

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Ghana: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRGH002
GLIDE n° FL-2010-000118-GHA
31 January, 2011

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) 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 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.

Summary: CHF 134,948 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 1 July, 2010 to support Ghana Red Cross Society (GRCS) in delivering assistance to some 5,000 beneficiaries and to replenish disaster preparedness stocks.

The heavy rains of June 2010 in the coastal area of Ghana caused flooding that led to severe human and material damages in the affected communities. More than 7,500 persons were displaced with more than 40 deaths and property including houses worth thousands of US dollars partially or completely damaged. The Ghana Red Cross Society (GRCS) collaborated with other humanitarian agencies and government to immediately assist the people affected. The GRCS used DREF funding from the International Federation to augment additional support from the Swiss Red Cross delegation in Ghana in order to provide food and non-food items to the population most affected by the floods in four regions of Ghana. The National Society also sensitized the population on good hygiene and sanitation practices and also provided tools for some selected beneficiaries—mainly women—to restart their livelihoods. The operation also provided some of the beneficiaries with shelter kits to reconstruct or rehabilitate their houses.



The Red Cross assistance responded to the immediate needs of the most affected population in Ghana. **GRCS**

The assistance of the Red Cross contributed to the capacity of the beneficiaries to restart their lives and also contributed to the prevention of outbreak of epidemics such as cholera in the affected communities. The GRCS used the opportunity provided by the operation to strengthen its capacity in disaster response and also strengthen its partnerships with other agencies especially UNICEF in Ghana.

The operation was delayed at the initial stage as a result of the complex administrative procedures in accessing the Federation regional stocks in Accra. However, with the exemption of tax granted to the Red Cross by the Government of Ghana, the issue was resolved. The initial plan by the government to relocate some of the affected persons from their riverside homes also delayed the commencement of the distribution of shelter kits to target beneficiaries. However, this was eventually carried out after the National Society was granted an extension of one month of the operation timeframe at no cost by the Federation. The GRCS also used the extension period to replenish its contingency stock in Accra.

The GRCS and IFRC would like to thank the donors and partners of the DREF who generously replenished the grant. These donors include the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office (DG

ECHO), Netherlands Silent Emergency Fund and Canadian Government through the Canadian Red Cross. The major donors to the DREF are the Irish, Italian, Netherlands and Norwegian governments and ECHO. Details of all donors can be found on <http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp>

<click here for the final financial report, or here to view contact details>

The situation

The heavy rains recorded in Ghana in June 2010 caused severe flooding, especially for many communities in the south. The floods caused varying degrees of destruction leading to the displacement of thousands of people including children while property like houses, bridges and shops were washed away. Among the most affected areas was Ashaiman in the Greater Accra Region where 11 persons died. Residents living close to the river that runs through the town were particularly affected. In Agona Kwanyako in the Central Region 10 deaths were reported, and hundreds of persons were rendered homeless. In the same region, the floods affected nine communities with many houses submerged as the Ayensu River burst its banks. In all, 1,300 people were displaced by the floods in Gomoa East District. Swedru Township was also divided into two halves following the collapse of the two main bridges. Agona Nyakrom was completely cut off from the rest of the country following the collapse of a bridge linking the town to the rest of Ghana. Government agencies and humanitarian actors including the Ghana Red Cross Society intervened to assist the affected population with evacuation, first aid, psychological support and provision of immediate basic food and non-food relief items.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Ghana Red Cross Society, drawing on prepositioned contingency stocks and additional support from the Swiss Red Cross and UNICEF, provided initial relief assistance made up of food and non-food items to people affected by floods in Swedru, Gomoa East and Agona East Districts in the Central Region. The items distributed included rice, plastic buckets, mats, soap and vegetable oil. A total of 2,300 families in 17 communities benefited from the GRCS intervention.

