

DREF operation update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Senegal: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRSN003
GLIDE n° FL-2010-000164-SEN
Update n° 1
27 December, 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.

Period covered by this update: 23
August to 23 October 2010.

Summary: CHF 180,396 (USD 170,991 or EUR 131,676) was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 23 August, 2010 to support Senegalese Red Cross Society (SRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to 1,500 families affected by floods in Kolda.

On 12 August 2010, the southern regions of Senegal experienced torrential rains. Approximately 22,116 people have been affected by the floods in Kolda. Additional rains caused flash floods and increased water levels in some rivers increasing the vulnerability of the community. The main regional hospital in Kolda serving the populations in the south eastern Senegal was severely damaged as a result of the collapse of the walls that protected the hospital from flooding. The entire maternity ward, outpatient and emergency rooms were completely flooded causing damages to the infrastructures. With the assistance of SRCS volunteers, the fire and ambulance services and other community members, the patients were immediately provided with First Aid services and others evacuated to nearby houses, to other health centres and the provincial hospital in Ziguinchor.



The Senegalese Red Cross volunteers, providing support in draining waters. Photo SRCS

The SRCS planned response activities consists of providing relief to 1,500 families (7,500 people) for a period of three months (August to November 2010). A final report will be prepared three months after the end of the operations (in February 2011).

The Canadian government (CIDA) contributed CHF 24,493 to the DREF in replenishment of the allocation made for this operation. 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>

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The situation

Incessant rains that started on 12 August caused devastating floods mainly in the community of Kolda and many others in the southern part of Senegal. With the increased rains, the number of affected populations prior to the conclusion of the assessment stood at 22,116 people affected and 428 families displaced. Nine people were reported injured and one severe case transferred to Ziguinchor hospital for treatment. Two people died from the floods.

About 428 displaced families whose houses were destroyed were evacuated by the Kolda Fire Service Department and the Red Cross volunteers. Local authorities together with volunteers and staff from the hospital conducted sanitation exercises to ensure minimal services of the hospital to address pressing medical needs of patients and floods victims. In coordination with the disaster committee, the Red Cross volunteers actively conducted a rapid assessment of the situation to determine the conclusive figures for affected families.

Coordination and partnerships

At local level, a coordinating committee was set-up and regular coordination meetings were held. The Red Cross supported by the IFRC Sahel regional representation and Dakar based regional disaster response team (RDRT) members, actively participated in the coordination meetings. The government authorities at regional level appointed the Red Cross to spearhead the flood management and coordination in respect and appreciation of the National Society experience in disaster response.

The SRCS close collaboration with Kolda's communities and leaders resulted in a effective social mobilization. Local authorities as well as women and youth organizations fully contributed to the floods management by facilitating the registration of the affected people and the distribution of non food items (NFIs). The distribution was supervised by the Prefect in collaboration with the assistant mayor, the social action department chief and the associations of Handicapped people and people living with HIV. In addition, SRCS collaborated with the ICRC and the Spanish Red Cross to ensure a collective Movement response to the situation. The National Society also held a bilateral meeting with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to discuss the situation on the ground.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards outcomes

As the disaster situation intensified, the IFRC Sahel regional representation logistics department dispatched life saving relief items to address the needs of 750 families initially (supported from the regional stock to be replaced). With the support of the DREF, SRCS has managed to assist 1,500 families. The Red Cross volunteers conducted detailed assessments whilst a technical team composed of health, water and sanitation, IT and relief/organizational development practitioners carried out another assessment.

| Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items) | |
|---|--|
| Outcome: To contribute to the reduction of the vulnerability to floods of 1,500 families with the provision of relief materials and contribute to the improvement of shelter for the 428 displaced families. | |
| Expected results | Activities planned |
| Relief items are procured and distributed to 1,500 flood affected families. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement and distribution of 3,000 blankets and 3,000 sleeping mats for 1,500 flood affected families; • Procurement and distribution of 428 tarpaulins and 428 shelter tool kits for 428 displaced families; • Procurement of 50 boots, gloves, masks, and rain coats respectively for 70 volunteers; • Procurement and utilization of 10 megaphones and 10 sets of batteries by volunteers during the implementation phase; • Transport and warehousing of all procured materials to the nearest point for distribution; • Refreshment training for 20 volunteers on relief. |

