

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Uganda: Floods & Landslides in Eastern Uganda

DREF operation n° MDRGU015
GLIDE n° LS-2010-000040-UGA
31 July, 2010

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 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.

Summary: CHF 256,963 (USD 235,879 or EUR 173,571) was allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) in delivering immediate assistance to some 5,000 beneficiaries affected by landslides and floods in Eastern Uganda. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF were made.

Summary: The response operation conducted by the URCS, with support from the International Federation and other partners/institutions and individuals, was in response to landslides and



URCS volunteers distribution of NFI s in Bulucheke IDP camp: Photo URCS

flooding that occurred between February and April 2010 in the eastern region of Uganda, particularly in Bududa district. URCS immediately carried out a rapid assessment to determine the extend f the damage and needs of the displaced families. Some of the activities under the operation included extracting bodies buried by landslides, identifying beneficiaries, camp management in Bududa, distribution of food and non food items (NFIs), providing water and sanitation facilities, conducting hygiene awareness, disease surveillance, information and communication services.

URCS initially targeted the district of the worst affected Bududa district by landslide, and the continuation of heavy rains led to the expansion of the response operation to Butaleja, Tororo, Mbale, Manafwa, Budaka, Pallisa, Kapchorwa, Bukwa and Sironko. In the western region Bundibugyo, Kasese, Kisoro, Fort Portal and Kabale which increase the scale of the operation.

Following the response by URCS and the local authorities, the affected people in Bududa were moved to an internally displaced persons (IDP) camp. The Government of Uganda subsequently requested humanitarian organizations to provide assistance in support of its efforts to rescue the affected families and those at risk, for at least three months. As auxiliary to the local authorities, URCS was the first on the ground and took the responsibility of assessments, relief distribution and camp management and social mobilization. The National Society also launched a local appeal for USD 987,969.08 to support 10,000 households (50,000 people) for three months, thus complementing DREF already provided by the IFRC. Response to this national appeal was very good and was 100 per cent covered through cash and in-kind donations. With this support, URCS managed to carry out the operation and met its objectives. However, by the end of the planned three months (March - May 2010) the Government had not been able to resettle the displaced people forcing the continuation of the operation beyond the planned period. The operation was rescheduled to end on the 30 August 2010.

URCS reached approximately 22,000 households through a combination of sectors that included health and care, distribution of NFIs, shelter, WASH and capacity building. This report is specific to the DREF that targeted 1,000 households and was implemented in Bududa and Mbale districts. A final report for the entire national appeal produced when the operation is completed, and shared with all partners and stakeholders.

The Netherlands, Canada and Italian Red Cross National Societies contributed EUR 50,000, CHF 50,000 and CJP 88,880 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 for the final financial report, or here to view contact details>*](#)

The situation

Heavy rains in Uganda that started late February 2010 resulted into floods, water logging and landslides affecting more than 50,000 people across the country. The area worst affected was Bududa district in eastern Uganda where the villages of Nametsi, Kubewo and Namangasa in the Nametsi parish in Bukalasi sub-county were almost completely buried by landslides. Other districts affected included Butaleja, Katakwi, Amuria, Pallisa, Mbale, Moroto, Nakapiripirit, Sironko, Manafwa, Bukwo and Budaka in the eastern region, while Bundibugyo, Kasese, Kisoro, Kabarole and Kabale were the area's most affected in the western part of the country. In Bududa landslides and floods occurred in the areas around Mt. Elgon following five days of consecutive heavy downpours resulting in death, displacement of people, destruction of property (including burying a health centre), destroying food crops, roads, and sanitation systems. An estimated 400 people were killed in this area alone but so far only 105 bodies have been recovered. By the time of writing this report, excavation efforts of those buried are continuing albeit with difficulty as the soils have since hardened and a general lack of appropriated excavation machinery. The affected people of these villages (now 1,424 households or 8,177 people) are in Bududa and hosted at the Bulucheke IDP camp managed by the office of the Prime Minister and run by URCS.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The URCS, through its network of branches and volunteers conducted rapid assessments followed by detailed assessments and participated in the search and rescue operation. This included evacuating people who were injured as a result of landslides and providing First Aid services to minor injuries. The DREF provided by the IFRC enabled the rapid response to assist 1,000 households although it was not adequate to cover the increasing needs and number of people affected by both landslides and floods. This prompted UGRG to revise the plan of action through a national appeal that targeted 10,000 households; and was successfully funded.

