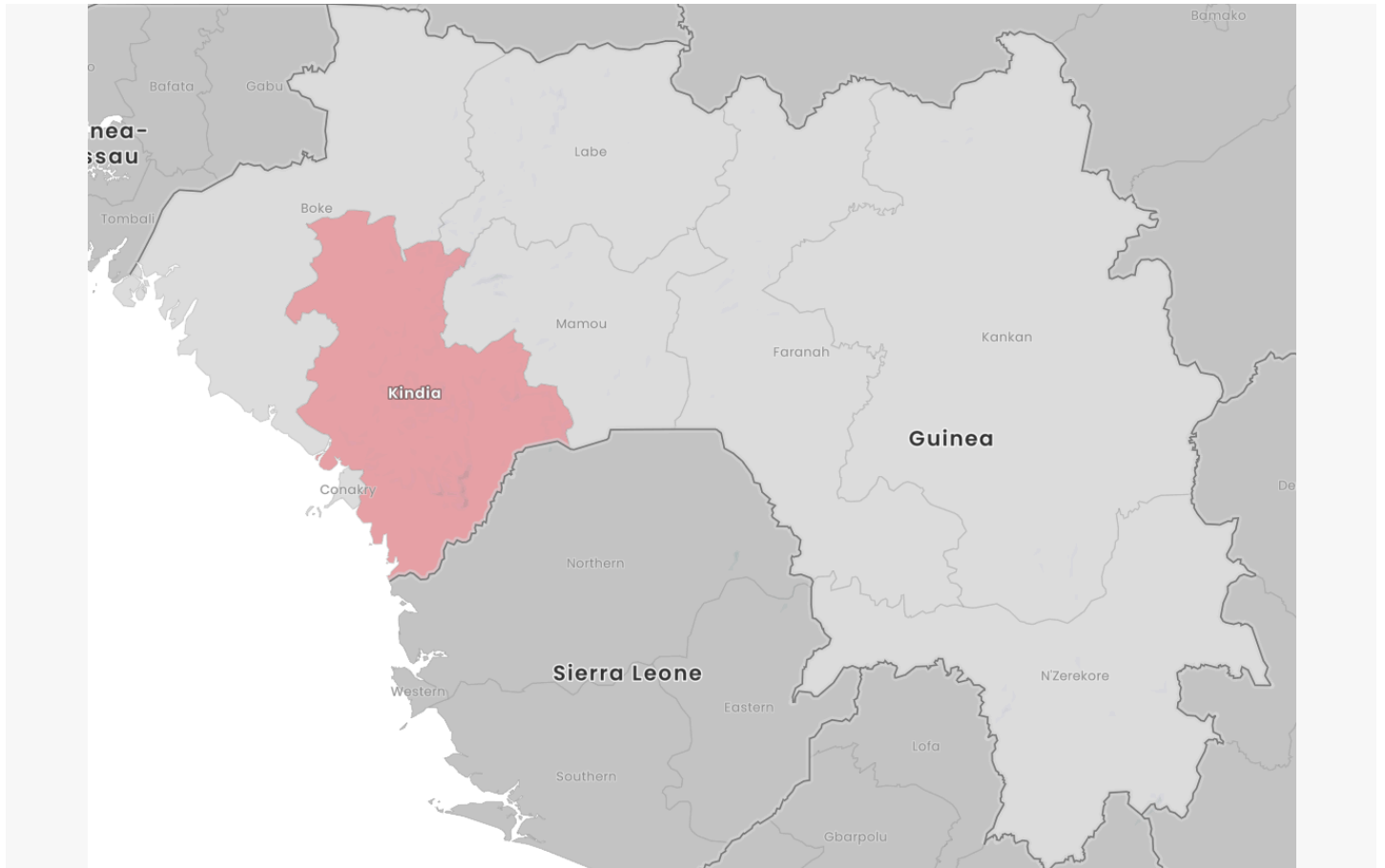




Volunteers conducting needs assessment during flooding.

Appeal: MDRGN015	Total DREF Allocation: -	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Flood
Glide Number: FL-2023-000158-GIN	People Affected: 24,135 people	People Targeted: 14,350 people	People Assisted: -
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 23-08-2023	Operational End Date: -	Total Operating Timeframe: 5 months
Targeted Areas: Kindia			

Description of the Event



Date of event

06-08-2023

What happened, where and when?

Guinea experienced persistent torrential rains from the beginning of August 2023. The highest recorded incidents occurred on Sunday, 6 August 2023 in Coyah, and on Friday, 11 August 2023 in Conakry and Siguiri. These rains caused associated impact, including flooding in low-lying areas and the overflow of rivers. Major roads in Conakry and Siguiri were rendered impassable due to the floodwaters, heavily constraining vehicles, and forcing pedestrians to find alternative routes. Different prefectures across the country continued to experience heavy rains, which led to flooding in additional communities and increased the number of affected people. Moreover, the floods affected areas had already been facing acute humanitarian needs due to economic hardship and financial instability. The current disaster aggravated the severity of the situation for these vulnerable communities.

The Guinea Meteorological Department had predicted continuous rains in August and September across all prefectures. Further sustained heavy rainfall was expected to trigger additional flooding in low-lying communities near rivers and streams. Urban flooding was also possible in areas with poor drainage systems. Sites downstream from large rivers were vulnerable to flash flooding after relatively short periods of intense rainfall. These rains caused further damage to infrastructure, road closures, and contamination.



