



Uganda Red Cross volunteer undertaking assessments, Photo credit: Uganda Red Cross Society

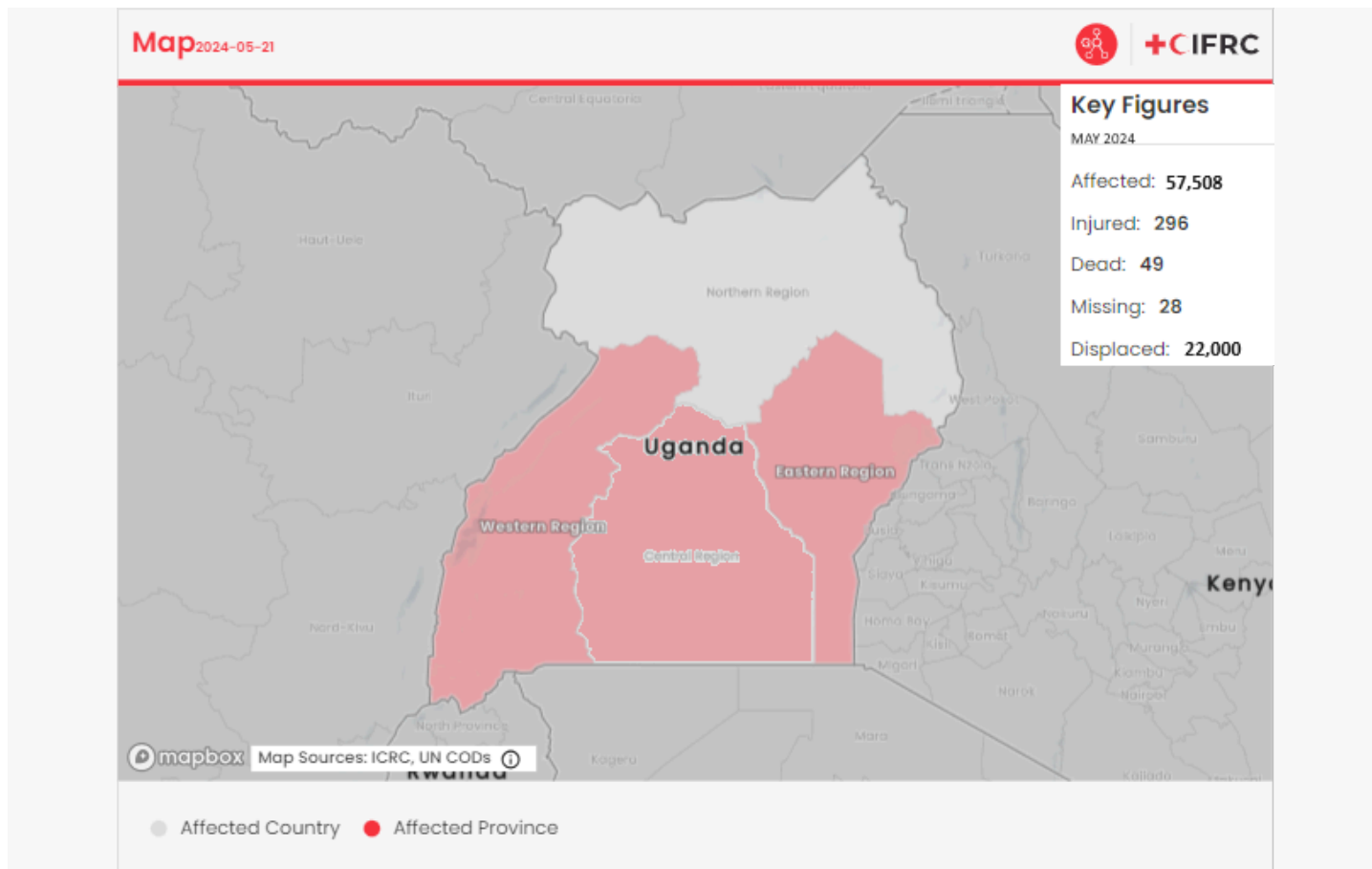
Appeal: MDRUG050	Country: Uganda	Hazard: Flood	Type of DREF: Response
Crisis Category: Yellow	Event Onset: Slow	DREF Allocation: CHF 321,774	
Glide Number: -	People Affected: 57,508 people	People Targeted: 12,144 people	
Operation Start Date: 22-05-2024	Operation Timeframe: 3 months	Operation End Date: 31-08-2024	DREF Published: 24-05-2024

Targeted Areas: **Central Region, Eastern Region, Western Region**

Description of the Event

Date when the trigger was met

17-05-2024



Map of Uganda showing flood affected districts

What happened, where and when?

Throughout April 2024, the Eastern Uganda-Elgon region experienced heavy rainfall, as forecasted by the Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA). This resulted in significant impacts from episodic floods, hailstorms, and landslides in various areas, including Mbale, Kapchorwa, Bulambuli, Bukedea, Butaleja, Sironko, Bududa, and Namisindwa. A total of 18,323 people were affected, including thousands of displaced families, with 1,129 houses and several crop lands and infrastructures completely destroyed.

The rains intensified in the first half of May, causing water levels to rise and rivers such as Manafwa, Lwakhakha, Sironko, Mpologoma, Awoja, Nbuyonga, and Namatala to overflow, increasing the water flow from the slopes of Mount Elgon. Unprecedented flooding occurred, especially between May 7th and 11th, exacerbating the impacts experienced throughout April. By mid-May, 39,185 people had been affected by the floods, compounding the already dire humanitarian situation from April.

