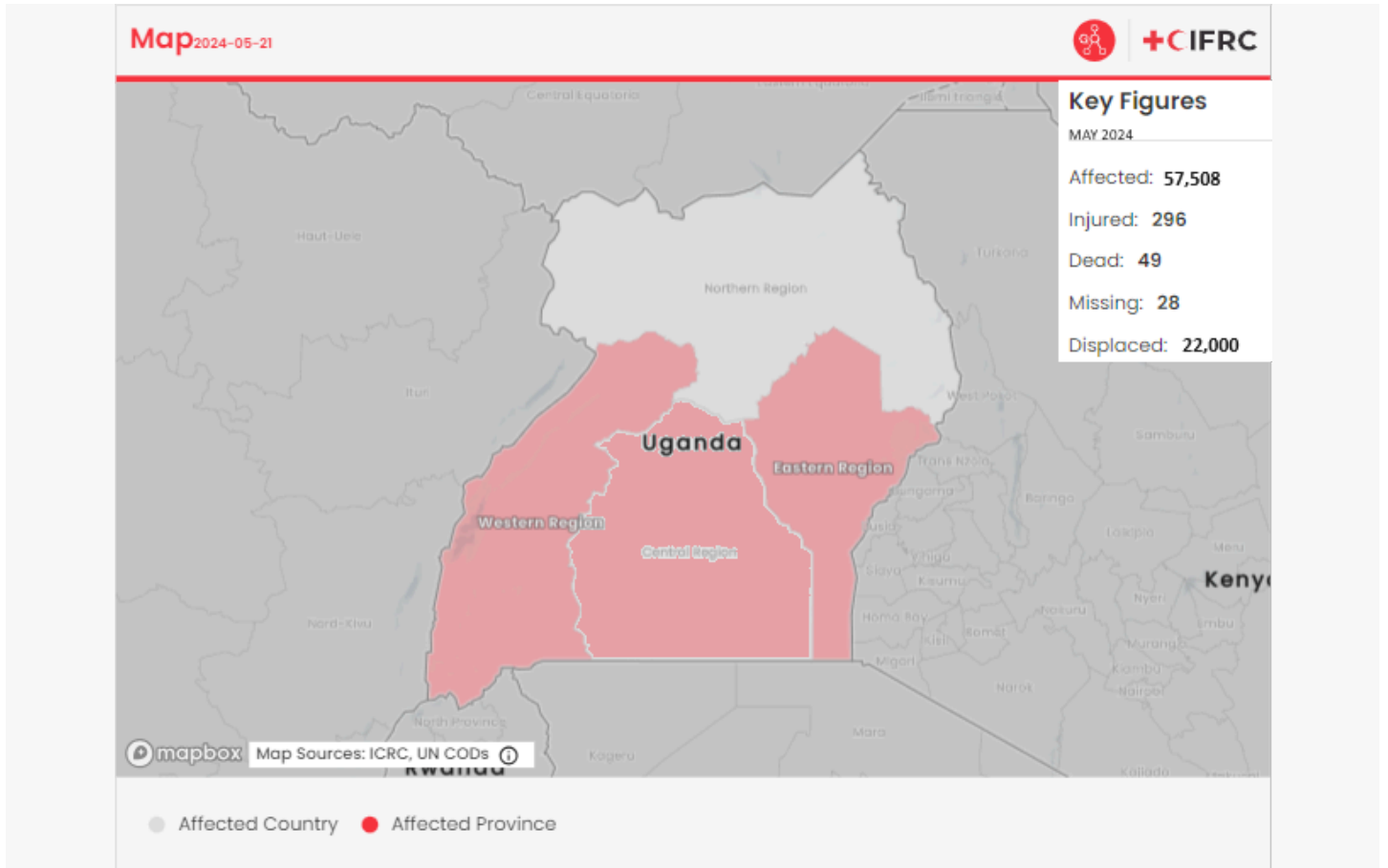




Some of the submerged houses in Bweramule sub county.

