



Coordination meeting with partners

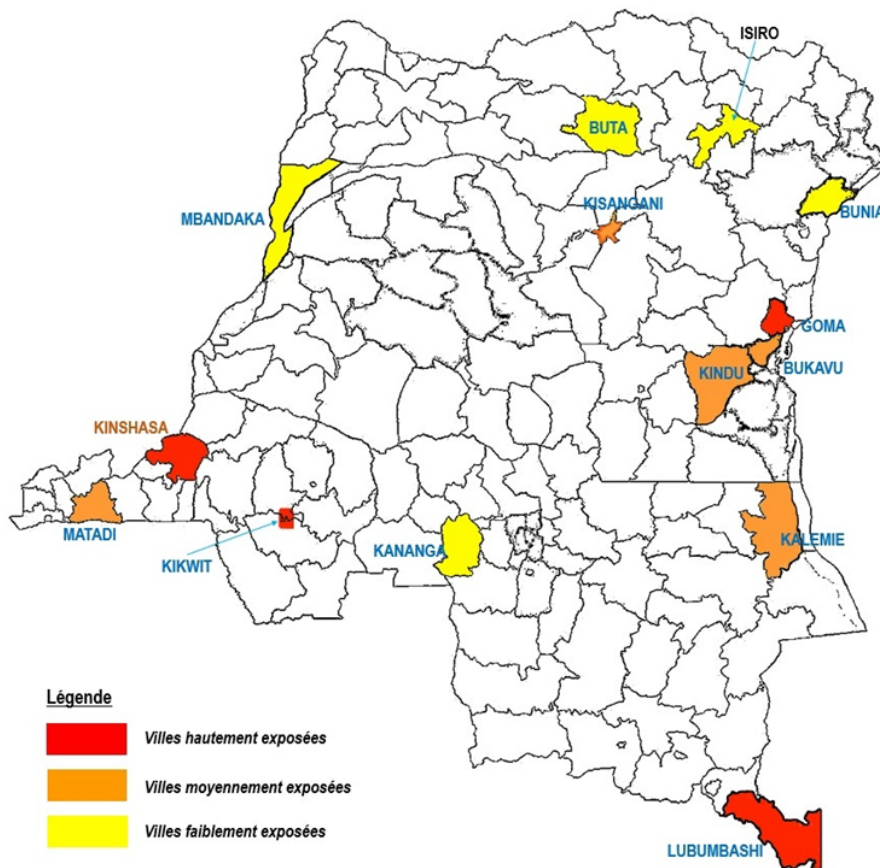
Appeal: MDRCD041	Country: Democratic Republic of Congo	Hazard: Other	Type of DREF: Imminent
Crisis Category: Yellow	Event Onset: Slow	DREF Allocation: CHF 149,210	
Glide Number: -	People Affected: -	People Targeted: 15,000 people	
Operation Start Date: 2023-12-04	Operation Timeframe: 3 months	Operation End Date: 2024-03-31	DREF Published: 2023-12-17
Targeted Areas: Haut-Katanga, Kongo Central, Kwilu, Maniema			

Description of the Event

Approximate date of impact

The key dates in the electoral process are as follows:

- From 18.11 to 18.12.23: Election campaign
- 20.12.23: Election Day
- 31.12.23: Publication of the provisional results of the presidential and parliamentary elections
- 10.01.24: Publication of the final results.



Map of at risk areas _ DRCRC and ICRC @2022

Provide any updates in the situation since the field report and explain what is expected to happen.

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is preparing to organize its fourth electoral cycle after the democratic transition of 2003-2006. In recent years, the country has faced a wave of protests linked to the 2018 presidential elections. This electoral crisis is one of the sources of the various conflicts affecting the DRC, in particular armed conflicts, population uprisings, ethnic conflicts, population movements, and so on.

Fighting in the East of the country and in other regions has deprived more than a million citizens of their voting cards. The opposition, faced with increased repression from the government and an independent national electoral commission (CENI) that it sees as favorable to the ruling party, is tempted to reject every stage of the process. At the same time, the risk of localized violence is high. A close or disputed presidential result could also lead to a national crisis, as was the case in 2018.

On 31 January 2023, the Independent National Electoral Commission (CNIEN) announced the end of voter identification and registration operations. However, CNIEN's figures show that registration rates are much higher than expected, and opposition presidential candidates are already talking about the risk of "cheating".