Field mission with IFRC, Guinea Red Cross, and Agence Nationale de Gestion des Urgences et Catastrophes Humanitaires (National Agency for Emergency and Humanitarian Disaster Management)



Scope and Scale

August recorded significant heavy rains across Guinea, affecting several prefectures of the country:

- On 6 August 2023, heavy rains in the prefecture of Coyah and its surroundings caused the overflow of the Sarinka River, resulting in flooding in the Urban and Rural Communities of Maneah and Kouriah. Nine localities were affected, including Fily, Tougandé, Batouyah, and Sambaya in the urban communities; Tanènè and Tanènè 2 in the Rural Commune of Kouria; and Boguitagui, Bangouyah, and Kouria center in the Rural Commune of Kouria. Several homes were destroyed, and properties of the affected families were washed away. During evacuation and rescue, some women, children, and the elderly required urgent medical support, while others were trapped in their houses or sat on the roofs requesting rescue. Flooding was also reported in other locations due to continuous rains. In response, an emergency team was deployed, including the Minister of Territorial Administration and Decentralization, the Director General of ANGUCH, the Regional Director of Civil Protection, the Red Cross, Environment and medical teams, as well as the gendarmerie and police units.

- On 11 August 2023, torrential rains continued across the country, causing flooding in the prefecture of Siguiri (Urban Commune and the sub-prefectures of Kintinian and Maléah) and the capital Conakry (Communes of Ratoma and Matoto). In Siguiri, six localities were affected: neighborhoods of Siguiri Koura -2, Bolibana, Hèrèmakono, Kouroudakoro, the district of Balato (Sub-prefecture of Kintinian), and Maléah center (Sub-prefecture of Maleah). In Conakry, eight localities in the communes of Ratoma and Matoto were impacted: Wareah (Kinifi, Soloprime, Kinifi village, Nériboundji), Kobaya (Bafond), Yattaya (Fossidet bridge), Lambanyi (Africof), Enta market, low-land cemetery sector, Lansanaya dam, and Kissoso.

The damages recorded were as follows:

- In Coyah, the initial assessments by the Red Cross Society of Guinea indicated that the floods killed three people and left 933 people injured. Approximately 3,448 households (24,135 people) were displaced.
- In Siguiri, the floods caused one death, four serious injuries, and 46 rescues. About 2,618 families (18,326 people) were affected, including 7,330 displaced people. In addition, 300 latrines and 241 houses were destroyed, while 52 shops and three service stations were impacted.
- In Conakry, four deaths were reported. Around 1,213 households (8,491 people) were affected, including 3,396 displaced people. Damage included 172 houses, and 230 latrines destroyed, and 28 water points impacted.

The coping capacities of affected households had already been stretched, considering the floods had washed away all household items, including reserved food, compounded by the ongoing economic crisis in the country. As the situation remained fluid, the additional impact of flooding increased vulnerabilities and reduced the capacity to cope.

The Guinea Meteorological Department had forecasted more heavy rain for several prefectures, which could result in flooding, especially in flood-prone communities and areas near rivers where overflow was likely. The continuous flooding in these locations, coupled with the absence of support for the affected people, called for urgent efforts to address immediate humanitarian needs. The mayor of Coyah prefecture called for immediate support from humanitarian organizations and well-wishers.

National Society Actions

Have the National Society conducted any intervention additionally to those part of this DREF Operation?	No
Please provide a brief description of those additional activities	-

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	<p>The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) provided comprehensive assistance to the Red Cross Society of Guinea (RCSG) in its response to the devastating floods in Coyah. This support included financial, technical, and operational resources to meet immediate needs and strengthen the overall response. The Freetown Cluster Delegation played a pivotal role in offering technical expertise, such as reviewing the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) application and providing strategic direction for the subsequent phases of the operation to address emerging needs and recovery efforts.</p> <p>Through the DREF, the IFRC ensured financial assistance was available for a timely and effective response in line with RCSG's mandate. Additionally, the IFRC Operations team carried out an initial mission to assess the operational strategy, offering guidance on planning and implementation. To improve efficiency and accuracy in monitoring, reporting, and decision-making, the IFRC PMER team introduced specialized tools and a data management system. The IFRC also provided technical oversight during the cash transfer process to ensure the timely and effective delivery of aid to affected households, followed by post-distribution monitoring to evaluate the intervention's impact and gather insights for future responses.</p> <p>To foster learning and preparedness, the IFRC supported RCSG in organizing a lessons-learned workshop. During this workshop the operation has been assessed, successes and challenges identified, and areas for improvement highlighted. Throughout the response, the IFRC Country Delegation in Sierra Leone worked closely with RCSG leadership to facilitate coordination with key stakeholders, including UN agencies, national and international NGOs, and donors. This collaboration positioned RCSG as a key player in the humanitarian response, strengthening partnerships and ensuring alignment with broader relief efforts. The IFRC's extensive support played a critical role in helping RCSG meet the needs of affected communities, build resilience, and enhance its capacity to effectively manage future emergencies.</p>
Participating National Societies	<p>The French Red Cross was present in Guinea, supporting the implementation of the ECHO vaccination project. However, no support was provided to the floods' response.</p>



ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

The ICRC does not have an office in Guinea but is covering the country from its office in Côte d'Ivoire. No support was provided to the flood response.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	Yes
National authorities	The Government, through ANGUICH, assessed the situation and supported efforts to mobilize resources for providing humanitarian assistance to affected victims. An emergency coordination meeting was held in Coyah on Sunday, 6 August 2023, attended by relevant disaster response actors, including local partners, community-based NGOs, the Red Cross, and other humanitarian organizations. The meeting discussed the flood situation and its impact while planning for a detailed assessment. This coordination platform continued throughout the response, facilitating the coordination of response efforts.
UN or other actors	-
Are there major coordination mechanism in place?	
The National Agency for Emergency Management and Humanitarian Disasters (ANGUICH) and the local council provided the overall leadership for emergency planning and response. They also supported efforts in local resource mobilization and coordinated the response efforts of different partners.	

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

According to the initial assessment conducted by the RCSG prefecture committee, the floods affected over 2,000 residential houses in the affected areas. However, most of the affected houses were concrete and modernized, requiring no repairs or reconstruction. The rapid assessment identified 217 houses that were destroyed, and these households were prioritized as the most impacted. The immediate needs for these households included the rehabilitation of shelters and the provision of household items such as blankets, mats, kitchen kits, and other essential items.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Coyah is predominantly an agricultural and farming community, with many households also relying on petty trading as their main source of income. The assessment revealed that the damages to businesses were severely impacting the livelihoods of this group. Some shop owners lost their businesses, and farmers lost their seeds, crops, and tools.