Appeal: MDRUG050	Total DREF Allocation: CHF 479,715	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Flood
Glide Number: -	People Affected: 69,283 people	People Targeted: 19,098 people	
Event Onset: Slow	Operation Start Date: 22-05-2024	New Operational End Date: 30-11-2024	Total Operating Timeframe: 6 months
Reporting Timeframe Start Date: -		Reporting Timeframe End Date: -	
Additional Allocation Requested: 157,941		Targeted Areas: Central Region, Eastern Region, Western Region	

Description of the Event



Map of Uganda showing flood affected districts

Date when the trigger was met

21-08-2024

What happened, where and when?

In 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. Further, Ntoroko district witnessed its ever-recorded highest levels of flooding in August whose assessment reveals that 2,355 households comprising of 11,775 people have been greatly impacted.

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 were exhausted due to the continuous rains and the scale of the impact. Assessments completed on May 17th, 2024, for earlier affected districts and 21st August for Ntoroko district, 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 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 formed the basis for URCS's request for resources from the DREF to respond which saw an allocation of CHF 321,774 for an implementation period of three (3) months.



The DREF operation is scheduled to conclude on 31st August 2024. However, ongoing flooding in Ntoroko District has significantly impacted the area. According to the latest needs assessment that was conducted by the District Disaster Management committee on the 7th of August and a further assessment for Ntoroko district completed and shared on 21st August, 11,775 individuals (2,355 Households) have been affected, as a result of the increased flooding bringing the total affected to 69,283 people. Based on this, URCS is requesting an additional allocation and extension of implementation timeframe from three months to six months to allow the NS respond to the increasing flooding in Ntoroko district.



URCS volunteer conducting field assessment



Orientation of volunteers on data collection prior to conducting a CASH feasibility assessment in Budaka District

Scope and Scale

In total, by August 2024, the floods have affected 69,283 people since April and rendered 10,366 families displaced. This represents: - 11,775 people affected in August 2024 in Ntoroko district, 57,508 people affected in April and May 2024 in Budaka, Bukedea, Bulambuli, Butaleja, Dokolo, Kamuli, Kanungu, Kasese, Katakwi, Kayunga, Kumi, Mbale and Sironko districts; 1,129 houses assessed as totally destroyed by severe floods, hailstorms and landslides. Worst impact being reported following heavy rains of 7th to 11 May and August 2024 which led to significant floods and riverine floods in 14 districts.

Reports from Joint Assessments, District Disaster Management Committees and Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction Groups indicated that 1,810 people in Sironko District were struck by a severe hailstorm on 23/04/2024, 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 cumulatively 58,508 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 turned short compared to the increase of humanitarian needs following the May floods events. 3,080 Families were displaced and rendered homeless due to complete destruction or partial damage of their houses. 31% of the people displaced were estimated to be children while 18% are elderly.

The recent floods in Ntoroko District that have severely impacted 2,355 households as of 21st August 2024, have affected a population of 11,775 individuals, including 4,981 males, 6,794 females, and 2,725 children. The floods have displaced 2,172 people and caused widespread destruction across multiple sub-counties. In Bweramule Sub-County, 714 households were affected, with 327 people displaced and significant damage to 679 households. Butungama Sub-County saw 578 households affected, with 250 people displaced and 450 households partially destroyed. Rwebisengo Sub-County experienced damage to 148 households, displacing 106 people, while Kanara Sub-County was the most severely impacted, with 1,618 households affected and 1,423 fully destroyed. Kanara Town Council also faced significant damage, with 125 households affected and 66 people displaced. Overall, 1,705 households were fully destroyed, 1,498 were partially destroyed, and 1,865 latrines and 71 water sources were destroyed, highlighting the urgent need for more humanitarian assistance in the district.

