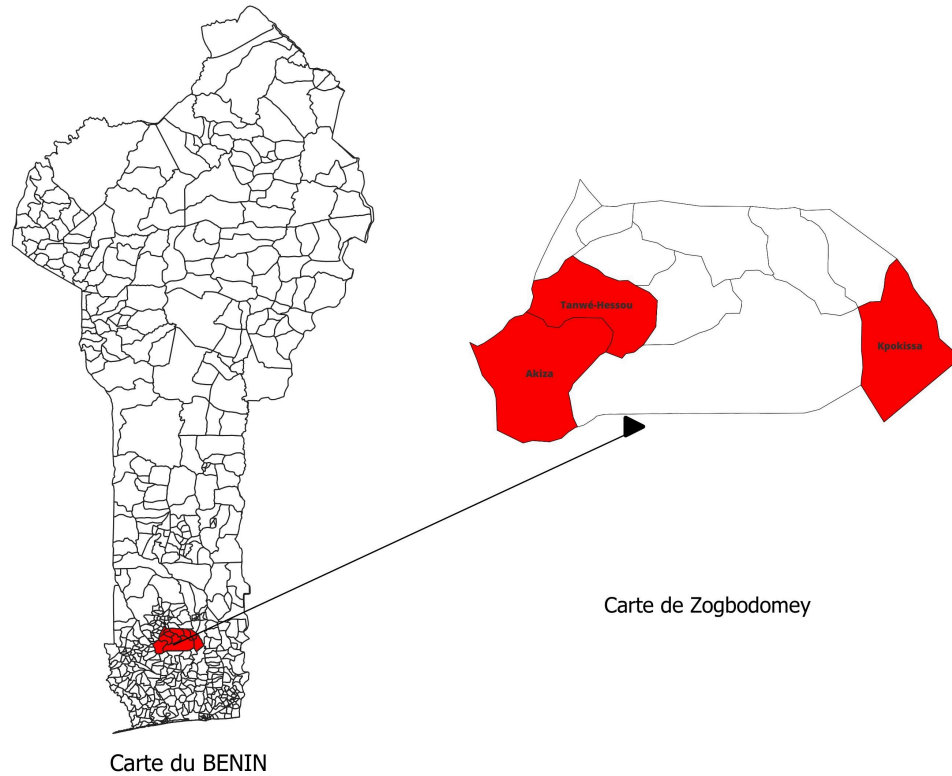




Appeal: <b>MDRBJ021</b>	Total DREF Allocation: <b>CHF 37,052</b>	Crisis Category: <b>Yellow</b>	Hazard: <b>Other</b>
Glide Number: -	People Affected: <b>1,368 people</b>	People Targeted: <b>1,266 people</b>	People Assisted: <b>1,308 people</b>
Event Onset: <b>Sudden</b>	Operation Start Date: <b>24-03-2025</b>	Operational End Date: <b>30-06-2025</b>	Total Operating Timeframe: <b>3 months</b>
Targeted Regions: <b>Zou</b>			

The major donors and partners of the IFRC-DREF include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Britain, China, Czech, Canada, Denmark, German, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, Malta, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, and the Netherlands, as well as DG ECHO, Mondelez Foundation, and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the National Society, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.

# Description of the Event



Map of the affected area

## Date of event

13-03-2025

## What happened, where and when?

During the month of March 2025, sequences of strong winds were recorded in some vulnerable municipalities in Benin. Thus, the commune of Zogbodomey was hit by a violent storm accompanied by strong gusts of wind and precipitation, on the night of Monday 10 to Tuesday 11 March 2025. Significant material damage was noted which affected many households, including shelters in the districts of Akiza, Kpokissa and Tanwe-Hessou, which have a population of about 5,589. This situation affected more than 1,368 people, about 228 households from all societal strata, including pregnant women, people with disabilities, children, as well as infants under five years old, thus increasing the vulnerability of the affected populations. The public infrastructure was also significantly damaged. The police station of the district of Kpokissa, the Public Primary School and the Market of Kpokissa saw their roofs torn off under the force of the wind, compromising the proper functioning of the security services in the area.

