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Operation Update

Rwanda: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n° MDRRW020	GLIDE n° FL-2021-000049-RWA
Operation update n° 1; 30 August 2021	Timeframe covered by this update: 13 May 2021 – 27 August 2021
Operation start date: 27 May 2021	Operation timeframe: 4 months (New end date: 30 September 2021)
Funding requirements (CHF): CHF 189,885	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 189,885
N° of people being assisted: 3,500 people (700 households)	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Belgian Red Cross Flanders, French, Spanish, Austrian and Japanese Red Cross Societies	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Ministry of Emergency (MINEMA), Ministry of Local Government authorities and Faith based organization	

Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

This Operations Update No.1 is published to inform the stakeholders of the timeframe extension for this operation from 3 to 4 months, with a new end date of 30 September 2021. The no cost extension is to allow Rwanda Red Cross Society (RRCS) to finalize the pending activities delayed by internal administrative process within the National Society but also because of Government strict COVID-19 containment measures due to resurgence of cases between the months of June and July 2021.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

Three districts of Rwanda, including Burera, Gicumbi and Kayonza, witnessed extensive flooding and mudslides due to heavy rainfall between 28 April to 2nd May 2021. This led to extensive destruction of houses, crops, latrines death of livestock, destruction of the roads, and loss of households' materials and even human death.

Burera District, Guhunga sector was heavily affected, with maximum recorded rainfall of 80mm. In Gicumbi district Rutwere, Rukomo, Byumba, Kageyo, Miyove, Ruvune and Nyankenke sectors; maximum recorded rainfall was 60mm and for Kayonza district: Mwili Sector with maximum rainfall was recorded at 53mm.

Assessments conducted by the Ministry of Emergency Management (MINEMA) and Rwanda Red Cross Society (RRCS) from 28 April, revealed that 6,500 people (1,300 households) were affected as a result of this flooding that was accompanied by windstorm. One person died in Burera and no injuries were reported.



Building emergency shelters using mud and sticks ©RRCS

A total of 300 hectares of crops were damaged and, in most cases, destroyed. Cumulatively, these rains caused extensive damage to 848 houses which were either damaged or destroyed, while 181 latrines were washed away in Burera, Gicumbi and Kayonza Districts. In addition to damages on the houses, a variety of household items beddings and clothing were swept away, leaving the affected populations without the basic amenities, including lost food stock. Some of the affected populations and others in the high-risk zones were forced to flee their homes and were temporarily accommodated by Faith Based Organizations and government structures, while some of them are still hosted by their neighbors and relatives. The households in the temporary shelters and those in host families share household items, exposing them to the risk of disease infection including Covid-19.

The situation presented a risk for the spread of diseases such as diarrhea, cholera and malaras as well as COVID-19 since the disasters were happening in sequence. Gicumbi District recorded the highest number of COVID-19 cases, forcing an entire Sector of the district to be put on total lockdown. The most affected families were the ones with weak/damaged houses, and all of them were in category E, D and C of Social Economic Categories of UBUDEHE (Rwandan social stratification system), which means that their already poor living conditions were further worsened due to the current situation.

In response, this [DREF Operation](#) was launched on 27 May to support Rwanda red Cross meet immediate needs of 3,500 people (700 households) with emergency shelter and household items, food, livelihoods and WASH support. To note, while this DREF Operation was being processed, Rwanda Red Cross had to respond to the Mount Nyirangongo (in Eastern DRC) eruption which affected Rubavu District in Rwanda. This separate response operation is being implemented as part of a joint [Emergency Appeal](#) with the DRC Red Cross.

Summary of current response

Overview of Operating National Society

Thanks to the DREF funding as well as in-kind support from other well-wishers, Rwanda Red Cross Society (RRCS) has been responding to the needs of the affected population since the onset of the disaster.