Other catalysts are raising fears of violent post-election demonstrations, notably the debates on the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI), which some candidates believe is not truly independent, the quality of the voters' cards, the

unsatisfactory voter registration process, the unstable and volatile social climate currently affecting the country, and recent reports of the loss of some thirty CENI agents.

In the week of 13 November 2023, inter-community violence broke out in MALEMBA NKULU, a locality in the province of Haut - Katanga. The situation was triggered by the murder of a motorbike taxi driver by alleged bandits identified as nationals of the Kasai region. In retaliation, the victim's colleagues attacked members of the Kasai community living in Malemba Nkulu. Tension between the communities of Katanga, the region of origin of one of the opposition presidential candidates, and Kasai, the region of origin of the current president, is simmering just a few days before the elections.

In view of the above, there could be situations of unrest linked to the electoral process in particular:

- Clashes between supporters of political parties during the campaign, on election day and after the results were announced.
- Population movements in stable areas and accentuation in the east of the country.
- Extension of armed conflicts to other areas during the campaign and after the elections.
- Jubilation and frustration following the publication of the results.
- Worsening social situation (difficult access to health centers', markets, water, electricity and internet cuts, etc.).
- Risk of calls for demonstrations by political parties.
- Inter-community violence,

The NS must be prepared and have the capacity to deal with the unfolding situation and potential impact in line with the scenario analysis in its contingency plan.

Sources:

<https://www.bbc.com/afrique/articles/cqvplq05jy5o>

<https://www.crisisgroup.org/fr/africa/great-lakes/democratic-republic-congo/312-elections-en-rd-congo-limiter-les-risques-de-violence>.

Why your National Society is acting now and what criteria is used to launch this operation.

In order to better focus its preparation and planning to deal with the possible consequences of this crisis mentioned above, the Red Cross of the DRC needs to be present in the towns and certain territories considered to be high-risk provinces on the basis of the criteria below:

- Provinces of origin of candidates
- The country's political capital, the seat of all its institutions
- Population concentration
- Conflict zones
- Areas of armed conflict, particularly in the east of the country
- Community conflicts
- Lessons learned from previous elections.

Scope and Scale

Elections are often a source of crisis in Africa, particularly in the DRC. Pregnant women, the elderly and children are usually the hardest hit.

Access to food, healthcare and basic social services becomes difficult, if not impossible, in times of election crisis. The same applies to people with special needs.

The Democratic Republic of Congo held its last general elections in 2018. These elections were held after a postponement of the elections initially scheduled for 2016. These two years of postponement were characterized by violent demonstrations and riots. Communities have lost their homes and their businesses, resulting in an increased poverty. Sometimes these violent riots extend over several days and in several provinces, either before the elections to demand the organization of fair and transparent elections, or after the publication of the results.

The elections on 20 December 2023 indicate the likelihood of a similar situation. And in the event of electoral postponement or disruption, the risk to communities is considerable. The following situations could arise:

- Mass demonstrations and frustration following the publication of the results
- Worsening social situation (difficult access to health centers, markets, water, electricity and internet cuts, etc.)
- Risk of calls for demonstrations by political parties
- Inter-community violence

- Increasing armed conflict in the east of the country
- Inter-ethnic conflicts are also often associated with political divisions.

In 2022, the CRRDC carried out risk analyses based on consultation and survey sessions, and assessed the risk associated with elections and civil unrest. The consultation and analysis platforms were supported by partners. Data was collected using detailed questionnaires in all 26 provinces of the country.

These questionnaires collected information from branches, certain representative groups and key informants. Analysis of the information gathered enabled the relevance of the provincial contingency plan to be assessed, possible scenarios to be reviewed, geographical priorities and risk levels to be determined/reviewed on the basis of past activation of the contingency plan and severity of impact during civil unrest, and priorities for action and planning in general to be updated in the context of the elections. This assessment also led to the following risk classification by province and city:

- The provinces most at risk are Kinshasa (mainly the city of Kinshasa), Haut Katanga (city of Lubumbashi), Nord Kivu (Goma); Taganika (Kalemie), Sud Kivu (Bukavu), Ituri (Bunia), Haut Uele (town of Isiro), Bas Uele (Buta), Equateur (Mbandaka) and Kasai - Central (Kananga); Kwilu (Kikwit); Maniema (Kindu), Kongo central (Matadi) , Tshopo (Kisangani).
- The cities most at risk are Kinshasa, Lubumbashi, Goma and Kikwit;
- The medium-exposure towns of Kalemie, Bukavu, Matadi, Kindu and Kisangani and the low-exposure towns of Bunia, Isiro, Buta, Mbandaka and Kananga. Of the largest conurbations it has been established that the major conurbations are the main targets in the event of unrest and violence. The high-risk areas mentioned above also concentrate the highest percentage of voters compared to their total population, with between 20% and 40% of the population of these towns being registered as voters according to CENI (Independent National Electoral Commission) data from May 2023. Based on past data and events, this could be estimated at around 5% of the voting population. The risk zones were also classified on the basis of the socio-political dynamics in these zones and the severity of past violent events in these zones.

Some of these events included hundreds of casualties, demonstrations of violence between communities and/or with armed forces, and acts of violence perpetrated by other non-state armed groups. Focusing only on the most recent elections:

- On 11 December 2018, tear gas, hot water cannons and firearms were used to disperse a crowd gathered to meet Lamuka coalition presidential candidate Martin Fayulu in Lubumbashi.

At least two people were shot dead and 43 injured, including 15 with firearms. The following day, according to reports from the Carter Center (source below), live ammunition was used to disperse Lamuka activists waiting to greet Fayulu in Kalemie, resulting in the death of one woman and the injury of nine others.

- Post-election violence was also observed during and after the results of the 2018 elections in Kikwit (Kwilu province) and Kisangani (Tshopo province), where around ten people were killed and others injured.
- The campaign, from the time of the rallies to the end, was characterized by restrictions due to armed conflict and the ethnic disputes, particularly in the eastern regions. Complex insecurity in the eastern part of the country threatened the peaceful conduct of the electoral process. Insecurity and armed activities had a direct impact on the campaign environment in certain regions where militias were operating. This was the case in the provinces of Maniema, Tshopo and North Kivu. For example, during the last elections, some militias did not allow parliamentary and provincial candidates to campaign in Nonda and Kasenga (Maniema province) and in other towns, which caused widespread panic and exposed communities.
- During the 2006 elections, hundreds of civilians were killed, raped and tortured in the provinces of Katanga, Ituri, North and South Kivu and central Kongo. Thousands of people suspected of involvement in violent demonstrations were killed or tortured to death by dozens of them. More than 150,000 people have fled their homes in the area of military operations, an area that has become known as the "triangle of death".
- Some of these provinces are already facing inter-community unrest and insecurity, sometimes perpetrated by militias, which generally increase during election periods, as witnessed by the 2006 elections and those after 2018. Beyond the elections, the situation is characterized by displacements due to security problems, food insecurity, etc. These conditions mean that thousands of people in the at-risk provinces listed above are most at risk in the event of civil unrest.

Source:

- <https://actualite.cd/2023/05/23/statistiques-des-electeurs-par-province-kinshasa-nord-et-sud-kivu-haut-katanga-ou-encore-Plan-de-contingence-de-la-CRRDC>
- Data released by the Association Congolaise pour l'Accès à la Justice. See Actualite, Présidentielle en RDC : Deux partisans de Fayulu tués par "balles réelles" à Lubumbashi , 43 blessés (ACAJ), Dec. 11, 2018; <https://actualite.cd/2018/12/11/presidentielle-en-rdc-deux-partisans-de-fayulu-tues-par-ballesreelles-lubumbashi-43> (retrieval date: Dec. 13, 2018).
- <https://www.hrw.org/news/2018/08/28/dr-congo-opposition-under-assault>
- <https://www.refworld.org/docid/45aca29c2f.html>

Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	No
Did it affect the same population group?	No
Did the National Society respond?	No
Did the National Society request funding form DREF for that event(s)	No
If yes, please specify which operation	-

If you have answered yes to all questions above, justify why the use of DREF for a recurrent event, or how this event should not be considered recurrent:

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Lessons learned:

Over the last 3 years, the CRRDC has not been confronted with a similar event. However, based on the previous election in 2018, the main lesson learned was that the development of the contingency plan and collaboration with the ICRC enabled the National Society to respond effectively.