Since April, the Uganda Red Cross (URCS) has deployed all its resources, including prepositioned stocks and support from the ECHO PPP and HIP. However, these stocks and in-country assistance have been exhausted due to the continuous rains and the scale of the impact. Assessments completed on May 17th, 2024, revealed the extent of the flooding and the number of people displaced and in need of assistance, highlighting the limitations of the current efforts and the urgent need to scale up support. Further affected districts have requested URCS assistance for the displaced.

In response, URCS organized a meeting with in-country partners as various district assessments were received, reflecting on the increased needs and continued flooding. Following the URCS national floods response plan, it was agreed that the resources engaged needed to be scaled up and that international support was required to cover the increasing gaps. This forms the basis for URCS's request for resources from the DREF to respond.





Response by the ECHO-PPP Project in Bunyangabu district on 09th May 2024



Shelter tents deployed in Bunyangabu district

Scope and Scale

Uganda has been battling with floods and subsequent landslides across several districts with major incidence in 3 regions: Western, Central and Eastern. In total, floods have affected 57,508 people since April and rendered 4,463 families displaced. This represent:

- 18,323 people affected in april; at least 1383 families displaced by the floods in 7 districts; 1129 houses assessed as totally destroyed by severe floods, hailstorms and landslides. Most affected districts being Butaleja, Sironko, Mbale, Bulambili.
- 39,185 people affected by the floods events of May 2024. Worst impact being reported following heavy rains of 7th to 11 May which led to significant floods and riverine floods in 14 districts. 3,080 people displaced.

Details of the major floods events are as below. A summary table of the impact is provided in image attached.

Reports from Joint Assessments, District Disaster Management Committees and Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction Groups, 1,810 people in Sironko district were struck by a severe hailstorm on April 23rd, leaving 905 of them homeless. This event also damaged six water facilities and one school, while causing substantial harm to crop, livelihoods, roads, and sanitation.

Furthermore, a landslide on the hilly slopes of Sironko on the same day affected 2,045 people, leaving 190 homeless and damaging 188 houses completely and 211 partially in Nobongo Sub County. This catastrophe had far-reaching negative implications for schools, water source facilities, livelihoods, and crops.

On April 3rd, floods hit Bulambuli's Bunambutye sub-county, affecting 1,630 people, resulting in six hospitalizations, 170 evacuations, and the destruction of 172 houses, with 154 partially damaged. The impact on water facilities, health, and education was substantial.

In Namisindwa, Bumwoni sub-county, a hailstorm on April 2nd affected 825 people, with three people injured. As a result, 46 houses were completely destroyed while 104 others were partially damaged. This calamity, coupled with floods, inflicted severe damage on schools and crops, significantly affecting community well-being. Similarly, a flood in Butaleja district, Bukedi Sub County, on April 3rd affected 8,055 people, resulting in 166 serious injuries, six missing persons, and destroyed 150 houses completely and 108 others partially. This flooding also significantly affected healthcare facilities, water sources, schools, and crops, exacerbating sanitation issues and livelihood challenges. Additionally, a landslide in Bududa district, Buwali sub-county, affected 106 people and led to the complete destruction of 24 houses, leaving 106 homeless, along with massive crop damage. In Mbale District, Bukasakya, and Bungokho, heavy rainfall induced a hailstorm, impacting 2,439 people, injuring nine, completely destroying 82 houses, and partially damaging 51. This left 109 people homeless and worsened sanitation due to the destruction of hygiene facilities like latrines.

Moreover, floods struck Bookies sub-county, Sironko District, on April 16th, impacting 2,385 people, injuring five, leaving 1530 homeless, and devastating 206 houses completely and 171 partially. This event had a significant negative impact on livelihoods, water facilities, crops, and road infrastructure, as well as sanitation facilities. Following heavy rainfall, a rise in the water level on River Awoja caused a flood in Kolir Sub County, Bukedea district, affecting 878 people, completely destroying 72 houses, and partially damaging 57. This resulted in the destruction of three healthcare facilities, 38 water facilities, and crops, contributing to increased community vulnerability. Overall, the heavy rainfall in April 2024 wreaked havoc across the Eastern Uganda-Elgon region, highlighting the urgent need for humanitarian response to support the vulnerable communities.

The flooding worsened on first half of May, especially between 7th to May 11th affecting an additional 39,185 people (8,011 households) in 14 districts in Uganda as per multi stakeholder assessment findings. The humanitarian efforts deployed by partners in country over the april events are turning short compare to the increase of humanitarian needs following the May floods events. 3,080 Families displaced and rendered homeless doe to complete destruction or partial damage of their houses. 31% of the people displaced are estimated to be



children while 18% are elderly. Situation is already dire and could further deteriorate without any support to mitigate the current risk and reduce the exposition of the communities rendered homeless and vulnerable with losses and destructions of their means of life.

According to the latest Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) forecast, more rains are expected in the remaining part of May 2024. The widespread impact of floods has overwhelmed the response capacity of URCS and other humanitarian actors. URCS has done 14 responses, but the needs are still immense, requiring additional support.