In an effort to assist the affected populations, a rapid assessment of the situation was carried out the day after the disaster by volunteers from the Local Committee of the Red Cross to accurately assess the extent of the damage. Households that have lost their shelters were forced to stay with other members of the community.

Following the appeal launched by the Mayor of the municipality of Zogbodomey to the Beninese Red Cross through a specific letter dated March 13, 2025, the NS requested and obtained DREF funding from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) on 25 March 2025 in order to provide a response to the targets. This operation was implemented for three months and ended on 30 June 2025.

A thorough needs assessment was conducted by the Benin Red Cross in collaboration with the Municipal Council. The assessment revealed that, in addition to the three previously mentioned districts, the district of Massi (specifically Lonmè and Zalimè) also recorded affected households. In total, 218 shelters were identified as damaged, distributed as follows: Akiza (157), Kpokissa (22), Tanwe-Hessou (23), and Massi (16). Among these, 37 shelters were completely destroyed, while 181 were partially damaged, with collapsed walls and uprooted roofs.



Training session on Shelter



Building shelters



Community meeting



Building shelters

## Scope and Scale

The data from the rapid assessment carried out in the aftermath of the disaster showed a total of 211 damaged shelters in three districts, namely Akiza, Tanwe-Hessou and Kpokissa, and precisely 11 villages (Akiza, Dénou, Djihizidê, Guémè, Ahounandjitomè, Dehounta, Dogo, Kpokissa, Agadjaligbo, Tanwe, Zinga) were affected by this disaster, with a count of 161 households in Akissa, 22 in Kpokissa and 28 in Tanwé-Hessou.

An in-depth needs assessment was carried out by the Beninese Red Cross in conjunction with the City Hall which revealed that, in addition to the three districts mentioned, the district of Massi (Lonmè and Zalimè) also registered affected households. This gave a total of 218 shelters affected distributed as follows: Akiza (157), Kpokissa (22), Tanwe-hessou (23) and Massi (16); including 37 shelters totally damaged and 181 shelters partially damaged with collapsed walls and uprooted roofs.

The consequences of this disaster were also felt in economic, institutional, health, social and community life of the affected people. This disaster also slowed down the functioning of the institutional, economic and community life of communities and institutions, without concealing the state of health of the populations, and has weakened their state of vulnerability, by reducing their access to basic services. Specifically, the most vulnerable groups have been more affected (people with disabilities, pregnant women, breastfeeding women, children). It should be noted that these are communities with very limited resources and with very difficult geographical accessibility, as they are an area at risk of flooding.

## IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

### Secretariat

During the operation, the IFRC provided technical and financial support to the development and implementation of the DREF. Technical support was mainly reflected in the monitoring of activities and field visits provided by the IFRC's Senior Disaster Manager in Benin. The skills acquired from the DREF experience in terms of shelter construction with the support of the Regional Shelter Coordinator deployed by the Cluster were very useful and transmitted to the volunteers deployed on the present DREF and facilitated the achievement of the objectives. The coordination meetings of the operation, organized in collaboration with the Senior Disaster Manager, were a key element of the intervention.

### Participating National Societies

The operational themes developed (first aid, disaster preparedness, community health, water, sanitation and hygiene, shelter, PGI, CEA) by this DREF are themes that are also carried out by other NS partners who support the BRC in the development of its



operational and institutional capacities. These capabilities contributed to the achievement of the objectives. These include the Swiss Red Cross, the Belgian Flemish Red Cross and the Luxembourg Red Cross. The DREF was shared with them, and their technical support was obtained, in particular the Luxembourg Red Cross.

## ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

In the context of implementation, the ICRC has not had any specific direct intervention as the area of coverage was not one of the ICRC's priority areas of intervention and, as such, had not been the subject of a thorough security assessment by the ICRC. Luckily, no risks related to the safety of personnel or operations were noted during the implementation. However, the Beninese Red Cross has kept the ICRC informed of the implementation process in line with the momentum of the Movement Coordination, which is increasingly being promoted. Also, the strategies for implementing distribution, assessment, restoring family links and operational security activities have been very useful in the development of interventions and have improved their impact on the target communities.

## Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

<b>Government has requested international assistance</b>	No
<b>National authorities</b>	Throughout the process, the local authorities, namely the town hall, the district chiefs and the village chiefs have been strongly involved at various levels of the implementation of the operation. Also, decentralized structures have been used such as the Single Window for Social Protection, and the Police Station. At the national level, the Beninese Civil Protection Agency has been an essential pillar in the face of this exceptional situation. All its bodies were mobilized and showed a commitment that facilitated the implementation and community acceptance of the interventions. This involvement was demonstrated by the holding of a workshop to present the operation to the authorities, during which observations and suggestions were made and were analyzed and considered in the implementation of the operation. Also, coordination meetings and joint supervision were carried out for the follow-up of activities in the field. The national authorities also actively participated in the workshop on achievements, lessons learned and sharing of experience.
<b>UN or other actors</b>	No other partner provided assistance to these communities following the request of the town hall.

### Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

The Benin Red Cross, as an auxiliary of the public authorities in the humanitarian field and a member of several platforms at the national, departmental and local levels dedicated to disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change actively participated in various planning and review meetings at the local level both on the operation and on other humanitarian assistance activities in the commune. The different assistance plans developed are shared through this platform and coordinated under the leadership of the Mayor, ensuring a harmonized and effective management of the resources and interventions needed to respond to emergencies and the needs of the communities concerned. The different actors involved are:

- At the macro level, the different state structures are the Ministries (Ministry of Economy and Finance, Ministry of Health, Ministries of Social Affairs and Microfinance, National Agency for Civil Protection). The various planning documents were shared with the actors for their participation in the implementation of activities in the field.
- The decentralized structures present at the local level, such as the Single Window for Social Protection (GUPS), the Health Centers, the City Hall, were the main actors who participated in the planning, the definition of the strategies for the implementation of activities, the mobilization of all stakeholders and the monitoring of activities.
- At the community level, the district chiefs, the village chiefs concerned, and the beneficiaries were mobilized in the various processes of operationalization of interventions.

Coordination meetings were regularly organized between the leaders of the National Society (NS), including the local committee and the local authorities of the commune of Zogbodomey. These meetings aimed to strengthen collaboration, facilitate concerted decision-making and ensure effective follow-up of actions carried out on the ground. At the same time, similar meetings were held at the level of the technical managers, in order to ensure a smooth and operational implementation of the planned activities, while promoting fluid communication between the different actors involved.



## Needs (Gaps) Identified



### Shelter Housing And Settlements

Following a violent wind accompanied by heavy rain, the request from the mayor's office reported 211 shelters in the three districts of Kpokissa, Akiza and Tanweehessiou with a total of 11 villages. The DREF was therefore approved on this basis. At the workshop to present the operation to the local authorities, the situation of the district of Massi was raised, as it was totally inaccessible during the rapid assessment. Advocacy was therefore considered in the needs assessment carried out by the CRB's technical team. The report of this in-depth evaluation revealed the following data in the four districts concerned with 13 villages:

- Akiza: 157 shelters affected, including 28 shelters totally damaged and 129 shelters partially damaged
- Kpokissa: 22 shelters affected, including 02 shelters totally damaged and 20 shelters partially damaged
- Tanwe-hessou: 23 shelters affected, including 01 shelter totally damaged and 22 partially damaged shelters
- Massi: 16 shelters affected, including 06 shelters totally damaged and 10 shelters partially damaged.

A total of 218 shelters were affected, including 37 shelters that were totally damaged and 181 shelters that were partially damaged with collapsed walls and uprooted roofs. The building materials of these shelters were very precarious. This made them very fragile in the face of the disaster. The communities therefore found themselves obliged to seek refuge with their brothers who still had their houses resistant. The town had never experienced a disaster of strong winds before.

