

DREF operation update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Madagascar: cyclone Hubert

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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 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: March to June 2010

Summary: CHF 280,171 (USD 264,562 or EUR195,787) was allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC)'s Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 25 March 2010 to support the Madagascar Red Cross Society (MRCS) in delivering assistance to some 5,000 beneficiaries, or to replenish disaster preparedness stocks.

On March 10, 2010, cyclone Hubert hit the East Coast of Madagascar. The moderate cyclone was accompanied by heavy rainfall, which caused flooding in the seven districts namely Nosy Varika, Mananjary, Manakara, Vohipeno, Farafangana, Vangaindrano (south east) and Ambatondrazaka (middle east). According to the office in charge of coordination of disaster management activities, the Ministry of Interior (BNGRC), 192,000 persons were affected, 85 deaths reported as well as 132 people wounded and 35 missing. The road networks have been badly damaged, leading to limited accesses to some of the affected areas.

The East Coast region was also affected by a Chikungunya outbreak (vector-borne disease, with fever, arthralgia, and headache). The MRCS is implementing an emergency response operation to the epidemic (please see DREF Operation [MDRMG005](#)).

The National Society mobilized and deployed two regional disaster response team (RDRT) members to assist the volunteers in carrying out needs and damage assessments in the affected areas. Following rapid and in-depth assessments in the affected seven districts, MRCS volunteers identified 5,000 families in need of cooking sets and 5,000 families in need of water and sanitation (WatSan) facilities including the distribution of potable water, wells treatment, distribution of kit WatSan and hygiene promotion.



Madagascar Red Cross volunteers maintaining a water

The Movement's Plateforme d'Intervention Regional Ocean Indien (PIROI) disaster management also supported MRCS during the first week in Manakara, as well as supporting and coaching the RDRT. The MRCS local branches have memorandum of understanding (MoU) with other stakeholder on disaster response operations including cooperation in food distribution and food-for-work projects. For this operation, the local authorities provided some food items, whilst UNICEF is working in WatSan field in coordination with the Ministry of Water. CARE is acting in distribution of plastic sheeting and BNGRC distributed mosquito net. The National Society is represented at the coordination meetings conducted at national and local levels.

This operation is expected to be implemented in four months, and completed by 10 July Month. In line with Federation reporting standards, the Final Report (narrative and financial) is due 90 days after the end of the operation (by 31 October, 2010).

The major donors of 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 contact details>](#)

The situation

Madagascar with 22 regions experienced political violence in 2009, which left over 130 people dead. The government is not recognised by the international community, and has no support to fund 75 percent of its administration costs. Almost all of the BNGRC's prepositioned foods were looted during the political crisis in 2009, whilst 75 percent of industries have closed leaving thousands of people unemployed. As the crisis is not over yet, security remains a challenge. Hygiene level is very low in the areas of the South East Coast with very limited sanitation facilities and use of latrines.

Cyclone Hubert hit the south-eastern part of Madagascar and directly affected six districts, but its rainfall reached as far as the District of Ambatondrazaka, the main rice producer of Madagascar. These seven targeted districts are included in three regions. And except for the district of Ambatondrazaka, the other six districts in the south east coast are currently inaccessible by land due to damaged bridges.

Floods have destroyed and contaminated wells, houses, family goods and food items. Stagnant water is likely to fuel the spread of the Chikungunya outbreak (recently identified by the health authorities) and malaria that currently affects the South East Coast and thus give rise to emergency health issues amongst the affected population. Rice represents the main staple food of the vulnerable groups, as well as their main source of livelihood. However, rice fields have been flooded and crops damaged, and this is anticipated to affect livelihoods. Roads are badly damaged and many communities are inaccessible for assessment or relief distribution as well as monitoring of the operation.

Rapid assessment carried out by the MRCS identified 5,500 families affected and in need of support. However, after in-depth assessments, the target was revised to 2,748 families in need of both cooking and WatSan kits, 2,252 families in need of WatSan kits only and 2,252 families cooking kit. In Nosy Varika where there is no government water supply structure, the floods affected almost all the water wells, which led to long queues during the initial phase of the water distribution. The relief distribution activities were well planned and the beneficiary lists validated by the local authority. The distribution process went on smoothly in the seven districts.