The ICRC supported the emergency operation by providing 1,500 (NFIs) kits (the annual contribution of the 1,500 kits to disaster management for emergency response). The Danish Red Cross participated at the emergency coordination task force meetings and secured a link to Danish Embassy who funded part of the NFIs component of the national appeal. Additional support to the operation was provided by the Japanese Red Cross who linked URCS with the Japanese Embassy resulting in a contribution of USD 100,000 towards the national appeal.

Being the first humanitarian actor at the disaster scene, and coupled with good capacity on the ground, the URCS participated in the search and rescue efforts that were led by the army and the police. The Government set up an IDP camp in Bulucheke where the URCS was designated as the lead agency for NFI and food distribution. The URCS quickly dispatched emergency stocks for 1,000 households to the area for distribution. An ambulance and a team from the national headquarters comprising of relief, water and sanitation (WatSan), health, tracing and logistics staff were also dispatched to the field and participated in coordinating the initial response, and conducted assessments and implementation support to enhance the regional and branch capacity that was already on the ground. The URCS also took on camp management - a role that is it still plays to date.

Achievements against outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Objective 1: To provide 1,000 most affected families with basic household items.
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct rapid 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.

Impact:

The URCS was involved in the operation right from the first day when volunteers and staff were deployed to the affected area to establish the extent of the damage and the number of the affected people. This enabled data to be collected on the numbers and locations of the affected people that were to be targeted for assistance. The information was regularly shared with partners and other stakeholders. Assessments were therefore conducted in Tororo, Mbale, Manafa, Butalejja, Sironko, Bududa and Bukwa in the east, while Kabale, Kabarole, Kisoro and Bundibugyo were also assessed in the western region. Reports were shared with URCS headquarters for action,

Table 1: Population status of Bududa IDP camp by end of June 2010

Block	Households	Population
Block A	597	3,393
Block B	120	670
Block C	348	1,788
Block D	117	856
Baklavas community in Block D	250	1,470
Total	1,432	8,177

The URCS improved on the beneficiary targeting system by basing it on verified camp registration and issuance of cards to individual heads of families (items were handed over directly to each family head). The URCS ensured that the distribution was safe and easily accessible to the beneficiaries. The DREF ensured assistance to approximately 2,600 households who were provided with a combination of relief items and hygiene education.



URCS volunteers registering beneficiaries in Bulucheke IDP camp; Photo URCS

Through the established procurement system that involves processes of tendering and comparative bids analysis, procurements in respect to the needs as established by the assessment were made. The table below is a presentation of the distribution of relief supplies that was made in Bududa and Mbale districts to the affected people.

Table 2: Distributed relief items

Item	Quantity	Households	Remarks
Tarpaulins	2,400	IDPs - 1,800 in Bududa Floods - 600 in Mbale	Bududa - 2 per household Mbale – 1 per household
Jerry cans	4,700	IDPs - 1,800 in Bududa 2,900 - Mbale floods	2 per household
Cooking pots	3,500	IDPs - 1,800 in Bududa Floods - 1,700 in Mbale	2 per household
Blankets	4,500	IDPs - 1,800 in Bududa Floods - 2,700 in Mbale	2 per household

Monitoring and evaluation was continuous throughout the operation and enabled the URCS to respond more effectively to the ongoing needs (see end of the report).

Although the need for family tents still exists, the provision of tarpaulins and other shelter material was very important for the structuring of the IDP camp and enabled the affected people to settle. The beneficiaries of the tarpaulins got access to basic safe and secure accommodation that ensured a degree of dignified living. This intervention further contributed to the improvement of living conditions of the affected populations through increased access to shelter. During the operation the URCS volunteers participated in the construction of temporary accommodation and cooking shelters in the camp. In the same area, URCS supported activities that maintained the accommodation structures.