The floods washed away goods, household equipment, and basic necessities, leaving households struggling with income difficulties, further compounded by the lack of essential items. Households also faced limitations in accessing basic hygiene materials due to both the lack of supplies and the challenging living conditions.

The affected families were residing at the Coyah Youth House, schools, and with host families, living under extremely difficult conditions. These included the disruption of their living environment, food shortages, and the increasing burden placed on host families. The fact that some victims, who had lost everything, were being housed by host families, seriously impacted the food reserves of the local communities. Given this situation, the need for food rations for at least two months was identified as essential for these victims.



Health

The loss of homes, belongings, loved ones, businesses, agricultural land, and livestock left many individuals vulnerable to severe psychological trauma. Additionally, some people sustained injuries from landslides or being struck by objects, and the ongoing risk of drowning meant that first aid support was critical at any moment.

There was also a heightened risk of the spread of vector-borne and communicable diseases, such as acute watery diarrhea, due to the flooding. The flooding of health centers or difficulty accessing them created a significant gap in basic health services and health promotion efforts in the affected areas, further exacerbating the public health crisis.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

There was disruption of water-supply and sanitation infrastructure in communities affected by the floods. The contamination of existing streams and water sources exacerbated the potential epidemiological risks associated with the disaster. Exposure to floodwater led to skin infections, wounds, and the transmission of diseases such as acute watery diarrhea and cholera. With drinking water sources and latrines affected, it became crucial to engage inhabitants in hygiene promotion and sensitization efforts.

It was imperative to strengthen measures to safeguard water quality, sanitation, and hygiene. These measures included promoting proper handwashing with soap and water, adequate disinfection of drinking water, and the provision of hygiene essentials such as hygiene kits, water storage containers for safe water consumption, and menstrual hygiene kits for women of childbearing age.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The objective of this operation was to provide immediate relief to 2,050 households (14,340 people) affected by the floods through the provision of shelter and non-food items, basic needs assistance, community health promotion, and the delivery of safe water, sanitation, and hygiene services.

Operation strategy rationale

This DREF operation aimed to provide critical support to 2,050 households (14,340 people) affected by the floods, addressing their immediate needs through various interventions such as emergency shelter, hygiene promotion, safe water access, sanitation services, and multi-purpose cash transfers.

Based on lessons learned from previous operations, cash transfer was identified as a fast and effective means of providing relief. It allowed beneficiaries to meet their specific needs, restore their dignity, and contribute to the local market recovery. The Red Cross Society of Guinea (RCSG) had an existing contract with a mobile phone company for financial service provision (FSP) and had used this FSP for previous operations. The FSP's network covers the entire national territory, with agents in all prefectures and sub-prefectures, ensuring efficient delivery of cash transfers.

Shelter and Household Items (Target: 217 households, 1,519 people)

In Coyah, 217 households whose homes were destroyed received GNF 2,475,000 each. This financial assistance covered shelter toolkits, including building materials to repair their homes, and the replacement of essential household items. Given the pre-existing housing deficit in the area, providing cash for rent was not deemed feasible.

Livelihoods and Basic Needs (Target: 2,050 households, 14,350 people)

To support the most vulnerable households, RCSG transferred GNF 775,000 to each, covering one month of nutritional needs. This amount was based on local expenditure patterns and aimed to help the affected families meet their immediate food requirements.

Health (Target: 2,050 households, 14,350 people)

Health promotion and epidemic control were critical in reducing health risks such as malaria and waterborne diseases. RCSG trained 180 volunteers who conducted awareness sessions on health risks, including the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), and the importance of hygiene and sanitation. These volunteers provided information on water safety, hygiene practices, and disease prevention to local communities. Volunteers were also trained to support community engagement activities and to distribute chlorine for water purification.



Water, Hygiene, and Sanitation (WASH) (Target: 2,050 households, 14,350 people)

A total of GNF 167,500 was allocated to 2,050 households for the purchase of essential WASH items, including chlorine, buckets, jerry cans, soap, hygiene kits, and mosquito nets.

GNF 100,000 was provided to 1,830 women and girls of reproductive age to purchase dignity kits, which included hygiene essentials like sanitary pads, soap, and toothbrushes for a two-month period.

RCSG rehabilitated and disinfected 227 latrines that were destroyed in the floods, preventing open defecation and improving sanitation conditions.

A sanitation campaign was conducted to raise awareness of hygiene practices and the prevention of waterborne diseases. Volunteers were equipped with necessary sanitation tools, including wheelbarrows, rakes, and gloves, to assist in the clean-up and rehabilitation efforts.

A media campaign, including spots and educational broadcasts, was launched to reinforce messages on hygiene and disease prevention. Before the cash transfers began, a market assessment was conducted for WASH items, and a post-distribution monitoring (PDM) was carried out three weeks after the cash distribution to assess the impact of the intervention.

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)

To ensure that the affected communities were meaningfully engaged throughout the response, RCSG implemented a comprehensive community feedback mechanism. This allowed beneficiaries to voice concerns and provide feedback, which was used to refine the ongoing response. Volunteers were trained in CEA and complaint management, and a community committee was set up to ensure that activities were carried out according to beneficiaries' needs and priorities. Feedback was collected through dedicated phone lines, with all complaints recorded for processing.

Key Learnings and Improvements

Several lessons from past operations were incorporated into the response strategy to improve the effectiveness and speed of assistance. Cash transfers were identified as an efficient way to provide immediate relief and were particularly effective due to RCSG's existing partnership with the FSP.

RCSG strengthened its coordination with the government to ensure that beneficiary lists were accurately verified before being submitted to the FSP.

Market trends and inflation were closely monitored to ensure that assistance remained relevant and sufficient. According to the previous PDM, 93.5% of beneficiaries were satisfied with the cash transfer modality.

Ongoing coordination with the IFRC Cluster Delegation helped identify challenges and ensure the quality of the operation's implementation.

