



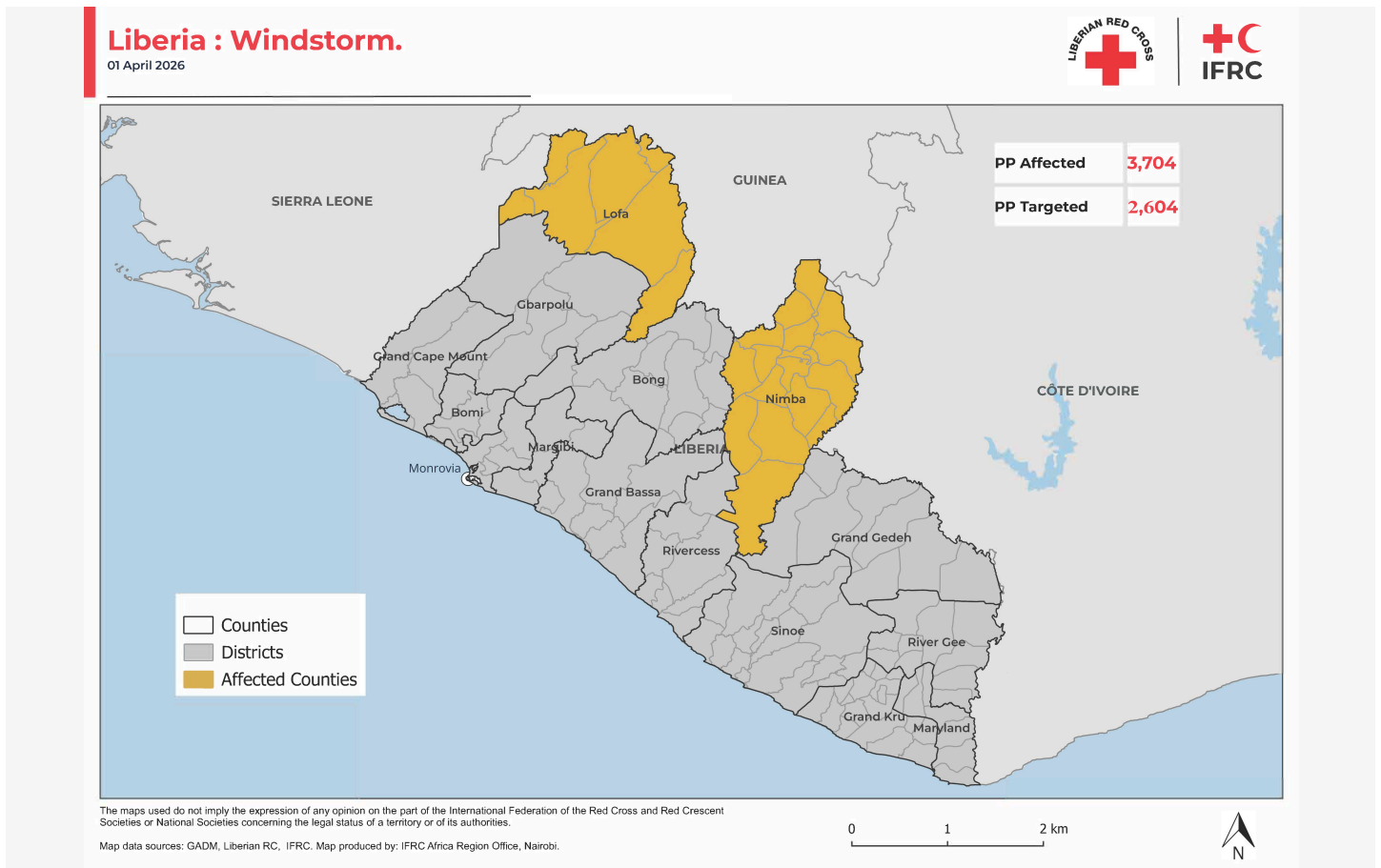
Data collection Nimba County- Windstorm @Liberia RC

Appeal: MDRLR010	Hazard: Storm Surge	Country: Liberia	Type of DREF: Response
Crisis Category: Yellow	Event Onset: Sudden	DREF Allocation: CHF 376,239	
Glide Number: -	People Affected: 3,704 people	People Targeted: 2,604 people	
Operation Start Date: 31-03-2026	Operation Timeframe: 4 months	Operation End Date: 31-07-2026	DREF Published: 09-04-2026

Targeted Regions: **Lofa, Nimba**

Date of event

24-03-2026



What happened, where and when?

Between 19 and 24 March 2026, violent windstorms struck multiple communities in Nimba and Lofa Counties, Liberia, causing widespread damage to fragile housing and displacing numerous families. The storms affected 11 communities, six in Nimba County and five in Lofa County, leaving households exposed to harsh weather and without essential belongings.

A total of 3,704 people (approximately 529 households) were directly affected, including 1,685 men and 2,019 women. Assessments indicate 213 houses were damaged, with 139 partially destroyed and 74 completely destroyed, forcing families to rely on host communities or temporary shelters.

Vulnerable groups including women, children, older persons, pregnant women, and persons with disabilities have been disproportionately affected, increasing protection risks and the urgency for humanitarian assistance. The sudden displacement has also placed severe strain on host families and shelters, where overcrowding and limited resources heighten risks to health, safety, and dignity. Exposure to the elements and disrupted living conditions further elevate the risk of respiratory infections, malaria, and other health hazards.

Immediate humanitarian support is urgently needed to provide emergency shelter, essential non-food items (NFIs), and psychosocial support, while supporting early recovery efforts and strengthening community resilience against future climate-related hazards.





windstorm destroyed Nimba County



SPARK 30C 27mm f/1.6 1/706s ISO115

Houses affected by windstorm in Lofa County



SPARK 30C 27mm f/1.6 1/435s ISO117

Houses affected by windstorm in Lofa County

Scope and Scale

The recent windstorms in Nimba and Lofa Counties have had far reaching effects on lives, livelihoods, and infrastructure, highlighting the vulnerability of rural communities in northern Liberia. The storms have affected over 3,704 people across 11 communities, including children, older persons, pregnant and lactating women, and persons with disabilities, who face the greatest risks due to pre-existing social and physical vulnerabilities.