Previous Operations

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

-

Lessons learned:

Throughout previous operations, URCS has continued to deploy National Disaster Response teams to support responding branches. The deployment of Monitoring and evaluation NDRTs ease reporting following timely data and reports collection. The same has been done where an M&E NDRT has supported data collection from communities using electronic tools. The data collected is cleaned and analyzed to get information that can be utilized to inform future responses.

Close coordination with the IFRC colleagues eased the response both strategically and operationally. There has been seamless back and forth communication between the URCS and IFRC team to ensure any operational changes, gaps or needs are communicated in time to get appropriate solutions. The timely and sufficient logistical support smoothed the response and hence the team was very robust.

The continuous engagement and good working relation between URCS and the government authorities at all levels has made it easier for responding branches to provide the NS HQ with timely verifiable updates from the field. In return, this has made the NS HQ to make informed decisions on support.

Prepositioning of stocks before disasters has made it easier for URCS to respond timely and has remained the preferred partner of choice by government and partners while building on their community service delivery efficiency. By preparing for disasters in advance, URCS has considered the DREF as alternative source of support once in country resources are exhausted. This DREF request therefore comes after the in-country resources have been exhausted after a month-long response since the disaster happened.

done. Over time, URCS has strengthened her regional and branch capacity in risk communication, hazard monitoring, dissemination of Early Warning messages and advisories based on seasonal March April May (MAM) and September – December (SOND) rainy/ disaster periods. This has greatly improved response time, ensuring timely action. Previous DREFs have built URCS Staff, Branch and Volunteer capacity in critical aspects including PGI, CEA and with additional support of ICRC, Safer Access Framework (SAF) which are all vital in efficient and effective implementation of response operations.

URCS' support in the development of the multi-hazard District Contingency Plans of several hotspot districts including Kasese, Bunyangabu, Amolatar, Kaberamaido, and Kayunga, has enabled URCS community volunteers and local level actors to conduct rapid Emergency Needs Assessments (ENA) within 06 – 12 hours of disaster occurrence, and submission of the same to URCS HQ and further sharing to Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), UN bodies, national stakeholders and ECHO – Uganda office.

The IFRC Operations Delegate for previous DREF in Eastern and Western Uganda was very instrumental in ensuring good monitoring and evaluation, timely data collection and reporting.

Availability of logistical support coordinated and supported by both URCS and IFRC ensured smooth implementation of the



operational activities.

Coordination meetings with internal and external stakeholders in different fora ensured coordinated and complementary effort and thus avoided duplication.

Involvement of the various local stakeholders from the inception of operations has improved relationships that have been key in successful response actions.

The pre-positioning of relief items of ECHO – PPP and ECHO Oxfam Consortia in regional warehouses in Mbale, Fort Portal, Kisoro and Soroti, and the rapid response from them showed the importance of prepositioning items near high-risk areas and closer to the vulnerable communities for timely response.

The increased use of CVA in response actions by URCS and partners has demonstrated possibility of providing appropriate context-specific response packages for different vulnerable and affected communities. Multi-Purpose Cash Transfers (MPCTs) has been seen as most preferred choice that provided flexibility for dignified and impactful household use of the response support given.

Current National Society Actions

Start date of National Society actions

02-04-2024

Shelter, Housing And Settlements	<p>Through the ECHO-PPP emergency response budget line, URCS activated the program team to support the needs of persons affected by hailstorms, landslides and floods in Kisoro, Buikwe, Bunyangabu and Kasese districts. Through the ECHO PPP, URCS distributed 120 EHIs in Buikwe, 100 EHIs and 2 shelter tents in Kisoro, 200 EHIs in Kasese and 97 EHIs, 2 shelter tents (200 people capacity) in Bunyangabu.</p> <p>Under the ECHO HIP OXFAM/CRS/URCS consortium, URCS and partners has in this response supported various interventions in Butalejja, Namisindwa and Bulambuli following landslide and flood occurrences; Jointly, the consortium distributed 400 NFI kits in Sironko 200, Namisindwa 100 and Bulambuli 100NFIs. And supported 612 Households with multipurpose cash transfer. This has led to the depletion of both the prepositioned stocks and contingency funds under the project.</p> <p>The crisis modifier wasn't requested because it has already been requested (under processing) for the recent population movement crisis.</p>
Health	<p>URCS deployed its Red Cross Action Teams (RCATs) to support search and rescue efforts while also activating and deploying three (03) Ambulances and Emergency Medical Technicians/ health staff to support evacuation and referral of injured persons allowing them to receive timely medical care.</p>
National Society Readiness	<p>The Uganda Red Cross Society has a well-established capacity to respond to flood emergencies, gained through extensive experience over the years from responding to floods. At the onset of the disaster, URCS activated its Branch Disaster Response Teams (Red Cross Action Teams/RCAT) in Mbale, Kapchorwa, Sironko, and Kumi Branches. These teams promptly supported search and rescue efforts and mobilized three ambulances to transport injured individuals to health facilities. As the flooding continued, URCS mobilized additional volunteers backed up by its effective National Response Teams (NRTs). To ensure responding teams are fully equipped, URCS provided them with First Aid kits and dispatched prepositioned Non-food Household Items (HHIs), and other assets to provide initial life-saving response actions and meet the basic needs of affected families.</p> <p>Despite the availability of resources within the country that could have been deployed to support the initial needs of the affected population, these resources are currently limited to continue supporting the response.</p>