Following this learning, an election contingency plan was drawn up by the National Society and this DREF will support this action. This contingency plan is accompanied by provincial contingency plans already well integrated by the branches, and certain mobilization and preparation actions are in place.

In line with the pro-activity recommended in the previous intervention, the SN has already started the kick-off meetings involving all the branches. As a result, all branches are already involved and, in some cities, notably Kinshasa, NDRTs and branch staff have already been trained thanks to ICRC support and this DREF will simply provide resources for cascading sessions from the branches. These deployment sessions could take less than a week.

The National Societies must also ensure that the volunteers selected and mobilized (at least in the major towns) have relevant experience, so that the sessions will mainly be refresher courses with a particular focus on safe access. Taking advantage of past interventions, the NS has a large network of volunteers in several of the target towns, which will facilitate the mobilization of teams that have already begun in several localities.

Current National Society Actions

Coordination	<p>Coordination meetings are held with the movement's partners (CRRDC, FICR, CICR, CRE, CRF, CRLUX, CRS, CRB).</p> <p>The aim is to present the contingency plan and pool funding. In addition, the CRRDC had several meetings with the political, administrative and security authorities in the different provinces of the country.</p> <p>During these meetings, the CRRDC presented its contingency plan, proposed a training program for young people from the various political parties and approached the key contacts involved in the electoral process. The CRRDC took advantage of these hearings to raise their awareness.</p> <p>From a technical point of view, meetings are being held between the CRRDC, the ICRC and the MSF. At the last meeting, the emergency services of the Ministry of Health at national and provincial level were involved in order to collaborate on the implementation of the response.</p>
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Assessment	In view of the changing security, socio-economic, political and humanitarian situation in the country in general and particularly in the eastern provinces, the DRC held workshops in 2022 to evaluate and update the 2018 contingency plan. This was done while taking into account the risks associated with the 2023 electoral process. These workshops were held in the provinces of Kinshasa, North Kivu and Haut Katanga and were attended by local partners and those of the movement.
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -A total of 641 volunteers and 32 heads of post were retrained in first aid, including 331 in Kinshasa, 149 in Lubumbashi, 87 in Goma, 29 in Kalemie and 45 in Bukavu. - The DRC Red Cross has pre-positioned 249 first aid kits in the same provinces. - In coordination with MSF, training has been organized for health workers in casualty care.
National Society EOC	<p>There were :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Setting up a crisis unit at CRRDC headquarters and in the branches. - Appointment of crisis unit coordinators. - In coordination with the ICRC, the provision of means of communication (VHF radios only for the city of Kinshasa). - Identification of rolling stock with the IFRC, ICRC and PNS. - Sharing contacts with the security forces. - Drawing up a budget for the operation of the crisis unit.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	<p>The IFRC has a country office in Kinshasa and representations in Goma and Kalemie, providing technical assistance to the CRRDC for humanitarian operations. In addition, the IFRC assists the CRRDC in implementing food security programs, health programs (strengthening routine vaccinations, preparing communities for epidemics and pandemics), education programs, and health and nutrition programs and strengthening the capacity of the national company.</p> <p>At national level, the IFRC takes part in meetings of the humanitarian country team, sectoral cluster meetings.</p>
Participating National Societies	<p>The Belgian, Spanish, Swedish and French Red Cross are also present. Movement coordination in the DRC is anchored in the Movement's Cooperation Agreement, which describes the functional coordination mechanisms in the country with regular meetings at leadership, operational and technical levels. The Movement's functional coordination mechanisms and their practical application as part of the process of strengthening Movement coordination and cooperation in the DRC continue to reinforce a coordinated and complementary Movement response.</p> <p>As part of the implementation of its contingency plan in the areas as a priority not covered by the ICRC, the CRRDC will benefit from the following support to which the partners have committed themselves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The CRF to provide vehicles for the CRRDC in South Kivu - Bukavu. - The Swedish RC will provide support to the town of Kalémie in Tanganika province.

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

The ICRC has offices in the DRC in Kinshasa and in the eastern provinces of the country, notably Ituri, South Kivu and Tanganyika, where it is supporting the CRRDC in implementing the contingency plan for the elections by providing relief and communication equipment, means of evacuating the wounded, bonuses for volunteers and protection, as well as first-aid and security training programs.

