

DREF operation update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Guinea Conakry: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRGN003
GLIDE n° FL-2010-000119-GIN
Update n° 1
21 January, 2011

TIMEFRAME EXTENSION

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 and Red Crescent emergency response. 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.

Period covered by this update:

20 December, 2010 to 7 January 2011.

Summary CHF 174,302 (USD 171,861 or EUR 133,381) has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support Guinea Conakry Red Cross Society in delivering immediate assistance to 1,000 families mostly affected by floods.

From 15 to 18 September, 2010 the population of Mamou, Dounet, Labe, Norassoba, Kouremale, Nounkounkan and Lola were affected by floods following heavy torrential rains. This has been at a time the country was undergoing unstable political environment, which has diverted attention of many stakeholders including the local authorities from responding to the flood disaster. The floods have led to one death and confirmed 6 injured, 15 cases of diarrhoea detected and 127 malaria patients identified during the assessment carried out by Red Cross Society of Guinea (RCSG). A total of 361 water source points and 149 latrines were flooded during the runoff of rain waters. The destruction of houses, household material and the displacement of families has increased vulnerability of the affected population.



The Guinean Red Cross Society volunteers distributed relief materials to beneficiaries/RCSG

This operation was expected to be implemented over three months, and completed by January 2011. The health and sanitation activities were delayed because of the prevailing urgent needs during post elections political violence. The RCSG disaster management department supported by the IFRC Regional Representation has finalized the revised plan of action for the implementation of the outstanding activities. The branches, relevant authorities and the target communities have been sensitized on the upcoming activities in response to the floods and health issues. To accommodate the implementation of the plan of action, the operational timeframe is hereby extended for three months to 30 April 2011. A Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation, by July 2011.

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 to view contact details>

The situation

The torrential rain in Guinea Conakry that intensified on 14 September 2010 led to flooding mainly in the localities of Mamou, Dounet, Labe, Norassoba, Kouremale, Nounkounkan and Lola. The Red Cross Society of Guinea (RCSG) immediately conducted a joint assessment with other partners to ascertain the number of communities and families affected by floods. The regional disaster response team (RDRT) member already deployed to support the local Red Cross structures strengthened capacities in preparedness for the presidential election, and managed to help with compiling information on the flood situation. As of 26 September 2010 it was reported that 4,949 families were affected (40,405 people) by the floods, out of which children under five years and pregnant women constituted 19 per cent.

The affected population are very vulnerable whilst the damage caused by floods has been devastating particularly to the livelihoods at household level. The most damaged have been the water sources and latrines, thus posing a risk of water-borne diseases. There were a proliferation of mosquitoes due to stagnated flood waters and other vectors. In this regards, the National Society has planned to support affected people with the provision of transitional shelter, non-food items (NFI), water and sanitation services, and the organization of hygiene sensitization and integrated health education activities.

Coordination and partnerships

The coordination meetings were led by UNOCHA; the Red Cross Society of Guinea attended and provided information from the field through its local committees and joint assessment. The National Society in partnership with SENAH (the Central Government Department responsible for Disaster Management), UNOCHA, FAO, WFP and UNFPA conducted a joint assessment mission from 15 to 18 September, 2010 in the affected localities to assess the affected population and the consequences of the floods and identify the immediate humanitarian needs. Although coordination meetings were attended by relevant partners, there has been no support mechanism established for the flood disaster due to other priorities related to the unstable political situation due to post election disturbances.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)	
Outcome: To contribute to the reduction of the vulnerability of 1,000 families through the provision of relief materials.	
Outputs:	Activities planned:
Relief items are procured and distributed to 1,000 families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure, transport, warehouse and distribute 2,000 blankets; 2,000 sleeping mats for 1,000 families; • Procure and utilize boots, bibs, rain coats for 50 volunteers covering all flood affected localities; • Conduct integrated refreshment training for 50 volunteers on relief distribution, health and care, water and sanitation.

Progress:

With the support of the IFRC, the National Society distributed relief item reaching 1,000 affected families (74 families in Mamou, 157 in Lola, 280 in Kankan, 489 in Siguiri). Prior to the distribution activities and to facilitate its implementation, refresher training on relief distribution was held for the Red Cross volunteers.