Media involvement, alongside volunteer efforts, has been shown to significantly enhance awareness and engagement, and will continue to play a role in the operation's communications.

A lessons-learned workshop will be held at the end of the operation to capture challenges, successes, and recommendations for future interventions.

Targeting Strategy

Who was targeted by this operation?

A total of 2,050 households (14,350 people) whose homes were severely damaged, and livelihoods disrupted by the recent floods were targeted in this operation across 09 communities in Coyah. These include the urban communities of Fily, Tougandé, Batouyah, and Sambaya, as well as the rural communes of Kouria, specifically Tanènè and Tanènè 2, and the communities of Boguitagui, Bangouyah, and Kouria Center.

Additionally, a total of 1,830 women of childbearing age from these affected households received menstrual hygiene kits to address their specific needs.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The selection criteria for beneficiary households were finalized in consultation with the flood-affected communities. The following criteria were anticipated and verified during the recipient registration process:

- Households whose homes were destroyed or damaged by the floods and were currently residing in schools or community centers.
- Households that had resorted to negative food-related coping mechanisms.

To ensure fair prioritization, the following vulnerability criteria were considered:

- Elderly people responsible for children in the household
- Households with two or more children under the age of five



- Households headed by widows or single mothers with young children
- Households with chronically ill members
- Households with a member living with a disability
- Pregnant and lactating women
- Child-headed households
- Verification of Targeting

The detailed verification and validation of target households were carried out in coordination with local actors and through focus group discussions with various community groups, including men, women, girls, boys, elderly individuals, and people with disabilities. This process helped harmonize existing data, provided updated information on stakeholder actions, assessed risks that may have affected the operation, and better understood the needs of the affected population.

A total of 210 volunteers were trained to conduct the verification process using mobile devices and Kobo Collect tool for data collection. The IFRC operations team, along with ANGUCH and community stakeholders, supported the verification, facilitated initial community engagement, and participated in coordination meetings throughout the mission.

Total Targeted Population

Women	7,319	Rural	-
Girls (under 18)	-	Urban	-
Men	7,031	People with disabilities (estimated)	-
Boys (under 18)	-		
Total targeted population	14,350		

Risk and Security Considerations

Please indicate about potential operation risk for this operations and mitigation actions

Risk	Mitigation action
Risks associated with community-based cash and/or in-kind distribution activities	RCSG put in place crowd control mechanisms, including gender-segregated queuing structures outside the distribution centers, and marked queues using hazard tape inside the distribution centers. RCSG invited people to receive assistance in groups, thereby reducing the amount of time they spent queuing outside.
Inadequate communication with the target population. Not communicating beneficiary selection criteria and the date of transfer to beneficiaries will lead to high levels of community frustration and undermine the operation.	To mitigate this risk, RCSG worked with the affected community to ensure that the NS reputation and trust with the community were protected from the onset.
Difficulty of access to certain areas due to the rains that continue to fall.	Volunteers were provided with personal protective equipment.
Perception issues related to the conduct of the operation or activities which may impact the access and acceptance of RCSG.	To address perception issues, RCSG ensured the dissemination of operation details, including the activities, approach, and methodology for selecting people to receive assistance, to all stakeholders. For community-based distribution activities, proper communication with the communities was maintained. Sensitization meetings with community elders and members were held to manage crowd control. These meetings discussed the nature of the assistance, exact targeted locations, the type of assistance, time, date, and venue of distribution, and the

distribution process with beneficiaries, incorporating their feedback.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

Affected community members were exposed to security risks such as sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), looting, theft of assets, armed robbery, and other criminal activities, which could have affected the operation in several ways. Similarly, Red Cross teams were equally exposed to these crimes, in addition to potentially being attacked by the affected community members if they deemed the support provided insufficient.

To mitigate such incidents during the operation, all security measures from both the Movement and the Government were strictly adhered to by all volunteers and staff involved in the operation to reduce risks. The security management for the operation was based on the RCRC's Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values.

The following actions related to security were also implemented:

- The respect of visibility through the wearing of jackets and regular communication on all movements.
- Community engagement to provide clear explanations of the role of the Red Cross, the support being provided, and beneficiary selection criteria was clearly communicated, following learnings from previous operations.
- Regular briefings were organized to remind volunteers of personal security and safety. All engaged staff and the 20 volunteers completed the Stay Safe 2.0 Global Edition-level 2 training to be briefed on the framework of safer access.
- Security assessment and monitoring of security risks were ensured by the operation coordinator with the support of IFRC.

For the IFRC staff supporting the operation, security orientation and briefing were undertaken prior to the mission to ensure the safety and security of response teams. Standard security protocols regarding general norms, cultural sensitivity, and the overall Code of Conduct were put in place. Minimum security requirements were strictly maintained. All National Society and IFRC personnel actively involved in the operations successfully completed the respective IFRC security e-learning courses (i.e., Level 1 Fundamentals, Level 2 Personal and Volunteer Security) before deployment. IFRC security plans were applied to all IFRC staff throughout the operation. Area specific Security Risk Assessments were conducted for any operational area where IFRC personnel deployed, and risk mitigation measures were identified and implemented.

Implementation



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 59,632

Targeted Persons: 2,050

Assisted Persons: 1

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of households assisted in cash for shelter assistance	217	217
# of volunteers trained and engaged in cash activities	30	30
% of target satisfied with the cash provided to support their shelter needs	90	96

Narrative description of achievements

• Training of 30 Volunteers on Cash Transfer and Household Registration via Kobo Collect: A total of 30 volunteers were trained on the Kobo Collect platform to support the registration of affected households and facilitate cash transfers for housing rehabilitation. The training provided volunteers with the necessary skills to effectively use the platform for accurate data collection and beneficiary registration. The volunteers worked in close collaboration with local authorities and partners to register affected families. A validated list of beneficiaries was compiled and shared for distribution and support. This ensured that the registration process was efficient, accurate,



and transparent, leading to proper identification and support for the most affected households.

