

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Malawi: Earthquake

DREF operation n° MDRMW005
GLIDE n° EQ-2009-000257-MWI
14 December 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 306,365 (USD 295,891 or EUR 202,502) has been allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC's) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to some 1,930 households (9,650 beneficiaries). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Two days of sizable earth tremors were experienced from the evening of 6 December 2009 in the Karonga district in northern Malawi. The tremors, with a magnitude of 5.8 on the Richter scale, caused over eight earth tremors during the first day, affecting approximately 3,000

households and the patients at the Karonga district hospital. Although verification is incomplete, 1,929 affected houses have already been confirmed. Major damage has been triggered by the collapse of walls, rendering houses completely uninhabitable

According to reports received from the Karonga District Assembly, 15 people were injured, nine of whom have been hospitalised. The death of a year-old child after a wall fell on him during the morning of 8 December 2009 has also been confirmed.

As an initial response, MRCS has given assistance to people left homeless by the earthquake, who is currently living in the open outside their damaged homes, which are in danger of further collapse. MRCS distributed 40 tarpaulins, five family tents and 20 shelter kits. IFRC has also despatched 400 tarpaulins and 300 shelter kits for distribution to the affected households.



A house in Karonga district collapsed during the earth tremors

The Government of Malawi, through the Department of Disaster Management Affairs, has called for a joint assessment by the national disaster assessment team, of which MRCS is a member. The situation will be re-evaluated following the conclusion of the assessment. Therefore, this DREF allocation will be used for the emergency phase only. The recovery phase will follow when the technical review has been conducted.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 31 March 2010; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 30 June 2010).

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

The situation

On 6 December 2009, an earthquake with a magnitude of 5.8 and depth of 10km struck Malawi's mountainous region (maximum altitude of 2,542m) of Karonga in the Northern Province. The area's population of 1.2 million people were vulnerable to collapsing residential buildings, bridges and other road infrastructure. The affected region is highly cultivated (36.6 percent) and there is a risk of earthquake-induced landslides in the area. The Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System (GDACS) has placed the area on orange alert and estimates a need for international humanitarian intervention.

Damage caused by the earthquake

The complete or partial collapse of 2,867 houses (with 1,929 verified) has left 15,000 people homeless. Of the 1,929 houses verified as damaged, 775 have completely collapsed while 1,154 have hazardous cracks and are uninhabitable. Since the earth tremors have not ceased completely, the situation is expected to worsen, putting many more people at risk. The gaps in response currently identified include immediate temporary shelter materials, toilet construction materials, water treatment tablets, new or rehabilitated boreholes and, in the long term, building materials.

DATA ON AFFECTED HOUSEHOLDS	
Households affected	2,867
Household assessed	1,929
Houses assessed as completely collapsed	775
Houses assessed with hazardous cracks	1,154
Deaths	1
People injured	15
People left homeless	15,000

Coordination and partnerships

MRCS, as auxiliary to the Malawi government, works closely with the local authorities and other stakeholders. According to the National Contingency Plan, each stakeholder has a well-defined role in order to avoid unnecessary duplication. MRCS has been mandated to take a leading role in shelter and camp management (although not limited to this), while other partners such as UNICEF cover water supplies, sanitation, and hygiene promotion.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Currently, MRCS volunteers are distributing tarpaulins, taken from stock pre-positioned in the district, to the affected households. The volunteers also support the communities by providing awareness messages, especially on the dangers of returning to their homes while the tremors are still evident. An additional 400 tarpaulins and 300 shelter kits have been dispatched to the district from the IFRC warehouses.

The needs

Beneficiary selection:

Despite MRCS' distribution of tarpaulins, shelter kits and tents, many households have not as yet been reached, especially with temporally shelters. Indications, even before the final assessment report is completed, are that many households will need tarpaulins, shelter kits and poles for construction. As 300 households will be reached by the support that MRCS and IFRC already provided, a gap of 2,567 households that will not be reached is created.

With reference to the above needs, MRCS requests a DREF allocation of CHF 306,365 to cater for the shelter needs of beneficiaries whose houses have been verified as damaged, and logistical and operational costs. MRCS also needs to replenish its pre-positioned stock used in the initial response of this operation.