Three weeks after cyclone Hubert, the IASC organized an initial multi-sectorial assessment in which MRCS community-based First Aid instructor participated. The assessment revealed that the districts of Ikongo and Midongy, as well as other isolated communities were the most affected by cyclone Hubert. Although it was too late for relief action in these other districts, it was critical to provide livelihood recovery actions

Coordination and partnerships

The Civil Protection Company supported by UNICEF, CARE and BNGRC (funded by USAID) have organized two flights to help conduct assessments in areas with damaged road networks. During BNGRC meeting, only MRCS has consistently provided reports from all seven affected districts covering four areas (assessment, camp management, distribution of kit family and complete WatSan activities).

MRCS coordinated with UNICEF in the distribution of WatSan kits. UNICEF intervened in Mananjary, Manakara and Vohipeno and MRCS in Nosy Varika, Farafangana and Vangaindrano. The PIROI airlifted WatSan stock from Réunion Island and some family kit from pre-positioned stock in Madagascar were mobilized to the affected areas. As this area has the lowest level of hygiene in Madagascar (no latrine use), the risk of diarrhoea outbreak is very high during floods. The joint WatSan actions helped in preventing the spread of water-borne diseases.

The Spanish Red Cross is supporting MRCS in Nosy Varika, providing EUR 20,000 for the rehabilitation of wells and establishment of the local management committees for on-going maintenance of these wells. Local MRCS branches have MoU with WFP and Reggio Terzo Mondo (RTM) to implement food-for-work activities in Manakara district, targeting 325 families and with regional authority to distribute food to 685 families in Manakara district. The shelter cluster is not activated but reports are regularly shared with the shelter cluster members.

The RDRT supported MRCS to ensure reporting and to roll out emergency project tools and training modules, following in-depth assessments. IASC has organized multi-cluster assessment in which MRCS instructor participated.

The results of which are as follows:

Sectors	Damage after Cyclone Hubert	Results	Comments
Communes affected		76	Identified with DM local committee
Education	Schools destroyed	28	Among 2,915 primary schools in the two regions
	Schools affected	55	
	Course completely disturbed	2 schools	Vohilany (district of Vohipeno) and Sahafoza (district of Farafangana)
	Duration of disturbances	1 to 2 weeks	
WatSan	Sufficient potable water	67% urban 51% rural	urban : 6 communes rural : 41 communes
	Water safe conservation	17% urban 10% rural	
	Soap available	83% urban 61% rural	
	No latrine use	66% urban 88% rural	
Shelter	Cases destroyed	8,080	2,667 identified during mission which are added with MRCS data
	Roof damaged	1,948	
	IDP hosted by relatives	41,690	
	Families that have lost cooking set	667	
Logistic	Non accessible communes	18	10 longing rail road Fianarantsoa – Manakara
Protection	Children separated with their families.	1	Parents dead during flood
	Promiscuity related risk	Hosted families	41.690 persons
Health NB: CSB means Basic health centre	CSB affected (damaged or flooded only)	21 CSB	Among 60 CSB in 47 communes
	CSB non working before	04 CSB	Among 21 affected
	CSB non accessible	17 CSB	30,138 persons concerned
	Population not able to pay service	43 CSB	452,912 persons concerned
	Immunization stopped	16 CSB	167,984 persons concerned
	No preventive act (family planning, consultation before birth)	8 CSB	98,801 persons concerned
	Materials and drugs damaged	50%	districts of Vohipeno and Farafangana
	Outbreak risk	8 districts affected	14 tested, 10 confirmed chikungunya, 1 dengue in Ikongo.
	Diarrhoea risk	10 CSB	
	Respiratory infection increased	02 CSB	district of Midongy sud
Food security	Acute (priority 1)	14 communes	Communes more affected: longing rivers
	Moderated (priority 2)	16 communes	
	normal (priority 3)	15 communes	

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards objectives

To provide the affected population with the basic equipment to improve their daily lives and contribute to improved health.