Coordination meetings are in place to bring together all the partners to discuss their actions and avoid duplication. The ICRC's actions will focus on the towns most at risk in the provinces of Kinshasa, North Kivu, Haut Katanga, Tanganika, Ituri and South Kivu.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	Under the responsibility of the Ministry of the Interior, all the candidates signed the code of good conduct for peaceful elections and an emergency plan is currently being updated.
UN or other actors	<p>Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) has set up a contingency plan and is working closely with the DRC Red Cross in the city of Kinshasa. In general, the plan consists of supplying hospitals with products and caring for the injured during the election period. Four hospitals have been selected for the 2023 elections (Centre Hospitalier Roi Bauduin, HGR de Kinshasa, Hopital Saint Joseph and Kinkenda).</p> <p>USAID's Peace and Security during the Elections unit has brought together its humanitarian partners to discuss the electoral process.</p>
Are there major coordination mechanism in place?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Humanitarian Country Team.- Coordination meeting of the Red Cross movement.- Technical meeting CRRDC - ICRC -MSF.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Community Engagement And Accountability

During the electoral period, it is important that volunteers are briefed and deployed in the field to promote humanitarian values, raise the profile of Red Cross actions and improve communication between the Red Cross and communities in order to increase their involvement.

In addition, it will also be necessary to engage with the communities concerned to devise an emergency plan or implement an emergency plan during the elections.

Community involvement in the development of the plan is essential to its success.

This will guarantee access for volunteers in the field and avoid any confusion with other reputational risks for the CR RDC.

It should be emphasized that during the awareness-raising campaign with all social strata, particular emphasis will be placed on social cohesion and risk-free elections (respect for the opinion of others).



Health

The CRRDC will intervene to help the victims during the incident. Psychological support will be required. Volunteers need to be trained in first aid and psychosocial support. This should be done during the pre-electoral period in order to guarantee a good response throughout the electoral period.

There is a need for co-ordination between the national headquarters and the provinces to ensure that healthcare interventions are consistent and that good use is made of the means of communication between the two entities. Coordination with municipal and national health services is also necessary.

Equipment will be needed for this purpose, not forgetting working materials and equipment such as first-aid kits, maintenance and refueling of ambulances and vehicles needed for the volunteers, but also to support the whole operation.

First-aid posts will have to be set up at headquarters (Kinshasa) and in the various provinces at risk. These posts will have to work in collaboration with dispensaries, ambulance services and fire-fighting services.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

In the event of conflict, people who are already in a vulnerable situation may see their situation worsen and their rights violated. People with specific needs include pregnant and breastfeeding women, children, people with reduced mobility, the elderly and minority groups (foreigners, migrants or refugees).

Volunteers should be briefed on the code of conduct and issues relating to the AIP, in particular the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, in order to provide assistance without causing further harm and not to expose themselves to any improper act or behaviors'.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

This DREF aims to prepare the DRC Red Cross to help cover the humanitarian needs of 15,000 people during the electoral process in the provinces of Kwilu, Maniema, Central Kongo and Tshopo over a 3-month period.

This intervention is the result of a coordinated approach with movement partners (ICRC, IFRC and PNS) for priority emergency preparedness and relief actions defined by the SN contingency plan validated with local institutions and key humanitarian partners.

Operation strategy rationale

The DREF allocation will ensure coverage of NS actions during the most important phases of the electoral calendar and in the most at-risk areas identified but not covered by the ICRC. Kwilu (Kikwit); Maniema (Kindu), Kongo central (Matadi), and Tshopo (Kisangani).

The operational strategy proposed by the DRC is based on three key phases (pre-electoral, electoral and post-electoral).

1. Pre-election phase:

For this phase, the main activities will include:

- Preparing the SN headquarters and branches
- Updating the list of first aiders (home address, telephone contacts). Identification of 300 key volunteers with first aid, movement and local knowledge.
- Training / refresher course for volunteers: Organize a refresher course simulation exercise in the 4 target provinces. Training 300 volunteers (100 per province and 5 supervisors per province) in emergency first aid, psychological first aid, the code of conduct, community involvement and responsibility, protection, gender and inclusion for 6 days. Volunteers will also be trained in secure access, correct use of the emblem and respect for fundamental principles.
- At Community level:
 - Intensive promotion of messages of acceptance and safer access at community and institutional level.
 - Identify sites for first aid posts and evacuation sites.

