



Volunteers responding to flood affected communities | BRCS

EAP №: EAP2025BI02	Early action lead time: 0-10 Days	Operation №: MDRBI027
EAP approved: 27/07/2026	EAP timeframe: 5 Years	Operational timeframe: 3 Months

Budget: 778,786 CHF
To assist: 10,000 people

SUMMARY OF THE EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL

The IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) has approved a total of CHF **778,786 CHF** for the implementation of the **BURUNDI NATIONAL SOCIETY FLOODS EAP**. The approved amount consists of an allocation of **CHF 85,100** for readiness, **CHF 371,227** for 2 rounds of prepositioning and **CHF 322,459** allocated to implement 2 rounds of early actions once the defined triggers are met.

Allocations are made from the Anticipatory Pillar of the DREF, under the DREF appeal code MDR00001. Unearmarked contributions to the DREF are encouraged to guarantee enough funding is available for the Early Action Protocols being developed.

Summary

Over the past decade, Burundi has suffered shocks that have caused enormous human and material damage at an increasingly frequent frequency. The most threatening risks are above all meteorological, climatic, epidemic and geomorphological phenomena. The severity resulting from the combination of the probability of occurrence and the impact of natural shocks often exceeds the capacity for preparation and anticipation to mitigate the impacts of the latter.

Climate and weather events such as floods, landslides, landslides and ravines have resulted in loss of life and other damage. The El Nino phenomenon of 2023-2024 has caused floods and landslides that have affected more than 237,000 people and led to more than 42,000 displaced, 29 deaths and 175 injured people since September 2023 to April 26, 2024¹. Another example is 2019² where more than 13,000 people were affected and 45 deaths were reported, in addition to the losses to crops and public and private infrastructure as a result of the floods.

The Early Action Protocol (EAP) is a tool that allows for the effective and timely implementation of early actions based on specific weather or climate forecasts of extreme events that, if they materialize and no appropriate action is taken, will most likely generate a humanitarian crisis. This crisis can be avoided or mitigated by joint and rapid action by the government, at-risk communities, stakeholders and the National Red Cross Society.

This EAP will be implemented by the Burundi Red cross in coordination with several partners, namely the Government of Burundi through the National Platform for Risk Prevention and Disaster Management, the Geographical Institute of Burundi (IGEBU), United Nations agencies and other actors working in disaster risk reduction. This document is expected to form an essential part of the national and local emergency plans of the Burundian government and the Burundi Red Cross Society.

This Early Action Protocol targets areas at risk of flooding, more specifically the area exposed to the periodic rise of the waters of Lake Tanganyika. The EAP explains the reasons for prioritizing early actions and gives detailed explanations for the selected actions that should be activated when the triggers are reached in a specific order.

¹ UNOCHA Burundi, Flash Update No1, 2024

² UNOCHA Burundi, Flash Update No. 2, 2019

OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

1. Who will implement the EAP - The National Society

The Burundi Red Cross has been a member of the International Federation of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) since 5 April 1963 and recognized the same year by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). To this end, it benefits from the technical, financial, material and human support of the IFRC. To date, the CRB has 680,000 volunteers who can be deployed wherever the need arises. It also provides training for these volunteers with specific updates on themes relating to pre-disaster events. It is important to note that these volunteers can be found on all the hills of the country. In the event of the triggering of the EAP, the volunteers will be deployed immediately for the implementation of the early actions. Also, once the EAP is activated, the DO and Relief Directorate, in collaboration with the Directorate of Programmes, will mobilize the staff of the other Coordination (Water, Hygiene and Sanitation, Health, Protection, Logistics and Communication) to coordinate the implementation of the predefined actions and will be supported in the implementation by the provincial secretaries based in the provinces concerned. Thus, a total of 15 staff will be mobilized to implement the actions in the event of activation.

In terms of equipment and infrastructure, the CRB has offices at all levels and rolling stock, computer equipment with teams trained for this purpose, training centres, centres for the supervision and professionalization of volunteers/rescue centres, but also logistical and operational capacities

It should be noted that the BRC has several partners within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (IFRC, ICRC, CRBe CF, CRBe Flanders, CRF, CRLux, CRE, CRFin) who will be consulted and requested to support as necessary in the implementation of the EAP once the trigger levels have been reached.

For more than 60 years, the BRC has been conducting activities that can be adjusted to the AA approach. These activities fall into the following areas

- a. Assistance to the most vulnerable
- b. Relief Operations (Floods / Displaced / Drought / Refugees)
- c. Hygiene, water and sanitation activities
- d. Community Health, Protection, Gender and Inclusion
- e. Food security and livelihoods
- f. First Aid Training

2. How the EAP will be activated – The Trigger

The EAP's pre-activation trigger starts between November and December if the lake level variation reaches 5.5 m and both the ICPAC and IGEBU monthly forecasts indicate that rainfall will be above average. The triggering of early actions (activation) occurs when the variation of the Lake Tanganyika water level at the port of Bujumbura reaches 6 m, and when an upward trend in lake levels has been observed since the pre-activation, and finally when basin-wide monthly forecasts from ICPAC, and IGEBU indicate above-average rainfall.