The proposed operation



The secretion of a lava-like substance from a house affected by the earth tremors

MRCS intends to support those affected by the tremors through the provision of temporary shelter, which will include shelter kit materials, tarpaulins, basic household cooking utensils (where necessary) and poles for construction. MRCS would also like to continue providing awareness messages to the district and surrounding communities.

Emergency shelter

Objective: To provide temporary shelter and basic non-food items to 1,929 households.

Activities planned:

- Conduct rapid emergency needs and detailed capacity assessments using Regional Disaster Response Teams (RDRT), trained staff, volunteers and government extension staff.
- Conduct registration of beneficiaries using government standards and agreed criteria.
- Verify beneficiaries using shelter needs criteria.
- Purchase shelter relief materials sourced within the country, e.g. poles.
- Train communities in constructing temporary shelters and in roofing partly damaged houses, using trained volunteers.
- Distribute kitchen utensils where necessary.
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

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 Malawi:** Malawi Red Cross Society: Lawson Kasamale, Secretary General; Email: mrcs@eomw.net; Phone: Tel 265.1.775.290; Fax: 265.1.775.590
- **In IFRC Southern Africa:** Françoise Le Goff, Head of Zone Office, Johannesburg; Email francoise.legoff@ifrc.org; Phone: Tel: +27.11.303.9700; +27.11.303.9711; Fax: +27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230

For pledges towards this operation:

- **In IFRC Southern Africa:** Laurean Rugambwa; Resource Mobilisation Coordinator, Johannesburg; Email zonerm.southafrica@ifrc.org; Phone: Tel: +27.11.303.9700; Fax: +27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230

For media enquiries:

- **In IFRC Southern Africa:** Matthew Cochrane; Communication Coordinator, Johannesburg; Email matthew.cochrane@ifrc.org; Phone: Tel: +27.11.303.9700; Mobile: +27.83.395.5266; Fax: +27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230

For performance and accountability enquiries:

- **In IFRC Southern Africa:** Theresa Takavarasha; Performance and Accountability Manager, Johannesburg; Email terrie.takavarasha@ifrc.org; Phone: Tel: +27.11.303.9700; Mobile: +27.83.413.3061; Fax: +27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230

For mobilization of relief items and Logistics inquiries:

Regional Logistic Unit in Dubai; Peter Gleniste; Regional Logistics Coordinator; Email: peter.gleniste@ifrc.org Phone: Tel: +971 4883 3887 Fax: +27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230