Water and sanitation
Objective: To improve safe water access to approximately 5,500 vulnerable families who have been affected by the cyclone.
Expected Result: Water born diseases decrease among affected families.
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mobilize, train and deploy volunteers to conduct detailed assessment in existing coverage in five districts. 140 volunteers (with a gender balance maintained) were trained and mobilized in the seven affected districts.• Mobilize PIROI and MRCS water supply equipment to provide affected population with safe water in critical areas. PIROI stock in the Réunion Island and MRCS stock were mobilized during the first week of the operation. A total of 1.500m3 of water has been distributed for 10,715 families to date. This activity is on-going.• Clean and disinfect affected wells in seven districts. 651 wells have been disinfected in seven affected districts. A total of 240 volunteers were mobilized in 79 communities. This activity is on-going.• Carry out hygiene and sanitation awareness campaign to reduce risk of water and vector disease. 18.155 families have been sensitized in correct hygiene practices after floods and during wells disinfection. No water-borne diseases have been reported although the affected area has the highest risk of water-borne disease in Madagascar.• Procure and distribute family WatSan kits for household water treatment and safe storage 5,000 WatSan kits have been distributed to 5,000 families. Distribution begun on 16 March and ended on 1 May 2010.

Challenges:

- Some communities are hardly accessible because of damage roads. The volunteers have to go on foot to carry out relief activities. The limited access has made information gathering and monitoring of activities difficult and inconsistent.
- The results of assessment from various stakeholders differ, which affects coordination of activities. The IASC team has carried a multi-sectorial assessment three weeks later in order to harmonise the findings.

Relief
Objective 1: To distribute family kits to approximately 5,500 affected families.
Expected Result: Affected families have basic household items to begin recovering their daily lives.
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mobilize, train and deploy volunteers to conduct detailed assessment in existing coverage in five districts. 140 volunteers are trained on carrying out rapid assessments and have been deployed in seven districts.• Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. MRCS volunteers have registered the affected families, and among is 5,000 are targeted according to

based on the needs and IFRC criteria for relief assistance. The local authorities have validated the beneficiary lists. The beneficiaries are also active in relief distribution and WatSan Activities.

- **Procure and distribute family kits.**

The affected families in seven districts have been provided with family kit. The distribution process begun on April 19 and ended on April 30. A total of 5,000 kits have been distributed.

- **Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.**

Relief distribution report is available.

Objective 2: To provide basic services in temporary IDP camps.

Expected results: Affected families in camps have access to basic health and hygiene services

Activities planned and progress

- **Mobilize, train and deploy volunteers to coordinate basic service in camps (food distribution, water supply, sanitation, health sensitization)**

70 volunteers have been trained in camp management activities and are deployed in 30 camp sites. The volunteers assist in collaboration with the WFP and local authorities in the distribution of food items to the affected families. A total of 1,010 families benefited from food distributions and reached through hygiene promotion and sensitization.

Food distribution (from WFP and RTM)	10 days	20 volunteers	MANAKARA	2 Kg of rice, 300g of beans per person	325 families
Food distribution (from Regional authority)	3 days	32 volunteers	MANAKARA	4 kg of rice per person	685 families

- **Develop registration system to deliver intended assistance.**

(see above) Beneficiaries sign the reception list. Authority also approves the reception list.



Relief distribution carried out by the trained MRCS volunteers

Number of beneficiaries in the seven districts:

In total, 5,000 cooking kits and 5,000 WatSan kits have been distributed to 7,252 families. A total of 2,252 families benefited from cooking kits alone, an additional 2,252 benefited from WatSan kits and 2,748 benefited from both cooking kits and WatSan kits. Among them, 500 families in Nosy Varika and 500 families in Mananjary have received PIROI WatSan kits at the beginning of the operation. MRCS has advanced funds to begin soft activities such as hygiene promotion sensitisation. Cooking pots from pre-positioned stock have already been mobilized because their production need more time.

DISTRICT	Beneficiaries cooking kit only	Beneficiaries WatSan + cooking kit	Beneficiaries WatSan kit only	Total beneficiaries
Nosy Varika	0	2,140	828	2,968
Mananjary	661	0	0	661
Manakara	300	0	0	300
Vohipeno	449	0	0	449
Farafangana	842	0	970	1,812
Vangaindrano	0	178	287	465
Ambatondrazaka	0	430	167	597
TOTAL	2,252	2,748	2,252	7,252

Challenges:

- The political environment is still unstable, which makes the operating environment volatile. However there have been no reported incidences of violence.
- The Chikungunya epidemic poses a threat to the health of MRCS volunteers. Anti mosquito cream have been procured and distributed to volunteers working in affected areas, to protect them from mosquito bites. So far no reports of malaria have been reported among the volunteers.

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 the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation'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 International Federation'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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