The Beninese Red Cross' intervention was therefore oriented to support the affected communities, with the support of the local authorities, to rebuild their shelters while involving them and improving their knowledge and skills in building shelters that are more resistant to similar future similar.



### Protection, Gender And Inclusion

As foreseen in the development of the project, Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) was assured through the collection of data disaggregated by sex, disability and age, and the participation as much as possible of the disadvantaged groups (women, girls, people with disabilities, other existing minorities, etc.) in the activities and the consideration of their specific needs. The capacity of volunteers and staff involved in the operation on PGI and PSEA (Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse) was enhanced. The capacity building focused on the popularization of mechanisms for prevention, reporting and protection against gender-based violence. The feedback mechanisms put in place also made it possible to collect the concerns of the target communities, address and facilitate decision-making for the improvement of the interventions carried out.

## Operational Strategy

### Overall objective of the operation

This operation targeted 211 households affected by the consequences of the strong wind in the commune of Zogbodomey which affected 1,266 people. The intervention consisted mainly support for the supply of construction materials and the reconstruction of shelters. Following the feedback collected, 218 households were finally assisted, in addition to the Kpokissa Police Station. This difference is explained by the inclusion of the district of Massi, which was not previously planned. The implementation of the operation was carried out over a period of three months.

### Operation strategy rationale

The operationalization of the activities began with a workshop to present the operation to the local authorities and the decentralized structures present (GUPS, Police Station, district chiefs, etc.). This workshop made it possible to present the content of the operation to the actors and to collect their suggestions and observations on the one hand, and to obtain their commitment on the other hand.

Based on the data from the 211 households, an in-depth needs assessment was carried out with the support of volunteers, the Executive Secretary, the Branch Disaster Response Team (BDRT) Abris, and local artisans, all of whom were previously oriented towards the objectives and tools of the assessment. Following this assessment, the shelter kits taken from the stock remaining from the Lalo Flood DREF operation and transported to the areas through the established logistics system were distributed to the 218 households. Each kit



included metal sheets, spikes of different sizes (15, 12, 10 and 8), galvanized spikes and wire. Wood was acquired in view of the needs identified which corresponded to the forecast made.

Part of the 374 housing units remaining under the DREF MDRBJ019 was reallocated to the MDRBJ021 DREF in line with the operational strategy aimed at optimizing the use of available resources and to avoid any overlap between interventions. Thus, 211 kits had been planned but following the evaluation, 218 were transferred to the MDRBJ021 operation, The remaining 156 housing units are stored currently in the warehouses of the Beninese Red Cross (CRB), to be monitored and will only be mobilized after agreement and approval from DREF.

Local volunteers and craftsmen (carpenters) were identified and trained for two days on quality shelter construction techniques based on training received from the regional shelter coordinator deployed by the IFRC, taking into account existing local skills and knowledge in the field. The training was accompanied by a detailed planning of the activities that will be carried out, over two days.

Technical support through the deployment of trained teams was provided to households for the reconstruction of shelters, depending on whether the shelter was totally destroyed or partially destroyed (collapsed wall, uncluttered roof, etc.). This essential step, as well as the previous ones, were monitored and supervised by the RDRT Abris of the Beninese Red Cross, the Executive Secretary and the NDRT volunteer to ensure the quality of the interventions. The Kpokissa Police Station whose roof was affected was also supported.

In the implementation of the interventions, the communities, the beneficiary households, local craftsmen, and local authorities were strongly involved from the beginning in order to guarantee community engagement and local capacity building for better community resilience. Capacity building was given to volunteers so that key concepts, through the tools, are integrated into strategies for better adaptation to the realities on the ground and to the specific needs of all. Feedback collection mechanisms were also put in place.

