

DREF operation update



Haiti: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRHT007
GLIDE n° FL-2009-000235-HTI
Update n° 1
18 December 2009

The International Federation's 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 response to emergencies. 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: 9 November to 8 December 2009.

Summary: CHF 105,656 (USD 103,918 or EUR 69,950) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 9 November 2009 to support the Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS) for its initial damage and needs assessment costs as well as providing non-food items, water, cleaning kits and primary health care support to approximately 500 families.

On 20 October 2009 six communities in Haiti were deeply affected by mudslides caused by heavy rainfall from the normal seasonal rains. This DREF operation is focused on providing support to the Haitian National Red Cross Society in order to provide relief assistance to the most affected people. Clean-up operations are currently on-going and the last activity pending is the completion of the water distribution for the targeted families.

This DREF operations update no.1 covers activities up to 4 December 2009 and has a revised budget since a new objective in emergency health was included. This objective was incorporated after detailed assessments

were completed by the Haitian National Red Cross Society and local health authorities which demonstrated the need to provide basic health care to the most vulnerable.

This operation is expected to be implemented in three months, and completed by 6 February 2010. A final report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 6 May 2010).



Tools ready to be loaded for distribution in Carrefour.
Source: International Federation

The Canadian Red Cross contributed CHF 21,000 and the European Commission's Office for Humanitarian Aid (ECHO) contributed EUR 54,000 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>

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

The situation

On the night of 20 October 2009, heavy rainfall from the normal seasonal rains caused flooding in the communities of Bergamothe, Bois Thioute, Cite Thema, Ti Kajou, Bizoton as well as the smaller communities along the railway in the department of Carrefour. The floods caused extensive damage to household belongings and properties. The Haitian National Red Cross Society conducted rapid assessments in the affected region and reported that 500 families had been affected by the floods. Four people were found dead and six disappeared during the floods, although two of those missing were found later.

Most of the affected families have had their homes completely flooded. It was not possible to further refine the initial assessment due to the small living space of many houses and multiple families living in single households.

Most families living in collective centres have been actively cleaning their homes to prepare for their return. Nonetheless, even when these families return to their homes they will need basic items, especially safe drinking water which is not available to these families as their wells have been contaminated. Moreover, affected families are in need of cleaning equipment to move the debris from their homes and from the narrow passageways in the communities.

Coordination and partnerships

The Haitian National Red Cross Society, in coordination with an International Federation's delegate present in-country, conducted an assessment of the water systems in the affected communities and consulted with local authorities regarding the status of water distribution networks in Bergamothe and Bizoton. The French



Distribution activities held in Carrefour. Source: International Federation.

Red Cross assisted the HNRCS in the initial planning. The local authorities (Mayor of Carrefour), the Civil Protection (Direction de la Protection Civile - DPC), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), OXFAM, ACTIONAID, CARITAS and the United Nations Office for Humanitarian Aid (OCHA) carried out a damage and needs assessment in the affected areas. Local authorities from water, health, and disaster management services also participated in the damage and needs assessments. The Civil Protection (Direction de la Protection Civile - DPC) in Carrefour carried out the initial assessment and provided families with temporary shelter.

The International Federation maintains a presence in Haiti as

part of the close of the response operation to the 2008 Hurricane Season. One delegate and three staff in the team were active in coordinating the response to this current emergency. Partner National Societies (PNS) in-country were consulted in the response and continue supporting programmes with the HNRCS. These include the American Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross, the French Red Cross, the German Red Cross and the Spanish Red Cross Societies.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action



Wheel barrels ready for distribution in Carrefour. Source: International Federation.

Since the onset of the emergency, volunteers from the local HNRCS branches in the affected region and headquarters have conducted needs assessments in Bergamothé and Bizoton – the two worst affected areas. The National Society identified the requirement to carry out water distribution activities to respond to the immediate needs of the affected population. In addition, after further assessments the HNRCS revised the plan of action to include an objective focused on emergency health.

The International Federation, through its Pan American Disaster Response Unit in Panama and the Latin Caribbean Regional Representation based in Santo Domingo, have been in constant communication with the HNRCS. As mentioned above, the International

Federation's delegates in-country have provided assistance to the Haitian National Red Cross Society in carrying out the preliminary assessments and continue to support the National Society in the implementation of its plan of action (costs covered outside of this DREF allocation). Additionally, a Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member from the American Red Cross was in Haiti for one month providing assistance to the HNRCS in carrying out additional assessments and implementing the plan of action.

Progress towards objectives

After a second assessment, the HNRCS and the International Federation along with local health authorities realized there was an important need to contribute to the communities' well-being; therefore, decided to include a health component to provide first aid and basic medical services. Thus, the overall objective of this operation is to provide safe drinking water, basic health services, cleaning tools and relief assistance to the families affected by the flash floods and mudslides in the communities of Carrefour. The activities within the operation will strengthen the response capacity of the National Society in damage and needs assessments, registration of beneficiaries, distribution of relief items and safe drinking water, as well as monitoring and evaluation. The DREF operation will also cover costs of per diem and mobilizations of volunteers assisting during the operation.

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: 500 families in the department of Carrefour will receive essential non-food items to recover from the effects of the emergency.

Activities planned:

- Conduct emergency needs and capacity assessments.
- Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
- Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.
- Develop an exit strategy.

Progress:

As indicated above, emergency needs and capacity assessments were conducted. The HNRCS developed a registration system and registered 500 families to receive the emergency relief supplies. Each family was given a serial numbered distribution card, and the initial distribution was scheduled.