Pre-activation actions are preparation actions that should be taken as activation approaches. Once the triggers are reached, the information is communicated, and the effective implementation of the early action follows. The EAP also includes a stop mechanism. If, during the week following activation, observed lake levels decrease steadily and fall back to 5.5 m, and updated IGEBU forecasts indicate a lower probability of severe flooding, early actions can be suspended.

3. How the EAP will reduce the impact on the population – The Early Actions

In view of the priority impacts selected, the PAP proposes to implement a number of early actions. The objective of these actions is to reduce the potential impacts considered, namely the destruction of homes, the loss of material property, the risk of water-related diseases and deaths related to house collapses.

The selection of early actions was made in a participatory approach following a multi-stage process, namely the work carried out by the National Disaster Response Team (NDRT), consultations with state actors and meetings with communities. Thus, as a first step, the NDRT team carried out a document review and an analysis of secondary data in order to identify historical actions that had had convincing results. For the second stage, stakeholder and community consultations were held to identify early actions together.

This choice was made by the national society with the support of its partners through technical meetings and a report on the historical impacts of the floods in Burundi.

The following actions were agreed:

- Installation of emergency shelters at evacuation sites
- Distributions bags for the protection of household legal and administrative documents
- Raising awareness on and supporting early harvesting
- Installation of garbage cans and bladders in evacuation sites,
- Construction of emergency latrines in evacuation sites,
- Community awareness on waterborne disease prevention and control
- Provision of wash kit and decontaminations products
- Distribution of dignity kits in evacuation sites
- Dissemination of early warning messages,
- Cleaning drainages
- Evacuation

PLANNED OPERATIONS

 Shelter, Housing and Settlements	Female:	2,684	160,597 CHF
	Male:	2,476	AP Code: 005
Indicator:	[5,160] Number of people reached with shelter, housing and settlement interventions in advance of a hazard		
Readiness Activities:	1. Training of 6 teams on shelter, evacuation sites management 2. Identification of evacuation sites 3. Refresher trainings shelter, evacuation sites management		
Prepositioning Activities:	1. Acquisition of emergency shelter kits 2. Acquisition of plastic sheeting 3. Acquisition of NFIs (Kitchen kits, sleeping kits) 4. Acquisition of bags for the protection of household legal and administrative documents		
Priority Early Actions:	1. Installation of emergency shelters and distribution of NFI		

2. Distribution of bags, for the protection of households legal and administrative documents

 Livelihoods	Female:	1,274	173 CHF
	Male:	1,176	AP Code: 081
Indicator:	[2,450] Number of people reached with livelihoods interventions in advance of a hazard		
Readiness Activities	N/A		
Prepositioning Activities	N/A		
Priority Early Actions:	1. Raising awareness on and supporting early harvesting		

 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	Female:	2,683	184,665 CHF
	Male:	2,477	AP Code: 111
Indicator:	[5,160] Number of people reached with WASH interventions in advance of a hazard		
Readiness Activities:	1. Training 6 teams on wash in emergency, 2. Refresher training 3. Tanker truck repair for water trucking,		
Prepositioning Activities:	1. Acquisition and pre-positioning of WASH kits 2. Acquisition and pre-positioning of bladders 3. PPE acquisition and pre-positioning (boots, salopettes, gants, lunettes de protections) 4. Acquisition and pre-positioning of equipment and disinfection products 5. Restocking chlorine after two years 6. Acquisition of garbage cans/dumps for evacuation sites		
Priority Early Actions:	1. Installation of garbage cans in evacuation sites 2. Installation of bladders in evacuation site 3. Construction of emergency latrines in evacuation sites, 4. Community awareness on waterborne disease prevention and control 5. Fuel for water trucking 6. Distribution of wash kit and decontaminations products		

 Protection, Gender and Inclusion	Female:	1872	59,580CHF
	Male:	1728	AP CODE 117
Indicator:	[2,600] Number of people reached with PGI interventions in advance of a hazard		

Readiness Activities:	1. Training 2 teams on PGI and raising awareness of 50 volunteers on code of conduct
Prepositioning Activities:	1.Prepositioning of 200 reusable dignity kits
Priority Early Actions:	1.Distribution of 200 dignity kits

 Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and recovery	Female:	2683	103,044 CHF
	Male:	2477	AP Code: 103
Indicator:	[5,160] Number of people reached with risk reduction and/or climate adaptation interventions in advance of a hazard		
Readiness Activities:	1. Training/retraining of response teams at all levels (NDRT, BDRT, CDRT) on the disaster management cycle 2. Retraining response teams at all levels (NDRT, BDRT, CDRT) on the disaster management cycle 3. Training and operationalization of community committee for disaster risk reduction in flood risk areas 4. Creating awareness on channels for access of early warning messages 5. Training of volunteer teams on hydrometeorological monitoring 6. Acquisition of hydrological monitoring tools 7. Training of volunteers on the design and dissemination of early warning messages 8. Retraining of volunteers on the design and dissemination of early warning messages 9. Update of media partnership agreements for dissemination of information 10. Design early warning messages 11. Community awareness on what to do in the event of flooding.		
Prepositioning Activities:	1.Acquisition of 50 tools (Megaphones, Sifflets, tambours, sirens) for disseminating early warning messages, Acquisition and pre-positioning of 260 drainage cleaning equipment 2.Design and print 250 IEC equipments		
Priority Early Actions:	1. Activation of preparation and anticipation teams at all levels 2. Hydrological monitoring and data sharing by trained volunteers 3. Cleaning drainages in high-risk area 4. Dissemination on early warning information and distribution of IEC materials.		