Assessment	In collaboration with the government and other agencies, the Uganda Red Cross Society facilitated initial assessments to determine the extent of flood damage, assess the needs of affected populations, and plan response interventions to help communities cope and recover from the floods and landslides that devastated their areas. Resources were deployed in each most of the affected districts to collect the information between 2nd to 17 May 2024. The assessment findings have been used to develop this response plan.
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IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	The IFRC Juba cluster delegation team is providing technical guidance on health, logistics, PMER, and finance and the Disaster management delegate is working with URCS in responding. To ensure proper monitoring of this operation and support to URCS, IFRC Disaster Management Delegate will increase monitoring visits throughout the operation. The IFRC is closely monitoring the flood situation in the country and stands ready to mobilize additional surge personnel to support the operation if the need arises. Through the IFRC GO platform and using the various channels, URCS ensures that all Movement partners are informed about all disaster/ emergency events and emergency operations being implemented in Uganda. The ECHO-PPP Project is currently the only active RCRCM response mechanism, and it is overstretched.
Participating National Societies	Partner National Societies (PNS) present in the country include the Netherlands Red Cross, Belgium Red Cross-Flanders, Austrian Red Cross, and the German Red Cross who are directly providing technical and financial assistance to URCS' humanitarian and development projects targeting beneficiaries in the various parts of the country. The ECHO-PPP Project Consortium has supported limited response in the affected districts in Eastern and Western Uganda.

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is physically present in the country working with the URCS to facilitate effective Emergency Preparedness & Response (EPR) services, Safer Access Frameworks (SAF), providing Restoration of Family Links (RFL) needs of the refugee population settled in Uganda as well as promoting International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and Communications as well as direct delivery of detention visits for Political detainees through its Kampala and sub-delegations. For this DREF operation, the URCS will engage the ICRC for technical support in the areas of Tracing in Emergency services, SAF training for RCATs and promotion of EPR capacity of Uganda Red Cross Society. ICRC has provided 10 reflector jackets as visibility material to support the field Teams in Dokolo district under Lira URCS Branch.
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Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	Yes
National authorities	The Ministry of Disaster Preparedness and Relief in the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) is taking the lead in coordinating the operation of all actors working in the affected districts, representative of the Ministry of Health, Uganda Police Force (UPF), Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF), District Disaster Management Committees as well as development partners, including World Health Organization (WHO), Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS), Catholic relief Services (CRS), have held emergency meetings that have informed previous response actions.
UN or other actors	World Health Organization has been seen attending disaster management committee meetings.
Are there major coordination mechanism in place?	



The Uganda Red Cross Society is actively involved in both internal and external coordination efforts. On a national level, the Ministry of Disaster Preparedness and Refugees, within the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), has activated the National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre (NECOC). The Uganda Red Cross Society participates in DRR monthly and weekly operational coordination meetings, where forecasts, previous response actions, and updates from the field are received, and coordinated response actions are planned.

At the field level, the Office of the Prime Minister through the District Disaster Management Committees (DDMCs) and District Emergency Coordination and Operations Centres (DEOCs), facilitates information gathering and coordination related to disasters. The Uganda Red Cross Society has an Emergency Task Force (ETF), headed by the Secretary-General, with Senior Management Team Members and a multi-skilled operational team at both regional and field operational levels.

URCS's regional operational base is managed from local Branch Offices, which maintain close connections with the Regional DEOC. Branch Managers covering Budaka, Bukedea, Bulambuli, Butaleja, Dokolo, Kamuli, Kanungu, Kasese, Katakwi, Kayunga, Kumi, Mbale, Ntoroko and Sironko actively participate in their respective District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC) meetings, held in the affected districts.

URCS is also maintaining a strong coordination with the active partners that have been supporting the NS from the onset of these flooding period. Meetings were held within the movement and the URCS partners through active project to align on the priorities for the floods response in Uganda. On 11th May 2024 URCS organized for in country partners meeting reflecting on the increased needs and continued flooding. From this meeting, it was agreed to seek for any additional support, include international support through the DREF to cover the increasing gaps.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

The floods experienced in May 2024, have damaged or destroyed approximately 2,144 houses in 14 districts, rendering many families homeless. Some are seeking shelter with relatives or friends, while others are staying in makeshift internally displaced camps (IDPs) in school buildings and tents provided by URCS. However, living in these makeshift accommodations exposes vulnerable individuals, including children, the elderly, and those with chronic illnesses, to respiratory infections and vector-borne diseases like malaria. While the government and other partners are supporting 1,544 families out of the 2,144 families affected, 600 families remain unsupported. Urgent intervention is needed to provide temporary shelter kits, replace damaged household items, and relocate the 600 families to safer areas.



Multi purpose cash grants

Previous weather forecasts predicted heavy rains, which did not materialize, leading to general food insecurity and increased food prices. However, heavy rains eventually occurred, causing deeper food insecurity in the affected districts. Rapid needs assessments indicate that approximately 35,000 acres of crops have been destroyed, including cabbage, beans, maize, tomatoes, onions, coffee, bananas, rice, and other horticultural crops. Additionally, an estimated 100 cattle, 90 pigs, 10 fishponds, and 2,800 poultry were lost due to the floods and hailstorms. The destruction of houses and household items, such as bedding and cooking utensils, has compounded the challenges faced by affected communities.

