

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Mauritania: Floods

DREF operation n°MDRMR003
FL-2010-000176-MRT
8 September, 2010

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.

CHF 157,253 (USD 149,055 or EUR 114,784) has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC) in delivering immediate assistance to some 1,000 families. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.



A community under flood

Summary: The 72 hours torrential rain dating from 19 to 21 August 2010 led to the flooding of 8 regions affecting 38 communities. However, the National Society was able to conduct a rapid assessment in Aleg, Magta Lahjar, and Kaedi. The other 5 flooded regions could not be reached due to the inaccessibility of 37 damaged dykes. In the areas assessed by the Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC), a number of 1,750 affected families (8,750 people) were registered. The collapse of houses has led to the displacement of over 1,000 families, out of which 310 are currently hosted in two schools. The assessment also revealed that 1,076 houses are completely destroyed and 20 additional commercial shops flooded. Due to the adverse effects of the flooding, Water and Sanitation, Emergency Health and provision of Non-food Items (NFI) are part of the National Society planned response.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by December 2010; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation by March 2011.

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

The situation

The African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) regional forecasts predicted an increase in rainfall over some countries in West Africa. The forecast indicated that the highest rainfall is expected over Senegal, southern west part of Mauritania, the Gambia, Guinea Bissau and northern part of Guinea Conakry. The continuous torrential rain for 72 hours in three Mauritanian regions affected 1,750 families (8,750 people). Many water points and latrines are flooded making access to potable water and sanitation difficult. The assessment results indicated that there are some risks of water born diseases and Malaria incidences because of the stagnation of water. In addition to the totally collapsed houses, 1,049 partially collapsed. The collapse of houses has led to the displacement of over 1,000 families of which 310

are currently hosted in two schools managed and supported by three Red Crescent volunteers. The remaining displaced families are either hosted by neighbors or relatives. It was difficult to access communities for assessment because of the total destruction of 37 dykes in the other 5 regions. The destruction of dykes also added the overflow of water and flooding residences making transportation difficult. It also led to high number of flooded farmlands. However the number of affected hectares is not yet known in Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC). During the assessment, needs were identified. They include hygiene and sanitation, rehabilitation and reconstruction of totally destroyed family latrines, emergency health, shelter, emptying and cleaning of wells, provision of nets, and the supply of empty bags to help families protect their homes.

Coordination and partnerships

As soon as the reports related to torrential rains and floods in three regions were made, the Government and other partners including the National Society conducted an assessment that was challenging to carry out due to the difficult accessibility and availability of transportation. The Government has distributed 310 tents to the displaced families hosted in schools. To timely support them, it has also provided food to address their immediate food needs. The flood assessment report prepared by the Mauritanian Red Crescent was shared with stakeholders including the UN system. The other information collected by the government was also received by the National Society.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The National Society conducted a joint assessment with the Government and the French Red Cross. With support from the French Red Cross, two vehicles have been provided to volunteers managing the displaced families hosted in schools.

The needs

Following the rapid assessment carried out, the report highlighted the under mentioned needs as priorities:

- **Water and Sanitation:** many wells and latrines have been flooded due to the runoff waters making access to clean water and latrines difficult. In this regard, the National Society will embark in draining wells and treatment, flushing, filling in pot holes, conducting general cleaning exercises, hygiene promotion, rehabilitation and reconstruction of damaged family latrines and disinfection. The Mauritanian Red Crescent indicated that what is needed in the hygiene kit is only bleach and grezyl for disinfecting wells and latrines respectively; MRC has soaps to support 1,000 families.
- **Health and Care:** due to the huge amount of flooded water and the stagnation of flood waters in pot holes, Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC) has planned to contribute to the reduction of Malaria effects and other water borne diseases. Therefore through its volunteers, MCR will embark on provision of Mosquito Nets and sensitization activities on communicable diseases.
- **Basic Non-food Items:** because of the high number of displaced families, Mauritanian Red Crescent intends to provide NFI such as blankets, mats, buckets, jerry cans, and tarpaulins. The tarpaulins will be provided to the most vulnerable displaced families in the region of Magta Lahzar. Traditionally, the Mauritians are not familiar in utilizing mats usually distributed by the Red Cross but rather use the double size (4m x 2m) sleeping mats which will be purchased locally. Additionally, to facilitate the operations of volunteers to support affected communities, materials such as bibs, caps, boots, wheelbarrows, rakes, gloves, masks, shovels, and other equipment will be provided to ease in the implementation of planned activities.
- **Coordination:** Within the Red Cross Movement and along with the local and central government authorities and other actors, coordination meetings will be routinely conducted to ensure complementary efforts in supporting flood victims and ensure timely reporting.