The HNRCS, using its prepositioned relief items and with assistance from the French Red Cross, distributed 500 family emergency relief kits. Each kit contained:

- 1 hygiene kit (which includes washing powder, toilet paper, body soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, razor, hygienic pads)

- 1 kitchen kit (pots, frying pan, knives, plates, glasses, cutlery)
- 1 bucket (14 litres capacity)
- 2 jerry cans
- 2 blankets
- 2 mosquito nets per family

On 17 November, 485 of the 500 kits were distributed, and the remaining 15 were distributed the next day, reaching all 500 families.

The Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in Panama shipped the family emergency kits by sea and the replenishment stocks have been received at the HNRCS warehouse in Diquini (Port au Prince).

In addition, the HNRCS purchased 100 cleaning tool kits for the affected area. Each cleaning kit contained the following items: 1 wheel barrow, 1 shovel, 1 pick axe, 1 rake and 1 pitchfork. The purchase was conducted locally, on a competitive bid basis, and covered through this DREF operation. The National Society distributed one cleaning kit per five families. The cleaning kits will help families to clean their homes and prepare for their return. During the distribution, representatives of each the families were present to receive the cleaning kits.

Challenges:

A small number of wheelbarrows (9) and shovels (8) were stolen during the distribution process, but were quickly replaced thanks to the support of the German Red Cross; all items were distributed. For future distributions, the National Society will try to recruit additional volunteers to strengthen security in order to avoid this kind of problem.

Emergency health

<p>Objective: The HNRCS will provide basic medical services at local clinics to meet the immediate needs in the affected area.</p>
<p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement of basic medicines needed for clinic operations • Provision of medical services due to health issues identified by local health authorities.

Progress:

The HNRCS purchased medicine and provided basic health care services to 344 patients during three days of clinic operations in the affected area (from 18 to 20 November). The location chosen as centre to provide the services was the ASAD Clinic in Carrefour.

Patients were identified by the distribution cards previously given. The HNRCS volunteers with first aid training assisted five doctors and one pharmacist, which provided services daily. The doctors at the clinic included two paediatricians, one obstetrician (gynaecologist), one internist and one community health specialist.

This DREF allocation will cover the medicines, first aid supplies and mobilization costs for this objective.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

<p>Objective: The HNRCS will assist the 500 affected families by distributing water from cistern truck.</p>
<p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution of water to the affected families • Monitor and evaluate the distribution activities

Progress:

The HNRCS began providing support with cleaning debris and mud from houses on 3 December with 12 volunteers working for 15 days.

One of the main challenges within this objective is the complication of coordinating the water delivery system for the affected people. Since it is a semi-urban area it is difficult to identify which families are going to be benefited because water is an essential need to every family living in the area. In the detailed assessments carried out, the National Society, local water authorities and the International Federation realized that this was not a viable option since it is not a sustainable activity and would bring difficulties among the population during the water distributions.

This week the HNRCS, the International Federation, the Metropolitan Autonomous Central for Potable Water (Centrale Autonome Métropolitaine d'Eau Potable - CAMEP), will hold a meeting to address what strategy should be implemented in the next few weeks to attend this problem.

How we work

All International Federation 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 is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In Haiti:** Dr. Guiteau Jean-Pierre, Executive Director, Haiti National Red Cross Society, phone: (509) 37233267 / 34160969; email: guiteau2001@yahoo.com
- **In Panama:** Mauricio Bustamante, Acting Head of PADRU; phone: (507) 316 1001; fax: (507) 316 1082; email: mauricio.bustamante@ifrc.org
- **In Panama:** Francisco Maldonado, Disaster Management delegate, PADRU, phone (507) 316-1001, fax (507) 316 1082; email: francisco.maldonado@ifrc.org
- **In Dominican Republic:** Alexandre Claudon, Regional Representative for the Latin Caribbean; e-mail: alexandre.claudon@ifrc.org
- **In Panama:** María Alcázar, Resource Mobilization Coordinator for the Americas; phone: (507) 380 0250; fax: (507) 317 1304; email: maria.alcazar@ifrc.org.
- **In Geneva:** Pablo Medina, Operations Coordinator for the Americas; phone: (41 22) 730 42 74; fax:(41 22) 733 03 95; email: pablo.medina@ifrc.org

[<Revised budget; click here to return to the title page>](#)

DREF OPERATION BUDGET SUMMARY

Haiti Floods - Carrefour

Annex 1
MDRHT007

BUDGET CHF

RELIEF NEEDS

500	Shelter	
505	Construction Materials	
510	Clothing & Textiles	10,739
520	Food	
523	Seeds & Plants	
530	Water & Sanitation	9,717
540	Medical & First Aid	3,068
550	Teaching Materials	
560	Utensils & Tools	19,505
570	Other Supplies & Services	26,593
Total Relief Needs		69,623

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT

580	Land & Buildings
581	Vehicles Purchase
582	Computers & Telecom Equipment
584	Office/Household Furniture & Equip.
587	Medical Equipment
589	Other Machinery & Equipment

TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES

590	Storage - Warehouse	
592	Distribution & Monitoring	4,680
593	Transport & Vehicles Costs	0
594	Service fee & Recovery	2,569

PERSONNEL

600	International Staff	
640	Regionally Deployed Staff	3,222
661	National Staff	
662	National Society Staff	5,718
670	Consultants	

WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

680	Workshops & Training	
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GENERAL EXPENSES

700	Travel	5,932
710	Information & Public Relations	205
730	Office running costs	511
740	Communication Costs	767
750	Professional Fees	
760	Financial Charges	5,561
790	Other General Expenses	

PROGRAMME SUPPORT

599	Programme Support - PSR	6,868
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Total Operational Needs	36,034
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DREF ALLOCATION	105,656
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