Many communities in Budaka, Bukedea, Bulambuli, Butaleja, Dokolo, Kamuli, Kanungu, Kasese, Katakwi, Kayunga, Kumi, Mbale, Ntoroko and Sironko, depend on businesses that were washed away by floods, leaving them without means of livelihood. Immediate needs will be addressed through Multipurpose Cash Support (MPCT) to meet food and household basic needs.



Health

Reports from rapid needs assessment conducted between 2nd and 17th May and led by Ministry of Health (MoH) indicate that for (07) health facilities were all submerged in floods waters in Butaleja, Namisindwa and Bulambuli. The access roads were as well cut off by floods. Details from other districts were yet to be obtained by the time of compiling this plan. This means the catchment areas have now remained without health services for the affected population since people in the affected communities have been cut off from basic health services and thus posing a high risk of outbreak of communicable diseases due to destruction of water sources, poor sanitation



and congestion in the makeshift IDP camps. The displaced families have been exposed to trauma and stress as a result of displacement, loss of their loved ones, loss of property and livelihoods. With rivers overflowing and widespread flooding, there is a widespread concern about the potential outbreak of waterborne diseases like cholera, diarrhoea, and typhoid. Additionally, there's a heightened risk of malaria cases due to the proliferation of vectors in the flooded areas.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

The increased flooding from May 11th, caused destruction of water facilities and has severely affected water sources, leaving the displaced population vulnerable to waterborne diseases. From the rapid assessments conducted, 112 toilets have so far submerged across all affected districts. Hygiene and sanitation need remain key since sanitation infrastructures, including family latrines and public sewer lines have been destroyed exposing faecal matter to contaminate open water sources and foods. The IDP camps are mostly in the schools, though limited and stretched considering the number of displaced families, the affected families have limited access to toilet facilities and water.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

The floods have displaced populations causing loss of life and property, total disruption of communication network, interruption of water supplies, destroyed road networks in the city/rural/ rural urban points, other services such as access to schools and training institutions, health facilities and market availability, functionality and accessibility. This saddening situation has orchestrated desperation, helplessness and uncertainty among the affected persons. It is important to note that women, girls, boys and men are all affected differently and have different needs and coping capacities for resilience.



Community Engagement And Accountability

The flooding has displaced thousands of people and government has been calling for people to evacuate to safer grounds as the rains continue. Affected populations are concerned for their properties while the IDP camps are not well serviced with basic facilities. No family tents enough to accommodate each family separate as women and men are accommodate separately. This has led to hesitation among communities to abandon their homes to established temporary camps.

Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

Bududa, as well as low-lying areas such as Butaleja, Bukedea, and Mbale. Some villages remain inaccessible by road, isolated by infrastructure damage and flooding, impeding effective assessment efforts. To address this, URCS is collaborating with Uganda Flying Lab to deploy Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) or Drones for remote imaging, aiding in assessing the scale of damage and locating missing or trapped individuals.

Considering the current assistance deployed and the needs summarized in the uploaded tables, there is a gaps on to be covered. April floods have been mostly covered through in-country partners and URCS country support with ECHO, OXFAM consortium and Government. The May impact required a scale-up and the current mobilized resources and stocks are not enough to cover the needs. There still a gap of at least 13,000 people in need and most being displaced. The ongoing rains in some areas and the current limit of access also to consider in the gaps analysis.

[Assessment Report](#)

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The primary aim of this operation is to deliver immediate relief and facilitate recovery to enhance the living conditions of 600 households displaced to camps, totaling 3,600 people impacted by the floods with shelter, essential household items and basic needs, and raising awareness on health, water and sanitation to 12,144 people (30% of the affected population) across 14 districts: Budaka, Bukedea, Bulambuli, Butaleja, Dokolo, Kamuli, Kanungu, Kasese, Katakwi, Kayunga, Kumi, Mbale, Ntoroko and Sironko. The remaining 70% of the



affected population are being covered by the prepositioned stocks and by other responding partners. The operation is planned for three months.

Operation strategy rationale

The strategy is developed for an assistance that covers the basic needs of the most vulnerable households affected by floods and landslide disasters for the first three months after the floods events as this is the most difficult time for those affected. The period and nature of assistance may be revised depending on the evolution of the flood disaster and results of the detailed multi-sectoral assessments being undertaken. The plan is designed to support directly to populations in internally displaced camps in Butalejja, Namisindwa and Bulambuli

This plan is developed in consideration that the ECHO PPP and ECHO HIP supported the initial response through the prepositioned stocks and disaster response budget lines. However, these resources were depleted after multiple responses in April and May 2024. The geographical scope and scale of current disaster events has overwhelmed URCS response mechanism and with the continuing rains and flooding, this has necessitating URCS to request for DREF. The plan is therefore designed to cover gaps not met through the ECHO PPP and ECHO HIP.