The National Society has implemented the following actions towards the flood's response:

- A total of 135 Rwanda Red Cross volunteers and staff were mobilized and continue to aid the affected communities. In addition to the search, rescue and evacuation which were done at the onset of the disaster, the National Society equally conducted activities around Restoring Family link, First Aid and PSS. Cumulatively from a target of 3,500 people, so far, the from this target, the NS has reached to 3,425 people with shelter, 3,470 people with livelihood support, 2,764 with health interventions and 3,500 people on WASH.
- The deployed National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) conducted a needs assessment from 28 April to 02 May which led to provision of essential household items distributed particularly to the families with children under five, and pregnant women. However, due to insufficient stock, only 300 households were supported in Burera District with household items kits. Some 45 volunteers comprised of 6 NDRT members, 15 BDRT members, 24 LDRTs volunteers and 4 staff (3 from branches) were deployed to support household items distributions.
- A total of 175 families have been supported with latrine construction and hygiene promotion sessions were conducted by RRCS volunteers in Gicumbi, Musanze, Kayonza and Burera districts, reaching 3,500 people.
- A total of 685 families have received support through cash for house rent and other household items. RRCS Staff & volunteers in collaboration with local authorities monitored the process for recipient families to ensure that cash given was not misused and was used in purchasing what was targeted.
- The DREF operation has allowed for 300 HHI kits distributed at the onset of the response to be replenished, and to cover needs for additional 700 most vulnerable households.
- Trained NDRT & RRCS staff updated market assessment and market prices.
- RRCS Staff & Volunteers in collaboration with local authorities monitored the process among the families to ensure that cash given was not misused and was used in purchasing what was targeted for. Due to COVID-19 locked down and Government containment measures, to access the markets and services was limited due to strict covid- 19 measures
- Volunteers were mobilized to support community members to rehabillitee the destroyed houses



Beneficiaries' complaints and feedback group session ©RRCS

- In collaboration with local leaders and community members, volunteers were mobilized to support vulnerable families to rehabilitate damaged houses due to floods in Musanze district

Still as part of the initial response, additional activities were carried out such as sensitization activities on hygiene and sanitation and risk reduction (all the sessions involve COVID-19 prevention measures) by RRCS volunteers through house-to-house visits and distribution of NFIs.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Actions in country

RRCS has been supported by IFRC Nairobi Cluster Delegation in Nairobi and now since July 2021, is being supported by DRC Delegation in Kinshasa and in-country partner National Societies. Since the beginning of the floods season (from January 2021), RRCS has reached out to 2,500 families affected by floods and landslides in different districts. Other in-country partners include Belgian Red Cross French Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, and Austrian Red Cross. They are technically and financially supporting with their ongoing project in sensitization and hygiene promotion as well as household items. They equally provide RRCS with support in follow up and reporting of activities and where possible, contribute financially to the wider response. RRCS is in discussions with its partners to ensure inclusion of a Crisis Modifier in every project.

Overview of other actors' actions in country

The Ministry of Emergency Affairs (MINEMA) is coordinating Emergency Response closely with RRCS. As such, it is appealing to corporate bodies and non-governmental organizations to complement government's efforts to save lives and prevent from further deterioration of health, safety and wellbeing of affected families through its coordination meetings and media campaign. In this response, MINEMA has supported in provision of some iron sheets to affected households for repairing of damaged houses and other Faith-based organizations were provided emergency.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Needs analysis

Refer to the [DREF EPoA](#) on details about the need's analysis.

Operation Risk Assessment

The operational risks remain as detailed in the DREF EPoA. In addition, and unfortunately, RRCS has not anticipated the administrative delays which it faced due to the sudden eruption of Mt Nyirangongo and a new wave of COVID-19 between June and July, which have delayed implementation of the operation.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Proposed strategy

The main objective of this operation is to provide 700 households or 3,500 people in the districts of Burera, Gicumbi and Kayonza Districts with emergency shelter and household items, food, livelihoods assets and WASH support through a multipurpose cash assistance.

This DREF operation is supporting the overall response alongside bilateral PNSs and the government authorities through a seamless coordination. The flood DREF targeted 700 households (3,500 people) out of the 848 whose houses were damaged/destroyed (with priority given to the 77 HH that completely lost their houses). Different materials and equipment have so far been provided such as, emergency shelter through cash for rent, household and food items.

To date, a total of 685 families have been supported through cash for house renting and essential household items while RRCS Staff & volunteers in collaboration with local authorities continue to monitor the process among the families to ensure that cash disbursed is not misused and is used in purchasing what was targeted for.

RRCS trained volunteers continued with home-based care visits to the patients with Covid-19. In addition, some 175 families have been supported in construction of latrines as well as with hygiene & sanitation awareness. MHM Kits for 462 women and girls of childbearing age were procured and distributed, while sanitation materials for three implementing branches were procured and delivered. Psychological First Aid was provided remotely to people in need of PSS through the hotline 2100, in a bid to avoid contributing to spreading the Covid-19. RRCS Staff & Volunteers in collaboration with local authorities continue to monitor the process among the families to influence behavior change of population on hygiene.