With the DREF allocation from the International Federation, the National Society filled apparent gaps by procuring and delivering additional relief items to 937 families in the Greater Accra, Volta and Eastern Regions. The Red Cross also supported 32 women who sell fish to regain their livelihoods by providing them with 12 fish ovens, and 350 units of smoking wire meshes. The beneficiaries were the most vulnerable among the 100 fishmongers identified during the assessment. However, the operation could not support all of them because the activity was not included in the initial plan. The Red Cross also supported 300 most affected families with shelter kits and construction techniques for them to rebuild their houses. The Red Cross through its volunteers and in collaboration with an organization named Zoomlion carried out sensitization activities on good hygiene and sanitation practices in the target communities. The volunteers had earlier been trained on how to intervene during an emergency operation. The training focused on topics such as code of conduct, emergency assessment, relief management (distribution) fundamental principles and basic values, selection of target beneficiaries and standard operating procedures.

The Ghana Ministry of Interior granted tax exemption to the GRCS on the non-food items availed by the IFRC to the National Society from its regional stock in the UNHRD warehouse in Accra, Ghana. The National Society also participated in all coordination meetings in the affected regions and was able to strengthen its partnership with UNICEF as the latter donated 2,050 plastic basins (10 litres capacity), 114 boxes of family hygiene kits, 210 pieces of blankets and eight squatting mobile toilets to the Red Cross to assist the affected population. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) also showed interest in partnering with the GRCS in livelihoods interventions and other areas in the future.

The West Coast Regional Representation of the International Federation deployed a Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) member who assisted the GRCS in the operation especially in the life saving activities and the fostering of relationships with other stakeholders in disaster response by liaising with them, sharing information and helping the National Society with standard methodologies for response as part of capacity building.

Achievements toward intended outcomes

Relief distribution (food and basic non-food items)

Outcome: About 1,000 most affected households have received specific quantity of and quality non-food items based on the assessment and selection criteria from Red Cross.

Activities

- Procure and distribute non-food items at target distribution points;
- Mobilize and train 50 Red Cross volunteers on registration and distribution strategies of the Red Cross;
- Conduct a rapid emergency needs assessment in the target communities;
- Procure and distribute backyard gardening tools (hoes, cutlasses, boots, racks) and seeds to 300 target households;
- Control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user;
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide report on distribution of relief items;
- Develop an exit strategy.

Achievements: The non-food and food items distributed to the beneficiaries were considered appropriate as the items responded to their immediate needs after the disaster. The assistance was also considered effective in helping affected households in restarting their lives immediately once the flood water receded. The table below shows items distributed, including the 937 households reached through DREF funding.

The enhanced knowledge of the 110 selected Red Cross volunteers through training on relief operation ensured effective and well-coordinated activities during the identification and registration of target beneficiaries and maintained order during the distribution phase of the operation in the four target regions.

Table of all food and non-food items distributed by Red Cross during the operation

Localities		Distributed Items										
Region	Affected areas	Number of households	Sleeping mats 2	Mosquito nets	Blankets	Soap (bars)	Rice (Bags)	Oil	Water Jerry cans	Buckets	Tarpaulins	used cloths
Greater Accra	Tema Metro	310	400	400	400	450			310		310	2 bales
	Ashaiman	255	300	300	300	360			250		250	2 bales
	Agona Swedru	1257	1,257	-		1,257	314.25	1257		1257		-
Central	Agona Nyakrom	600	600			600	150.25	600	-	600		
	Gomoa East	498	498			498	124.5	498		498		
Volta	Ketu South	264	820	850	500	750			230		270	4 bales
Eastern	Kwawu South	74	200	200	200	300			100		50	1 bale
	Fantiakwa	34	150	150	150	100			90		20	1 bale
Total		3,290	4,225	1,900	1,550	4,315	589	2,355	980	2,355	900	10 bales

In addition to the relief distribution, the first aid provided to some 785 persons at the start of the floods prevented their health condition from worsening as some of them were referred to health centres for further treatment.

