

# SIMPLIFIED EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL FINAL NARRATIVE REPORT

# **NIGERIA | FLOOD**

2025



Nigerian Red Cross volunteers accompanied by IFRC moving to a flood affected community in Nasarawa state to conduct a beneficiary targeting and registration exercise. Photo credit: Mercy Babalola IFRC.

SEAP №: EAPYYYYCO00	sEAP timeframe: 2 Years	Period covered by this annual report:  October 2022 - December 2024
sEAP approved: 23/08/2022	Operation №: MDRNG035	14/10/2022 to 31/12/2024

Annual Budget: 220,000 CHF

sEAP Budget: 220,000 CHF

#### SUMMARY OF THE SIMPLIFIED EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL



The IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated CHF 220,000 for the implementation of anticipatory actions to reduce and mitigate the impact of riverine floods in Nigeria in August 2022. This simplified Early Action Protocol (sEAP) includes an allocation of CHF 206,573 to preposition stock and undertake annual readiness activities to implement early actions when the trigger is reached. The early actions to be conducted have been pre-agreed with the National Society and are described in the simplified Early Action Protocol [IFRC GO - Emergency].

The project is anchored on partnerships with relevant stakeholders who produce the forecasts needed while the programme team monitors the trend of weather and hydrological events and supplies the selected

communities with early action messages to enable timely readiness and mitigation of the impacts of the floods. The key partners who worked with the NRCS and IFRC programme team include the Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency (NiHSA), Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet), National Orientation Agency (NOA), Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development (FMoHA), National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), IFRC Climate Centre, and the International Rescue Committee (IRC).

This report summarizes the annual readiness and prepositioning activities done in the reporting period.

#### **EAP Floods Activities:**

#### **Project Inception Meeting**

In kick starting the s-EAP activities, an inception meeting was organized in January 2023 by the IFRC project manager to facilitate overall understanding of the project. The DREF team in a virtual meeting introduced the project to both NRCS and IFRC staff to enable them to understand their various roles in the project. The team made presentations on the project overview, objectives, and strategies for implementation. NRCS and IFRC staff members were drawn from finance, procurement and logistics, disaster management, CEA/PGI, and PMER to attend the meeting. The meeting ended with a Q&A session where questions raised were answered and the next steps discussed to the understanding of the participants who pledged their support to the implementation of the project. The team went further to develop the project implementation plan with tentative timelines and shared it with focal persons. A total of 11 staff members (7 NRCS and 4 IFRC) attended the meeting.

#### **Meeting with Stakeholders**

A meeting was held with the relevant government stakeholders to brief them on the project and the need to coordinate efforts towards a successful flood emergency management and response. The meeting was held in the NRCS conference hall on the 10<sup>th</sup> of August 2023. The partners were briefed on the IFRC approach to Anticipatory Action and how the project will be rolled out. The stakeholders that attended the meeting include Nigeria Meteorological agency (NIMET), Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency (NIHSA), and Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs (FMHADMSD). The partners also presented on their various activities and gave contacts of focal points in their organizations for further engagements.

#### **Selection of Programme Implementation Locations**

The prioritized geographical areas for the simplified EAP are Adamawa, Kaduna, Kwara, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Benue, Nasarawa, Delta, Kano, Yobe and Taraba. After comparing the Climate Center forecast with the data from NIHSA annual floods outlook (AFO) and NIMET, four states were selected which are Adamawa, Akwa Ibom, Edo, and Nasarawa, out of which three were to benefit from the sEAP implementation depending on where the trigger would be activated. The four states were predicted to experience heavy floods in the months of July, August and September 2023.

#### **Training of NRCS Branches**

A virtual meeting and training of trainers was organized with twelve branches comprising of branch secretaries, disaster management coordinators, communications officers, and CEA officers. 36 staff members attended the training. The branches were trained in CVA selection criteria, registration, emergency evacuation, code of conduct, PGI and PSEA. The training conducted by the IFRC project manager and supported by NRCS CEA and DM focal points was conducted to introduce the programme to the staff and volunteers and to train the branches on the implementation.