Pending activities include the below:


- multipurpose cash disbursements to 15 households,
- post distribution monitoring of use of cash
- capacity strengthening for 45 volunteers in PSS


- operational monitoring to support closing the operation
- Conduct additional six radio sessions to complement 21 which have been held to date
- lessons learnt workshop.

These will all be completed by 30 September.


Key data on achievements is found in Section C – Detailed Operational Plan below.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

 <p>Shelter People reached: 3,425 Male: 1,805 Female: 1,620</p>		
Outcome 1: People with houses damaged/destroyed were provided with emergency shelter through cash for rent and cash for rehabilitation/reconstruction damaged/destroyed latrines		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of targeted households assisted with emergency shelter rental solution	100% (700 HH)	97.8% (685 HH)
Output 1.1: Damaged/destroyed houses were replaced by rent and damaged/destroyed latrines were rehabilitated/reconstructed		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of targeted households receiving household items through Cash	700	685
# of PDM conducted	1	0
# of household items replenished to RRCS stocks	300	300
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>A total of 700 HHs households that had their houses partially or completely destroyed and lost most of their household items in the flooding are being supported. MINEMA is supporting in reconstruction of damaged houses, and RRC has been providing household items.</p> <p>Activities already carried out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Market assessment updated: NDRT supported in monitoring market prices in three targeted districts - 685 out of 700 families have been supported with cash for renting and other household items so far. RRCS Staff & Volunteers in collaboration with local authorities monitor the cash transfer process among the families to ensure that cash given is not misused and used in purchasing what was targeted for - Replenishment for 300 households done <p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Due to COVID-19 containment measures being enforced by the government countrywide, there has been limited access to markets and services. Only essential services providers like health and food are allowed to operate. Stores selling household items closed and therefore limiting the access to building materials. - Resurgence of Covid-19 cases has also delayed post distribution (PDM) exercises. 		

 <p>Livelihoods and basic needs People reached: 3,470 Male: 1,829 Female: 1,641</p>		
Outcome 1: Affected people were provided with emergency shelter through cash for household and food items		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of households supported that express satisfaction with timely livelihoods interventions	100%	TBD
Output 1.1: Damaged household items were replaced, and families received the cash for food		
Indicators:	Target	Actual

# of households supported with food through cash	700	685
# of volunteers trained in CVA	45	45
Progress towards outcomes		
700 HHs households that had their houses damaged or destroyed and lost most of their household items in the flooding will be supported. MINEMA is supporting in reconstruction of damaged houses, and RRCS will only provide HH items.		
Activities already carried out:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updating of market assessment and continuous monitoring of the market prices - RRC trained 45 volunteers on cash and voucher assistance - Home-based care visits Covid-19 patients 		
Challenges:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Due to the technical problems on Momo wallet system (mobile money transfer) for RRCS, 15 families out of targeted 700 HHs missed receiving cash for food and household items support. With this extension, the NS will be taking the necessary steps to solve the issue and ensure those remaining households receive their cash. - Interaction and movement of peoples has been restricted as a result of Covid-19 resurgence thus limiting house to house PSS sessions. 		

	Health People reached: 2,764 Male: 1,631 Female: 1,133 Indirect beneficiaries reached: 189,500	
	Outcome 1: Health promotion activities were conducted through the radio and community mobilization sessions; and PSS house to house visits were conducted	
Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of people affected that are reached by NS with services to reduce relevant health risk factors	100% (3,500 people)	77.7% (2,719 people)
Output 1.1: Radio and community mobilizations were implemented in targeted were as and to the targeted population (both direct and indirect beneficiaries). PSS Visits were conducted among affected families		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people affected that are reached by protection materials to reduce relevant health risk factors	3,500	2,719
# of volunteers and staff trained in basic first aid	45	45
# of volunteers actively providing first aid within the community	45	45
Health Outcome 6: The psychosocial impacts of the emergency are lessened		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with PSS (new indicator)	700	709
Health Output 6.1: Psychosocial support provided to the target population as well as to RCRC volunteers and staff		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers and staff trained in PSS	45	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This disaster occurred at a time when the country was facing the Covid-19 pandemic. The 700 families affected were torn between finding basic items for their current situation or adhere to Covid-19 prevention measures with some families nursing home based care patients. Combined with the current displacement, Covid-19 and their long-term vulnerabilities, these families require psychological care and first aid. - The continuous radio and community mobilization sessions are recommended to both direct and indirect beneficiaries. 		
Activities already carried out:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MHM Kits for 462 women and girls were procured and distributed - Psychological First Aid provided remotely to 709 people in need of PSS through the hotline 2100. 		

