

DREF operation update

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Togo: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRTG003
GLIDE n° FL-2010-000215-TGO
Update n° 1
25 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:
30 October to 30 November, 2010.

Summary: CHF 244,001 (USD 251,392 or EUR 179,386) was allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC)'s Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Togolese Red Cross (TRC) in delivering immediate assistance to some 1,500 families and replenish the National Society's relief stock. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

The heavy rains of September and October 2010 caused severe flooding in the Maritime Region of Togo with about 50 communities most affected in the Yoto, Bas-Mono, Golfe and Lacs Prefectures of the region. The TRC mobilized and deployed its volunteers to assess the situation, the outcome of which showed that more than 5,000 families were affected with some now sheltered in temporary camps.



The Togolese Red Cross assisted some of the most affected with non-food relief items: Photo Togolese Red Cross

The Red Cross volunteers responded to the immediate needs of the affected persons by providing them with First Aid, psychological support and health education. With support from ICRC and IFRC DREF allocation, the National Society (NS) scaled-up its assistance to the affected population by providing non-food relief items including blankets, kitchen sets, buckets, soap, tarpaulins, mosquito treated bed nets, sleeping mats, clothes and toilet kits. The distribution of shelter kits is scheduled to be carried out during the month of December 2010 as sensitization activities on good hygiene and sanitation practices are ongoing. The NS is also collaborating with other humanitarian actors and government agencies in assisting the affected population. However, the difficult terrain and deplorable conditions of roads to access some of the affected communities was a main challenge to the operation.

This operation is expected to be implemented in three months and completed by 31 January, 2011. In line with IFRC reporting standards, the final report (narrative and financial) is due 90 days after the end of the operation (by 30 April, 2011).

The Togolese Red Cross and IFRC express their appreciation to ECHO for continuous support and replenishing part of the allocated funds. 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

The torrential rains experienced between September and early October 2010 in West Africa especially in Benin and Togo have caused the overflow of rivers and consequently causing floods in many parts of Togo. The rainy season started in Togo in June and the downpour caused severe flooding in many parts of the country with a lot of humanitarian concerns.

The heavy rains in September have however increased the humanitarian needs as floods caused damages to bridges and roads mainly in the Maritime region of Togo. The TRC emergency First Aid team members deployed to the field reported that 50 communities in the Yoto, Bas-Mono, Golfe and Lacs prefectures, all in the Maritime Region were the most affected with one death, and many injured and displaced. The displaced persons were provided with temporary shelter in three temporary camps the government has approved while some others have crossed over to neighbouring Benin Republic for shelter. The TRC after a preliminary assessment has registered 5,910 families affected by the floods in this region; most of them are peasants who lost their houses and livelihoods to the disaster.

Coordination and partnerships

Humanitarian actors including TRC have been collaborating to assist the affected population. The coordination team comprising of UNICEF, WHO, UNHCR, WFP, UNFPA, FAO, OCDI, PLAN-TOGO and the Swiss Red Cross is working closely with the Ministries of Health, Social Affairs and Civil Protection to avoid duplication of tasks during the operation. At NS headquarters, field coordination is ensured by the disaster management (DM) department. In-country Partner National Societies (PNS) and ICRC are working in close collaboration with the NS based on the ORSEC plan. The Government of Togo invited the Red Cross for a joint field assessment and advocated for a humanitarian assistance to the affected population.

The TRC had worked with UNICEF in assisting people affected by floods in June 2010. The Red Cross through its network of volunteers mobilized and deployed in the field assisted in the distribution of relief items provided by UNICEF to the affected population during that period.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

From the onset of the flood, the Red Cross volunteers responded to the immediate needs of the affected population by providing First Aid services, psychological support and health education. Red Cross volunteers continue to play a vital role in the disaster response operation. They have been engaged in assessments, distribution of food and emergency relief items as well hygiene education.

ICRC and the TRC teams had to adjust the implementation plan based on the available resources and the DREF allocation. Though implementation has delayed, it was prudent to adjust the plan vis-à-vis available resources so that proper prioritization is done. Already training of volunteers on health and hygiene sensitization focusing on cholera awareness has been conducted in Lomé.