The NFIs have played an important role in preventing disease outbreaks and helped those affected to carry out everyday requirements such as cooking and collecting water. Some items such as blankets were deemed as life saving while items such as jerry cans for collecting water were useful for maintaining hygiene. Overall, the NFIs reduced suffering and vulnerability and saved the lives of the beneficiaries



**Families displaced by landslide now sheltered at Bulucheke camp:
Photo URCS**

Challenges/constraints

- Beneficiary targeting was a challenge during the initial stages of the operation for the field team because they were not separating distribution areas of the camp-based people from those based outside. This however was solved after a review by the IFRC disaster operations manager reflected in the recommendations that he had made.
- The camp is a very small area that brings on extra risks during distributions because almost everyone wants to gather around this vicinity with a hope of benefitting even if they are not on the list /schedule of distributions.
- The team received many national donations as well as from agencies that requested the URCS to distribute on their own behalf. This caused a lot of confusion because many of them had different motives including a desire for publicity and press coverage and wanted to make distributions by any means.
- The area of operation expanded to include other districts and exerted pressure on the existing resources (volunteers, funds, and logistics) which required extra professional efforts.

- Huge transport costs, as a result of the large geographical area covered, affected the operation because many agencies and government donors gave items of food and non food for the URCS to distribute but without providing operational costs.
- There was lack of an effective coordination mechanism and a 'general contingency plan' at district level, despite realizing the need. The district and partners therefore lacked preparedness resources to address the myriad of issues and relied heavily on the URCS.
- High expectations were placed on the URCS that it could provide everything including human resources, and there were a lack of Government lead initiatives that include taking charge of the situation and having its own capacities.
- The displaced community has so far been unable to recover from their losses or to recreate the commercial and trading centre once in Bududa. No initiatives have been established to revive their livelihoods.

Emergency health, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Objective 2: To reduce the risk of waterborne and water related diseases through community sensitisation and provision of save water to the affected communities.

Activities planned:

- Provision of emergency First Aid services.
- Conduct health education to the affected communities.
- Distribution of health promotion materials (IEC).
- Provision of Water Treatment Products (e.g. chlorination tablets).

Impact:

URCS staff members and volunteers provided First Aid services to a total of 118 beneficiaries during the search and rescue operation. The main beneficiaries were the rescued in need of First Aid service and those referred to the hospital for further treatment. Other beneficiaries included the people involved in the rescue. In addition, URCS provided an ambulance (24 hours) service in the IDP camp in Bududa that facilitated the referrals of 144 people (99 children and 45 adults). The same number benefited from the First Aid services provided by the URCS volunteers whilst in transit to the hospital.

In a bid to increase health awareness and improve hygiene practice and conditions especially in the camp, the URCS developed and procured awareness materials (posters and brochures). The majority of which were distributed to the communities in the camp and to beneficiaries in the eastern region including institutions. These complemented the awareness sessions that were conducted in various areas, but mainly in the camp. A total of 36 formal awareness sessions benefitted an estimated 312 people counted during the sessions. The other beneficiaries were reached and counted through the distribution points for food and NFIs, and in schools and institutions in order to have a wider outreach and make use of pupils and students as change agents. The operation is still continuing and will allow the distribution of the balance of the brochures.

Health education on malaria prevention and demonstrations on mosquito net usage were conducted during distributions in the camp and in other districts by URCS volunteers. This part of the health awareness component with the provision of mosquito nets is largely part of the national appeal activities and will be reported on in the final report.

The URCS distributed water treatment tablets to the affected people as part of the wider effort to increase access to safe water. A total of 10,000 purification tablets were distributed to the beneficiaries across the affected districts.