- 45 volunteers engaged in the operation have been taken through one training on first aid. With this operation extension, these volunteers will also be trained on PSS.
- Due to increase of Covid-19 cases between June and July, the NS supported MoH in raising awareness on prevention measures through the media especially on radio and TV. This avenue is therefore estimated to have indirectly reached out to over 189,500 people in the three targeted districts for this operation.

Challenges:

- Due to COVID-19, refresher of 45 PSS volunteers is pending and payment of their allowances delayed; PSS house to house visits affected and timely distribution of MHM Kits.
- The country's covid-19 situation is getting better, and the restrictions are slowly being eased. Therefore, with the one-month operation extension, RRCS will now finalize these pending activities.

**Water, sanitation and hygiene****People reached: 3,500**

Male: 1,805

Female: 1,695

Indirect beneficiaries reached: 189,500**Outcome 1: The activities related to clean water, prevention of water-related diseases, as well as promotion of hygiene and sanitation were implemented**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
% Households reached with community-based disease prevention and health promotion programming	100% or 700 HH	77.7%
Output 1.1: Radio Hygiene promotion activities which meet Sphere standards in terms of the identification and use of hygiene items provided to target population		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of radio awareness sessions conducted	27	21
WASH Output 1.2: Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere and WHO standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population		
# of households reached with water treatment tablets	700	700
# of water monitoring visits conducted	4	3
WASH Output 2.3: Improved access to and use of adequate sanitation by the target population. is provided to target population		
# of households supported to rehabilitate latrines through cash	181	181
# of tippy taps provided	181	181
# of women and girls provided with menstrual hygiene materials	462	462
# of health and hygiene promotion sessions	6	6
# of Red Cross branches receiving sanitation kits	3	3

Progress towards outcomes

- Both direct and indirect beneficiaries need the stable source of clean water.
- The continuous radio and community mobilization sessions is recommended to both direct and indirect beneficiaries

Activities already carried out:

- Tippy taps for 181 latrines purchased and distributed to affected families
- Hygiene promotion activities were conducted in all 3 districts using different approaches and tools including the use of megaphones available in branches
- Sanitation materials for three implementing branches were procured.
- 262 drinking water containers were procured and distributed
- 410 stickers and 5 banners with sanitation and other DRR messages were procured
- Through radio and TV sessions especially on ways to maintain hygiene in bid to prevent spread of diseases including Covid-19, an estimated 189,500 people is so far indirectly reached.

Challenges:

- Due to COVID-19, distribution of tippy taps and sanitation materials for three implementing branches were pending.

Strengthen National Society

Outcome 1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured

Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of complaints and feedback received are responded to by the NS	80%	TBD
% of target population satisfied with level of consultation, information and involvement in the operation	80%	TBD

Output 1.1: NS compliance with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance is improved through the integration of CEA approaches and activities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of Special NDRT members trained on needs assessment and proposal writing	30 NDRT	30
# of volunteers insured	45 volunteers	45

Progress towards outcomes

Activities already carried out:

- For effective capacity strengthening to future operations and response, a team of 30 National Disaster response Team was trained specifically on assessments.
- 45 engaged in the operation were insured.

Outcome 2: The programmatic reach of the National Societies and the IFRC is expanded

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Ratio of people reached by the IFRC disaster response operations to the people affected by these emergencies	54% for 3,500 people	3,500

Output 1.1: Resource generation and related accountability models are developed and improved

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of lessons learnt workshop held	1	0

Progress towards outcomes

Activities already carried out:

- A list of partners has been developed for the scheduled lessons learnt workshop.

Any challenges the National Society may have met, and what they were doing to deal with these challenges].

- The NS intends to conduct the lessons learnt workshop physically for better exchange and to ensure a good participation of partners. This was however not possible during the Covid-19 nationwide lock down. With the lockdown and restrictions lifted, this will now be conducted.

D. Financial Report

The absorption rate as at now stands at 95%. The remaining 5% that was not possible due to COVID-19 restrictions especially trainings and meetings, will be expended within a month. To note, the NS is yet to report on the funds transferred and above statement is based on burn rate in NS financial systems.

Reference documents



Click here for:

[Emergency Plan of Action \(EPoA\)](#)**For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:****Rwanda Red Cross Society:**

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For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

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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 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**.