Rural populations are particularly exposed, as most housing is constructed from locally sourced materials that are highly susceptible to wind damage. Limited infrastructure, poor road connectivity, and scarce resources reduce community capacity to respond quickly to sudden hazards, while disrupted access to markets, health services, and schools compounds the impacts on daily life and wellbeing.

The storms have disrupted livelihoods, particularly among households dependent on subsistence farming and small-scale economic activities. Loss of tools, seeds, and household assets, combined with displacement, has weakened coping mechanisms and increased food insecurity. Women and children face heightened protection risks, while older persons and people with disabilities encounter barriers in accessing aid and safe shelter.

Historically, communities in northern Liberia have faced seasonal windstorms and heavy rainfall, but recent events demonstrate increasing intensity and frequency, placing greater pressure on households with limited resilience. Recurrent damage to fragile housing, along with constrained local resources, continues to exacerbate vulnerability and undermine long term recovery.

The scale of the impact underscores the urgent need for humanitarian support, including emergency shelter, essential non-food items (NFIs), livelihood support, and psychosocial assistance. Beyond immediate relief, strengthening community preparedness, climate resilience, and safer housing practices is essential to reduce the impacts of future hazards and build long term resilience.

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	-
<p>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:</p> <p>-</p>	



Lessons learned:

Lessons from previous DREF operations have been integrated into the operational plan for this current DREF request. These lessons will guide the response team in implementing activities efficiently and effectively, from planning and implementation through to monitoring, reporting, and accountability, ensuring maximum impact. Some of lessons include:

- Community-Inclusive Beneficiary Identification: Engage key community stakeholders alongside NS staff and volunteers to ensure affected communities actively participate in identifying and selecting beneficiaries. This approach promotes fairness and strengthens community ownership of the response.
- Transparent Beneficiary Validation: Establish clear processes for validating and verifying beneficiary lists from the outset. Transparent mechanisms ensure fairness, enhance accountability, and reduce the risk of exclusion or duplication.
- Ongoing Communication with Local Authorities: Maintain continuous updates with local authorities regarding project activities, including distributions. This prevents misunderstandings, ensures alignment, and supports smooth implementation.
- Strengthened Community Engagement and Feedback: Facilitate proper entry into communities through robust Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) strategies. Enhance community feedback mechanisms to ensure that concerns, suggestions, and complaints are addressed promptly and effectively.
- Coordination with Partners: Maintain regular collaboration and information sharing with other humanitarian actors. This helps avoid duplication, leverages complementary capacities, and maximizes the overall effectiveness of the response.

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

24-03-2026

Health	<p>The Liberia National Red Cross Society (LNRCS) has mobilized 44 volunteers, including 1 NDRT member and 3 volunteers in each of the 11 affected communities, to support the response. These volunteers conducted initial assessments and are currently providing first aid services and psychosocial support to displaced and affected populations.</p> <p>As of the time of this DREF request, volunteers have rendered first aid to over 49 individuals and provided psychosocial support to more than 371 people, addressing both immediate physical and emotional needs.</p> <p>This ongoing intervention aims to stabilize vulnerable individuals, alleviate distress, and ensure that urgent health needs are met while additional humanitarian assistance is mobilized.</p>
Coordination	<p>Since the onset of the disaster, the Liberia National Red Cross Society (LNRCS) has been actively engaged in response efforts, working closely with local authorities to ensure timely and effective support to affected communities. The National Society participates in local coordination meetings, where response activities are discussed, aligned, and harmonized with other actors.</p> <p>LNRCS is also coordinating with the IFRC Freetown Delegation and other movement partners, providing regular updates on the evolving situation to ensure information sharing and joint planning.</p> <p>This DREF operation has been guided by findings from the rapid assessment conducted by LNRCS and the outcomes of these coordination meetings, which identified the priority needs of affected populations: emergency shelter, food assistance, essential household items, and early recovery support for the most impacted families.</p>



<p>Assessment</p>	<p>In the immediate aftermath of the windstorms that struck Nimba and Lofa Counties, the Liberia National Red Cross Society (LNRCS) acted swiftly to initiate a localized response. Drawing on its regional presence and community-based network, LNRCS mobilized resources within hours to assess the situation and establish the basis for an effective humanitarian intervention.</p> <p>A team of 44 volunteers and the National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) was deployed to conduct a rapid needs assessment, engaging directly with affected households, traders, and community leaders. The assessment evaluated the extent of damage and identified the most urgent humanitarian needs. Findings revealed severe socio-economic impacts, including widespread displacement, destruction of homes, loss of livelihoods, and urgent gaps in shelter, food, and essential household items.</p> <p>These assessment results have informed the current DREF operation, ensuring that planned activities are evidence based, community informed, and focused on the most vulnerable populations, including children, older persons, persons with disabilities, and pregnant or lactating women.</p>
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IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