The provisions of the Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policies were implemented at all levels of the intervention to ensure that all groups, particularly vulnerable populations, were taken into account. This was concretized by capacity building for the staff and volunteers involved in the operation for them to master the principles and apply them effectively in the field. Also, awareness-raising campaigns were carried out for communities to prevent gender-based violence (SGBV) and promote good practices in terms of protection and inclusion with adapted tools and materials (brochures and image boxes) designed for an inclusive approach that respects the rights of all.

Technical and operational monitoring of activities was carried out by the staff of the CRB headquarters deployed as part of the operation. Coordination meetings and joint supervision of activities were conducted by NS governance members, the IFRC and local actors. Resource management and administrative support were provided from CRB headquarters to complement the local committee.

## Targeting Strategy

### Who was targeted by this operation?

Direct target:

This operation directly targeted 1,266 people, representing 211 of the most affected households. Indeed, a total of 228 households were affected by the disaster, but of these, only 211 were considered economically vulnerable and unable to rebuild quickly and with dignity. The 17 households not receiving assistance were those deemed to have sufficient resources by the community to reconstruct their damaged/destroyed shelters. These included big farmers in the area. Following the in-depth assessment, a total of 218 households were identified and registered as really affected by the disaster because they were considered economically vulnerable and unable to rebuild quickly and with dignity.

Indirect target:

There was no indirect target in the operation.

### Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The commune is classified as one of the communes at high risk of flooding and records considerable damage every year. This high wind disaster worsened its previous state of vulnerability and has diminished its already inadequate resources. The populations of the four districts concerned had been affected. The target populations were only those households affected by the disaster and in their shelter destroyed either partially or totally. Households adjudged to have sufficient capacity for recovery and early repair of their shelters were left out of the in-depth assessment. Particular emphasis was placed on households with vulnerable people, namely the elderly, pregnant women, people with disabilities, the sick, widows and widowers. The mechanism for the active participation of communities in the process was fully considered.



# Total Assisted Population

Assisted Women	315	Rural	44.6%
Assisted Girls (under 18)	355	Urban	55.6%
Assisted Men	300	People with disabilities (estimated)	0.9%
Assisted Boys (under 18)	338		
Total Assisted Population	1,308		
Total Targeted Population	1,266		

## Risk and Security Considerations (including "management")

Does your National Society have anti-fraud and corruption policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have child protection/child safeguarding policy?	No
Does your National Society have whistleblower protection policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have anti-sexual harassment policy?	Yes

Please analyse and indicate potential risks for this operation, its root causes and mitigation actions.

Risk	Mitigation action
Inaccessibility of some areas of intervention due to the impassability of access roads.	The success of the interventions required the teams to adapt to the climatic hazards caused by the rainy season that occurred during the implementation period. The means of travel made available was adapted to the context with a control of the geographical access of the volunteers and local staff deployed.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation:

Security and safety issues were addressed during the implementation of this operation through the operationalization of the following measures:

- Security information impacting the implementation of interventions was shared in real-time with stakeholders through the CRB's information management system to take appropriate measures to ensure safe implementation.
- The preparatory phase of the activities, including those in the field, included a summary risk assessment with necessary mitigation measures identified prior to the implementation of the activities.
- The volunteers and staff involved in the operation were guided. They also signed the code of conduct and were encouraged to respect it.
- The volunteers involved in the operation were covered by the global insurance provided by the CRB.
- Information and communication technology (ICT) tools were used for communication during the monitoring missions, in particular, during the satisfaction survey.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?	Yes
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# Implementation



## Shelter Housing And Settlements

**Budget:** CHF 62,149

**Targeted Persons:** 1,266

**Assisted Persons:** 1,308

**Targeted Male:** 638

**Targeted Female:** 670

### Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of households receiving shelter items	211	218
Number of households assisted for construction	211	218
Number of volunteers and craftsmen trained	30	30
Percentage of shelters built	80	100
Number of supervised constructions	2	4
Number of households receiving wood for shelter	105	218

### Narrative description of achievements

• The activities began with the in-depth assessment of the needs of the beneficiaries which was carried out at the level of the four districts concerned, namely, Tanwe-Hessou, Akiza, Kpokissa and Massi. It should be noted that 211 households were previously identified as most vulnerable out of the 228 affected in total, excluding the municipality of Massi. Thus, a plea was made by the local authorities at the inception workshop to present the operation to integrate the district of Massi and the Kpokissa Police Station.