#### **Trigger Activation Notice**

The Nigerian Red Cross Society activated its Early Action Protocol for Floods in the week of September 9, 2024, after forecasts received from Glofas, NiMet, IRC, and other sources were triangulated and found to be predicting high probabilities for floods in Adamawa and Nasarawa states. IFRC supported the NRCS team to prepare an activation notice which was shared with the DREF officers and was duly approved. The approval paved way for the commencement of early action activities.

The IFRC/NRCS team quickly mobilised and deployed to the affected states where community engagement activities along with floods message dissemination were conducted for two days after which cash distribution activities followed. The financial service provider (FSP) TASSHI Development Limited equally deployed their staff in the states and notified their bankers to provide ready cash to their agents once the approval for cash distribution was given by IFRC/NRCS.

#### **Community Entry and Accountability/Floods sensitization**



IFRC/NRCS staff during community entry and advocacy with a community leader in Nasarawa State

The IFRC/NRCS CEA team conducted advocacy visits to community leaders in the various states and community sensitization on early warnings and flood prevention strategies.4,500 posters were produced in two local languages (Hausa, Pidgin) and English, and were distributed (1,500 in each state) in the communities by volunteers. While that was ongoing, the radio/media houses were prompted, and they started the airing of jingles in selected stations in the states.



Cross section of community members reading flood poster in their community

#### **Beneficiary Targeting and Registration**

The team registered 4,000 beneficiaries (1,500 households in Adamawa & Nasarawa state, and 1,000 households in Edo state). The team used questionnaires uploaded on kobo tool to collect information from the beneficiaries. The Information Management (IM) team of the NRCS trained the volunteers on data collection and cash distribution procedures and conducted refresher training on Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) before the activity started. The registration exercise was conducted over two days and beneficiaries were selected based on the following criteria:

Those whose houses, businesses or livelihoods (farms) are located along waterways and have been affected by floods in previous years. This includes:

- Aged and elderly people (60 years and above).
- Sick and bedridden heads of households (6 months & above).
- Female headed households.
- Pregnant and lactating women.
- Child headed households.
- Unaccompanied children.



NRCS volunteers during registration exercise in Toto community, Nasarawa State

#### **Cash Distribution**

Cash distribution activities started two days after beneficiary registration was concluded. The financial service provider (FSP) staff visited the distribution locations and worked with IFRC/NRCS staff to verify and distribute cash to the affected households. 4,000 households each received NGN 50,000 in direct cash/cash-in-hand modality. The modality was selected to ensure that the beneficiaries did not need to walk around looking for point of sales (POS) terminals in the wake of the emergency. Secondly, because the FSP is the only one that could access remote communities and had agreed to travel with cash on water.



NRCS staff conducting beneficiary verification before cash distribution

#### **Post Intervention Engagement with Communities**

The IFRC/NRCS CEA team conducted a post distribution engagement with the community members where they collected feedback, audio visual content and success stories on the impact of the intervention. The videos and photos connected to this activity are found in the link below:

<u>Translated s-EAP audio visual success story - google drive</u> <u>Nasarawa s-EAP stories.docx</u>

#### **Post Distribution Monitoring**

Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS), in collaboration with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) conducted a Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) to:

- ascertain the extent to which the CVA addressed the identified needs of beneficiaries, such as food security, shelter, and livelihood recovery;
- assess the efficiency and effectiveness of the distribution process, including the targeting of beneficiaries, the timeliness of distribution, and the transparency and accountability of the process;
- measure the level of satisfaction among beneficiaries with the CVA and the support received; and
- identify any challenges encountered during the CVA distribution & PDM and draw lessons for future interventions.

#### The PDM report is attached to this final report.

#### **Lessons Learned Workshop**

The Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS) with support from the IFRC organised a lessons learned workshop in December 2024 to collect feedback from partners and other stakeholders on the implementation of the simplified early action protocol (sEAP) project that started in October 2022 to December 2024.