<p>Secretariat</p>	<p>The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), through its Country Cluster Delegation in Freetown, has provided comprehensive technical and strategic support to the Liberia National Red Cross Society (LNRC) in response to the windstorm disaster in Nimba and Lofa Counties.</p> <p>The IFRC has maintained close coordination with LNRC, holding regular meetings to guide response planning and ensure that operational decisions are timely and well informed. Support has included technical guidance on rapid needs assessments, ensuring that planned interventions are evidence based and aligned with the actual needs of affected communities.</p> <p>In addition, the IFRC has assisted LNRC in the finalization of situation reports and guided the launch of the DREF, ensuring that humanitarian assistance delivered to affected populations is responsive, targeted, and reflective of identified needs.</p> <p>Through these strategic and operational interventions, the IFRC continues to strengthen LNRC's capacity to deliver effective, accountable, and timely humanitarian assistance. The IFRC Country Cluster Delegation remains fully committed to supporting LNRC throughout the implementation of DREF activities, working closely with the National Society to ensure the effective delivery of aid and to enhance the resilience of communities affected by the windstorm disaster.</p>
<p>Participating National Societies</p>	<p>The Swedish Red Cross, currently the only Partner National Society present in Liberia, has been actively supporting the Liberia National Red Cross Society (LNRC) in responding to the windstorm disaster in Nimba and Lofa Counties. Through its Initial Response Fund (IRF) support, the Swedish Red Cross has enabled LNRC to mobilize volunteers, conduct rapid needs assessments, and initiate early response actions in affected communities. In addition, the Swedish Red Cross has provided technical and operational guidance in the finalization of the national response plan and in the launch of the DREF, ensuring that humanitarian assistance is coordinated, evidence based, and responsive to the needs of affected populations. These contributions have strengthened LNRC's capacity to deliver timely, effective, and targeted relief to the communities most impacted by the disaster.</p>



ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), while not having a direct operational presence in Liberia, provides support through its regional office in Dakar. The situation report on the windstorm disaster has been shared with ICRC to ensure situational awareness and coordination with broader humanitarian efforts. As of the time of the DREF launch, no formal funding commitments had been made by ICRC for this response.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	Yes
National authorities	<p>Local authorities have expressed serious concern over the impacts of the windstorm disaster and actively participated in the initial rapid needs assessment alongside the Liberia National Red Cross Society (LNRC), demonstrating their commitment to the response. Despite this engagement, direct assistance to affected communities has been limited due to resource and funding constraints.</p> <p>The National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA), as the lead coordinating body, has issued a request to humanitarian partners to support immediate response and recovery efforts, emphasizing the urgent need for rapid assistance to restore essential services, shelter, and livelihoods for affected populations.</p>

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

The National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) is the lead authority coordinating the response to the windstorm disaster in Liberia. While the NDMA has informed partners about the ongoing emergencies across the country, a formal national coordination meeting had not yet taken place at the time of the DREF request.

In the meantime, the NDMA has engaged in separate consultations and phone discussions with key partners, including the Liberia National Red Cross Society (LNRC), to mobilize support and ensure alignment of response efforts. The LNRC is actively positioned within these coordination processes, contributing technical guidance, sharing assessment data, and supporting planning for emergency interventions.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

The recent windstorms caused widespread destruction across 11 communities in Nimba and Lofa Counties, damaging fragile housing structures and displacing more than 3,700 people (529 households). Among them, 213 households (1,491 people) had their homes either partially or completely destroyed. Immediate shelter needs are critical, as affected families require tarpaulins, tents, ropes, and basic construction tools to establish temporary shelters and protect themselves from harsh weather conditions. Essential non-food items (NFIs), including blankets, mats, and cooking sets, are also urgently needed to help restore dignity and stability in the short term.

During the early recovery phase, affected households will require durable materials and technical support to rebuild safer and more resilient homes. Key materials include corrugated iron sheets (zinc), roofing nails, tie rods, cement, and molded bricks, along with guidance on improved construction techniques. Integrating disaster resilient designs and the use of locally sourced, eco-friendly materials will help ensure that reconstruction efforts are sustainable, reduce vulnerability to future hazards, and strengthen overall community resilience to recurring climate-related disasters.





Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The recent windstorms have significantly disrupted livelihoods across the affected communities, destroying homes, food stores, and essential household assets. As a result, 529 households (3,704 people) have lost food stocks, cooking utensils, clothing, and basic hygiene items, leaving them unable to meet their immediate survival needs. These losses have increased the risk of food insecurity, malnutrition, and poor sanitation. Limited access to clean water further heightens health concerns and underscores the urgency for humanitarian support.

In addition to displaced households, 85 host families across the 11 affected communities are currently accommodating and supporting affected relatives and neighbours. This has placed considerable pressure on their already limited resources, including food supplies, water, and household items. As a result, both displaced and host households are experiencing increased economic strain and require support to stabilize their living conditions.

Multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) is considered an appropriate and efficient response to address these gaps, as it allows affected households to prioritize their most urgent needs based on their individual circumstances. This may include purchasing food, accessing health services, replacing essential household items, or securing materials for temporary shelter.

In addition, the provision of seeds and basic gardening tools will support women-led backyard gardens as part of early livelihood recovery. This intervention is feasible within the operational timeframe as the rainy season in Liberia typically begins in April and lasts until early October, which is the main planting period for many local crops. Supporting affected households with seeds and tools during this period will enable them to engage in small-scale food production, helping to improve household food availability and reduce reliance on external assistance in the coming months.

Beyond addressing immediate needs, these combined interventions will also support early livelihood recovery, enabling families to restore productive activities and strengthen their resilience while transitioning from emergency relief toward recovery.



Health

The windstorms in Nimba and Lofa Counties have created urgent public health concerns. Injuries from collapsed structures and debris remain a key risk, yet local health facilities are under-resourced and overstretched, lacking capacity to manage trauma cases or a surge in health needs.

Affected families are also experiencing significant psychosocial distress, particularly those who lost homes or were directly injured. There is a pressing need for psychosocial support services (PSS/MHPSS) to help communities recover emotionally and reduce long-term mental health impacts.

Additionally, there is a clear need for health awareness campaigns and community-based health promotion, focusing on hygiene, sanitation, and disease prevention. Particular attention is required for high-risk groups, including children, pregnant and lactating women, older persons, and persons with disabilities.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

The disaster has severely disrupted Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) services, leaving households without access to safe water, functional sanitation facilities, and essential hygiene items. Stagnant water and debris have created mosquito breeding sites, increasing the risk of vector-borne diseases such as malaria and dengue. Overcrowded shelters and limited sanitation raise the risk of waterborne illnesses, including diarrhea and cholera, especially among children and other high-risk groups.

