



Angola Red Cross Preliminary Assessment in Cunene

Appeal: MDRAO014	Hazard: Flood	Country: Angola	Type of DREF: Response
Crisis Category: Yellow	Event Onset: Sudden	DREF Allocation: CHF 249,521	
Glide Number: -	People Affected: 6,493 people	People Targeted: 5,000 people	
Operation Start Date: 06-03-2026	Operation Timeframe: 6 months	Operation End Date: 30-09-2026	DREF Published: 17-03-2026

Targeted Regions: **Bié, Cuando Cubango, Cunene, Moxico**

Date of event

23-02-2026

What happened, where and when?

From 21st to 23rd February 2026, rainfall in several municipalities in Cunene Province, caused floods affecting homes and social infrastructure. with the highest incidence in the municipalities of Cuvelai, Cuanhama and Mupa. As of 23rd February 2026, the Government of Angola Multisectoral Assessment Team Report estimated that 1,428 people (306 families) were affected, with 780 people (130 families) displaced. Out of these 306 houses affected, 243 were flooded and 64 destroyed with 19 social infrastructures affected.

On 27th February 2026, the Cubango Province Civil Protection and Firefight shared with the National Society a summary report on rainfall damage for the period of August 2025 to February 2026, indicating that 5065 people (1013 families) were affected and 679 houses were affected, with 320 completely destroyed.

Further heavy rainfall is expected to impact Cunene, Bie, Cubango, and Moxico. The rains are expected to increase risks of atmospheric shocks, landslides, and infrastructure damage and electricity cuts. The Government of Angola issued a "red danger zone," alert to the population, for the expected rains.

Scope and Scale

As of 23rd February 2026, the Government of Angola Multisectoral Assessment Team Report estimated that 1,428 (306 families) were affected, where 780 people (130 families) were displaced, and a total of 306 houses affected, where 243 were flooded, 64 totally destroyed and 19 social infrastructures affected. Additionally, it is estimated 500HH lost livelihoods (from NS CVA Cunene Branch Initial Rapid Assessment)

On 27th February 2026, the Cubango Civil Protection and Firefight shared a summary report on rainfall damage for the period August 2025 to February 2026, indicating that 5065 people (1013 families) and 679 houses were affected, where 320 were completely destroyed. While this data in not disaggregated by month, the majority of the impact is expected to have happened around the beginning of 2026.

The number of people impacted is still changing as heavy rain continues in the province and is also expected in other provinces. The Government is conducting further impact assessments for people affected in communities that were not reallocated to an accommodation center. However, many people are expected to have moved within other communities/host communities and are expected to be sheltering with other family or friends. The impact on livelihoods is also still being assessed.

The populations that had their houses damaged or flooded lost essential household items. Basic sanitation is further depleted, because even before the rains, the basic sanitation was already depleted. There are concerns of r contamination of water sources, the long-term stagnation of mixed water, and obstructed drainage routes that can lead to the increase of water borne diseases such as Diarrhea, Cholera Malaria and Dengue. These are endemic diseases in Angola.

Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	No
Did it affect the same population group?	-
Did the National Society respond?	-
Did the National Society request funding form DREF for that event(s)	-
If yes, please specify which operation	-
If you have answered yes to all questions above, justify why the use of DREF for a recurrent event, or how this event should not be considered recurrent:	
-	



Lessons learned:

Floods in the past year did not affect the southern region of the country. However, floods in the past year in other areas of the country have highlighted the need for strong WASH programming as cholera and malaria cases increase in flooded areas. Incorporating long-term sustainable programming, such as risk reduction is also necessary to avoid further impacts. Lessons from cash modality of assistance is to continue the process of FSP utilization and strong CEA.

Did you complete the Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis in previous operations, what was risk level?

No

Current National Society Actions

Start date of National Society actions

25-03-2026

Coordination	The National Society liaised with the Government of Angola to develop a response plan for the affected people, which is proposed in this DREF Operation
Assessment	The National Society Cunene Provincial Branch did a rapid assessment of the situation and are developing the formal report. The preliminary information on impacts to date was already shared. The National Society mobilized 10 volunteers in Cunene.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	Support to launch DREF Operation and risk watch (flood monitoring) for the season.
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Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	The Government relocated 204 households that were in immediate danger, and they are still in the reallocation center. The Government also conducted an initial impact assessment and produced a report; they are working on removal of water in urban centers and fixing the damaged roads; issued alerts for the expected rainfall that may exacerbate the impacts and worsen the current situation.
UN or other actors	-

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

The Government response at the provincial level is ongoing and the National Society is participating.



Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Preliminary data was compiled from the Government Report, a rapid assessment done by the Angolan Red Cross (CVA) Provincial Team and the volunteers in the affected communities living along the drainage channel and adjacent areas of Cunene Province.