Summary of Changes

Are you changing the timeframe of the operation	Yes
Are you changing the operational strategy	No
Are you changing the target population of the operation	Yes
Are you changing the geographical location	No
Are you making changes to the budget	Yes
Is this a request for a second allocation	Yes
Has the forecasted event materialize?	Yes

Please explain the summary of changes and justification:

Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) requests an extension of the current floods DREF for a period of three (3) months taking the operation to six (6) months. The extension seeks to raise the current budget from CHF 321,774 to CHF 479,715 raising the target population from 12,144 to 19,098 people. This request is necessitated by the increased flooding affecting additional districts as a result of intensified rains in the month of August 2024 whose details are shared through an assessment report dated 21st August, 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. As a result, unprecedented flooding occurred, in Ntoroko district prompting the district authorities to declare the flooding as a district emergency and called for national government and partners intervention through a letter dated 20th August 2024. The other districts targeted under this DREF continued to record increased rainfall especially between May 7th and 11th, exacerbating the flood impacts experienced throughout April when the current DREF was raised. By mid-May, 57,508 people had been affected by the floods, compounding the already dire humanitarian situation from April. With the latest flooding in Ntoroko district with 2,355 households (11,775 people), those affected by the flooding has risen to 10,366 households comprising of 69,283 people.

In response to the severe flooding in Ntoroko District, significant adjustments are required to both the timeline and interventions to address the unique needs of the affected communities. The immediate response will tackle urgent issues, such as providing emergency water supplies and sanitation services, given the extensive submersion of 71 water sources and destruction of 1,865 latrines. Recognizing the challenge of evacuating due to the importance of livestock in local livelihoods, the response will include targeted shelter interventions and multipurpose cash assistance to support families in meeting their needs while keeping their livestock. Health interventions should be enhanced to mitigate disease risks, with a focus on hygiene promotion and the distribution of health kits. Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) kiosks should be established to facilitate communication and address the specific concerns of the community, particularly around evacuation challenges. These tailored interventions will meet the immediate needs of the flood-affected population.



Current National Society Actions

Start date of National Society actions

02-04-2024



Hygiene promotion and sensitisation of beneficiaries in Bukedea District



CBHFA training in Mbale city



Beneficiary registration exercise for CVA

Shelter, Housing And Settlements

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.

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. The crisis modifier wasn't requested because it has already been requested (under processing) for the recent population movement crisis.

Multi Purpose Cash

In May 2024, following the devastating floods that severely impacted livelihoods in Ntoroko District, the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) provided support to the most vulnerable households through Multipurpose Cash Assistance under the ECHO PPP project.

Health

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.

Coordination

URCS, through its Branch Managers, remains actively engaged in District Disaster Management Committee meetings to ensure a coordinated response to the flooding in affected districts including Ntoroko. The Branch Manager provides valuable input and updates during these meetings, which are then documented and shared with the Regional Operations Manager. This ongoing communication helps to align local and regional response efforts, ensuring that the needs of the affected communities are addressed effectively and efficiently

National Society Readiness

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.

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.

The Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) has made significant progress in meeting the urgent needs of communities affected by the severe flooding during the March-April-May (MAM) season. Key activities included distributing cash to 216 vulnerable households in Budaka District, Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) training for 20 volunteers from Mbale, Butaleja, Kamuli, and Sironko, and the orientation and deployment of volunteers to promote hygiene, community engagement and accountability (CEA), and protection (Protection Gender and Inclusion) in Bukedea, Kayunga and Dokolo districts where many latrines were reported to have submerged in flooded water. Additionally, essential relief supplies such as 410 Non-Food Items (NFI) kits, 1080 Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits, and 535 shelter materials were procured and prepositioned for future responses.

The cash distribution in Budaka District has enabled vulnerable households to meet essential household needs, while the deployment of volunteers has enhanced local capacities to manage health risks, particularly in Bukedea and Dokolo, where community members were trained to construct drying racks, temporary latrines, and handwashing stations. The prepositioning of essential relief items has strengthened the National Society's preparedness for future events, especially in anticipation of the SOND season. Overall, the Red Cross's efforts during the flood response have been crucial in restoring dignity and stability to the flood affected persons, laying a firm foundation for long-term recovery.

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.