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

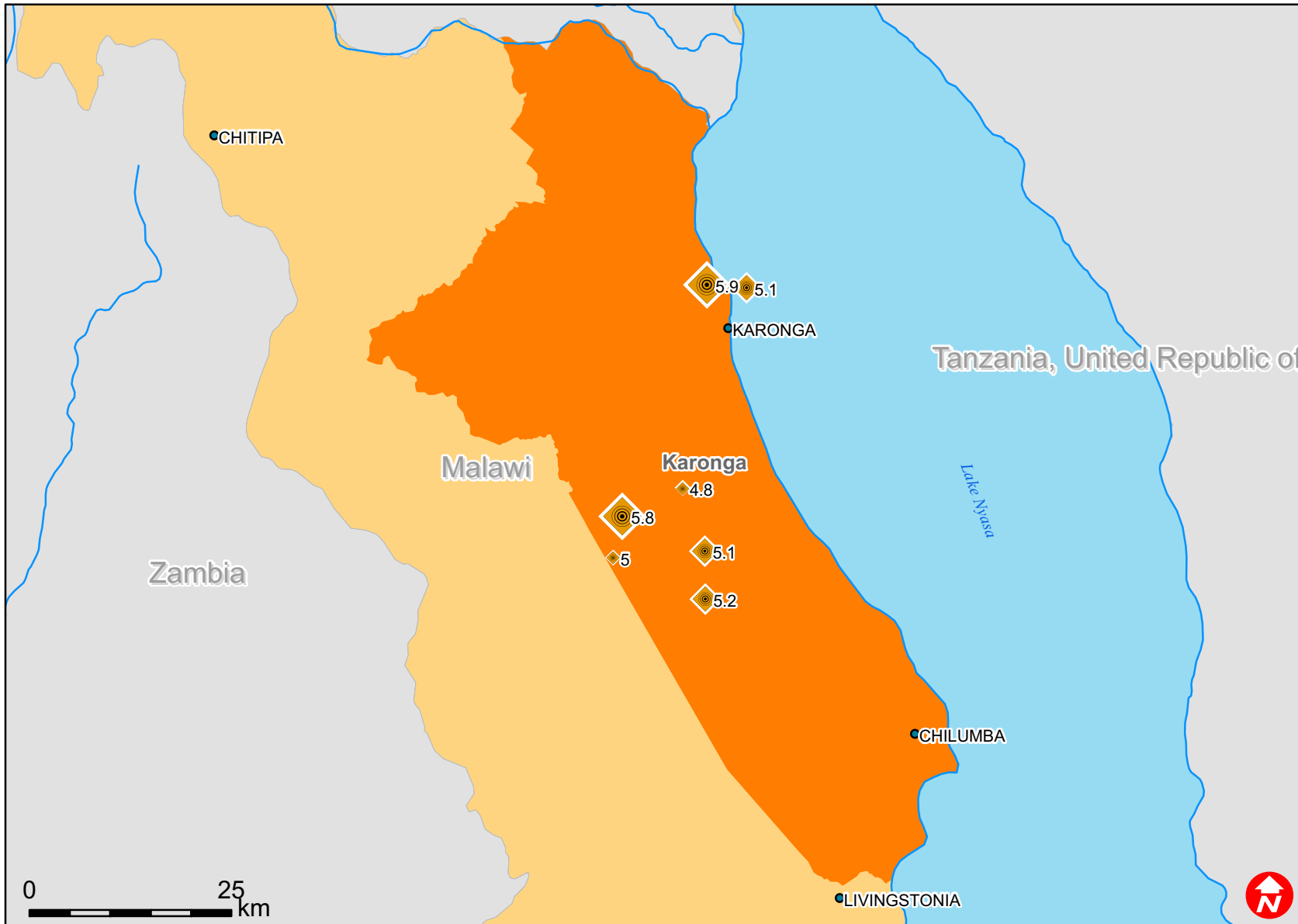
SOUTHERN MALAWI EARTHQUAKE 2009

MDRMW005

	ORIGINAL	REVISED	VARIANCE
<u>RELIEF NEEDS</u>			
Shelter	149,162		0
Construction Materials	0		0
Clothing & Textiles	17,940		0
Food	0		0
Seeds & Plants	0		0
Water & Sanitation	0		0
Medical & First Aid	0		0
Teaching Materials	0		0
Utensils & Tools	36,876		0
Other Supplies & Services	2,122		0
Emergency Response Units (ERUs)	0		0
Total Relief Needs	206,100	0	0
<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>			
Land & Buildings	0		0
Vehicles Purchase	0		0
Computers & Telecom Equipment	0		0
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.			0
Medical Equipment	0		0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0		0
<u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES</u>			
Storage - Warehouse	0		0
Distribution & Monitoring	35,000		0
Transport & Vehicles Costs	12,080		0
<u>PERSONNEL</u>			
International Staff	0		0
Regionally Deployed Staff	3,200		0
National Staff	5,600		0
National Society Staff	0		0
Consultants	0		0
<u>WORKSHOPS & TRAINING</u>			
Workshops & Training	0		0
<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>			
Travel	16,055		0
Information & Public Relations	4,800		0
Office running costs	1,600		0
Communication Costs	2,016		0
Professional Fees	0		0
Financial Charges	0		0
Other General Expenses	0		0
Depreciation	0		0
Shared Services			0
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>			
Programme Support - PSR	19,914	0	0
<u>SERVICES & RECOVERIES</u>			
Services & Recoveries			0
Total Operational Needs	100,265	0	0
Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind)	306,365	0	0
Available Ressources			
Net Request	306,365	0	



Malawi: Earthquake



Earthquakes in Malawi

Magnitude

- ◆ < 5
- ◆ 5.0 - 5.3
- ◆ 5.4 - 5.9