The following table is showing the items distributed in the two communities:

Relief Items	Jerry cans	Blankets	Sleeping mats	Mosquito nets	Tarpaulins	Shelter kits	Buckets	Aqua tabs	Soap
Quantities	700	1,400	1,400	1,400	750	750	700	4,500	7,950

Challenges: Although the DREF was released in October 2010, the distribution activities only took place in late December 2010 because of the deterioration of the political and security situation in Guinea.

Emergency health

Outcome 1: To contribute to the prevention of diarrheal and other communicable diseases among 1,000 most vulnerable families in the affected localities.

Outputs	Activities planned
The risks of diarrheal and other communicable diseases are reduced for the most affected communities and the health status of the community is improved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with trained volunteers on health preventive measures on diarrheal and other communicable diseases; • Provide information, education and communication (IEC) materials for health, water, sanitation and risk reduction sensitization activities.

Outcome 2: To reduce the morbidity and mortality attributable to malaria among 1,000 flood displaced families.

Outputs	Activities planned
1,000 displaced families by floods are reached by volunteers disseminating messages regarding malaria and distribution of Long Lasting Insecticide Treated Nets (LLIN), usage, and correct hanging.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure and distribute 2,000 mosquito nets for 1,000 flood displaced families; • Disseminate key messages on LLIN use and malaria (targeting pregnant women and caretakers for children under five years); • Procure nail and strings for mosquito nets hang-up campaign for 1,000 affected families.

Challenges: These activities were delayed as a result of the change in focus has the National Society priorities addressing urgent humanitarian needs during the post elections violence that affected most parts of the country. Following the announcement of the provisional presidential election results, violent clashes took place in Conakry, the capital, as well as in some other regions. At least six people were reported dead. The RCSG immediately responded by deploying 203 volunteers (136 in Conakry and 67 in Dalaba, Pita, Labé and Gueckédou) to assist 286 persons. The Red Cross volunteers evacuated 198 serious cases (including 73 gunshot wound) to hospitals. They also provided First Aid services to 82 patients with minor injuries. Detailed consultation and planning with communities and local authorities were carried out. Sensitization on the health objectives and activities has been completed and the timeframe extension will allow for additional time to complete the remaining activities.

Shelter

Outcome: To contribute in the improvement of vulnerabilities of 750 flood displaced families through the provision of shelter materials.	
Outputs	Activities planned
Shelter materials are procured and distributed to 750 displaced families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure and distribute 750 tarpaulins and 750 shelter tool kits for 750 flood displaced families; • Build capacities of volunteers on improved shelter constructions; • Sensitize beneficiaries with flood resistant buildings as guide for affected families.

Progress:

Shelter materials were among the priority needs of the affected population. In this regards a total of 750 shelter kits were distributed. The activity was integrated in the distribution of the other non food items.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: To contribute to the improvement of access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation facilities for 1,000 most vulnerable affected families.	
Outputs	Activities planned
1,000 families affected by floods have access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure and distribute 45,000 purification tablets for 1,000 affected families for a period of two months; • Procure and distribute 1,000 buckets and 1,000 jerry cans for 1,000 affected families; • Procure and distribute 9,000 bars of soap for 1,000 flooded families; • Procure detergents and disinfect flooded latrines and wells; • Construct 50 severely damaged family latrines for the most vulnerable families that have no access to proper latrines due to damage; • Procure and distribute 1,000 hygiene kits for 1,000 affected families; • Conduct hygiene promotion for flood affected families.

Challenges: In response to the needs for clean water and access to standard sanitation, RCSG has planned to construct 50 completely damaged family latrines, provide water purification tablets and carry out disinfection of latrines and hygiene promotion at individual and collective levels. Delays caused by post election violence as explained under the emergency health objective above have also affected the implementation of water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion planned activities. The RCSG Headquarters and the Branches have started the construction and disinfection of latrines while communities have been informed of the project objectives and are mobilized to participate in the remaining activities to be finalized in the coming months. The operational timeframe has been extended for three months to allow the implementation of the water, sanitation and hygiene promotion activities.

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

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