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DREF operation update

Guinea: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRGN004
GLIDE n° FL-2011-000131-GIN
Update n°1 –29 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: 07 September to 30 November, 2011.

Summary: CHF 261,008 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on September 2011, to support the National Society in delivering assistance to some 1,500 households.

The Republic of Guinea was struck by a series of floods following heavy rainfalls in August particularly affecting the Prefectures of Labé (city centre), Siguiiri, the sub-prefectures of Niandankoro, and Kéniébakoura and the urban districts of Mandiana (Kiniéran), Gaoual, Matam (Heremakonon) and Matoto (Yimbaya market). A damage assessment revealed that a total of 1,920 houses were damaged or destroyed, and 542 latrines and 212 wells flooded and rendered unusable in places. This situation has increased the vulnerability of the disaster-stricken communities. Among the affected locations, the Prefecture of Siguiiri reported 12,166 affected persons.

This operation was expected to be implemented over three months, and completed by the end of November 2011. Although the operation has carried out most relief distributions and some sensitization activities, other activities were delayed because of political violence affecting the country. In early September 2011, Guinean opposition parties decided to organize a march in protest to the Government's unilateral decision to hold the elections of the members of Parliament in December 2011. The protestors invaded the streets and clashed violently with police. Some people were reported to have been killed in the violence. The priority of the Red Cross volunteers was to deliver First Aid services and ensure the evacuation of injured people to hospitals.

As a consequence, some planned activities were delayed. For instance, some relief items could not be purchased due to closure of shops. Taking into account the delay of the activities, the Red Cross Society of Guinea disaster management department has revised the plan of action accordingly and requested extension of the operational timeframe from 30 November 2011 to 31 December, 2011. A Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (i.e. by 31 March 2012).

Funds to replenish this DREF have been provided by DG-ECHO, Netherlands Red Cross and government as well as the Canadian Red Cross and CIDA. 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_2010.pdf for 2010, and at: www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/Active/MAA00010_2011.pdf for 2011.

The situation

The torrential rains in Guinea led to floods and have caused significant material damage. They also affected approximately 2,645 families, representing 16,143 persons, and left more than 4,000 persons homeless. Displaced persons have been accommodated in temporary sites (schools, stores, neighbours, public buildings, etc.). A DREF operation was released to address urgent needs identified by an assessment led by the Red Cross Society of Guinea in areas of:

- Shelter (distribution of blankets and mats to 1,500 households and 35 tents);
- Water and sanitation (reinforcement and rehabilitation of 75 latrines and 100 wells, distribution of water purification products and sensitisation on hygiene);
- Health (distribution of Insecticides Treated nets (ITNs) and sensitisation on water-borne diseases) as well as supporting logistics and coordination activities.

Coordination and partnerships

Assessment results were shared with movement partners (IFRC, ICRC, Danish Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross) and other humanitarian partners (UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, MSF, etc) as well as the Service National de l'Action Humanitaire (SENAH) representing the Government.

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 to floods of 1,500 families with the provision of relief materials.
Outputs (expected results) Relief items are procured and distributed to 1,500 families affected by the floods.
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distribution of 35 tents, 3,000 blankets, 3,000 mats, 15,750 bars of soap, 1,500 jerry cans, 1,500 buckets, 1,500 kitchen sets;• Equipping the 150 volunteers with: 150 pairs of boots, 150 gloves, 60 raincoats;• Acquisition and use of 10 megaphones and batteries;• Transportation of non-food items to distribution points;• Briefing of 150 volunteers for the distribution.

Progress: A total of 1,468 affected families benefited from Non-Food Items. These families are located in the areas of Niandankoro, Konomaloura, and Dyeya. In order to successfully achieve the humanitarian response, the National Society Headquarters has deployed a team in charge of putting up tents to local committees for support. As a result, a total of 19 tents were set up in Konomakoura village and 15 in Siguiri area. The IFRC Sahel Region Logistics Assistant has also been deployed to Guinea to provide additional logistics capacity in setting-up an efficient logistic system and identifying the best supply chain to support the operation.

Emergency health
Outcome: Reduce the health risks due to flooding through the provision of malaria prevention activities and conduct health sensitization sessions for 1,500 affected families.
Outputs (expected results) Mortality and morbidity are reduced through the provision of Insecticide Treated Mosquito nets, and preventive health care sensitization sessions to the affected families.
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sensitisation of 1,500 households on malaria prevention.• Distribution of 3,000 treated bed nets.• Ensure the training of 150 volunteers on malaria prevention.

Progress: Detergent and hygiene kits have been purchased. Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) kits as well as training manuals have been elaborated and enabled the sensitization of communities on water, sanitation, hygiene and malaria.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The risks of diseases are reduced through the improvement of access to clean water, hygiene and sanitation facilities for 1,500 affected families.

Outputs (expected results)

Improved access to potable water, sanitation and hygiene for families affected by floods.

Activities planned:

- Distribution of 60,000 Aquatabs to 1,500 households;
- Rebuild 75 latrines for houses that lost their latrines during the floods;
- Distribution of 1,500 hygiene kits to 1,500 affected households;
- Distribute 150 PHAST kits to volunteers in the flooded areas;
- Ensure the training of 75 Volunteers in techniques of water purification and promotion of hygiene;
- Distribute 15,750 bars of soap, 1,500 jerry cans, 1,500 buckets, 13,500 detergent bottles;
- Organise hygiene and sanitation promotional activities;
- Distribution of hygiene and sanitation material;
- Rehabilitate and treat 100 flooded wells.

Progress: In response to the needs for clean water and access to standard sanitation, the Red Cross Society of Guinea has planned to rebuild 75 completely damaged family latrines, provide water purification tablets and carry out disinfection of latrines and hygiene promotion at individual and collective levels. Additionally, 105 wells were rehabilitated or treated in Siguiri, slightly exceeding the target. As for the rehabilitation of latrines an engineer has been recruited for support.

Communications/Reporting, monitoring and coordination

Outcome: The social mobilisation capacity of the Red Cross of Guinea for households affected by the flood is strengthened, as well as its capacity for monitoring-evaluation.

Outputs (expected results)

Communication promotion materials are developed in order to reach flood victims, women and children, and other population at risk.

Activities planned:

- Production and multiplication of posters, bulletins and other sensitisation materials;
- Strengthen the capacities of the persons affected on the techniques for sensitising the affected population and their host families.

Outputs (expected results)

The population at risk are sensitised on early warning system in risk areas, drainage techniques as well as the reduction of flood-related risks.

Activities planned:

- Build the capacities of the persons affected on social mobilisation techniques;
- Strengthen the capacities of CRG on the techniques for sensitising the affected population.

Outputs (expected results)

The reports are drafted and shared in a timely manner.

Activities planned:

- Information is shared with all partners and reports are drafted on a timely basis.
- The activity reports of the National Society are published.

Progress: The media coverage of activities has been actively promoted. Communications made use of local and national radio. Telegrams were sent to the Guinea Press Agency. Images of the activities related to the distribution of NFIs and the sensitization activities have been shared with national television. Press releases have been disseminated.

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DREF history:

- This DREF was initially allocated on 07 September 2011 for CHF 261,008 for three months to assist 1,500 households beneficiaries.



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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.