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Emergency Plan of Action operation update

Liberia: Margibi Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF Operation n° MDRLR002	Operations update no. 1
Date of issue: 13 September 2016	Timeframe covered by this update: 29 June – 31 August 2016
DREF operation start date: 29 June 2016	Timeframe: 29 June – 07 September 2016
Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated: CHF 75,155	
N° of people being assisted: 2,155, revised downwards from the original target of 2,500 people based on assessments	
Liberia National Red Cross Society (LNRCS) presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): 70 volunteers, 30 staff, two branches involved in DREF operation.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: IFRC, Danish Red Cross, German RC and ICRC,	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government of Liberia (National Disaster Response Team)	

A. Situation analysis

Summary: The Liberian National Red Cross Society (LNRCS) is providing emergency assistance to an initial target of 2,500 affected by floods in Lower and Upper Margibi County in Liberia. The LNRCS started providing relief assistance from its prepositioned stocks to affected people on the 29 June 2016 immediately following reports of the floods.

A total of CHF 75,155 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 7 July 2016 to support the LNRCS to provide emergency assistance to 2,155 people (431 people) affected by floods in Lower and Upper Margibi County in Liberia. The target was revised downwards from an estimated 2,500 people to be assisted originally after a more detailed assessment was carried out.



Volunteers conducting assessments. Photo: LRCS

To appropriately determine the scope of intervention, and the level of assistance, LNRCS, supported by IFRC, conducted a rapid needs and damage assessment exercise in accessible affected areas between 29 June to 4 July, covering 11 affected communities and nine internally displaced people (IDP) centres in Lower Margibi and nine communities in Upper Margibi.

The outcome of the rapid assessment was used to develop an Emergency Plan of Action to implement the DREF. Key action areas for intervention in the plan of action include emergency shelter and non-food items, emergency health and emergency food relief as well as replenishment of items distributed from the National Society's prepositioned

stocks. Distribution of assorted relief items commenced on 13 July 2016 in the affected communities. An in-country IFRC support and technical team continues support to the LNRCS to assess the situation. Based on operational challenges, largely due to procurement related delays for the replenishment of items used in the early days of the response, a one-month extension up to 8 October 2016 is requested to enable completion of the planned distribution of food and non-food items which are still needed by the affected families that are still vulnerable. The budget has also been revised to acknowledge items which were provided in-kind from partners towards the operation, as well as to include further complementary non-food items to support the emergency shelter component which were not included in the original plan. The overall total budget remains unchanged.

[<click here for the contact details>](#)

Coordination and partnerships

NRCS was part of the Inter-Agency Group assessment team led by the Government which comprises of international organizations and other key national actors from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Liberia Refugees Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC). Interagency coordination meetings brought together all the humanitarian actors, the Margibi County local authority and line ministries responsible for coordinating the response to the disaster. The meetings held until early August were for information sharing on the various ongoing interventions and plans of action. LNRCS provided regular updates on the situation to all Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners in-country. The Movement partners' coordination is maintained by the IFRC and led by the LNRCS.

The Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross, ICRC and IFRC supported the National Society's floods response operation from the onset with technical assistance, logistics capacity and donations of relief materials. Coordination meetings are convened with Movement partners to share information and discuss issues related to coordination of the operation in the field. The following items were provided from stock by the LNRCS, IFRC and German Red Cross for the floods response.

Description	Quantity	Comments
Mosquito nets	800	Part German RC stock/Part LNRCS stock
Rubber boots (pairs)	50	IFRC stock
Laundry soap (pieces)	800	IFRC stock
Bath soap (pieces)	800	IFRC stock
Hand sanitizer	480	IFRC stock
Jerry cans	300	Part IFRC stock/ Part LNRCS stock
Plastic buckets	300	IFRC stock
Shelter toolkits	190	Sahel Cluster stock
Kitchen sets	130	IFRC stock
Blankets	800	IFRC stock

Since the above items which had been included in the initial DREF budget were subsequently donated, the related budget lines were reallocated towards procurement of additional materials including timber, nails and accessories for emergency shelter construction that were not captured in the previous budget. The shelter component is critical as the rains continue and affected persons still require assistance. Most organisations previously involved in the response are no longer forthcoming. The 2016/2017 fiscal year budget has not been passed by parliament making it difficult for government institutions to mobilize resources to intervene appropriately. As such the government lacks adequate capacity and was relying on NGOs to assist in meeting the needs in affected communities.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall Objective

Immediate survival needs of the flood-affected population are met through the provision of essential emergency relief, shelter, health, water and hygiene promotion assistance, targeting a total of 500 families (2,500 people), in Margibi County, for an initial period of two months. With the current extension, the operation will be for three months.

Operational Implementation

Lower and Upper Margibi County was hit by a flood disaster on 29 June 2016 following torrential rainfall in the region. The flood caused massive destruction of homes, farm field, crops, and displacement. A total of 15,431 persons in 40 communities (including the people being assisted through this DREF operation) were affected, according to official

report from the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The most affected areas included, Borborville, New and Old Dolo Town, Dennisville, Zoekwelin, Kokoville, Lorkpor and Peter Town in Lower Margibi and World Bank and Kissi communities among others in Upper Margibi.

The context of the post disaster environment is changing gradually with many of the affected communities past the initial floods emergency crisis. Communities which were previously cut off by the flooding are now accessible. However, water and sanitation needs in the communities remain critical. A water, sanitation and hygiene technical assessment conducted jointly by the IFRC and LNRCS showed that there is still great need for water related interventions as most wells and other water sources are contaminated. Access to basic non-food items and psychosocial support is also needed for the affected. Shelter remains a critical need for the affected households. With the rain season gradually reaching its highest peak in September the situation could get worse, with increased vulnerability to health related hazards.