The proposed operation

Relief distributions (basic non-food items)	
Outcome: To contribute to the reduction of the vulnerability of 1,000 family flood victims with the provision of relief materials.	
Expected results:	Activities planned:
Relief items are procured and distributed to 1,000 families affected by the floods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement and distribution of 1,000 blankets and 1,000 sleeping mats for 1,000 families

	<p>affected by the floods;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement and utilization of boots, gloves, masks, wheelbarrows, rakes, shovels, and rain coats respectively for 50 volunteers covering the three flood affected regions; • Transport and warehousing of all procured materials to the nearest point for distribution; • Conduct refreshment training for 15 volunteers on relief.
Outcome: To contribute to the reduction of the vulnerability of 350 displaced families located in Magta Lahjar who are the most current vulnerable families.	
Expected Results	Activities planned:
Relief items are procured and distributed to 350 displaced families and are hosted by neighbours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement and distribution of 350 tarpaulins for 310 displaced families hosted by neighbours.

Emergency health

Outcome 1: To contribute to the prevention of communicable disease outbreaks among 1,000 of the most vulnerable families.	
Expected results	Activities planned:
The risks of communicable diseases outbreaks are reduced for 1,000 families and the health status of the community is maintained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct training for 20 volunteers focusing on preventive measures on communicable diseases; • Conduct health sensitization activities in the communities affected by the floods; • Provide Information, Education and Communication (IEC) material for the health sensitization activities.
Outcome 2: To reduce morbidity and mortality attributable to malaria.	
Expected results	Activities planned:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 95% of the 1,000 families receive 2 Long Lasting Insecticide Treated Nets (LLINs); • Families are reached as well with key messages regarding malaria; • LLINs are suspended correctly and are being used by the most vulnerable members of families. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement of 2,000 mosquito nets for 1,000 families affected by the floods; • Disseminate key messages concerning LLIN use and malaria (pregnant women and children under 5 being prioritized for LLIN use); • Procurement and distribution of nail and strings for mosquito nets hang-up campaign for 1,000 families affected by floods; • Conduct hang-up campaign.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: To contribute to the improvement of access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation facilities for 1,000 families affected by the floods.	
Outputs (expected results):	Activities planned:
All 1,000 families affected by the floods in Aleg, Magta Lahjar, and Kaedi regions have access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure 45,000 purification tablets for 1,000 families affected by the floods for a period of three months; • Procure and distribute 1,000 buckets and 1,000 jerry cans for 1,000 families affected by floods; • Construct 100 family latrines for the most vulnerable families affected by the floods and that have no access to proper latrines due to damage; • Procure and distribute 1,000 hygiene kits (bleaches and disinfections) for 1,000 families affected by the floods; • Conduct refreshment training for 15 volunteers in household water treatment and hygiene promotion;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct hygiene promotion for 1,000 families affected by floods.
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Communications/IT/Reporting and monitoring

Outcome: To contribute to the improvement of the capacity of the National Society to engage in social mobilization to reach families affected by the floods and to ensure timely reporting and monitoring of the activities.	
Expected results	Activities planned
Communications materials are developed to reach flooded victims, and vulnerable populations at risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen media corporation at national level
Populations at risk are sensitized on flood detection, evacuation and risks reduction associated with floods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC) social mobilization capacities; • Reinforce MRC to sensitize the affected populations.
Timely and accurate reports are prepared and shared	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share information with all partners and prepare timely reports; • The National Society to report on the activities carried out.

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:

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

BUDGET SUMMARY

CHF

RELIEF NEEDS

Shelter	4,561
Construction Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	51,806
Food	
Seeds & Plants	
Water & Sanitation	39,710
Medical & First Aid	
Teaching Materials	0
Utensils & Tools	11,429
Other Supplies & Services	6,000

Total Relief Needs **113,506**

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT

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

TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES

Storage - Warehouse	
Distribution & Monitoring	1,750
Transport & Vehicles Costs	5,000

PERSONNEL

International Staff	
Regionally Deployed Staff	15,200
National Staff	1,500
National Society Staff	4,800
Consultants	

WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

Workshops & Training	2,800
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GENERAL EXPENSES

Travel	
Information & Public Relations	750
Office running costs	350
Communication Costs	500
Professional Fees	
Financial Charges	
Other General Expenses	1,500