Host families supporting displaced households are experiencing additional strain on limited water points and sanitation facilities, highlighting the need for WASH interventions that reach both displaced and hosting households. There is a critical gap in hygiene promotion and provision of basic WASH items, which increases vulnerability to disease and reduces the effectiveness of early recovery efforts.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

The windstorm has exposed significant Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) needs, particularly among displaced families, many of whom are now living with host households in overcrowded and informal arrangements. This risk is prominent with the presence of



vulnerable groups, including women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, who are disproportionately affected.

These conditions increase the risk of gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, and child protection concerns, especially for women, girls, unaccompanied children, and persons with disabilities. The lack of privacy, limited access to safe and gender-sensitive sanitation facilities, and the absence of formal protection mechanisms further heighten vulnerability.

There is currently no system in place for confidential reporting or referral of protection incidents, and host communities themselves are under strain. Moreover, the absence of disaggregated data limits the ability to identify and respond to specific needs across age, gender, and disability lines. Immediate PGI priorities include establishing community-based protection systems, ensuring access to safe spaces and services for at-risk individuals, and training Red Cross volunteers in protection principles, child safeguarding, and PSEA to ensure a safe, inclusive, and accountable response for all affected populations.



Community Engagement And Accountability

In the wake of the windstorm in Nimba and Lofa, there is an urgent need for targeted, community-centered engagement to ensure that affected populations are well informed, heard, and actively involved in guiding the response efforts. Given the complex displacement situation and the involvement of host households, there is a need to establish timely and trusted communication channels to provide clear information about available assistance and access procedures. To address this, robust two-way communication systems need to be set up, including mobile outreach, community notice boards, and regular face-to-face briefings, to share updates on aid distribution, eligibility, and recovery plans. Equally essential is the implementation of a confidential and accessible complaints and feedback mechanism that enables individuals particularly women, youth, and persons with disabilities to safely voice concerns, contribute feedback, and report any misconduct.

The current underrepresentation of community voices in decision-making highlights the pressing need for inclusive, participatory approaches that actively engage local leaders and marginalized groups in planning and implementation. Strengthening these community engagement and accountability measures will enhance the response's effectiveness and transparency, rebuild trust, and empower communities to lead their own sustainable recovery.

Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

The assessment highlighted areas where additional support is needed to fully meet the urgent needs of communities affected by the windstorms in Nimba and Lofa Counties. While initial response efforts have begun, certain critical sectors including shelter, WASH, health, and livelihoods require additional resources and coverage to reach all affected households effectively.

Resource constraints, such as limited funding, supplies, and trained personnel, have temporarily restricted the scale of interventions, while logistical challenges in accessing some affected areas have further impacted timely delivery of assistance.

The assessment also indicated the need to ensure inclusive support for vulnerable groups, including displaced households, older persons, persons with disabilities, and other marginalized populations, whose specific needs may require tailored approaches to guarantee equitable access to humanitarian assistance.

Recognizing these gaps provides an opportunity to strengthen the response, ensuring that assistance is targeted, efficient, and inclusive, and that the most vulnerable populations receive timely and appropriate support. Addressing these limitations through additional funding and resources will maximize the impact of humanitarian interventions and help communities recover more quickly and sustainably.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The objective of this operation is to provide immediate humanitarian assistance and early recovery support to 2,604 individuals (372 households) affected by the recent severe windstorms in Nimba and Lofa Counties, Liberia.

The four months operation will address urgent needs through the provision of emergency shelter, NFIs, basic needs assistance, hygiene and health support, and multipurpose cash assistance, stabilizing affected households and enabling them to begin the recovery process. Particular attention will be given to vulnerable groups, including women, children, older persons, pregnant and lactating women, and persons with disabilities, ensuring equitable, safe, and dignified access to assistance.



Operation strategy rationale

This DREF operation aims to address the urgent humanitarian needs of households affected by the windstorms in Nimba and Lofa Counties by providing lifesaving assistance while supporting early recovery and strengthening community resilience. The strategy combines emergency shelter support, multipurpose cash assistance, health and hygiene promotion, community engagement, and disaster risk reduction to stabilize affected families and help restore safe and dignified living conditions.

The operation is guided by findings from the rapid assessment conducted by the Liberia National Red Cross Society (LNRC), which identified significant damage to homes, loss of household assets, disruption of livelihoods, and increased health and hygiene risks.

Based on these findings, the response prioritizes interventions that address immediate shelter needs, access to essential household items, food security, health risks, and community preparedness for future hazards.

1. Shelter Support: Target: 213HHs (1,491 People)

The operation will procure and distribute shelter reconstruction materials to 213 households whose homes were either partially or completely destroyed by the windstorms. Shelter assistance will be tailored according to the level of damage identified during the rapid assessment, ensuring that support reflects the severity of needs. Out of the total affected households, 139 houses were partially destroyed. These households will receive a repair package consisting of 1 bundle of zinc sheets, 2 bags of cement, 1 box of roofing (zinc) nails, 1 box of assorted nails, and 4 pieces of timber to support roof and structural repairs. The remaining 74 households whose homes were completely destroyed will receive a larger reconstruction package, including 1 bundle zinc sheets, 3 bags of cement, 1 box of roofing nails, 1 box of assorted nails, and 4 pieces of timber, to support the rebuilding of their homes.

In addition, all 213 households will receive tie wires and tie ropes (twine) to reinforce roofing structures in line with minimum shelter standards in Liberia. To restore basic living conditions, each household will also receive essential household items, including blankets, tarpaulins, sleeping mats, and cooking sets (Type A) to replace items lost during the disaster.

To ensure quality and safety during reconstruction, one skilled laborer will be engaged in each affected community to support vulnerable households, while trained Red Cross volunteers will provide guidance on safe shelter construction practices. Civil protection authorities will provide additional technical oversight to ensure shelter repairs meet safety standards and support community ownership of the reconstruction process. In addition to reconstruction materials, affected households will receive essential household items, including blankets, tarpaulins, sleeping mats, and cooking sets, to replace items lost during the storm and restore basic living conditions.