The replenishment of the National Society's prepositioned stock of 15 first-aid kits was useful as these kits were deployed in other regions of the country especially the northern regions during the flood disaster that followed during the months of August and October 2010.

Challenges: Despite the pre-positioning of some relief materials in Ghana from the IFRC regional contingency stock, the process of dispatching these materials was difficult due to heavy administrative procedures. Although water receded within few days after the floods, additional downpour that followed thereafter made the whole operation difficult to access some affected areas which increased the logistics needs and number of beneficiaries, thus making it difficult to respond appropriately as planned.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The risks of waterborne diseases are reduced through hygiene promotion, health education and provision of drinking water in target communities in the affected three regions for three months.

Activities

- Procure and distribute 7,500 water purification tablets and 1,000 pieces of water jerry cans to the 1,000 most affected households in the three regions;
- Procure and distribute 4,000 bars of soap, kitchen sets and 2,000 mosquito nets to the 1,000 most affected households in the three regions;
- Mobilize and train 50 Red Cross volunteers on good hygiene, water purification method and health promotion;
- Sensitize the target communities on water purification, good hygiene and health practices;
- Provide first-aid services in the affected areas.

Achievements: The first-aid education/clean-up campaign exercise contributed to the curb in outbreak of diseases such as cholera in Ashiaman and Tema. The first-aid training in the affected communities also contributed to preventing and reducing injuries. The distribution of jerry cans, water purification tablets, buckets, soap, Dettol and the educational sessions conducted have been contributing to improving sanitation and hygiene in the affected communities. The activities of the volunteers in the provision of tarpaulins for those who have damp rooms have reduced the risk of pneumonia and Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI). The bed nets distributed and the support of volunteers in ensuring hang-up have also been contributing to the reduction in the risk of malaria.

Challenges: At first volunteers were not familiar with sensitization activities, but were able to use the experience provided by the operation to improve their knowledge and skills in combining sensitization with relief distribution.

Emergency shelter

Outcome: To provide the 300 most vulnerable households in the affected communities with emergency shelter.

Activities

- Procure and distribute 7,500 water purification tablets and 1,000 pieces of water jerry cans to the 1,000 most affected households in the three regions;
- Procure and distribute 4,000 bars of soap, kitchen sets and 2,000 mosquito nets to the 1,000 most affected households in the three regions;
- Mobilize and train 50 Red Cross volunteers on good hygiene, water purification method and health promotion;
- Sensitize the target communities on water purification, good hygiene and health practices;
- Provide first-aid services in the affected areas.

Support beneficiaries in emergency shelter reconstruction in the affected communities.

Achievements: GRCS sensitized the affected communities on the need to pull down partially destroyed structures that posed a threat, and to repair those still useful after the flood water receded. GRCS also collaborated with the government through NADMO¹ in clearing debris in affected communities. The distribution of 900 tarpaulins and provision of 300 shelter kits to families whose houses were most affected by the disaster contributed significantly to the beneficiaries' reconstruction of their houses and resumption of their livelihoods. In Swedru, the number of displaced persons sheltered in temporary camps reduced to 150 from over 1,000 as at end of October because most of them who benefited from the shelter kits have returned to their reconstructed houses. This has also contributed to the reduction in the number of those in need of immediate assistance. The assistance rendered to beneficiaries in the form of reconstruction techniques, coupled with the technical support from the Town and Urban Planning Department also contributed to the early reconstruction of houses, with added resistance to future destruction by floods.

¹ The National Disaster Management Organisation

Table of shelter kit distribution

Region	District	Community	N° of beneficiary households
Central	Agona West	Swedru	122
		Nyakrom	88
Greater Accra	Accra	Ashaiman	45
		Abinko	30
		Manheam	15
Total			300

Challenges: The action of the government to put on hold the planned relocation of some affected families delayed the distribution of the complete shelter kits to support reconstruction.