In the Ondjiva City, Cunene Province, several urban and peri urban areas were severely affected by flooding, which resulted to the partial destruction of homes and the temporary displacement of families. Approximately, 780 people (130 families) were displaced, a total 306 houses affected, where 243 were flooded, out of which 64 were destroyed and 19 social infrastructures affected. The floods damaged houses, including equipment, disrupting the daily lives of families in the affected areas.

Many people are currently staying with relatives or in informal temporary solution and are not listed as officially resettled.

There is no data on the needs or living conditions of people who have been resettled and how long they will stay in the accommodation center and/or living in host communities. There is a need for a multi-sectoral rapid assessment to best align programming to fit their needs. Due to the nature of the event (rains) it is likely that families resettled, lost part of their essential household items and experienced structural damage to their houses, may need support with rebuilding/fixing damages.

For Cubango, 679 houses were affected, where 320 were completely destroyed during the previous months. The houses that were not completely destroyed, are at increased risk of being damaged again during the current rainy season.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The floods disrupted not only homes and infrastructure but also social economic stability of the communities, and their sources of income. The National Society Assessment indicated that approximately 500 families lost their crops and main means of subsistence (direct impact on livelihoods).

This loss is significant, as Southern Angola (including Cunene) was already categorized as IPC level +3 (critical food insecurity). In 2025, it was estimated that 40 percent of children aged 6 to 59 months suffered Chronic Malnutrition, with 2.2 million people in Southern Angola in need of food assistance.



Health

Malaria is present in Angola throughout the year. With the increased rains, it remains one of the concerns of the authorities. Distribution of Mosquito nets, Certeza, and hygiene items to help communities protect themselves is essential.

Cholera cases are recurrent in some areas of Angola, the last outbreak being last year in 2025. Nationally, as of 28th October 2025, a total of 33,146 Cholera cases, 859 deaths (Case Fatality Rate [CFR] of 2.6 per cent) were reported, with active transmission in 18 out of 21 provinces including Cunene.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

It is expected that those living in the accommodation center or reallocated informally to host communities, do not have sufficient sanitation facilities and are at risk of lack of safe drinking water and of the rise of diseases such as Cholera and Malaria.

Floods can lead to increased risk of waterborne diseases due to the contamination of water sources, disruption of sanitation facilities and the scarcity of clean, drinkable water which worsens the challenges.

A critical gap identified was the need for immediate disinfection of residential buildings affected by flooding and landslides. Without timely intervention, they remained unsafe for daily living, placing individuals and families at additional risk.





Protection, Gender And Inclusion

For people displaced, it is important to ensure safety and security in accommodation centers during floods with a focus on ensuring that displaced people have safe shelter, reliable access to basic services, and protection from harm in overcrowded and high-risk conditions. There is no information on how long people will stay in the accommodation center in Cunene.

Accommodation centers and crowded host communities can heighten protection risks, for example Gender Based Violence (GBV), and also cause disruption of Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) and GBV services. Loss of household items may include key identifying documentation. The temporary living environments can also pose challenges to people living with disabilities if the facilities do not have proper access.



Community Engagement And Accountability

It is important to ensure communities are well informed about the interventions and participate in the development and feedback on the response. This is a noted gap, as there is no current formal feedback mechanisms established beyond focal groups. There is a need to have very good communication and community engagement when doing the cash distributions to avoid issues amongst community members as well as avoid problems with volunteers.

Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

Thus, the total number of approximately 1,000 affected families so far results from the consolidation of the CVA community survey, which includes impacts on both housing and livelihoods, and the Government report on resettled families. However, significant gaps remain, especially with regard to needs of affected communities as well as information needed regarding the impact of the ongoing rainfall.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The Angola Red Cross, as an auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, proposes a rapid and integrated intervention to support a minimum 5,000 people impacted by the floods and those serving as host communities in Cunene Province with shelter, WASH, and livelihoods support for 6 months, integrating PGI and CEA across the operation.

Operation strategy rationale

The floods operation strategy aims to reduce the humanitarian impacts of floods in Cunene, ensuring a dignified, safe and community-based response to affected families, as well as ensuring readiness to respond to ongoing heavy rain fall in vulnerable communities across Cunene, Cubango, Bie, and Moxico provinces.

Response in Cunene:

- Shelter & livelihoods (through multipurpose cash assistance):
- Support affected households through unconditional cash assistance to restore their essential household items and livelihoods. NS is cash ready.
- GBV risk mitigation actions based on use of GBV risk analysis tool for CVA.
- Post distribution monitoring
- Support the Government with multisectoral needs assessments and further reallocations of affected households.

