DREF operation

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Tanzania: Local Storm

DREF operation n° MDRTZ008

22 January 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 144,171 (USD 137,306 or EUR 88,178) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 600 beneficiaries. Un-earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: During the period towards end of December 2008 to the mid of January 2009, areas of Lake Victoria Basin (Shinyanga, Mara, Mwanza and Kagera regions), South-western highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya and Iringa regions), Western areas (Kigoma and Tabora regions) and Central parts (Dodoma and Singida regions) have experienced normal rains with pockets of heavy rains. Some areas experienced heavy downpours and wind that caused damage to houses and other buildings. The worst affected districts were Rukwa, Shinyanga and Dodoma.

Assessment reports indicated a total of 229 families were affected by flooding, rain and wind damage in the three districts. A total of 65 percent of the affected households need support of relief items and roofing materials to resume to normal livelihood. Immediate needs identified by assessment team include; blankets, roofing materials (iron sheets, timbers and nails), cooking sets, long lasting insecticide treated mosquito nets (LLITNs), water containers and/or buckets, soap bar and water chlorine tablets. The Tanzania Red Cross National Society (TRCNS) has already responded to the most urgent needs in Rukwa and is now requesting support from DREF to respond to affected households in Dodoma and Shinyanga as well as preparing for additional storm events which are forecast by the Meteorological Office.

The operation is expected to be implemented over 4 months, and will therefore be completed by 20 May 2009; a Final Report will be made available by the NS three months after the end of the operation while maintaining regular updates during the period of implementation.

<Click here for the DREF budget or here for contact details>

The situation

On 16 January 2009, some communities in Dodoma region suffered from heavy storms. A total of 87 households (around 605 persons) were the most affected; a total of 52 house roofs were blown off by strong wind, classrooms and teacher's houses were also affected. The most affected village is Chavumba in Handali ward, Chamwino district. Some household's food reserves were damaged; traditionally some food items like maize, sorghum and millet once harvested are kept on wood racks and some on roof tops. The community depends on unprotected shallow wells which were flooded; the only available protected shallow well generates little water. The Tanzanian Government in Dodoma has solicited a total of 15 million Tanzania shillings mainly for the purchase of roofing materials for rehabilitating the affected school to maintain progress of school sessions. Four medical staff have been deployed and one ambulance to respond to some health problems. The affected village have no health facility; the temporary services are being conducted in the two tents provided by Red Cross.

About three weeks ago, in December 2008; a severe wind storm occurred in Rukwa urban district, affecting two suburbs namely Kizwite and Milanzi, the storm which lasted for several hours damaged 28 houses - collapsed and others cracked. In total 270 people (58 households) were affected; some of their household belongings were damaged, 4 people reported injured and admitted to the hospital. The rendered homeless people took refuge in their relatives and neighbour's houses.

Days after similar incidence was reported in Idobashi village in Itwangi ward in rural Shinyanga, where a total of 84 households (about 400 people) were affected, houses damaged including food stocks, a total of 3 people reported injured, 3 cows and 4 goats died, some food stocks damaged. Affected persons were hosted at a village dispensary building.

The Tanzania Meteorological Agency has released review of the short rains and outlook for the month of January 2009. Areas of Lake Victoria Basin (Shinyanga, Mara, Mwanza and Kagera regions), South-western highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya and Iringa regions), Western areas (Kigoma and Tabora regions) and Central parts (Dodoma and Singida regions) are expected to have normal rains with pockets of heavy rains. From previous years experience; many places face floods and/or heavy downpours in a period between Decembers to April months. This trend, together with the forecast from the Meteorological Agency, has triggered the NS to move into a preparedness mode including, building up a contingency stock of relief items, mobilization of volunteers and refresher trainings on First Aid and/or disaster for effective response.

Coordination and partnerships

Tanzania Red Cross National Society headquarters through its branch network is closely working together with the local government and collaborate with other agencies supporting affected community and maintaining contacts and updates with the Federation Eastern Africa Zone office – DM in Nairobi. The affected communities will be involved in the planning process for effective execution of activities. TRCNS will implement this requested DREF support within a period of five months and produce a final report in a one month period after the implementation. During the whole period of implementation, the NS Disaster Department shall provide regular updates to the Federation Eastern Africa Zone office.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The National Society headquarters has so far made available 200 blankets, 200 LLITNs and 100 water buckets to support vulnerable families in Rukwa District. The immediate needs here have now been met

In Dodoma, Red Cross provided two tents which are being utilized as a First Aid post.

