

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Montenegro: Floods

DREF operation MDRME003
GLIDE No. FL-2010-000239-MNE
18 May 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 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 50,255 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society of Montenegro in delivering immediate assistance to some 1,350 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Heavy rains over four days in November 2010 produced floods in central and northern parts of Montenegro, causing severe damage, especially in municipalities up north: Nikšić, Danilovgrad, Bijelo Polje, Berane, Andrijevica and Plav. The road between Kolašin and Podgorica was closed due to the landslide, and the airport in Podgorica was closed for four hours due to the water levels. 270 families were evacuated (around 1,350 persons) in the municipalities of Berane, Andrijevica and Plav and were in need of basic emergency relief items. The Red Cross of Montenegro branches joined the response efforts in all the municipalities, working closely with local authorities, helping with assessment, relief and early rehabilitation. The National Society released its emergency stock and further assistance was provided with support of the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund. Distributed items included jerry cans, blankets, kitchen sets, mattresses and sleeping bags.



Flooded streets of Berane. Photo: Red Cross of Montenegro

The major donors to the DREF are the Irish, Italian, Netherlands and Norwegian governments and ECHO. The Netherlands Red Cross contributed CHF 20,364 and the Canadian government provided CHF 2,430 for this intervention. Details of all donors can be found at <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

Over four days in November 2010 massive rainfalls affected Montenegro causing floods in the central and northern parts of the country. The water level of several rivers quickly rose, gaining over 100 centimetres in only 24 hours. The following municipalities were affected the most: Nikšić, Danilovgrad, Bijelo Polje, Berane, Andrijevica and Plav. The main road between Podgorica and Kolasin had to be closed for one day, and the international airport in Podgorica was closed for a couple of hours. The municipalities of Berane, Plav and Andrijevica suffered the greatest damages.

In Berane, 110 families (approximately 550 people) were evacuated and were accommodated in the sports centre. In Plav, 150 families (approximately 750 people) were evacuated and sheltered in a hotel, mountain resorts and several local schools. In Andrijevica 10 families (approximately 50 people) were evacuated and sheltered in the sports hall of the local school.

The situation in these municipalities was further complicated because there was no electricity for several days, no drinking water and a great part of the food reserves of families living there was destroyed by water. With several hundred houses still flooded, it was difficult to salvage the possessions until the water receded more than two weeks later. Agricultural land was also heavily affected as well as cattle fodder and cattle, adding up to the damage that was assessed to be several hundred thousand Euro. The evacuated families resided in temporary accommodation and were in need of water, food and blankets.

Coordination and partnerships

Crisis headquarters were established in Berane and Plav, with secretaries of the local Red Cross branches as members. Local authorities from all three municipalities in cooperation with UNHCR provided two cooked meals for all the people evacuated on a daily basis starting from November 10th. The Red Cross of Montenegro and UNHCR provided emergency relief items for the evacuated population in Berane, the Red Cross releasing its emergency stock. Local Red Cross disaster teams were activated and sent to the field to monitor the situation and to coordinate Red Cross activities with other partners.

The Red Cross representatives also participated in the teams for needs assessment. These teams, coordinated by local authorities, were thoroughly reviewing the initial lists of families in need of assistance and after the assessment, the number of these families was enlarged by 50%. The Red Cross was also member of the Government's Damage Assessment Commission. The National Society worked closely with sub-municipal authorities on distributing the relief items.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Following its legal mandate and priorities, the Red Cross of Montenegro acted at local and national level, participating in local Crisis Headquarters (monitoring, assessment, coordination) as well as the National Damage Assessment Commission.

The National Society responded to the immediate needs of the evacuated population on the first day of their displacement, by releasing its emergency stock. 270 families (approximately 1,350 people) in temporary accommodation across three municipalities were assisted through this initial intervention, providing them with means to obtain safe drinking water, to prepare their own food, sleep comfortably and return to their flooded houses in order to salvage their possessions. Here is the breakdown of distributed goods:

Items	Amount
Hygiene parcels	270
Mattresses	250
Jerry cans	29
Rubber boots	130
Kitchen sets	270
Blankets	500

Table 1: Emergency items distribution

After the initial assessment was done, the National Society requested the International Federation's assistance. DREF funds were used to replenish the stocks released in the initial distribution and also to provide the evacuated families with further assistance. Some food was provided due to the fact that two daily meals provided by the UNHCR/ local authorities were insufficient to satisfy all the nutritional needs of the affected population. Here is the breakdown of this distribution.

Items	Region			DP stock replenishment	Total distribution
	Plav	Berane	Andrijevisa		
Food parcels	150	110	10		270
Hygiene items	300	220	20	270	540
Kitchen sets	150	110	10		270
Boots	300	200	20	80	520
Mattress	300	200			500
Jerry cans	300	200	10	300	510
Blankets	300	250	50	750	600

Table 2: Stock replenishment and secondary distribution to the evacuated population

Achievements against outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Outcome: Evacuated population from the municipalities most affected by the floods, Berane, Plav and Andrijevisa, must be provided with emergency relief items according to the needs assessment from the field: 270 food parcels, 540 hygiene parcels, 810 jerry cans, 1350 blankets, 600 pairs of rubber boots, 270 kitchen sets, and 500 mattresses.