WASH/Health:

- Distribute aqua tabs and wash kits to affected households.
- Conduct community sensitization and practical training sessions on the correct use, dosage, and safe storage of household water treatment chemicals prior to their distribution.
- Post distribution monitoring to check use.
- Ensure immediate access to safe water, sanitation, and proper hygiene practices in affected and host communities
- Support clean-up campaigns of impacted infrastructure and drainage in affected communities and host communities

PGI & CEA:

- Ensure effective communication and community participation by engaging communities during needs assessments, and activity implementation.



- Ensure effective information sharing to ensure that communities understand and are aware of the assistance available, selection criteria and how the response will be implemented.
- Mitigation of GBV for CVA activities based on GBV risks
- Integrate protection, gender, and inclusion throughout the response
- Update safe referral pathways
- Incorporate dignity items in wash kit for distribution
- Safeguarding and GBV awareness sessions in community
- PGI, CEA, and safeguarding training for volunteers
- Set up a feedback and complaints mechanism that is safe and accessible to communities including the most vulnerable. Ensure that questions, concerns, complaints and rumours are being reviewed and addressed and used for operational decision making.

Readiness (across Cunene, Cubango, Moxico, and Bie)

If impacted by heavy rain forecasted, support Government in impact assessments.

Disseminate flood risk information and practices to save livelihoods

The operation will mobilize 60 volunteers to implement activities in 4 months, with 2 additional months of reporting.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

The operation will target at least 5,000 people (1,000 HHS) with health and hygiene promotion services for those impacted households and the communities serving as host communities.

The operation will target them with direct relief assistance (cash and hygiene items) as a minimum, to the currently impacted families in Cunene (830 HHS). These includes 306 households that have been impacted (including the 130 reallocated to accommodation centers), and 500 households who have lost their livelihoods and/or are in host communities.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

Due to the impact, it is possible to cover all affected populations. There are no other humanitarian organizations currently supporting. The support will go to the 1000 households currently affected by the floods as recorded in the preliminary information. However, it is expected that more households are actually impacted in Cunene. As needs assessments continue, the response will prioritize beneficiaries as follows:

- Households with female or children heads of household.
- Households with material and human losses.
- Orphans and vulnerable children.
- • Pregnant women.
- Older people.
- People living with disabilities.
- People with chronic diseases.
- More isolated households.

Total Targeted Population

Women	2,580	Rural	-
Girls (under 18)	-	Urban	-
Men	2,420	People with disabilities (estimated)	-
Boys (under 18)	-		
Total targeted population	5,000		



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?	Yes
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
Continued rain impacting access	IFRC risk watch monitoring Readiness activities included in DREF for rapid needs assessments to enable quick scale-up
Integrity issues with Cash Distribution	The National Society is cash ready with approved FSP, strong CEA for planning, beneficiary selection, and distribution.
Protection risks	Safeguarding training for staff and volunteers will be conducted.
Delays in logistical purchases and reporting	Deployment of technical staff to support in key operational areas of logistics, PMER, finance, and operations

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation:

Continued rain may impact access and safety in those areas. Close monitoring of roads accessibility and tracking of alerts issued by the Government on heavy rainfall forecasted will be done. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for volunteers will be essential.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?	No
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Planned Intervention



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 119,310

Targeted Persons: 5,000



Indicators

Title	Target
Number of families assisted with cash	1,000
Percentage of households satisfied with cash assistance	80

Priority Actions

Responding to both loss of livelihoods and loss of essential housing items, the operation will target 1,000HHs impacted by the floods with multi-purpose cash distribution (one time disbursement).

Planned activities are:

1. Market assessment for cash viability in the target areas will be implemented. The assessment will help identifying whether essential items, such as food, shelter materials, and hygiene products, are available in local markets, and if the cash intervention can be effectively used by beneficiaries to meet their needs.
2. Multi-purpose cash distribution to 1,000 families in need.
3. Staff and volunteers from the targeted branches will be trained to ensure they have relevant capacities to carry out the cash activities.
4. Staff and volunteers will use a GBV risk mitigation action for CVA tool in consultation with women.
5. Establish a feedback system.
6. Post distribution monitoring (PDM) will be conducted after each disbursement
7. Training of 15 volunteers in cash distribution and 15 in data collection/PDM.



Budget: CHF 19,101
Targeted Persons: 5,000

Indicators

Title	Target
# of mosquito nets distributed	3,000

Priority Actions

- 1) Health & hygiene promotion sessions in affected communities (activity & indicator shared with WASH)
- 2) Dissemination of information on Cholera and Malaria
- 3) Distribution of Mosquito nets to affected households (1000 households) (3 per household).