SERVICE FEES

Service Fees

PROGRAMME SUPPORT

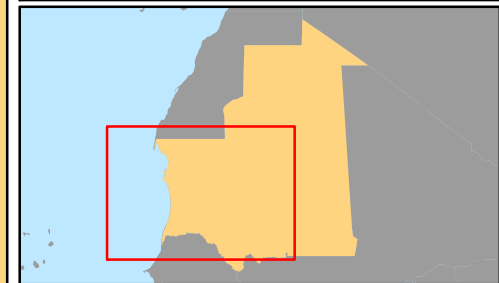
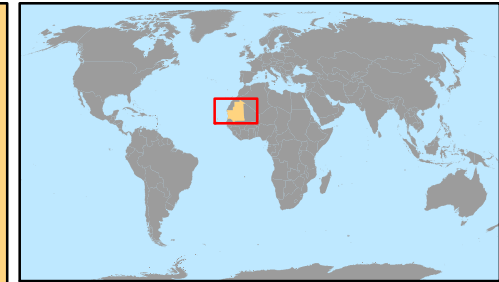
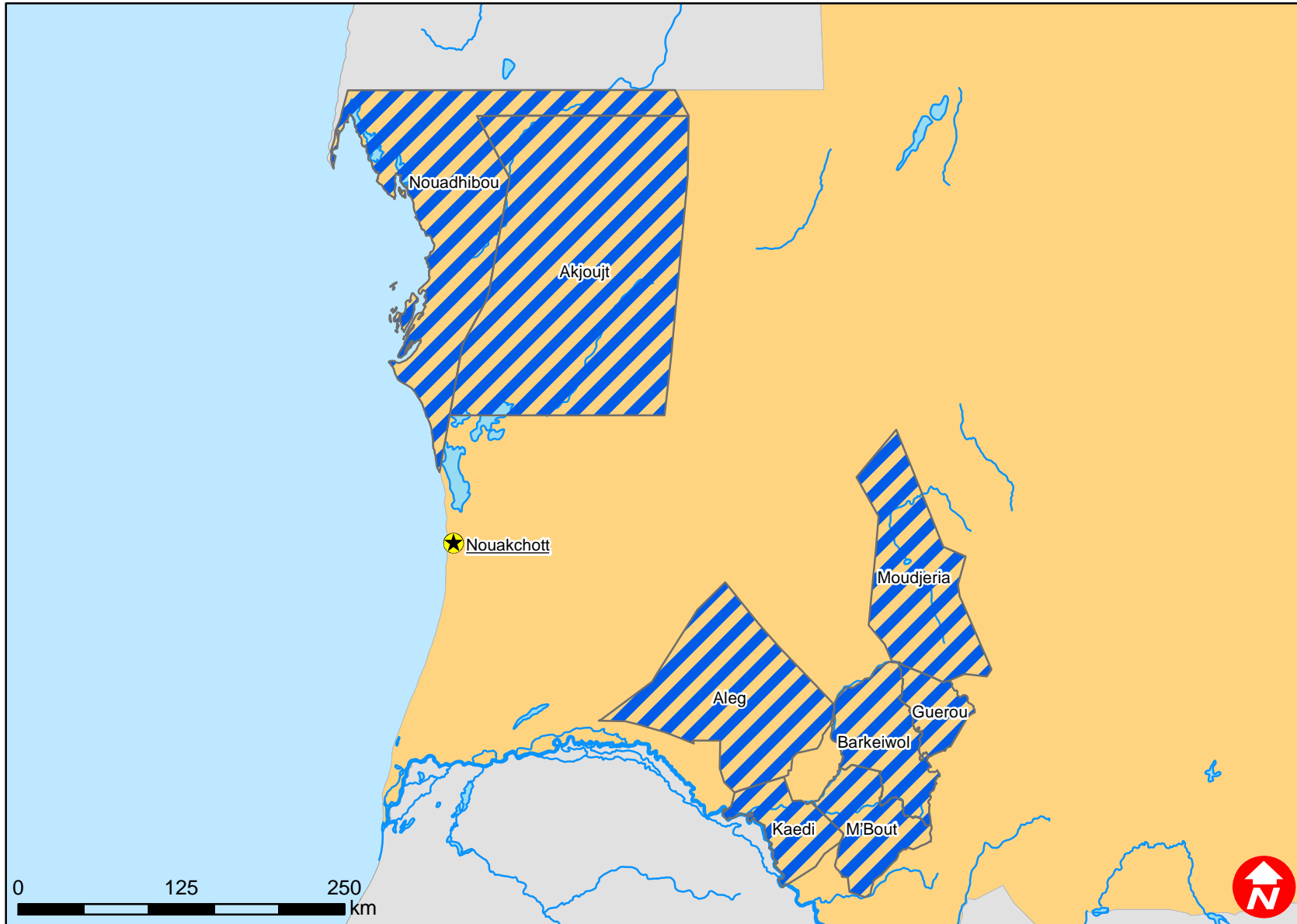
Programme Support - PSR	9,598
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Total Operational Needs **43,748**

DREF ALLOCATION **157,253**



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 Affected districts

The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.