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DREF operation update

Mali: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRML007
GLIDE n° FL-2011-000129-MLI
Update n°1 – 28 November, 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 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: 05 to 21 October, 2011.

Summary: CHF 264,684 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 08 September, 2011 to support the Mali Red Cross in delivering assistance to some 7,500 beneficiaries.

In August 2011, floods that occurred in Mali affected many locations: Tombouctou (cities of Goundam and Gossi); Mopti (village of Sana); Koro; Sikasso; Kidal; Kayes (Diboly); and Koulikoro (prefecture of Kangaba).



Distribution of urgently needed materials after the floods in Mali
IFRC/MRC

Gossi was particularly affected, experiencing rainfall of 102 mm and significant numbers of affected people. As northern Mali is a sandy region, most houses are entirely built in *banco* (mud bricks).

Grouped settlements have no drainage or wastewater systems. These factors contributed to the collapse of many dwellings and material losses, sometimes beyond what would be expected from the amount of rain received locally, due to heavier rains upstream (e.g. Kidal). In other locations (e.g. Diboly/Kayes), torrential rains repeated over a short interval caused the floods. For all concerned locations, 15,415 disaster victims were counted. Material damage was also significant and included loss of livestock, and destruction of market gardens.

This operation was expected to be implemented over three months, and completed by the end of November 2011. The activities were delayed due to security issues. On 10 October, 2011 a vehicle of a humanitarian organization was attacked in Tombouctou. The vehicle was shot at and the team robbed. Many such attacks have been recently reported to local authorities, insecurity being more and more common in Northern Mali. Therefore, the Executive Secretary of the National Society has advised the RDRT deployed by IFRC Sahel Regional Representation in Mali to follow up the implementation of activities as well as Mali Red Cross Disaster Management staff to postpone or delay their field work in Tombouctou and Kayes regions. As a result, it is requested that the operation be extended a month from 30 November 2011 to 31 December 2011. A final report will therefore be made available three months after the end of the operation, by 31 March 2012.

DG-ECHO and the Canadian Red Cross Society and CIDA have contributed to the DREF in replenishment of the allocation made for this operation. The major donors and partners of DREF include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the U.S.A., as well as DG-ECHO, the

U.K. Department for International Development (DFID), the Medtronic and Z Zurich Foundations and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the National Society, thanks all for their generous contributions.

Details of contributions to DREF are found at: www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/Active/MAA00010_2011.pdf.

[<click here to view contact details>](#)

The situation

In August 2011, Mali has faced heavy rainfall that resulted in flooding in some locations and overflows of ponds in others. DREF funds have been released to target the most vulnerable, reducing their vulnerability through provision of tarpaulins, blankets, sleeping mats and kitchen sets, preventing spread of disease through distribution of bed nets, hygiene supplies and disinfection of flooded latrines and wells, and building awareness on good health and hygiene practices. Mali Red Cross, with support from IFRC, as well as other partners (including PNSs) has focused its action on assisting the 7,500 most vulnerable persons. These are children under five years of age, elderly people, women who have not received any support, disabled people, pregnant women and homeless people. This target of 7,500 beneficiaries has been identified in 1,500 households directly hit by the floods.

Coordination and partnerships

Disaster management coordination is managed by the Civil Protection in Mali (a state service), which ensures information collection and sharing with humanitarian organisations. The State of Mali, together with its partners has provided food assistance. Three tonnes of millet have been distributed to the population affected by the floods. The Red Cross has focused its intervention on non-food items to assist the 1,500 households (7,500 beneficiaries); the local committees of the Red Cross have been mobilized to provide assistance to the disaster-stricken population.

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 1,500 family flood victims with the provision of relief materials.

Outputs (expected results)

Relief items are procured and distributed to 1,500 family flood victims.

Activities planned:

- Procure and distribute 3,000 blankets, 3,000 sleeping mats, 1,500 kitchen sets;
- Transport and warehousing of all procured materials to the nearest point of distribution;
- Conduct integrated refreshment training for 120 volunteers on relief distribution, health;
- Care, water, sanitation and assessment.

Progress: A total of 230 households have been assisted with 460 sleeping mats, 460 blankets and 230 kitchen sets in Sikasso region, in the village of Foh where 50 households have been reached. In Mopti region in the village of Sana, 180 families benefited from NFIs. The updating of the initial assessment in Sana and Tombouctou (Gossi) areas revealed that 180 among the 200 targeted families genuinely needed assistance. As for capacity building, a total of 40 volunteers (20 from the village of Foh and 20 from Sana village) have been trained on First Aid, health, water and sanitation and emergency shelter. The targeted number of volunteers to be reached through training is 120.

Challenges: There was a delay in the transportation of non-food items from Dakar to Bamako due to customs formalities on borders.

Emergency health

Outcome: To contribute to the prevention of communicable diseases outbreaks among the 1,500 relocated families in the affected regions.

Outputs (expected results)

The risks of communicable diseases outbreaks are reduced for the most affected communities and the

health status of the community is maintained.

Activities planned:

- Utilize the above stated trained volunteers on health preventive measures on communicable diseases;
- Provide IEC materials for health, watsan and risk reduction sensitization activities;
- Procure and distribute 3,000 mosquito nets for 1,500 families;
- Conduct hang-up and keep-up activities on mosquito nets utilization after distribution;
- Carry out health sensitization activities in flooded communities.

Progress: The 40 volunteers who were trained in Sikasso and Mopti conducted three sensitizing sessions in pairs in Foh and Sana villages. The sensitizing topics were related to the risks of using non potable water, the importance of using bleaching and disinfectant. The tools used were boxes of images provided by the National Society headquarters. A demonstration for the hanging of Insecticide Treated Mosquito Nets (ITMN) has also been given. The volunteers took advantage of the opportunity of these meetings to distribute 460 ITMN to 230 affected families in the same areas.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

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

Outputs (expected results)

Some 1,500 flood affected families in the flooding regions have access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation facilities.

Activities planned:

- Procure and distribute 5,250 bars of soap and 1,500 buckets;
- Procure 4,500 detergents and 4,500 bottles of bleaching and disinfect flooded latrines and wells;
- Conduct hygiene promotion for the affected families.

Progress: A total of 175 bars of soap have been distributed to 50 families in Foh. Additionally, 180 families in Sana were provided with 630 bars of soap. Moreover, 540 containers of detergent and bleach have been distributed, as well in Sana in Mopti region.

Challenges: There was a delay in the purchasing of bleach and disinfectant due to logistic procedures related to the choice of suppliers.

Emergency shelter

Outcome: To contribute in improving the vulnerability of 1,500 relocated families through provision of materials.

Outputs (expected results)

Shelter materials are procured and distributed to 1,500 flood affected families.

Activities planned:

- Procure and distribute 3,000 tarpaulins and 1,500 shelter tool kits;
- Build capacities of volunteers on improved shelter constructions;
- Sensitize beneficiaries with flood resistant buildings as guide for affected families.

Progress: The emergency shelter activities are related to the distribution of 460 tarpaulins and 230 shelter tool kits to 50 households in Sikasso precisely in the village of Foh and 180 households in Mopti in Sana village. The distribution of shelter materials was an opportunity for the 40 trained volunteers to give a demonstration on the use of shelter tool kits.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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DREF history:

- This DREF was initially allocated on 8 September 2011 for CHF 264,684 for 3 months to assist 7,500 beneficiaries.
- One DREF operation update so far issued

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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.

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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.
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