 Community Engagement and Accountability	Female:	2863	4,745 CHF
	Male:	2477	AP Code129
Indicator:	[5,160] Number of people reached with community engagement and accountability interventions in advance of a hazard		
Readiness Activities:	3 sessions of training of the operators of the hotline on the mechanisms for managing and reporting information 2 sessions of creating awareness on the existence of the Community outreach on the hotline Line		
Prepositioning Activities	N/A		
Priority Early Actions:	1. sessions of dissemination on hotline number to prioritize to communities		

Enabling approaches

 Coordination and Partnerships	28,755 CHF		
	AP Code: 122		
Readiness Activities:	1.1 Meeting with NS management teams and branches to launch the EAP. 1. Meeting with government authorities and humanitarian and development agencies to launch the EAP		
Prepositioning Activities	N/A		
Priority Early Actions:	1. Coordination meetings between actors		

 Secretariat Services	49,746 CHF		
	AP Code: 122		
Readiness Activities:	1.IFRC monitoring costs IFRC staff		
Prepositioning Activities:	N/A		
Priority Early Actions:	3 monitoring visits		

 National Society Strengthening	Female:	NA	187,483 CHF
	Male:	NA	AP Code: 124
Readiness Activities:	2. 1 Training for staff in logistic management 3. NS staff		
Prepositioning activities:	1. Visibility and protective materials of volunteers (visibility vests, caps, T-shirts, bags, salopettes) 2. Procure additional security equipment especially for warehouse section		
Priority Early Actions:	1. Fuel for operations, monitoring and coordination 2. Have staff and volunteers sign the SN Code of Conduct 3. Insurance of volunteers involved in operations 4. Lessons Learned Workshop		



Early Action Protocol Summary

Code - National Society

Hazard

EA Protocol - IFRC

Operating Budget

	Readiness	Pre-Pos Stock	Early Action	TOTAL
Planned Operations	21,552	362,601	128,650	512,802
Shelter and Basic Household Items	2,157	157,577	863	160,597
Livelihoods	0	0	173	173
Multi-purpose Cash	0	0	0	0
Health	0	0	0	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	173	66,999	117,493	184,665
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	1,725	57,510	345	59,580
Education	0	0	0	0
Migration	0	0	0	0
Risk Red., Climate Adapt. and Recovery	15,628	80,514	6,901	103,044
Community Engagement and Accountability	1,869	0	2,876	4,745
Environmental Sustainability	0	0	0	0
Enabling Approaches	63,549	8,627	193,809	265,984
Coordination and Partnerships	1,150	0	27,605	28,755
Secretariat Services	48,021	0	1,725	49,746
National Society Strengthening	14,378	8,627	164,479	187,483
TOTAL BUDGET	85,100	371,227	322,459	778,786

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

Contact information.

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

In the Burundi National Society

- **Secretary General** (or equivalent); **Anselme KATIYUNGURUZA**, Telephone: +25779924108, Email: anselme.katiyunguruza@croixrouge.bi
- **Operational coordination: Désiré HABONIMANA** Rescue Director, Telephone: +25779902221, Email: desire.habonimana@croixrouge.bi

In the IFRC

- **IFRC Lead, Preparedness & Response; Health and Disaster, Climate, and Crisis Unit:** Kwan Ho Lam kwanho.lam@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Country Cluster Support Team: Ariel Kestens**, Head of delegation, Email, ariel.KESTENS@ifrc.org téléphone: +41799554312
- **IFRC Country Cluster Delegation: IFRC Regional Office for Africa AA coordinator: Emma Mwangi.** Coordinator, Regional Anticipatory Action, Email: emmah.mwangi@ifrc.org, Téléphone : +254720966680
- **Point focal de la FICR à Genève :** Malika Noisette, DREF AA Senior Officer, malika.noisette@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledge support:

- **IFRC Head of Regional Strategic Engagement and Partnerships:** Franciscah Cherotich Kilel; Email: franciscah.kilel@ifrc.org

For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

- **IFRC Africa Regional Office for Logistics Unit:** Nicolas Boyrie, Head, Global Humanitarian Services & Supply Chain Management, Africa Region, nicolas.boyrie@ifrc.org, +41 79 152 5147

For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting enquiries)

IFRC Regional Office for Africa Beatrice Okeyo, Regional Head of PMER & QA, beatrice.okeyo@ifrc.org, Phone: +254 732 404022