- **Local market analysis:** In partnership with the logistics unit and 30 trained volunteers, a comprehensive market assessment was conducted to evaluate the availability and accessibility of shelter and household items in the affected areas. The market analysis found that while essential materials were available, their prices had increased due to heightened demand. Consequently, the cash assistance amount was adjusted to align with market rates and cover the actual costs of shelter rehabilitation. The market analysis ensured that the cash assistance was adequate for beneficiaries to purchase the necessary materials, supporting the effective rehabilitation of their homes.
- **Establishment of targeting committees and briefing of beneficiary households:** Community committees were established in the affected areas, consisting of local authorities, youth representatives, and women's representatives. These committees were briefed on the beneficiary selection process and the type of assistance that would be provided. Pre-distribution meetings were conducted to ensure transparency in the selection process and that households were well-informed about the support they would receive. The establishment of these committees ensured that the beneficiary selection process was transparent and inclusive, fostering trust and cooperation within the community.

- **Transfer of Funds to 217 Households for Housing Rehabilitation:**

A total of 217 households, which had experienced significant damage to their homes, received cash assistance for shelter rehabilitation. Each household was allocated GNF 3,350,000 to cover the costs of shelter materials and tools for the reconstruction of their homes. The funds were transferred via mobile money, ensuring swift and efficient delivery of support. The cash assistance helped affected households begin the rebuilding process, accelerating their recovery and providing essential support for home reconstruction.

- **Deployment of 30 volunteers to monitor cash transfer activities:**

A total of 30 volunteers were deployed to monitor the cash transfer activities over three days, ensuring that the process was carried out smoothly and effectively. The volunteers were on-site to address any issues, ensure that beneficiaries received their funds without delays, and maintain transparency during the distribution process. The volunteer monitoring ensured that the cash transfer process was executed efficiently and transparently, with minimal disruptions and maximum beneficiary satisfaction.

- **Post-distribution monitoring (PDM) for 03 days:** Following the cash distribution, 30 volunteers conducted PDM over three days to assess the impact of the cash assistance and gather feedback from beneficiaries. The monitoring revealed that a significant majority of beneficiaries were satisfied with the cash transfer, which had positively impacted their recovery efforts. The PDM exercise provided valuable insights into the effectiveness of the cash transfer program, highlighting its success and the positive outcomes it had for beneficiaries

Challenges

- None was reported.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Budget: CHF 171,065

Targeted Persons: 14,350

Assisted Persons: 1

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of affected households, who receive cash support for nutrition for one month	2,050	2,050
# of volunteers trained and engaged in cash activities	30	30
% of target satisfied with the cash provided to support their basic needs	90	97

Narrative description of achievements

- **Market assessment:** A comprehensive market assessment was conducted to evaluate the availability and accessibility of essential goods in the affected areas. The insights gained from the assessment ensured that the cash assistance was tailored to meet the immediate needs of the affected households, accounting for local market conditions and price fluctuations. The assessment helped ensure that the cash transfer amount was appropriate, allowing beneficiaries to purchase essential goods and meet their basic needs.
- **Cash Transfer to 2,050 Households:** A total of 2,050 households received cash assistance, amounting to GNF 775,775 per household. This support aimed to cover essential living expenses, such as food and basic needs, for a one-month period. The cash transfer provided



immediate relief to affected households, enabling them to meet their essential needs during a critical period of recovery.

- Training of 30 Volunteers on Cash Registration (Kobo Collect): Thirty volunteers were trained on the use of the Kobo Collect tool for household registration. This training equipped them with the necessary skills to accurately register affected households and ensure that the correct data was collected for cash assistance. The training ensured accurate data collection, allowing for a smooth and efficient registration process for cash assistance, ensuring that only eligible households were included.

- Volunteer deployment for household registration (2 Days):

Thirty volunteers were deployed for two days to support the registration process of identified households. They ensured that eligible households were properly registered and included in the cash transfer program. The deployment of volunteers ensured a swift and accurate registration process, which was essential for the timely distribution of cash assistance.

- Volunteers' deployment for cash transfer monitoring (03 Days):

Thirty volunteers were deployed for three days to monitor the cash transfer activities. Their role was to ensure the proper execution of the distribution process and that beneficiaries received their funds without issues. The volunteers' presence ensured that the distribution process ran smoothly, with minimal delays or issues, guaranteeing that beneficiaries received their cash assistance as intended.

- Post-distribution monitoring (PDM) by volunteers (03 Days): The same 30 volunteers conducted post-distribution monitoring (PDM) for three days, collecting feedback from beneficiaries to assess the impact and effectiveness of the cash assistance. This monitoring process helped to ensure that the assistance was used effectively to meet the beneficiaries' needs. The PDM exercise provided valuable insights into the success of the cash transfer program, ensuring that the assistance had a positive and meaningful impact on the beneficiaries.

Lessons Learnt

- Cash transfers provided to households affected by the crisis have demonstrated their efficacy in facilitating their recovery in accordance with their individual requirements, thereby aiding in the restoration of their dignity. This approach allowed them the autonomy to determine what is essential for their families while helping market recovery.
- The implementation of effective Community Engagement and Accountability increases community understanding of relief assistance, and selection criteria and enhances their participation. Communities should be at the center of all responses to disasters.

Challenges

- None was reported



Budget: CHF 85,751

Targeted Persons: 24,135

Assisted Persons: 24,135

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of households provided with mosquito nets	2,050	2,050
# of Volunteers trained on PSS, first aid, and health promotion	180	180
# of volunteers deployed for search and rescue	180	105
# of people reached with immediate health support	24,135	24,135

Narrative description of achievements

- Health Needs Assessment: In collaboration with health authorities and various stakeholders, the Guinea Red Cross conducted a detailed assessment to identify health needs in the flood-impacted regions. The assessment revealed that three healthcare facilities were severely affected by the floods, highlighting inadequacies in the technical infrastructure to provide adequate healthcare services. As a result, volunteers were mobilized to enhance community awareness and provide assistance to these affected communities. The assessment provided crucial insights into the gaps in healthcare services and enabled the Red Cross to focus its efforts on areas with the greatest need, directly improving health awareness and support in the most vulnerable communities.