2. Multipurpose Cash Assistance: Target: 372 HHs (2,604 people)

Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) will be provided to 372 households, including 287 affected households and 85 host families currently supporting displaced people, recognizing the additional strain placed on households that are sharing their limited resources and helps prevent further vulnerability within the community. The objective of the intervention is to enable households to meet their most urgent needs and support early recovery following the crisis.

Each targeted household will receive unconditional cash transfer of USD 203 (approximately CHF 159). This amount is designed to cover three months of essential food needs while also enabling households to access essential hygiene and dignity items. The transfer value is based on market price analysis and operational learning from previous cash interventions. The calculation uses the February 2026 WFP market price monitoring report for staple food items, along with National Society market price data for essential hygiene items commonly provided by suppliers and partners. Based on this analysis, the average cost of essential food items is estimated at LRD 10,382.5 (USD 56.2) per household per month, totaling LRD 31,148 (USD 168.) for two months. In addition, LRD 16,680 (USD 90.28) is allocated to enable households to access essential hygiene and dignity items based on current market prices. These combined costs form the basis of the USD 203 transfer value per household, while also considering potential inflation and price fluctuations.

Cash transfers will be delivered through mobile money platforms, using existing agreements between the Liberian National Red Cross Society (LNRC) and two active mobile network operators (Orange and Africell). This modality ensures a secure, efficient, and transparent distribution process, while reducing logistical constraints associated with in-kind distributions. Support will be provided where necessary to ensure beneficiaries are able to access and use mobile money services safely. Cash assistance provides a flexible and dignified response modality that empowers households to make their own recovery decisions while also supporting and stimulating local markets. The intervention will be informed by market assessments and ongoing monitoring to ensure markets remain functional and able to meet increased demand. Implementation will also receive technical guidance from the IFRC Cash Focal Point to ensure adherence to best practices in cash programming and safe, accountable delivery.

3. Health and Hygiene Promotion: Target: 2,604 people

The windstorms have increased the risk of waterborne and vector-borne diseases due to damaged shelters, overcrowding, contamination risks, and limited access to safe water and hygiene materials.

Displacement and disruption of basic services may expose affected communities to diseases such as malaria, acute watery diarrhea, and cholera, while also increasing psychosocial stress among affected households. The health and hygiene promotion component of the operation therefore focuses on disease prevention, health awareness, basic health support, and psychosocial care, while strengthening community capacity to manage health risks during the recovery period.

To support this response, 60 volunteers will receive a three-day integrated training covering Psychosocial Support (PSS), Community



Engagement and Accountability (CEA), first aid, Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV), and health and hygiene promotion, in collaboration with the local Ministry of Health. This integrated training will equip volunteers with the skills needed to effectively engage communities, deliver key health messages, identify and refer vulnerable individuals, and respond to minor health needs. The trained volunteers will then be deployed across the affected communities to conduct household visits, community awareness sessions, and outreach activities, ensuring that communities receive timely and accurate health and hygiene information. Additionally, considering the NS has used the prepositioned stock for first Aid kits, the operation will replenish First Aid kits to preposition the NS to swiftly respond to any other disaster.

Community health activities will focus on health awareness and hygiene promotion, including key messages on safe water handling and treatment, sanitation practices, handwashing, environmental hygiene, and disease prevention. Volunteers will also support community cleaning campaigns and distribute community cleaning toolkits to help communities maintain cleaner environments and reduce mosquito breeding sites and other public health risks.

To further reduce the risk of malaria and other mosquito-borne diseases, the operation will distribute three insecticide-treated mosquito nets to each of the 287HHs, prioritizing families with children under five, pregnant women, and other vulnerable individuals. In addition, households will receive essential WASH support, including water purification tablets, water storage containers (gallons), and buckets with lids, to improve safe water storage and treatment practices at the household level.

Where windstorms have damaged community water infrastructure, the operation will also support the repair of damaged hand pumps, helping restore access to safe water and reduce reliance on potentially contaminated sources.

Volunteers will also provide basic first aid services during community activities and household visits, supported by the replenishment and provision of additional first aid kits and medical supplies from the National Society's health clinic. Individuals experiencing emotional distress due to the disaster will receive psychosocial support from trained volunteers, with more complex cases referred to existing mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services, including remote support mechanisms such as call centers where available.

Through this integrated approach combining health promotion, WASH interventions, vector control, first aid, and psychosocial support, the operation aims to reduce immediate health risks, prevent disease outbreaks, and support the overall wellbeing of affected communities, while strengthening community awareness and resilience during the recovery period.

4. Community Engagement and Accountability: Target: 372HHs (2,604 people)

Community engagement and accountability will be mainstreamed across all aspects of the operation to ensure that affected populations are informed, consulted, and actively involved in the response. Two-way communication channels will be established to provide clear information on assistance and allow communities to raise concerns, provide feedback, or submit complaints. A community feedback mechanism will ensure that issues are addressed in a timely and transparent manner.

The operation is establish Community committees, who will also support monitoring of activities, including cash distributions and shelter support, helping to strengthen transparency and local ownership. In total, 60 volunteers along with 7 staff and National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members will support assessments, implementation, and monitoring. Volunteers will be equipped with appropriate protective equipment to ensure safe and effective operations.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion: Target: 287HHs (2009 People)

Protection, gender, and inclusion considerations will be integrated across all interventions to ensure that assistance is safe, inclusive, and accessible to all groups. Particular attention will be given to the needs of women, children, persons with disabilities, older persons, and pregnant and lactating women.

A PGI risk analysis will be conducted to identify potential vulnerabilities and protection risks, and volunteers will receive a refresher on PGI minimum standards. Safeguarding policies will be printed and disseminated to staff and volunteers to reinforce prevention of exploitation and abuse and ensure dignity and protection for all beneficiaries.