Outputs (expected results) and activities planned:

- All of the evacuated population is provided with the necessary emergency relief items.
- Continuous cooperation with local crisis headquarters and other partners at the field.
- Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments.
- Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.
- Develop exit strategy

Impact: The 1,350 affected people, who were displaced from their flooded houses, were supported in staying in temporary accommodation through the provision of hygiene items, canned food and basic non-food items. Jerry cans were especially important due to the inability to use the waterworks for several days, so all of the families could carry their own water from distribution points provided by the authorities.

The food assistance was important due to the fact that UNHCR and local authorities provided only two meals per day for the evacuated population so the Red Cross filled this gap by providing canned food and kitchen sets. This meant that the population in temporary accommodation was well nourished and stayed healthy.

The provision of mattresses, blankets and hygiene items helped the evacuated families to stay in temporary accommodation and to preserve their health. No major health problems were detected during the evacuation, and the subsequent accommodation in housing facilities which were not very comfortable.

The provided rubber boots helped the population return to their flooded homes and recover some of their possessions.

In all, the health and safety of 1,350 affected people were preserved through the supply of food and non-food items and their return to their flooded homes, salvaging of possessions and preparing of rehabilitation were made possible.

Satisfaction survey

A satisfaction survey among people reached in all the three municipalities was conducted by the Red Cross of Montenegro. The survey aimed to find out whether the operation met the needs among the affected people, the people's satisfaction with the Red Cross response as well as their involvement in needs assessment, planning and implementation. The interviewed population was gender balanced, mostly from larger families (although some of them were one or two people households) and for the most part socially

vulnerable (older people, single mothers, people living with disabilities). The following findings emerged during the survey.

- Making sure the actual beneficiaries were included in the needs assessment contributed significantly to the appropriate response. Despite the Red Cross experience in Disaster Response, the best way to properly target the response is having the target population on board since the very beginning. Still, only approximately 20% of the beneficiaries took part in some of these activities. Better mechanisms for involving the beneficiaries/ affected people themselves in the response need to be devised.
- Coordination between the responders was good, with no overlapping, although it was noted that the information flow towards the end users/ beneficiaries could have been better. Most of the information was provided to the population via media, which in turn got it mostly from the Red Cross representatives (70%) and the representatives of local authorities (usually the sub-municipal level) and for the future interventions this needs to be better structured, improving the information flow. Only 40% of the beneficiaries knew in advance what kind of goods were to be distributed. Media, as the “natural” provider of information should be more closely involved in providing timely and accurate information to the affected population.
- Timeliness-wise, not all the beneficiaries felt their needs were responded to in the shortest possible timeframe. Approximately half of the population received assistance within the first 12 hours of their displacement, whereas the rest received it in the next 24-48 hours. It was concluded that better coordination between partners would be needed in order to speed up decision-making in the future.
- Visibility of the Red Cross was good. 95% of the interviewed population confirmed that the Red Cross volunteers and staff wore visible Red Cross emblems, and that their conduct was appropriate.

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.

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.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In the Red Cross of Montenegro:** Goran Petrusic DM Coordinator +382 69 023 333
goran.petrusic@ckcg.co.me
- **In the IFRC Country Representation for Serbia:** Uroš Smiljanić, Head of Office, Belgrade, email: uros.smiljanic@ifrc.org ; phone: +381 113282202; fax: +381 113281791
- **In the IFRC Europe Zone Office:** Elias Ghanem, Head of Support Services, Budapest, phone: + 36 1 8884 518; fax: +36 1 336 15 16; email: elias.ghanem@ifrc.org
- **In Geneva:** Pablo Medina, Operations Coordinator, phone: +41 22 730 4381, fax: +41 22 733 0395, email: pablo.medina@ifrc.org

[<final financial report below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/11-2011/4
Budget Timeframe	2010/11-2011/2
Appeal	MDRME003
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Funding

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	50,255					50,255
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>DREF Allocations</i>	50,255					50,255
C4. Other Income	50,255					50,255
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)	50,255					50,255
D. Total Funding = B + C	50,255					50,255
Appeal Coverage	100%					100%

II. Movement of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	50,255					50,255
E. Expenditure	-50,255					-50,255
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	-0					-0

III. Consolidated Expenditure vs. Budget

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)		50,255					50,255	
Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societies	47,188	47,188					47,188	0
Total Contributions & Transfers	47,188	47,188					47,188	0
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Service Support	3,067	3,067					3,067	0
Total Indirect Costs	3,067	3,067					3,067	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	50,255	50,255					50,255	0
VARIANCE (C - D)		0					0	