- Training of 180 volunteers on PSS, first aid, and health promotion: A total of 180 volunteers were trained over three days on psychosocial support (PSS), first aid, and health promotion. This training equipped the volunteers with the necessary skills to address immediate health concerns and provide vital support to the affected communities. The training empowered volunteers to deliver lifesaving first aid, mental health support, and health education to the affected populations, enhancing the overall response and ensuring that communities had access to essential health services during the emergency.
- Distribution of mosquito nets to affected households: Mosquito nets were distributed to affected households to prevent the spread of malaria and other mosquito-borne diseases. Each household received 03 mosquito nets: The distribution of mosquito nets significantly reduced the risk of malaria transmission in the affected areas, providing vulnerable households with essential protection against vector-borne diseases.
- Hygiene and sanitation campaigns: Two hygiene and sanitation campaigns were conducted over one month to ensure communities, including their water sources and latrines, were cleaned and maintained. These campaigns were held twice a month. The campaigns helped improve sanitation conditions, reducing the risk of waterborne diseases and creating safer living environments for the affected populations.
- Hygiene and awareness-raising campaigns in affected communities: A total of three hygiene and health risk awareness-raising campaigns were conducted each week for two months in the affected communities. These campaigns focused on educating the population about health risks and preventive measures. The trained 180 volunteers were deployed to conduct risk communication and health promotion activities in relocation sites and affected areas. The volunteers worked in teams of 04, divided into 50 teams. These campaigns reached over 24,135 people, providing them with critical information on how to protect themselves from communicable diseases. The community's increased awareness directly contributed to better health practices, reducing the spread of diseases in the aftermath of the flooding.
- The operation ensured the setting up of a feedback mechanism in the affected community to allow people assisted to express their concerns or displeasure with the cash transfer process and hygiene promotion kits that were supplied. Also, the system allowed people supported to confidentially report corruption or abuse of power and to seek redress. The trained volunteers supported the CEA team in collecting feedback and complaints from the community members. Both feedback and complaint mechanisms helped build a culture of transparency and accountability and improved operations quality.

Lessons Learnt

- The response did not target all affected populations by the floods, which led to the mistaken perception that the Red Cross was only assisting individuals of particular significance. To address this issue, community leaders were involved in the beneficiary selection and verification process, based on predetermined criteria. They also worked closely with volunteers to support the activities of the Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) program, helping to explain the selection criteria and the rationale behind the choices made.

Challenges

- Involving community stakeholders and women's groups helped increase the community's understanding of the selection criteria.
- The RCSG needs to ensure and increase the number of trained volunteers on cash transfer, Hygiene promotion, and skills to support awareness raising. Trained volunteers could easily be deployed to support response; this will allow saving time and cost as they will require specialized training during disasters and crises.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 75,215

Targeted Persons: 24,135

Assisted Persons: 24,135

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people reached with the spots broadcasted on health and hygiene promotion	24,135	24,135
Number of households assisted with WASH items via cash	2,050	2,050
Number of latrines rehabilitated/disinfected	227	227

Number of households having access to safe drinking water	2,050	2,050
Number of volunteers trained to carry out WASH activities	180	180
Number of people reached with key messages of health promotion and personal and community hygiene	24,135	24,135

Narrative description of achievements

- Volunteer training for WASH activities and waterborne disease prevention:

A total of 180 volunteers were trained on water, hygiene, and sanitation promotion activities, focusing on waterborne disease prevention. The training covered essential topics such as menstrual hygiene, Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV), the use of Mosquito Indoor Long-Lasting Insecticide-treated Nets (MILDAs), and community engagement. Volunteers were provided with personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves, boots, mufflers, and raincoats, ensuring their safety during the activities.

Because of COVID-19, special attention was given to maintaining containment measures and ensuring physical distancing during the 12 sessions, with 25 participants per session. The training was completed over three days, allowed equipping volunteers with critical knowledge and skills for promoting health and hygiene, enabling them to conduct effective community interventions in waterborne disease prevention.

- Initial WASH situation assessment and monitoring: An initial assessment of the water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) situation was carried out to identify key needs and appropriate interventions. Continuous monitoring followed, highlighting issues like water pollution and unsanitary conditions that hindered access to safe drinking water. Effective household water treatment methods were identified based on local preferences and water quality. This assessment and ongoing monitoring enabled targeted interventions, ensuring the community received the necessary support to improve access to clean water and hygiene facilities.

- Collaboration with WASH actors: Collaboration was established with other WASH actors to agree on target groups and devise a coordinated response to address community needs. This collaboration helped ensure a more comprehensive and effective response, avoiding duplication of efforts and maximizing the impact of the operation.

- Training on Water Storage and Treatment: Community members were trained on proper water storage and the safe use of water treatment products. This empowered the community to improve their hygiene practices and access safe drinking water, contributing to long-term health benefits.

- Latrine rehabilitation and disinfection: A total of 227 destroyed latrines were rehabilitated, and additional disinfection activities were conducted in the sub-prefecture of Coyah. These efforts were completed over three days, although logistical challenges have caused some delays. The rehabilitation of latrines and disinfection activities significantly improved sanitation in the affected areas, reducing the risk of waterborne diseases.

- Cash transfers for WASH and dignity kits: Cash transfers were provided to 2,050 households to procure WASH items based on market evaluations. Additionally, a total of 1,830 women and girls of childbearing age received cash to purchase dignity kits. The WASH items distribution reached 14,000 people, ensuring their hygiene needs were met. Cash transfers provided the affected populations with the means to meet their essential hygiene needs, empowering them to purchase the necessary items.