Red Cross volunteers are central to the implementation of this operation. Branch volunteers will be equipped and trained to conduct community assessments, provide psychosocial support, promote health and hygiene practices, and monitor assistance delivery. As trusted members of their communities, volunteers play a key role in ensuring that interventions are culturally appropriate, inclusive, and responsive to local needs.

Disaster Risk Reduction and Preparedness

To reduce vulnerability to future disasters, the operation will incorporate disaster risk reduction (DRR) and preparedness activities. Community awareness campaigns will promote safe building practices using the Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA) methodology, along with awareness on storm preparedness, fire safety, and sustainable land use. Community-based disaster preparedness structures, including Community-Based Action Teams (CBATs) and early warning systems, will be strengthened to enhance preparedness for future climate-related hazards.

Additional resilience activities will include small-scale Nature-based Solutions (NbS) awareness, volunteer training on environmental approaches to risk reduction, and community awareness on safety and resilience. To support household recovery and nutrition, affected



families, particularly women will receive training on small business development and support for backyard gardening, including seeds and basic tools. These activities aim to strengthen food security and provide sustainable livelihood opportunities for households whose food stores and storage facilities were damaged by the storm.

In summary, the DREF operational strategy combines immediate humanitarian relief with early recovery and resilience-building measures, ensuring that affected households receive timely support while also strengthening their capacity to recover and better withstand future climate-related shocks.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

The operation prioritizes households and individuals most severely impacted by the recent windstorms, with a focus on those facing heightened vulnerabilities and urgent recovery needs. Beneficiary selection will follow transparent, community-driven criteria to ensure fairness, inclusivity, and accountability.

Based on the rapid assessment, the windstorm affected 3,704 people (529 households), including 1,685 men and 2,019 women. The assessment identified 213 damaged houses, of which 139 were partially destroyed and 74 completely destroyed.

Shelter Assistance:

All 213 affected households (house owners) will receive shelter support, including:

- Emergency shelter materials: tarpaulins, tents, ropes, and basic construction tools for temporary shelters.
- Essential non-food items (NFIs): blankets, mats, and cooking sets to meet immediate living needs.

Multipurpose Cash (MPC) Assistance:

Cash support will target 372 households, including:

- 287 severely affected households (2,009 people) who are currently displaced and in need of support
- 85 host families (959 people) accommodating displaced families, whose resources and food reserves are under strain.

Priority will be given to households headed by women or elderly persons, families with young children, persons with disabilities, and those with limited coping capacities. Local leaders and volunteers will actively support beneficiary identification and validation to ensure transparency.

Health and Community Support Activities:

Health awareness, community sensitization, and cleaning campaigns will reach 2,604 people across 11 affected communities in Nimba and Lofa Counties, promoting hygiene, preventing disease outbreaks, and supporting safer living conditions during recovery.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The operation prioritizes households most severely affected by the windstorms and those facing heightened vulnerabilities. The rationale for targeting is based on both the degree of impact and the capacity of households to cope and recover, ensuring that assistance reaches those with the most urgent needs. While the overall affected population is estimated at 3,704 people (529 households) across the 11 affected communities in Nimba and Lofa Counties, direct shelter and NFI assistance will focus on 2,604 people (372 households) whose homes were completely destroyed. These households lost their primary shelter and require immediate support to restore basic living conditions.

Beneficiary identification will be conducted in collaboration with community leaders, local authorities, and Red Cross volunteers to ensure a transparent, participatory, and inclusive selection process, with special attention to vulnerable groups.

Selection criteria include:

- Families whose houses were completely destroyed and are left without shelter (primary target group for shelter and NFI assistance).
- Households whose roofs were completely removed, leaving them fully exposed to harsh weather conditions.
- Families whose roofs and superstructures were severely damaged or collapsed, rendering the house uninhabitable and requiring full reconstruction.
- Single-parent households, particularly women-headed households, who often face additional livelihood and protection challenges.
- Families with persons with disabilities (PWDs), pregnant or lactating women, elderly persons, and young children, given their increased vulnerability and specific needs during emergencies.
- Households currently displaced and living in overcrowded temporary shelters or with host families, placing additional strain on already limited resources.

This approach ensures that lifesaving shelter support is directed to those who have lost their homes, while broader community health and hygiene interventions benefit the entire affected population and strengthen overall community resilience during the recovery phase.



Total Targeted Population

Women	1,328	Rural	87%
Girls (under 18)	-	Urban	13%
Men	1,276	People with disabilities (estimated)	2%
Boys (under 18)	-		
Total targeted population	2,604		

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
Inadequate communication with target population Not communicating beneficiary selection criteria and distribution sites to beneficiaries will lead to high levels of community frustration and undermine the operations.	To mitigate this risk, GBRC will work with the affected communities to ensure that LNRC reputation and trust with communities is protected from the onset.
Market Fluctuations Affecting Cash Assistance: Inflation or price fluctuations in local markets could reduce the purchasing power of multipurpose cash assistance provided to households.	Market assessments and price monitoring will be conducted before and during implementation to ensure that the cash transfer value remains appropriate. Adjustments will be considered if significant market changes occur.
Adverse Weather Conditions: Given that the operation is taking place during a period when storms and heavy rains may still occur, adverse weather conditions could disrupt transportation, delay distributions, and affect reconstruction activities.	LNRC will closely monitor weather conditions and adjust activity schedules where necessary. Pre-positioning of materials and flexible planning will help minimize disruptions and ensure continuity of operations.
Protection and Safeguarding Risks: Cash distributions and relief assistance may create risks related to exclusion, tensions within	Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) principles will be integrated throughout the operation. Clear beneficiary selection



communities, or potential exploitation of vulnerable groups.

criteria, community engagement mechanisms, and confidential complaints and feedback channels will be established to ensure transparency and accountability.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation:

Security management for this operation will adhere to the fundamental principles and humanitarian values of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, ensuring the safety of all staff, volunteers, and beneficiaries throughout the response.