Progress: The NFIs distributed to the affected families have increased their chance to survive the emergency period and helped reduce their vulnerability. This result has been achieved due to the combined

efforts of Red Cross volunteers, local authorities, women and youth associations. The prefect of Kolda region, the assistant mayor and the head of the social action department contributed to supervising the distribution operation. The following table summarizes the quantities and types of relief items distributed:

| Items | Long Lasting Insecticide Treated Nets | Blankets | Jerry cans | Buckets | Bars of Soap (1kg) | Shelter Tools kits | Sleeping mats | Tarpaulins |
|------------|---------------------------------------|----------|------------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|------------|
| Quantities | 1,500 | 1,500 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 428 | 1,500 | 550 |

Emergency health

Outcome: To contribute to the prevention of an outbreak of communicable diseases and malaria among the 1,500 most vulnerable families affected by the floods.

| Expected results | Activities planned |
|---|---|
| The risks of communicable diseases outbreaks are reduced for 1,500 families and the health status of the communities is maintained. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure 3,000 mosquito nets for 1,500 families; • Procure and distribute nails and hammers for volunteers to support in mosquito nets hang-up process for 1,500 families; • Conduct hang-up and keep-up activities on mosquito nets utilization after distribution; • Train 30 volunteers focusing on preventive measures on communicable diseases and sanitation for 1,500 families; • Carry out health sensitization activities in flooded communities. |

Progress: The SRCS volunteers conducted door-to-door campaigns on health in the affected communities. Prior to the health sensitization, the skills and capacities of 50 volunteers (instead of 30 initially planned) on health sensitization were reinforced through a training on preventive measures on communicable diseases and sanitation. Some 1,500 long lasting insecticide treated nets were distributed to flood affected families. The 50 trained volunteers were mobilized for three days to carry out the hang-up activities. Each of them targeted 20 families per day.

Challenges: There was a delay in the procurement and distribution of nails and hammers for volunteers to support the mosquito nets hang-up process. Therefore, the hang-up activities started in late September, precisely from 30 September to 09 October, 2010.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: To contribute to the improvement of access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation facilities for 1,500 families affected by the floods.

| Expected results | Activities planned |
|--|--|
| All 1,500 families will have access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation facilities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure 67,500 purification tablets for 1,500 families; • Construct 80 family latrines for the most vulnerable families affected by the floods and that have no access to proper latrines; • Procure and distribute 1,500 hygiene kits to 1,500 families; • Procure and distribute 20 Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) kits to volunteers to work with communities in Kolda; • Conduct refreshment training for 20 volunteers in household water treatment, and hygiene promotion; • Procure and distribute 5,625 bars of soap of 250 g, 1,500 jerry cans, 4,500 detergents, and 1,500 buckets for 3 months for 1,500 families; • Conduct hygiene promotion campaign. |

Progress: The SRCS water and sanitation activities provided a good opportunity to conduct refreshment training for 50 volunteers (instead of 20 initially planned) in household water treatment, and hygiene promotion. As a support to their work with the affected communities, 20 PHAST kits were procured. To avoid the outbreak of water-borne diseases, a total of 67,500 water purification tablets were provided to the 1,500 affected families. About 1,500 hygiene kits have also been procured and distributed to the same targeted families. The other commodities distributed to the affected families are as following: 750 bars of soap; 750 jerry cans; 4,500 detergents; 750 buckets.

| 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 flood affected families, to ensure timely reporting and monitoring activities. | |
| Expected results) | Activities planned |
| Communications materials are developed to reach flooded victims, pupils, and other populations at risk. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design/update audio, print, visual and other sensitization materials; • 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 the NS social mobilization capacities; • Strengthen the NS capacities to sensitize 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 NS to report on the activities carried out. |

Progress: The media coverage plan ensured visibility of the activities carried out by the Red Cross volunteers' at local and national levels. To ensure publicity of the distribution of NFIs, 13 journalists from various media (Senegalese Press Agency, SUD FM, Le Quotidien, Walf Radio and Television) have been invited to cover the distribution activities. They also organized nationwide programmes on floods in Kolda. Effective communication equipment (laptop, telephone and fax) has been installed within the regional Red Cross office which has increased efficiency in communication from the field. A reporting focal point has been recruited since August 2010 to address the reporting needs of the SRCS.

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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