- Monitoring and post-distribution activities: Thirty volunteers were deployed for three days to monitor the cash transfer activities, ensuring smooth and efficient distribution. Post-distribution monitoring (PDM) was conducted for an additional three days by the same team to ensure accountability and gather feedback from beneficiaries. These monitoring activities ensured the efficiency of the distribution process, provided transparency, and helped address any issues raised by beneficiaries.

- Training on ITN installation: Community members were trained on the proper installation of insecticide-treated nets (ITNs) to protect against vector-borne diseases such as malaria. This training helped prevent the spread of malaria, improving the health and well-being of the community.

- Hygiene promotion and sanitation campaigns: Eight hygiene promotion sessions were conducted for 2,050 affected households, focusing on good hygiene practices and the proper use of hygiene materials. The sessions helped improve access to clean drinking water and ensured compliance with Sphere and WHO standards. Volunteers conducted community meetings and focus group discussions (FGDs) in local languages, supported by 1,000 Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials (flyers) produced in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. Hygiene promotion spots were also broadcast to raise awareness about safe water and hygiene practices. Additionally, three sanitation campaigns were organized, one per month, to engage the community in clean-up activities. These activities raised awareness about proper hygiene and sanitation, leading to improved community practices and reduced waterborne disease transmission.

- Volunteer Safety and Support: All volunteers involved in the activities were equipped with personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves, boots, mufflers, and raincoats, ensuring their safety and well-being during community interventions. The provision of PPE ensured that volunteers were protected while performing their tasks, contributing to a safer working environment.



Lessons Learnt

Cash transfer proved to be a simple and effective way of helping the affected population recover their lost household and hygiene kits. Going through a long procurement process would have delayed response time.

Challenges

- None was reported.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 0

Targeted Persons: 14,315

Assisted Persons: 14,315

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of staff briefed on PGI and PSEA and the implementation of PGI minimum standards	7	7
# of volunteers briefed on PGI and PSEA and the implementation of PGI minimum standards	210	210
# of people reached with PGI and PSEA sensitization sessions by volunteers	14,350	14,350

Narrative description of achievements

- Staff briefing on PGI and PSEA: A briefing session was held for all staff involved in the operation to ensure a clear understanding of PGI and PSEA standards. The session emphasized the importance of integrating PGI minimum standards across various sectors, including WASH, health, and shelter interventions. The goal was to equip staff with the necessary knowledge and tools to protect vulnerable populations' rights and prevent abuse or exploitation during activity implementation.
- Volunteers briefing on PGI and PSEA: A dedicated PGI and PSEA module was included in the volunteers training program to ensure volunteers were aware of these principles and their responsibilities. Volunteers working in WASH and health-related interventions received detailed briefings on interacting respectfully and protectively with the affected population. They were trained to understand their role in preventing sexual exploitation, abuse, and discrimination.
- PGI and PSEA sensitization sessions by volunteers: Following their training, volunteers conducted sensitization sessions in the affected communities as part of health and hygiene promotion activities. These sessions, integrated into broader community awareness campaigns, focused on educating the population about their rights, the importance of protecting vulnerable groups, and how to report incidents of sexual exploitation or abuse. Volunteers also promoted gender equality and inclusion within the community.

Lessons Learnt

- Ensuring staff and volunteers are briefed on PGI and PSEA principles at the start, with regular refreshers, is essential to integrate protection standards throughout operations.
- Sensitization sessions by volunteers helped raise awareness. Future efforts should involve local leaders and use community-driven strategies to enhance impact.
- Strong feedback mechanisms: Clear, accessible feedback systems-built trust and accountability. Strengthening these mechanisms will improve future operations.
- Cross-sector collaboration: Integrating PGI and PSEA into all sectors (WASH, health, shelter) ensured consistent protection standards. Future operations should continue this cross-sector approach.
- Targeted support for vulnerable groups: Tailored messaging for women, children, and marginalized groups enhances protection. Future interventions should focus on these groups more specifically.





Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 18,584

Targeted Persons: 24,135

Assisted Persons: 24,135

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
% of feedback received and responded to	60	71
% of staff and volunteers working on the operation who have been briefed on CEA	70	70
# of consultations with communities for list finalization	3	2
# of people reached with CEA messages	24,135	24,135
# of community groups and representatives consulted on response plans	8	8

Narrative description of achievements

- **Volunteers' deployment and orientation:** A total of 200 volunteers were deployed to support the DREF operation. These volunteers were orientated on their roles and responsibilities, and the risks they might encounter during the operation. Special emphasis was placed on the importance of community engagement and the need for volunteers to protect the dignity of beneficiaries, ensuring equal treatment of both women and men. The orientation ensured that volunteers were well-prepared to handle their tasks effectively and sensitively, while also fostering an environment of trust and respect in the affected communities.
- **Psychosocial support (PSS) refresher training:** Volunteers received refresher training in psychosocial support to ensure they were equipped to address any psychological issues that may arise during the response. This training also included detailed orientation on how to facilitate community complaints and feedback mechanisms, using the Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) approach. The training enabled volunteers to provide essential psychological support to those affected by the crisis and handle complaints with care and professionalism, ensuring community needs were met.
- **Community meetings and validation of beneficiary lists:** Before the intervention, community meetings were held with local authorities to validate the selection criteria and beneficiary lists. During these meetings, the nature of Red Cross support and the modality of cash transfers were explained. Volunteers played a key role in consulting community members on their preferred communication channels, such as community dialogues, community radios, and picture boxes.
Impact: This approach promoted transparency and ensured that the community was fully informed and involved in the selection and assistance processes, enhancing the legitimacy of the response.
- **Feedback mechanism and accountability:** A robust feedback mechanism was established in the affected communities, allowing beneficiaries to express concerns or dissatisfaction with the cash transfer process and hygiene promotion kits distribution. The system also provided a confidential channel for reporting corruption or abuse of power. Trained volunteers supported the CEA team in gathering feedback and complaints, which was crucial for improving operations quality. The feedback and complaint mechanisms enhanced transparency, built community trust, and contributed to the continuous improvement of the operation, fostering a culture of accountability.