Regular security updates will be conducted, with relevant information shared promptly among field teams and management. Field activities will be continuously monitored in real time through the National Society's information management system, and additional information and communication technologies will be utilized to maintain communication during monitoring and operational missions.

A security risk assessment will be conducted for each operational zone, with risk mitigation measures identified and implemented to address potential threats. All Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers will be encouraged to complete the IFRC Stay Safe online courses, covering personal safety, security management, and volunteer protection, to strengthen preparedness and ensure safe delivery of humanitarian assistance.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?

No

Planned Intervention



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 82,593

Targeted Persons: 1,491

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of HHs receiving shelter reconstruction items	213
% of HHs of affected housed that have reconstructed their houses reported having used the cash for the reconstruction of their home	80
# of Community committee meetings held to discuss and support shelter reconstruction	12

Priority Actions

- Registration and verification of beneficiaries
- Procure and distribute Shelter construction materials including zinc (28 gauge), Cement, roofing/zinc nails, assorted nails, timbers, Tie ropes (twain) and tie wires to 213 Household (1491 people) to support reconstruction of damaged houses
- Procure and distribute Shelter construction skilled labor to support vulnerable families
- Procure and distribute Household items - blankets, Tarpaulins, mats, cooking sets (Type A) to 213 Households
- Safe shelter orientation/training of volunteers.



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 81,246



Targeted Persons: 2,604

Indicators

Title	Target
# of volunteers trained and engaged in cash activities	60
# of households receiving unconditional cash assistance	372
% of HHs who confirmed they are satisfied with Red Cross support cash distribution process	80
# of PDM conducted to gather beneficiary perception on Red Cross support	1

Priority Actions

- Training of 60 volunteers on cash transfer to support community engagement and cash distribution
- Deployment of volunteers for 2 days to support registration and verification of beneficiaries for cash assistance
- Conduct Market assessment and monitoring
- FGD for communities' consultation
- Provide unconditional Cash transfer to 372 households to include 287HHs (2009 people) and 85 host families (595 people)
- Conduct post cash distribution monitoring (PDM)/Satisfaction survey.



Budget: CHF 25,118

Targeted Persons: 2,604

Indicators

Title	Target
# of volunteers trained in First Aid, PSS, CEA, and safeguarding	60
# of PSS sessions conducted	8
# of people in the affected community reached through health and hygiene promotion	2,604
# of HHs who received treated mosquito nets	287

Priority Actions

- Training of 60 volunteers in PSS, First Aid, CEA, and safeguarding
- Provide psychosocial support to affected families for the first month of the operation
- Conduct hygiene and sanitation campaigns twice a month for 4 months to ensure communities, including their water especially as we approach the raining season
- Cleaned up debris resulting from the windstorm
- Health prevention awareness with a message on the prevention and the use of mosquito nets
- Distribution of mosquito nets (3 per HH) to 287 households
- Replenish First Aid Kits





Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 37,976

Targeted Persons: 2,604

Indicators

Title	Target
# of affected HHs provided with mosquito nets	287

Priority Actions

- Provision of water purification tablets
- Provision of water storage gallons
- Provision of buckets with lid
- Community cleaning toolkits
- Repair of damaged hand pumps
- Training for the water management committee on the operation and maintenance of hand pumps to enhance the sustainability of the system.
- Procure and distribute household water treatment chemicals and provide community training on correct use and safe storage.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 5,498

Targeted Persons: 2,604

Indicators

Title	Target
# of PGI risk analysis conducted and vulnerabilities identified	1
# of people reached through PGI awareness sessions for frontline responders	60
# of volunteers provided training on PGI minimum standards	60

Priority Actions

- Conduct a PGI risk analysis to identify vulnerabilities (e.g., women, children, persons with disabilities, displaced groups).
- Refresher on PGI minimum standards
- Ensure Sex, Age, and Disability Disaggregated Data (SADDD) is collected and used for response planning.
- Conduct on-the-ground PGI awareness sessions for frontline responders.
- Ensure safe referral pathways for GBV and child protection cases are mapped and known to staff
- Set up Safe Spaces & Psychosocial Support for Women & Girls, safe spaces for women-headed households, survivors of violence, and adolescent girls.
- Briefings to all staff and volunteers and ensure feedback and reporting mechanisms



Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery

Budget: CHF 21,232



Targeted Persons: 2,604

Indicators

Title	Target
# of volunteers trained and engaged in Nbs	60
# of people reached through awareness on community safety & resilience	2,604

Priority Actions

- Support for small-scale NbS (AA)
- Train volunteers on NbS
- Awareness on community safety & resilience
- Small business training for beneficiaries
- Seeds and tools support for women backyard gardens



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 3,355

Targeted Persons: 2,604

Indicators

Title	Target
# of feedback mechanisms set up in affected communities	3
# of volunteers trained on CEA-RCCE	60
% of feedback collected that are analyzed and responded to by the NS	90
# of people reached through Community Engagement and Accountability for the windstorm response	2,604

Priority Actions

- Train volunteers in CEA and risk communication.
- Hold meetings with affected community stakeholders and target population to engage them on health prevention against waterborne disease risk, good practices.
- Set-up complaints and feedback mechanism to ensure community feedback is considered in the response
- Community preferences on the feedback system to be established, collected during the initial meetings with community leaders and affected households to understand the best communication channel and preferences on the feedback and complaint mechanism.
- Volunteers to engage community and household heads in the community meetings, especially to provide clear explanations of the role of the Red Cross, the support being provided and beneficiary selection criteria.
- A clear communication channel and information on NS intervention will be clearly communicated.
- The feedback collected will also include feedback from PDM survey. All collected feedback will be analyzed proactively to inform actions and operational adjustments.
- Strengthen up three-way communication capacity





Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 27,768

Targeted Persons: 60

Indicators

Title	Target
# of IFRC monitoring and technical support mission conducted	4
# of volunteers engaged in the operation that are insured	60