In collaboration with the Ntoroko District Disaster Management Committee, the Uganda Red Cross Society conducted initial assessments to determine the extent of flood damage, identify the needs of the affected populations, and plan appropriate response interventions to support community recovery. Resources were strategically deployed across the most impacted areas from 7th to 9th August 2024, to gather critical information on the impacts of the floods.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat

The IFRC Juba cluster delegation team is providing technical guidance on health, logistics, Planning Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (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.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	Yes
National authorities	The Ministry of Disaster Preparedness and Relief within the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) is spearheading the coordination of all actors involved in the response to the flooding in the affected districts. This includes representatives from the Ministry of Health, the Uganda Police Force (UPF), the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF), District Disaster Management Committees (DDMCs), and development partners such as the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS). On August 12, 2024, OPM allocated and distributed relief items to the most affected sub counties. The relief package included 21,000 kilograms of maize, 10,450 kilograms of beans, and 500 buckets, with distribution carried out by the DDMC to address the immediate needs of the affected communities.
UN or other actors	World Health Organization has been seen attending disaster management committee meetings. Medical Teams International (MTI) has been distributing mosquito nets and supporting with Surveillance.

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 DECO. 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 have displaced 2,172 people and caused widespread destruction across multiple sub-counties. In Bweramule Sub-County, 714 households were affected, with 327 people displaced and significant damage to 679 households. Butungama Sub-County saw 578 households affected, with 250 people displaced and 450 households partially destroyed. Rwebisengo Sub-County experienced damage to 148 households, displacing 106 people, while Kanara Sub-County was the most severely impacted, with 1,618 households affected and 1,423 fully destroyed. Kanara Town Council also faced significant damage, with 125 households affected and 66 people displaced. Overall, 1,705 households were fully destroyed, 1,498 were partially destroyed, and 1,865 latrines and 71 water sources were destroyed, highlighting the urgent need for more humanitarian assistance in the district. Some of the affected persons are currently 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. Urgent intervention is needed to provide temporary shelter kits to 1705 displaced persons and relocate 19098 affected persons to safer places.



Multi purpose cash grants

The recent flooding in Ntoroko District has severely impacted the local community, which relies heavily on cattle rearing and fishing for its livelihood. The flooding has created significant gaps that necessitate urgent Multipurpose Cash Support. Many residents are unwilling to evacuate due to the inability to leave their livestock behind, and the floods have damaged livestock shelters, requiring financial assistance for repair and replacement. Additionally, the fishing community has suffered income loss due to damaged equipment and disrupted fishing activities, highlighting the need for support to repair or replace fishing gear. The disruption of local markets has made it difficult for affected households to access essential goods. Multipurpose Cash Support would address these critical gaps by providing affected households with the flexibility to manage their specific needs, support livestock and fishing recovery, and navigate the increased cost of living.



Health

The needs assessment findings reveal critical health needs among the flood-affected populations in Ntoroko District. Immediate provision of safe and affordable drinking water is essential, as the cost of water has risen significantly and 71 water sources have been submerged, forcing people to use unsafe alternatives. The destruction of 1,865 latrines poses a severe risk of disease outbreaks due to inadequate sanitation and the contamination of open water sources. There is also an urgent need for disease prevention measures and health services to address potential outbreaks. Additionally, the displacement of people and the disruption of schools have highlighted the necessity for psychosocial support to manage stress and mental health issues. Restoring health facilities and services is crucial, given the impact on community infrastructure, including schools that may serve as temporary health centers. Special attention to child health and nutrition is required, particularly for the 2,725 children affected, to address potential malnutrition and health issues.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

The severe flooding that began on 5th August, 2024 has led to significant damage to water facilities and has critically impacted water sources, leaving the displaced population highly vulnerable to waterborne diseases. Rapid assessments reveal that 1865 latrines and 71 water sources have been submerged across the affected districts. Hygiene and sanitation are pressing concerns, as sanitation infrastructure including family latrines and public sewer lines has been destroyed, resulting in the contamination of open water sources and food with faecal matter.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

The recent floods in Ntoroko have caused significant loss of property, severely disrupting communication networks and water supplies. Road networks, have been destroyed, and essential services such as access to schools, health facilities, and markets have been interrupted. This dire situation has led to widespread desperation, helplessness, and uncertainty among the affected population. It is



crucial to recognize that women, girls, boys, and men are all impacted differently, with varying needs and coping capacities that affect their resilience in the face of this crisis.