Lessons Learnt

- The validation of selection criteria and beneficiary lists with local authorities and community leaders ensured the community felt included in the process, which increased buy-in and trust in the operation.
- By consulting with beneficiaries on their preferred communication methods, such as community dialogues and local radio broadcasts, the operation ensured that important information was effectively disseminated. This approach minimized confusion and ensured beneficiaries were well-informed about the support being provided.
- The implementation of a feedback and complaints system provided beneficiaries a platform to express concerns or issues they encountered. This process allowed the operation to respond to concerns in a timely manner, increasing transparency and accountability.



Challenges

- No challenges were reported.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 28,682

Targeted Persons: 210

Assisted Persons: 1

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
% of volunteers involved in activities insured	100	180

Narrative description of achievements

- **Volunteers' Insurance:** A total of 180 volunteers engaged in the DREF operations were insured. The names and other required information were shared with the Geneva team, who supported the insurance process. This provided volunteers with essential coverage, ensuring their safety and well-being during their involvement in the operation.
- **Lessons Learned Workshop:** A one-day Lessons Learned Workshop was held at the end of the operation, attended by the operations team from the National Society and the prefecture, volunteers, partners, and beneficiaries. The workshop provided an opportunity for key stakeholders to reflect on the successes and challenges of the operation, share experiences, and identify areas for improvement. This collaborative learning process helped enhance future operations and strengthened partnerships within the community.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 7,268

Targeted Persons: 210

Assisted Persons: 210

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of lessons learned workshop	1	1
# of documentaries produced	1	1
# of monitoring missions undertaken by the IFRC Cluster Delegation team	3	3
# of volunteers provided with PPE	210	210

Narrative description of achievements

- **Code of Conduct:** Volunteers and staff involved in the DREF operations were mobilized and briefed on the Code of Conduct (CoC) and the principles of the Red Cross / Red Crescent Movement. The Human Resource unit ensured that volunteers read the CoC, and those who had not signed it were provided with a copy of the document to read and sign. This ensured that all volunteers and staff adhered to the Movement's ethical standards and operational guidelines, promoting accountability and professionalism in the response.
- **Procurement of Visibility Materials:** The operation made provisions for the procurement of visibility materials, including jackets, T-



shirts, and caps, which were given to volunteers supporting community engagement activities.

Impact: These materials enhanced volunteer visibility, increased recognition of the Red Cross' presence, and promoted community trust in the operation.

- Provision of Protective Equipment: Protective equipment, including boots, gloves, nose cones, and raincoats, was provided to volunteers to ensure their safety and protection during sanitation activities. This equipment safeguarded volunteers from potential hazards during sanitation activities, allowing them to work safely and effectively.

Lessons Learnt

- Adhering to the DREF action plan is essential for ensuring effective service delivery.

Ensure volunteers receive training prior to the implementation of CEA activities, and recognize their valuable contributions.

Recruit community volunteers in collaboration with local leaders and stakeholders to build trust and confidence within the community.

- Frequent meetings with the IFRC cluster delegation supported the quality implementation of the DREF, providing planned support to the affected population.

- IFRC Country Cluster Delegation to support capacity building of PMER staff at the National Society on monitoring of DREF indicators, producing an operations update and a DREF initial report to support compliance and quality monitoring of a DREF.



Financial Report

Please explain variances (if any)

The budget allocated for Coordination and Partnerships and Secretariat Services was overestimated. While technical support missions were conducted to assist National Societies (NS) and monitor operations, the full budget was not utilized. The unspent balance was reimbursed by the NS upon the closure of the DREF operation. Also, it was initially planned for Freetown Cluster Delegation staff to be deployed for one month; however, through constant engagements, meetings, and updates, the deployment was deemed unfeasible. Instead, the Senior Operations Officer conducted a two-week mission at the start of the operation to provide technical guidance on the operational strategy.



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[Click here for reference](#)



DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2023/08-2024/10	Operation	MDRGN015
Budget Timeframe	2023/8-2024/01	Budget	APPROVED

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 20/Dec/2024

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRGN015 - Guinea - Floods : Coyah

Operating Timeframe: 23 Aug 2023 to 31 Jan 2024

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	446,197
DREF Response Pillar	446,197
Expenditure	-431,226
Closing Balance	14,971

II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction			0
AOF2 - Shelter	59,632	59,780	-148
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	171,065	243,417	-72,353
AOF4 - Health	85,751	133,310	-47,559
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	75,215		75,215
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			0
AOF7 - Migration			0
Area of focus Total	391,663	436,508	-44,845
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	35,171	-5,934	41,105
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management			0
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners			0
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	19,363	652	18,711
Strategy for implementation Total	54,534	-5,282	59,816
Grand Total	446,197	431,226	14,971

DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2023/08-2024/10	Operation	MDRGN015
Budget Timeframe	2023/8-2024/01	Budget	APPROVED

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 20/Dec/2024

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRGN015 - Guinea - Floods : Coyah

Operating Timeframe: 23 Aug 2023 to 31 Jan 2024

III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	329,376	359,543	-30,167
Clothing & Textiles	17,160		17,160
Medical & First Aid	735		735
Utensils & Tools	3,300		3,300
Other Supplies & Services		70,860	-70,860
Cash Disbursement	308,181	288,682	19,498
Logistics, Transport & Storage	3,200	4,034	-834
Transport & Vehicles Costs	3,200	4,034	-834
Personnel	37,607	23,626	13,981
National Staff		25	-25
National Society Staff	1,800	3,624	-1,824
Volunteers	35,807	19,978	15,829
Workshops & Training	16,350	7,932	8,418
Workshops & Training	16,350	7,932	8,418
General Expenditure	32,432	9,772	22,660
Travel		4,563	-4,563
Information & Public Relations	15,250	4,192	11,058
Communications	300	4,045	-3,745
Financial Charges	2,182	-3,028	5,210
Other General Expenses	14,700		14,700
Indirect Costs	27,233	26,319	914
Programme & Services Support Recover	27,233	26,319	914
Grand Total	446,197	431,226	14,971