- Production of a current map/sketch of the entire territory and areas at risk, which will be used by the branches and at head office to guide teams and carry out safety and operational monitoring.
- Coordinate with the local government to obtain up-to-date maps of the towns and information on traffic restrictions in order to improve traffic flow and access for CR personnel.
- Replenishment of first aid supplies and communications equipment (VHF radio).
- Coordination meetings within the NSs, with movement partners and with other stakeholders.
- Coordination with the government: Meeting with the Ministry of the Interior and the army general staff to re-explain the mandate and mission of the CRRDC as an auxiliary to the public authorities but independent, impartial and neutral in the implementation of its humanitarian actions; presentation of Red Cross bibs to be used by staff and volunteers for the presidential elections.
- Coordination meetings with movement partners.
- NS supply and operating costs.

The following items will be purchased prior to election day to ensure the visibility of National Societies during the operations:

- Bibs: 300 bibs will be purchased for volunteers in the 4 provinces, as well as 20 waistcoats for supervisors.
- A total of 100 first aid kits: Equipped first aid kits will be acquired and transferred to each of the priority regions.

2. Election phase

On election day, volunteers will be deployed with the following tasks:

- Covering the first-aid post: Providing care for any victims of demonstrations linked to the presidential elections, quickly, efficiently and effectively.
- Monitoring: Carried out by the CRRDC team, DM.
- Provide primary and psycho-social care to people in distress due to the events (including safe referrals for identified serious cases).
- Evacuation of victims
- Accompanying threatened populations to safer areas
- Search for Unaccompanied Children and missing Persons
- Coordination with municipal authorities, security forces and emergency response organizations.

3. post-election phase

After the elections, the following activities will be carried out:

- Coverage of the first-aid post: first-aid workers will be deployed to monitor the situation for 10 days more.
- Monitoring: The NS will set up a monitoring team to better observe the situation on the ground, through coordination meetings.

The following actions may also be considered and covered by the NS depending on how the situation develops:

- Search for unaccompanied children and missing persons.
- Family reunification.
- Prepare a final report for the movement's components, giving a brief account of the activities implemented by the CRRDC, the materials received and their use.
- Carry out a multi-sector needs assessment and extend the response according to the scenario.

Community Engagement and Redevelopment (CEA) activities will be integrated into the overall election preparation and response to ensure maximum and meaningful participation of affected communities. The DRC will ensure that, through active communication with government and communities, it has access to hotspots before, during and after the elections.

The messages to be promoted will be adapted and translated with members of the community and local institutional or community leaders, in particular with respected people of influence. These will include all the messages on peace and neutrality, but also on protection and risk, etc.

Considering the electoral figures established by the CENI, the voters represent several million people including several groups more likely to be involved in potential demonstrations following a historical and geographical analysis. All these numerous communities will need to be involved in spreading messages of peace.

For meaningful impact, significant community engagement efforts will also be made at the institutional level, drawing on key representative groups including community leaders, youth groups, women's networks, labor and trade union groups, spiritual leaders and potentially other NGOs to ensure that the most vulnerable and exposed people are informed and sensitized. The principles of the movement will be integrated and promoted in all communications to ensure acceptance.

A feedback mechanism will be put in place, whereby the CRRDC will deal with all complaints through its existing system and structure. Volunteers will receive guidance on information management in the crisis unit, including community feedback and rumors management.

Security and operational monitoring will be carried out by the coordination team at head office level with the support of focal

points at branch level.

In the implementation of this intervention, the NS will coordinate with the government and the institutions and leaders of the hottest areas to obtain updated maps of the city and information on traffic restrictions in key cities (including restrictions related to security, elections or not). This will help to improve movement and safer access for CRRDC staff.

As far as possible, all key players at branch and head office level as well as essential local partners (movement and external) will take part in the lessons learned workshop at the end of the intervention.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

As part of this operation, the DRC Red Cross will provide assistance to 15,000 disaster victims in the at-risk areas identified in the emergency plan, namely Kwilu (Kikwit), Maniema (Kindu), Kongo Central (Matadi) and Tshopo (Kisangani).

The cities targeted are based on the classification of high-risk and medium-risk areas (orange) on the basis of evaluations and in consultation with partners at the most recent election contingency coordination meetings.