Table 2: IEC distribution matrix

Date	Area	Posters	Brochures
12/3/2010	Bududa IDPs	190	3344
12/3/2010	Bukalasi IDPs	33	467
13/3/2010	Butalejja Senior	45	1890
14/3/2010	Bududa Health centre	10	231
15/3/2010	Bududa IDPs	23	2569
16/3/2010	Mbale district	5	156
17/3/2010	Sironko during assessment	61	653
17/3/2010	Namatesi	5	214
17/3/2010	Namatesi Primary	17	1781
18/3/2010	Mbale floods affected	189	991
22/3/2010	Nifulani	-	1670
24/3/2010	Nambebe	45	451
26/3/2010	Nabularo	81	1412
29/3/2010	Ulukusi	14	499
04/4/2010	Subisi School	46	1288
09/4/2010	Butalejja district and affected people	204	722
24/4/2010	Manafa population	98	872
03/5/2010	Bududa IDPs	178	1671
04/5/2010	Tororo	123	242
05/5/2010	Butalejja	12	2871
09/5/2010	Sironko senior school	45	1563
18/5/2010	Mbale	3	899
19/5/2010	Bududa IDP	67	371
24/5/2010	Bunastya	-	209
Total		1,494	27,036

Challenges/constraints

- The populations were more concerned and interested in receiving food and NFIs than health education.
- The layout of the camp was a hindrance to the efforts of the URCS volunteers tasked with improving hygiene conditions in the camp.
- There was a general lack of coordination from the health sector agencies and a lack of district support to wider health efforts.

National Society Capacity Building

Through this landslide/flood operation the URCS headquarters and participating branches strengthened capacity and skill in needs assessment skills especially working with the community to identify the beneficiaries and their needs. Mbale district based URCS volunteers benefited from training in emergency assessments and relief management. Furthermore, the URCS now has a better understanding of camp management and coordination with many partners through taking the lead in NFI distribution and the provision of temporary shelter. The regional disaster operations manager at the IFRC Regional Representation Office in Nairobi provided valuable technical support on setting up temporary shelter, camp design and management of relief to the URCS team in the Bududa IDP camp, which enhanced efficiency throughout the operation.

Monitoring

The UGRCS field teams reported on weekly basis on the situation and implementation of the emergency operation activities. The URCS senior management monitored the operation through written reports by the field team and through field visits. Members of the Central Governing Board Committee on disaster management also monitored the operation through a field visit to the areas. The district leadership through the District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC) monitored the operation at the field level. The URCS participation in the DDMC meetings enabled information flow and exchange that was useful in planning and implementation. URCS provided operational updates and web captions about the situation and operation as it evolved. The updates were also shared with partners in-country including governments authorities, diplomatic missions, international organisations and NGOs.

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 Uganda:** Uganda Red Cross Society: Nataka Michael Richard, Secretary General, Phone: +256.41.772.701; email: natakam@redcrossug.org/sq or urcs@redcrossug.org
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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRUG015 - Uganda - Floods

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/3-2010/7
Budget Timeframe	2010/3-2010/4
Appeal	MDRUG015
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	256,963					256,963
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	253,677					253,677
C6. Other Income	253,677					253,677
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	253,677					253,677
D. Total Funding = B + C	253,677					253,677
Appeal Coverage	99%					99%

II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	253,677					253,677
E. Expenditure	-253,677					-253,677
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	0					0

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/3-2010/7
Budget Timeframe	2010/3-2010/4
Appeal	MDRUG015
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		256,963					256,963	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	70,000							70,000
Construction Materials		64				64		-64
Water & Sanitation	31,400	6				6		31,394
Medical & First Aid	3,920							3,920
Utensils & Tools	31,675							31,675
Total Supplies	136,995	69				69		136,926
Transport & Storage								
Storage	1,306							1,306
Transport & Vehicle Costs	33,479							33,479
Total Transport & Storage	34,785							34,785
Personnel								
International Staff		4,125				4,125		-4,125
Regionally Deployed Staff	4,930							4,930
National Society Staff	43,164							43,164
Total Personnel	48,094	4,125				4,125		43,969
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training		13				13		-13
Total Workshops & Training		13				13		-13
General Expenditure								
Travel	2,000	1,602				1,602		398
Office Costs	1,670	14				14		1,656
Communications	3,116	22				22		3,094
Other General Expenses	13,600	20				20		13,580
Total General Expenditure	20,386	1,657				1,657		18,729
Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societies		232,330				232,330		-232,330
Total Contributions & Transfers		232,330				232,330		-232,330
Programme Support								
Program Support	16,703	15,483				15,483		1,220
Total Programme Support	16,703	15,483				15,483		1,220
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	256,963	253,677				253,677		3,286
VARIANCE (C - D)		3,286				3,286		