Priority Actions

- IFRC Cluster Delegation monitoring and technical support missions
- Insurance Volunteers



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 84,178

Targeted Persons: 60

Indicators

Title	Target
# of lessons learnt supported	1
# of security briefings provided to staff and volunteers	2

Priority Actions

- Support NS technical support and oversight missions to affected communities
- Training of NS staff and volunteers on promotion of NbS and establish CBATs
- NS to engage the communities during this response, from targeting to the response
- Conduct regular security briefing for staff and volunteers
- Conduct Lessons learnt to include beneficiaries, volunteers, partners and staff
- Procure Emergency response gadgets ((Safety jacket, life jacket, safety boots)
- Conduct refresher training on Assessment and planning (Needs/Impact/Market-ENAP) for NDRT and Operations Team

About Support Services

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

The operation will actively engage 60 volunteers, seven staff and NDRT members across the two affected chapters to ensure a rapid, effective, and community-centered response.

Volunteers will serve on the frontline, conducting rapid assessments, distributing relief items, supporting shelter rehabilitation, and



providing psychosocial support to affected households. They will also facilitate community engagement and accountability, sharing timely information, collecting feedback, and monitoring protection risks ensuring that vulnerable groups such as women, children, older persons, and persons with disabilities are included and supported.

Three staff and 3 NDRT members will oversee the overall coordination of the operation, liaising with local authorities and partner organizations, managing logistics and procurement, supervising cash distributions, and ensuring reporting and accountability standards are met. They will also provide technical guidance on Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), disaster risk reduction (DRR), and sustainable shelter practices, while supporting volunteers through training, supervision, and operational guidance.

Together, staff and volunteers form the backbone of the operation, ensuring that humanitarian assistance is inclusive, community driven, and responsive to the urgent needs of the 372 affected households.

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?

Yes

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

Procurement for this operation will be carried out by the Liberian National Red Cross Society (LNRCS) in line with its established procedures and processes, while fully adhering to IFRC standards and international best practices. All procurement activities will emphasize transparency, accountability, and value for money, ensuring that goods and services are sourced responsibly, competitively, and in compliance with ethical standards. This approach guarantees that materials are delivered efficiently, meet quality requirements, and uphold the integrity of the operation.

How will this operation be monitored?

The monitoring of this operation will be structured, multi layered, and performance-driven, ensuring strong accountability, transparency, and continuous learning throughout implementation. The Liberia National Red Cross Society (LNRCS) operations team and leadership will oversee all aspects of operational delivery, including implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting. They will work in close collaboration with the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) in Freetown to maintain a performance-based management approach that ensures the quality, effectiveness, and compliance of the response.

At the operational level, the LNRCS Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (PMER) framework will guide monitoring activities through the use of standardized tools and schedules for tracking key performance indicators. The local chapters in Nimba and Lofa Counties will conduct routine field monitoring, tracking shelter reconstruction progress, distribution of assistance, cash transfers, and Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) activities. Volunteers and staff will collect field data and community feedback to ensure that interventions remain responsive to evolving needs. Weekly operational updates will be compiled by field teams and consolidated at headquarters, allowing supervisors to maintain oversight and support timely, evidence-based decision making.

To further strengthen monitoring and technical support, the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation will conduct four planned technical support and monitoring missions during the implementation of the DREF operation. The first mission, led by the IFRC PMER focal point at the early stage of the response, will support the LNRCS team in developing a detailed operational workplan, establishing response tracking and monitoring tools, support PGI assessment, and providing a refresher session for the PMER and DREF team to strengthen monitoring and reporting capacity. The second mission will be conducted by the Operations focal point, who will support the LNRCS in finalizing the distribution plan and will participate in the cash distribution process to ensure operational standards, transparency, and accountability are upheld.

Additional technical oversight missions will be conducted by the Head of Delegation and IFRC Finance team during the course of implementation. These visits will focus on partnership and humanitarian diplomacy, quality assurance, financial oversight, and risk management, ensuring compliance with IFRC financial procedures and strengthening operational accountability.

Throughout the operation, monthly progress reports will be shared with IFRC and LNRCS management to maintain transparency and donor confidence. Key data trends, including beneficiary reach, community feedback, and recovery progress, will be regularly reviewed to adjust strategies, address operational gaps, and enhance the overall effectiveness of the response.

At the end of the operation, the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation will support LNRCS in facilitating a lessons learned workshop involving



staff, volunteers, and community representatives. This session will capture best practices, identify challenges, and generate learning that will inform future emergency responses while strengthening the National Society's preparedness and response capacity.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

The Liberia National Red Cross Society (LNRCS) has designed a comprehensive communication strategy for this operation to ensure transparency, accountability, and strong engagement with affected communities, staff, volunteers, partners, and the public.

At the community level, trusted volunteers in the Nimba and Lofa chapters will share accurate and timely information with affected households, gather feedback, and help dispel rumors. This two-way communication approach ensures that community voices are heard and incorporated into operational decisions, particularly for vulnerable groups, including women, children, persons with disabilities, and older persons.

Within the organization, chapter offices will maintain regular updates with LNRCS headquarters, ensuring consistent messaging and alignment with operational priorities. Data collected through the PMER system, including weekly updates from volunteers and monthly progress reports will be shared with IFRC and NS management, reinforcing accountability to partners and donors.

For external communication, LNRCS will use press releases, radio programs, social media updates, and community meetings to highlight the response, share progress and success stories, and communicate challenges. At the conclusion of the operation, lessons learned will be disseminated through workshops and public reporting to inform future preparedness and response efforts.

Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) as well as Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) principles will be integrated into all communication channels. Messaging will be accessible to persons with disabilities, low-literacy households, and other vulnerable groups, and will include safe and effective feedback mechanisms.

The IFRC will provide technical support on communication, including guidance on media engagement, public messaging, and digital outreach, ensuring that communication efforts are coordinated, transparent, and enhance the visibility of the response.



Contact Information

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

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[Click here for the reference](#)