The people most at risk will be targeted in this intervention.

These would be those who participate directly in political rallies and those who go to polling stations, those who are involved in the voting process. The people at risk are those who could be affected during violence that could pit the forces of law and order against mass leaders. Consequently, the NS will endeavor to target representative groups of voters, groups of workers, representative leaders, key institutional representatives as well as minority groups and the most vulnerable to ensure that the messages have a relevant impact.

For awareness-raising messages, ongoing monitoring (during and after elections) and RFL, the focus will be on the following groups:

migrants and refugees, pregnant and breastfeeding women, children, people with reduced mobility, etc. and the elderly.

When the results are published, there could be violence affecting an even greater number of people, not only the disgruntled demonstrators, but also all those going about their daily business, including shopkeepers.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The target population was selected on the basis of:

- The analysis carried out by the NS on the level of risk following assessments carried out in all 26 provinces of the country and according to the contingency plan validated with institutions and partners.
- Historical data helps to confirm the risk in eastern provinces such as Kwilu and Maniema, but also in provinces such as Tshopo and central Konko, where incidents were reported during past elections and have already begun, albeit with very little coverage.
- The need to cover the gap in monitoring and relief bodies in hotspots not covered by current NS resources supported by partners, while avoiding duplication of effort. Actions must therefore be coordinated with existing ICRC support in certain high-risk areas.
- This targeting also takes into account the socio-political dynamics of recent years and past elections, in which these provinces have all experienced civil unrest that has affected communities.

See scope and scale.

Total Targeted Population

Women	4,188	Rural	40%
Girls (under 18)	3,567	Urban	60%
Men	5,071	People with disabilities (estimated)	1%
Boys (under 18)	2,174		
Total targeted population	15,000		

Risk and Security Considerations

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

Risk	Mitigation action
Difficult access to victims in cases of violence by volunteers due to the presence of the police	In the run-up to the elections, the CRRDC will be organizing awareness-raising sessions for law enforcement agencies on the mission of the DRC Red Cross and the seven fundamental principles to facilitate access to and acceptance of volunteers by law enforcement agencies and the community.
Political tensions between political parties and their supporters, leading to violence among the population	Modules on safer access will be given to volunteers. And strict compliance with existing safety protocols and coordination with the relevant authorities regarding the safety environment.
The electoral process is not over. A major protest movement against the electoral process. All the opponents form a block with their supporters and take to the streets to demand Government resignation from	The CRRDC teams were overwhelmed and asked the ICRC's rapid response teams for emergency assistance. The DREF is updated with a revised strategy and possibly a request for a second allocation or the launch of an emergency call Evacuation of all delegate personnel. Transfer to senior national staff for remote control mechanism
Risk of disruption of access, information and continuity of practice.	- A business continuity plan has been drawn up for the delegation for the period December to January to monitor the operation. - The SN has also put in place a structure for business continuity over the same period and the contingency plan defines clear roles and coordination systems. - Back-up measures will be put in place in case of interruption of internet, radio and communication services in general. This mainly includes the implementation of MSR protocols and the use of VHF; the activation of alternative energy sources will be budgeted for in this intervention.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

There are risks of insecurity in the eastern provinces of the DRC due to the presence of various armed groups and militias. Clashes between them, and between these groups and government forces, are recurrent and are the main cause of population movements.

As part of this operation, the DRC teams, with the support of the ICRC and IFRC, will be organizing regular safety briefings for staff and volunteers.

CRRDC, IFRC and ICRC security officers will work together to help monitor the health and security situation.

likely to affect staff and volunteers.

The health and security context likely to affect the staff and volunteers mobilized. Appropriate personal protective equipment will be made available to the teams, as well as visibility equipment.

Planned Intervention



Budget: CHF 65,572

Targeted Persons: 15,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of volunteers trained in first aid	212
Number of people receiving first aid treatment	15,000
Number of first aid kits purchased	100
Set up an internal crisis management unit	4
Number of first-aid posts installed	25

Priority Actions

- Training 212 volunteers in first aid.
- Train 212 volunteers in emergency first aid.
- Providing first aid to potential victims.
- Purchase of first aid kits.
- Handling cases of family reunification and gender-based violence.
- Set up first-aid posts on the eve of the elections and maintain them one day after the presidential elections, or even longer depending on the context.