To achieve the above objective, Uganda Red Cross Society will continue to support efforts of Red cross Action Teams (RCATs) in undertaking search and rescue services, community engagement to procure family shelter kits & essential household items and distribute to displaced households, emergency food aid through Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) mainly focused on unconditional cash. In addition to implementing activities that facilitate improved Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), community health. As well as ensuring the affected persons live with dignity and offered assistance without causing any harm to themselves and socio-cultural systems.

a) Shelter

The approach here is to deploy 200-seater capacity emergency tents to displaced persons. The 600 houses targeted for essential household items, will also receive IFRC shelter kits (containing Tarps, rope and tools) since they have been identified to have the ability to re-construct and or build temporary shelters on their own. In addition, trained volunteers will orient affected households to adopt safer shelter approaches (floods-tolerant houses) which will provide more resilience to continued floods. A target of 600 affected households hosted in IDP camps shall be provided with 1,200 procured/prepositioned household items kits containing 1,200 blankets, 1,200 mosquito nets, 600 kitchen sets, 600 tarpaulins, 1,200 jerry cans, and 1,200 bars of soap, 1,200 floor mats and solar 600 lamps. The distribution shall be conducted in a dignified manner and ensure no-harm to the environment and affected persons are recorded. Post distribution monitoring shall be conducted 3 weeks after the distribution to determine the effectiveness of the distribution and how effective the items would be utilized by beneficiaries. The PDM reports will guide the URCS in future re-packaging of NFI kit contents that meet needs of displaced persons.

In various districts, NS has conducted assessments that will be replenished through this DREF. Furthermore, a continuous monitoring of the situation will be done to remain consistent and relevant during the intervention.

b) Multipurpose Cash and Voucher Assistance

URCS will implement a Multipurpose Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) approach to address the food and very basic needs of flood-affected communities targeting 600 households for a one-off payment. The 600 households will be same households being supported under shelter with essential household items and who are currently held in IDP camps. The CVA support will be unconditional for families to cater for items not provided for under the support in kind. This approach, chosen based on rapid assessment findings, will enhance financial inclusion among beneficiaries. The value of the cash grant will be based on the agreed MEB. District leaders will be part of the beneficiary select committee and will collaborate in identifying and selecting the most vulnerable households using jointly developed targeting criteria, ensuring accuracy and fairness. Orientation sessions on the CVA approach will engage district disaster management committees, fostering their ownership, coordination, and continuous monitoring of URCS interventions. Post Distribution Monitoring will follow each cash distribution, evaluating whether assistance effectively meets basic needs and informing decision-making for future improvements. Ongoing market price monitoring will assess inflation risks, facilitating adjustments to the minimum expenditure basket as needed

c) Health:

Preliminary findings from rapid assessments reveal that 7 health facilities in targeted villages have been submerged due to flooding, exacerbating health risks. Additionally, displacement to internally displaced camps heighten the risk of communicable diseases due to reduced ability to practice social distancing. To address these challenges, URCS will train 70 volunteers on CBHFA and orients them on Risk Communication and Community Engagement to conduct health promotion sessions on key diseases and recommended health practices targeting 12,144 people. Distribution of Long-Lasting Insecticide Treated mosquito nets will mitigate malaria risks, while dignity kits will support women's hygiene needs and confidence. Psychosocial support is prioritized for both responding volunteers and affected families. Briefings and debrief sessions will be held for staff and volunteers at the start and end of operations.



d) Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene:

The floods damaged water and sanitation facilities leaving the affected population at risk of water-related diseases such as diarrhoea. This has resulted in inadequate access to clean and safe water as well as inadequate access to proper sanitation facilities in the affected areas. The poor sanitation conditions in the hosting centres and stagnant pools of water provide a conducive environment for mosquito breeding that could increase incidences of malaria and waterborne diseases such as cholera. A limited number of water treatment tablets have been provided to the displaced population in the camps. URCS will therefore focus its WASH activities for the targeted 12,144 people aimed at improving access to safe water, access to improved hygiene activities and disease prevention in the communities.

e) Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) & Protection Gender & Inclusion (PGI)

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) and Protection, Gender & Inclusion (PGI) activities are integral parts of the proposed strategy. CEA will be seamlessly integrated throughout the intervention to ensure active participation of affected communities. Prepositioned CEA kiosks and help desks will facilitate timely collection of feedback, complaints, and concerns from affected individuals, allowing them to express their issues freely. The Red Cross Action team members will promptly address these concerns, with sensitive feedback handled through approved URCS referral channels.

Clear roles and responsibilities will be defined in collaboration with community representatives and leaders, ensuring transparent communication about the beneficiary selection process. Community radios and public address systems will disseminate life-saving information, including psychosocial support, First Aid, and protection services.

Additionally, URCS will deploy Restoring Family Links (RFL) staff volunteers to the affected districts, providing support for tracing needs and assisting affected families and individuals as needed throughout the disaster and recovery process.

URCS under this response, working with other likeminded partners establish or follow referral system.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

This response will target a total of 12,144 people (2,428 households) representing approximately 30% of the affected population and who are among the hardest hit by the floods and landslides, residing in flood-prone areas across Budaka, Bukedea, Bulambuli, Butaleja, Dokolo, Kamuli, Kanungu, Kasese, Katakwi, Kayunga, Kumi, Mbale, Ntoroko and Sironko districts. The remaining 70% of the affected population have been covered with prepositioned ECHO PPP and HIP stocks as well as those covered by other responding partners. These communities have suffered extensive losses, including homes, crops, livestock, and personal belongings, resulting in the complete disruption of their livelihoods.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) is dedicated to prioritizing assistance for the most vulnerable individuals, including the elderly, women-led households, households headed by children, persons with disabilities, individuals living with chronic illnesses, and single-parent households. Collaborating with volunteers and local authorities, the URCS has undertaken a comprehensive process to identify and profile these vulnerable households for targeted support. These special groups are more vulnerable as their ability to bounce back quickly is limited.

