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# Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

## Kiribati: Tropical Cyclone Pam



<b>DREF operation n° MDRKI001</b>	
<b>Date of issue: 16 March 2015</b>	<b>Date of disaster: 11 March 2015</b>
<b>Manager responsible for this DREF operation:</b> Laura Holbeck, Regional Programmes Coordinator, IFRC Pacific Regional Office	<b>Point of contact:</b> Meaua Tooki Secretary General, Kiribati Red Cross Society
<b>Operation start date: 16 March 2015</b>	<b>Operation end date: 16 June 2015</b>
<b>Operation budget: CHF 73,258</b>	<b>DREF allocated: CHF 73,258</b>
<b>Number of people to be assisted: 2,400 people (approximately 400 households)</b>	
<b>Host National Society:</b> The Kiribati Red Cross Society has eleven staff members in its headquarters based at the capital, Tarawa. On the islands, the National Society has branch representatives who lead local disaster response with their island councils.	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation:</b> The National Society is working with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) as well as the New Zealand Red Cross.	

## A. Situation analysis

### Description of the disaster

Tropical Cyclone Pam continues to make way in the South Pacific Ocean after battering Vanuatu on Friday 13 March 2015 with Category V strength, causing massive humanitarian needs across all of the provinces in Vanuatu, including Port Vila. Described as the strongest storm to make landfall since Typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines in November 2013, Pam is turning out to be one of the worst cyclones to affect the Pacific in recent history.

Prior to heading towards Tuvalu and Vanuatu, Tropical Cyclone Pam had whipped up rough seas around Kiribati, contributing to massive king tides that caused widespread coastal flooding, with damages in Kiribati's capital, Tarawa. There has also been damage to major throughway bridges, disruption to communications and constraints in travel. The hospital in Betio was damaged while power and the mobile phone network have been working intermittently.

On Friday 13 March 2015, Kiribati's National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) reported that three outer islands (Arorae, Tamana and Onotoa) had been struck by strong winds which caused extensive damage to houses. Affected families were relocated to *maneaba* (meeting halls) of their respective island councils. The number of damaged houses and affected people is still being confirmed by the authorities.

It is worth noting that in addition to Tropical Cyclone Pam, Tropical Cyclone Nathan is away from the north east coast of Australia in an easterly direction, south of Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands towards Vanuatu over the coming days. Tropical Storm Bavi is also crossing the northern Pacific Ocean, also influencing weather and swells in the region. Further to the king tides that have caused coastal flooding to Kiribati in recent weeks, another king tide, projected to be more than two metres, is due on 20 March 2015.

In response to the situation, Kiribati Red Cross Society (KRCS) has been coordinating with the NDMO and working closely with island disaster management committees to meet immediate needs of affected people. KRCS has requested for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to enable its branches to mount an effective response. It is in this context that the IFRC is making an allocation from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to enable the National Society to provide immediate relief assistance. As well as enabling

KRCS to mobilize non-food relief items for distribution, the funds will support deployment of operational support and assessment teams.

## Summary of the current response

### Overview of Host National Society

The Kiribati Red Cross Society (KRCS) undertook an inventory of its preparedness stocks and its branch members and outer island representatives are currently working closely with island disaster management committees in immediate response to the disaster. The National Society's disaster management officer is leading initial assessments but communication is disrupted and information flow is not yet as frequent as hoped. Distribution of blankets has been conducted, with numbers yet to be confirmed, but the KRCS's emergency stocks have been exhausted and no pre-positioned stocks remain in-country.

After examining its response capacity, the KRCS has requested for technical support from the IFRC and Partner National Societies present in the region to respond to needs brought by the weather systems.

### Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in the region

Host National Societies in the Pacific, along with the IFRC Pacific Regional Office (PRO) and Partner National Societies, have been on high alert since this Tropical Cyclone was sighted and meteorological projections indicated its imminent impact on several countries. The IFRC PRO and the Asia Pacific Zone office continue to monitor the situation closely. On Sunday, 15 March 2015, the PRO organized a teleconference for partners present in the region, to better coordinate the response.

### Overview of non-Red Cross Red Crescent actors in-country

#### *Coordinating with the authorities*

The KRCS coordinates closely with the NDMO at the headquarters level while branches in outer islands are working closely with their respective island councils.

#### *Inter-agency coordination*

The IFRC PRO is maintaining close coordination with UNOCHA and other regional partners in Suva, Fiji.

## Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

### Needs assessments

Strong winds caused extensive damage to houses, prompting affected families to evacuate to *maneaba* (meeting halls) of their respective island councils. While the number of damaged houses and affected people is still being confirmed by the authorities, an initial analysis by the KRCS's disaster management officer — who has been in contact with branches in affected islands — indicates needs mostly in relief items, emergency shelter, emergency health, and water and sanitation.