Budget: CHF 24,080
Targeted Persons: 5,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of hygiene promotion sessions held	-

Number of households receiving WASH items	1,000
Number of households with access to safe water	1,000
Number of cleaning campaigns done	10
Number of disinfected for safe return	-

Priority Actions

To reduce the risk of disease outbreaks related to contaminated water, ensure safe return of displaced households and reduce future risks.

Key activities:

- 1) Distribution of soap, buckets, purification tablets to 1000 households. Conduct community sensitization and practical training sessions on the correct use, dosage, and safe storage of household water treatment chemicals prior to their distribution.
- 2) Quick health and hygiene promotion sessions (door-to-door and reception points) and community in accommodation sessions and in host communities
- 3) Disinfection and cleaning campaigns in affected communities
- 4) Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM)



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 9,415

Targeted Persons: 5,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of secure reporting mechanism in place	1
Number of vulnerable people referred	-

Priority Actions

To ensure that no one is left behind and that the response does not cause harm.

Activities:

- 1) Rapid mapping of protection risks in reception places (while open and in host communities)
- 2) Referral to local services (health, social care) for cases of GBV and safeguarding
- 3) Set up a secure reporting mechanism (activity shared with CEA)



Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery

Budget: CHF 11,587

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of multisectoral needs assessments undertaken	4



Priority Actions

- 1)Ensure readiness to ongoing flooding.
- 2)Support multisectoral impact and needs assessments.
- 3)Disseminate flood awareness information.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 17,471

Targeted Persons: 5,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of feedback mechanisms available to community (s)	3
Percentage of feedback received and responded to	100

Priority Actions

To ensure that the response is accepted, understood and guided by the community.

Activities:

- 1)Quick community meetings in affected neighborhoods
- 2) Set up a feedback mechanism
- 3)Dissemination of key messages:
 - Prevention of post-flood diseases
 - Correct use of treated water
 - Information on selection criteria for cash
- 4)Creation of feedback and complaints mechanisms:
 - Suggestion box.
 - Community focal points.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 11,424

Targeted Persons: 6

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of monitoring and technical trips	6

Priority Actions

To help the National Society with the implementation, IFRC staff will conduct short technical support and monitoring missions to Angola. The key staff that may need to support include:

- Security officer
- PGI/CEA officer
- Operations officer
- PMER officer
- Finance officer
- Logistics officer





National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 37,133

Targeted Persons: 70

Indicators

Title	Target
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Priority Actions

- 1)Launch of DREF event and lessons learned
- 2)Monitoring visits to the field, 2 per month for 2 months for 3 provinces.
- 3)Branch activity monitoring and reporting.
- 4)Visibility material for all involved staff and volunteers
- 5)10 staff and 60 volunteers active

About Support Services

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

This operation will involve 10 staff 7 HQ: DM coordinator, PMER, finance, health officer, logs. 1 NSD/CEA/PGI, driver; 3 provincial: admin, provincial secretary, driver) and 60 volunteers.

Does your volunteer team reflect the gender, age, and cultural diversity of the people you're helping? What gaps exist in your volunteer team's gender, age, or cultural diversity, and how are you addressing them to ensure inclusive and appropriate support?

Volunteers are active across all provinces in Angola. Those involved in the response are from these same communities, serving in their own communities, ensuring their acceptability within the community.

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

The procurement will be done by the National Society with support from the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) logistics officer. The procurement is done locally. For Cash, the National Society has agreements in place, with the banks for cash distribution.

How will this operation be monitored?

The IFRC Maputo Country Cluster Delegation with the support from the regional office, will work in coordination with the National Society and provide support by monitoring the response. The IFRC is able to conduct coordinated monitoring visits.

The monitoring process will focus on adherence to minimum standards in humanitarian service delivery, compliance to humanitarian principles guiding the Movement's humanitarian operations, timeliness in the delivery of supplies and services to beneficiaries, management of supplies during storage, accuracy, completeness, and timeliness of reporting among others.



Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

The National Society' Communication Strategy for this flood's response operation includes use of social media platforms and updates to the organization's websites. These digital channels will serve as essential tools for real-time information sharing, community engagement, and resource mobilization.

The IFRC will provide crucial support through the communication team and will work closely with the National Society's communication team to optimize the use of social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. This collaboration will involve crafting impactful social media messages, sharing updates on relief efforts, and actively responding to community inquiries and feedback.



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

- Angola Red Cross Floods Response

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	200,964
Shelter and Basic Household Items	0
Livelihoods	0
Multi-purpose Cash	119,310
Health	19,101
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	24,080
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	9,415
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	11,587
Community Engagement and Accountability	17,471
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	48,557
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	11,424
National Society Strengthening	37,133
TOTAL BUDGET	249,521

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)



Contact Information

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

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