Communications – Advocacy and Public information

The intervention of the GRCS with support from the West Coast Regional Representation demonstrated the added value of the Red Cross activities to the public. The National Society, with technical support from the International Federation regional representation ensured adequate and effective coverage of the Red Cross intervention. The International Federation supported the GRCS in enhancing the visibility of the Red Cross in Ghana and outside as well as strengthening the capacity of the National Society in information sharing and dissemination during the emergency operation.

How we work

All IFRC 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 the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In Ghana:** Kofi Addo, Secretary General, Ghana Red Cross Society; phone: +233 243071964; email: redcrossghana@yahoo.co.uk
- **In Nigeria:** Jerry Niati, Manager, Disaster Management, West Coast Regional Representation; phone: +234 7034142708; email: niati.jerry@ifrc.org
- **In South Africa:** Dr Asha Mohammed, Head of Operations, email: asha.mohammed@ifrc.org, phone: +27 11 303 9700, fax: + 27 11 884 3809; +27 11 884 0230
- **In Geneva:** Christine South, Operations Coordinator for West Africa, phone: +41.22.730.45.29, email: christine.south@ifrc.org

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

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRGH002 - Ghana - Floods

Final Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/6-2010/12
Budget Timeframe	2010/6-2010/9
Appeal	MDRGH002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	134,948					134,948
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	134,948					134,948
C6. Other Income	134,948					134,948
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	134,948					134,948
D. Total Funding = B + C	134,948					134,948
Appeal Coverage	100%					100%

II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	134,948					134,948
E. Expenditure	-126,117					-126,117
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	8,831					8,831

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRGRH002 - Ghana - Floods

Final Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/6-2010/12
Budget Timeframe	2010/6-2010/9
Appeal	MDRGRH002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		134,948					134,948	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	19,295	26,057				26,057	-6,762	
Clothing & textiles	32,929	29,163				29,163	3,766	
Seeds,Plants	11,550	10,337				10,337	1,213	
Water & Sanitation	38						38	
Medical & First Aid	9,009	4,525				4,525	4,484	
Utensils & Tools	12,320	10,079				10,079	2,241	
Other Supplies & Services	3,080	1,459				1,459	1,621	
Total Supplies	88,221	81,619				81,619	6,602	
Transport & Storage								
Storage		357				357	-357	
Distribution & Monitoring	10,010	2,122				2,122	7,888	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	2,772	6,005				6,005	-3,233	
Total Transport & Storage	12,782	8,484				8,484	4,298	
Personnel								
Regionally Deployed Staff	6,486						6,486	
National Society Staff	8,794	12,294				12,294	-3,500	
Total Personnel	15,280	12,294				12,294	2,986	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	385						385	
Total Workshops & Training	385						385	
General Expenditure								
Travel	1,155	2,451				2,451	-1,296	
Information & Public Relation	1,925						1,925	
Office Costs		263				263	-263	
Communications	2,464	1,582				1,582	882	
Financial Charges		7,114				7,114	-7,114	
Other General Expenses	4,500	3,272				3,272	1,228	
Total General Expenditure	10,044	14,682				14,682	-4,638	
Programme & Service Support								
Programme & Service Support	8,236	7,697				7,697	539	
Total Programme & Service Support	8,236	7,697				7,697	539	
Services								
Services & Recoveries		1,341				1,341	-1,341	
Total Services		1,341				1,341	-1,341	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	134,948	126,117				126,117	8,831	
VARIANCE (C - D)		8,831				8,831		

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRGH002 - Ghana - Floods

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/6-2010/12
Budget Timeframe	2010/6-2010/9
Appeal	MDRGH002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

IV. Project Details

Project	Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Budget	Variance
		A	B	C	A + B + C	D	D - C
Goal 1: Disaster Management							
PGH015	Ghana - Floods 2010	0	134,948	-126,117	8,831	134,948	8,831
Sub-Total Goal 1: Disaster Management		0	134,948	-126,117	8,831	134,948	8,831
Total	Ghana - Floods	0	134,948	-126,117	8,831	134,948	8,831