Additionally, the URCS aims to provide aid to internally displaced families lacking access to shelter. To ensure fairness and transparency in beneficiary selection, rigorous verification processes are implemented at various levels to prevent duplication or exclusion.



Total Targeted Population

Women	3,750	Rural	-
Girls (under 18)	3,200	Urban	40%
Men	3,094	People with disabilities (estimated)	1%
Boys (under 18)	2,100		
Total targeted population	12,144		

Risk and Security Considerations

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

Risk	Mitigation action
Risk of increased SGBV Cases due to the shelter situations within the communities	URCS in this response will complement other partners in addressing shelter needs while offering adequate referrals.
Possible outbreak of water-borne diseases, including Cholera, Typhoid fever as well as upsurge of malaria cases due to increased vector. Given the context, there is a very high risk of the spread of water-borne diseases consisting of faecal-oral diseases, water-related diseases and aquatic diseases. Destroyed or flooded water points and latrines increase the lack of access to drinking water in the targeted departments. This exposes the affected population to epidemics and oral-faecal diseases, including cholera.	URCS will distribute water treatment tablets as well as conduct hygiene and health promotion sessions. URCS will review the operational strategy based on epidemiological monitoring in coordination with the authorities.
Risk of intensification of the crisis, extension of flooded areas: As the rainy season persists, there is a likelihood of further increases in water levels and the expansion of flooding to additional areas. With rivers remaining uncleared, the risk of flooding spreading to all vulnerable sub-counties in the targeted districts is high. The Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) has issued early warning advisories for April based on seasonal weather forecasts indicating heightened rainfall in Northern and Eastern Uganda, as well as parts of Western Uganda, from April to May. This forecast predicts potential impacts, including flooding in low-lying areas and regions near major water bodies.	In response to this ongoing risk, the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) will need to conduct comprehensive needs assessments and maintain continuous monitoring of the evolving situation. This approach will help identify emerging gaps in assistance, allowing for timely updates and potential extension of the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) operation. Such an extension may involve transforming the operation into an emergency appeal to encompass newly affected districts and sub-counties within the target areas. This expanded response would aim to address the needs of all 1,500,000 individuals residing in flood-prone areas who remain at risk of being affected by the ongoing flooding crisis.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

The security situation in the Mt Elgon sub-region is stable, with low security concerns expected in flood-affected areas. However, continued heavy rains, as forecasted by UNMA, may hinder humanitarian access due to impassable road networks, particularly in high-hill areas like Kapchorwa and Bududa, as well as low-lying areas such as Butaleja, Bukedea, and Mbale. Some villages remain inaccessible by road, isolated by infrastructure damage and flooding, impeding effective assessment efforts.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?

Yes



Planned Intervention



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 122,227

Targeted Persons: 3,600

Indicators

Title	Target
# of multi-sectoral needs assessment carried out.	1
# of households that received essential household items.	600
# of households that received emergency shelter kits.	600
# of NDRT deployed.	5
% of families who confirmed the provided shelter items contributed. to improve their life	80

Priority Actions

- Assessment of shelter needs, capacities and gaps.
- Monitoring and Evaluation of adoption of technical guidance.
- Awareness raising on safe local building techniques to local builders.
- Identification, assessment and analysis of appropriate and safe local building techniques/practices.
- Identification and mobilization of volunteers for shelter intervention.
- Coordination with government and other stakeholders.
- Analysis of the local market to identify availability/access to shelter and household items.
- Procure and distribute 600 shelter kits to the affected population.
- Procure and distribute 600 essential household items to the affected population (household items kits containing 1,200 blankets, 1,200 mosquito nets, 1,200 kitchen sets, 1,200 tarpaulins, 1,200 jerry cans, and 1,200 bars of soap, 1,200 floor mats and solar 1,200 lamp).
- Monitoring of the use of distributed shelter and household items (PDM).
- Warehousing, goods reception, forwarding, fleet, fuel costs, not related to a specific area of focus.
- Deploy Relief National Response Teams (NRTs) to support field operational requirements.



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 36,902

Targeted Persons: 3,600

Indicators

Title	Target
# of households that received multipurpose cash.	600
# of PDMs conducted.	1
% of families that confirmed the cash has supported access to basic needs and food.	90
% of families that have used the cash to access more than food.	60



Priority Actions

- Multipurpose cash to 600HHs to support livelihoods and basic needs (MEB UGX35,000/=per Individual equivalent to CHF8.3 per person).
- Market assessment to confirm the transfer mechanism that suits the context.
- Monitoring on the use of cash and Post distribution monitoring.