Red Cross volunteers and/or members have participated in rapid assessments organized jointly with the respective Tanzanian Government local authorities in Dodoma, Rukwa and Shinyanga.

The NS headquarters is in close contact with the Meteorological Agency for regular updates and information on regards to the trend of rainfall.

The needs

From the assessment reports the worst affected families have lost household items (traditional utensils are easily damaged by heavy storms) and some are sheltering with neighbours and relatives because their houses are not habitable. Immediate needs include blankets, LLITNs, kitchen sets, soap to improve hygiene, chlorine water tabs, water containers and some roofing materials (iron sheets, timbers and nails) to support about 30 most vulnerable families who cannot afford to rehabilitate their damaged houses.

Requested DREF support will also be used to replenish NSs relief stocks and to provide a contingency stock based on the anticipation of floods incidences that are forecast for the period between the months of January and April 2009.

Branches will be supported to mobilize volunteers and conduct refresher trainings essentially on First Aid and disasters.

The proposed operation

Relief distributions (Basic non-food items)

Objective 1: Provide non food items to support the immediate needs of 87 affected households in Dodoma and 84 affected households in Shinyanga.

Activities planned

- Identify target households to receive relief items.
- Distribute relief items including 300 blankets, 200 mosquito nets, 250 water buckets, 600 pieces of laundry soap bars, 1,000 roofing timbers (12ft), 1,000 kgs roofing nails, 300 pieces of iron sheets and 180 sets of cooking utensils.
- Procure and distribute 30,000 water chlorine tablets for household water treatment.
- Distribute relief and shelter items to the targeted families.

Objective 2: Improve the capacity of the NS on disaster awareness creation and timely response to disasters

Activities planned

- Replenish and procure a contingency stock of relief items for 5,000 households, including; 5,000 blankets, 5,000 mosquito nets, 3,000 water buckets, cooking sets 2,000, tents 10 (4 x 5 m) and 100 First Aid kits.
- Volunteer's mobilization and conducting refresher training to 50 volunteers.
- Community awareness raising on disaster risks and mitigation measures, including production and dissemination of 4,000 disaster awareness information, education and communication (IEC) materials.
- Monitoring and evaluation of the operation and supervision of activities.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The TRCNS Disaster Management department will work closely with the branch in the affected areas to ensure proper delivery of humanitarian assistance to the affected families. The National Society will assume the overall monitoring role to ensure accountability, timely and quality response. Update reports will be shared with the Federation-RDN.

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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	DREF OPERATION BUDGET SUMMARY		
	Tanzania : Local Storm	MDRTZ008	
			BUDGET CHF
	RELIEF NEEDS		
500	Shelter (10 tents)		10,000
505	Construction materials (timbers 1,000, nails 1,000 kgs, iron sheets 300 pcs)		9,500
510	Clothing and textiles (5,000 blankets, 5,000 ITNS)		57,500
520	Food		
523	Seeds and plants		
530	Water and sanitation (30,000 water chlorination tabs)		300
540	Medical and First Aid (100 First Aid kits)		4,000
550	Teaching materials (production of IEC materials)		4,000
560	Utensils and tools (cooking sets 1,000)		20,000
570	Other supplies and services		
	Total Relief Needs		**105,300**
	CAPITAL EQUIPMENT		
580	Land and buildings		
581	Vehicles purchase		
582	Computers and telecom equipment		
584	Office and/or household furniture and equipment.		
587	Medical equipment		
589	Other machinery and equipment		
	TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND VEHICLES		
590	Storage - Warehouse		
592	Distribution and monitoring		5,000
593	Transport and vehicles costs		6,000
	PERSONNEL		
600	International staff		
640	Regionally deployed staff		
661	National staff		
662	National Society staff		3,000
670	Consultants		
	WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING		
680	Workshops and training (First Aid/Dp trainings of 50 volunteers)		8,000
	GENERAL EXPENSES		
700	Travel		
710	Information and public relations		
730	Office running costs		5,000
740	Communication costs		2,000
750	Professional fees		
760	Financial charges		500
790	Other general expenses		
	SERVICE FEES		
	Service fees		
	PROGRAMME SUPPORT		
599	Programme support - PSR		9,371

	Total Operational Needs		**38,871**
	DREF ALLOCATION		**144,171**