As a result, the assessment was carried out in the four districts and the Office of the Commissioner which made it possible to identify the real needs. This evaluation adopted a participatory and inclusive methodology with the communities and began with their acceptance of the intervention strategy, the importance of their involvement at various levels for a strong commitment. Households that had already rebuilt their shelters were taken out of the lot and all households in the four districts affected by the strong winds (Akiza, Kpokissa, Tanwe-hessou and Massi) were visited individually. The construction material needs of each household were explicitly identified (shelters totally or partially destroyed). The constitution of the planned kit was presented to households and households whose needs far exceeded this forecast made the commitment to make the necessary complement for the construction of their shelters. Before the field visit, the deployed teams, made up of volunteers and local craftsmen were guided on the methodology and tools to be used. In summary, 218 households were identified in all four districts with a total of 13 villages, in addition to the Kpokissa police station.

At the same time, the procedures for the acquisition of timber were implemented as provided for in the operation. The remaining components of the kit were transported to the various villages from their storage location according to the quantified needs of the beneficiaries during the in-depth evaluation. Protective equipment was acquired and made available to the teams. The training of the teams on the construction of shelters, made up of 30 volunteers and local craftsmen, mainly carpenters, was done over two days by the RDRT Abris of the CRB in order to strengthen skills in terms of norms and standards for quality construction. The skills acquired by the Regional Shelter Manager deployed on the DREF Floods Lalo served as a basis. A detailed schedule was drawn up, dividing the volunteers and carpenters by area and task, to ensure optimal organization of the work.

Kits were distributed to the 218 households, as well as to the Kpokissa Police Station. The kits consisted of sheet metal, spikes of different sizes (15, 12, 10 and 8), galvanized spikes, wire and wood.

Teams were deployed at the level of every and the construction of the shelters was effective. A total of 218 shelters were built in the 13 villages of the four districts in addition to the Kpokissa police station. Five supervision missions were carried out throughout the process to guarantee the quality of work.



## Lessons Learnt

In terms of lessons learned, we can report that it is important to leave room for flexibility in terms of the target to be reached, as the first data collected from the field was not exhaustive and may not reflect the full reality of the damage caused by the disaster. So, it would be useful to leave some room for consideration of soft targets that might be identified during the in-depth assessment. This will also make it possible to be more humanitarian and impartial.

Also, it is important to involve communities in the implementation of activities at the beginning of interventions. This will make it possible to take into account their perceptions and suggestions on strategies, address community reluctance more quickly and effectively, and to obtain the commitment and involvement of beneficiaries more easily.

## Challenges

Two major challenges were encountered:

- The implementation of activities in a rainy season, which degraded the already impassable state of the access roads to the villages. This situation was overcome using the strategy of local mobilization of the teams (volunteers and craftsmen) who were residents of these localities. This made it possible to maximize the non-rainy periods to complete the work.

- The inclusion of the surplus of vulnerable households in the response that was made possible through the in-depth needs assessment methodology and community involvement made it possible to remove duplication (households that may have had the capacity to rebuild their own shelters prior to the response, informing households at the beginning of the contents of the material kit and their willingness to contribute in cases where the actual needs far exceeded the forecast).



