head of West and Central Africa Zone Office, Senegal, email: alasan.senghore@ifrc.org, phone: (221) 869.36.41, Fax: +(221) 33.820.25.34; Youcef Ait-Chellouche, Disaster Management Coordinator, email: youcef.aitchellouche@ifrc.org phone: +221 33.869.36.44
- In Geneva: David Lynch, Operations Coordinator, email: david.lynch@ifrc.org; phone: +41 22730 4675.

[<DREF budget and map attached; click here to return to the title page>](#)

DREF BUDGET SUMMARY

ORIGINAL

RELIEF NEEDS

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Shelter | 56,197 |
| Construction Materials | 0 |
| Clothing & Textiles | 0 |
| Food | 0 |
| Seeds & Plants | 0 |
| Water & Sanitation | 2,494 |
| Medical & First Aid | 0 |
| Teaching Materials | 0 |
| Utensils & Tools | 0 |
| Other Supplies & Services | |
| Total Relief Needs | 58,691 |

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Land & Buildings | 0 |
| Vehicles Purchase | 0 |
| Computers & Telecom Equipment | 0 |
| Office/Household Furniture & Equip. | 0 |
| Medical Equipment | 0 |
| Other Machinery & Equipment | 0 |

TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Storage - Warehouse | 0 |
| Distribution & Monitoring | 750 |
| Transport & Vehicles Costs | 3,000 |

PERSONNEL

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| International Staff | 0 |
| Regionally Deployed Staff | 0 |
| National Staff | 0 |
| National Society Staff | 6,013 |
| Consultants | 0 |

WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Workshops & Training | 0 |
| <i>Monitoring and evaluation</i> | 625 |

GENERAL EXPENSES

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Travel | 0 |
| Information & Public Relations | 0 |
| Office running costs | 500 |
| Communication Costs | 625 |
| Professional Fees | 0 |
| Financial Charges | 0 |

Other General Expenses 0

PROGRAMME SUPPORT

Programme Support - PSR 4,880

Total Operational Needs 16,393

Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind) 75,084

Available Ressources

Net Request 75,084



Central African Republic: Local storm