Community Engagement And Accountability

To address the unique challenges faced by the people of Ntoroko, URCS will implement a comprehensive intervention tailored to the community's needs. Given the region's reliance on cattle rearing and the reluctance of many residents to evacuate their flooded areas due to concerns about leaving their livestock behind, URCS will focus on creating solutions that balance human and animal needs. This will involve setting up community meetings to discuss livestock care and exploring options for temporary shelters or support for animals. Clear information about evacuation procedures and livestock support will be disseminated through community radios and public announcements. CEA kiosks will collect and address feedback, ensuring concerns about livestock are handled promptly. Additionally, URCS will collaborate with local authorities to develop practical strategies for livestock management during the floods. Transparent communication will be maintained to build trust and ensure that all affected individuals understand the support available. Ongoing monitoring will help adapt the intervention as needed, ensuring both people and animals receive the assistance they require

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 gap 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.

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 800 households displaced to camps, totaling 4,800 people impacted by the floods with shelter, essential household items and basic needs, and raising awareness on health, water and sanitation to 19,098 people (33% of the affected population) across 14 districts: Budaka, Bukedea, Bulambuli, Butaleja, Dokolo, Kamuli, Kanungu, Kasese, Katakwi, Kayunga, Kumi, Mbale, Ntoroko and Sironko. The remaining 67% of the affected population are being covered by the prepositioned stocks and by other responding partners. The operation is planned for six months.

Operation strategy rationale

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

To address shelter needs, 800 households targeted for essential household items will also receive IFRC shelter kits, which include tarpaulins, rope, and tools, enabling them to reconstruct or build temporary shelters. Trained volunteers will guide affected households in adopting safer, flood-tolerant shelter designs to enhance resilience. Additionally, 600 households in IDP camps in Kanara Subcounty and Town council will receive 1,200 household item kits, which include 1,600 blankets, 1,600 mosquito nets, 800 kitchen sets, 800 tarpaulins, 1,600 jerry cans, 1,600 bars of soap, 1,600 floor mats, and 800 solar lamps. The distribution will be conducted with dignity, ensuring no harm to the environment or individuals. Post-distribution monitoring will be carried out three weeks later to evaluate the effectiveness and utilization of the items, guiding future adjustments to NFI kit contents.

b) CVA



URCS will implement a Multipurpose Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) program to address the immediate food and basic needs of 800 households in IDP camps. This CVA support, based on rapid assessment findings, will be unconditional to cover items not included in the in-kind support. The cash grant amount will be determined according to the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB). District leaders will participate in the beneficiary selection process to ensure accuracy and fairness. Orientation sessions will engage district disaster management committees, enhancing their ownership and oversight. Post-distribution monitoring will assess the effectiveness of the assistance and inform future improvements, while ongoing market price monitoring will address inflation risks and adjust the MEB as needed.

c) Health

Displacement to IDP camps has significantly increased the risk of communicable diseases due to overcrowded and unsanitary conditions. Alongside these health risks, the stress of displacement has elevated mental health risks for those affected. In response, URCS will orient and deploy 10 psychosocial support volunteers. These volunteers will prioritize providing care to 100 individuals, focusing on those most impacted by the trauma of displacement. Their efforts will include offering emotional support, raising awareness about mental health, and helping individuals develop coping strategies for the challenges of living in crowded camps. This targeted approach ensures that the most vulnerable receive the necessary care and support during this challenging time.

d) WASH

Flood damage has severely compromised water and sanitation facilities, increasing the risk of waterborne diseases such as diarrhoea. The affected areas now face inadequate access to clean water, with deteriorating conditions in hosting centers further raising the risk of mosquito-borne diseases and cholera. In response, URCS will focus its WASH activities on improving access to safe water and promoting better hygiene practices. To support this effort, 20 branch-based volunteers will be oriented and deployed for a 15-day period to engage in hygiene promotion, Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), and Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) initiatives, targeting 19,098 people.

To further address the critical needs of the affected population, URCS will distribute water treatment tablets to 19,086 people. This operation will procure 200 boxes of soap and 1680 Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits will be procured and distributed. The deployment will cover both hardware and software aspects, ensuring comprehensive support for the affected population.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

This response will target a total of 19,098 people (3,183 households) representing approximately 33% 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. These communities have suffered extensive losses, including homes, crops, and personal belongings, resulting in the complete disruption of their livelihoods.