The TRC with the support of ICRC mobilized and deployed members of its national and community disaster response teams (NDRT and CDRT) in water and sanitation (WatSan) and relief in the field to complement the efforts of the Red Cross volunteers in the communities for better coordination of the Red Cross assistance to the affected population through sensitization on potable water, good hygiene and sanitation practices especially in Lomé. The teams are also assisting in the distribution of relief items to target beneficiaries. The TRC commenced distribution of NFIs in Lomé in July with the financial support from UNICEF and in 12 communities for 1,000 targeted families in the Lacs and Mono Prefectures with support from ICRC. The NS has scaled up its intervention with the DREF allocation by also carrying out distribution activities in the same districts in 21 other communities targeting 1,500 households.

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)	
Objective: 1,500 most affected households were identified and registered based on the assessment and criteria of the NS and have received basic non-food items over a period of three months.	
Expected results	Activities planned
The TRC has procured and distributed basic relief items to 1,500 most affected households selected through established Red Cross selection criteria.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make contact and establish a relationship with local authorities in the affected communities; Organize briefing for 60 Red Cross volunteers on targeting assessment and distribution strategies of the Red Cross; Ensure the availability of reliable beneficiary data base for each targeted community; Procure and distribute 3,000 blankets; 3,000 sleeping mats and 500 kitchen sets; Monitor the emergency activities and produce reports on the distribution of relief items.
Outputs	Activities planned
The contingency stock used from the National Society's prepositioned stock for 250 families is replenished.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procure and stock NFIs of 500 blankets, 500 sleeping mats, 250 kitchen sets, 250 buckets, 250 jerry cans, 1,000 bars of soap and 500 mosquito nets.

Progress: Below is the table showing the NFIs distributed during this reporting period. The NS considered the real needs of the target beneficiaries using the criteria such as the number of persons in a family and the extent of vulnerability of the family. Each family received a set comprising blanket; mosquito treated bed net, sleeping mat, soap, tarpaulin, buckets and kitchen set. The TRC procured some items from its national contingency stock to complete the items procured with DREF allocation as the needs of beneficiaries are increasing. With support from ICRC, the NS provided relief assistance to 1,000 households in 12 villages. Each family has received a set comprising of sleeping mat, soap, tarpaulin, clothes, kitchen set, toilet kit, bucket, and mosquito bed net.

NFIs procured and distributed from the IFRC DREF between 22 to 30 November 2010

Prefecture / Canton	N° of villages	N° of households reached	N° of beneficiaries	Blankets (pcs)	Kitchen Sets (Pcs)	Buckets (pcs)	Soap	Tarpaulins	Bed Net (Pcs)	Sleeping mats (Pcs)
Lacs / Aklakou	3	440	2,570	880	440	880	2,200	440	880	880
Bas-Mono/ Agome-Glozou	10	1,040	5,442	2,080	1,040	2,080	5,200	1,040	2,080	2,080
Bas-Mono/ Agbetiko	4	270	825	540	270	540	1,350	270	540	540
Total	17	1,750	8,837	3,500	1,750	3,500	8,750	1,750	3,500	3,500

ICRC donated NFIs between 15 and 20 November 2010

Prefecture / Canton	N° of villages	N° of households reached	N° of beneficiaries	Cloth (pcs)	Kitchen Sets (pcs)	Buckets (pcs)	Soap	Tarpaulin	Bed Net (pcs)	Sleeping mats (pcs)	Toilet kits
Lacs / Argouegan	4	200	1,113	400	200	400	2,000	200	400	400	600
Bas-Mono/ Agbetiko	8	800	3,715	1,600	800	1,600	8,000	800	1,600	1,600	2,400
Total	12	1,000	4,828	2,000	1,000	2,000	10,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	3,000

The NS has replenished its emergency stock used during the intervention as indicated in the table below:

Items	Quantities
Mosquito nets	500 pcs
Buckets	500 pcs
Blankets	500 pcs
Sleeping Mats	500 pcs
Bar soaps	1,000 bars

Challenges: One of the main challenges faced by the NS during the operation is logistics. Access to the target communities was very difficult because of the bad road conditions worsened by the floods. Some villages are inaccessible. The roads to access some village like Kpondave, Togbodji among others were muddy thereby making it impossible for trucks to reach these communities with NFIs. Team leaders and their team also had more difficulties accessing these villages by foot, bicycle or motorcycle.