Health

Budget: CHF 33,281

Targeted Persons: 12,144

Indicators

Title	Target
# of people reached with health risks awareness messages.	12,144
# of volunteers deployed for Health promotion (ECV) and Community-based Surveillance (CBS) approaches	70
# of people reached with health promotion/epidemic risk communication messages	12,144
# of people reached by psychological first aid.	200
# of first aid kits procured.	100
# of volunteers trained on CBHFA.	70

Priority Actions

- In coordination with health authorities, undertake detailed assessments to identify health needs, number/type/location of damaged health facilities and/or medical service gaps in target communities.
- Train 70 volunteers on First aid in Emergency or CBHFA.
- Rapid deployment of URCS Ambulances and Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs) to support medical evacuation of injured persons.
- Replenishment of medicines and consumables for ambulances.
- Deployment of 3 Health in Emergency National Response Teams (HiE-NRTs) to provide technical assistance to Branches on 3 rotations.
- Activate and deploy 70 volunteers (based on needs) to support S&R in 14 affected districts in the first month of the operation. Activities will be Intergrated, and volunteers will be assigned roles through their team leaders at the point of deployment.
- Health and hygiene promotion campaigns on prevention and control of common communicable diseases such as Malaria, Acute Watery Diarrhoea etc.
- Procure and replenish first aid kits. A total of 100 volunteers will be deployed for this response and each will be provided for a personal first aid kit.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 48,338

Targeted Persons: 12,144

Indicators

Title	Target
# of water committees' people in management trained.	30
# of water tanks procured and installed.	14



# of people reached with hygiene promotion sessions.	12,144
# of hygiene kits procured and distributed.	1,080
# of people who have access to safe water in the community after the installation of the tank.	3,600

Priority Actions

- Train water committees in management of water supplies and operation and maintenance of infrastructure (water user Committees).
- Installation of water storage and distribution tanks with tap stands.
- Carry out community hygiene promotion activities.
- Carry out hygiene promotion sessions in the camps of internally displaced persons and affected villages by the volunteers (which is crucial to prevent further water borne disease outbreaks).
- Technical support from headquarters to the staff and disaster response structures in the affected regions A total 65 volunteers will be engaged to conduct hygiene and health education in the relocation camps.
- Procure and distribute hygiene kits.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 9,585

Targeted Persons: 100

Indicators

Title	Target
# of assessments conducted	1
# of volunteers oriented on PGI and SGBV	100
#of volunteers deployed for RFL activities	14
# of referrals done	10
# of people reached with SGBV sessions	100

Priority Actions

- Conduct an assessment of specific needs of the affected population based on criteria selected from the minimum standards for PGI in emergencies.
- Support sectoral teams to ensure collection and analysis of sex-age and disability-disaggregated data (see guidance in Minimum Standards).
- Conduct a rapid orientation on volunteers on the PGI and SGBV Minimum Standards.
- Support sectoral teams to include measures to address vulnerabilities specific to gender and diversity factors (including people with disabilities) in their planning.
- deploy Restoring Family Links (RFL) staff volunteers
- Conduct referrals.
- Raise awareness on SGBV.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 7,189

Targeted Persons: 12,144



Indicators

Title	Target
# of CEA kiosks established.	14
# of people reached with RCCE.	12,144

Priority Actions

- Establish CEA kiosks and help desks will facilitate timely collection of feedback, complaints.
- Conduct Risk communication and community engagement sessions. The cost for this activity will be part of the health awareness sessions.
- Engage media to support the communication on NS actions and awareness.
- Engage with local leaders and representatives to promote the messages on health and hygiene.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 12,780

Targeted Persons: 100

Indicators

Title	Target
# of monitoring missions conducted	4
# of financial spot check conducted	1

Priority Actions

- Conduct monitoring missions.
- Conduct financial spot checks and financial monitoring by the delegation.

The mission includes costs for flights for three staffs (operations, PMER and logistics) from their duty stations in Nairobi and Juba and their per diem, accommodation, in country travel costs and communication costs.

- Support and ensure lesson learnt workshop take place.
- Support and ensure volunteers are ensured.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 51,472

Targeted Persons: 12,144

Indicators

Title	Target
# of volunteers insured	100
# of visibility materials procured	100
# of monitoring missions conducted	15
# of lessons learnt sessions conducted	1



Priority Actions

- Support communication costs.
- Procurement of visibility materials.
- Drivers to support Operations (2 Field vehicles + 1 Truck driver).
- Field monitoring and oversight.
- Volunteer insurance.
- Conduct lesson learnt.

About Support Services

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

Using in country resources, URCS deployed 100 volunteers, 15 staff in the 14 affected branches and will continue to support these teams for a period of three months once this request is approved.

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

Local procurement will be carried out in accordance with the IFRC and URCS standard procurement procedures. Current procurement plans will include procurement of non-food items including health and WASH items. URCS will work closely with known suppliers and IFRC Juba Delegation to ensure quality and value for money. A procurement plan will be developed to ensure timely support to the operation. URCS has a warehouse capacity if needed.

How will this operation be monitored?

Two approaches to monitoring implementation and data collection shall be used to measure the progress and effectiveness of the DREF; at the community level (effectiveness of action) and headquarter level (the efficiency of the internal processes). While the National Society shall ensure bi-monthly monitoring trips from relevant URCS HQ technical staff, the IFRC will conduct monthly field missions by DM and finance delegates. In addition, given the workload relating to procurement for replenishment of HHIs, the Cluster logistics & procurement officer will also conduct field support travel.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

URCS has a directorate of communication and resource mobilization and therefore will oversee the communication needs of the operation through field based NDRT for communication.



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRUG050 - Uganda Red Cross Society Floods

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	257,522
Shelter and Basic Household Items	122,227
Livelihoods	0
Multi-purpose Cash	36,902
Health	33,281
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	48,338
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	9,585
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	7,189
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	64,252
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	12,780
National Society Strengthening	51,472
TOTAL BUDGET	321,774

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)



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[Click here for the reference](#)