Breakdown of targeted beneficiaries

Community	Total number of households	Total persons served	Adults		Children (male & female)
			Male	Female	
Borborville	37	185	64	99	22
Dennisville	15	75	14	29	32
Kokoville	23	115	47	48	20
Zoekwelin Estate	18	90	31	43	74
Arkpor/Ambush Curve	70	350	123	152	75
Total	163	815	279	371	223
IDPs Centres					
Mother Artis	56	280	101	121	59
Beckies School	5	25	4	8	13
Vine Christian School	34	170	16	120	34
Peter Town Public School	173	865	213	437	215
Total	268	1,340	334	686	321
Grand Total	431	2,155	613	1,057	544

C. Detailed Operational Plan

Quality programming / Areas common to all sectors			
Outcome 1: Continuous and detailed assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the DREF operation	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 1.1: Rapid needs assessment are carried out to inform the preparation/revision of the Emergency Plan of Action in Margibi and Montserrat Counties		
	Output 1.2: Basic monitoring and evaluation plans are developed and used in the DREF operation		
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes	No	
1.1.1 Conduct participatory initial assessment to inform the design of the EPoA and detailed sectoral plans	X		Completed
1.1.2 Provide sex, gender and diversity disaggregated data in all reports of various assessments conducted	X		In progress
1.1.3 Develop sectoral plans which clearly show beneficiaries needs and targets	X		Completed
1.1.4 Carry out revisions of EPoA and sectoral plans if necessary based on regular monitoring and assessment data	X		In progress

1.1.5	Incorporate learning from operation reviews, lessons learned and evaluations into planning	X		Ongoing
1.2.1	Develop monitoring and evaluation plans for the EPoA and all sectoral plans	X		Completed
1.2.2	Conduct monitoring and evaluation exercises with lessons learned and management responses	X		Ongoing

Health and Care

Outcome 2: The immediate risks to the health of affected populations are reduced.	Outputs		% of achievement	
	Output 2.1 Disease prevention and control measures carried out. (Revised target: 431 families / 2,155 people)			
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)	
	Yes	No		
2.1.1.	Distribute/replenish mosquito nets; and provide demonstration on their use (Target: 800 pcs)	X		Completed
2.1.2.	Replenish first aid kits used by volunteers in the initial response (Target: Five)	X		Pending delivery from Geneva
2.1.3.	Provide emergency first aid and referral services (Target: All those that require assistance as relevant)	X		Completed
2.1.4.	Provide psychological support (PSS) services provided for affected families, staff and volunteers (Target: All those that require assistance as relevant)	X		Ongoing

The only outstanding activity for health and care is the replenishment of first aid kits to replace those that were used throughout the floods response. PSS services continue to be provided by LNRCS chapter volunteers.

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Outcome 3: Immediate risk of waterborne disease is reduced through the provision of safe water supply and hygiene promotion in Margibi County over a period of two months	Outputs		% of achievement	
	Output 3.1: Target population in the affected area is provided with access to safe drinking water supply (Revised target: 431 families / 2,155 people)			
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)	
	Yes	No		
3.1.1.	Provide safe drinking water (Target: Water sachets (16,000 pcs))	X		Completed
3.1.2.	Distribute/replenish means to treat water at household level; and provide demonstration on their use (Target: Chlorine tablets (24,000 packs).	X		Completed
3.1.3.	Distribute/replenish means to store water at household level (Target: Buckets (300 pcs) and jerry cans (300 pcs).	X		Completed

Shelter and household items			
Outcome 4: Immediate shelter and settlement needs of the target population in Margibi County are met over a period of two months	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 4.1: Target population is provided with Non-Food Items (NFIs) and emergency shelter items (Revised target: 431 families/2,155 people)		
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes	No	
4.1.1. Distribute/replenish NFIs and emergency shelter items; and provide demonstration on their use (Target: Blankets (800 pcs), clothing – children, men and women (nine bales), kitchen sets (800 pcs), mosquito nets (800 pcs), shelter tool kits (190 pcs), sleeping mats (800 pcs) and tarpaulins (380 pcs).			Partially completed (only blankets, kitchen sets, mosquito nets and sleeping mats distributed)
<p>Distribution of the shelters kits is vital to assist the affected households. Homes damaged by the flood remain in ruins, although some families are coping by putting up temporary shelters (locally referred to as kongos) using debris, roofing sheets and materials from their broken homes. Others are staying with relatives while the few that can afford it are renting accommodation. Families temporarily housed in schools have been moved as the school term has begun. The shelter toolkits from prepositioned IFRC stocks in Dakar have been subject to customs delays Delivery is expected on 9 September 2016. With the revised budget, additional shelter materials such as nails, timber and corrugated iron sheeting will be procured locally and distributed to complement the shelter tool kits to meet continued emergency shelter needs, specifically for the families whose homes were destroyed and originally housed in schools. The inclusion of corrugated iron sheeting is due to the muddy grounds where homeless families are temporarily relocated to, and the anticipated continuation of the rains in the coming weeks.</p>			

Food Security, Nutrition and Livelihoods			
Outcome 5: Immediate food needs of the target population in Margibi County are met over a period of two months	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 5.1: Target population provided with appropriate food rations (Revised target: 431 families/2,155 people)		
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes	No	
5.1.1. Distribute/replenish food rations (Target: 1,500kg rice)	X		Distribution will be on 10 September 2016. (Procurement was delayed as food safety procedures had to be adhered)
<p>The floods affected households had their property, food stores and gardens destroyed by floods. However, they have received little support in terms of food despite the negative impact the floods have had on their food security. The planned distribution of rice will help to alleviate this situation.</p>			

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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 Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

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