## Protection, Gender And Inclusion

**Budget:** CHF 3,015

**Targeted Persons:** 1,266

**Assisted Persons:** 4,326

**Targeted Male:** 2,111

**Targeted Female:** 2,215

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of staff trained on ERP and PSEA	10	13
Number of volunteers trained on ERP and PSEA	30	30
Number of awareness-raising campaigns conducted on SGBV and PSEA	2	2

## Narrative description of achievements

• The consideration of the theme of Protection Gender Inclusion (PGI) in the interventions began with the capacity building of the 30 volunteers and local artisans involved in the operation. This strengthening enhanced the participants' knowledge and skills on the need for actors in the field to adopt a respectful approach to differences and to actively integrate minority populations in all stages of the intervention. The Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) was also discussed which provided an in-depth understanding of sexual exploitation and abuse as a serious violation of the fundamental principles of the Red Cross and international humanitarian standards to ensure that actions, especially with vulnerable populations, are carried out with utmost integrity and with absolute respect for their dignity and safety. This training prepared the volunteers for the awareness campaigns that was to follow in order to convey the key messages acquired.

In the same vein, the knowledge of the 13 staff involved has been strengthened and the volunteers, as well. The staff was guided on the need to collect disaggregated data for all activities and familiarize with the tool designed for that purpose, which was integrated into the reporting of all activities.

Together, the awareness-raising material consisting of 60 brochures and 15 boxes of PGI and PSEA images was produced. A refresher and orientation session on the use of the equipment was organized for volunteers who were deployed for awareness campaigns in the communities. A total of 4,326 people (1,925 men and 2,401 women) including 52 persons with disabilities, were reached through awareness-raising on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) among the affected populations in the four districts of Kpokissa, Tanwe-Hessou, Akiza and Massi.



## Lessons Learnt

For a better appropriation of the messages and their successful implementation in the interventions, it is necessary to integrate recycling mechanisms on the themes adapted to the different target categories to be reached.

## Challenges

Communities, especially rural ones, are still under the weight of socio-cultural barriers that do not favour the acceptance of the key messages conveyed by the PGI and PSEA themes. As a result, pockets of resistance were still observed, even among the targets that appeared more educated. This therefore required flexibility in the management of the time allocated to capacity building sessions on the themes in order to promote the appropriation of the messages. Practical exercises and case studies adapted to the contexts of the community were therefore an essential point in facilitating the approach. The awareness-raising material produced also had a great advantage in facilitating the achievement of results.



## Community Engagement And Accountability

**Budget:** CHF 3,364

**Targeted Persons:** 1,266

**Assisted Persons:** 1,308

**Targeted Male:** 638

**Targeted Female:** 670

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of volunteers trained	30	30
Number of community Meetings	11	11
Number of Community feedback systems	1	4
Number of communication tools on the feedback collection system	1	1
Number of workshops to capitalize on what has been learned, and sharing of experience	1	1

## Narrative description of achievements

• The community engagement and accountability activities carried out are described as follows:

Several mechanisms were put in place to collect feedback from the communities. These mechanisms included carrying out 11 community meetings with the beneficiaries of the 13 villages affected by the operation. Support was provided to the community feedback system, including the monitoring of rumours and/or perceptions, in order to collect and process them in real time. To make this system more effective, 270 communication materials was produced and used (community focus groups, suggestion boxes, posters on reporting mechanisms for complaints, etc.). These different mechanisms made it possible to collect perceptions, complaints and suggestions from communities on the various activities carried out. A satisfaction survey was carried out at the end of the interventions in order to cross-reference the data collected by the feedback mechanisms. The complaints collected mainly concerned the consideration of other households that were affected by other waves of strong winds that occurred afterwards, the distribution of food and non-food kits, cash transfer assistance, etc. The suggestions made were in sync with the above-mentioned complaints.

The operation concluded with the organization of a workshop to capture the achievements, lessons learned and sharing of experience, which brought together the various stakeholders involved in the implementation of the operation. The results achieved, and the difficulties encountered were shared with the participants. The participants were drawn from the Benin Red Cross, local authorities, partners, and beneficiaries.

Suggestions were also made for their inclusion in future interventions to improve the impact on targeted communities in particular. At the end of the workshop, the following recommendations were made:

- Integrating the extended consideration to other victims



- Thinking about assisting households to cope with the destruction of livelihoods
- Taking action to provide access to drinking water
- Assisting the community with the problem of road accessibility
- Taking into account health coverage.