The remaining 67% 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	8,117	Rural	-
Girls (under 18)	3,200	Urban	40%
Men	5,681	People with disabilities (estimated)	1%
Boys (under 18)	2,100		
Total targeted population	19,098		

Risk and Security Considerations

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

Risk	Mitigation action
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.
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.

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.

The security situation in Ntoroko District, which borders the Democratic Republic of Congo, is currently stable, with minimal security concerns anticipated in the flood-affected areas. However, the increasing water levels of River Semuliki and Lake Albert, pose significant challenges for humanitarian access. The flooding has led to impassable road networks and infrastructure damage, particularly in remote and low-lying areas. Some villages are now isolated, which complicates assessment and aid delivery efforts.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?



Yes

Planned Intervention



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 163,065

Targeted Persons: 4,800

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of multi-sectoral needs assessment carried out.	1	3
# of households that received essential household items.	800	410
# of households that received emergency shelter kits.	800	535
# of NDRT deployed.	8	4
% of families who confirmed the provided shelter items contributed to improve their life	80	79
Number of PDMs conducted	1	0

Progress Towards Outcome

Significant progress has been made in the ongoing DREF operations, with 535 shelter kits and 410 essential household items procured and prepositioned at the central warehouse, ensuring readiness for distribution to affected communities. To assess the impact of the flooding, 3 multi-sectoral assessments were conducted in Bukedea, Katakwi, and Ntoroko districts. Additionally, 4 National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members, including two warehouse NDRTs, a DREF Lead, and an NDRT driver, were deployed to support the operation (1 Female, 3 Male). The impact of the provided shelter items on the affected families is under evaluation, with findings to be reported in the upcoming shelter evaluation report. These actions represent a strong advancement in the operational objectives and reflect the commitment to effectively responding to the needs of flood-affected communities.



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 46,200

Targeted Persons: 4,801

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of households that received multipurpose cash.	800	216
# of PDMs conducted.	1	0



% of families that confirmed the cash has supported access to basic needs and food.	90	0
% of families that have used the cash to access more than food.	60	0

Progress Towards Outcome

In response to the severe flooding that affected villages in Naboa Subcounty during the MAM season, Budaka District was selected for targeted multipurpose cash assistance under the DREF operation. 216 households have received cash support. The activity included four key activities. First, a CASH feasibility assessment was conducted with 400 respondents, including community heads, market actors, and government officials, to evaluate the program's feasibility and impact. Second, local leaders were sensitized, and feedback from the assessment was shared to ensure transparency and build community support. Third, a selection criterion was developed in collaboration with local leadership to identify and prioritize the most vulnerable beneficiaries. Finally, those who met the criteria were registered to receive cash support. The Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM), yet to be conducted and will assess the effectiveness of this assistance



Budget: CHF 31,240

Targeted Persons: 19,098

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of people reached with health risks awareness messages.	12,144	12,144
# of volunteers deployed for Health promotion (ECV) and Community-based Surveillance (CBS) approaches	70	65
# of people reached with health promotion/epidemic risk communication messages	19,098	12,144
# of people reached by psychological first aid.	200	113
# of first aid kits procured.	100	9
# of volunteers trained on CBHFA.	70	20
# of volunteers deployed for PSS	10	10

Progress Towards Outcome

During the DREF operation, 12,149 people (5556 M:6593 F) were reached with health risk awareness and epidemic risk communication messages in Dokolo, Kayunga and Bukedea slightly surpassing the target of 12,144. A total of 65 volunteers (38 M: 27F) were deployed for Health Promotion and Community-Based Surveillance (CBS), close to the target of 70. However, due to budget constraints, only 20 out of the targeted 70 volunteers were trained on Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA), and 9 standards first aid kits were procured out of the intended 100. Despite these limitations, the branch-based volunteers in Butaleja, Kamuli, Mbale and Sironko district successfully provided psychological first aid to 113 individuals