This operation will therefore support KRCS to meet the immediate needs of target households through the provision of essential household non-food items and emergency shelter materials. The criteria for selecting beneficiaries will take into account gender and other considerations.

## B. Operational strategy and plan

This operational plan is fully in line with IFRC policies, procedures, and commitments, and seeks to provide immediate support to families most affected by the weather systems and related events, including heavy sea swells and flooding, in Kiribati. At this stage, KRCS will respond only to immediate needs and has not planned a post-relief intervention.

This DREF allocation aims to address the immediate needs of up to 400 households through the provision of essential household non-food items and emergency shelter materials as well as water sanitation and emergency health related activities. In order to deliver the assistance, operational support and assessment teams will be mobilized and deployed with support of the DREF allocation.

**The operation will be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 15 June 2015.** A Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation.

### Overall objective

This DREF operation will support immediate needs of up to 400 households through the provision of essential household non-food items and emergency shelter materials.

## **Proposed strategy**

The KRCS does not have sufficient disaster preparedness stocks in-country and plans have advanced to dispatch relief items from the Fiji Red Cross Society, in Suva, to Kiribati. This DREF allocation will support replenishment of preparedness stocks advanced from Fiji and/or through the IFRC zone logistics unit as well as mobilization of non-food relief and emergency shelter items for distribution. The DREF allocation will also support the cost of freight and transportation to affected areas.

## **Operational support services**

### **Human resources**

As they are the first responders and already located on these isolated islands, volunteers from KRCS are already responding to the disaster in coordination with island disaster committees. Deployment of staff and volunteers will be crucial for effective delivery of assistance, as such this operation's budget has a provision for mobilization and deployment of staff and volunteers. As well as supporting the deployments, this DREF allocation will cover insurance for volunteers who will be involved in the response. Mobilization of volunteers will consider gender balance.

### **Logistics and supply chain**

Considering the distances between islands in Kiribati, logistics costs tend to be high. Movement of supplies and human resources (staff and volunteers) will, therefore, take a considerable portion of the budget. It is also important to consider the limited options available and the long required times to dispatch relief items from Kuala Lumpur to Kiribati. There is also a shipment currently on the way from Kuala Lumpur.

The following items are expected to arrive in Kiribati on 29 March 2015:

- 100 blankets
- 400 buckets
- 100 mosquito nets
- 90 tarpaulins
- 300 10-litre jerry cans
- 22 hygiene parcels

### **Information technology and telecommunications**

New Zealand Red Cross supports telecommunication programmes across the region. Should support be required in this area, New Zealand Red Cross will be approached to assist.

### **Communications**

Remote support will be provided by the IFRC Asia Pacific communication unit through the regional communications and advocacy manager for Southeast Asia Regional Delegation.

### **Planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER)**

Reporting on the operation will be made in accordance with the IFRC minimum reporting standards. A regional after-action review will be conducted at the end of the broader Tropical Cyclone Pam operation (outside of this DREF operation). A post-action survey is planned at the end of operation. One update will be issued during the operation's timeframe and a final report within three months of the end of the operation.

### **Administration and Finance**

The IFRC, through the department of finance, provides the necessary operational support for review, validation of budgets, bank transfers, and technical assistance to the National Societies on procedures for justification of expenditures, including the review and validation of invoices. Most National Societies have been supported for many years by the IFRC and are accustomed to these financial procedures.



**ANNEX 1: ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS TABLE TEMPLATE**

<b>ASSUMPTIONS &amp; RISKS</b>	<b>LIST IF SPECIFIC AFFECTED SECTORS OR STATE 'ALL'</b>	<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>CAN CONTROL; MITIGATE / INFLUENCE; OR ONLY FACTOR-IN</b>
Access and logistics for travel of assessment teams as well as delivery of materials is not hampered by rough sea and/or bad weather conditions	All	H	H	Factor in response planning
Subsequent storms do not impact upon the same affected areas, distracting resources and implementation schedules	All	M	H	Factor in response planning

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## Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation, please contact:

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1. DREF budget [below](#)
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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 (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian 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:



**Save lives.**  
protect livelihoods,  
and strengthen recovery  
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**  
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**  
and a culture of  
**non-violence** and **peace**.

# DREF OPERATION

16/03/2015

MDRKI001 Kiribati : Tropical Cyclone Pam

<b>Budget Group</b>	<b>DREF Grant Budget CHF</b>
Shelter - Relief	25,255
Clothing & Textiles	9,471
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	8,951
Utensils & Tools	4,457
<b>Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES</b>	<b>48,134</b>
Distribution & Monitoring	6,314
<b>Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE</b>	<b>6,314</b>
Volunteers	9,686
<b>Total PERSONNEL</b>	<b>9,686</b>
Travel	3,101
Office Costs	631
Communications	871
Financial Charges	50
<b>Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>4,653</b>
Programme and Services Support Recovery	4,471
<b>Total INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>4,471</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>73,258</b>