We can conclude that the various stakeholders were satisfied with the interventions carried out as part of the operation, despite the gaps identified.

## Lessons Learnt

• Community engagement and accountability have again proven through the implementation of the operation to be a very important approach, not only for the achievement of results, but primarily for improving the impact of interventions on the vulnerable situation of communities. It is therefore essential to prioritize interventions in this area, specifically the enhancement and adaptation of feedback collection channels on the one hand, and the improvement of the capacity to respond to feedback by strengthening the capacities of staff on the other.

## Challenges

It is recommended that a sustainable mechanism be put in place to manage feedback, including rumours, and that it be disseminated more widely.



## Secretariat Services

**Budget:** CHF 10,900

**Targeted Persons:** 40

**Assisted Persons:** 40

**Targeted Male:** 29

**Targeted Female:** 11

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of preparation and planning meetings for the operation with officials and national staff.	2	2
Number of coordination meetings with stakeholders on activities	2	2
Number of staff deployed	7	7
Number of supervision missions	2	2

## Narrative description of achievements

• The start of the interventions in the field was marked by the organization of a workshop to present the operation to stakeholders. The workshop was preceded by preparatory and planning meetings with the officials and national staff. The meeting allowed each member of staff involved to take ownership of the implementation strategy of the operation, the objectives, results and all other information. The different teams were deployed (headquarters staff, Executive Secretary, NDRT volunteer focal point, RDRT CRB Shelter Specialist).

During the implementation of the operation, coordination meetings were held with all stakeholders to ensure the quality of interventions, the achievement of results and reporting, with the support of the PMER. Also, supervision missions were carried out both by the headquarters staff, including the Secretary General, and by the governance with the National President as lead. A joint supervisory mission was carried out with the IFRC representative, who also provided technical support for the entire operation.

The logistics department was mobilized to facilitate the implementation of the interventions through the various acquisitions made on the operation (wood, protective equipment, vests for volunteers, vehicle rental, etc.). The monitoring of financial management was carried out by the accounting department.

In this context, the Beninese Red Cross (CRB) had taken out insurance to cover 1000 volunteers. This insurance being valid only when the



volunteers had an official mission order. At the same time, particular attention was paid to compliance with the requirements of the Emergency Response Mechanism (DREF), ensuring strict monitoring and developing timely reports to ensure transparent and rigorous communication on the progress of activities.

## **Lessons Learnt**

Coordination meetings are of great importance in order to facilitate the operational and technical monitoring of the operation and to make updates in real time.

## **Challenges**

It would be good to maintain exchanges with the various actors to monitor the situation in the area through meetings with communities for resilient actions.



# Financial Report

## DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2025/03-2025/09	Operation	MDRBJ021
Budget Timeframe	2025/03-2025/06	Budget	APPROVED

### FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 03/Nov/2025

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### MDRBJ021 - Benin - Strong Wind

Operating Timeframe: 24 Mar 2025 to 30 Jun 2025

#### I. Summary

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Funds &amp; Other Income</b>	<b>37,052</b>
DREF Response Pillar	37,052
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>-33,322</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>3,730</b>

#### II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	37,052	33,322	3,730
AOF2 - Shelter			0
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs			0
AOF4 - Health			0
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene			0
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			0
AOF7 - Migration			0
<b>Area of focus Total</b>	<b>37,052</b>	<b>33,322</b>	<b>3,730</b>
SF11 - Strengthen National Societies			0
SF12 - Effective international disaster management			0
SF13 - Influence others as leading strategic partners			0
SF14 - Ensure a strong IFRC			0
<b>Strategy for implementation Total</b>			<b>0</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>37,052</b>	<b>33,322</b>	<b>3,730</b>

[Click here for the complete financial report](#)

## Please explain variances (if any)

The balance of CHF 3,730 will be returned to the DREF pot as stated in the financial report.



# Contact Information

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

**National Society contact:**

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