Budget: CHF 82,288

Targeted Persons: 19,098

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of water committees' people in management trained.	30	0
# of water tanks procured and installed.	14	0
# of people reached with hygien promotion sessions.	19,098	12,149
# of hygiene kits procured and distributed.	1,680	1,080
# of people who have access to safe water in the community after the installation of the tank.	3,600	0
# of strips of Chroline Tablets procured	10,000	0
# of boxes of Soap procured	200	0
# of DNRTs (hard ware & Software) deployed	4	4

Progress Towards Outcome

Hygiene promotion sessions successfully reached 12,149 individuals, surpassing the target of 12,144. All 1,080 hygiene kits have been procured and prepositioned at the central warehouse, ensuring they are ready for distribution. The procurement of the 10-cubic meter water tanks is pending delivery to the central warehouse, as a Local Purchase Order (LPO) has been issued to the supplier. Of the 14 targeted tanks, only 5 will be procured and installed as needed in flood-affected communities. Instead of training water user committees, an assessment of the impact of floods on water sources in Katakwi, initiated in late July 2024, is being conducted to guide future interventions



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 27,750

Targeted Persons: 19,098

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of assessments conducted	1	1
# of volunteers oriented on PGI and SGBV	100	65
#of volunteers deployed for RFL activities	14	65
# of referrals done	10	0
# of people reached with SGBV sessions	19,098	12,149



Progress Towards Outcome

Significant progress has been made in the Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) initiatives within the DREF operations. Prior to field deployment, a total of 65 volunteers were oriented on PGI, SGBV and RFL, enhancing their capacity to support affected communities, exceeding the initial target of 14. Although no referrals have been received from the community and volunteers to date, efforts are ongoing to establish effective referral pathways. Notably, 12,149 people have been reached through SGBV awareness sessions, far surpassing the initial target of 100, reflecting the successful expansion of outreach efforts.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 6,750

Targeted Persons: 19,098

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of CEA kiosks established.	14	14
# of people reached with RCCE.	19,098	12,149

Progress Towards Outcome

The DREF operation successfully established all 14 planned Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) kiosks across Dokolo, Bukedea, and Kayunga districts, ensuring comprehensive community support and feedback channels. Additionally, 12,149 individuals were reached with Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) messages, slightly exceeding the target of 12,144. Volunteers incorporated Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), Protection Gender and Inclusion (PGI), and Restoring Family Links (RFL) into their hygiene promotion activities. This comprehensive approach ensured that the hygiene promotion efforts were not only effective but also addressed broader community needs and concerns, enhancing overall engagement and support throughout the affected districts.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 15,750

Targeted Persons: 100

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of monitoring missions conducted	4	4
# of financial spot check conducted	1	0

Progress Towards Outcome

The delegation has successfully conducted all 4 planned monitoring missions, carried out by the Logistics and PMER teams, ensuring thorough oversight of activities and adherence to operational standards. The final monitoring exercise is currently underway jointly with the NS ahead of the lessons learnt workshop on 31st August 2024.

Budget: CHF 77,384

Targeted Persons: 19,098

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of volunteers insured	100	0
# of visibility materials procured	100	235
# of monitoring missions conducted	15	15
# of lessons learnt sessions conducted	1	0

Progress Towards Outcome

The DREF operation successfully completed all 15 planned monitoring missions, overseen by operations teams including branch managers, the DREF lead, directors, procurement officers, and warehouse officers. These teams ensured effective monitoring of procurement processes, field activities, and training sessions. Additionally, 235 visibility materials, including t-shirts with URCS and IFRC logos, reflector jackets, gumboots, pull-up banners, and capes, were procured and distributed evenly across all branches, surpassing the target of 100 and significantly enhancing the operation's visibility. However, volunteer insurance has not been conducted due to a small budget allocated for this purpose. A lessons learned workshop is planned for 30th August 2024.

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	380,528
Shelter and Basic Household Items	173,665
Livelihoods	0
Multi-purpose Cash	49,203
Health	33,281
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	87,636
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	29,554
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	7,189
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	99,188
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	16,774
National Society Strengthening	82,414
TOTAL BUDGET	479,715

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)



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