Emergency shelter	
Objective: At least 500 most affected households are sheltered with dignity.	
Expected results	Activities planned
Shelter kits have been distributed to 500 most affected households and support provided in the construction of temporary shelters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobilize and brief 20 Red Cross volunteers on assessment and emergency shelter strategy of the Red Cross; Procure and distribute 500 shelter kits to the most affected households; Construct emergency shelters.

Progress: Activities planned will commence in December 2010. This is mainly for the lack of appropriate technical skills on temporary shelters and some members of the national disaster response team (NDRT) are undergoing training on shelter kit to support the volunteers who will in turn work with the affected communities.

Emergency health	
Objective: To contribute to the prevention of communicable diseases among 1,500 most vulnerable families.	
Expected results	Activities planned
The risk of disease outbreak among the targeted population is reduced.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobilization and briefing of 50 volunteers on health preventive measures on diarrheal cholera and other communicable diseases; Provision of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials for health, water, sanitation and risk reduction sensitization activities; Organization of health sensitization activities to the most affected communities.
Objective: To reduce the morbidity and mortality due to malaria among 1,500 flood affected families.	
Expected results	Activities planned
1,500 most floods affected are reached by volunteers with messages on malaria prevention and control and distribution of LLIN, usage and assist in the correct hanging.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procure and distribute 3,000 mosquito nets to 1,500 most affected families; Procure nails and strings for mosquito nets hang-up campaign for 1,500 affected families. Disseminate key messages concerning LLIN use and malaria (prioritizing pregnant women and households with children under 5).

Progress: At least 20 Red Cross volunteers have been trained to sensitize and supervise the distribution of 3,000 LLINs to the affected communities both in the Lacs and Bas-Mono Prefectures. The Red Cross volunteers showed beneficiaries, through demonstration, how to use the nets and the NDRT members in the affected communities also assisted them on hanging the nets with ropes and nails. Dissemination of messages through loud speakers is being done on the distribution day and the house-to-house visitations where done by the NDRT members in the communities to further sensitize the target population.

Challenges: Some of the communities are yet to return to their houses and this prevents them from properly hang their LLINs and prefer to keep them for their use back home. Mobilizing enough volunteers to ensure that all distributed nets have been used appropriately with house-to-house follow-up was another challenge the NS is facing.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion	
Objective: To reduce the risk of waterborne diseases through provision of drinking water, health education and sensitization on good hygiene practices to the flood affected communities	
Expected results	Activities planned
1,500 most affected households in the flood affected communities have access to safe drinking water, hygiene and sanitation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen the capacity of 50 volunteers in water treatment and use of water treatment tablets and hygiene promotion; • Procure and distribute 75,000 water treatment tablets and sensitize on their use and 3,000 pieces of water jerry cans to 1,500 most affected households; • Procure and distribute 7,500 bars of soap to 1,500 most affected households; • Sensitize the population on good hygiene and sanitation practices and conduct a cleanup campaign and disinfecting of water wells in the target communities.

Progress: The Red Cross has distributed 3,000 plastic buckets and 8,750 bars of soap to 1,750 identified and registered households in the targeted communities during this reporting period. The Red Cross volunteers through demonstration and using local languages sensitized the beneficiaries on how to use the buckets and the soap. With ICRC support, 100 volunteers have been trained to sensitize the affected population in Lomé on good hygiene and sanitation practices. The operation has planned a training and sensitization on good hygiene and sanitation practices for target communities in the Lacs and Bas-Mono Prefectures during the month of December 2010.

Challenges: The TRC is facing challenges in accessing some of the communities during the house-to-house sensitization because of bad road conditions. Lack of aqua tabs is another major challenge to the operation.

Communications – Advocacy and Public information

The TRC communication team continued to collaborate with the operation team to enhance the visibility of the Red Cross by liaising with national media in giving adequate coverage to the intervention activities of the NS.

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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