Budget: CHF 42,943

Targeted Persons: 320

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of assignments completed	2
Number of insured volunteers	305
Number of lessons learned workshops organized	1
Number of multi-sector evaluations carried out	1

Priority Actions

- NS support and control mission.
- Support for volunteer insurance.
- Support for the organization of the lessons learned workshop.
- Multisectoral needs assessment.
- Situation monitoring, alert maintenance and election watch at head office and branch level.
- Monitoring of risk areas and evolution of the situation - adaptation of planning and scenarios.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 6,025

Targeted Persons: 15,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of volunteers trained in ERP	305
#people who have received awareness-raising messages on AIP, peace and tolerance paix et tolérance	15,000

Priority Actions

- Organize basic training for 305 volunteers on the principles of protection, including child protection, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual violence, identification and safe orientation.
- The inclusion of minority groups will be maintained in the dissemination of messages, ensuring that messages are translated into local languages and that volunteers are directed towards minority and vulnerable groups.
- Spreading messages of protection, acceptance and peace to the community.
- Awareness of GBV and risk of protection.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 30,414

Targeted Persons: 305

Indicators

Title	Target
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Number of surges deployed	1
Number of monitoring missions carried out	3

Priority Actions

- Activity monitoring mission.
- Purchase of VHF radios for staff communication during a crisis.
- Acquisition of a security trunk for the delegation office.
- Deployment of an IFRC mission to install VHF radios.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 4,256

Targeted Persons: 15,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of volunteers briefed	305
Number of people reached	15,000
Number of feedback systems put in place	1

Priority Actions

- Briefing for 305 volunteers on the CEA and its principles.
- Raising community awareness of the Red Cross feedback mandate by emphasis on the principles of neutrality and impartiality, through mobile cinema activities - Establishment of a feedback mechanism.
- Preparation of key messages on the culture of peace.

About Support Services

How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

National Society intends to deploy a total of 300 volunteers and 20 supervisors, with 100 volunteers and 5 supervisors in each target province.

Will surge personnel be deployed? Please provide the role profile needed.

Surge ITC with experience on radio system set-up and management.

If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?

The NS has a logistics team that will make all the purchases necessary for the operation, in accordance with the Federation's procedures. Purchases will be made by the NS and ideally at the level of the respective provinces, thus limiting transport times.

How will this operation be monitored?

In view of the risks of disruption in the country and, above all, to ensure the continuity and effectiveness of the intervention, mitigation measures are included and detailed in the risk analysis.

The NS will align its monitoring plan for this intervention with the matrix of roles defined in the internal contingency plan of the NS (branches and head office) and external. In general, a monitoring system in the most likely scenario is set up at two levels: provincial and national.

Teams at branch level will be responsible for implementation and daily reporting to supervisors, who will coordinate with head office for any decisions that need to be taken and for regular security and operational guidelines.

A dynamic exchange system will be set up between the volunteers and the supervisors to ensure security and exchanges, especially during elections and the results phase. Data will be fed back several times a day, depending on the level of risk and alerts in certain towns.

The monitoring system will also be accompanied by rigorous monitoring of the situation via missions.

The project also includes a financial focal point who will follow up with the NS on transfers and reports for the duration of the project.

The IFRC cluster PMER manager, in coordination with the CEA and PMER National Societies, will support the monitoring of this operation and provide technical support to the teams on the ground.

Monitoring of this operation and will provide technical support to the teams on the ground. Every week, the monitoring and evaluation department will provide an update on the progress of activities on the ground and will mention any difficulties in order to find solutions.

Joint IFRC and National Society monitoring missions will be organized on a regular basis.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

The Red Cross will participate in regular coordination meetings with all partners and stakeholders. Red Cross actions are presented to avoid duplication in implementation. Visibility will be kept as low profile and necessary sensitivity will be put on the management of the external communication.

Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

- DRC RED CROSS ELECTIONS READINESS

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	75,853
Shelter and Basic Household Items	0
Livelihoods	0
Multi-purpose Cash	0
Health	65,572
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	0
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	6,025
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	4,256
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	73,357
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	30,414
National Society Strengthening	42,943
TOTAL BUDGET	149,210

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

Contact Information

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

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[Click here for the reference](#)