The two-year project was implemented in three states in Nigeria including Adamawa, Edo and Nasarawa. The states were carefully selected with the support of the Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency NiHSA who provided data on states with high risk of flood occurrences in Nigeria through their annual floods outlook (AFO 2022 – 2024). The three states benefited from the readiness/preparedness activities, prepositioning of items for contingencies, and the implementation of the early action activities including beneficiary selection, early action messaging/flood information dissemination, and cash distribution of fifty thousand naira to 4,000 households in the three selected states.

The objective of the workshop was to:

- Provide an opportunity for stakeholders to meet and to share experiences from implementing the early actions and learn from their different perspectives.
- Identify key achievements and challenges and make recommendations for improving future DREF and other disaster response operations.
- Identify key recommendations which can be used as the basis for the revision and revalidation of the Early Action Protocol.
- Provide an opportunity to raise awareness and 'buy in' to the EAP from the whole of the National Society.



Cross section of participants during the Lessons Learned Workshop in Abuja, December 2024

# **SUMMARY OF ANNUAL PROGRESS BY PLANNED OPERATION**

CHF preposition budget: CHF preposition actual:

0

1,234

**Multi-purpose Cash** 

CHF readiness budget: CHF readiness actual:

3,695

CHF early action budget: CHF early action actual:

136,217

**Total budget MPC** 141,144 **Total expenditure** 130,220.34

#### Narrative description of plan vs achievements

#### **Training of volunteers:**

Twenty NRCS staff and 60 volunteers were trained at the peak of the rainy season (August 2023) as part of the readiness activities. The training was conducted on CVA selection criteria, registration, emergency evacuation, code of conduct, PGI and PSEA. The volunteers further cascaded the training to their communities.

#### **PGI Sensitive CVA Training**

In June 2024, 60 volunteers and staff were trained in PGI sensitive CVA check list in Adamawa, Akwa Ibom, Edo, and Nasarawa state. Also, 60 volunteers and staff were given a refresher training in September 2024 to prepare them for the activation of early action activities including beneficiary registration and cash transfer.

#### Financial Service Provider (FSP) procurement

Financial service providers play a critical role in the early action activities because they facilitate the process of cash transfers/distribution to the beneficiaries. To enable them stand to their responsibilities, the team organized a meeting with the three financial service providers in separate sessions. The FSPs were taken through the sEAP implementation strategies and what roles they were expected to play. A non-banking FSP (TASSHI) was selected because of their proven expertise in direct cash transfer. TASSHI accepted to comply with the requirements of the project, and a total of CHF 114,488.55 was transferred to the FSP for cash distribution during the early action activities. The FSP however returned the amount when the activity was not conducted because the trigger was not reached in year 1.

In year 2 however, the trigger was activated and the FSP received the funds and conducted cash distribution in the Three selected states. NGN200,000 (CHF) was transferred to the FSP and 4,000 beneficiaries received about CHF 25.20 (NGN50,000) per household.

#### **Visibility and Protective Equipment**

To enhance visibility, 50 Nigerian Red Cross jackets were procured for the use of volunteers during the early action activities. The items were prepositioned in Adamawa, Akwa Ibom, Edo, and Nasarawa state.

#### Transfer of Cash to FSP

The IFRC Abuja Country Delegation transferred the sum of CHF 114,488.55 to the financial service provider (TAASHI) for cash distribution after the activation of the trigger.

The FSP received the funds and conducted cash distribution in the Three selected states. 4,000 households received CHF 25.20 (NGN50,000) per household in September/November 2024.

Risk Reduction,
climate
adaptation and
Recovery

CHF preposition budget:	CHF preposition actual:
0	0
CHF readiness budget:	CHF readiness actual:

#### Narrative description of plan vs achievements

Risk reduction and climate adaptability activities were conducted to prepare communities ahead of disasters. These activities are:

#### **Training of Staff on Risk Watch and Trigger Mechanism**

The IFRC Climate Centre supported in the training of IFRC and NRCS staff on risk watch and trigger mechanism in September 2023. Seven NRCS and four IFRC staff were trained. The training enabled the participants to read and interpret flood forecast information. Also, the Climate Centre added the contacts of both IFRC and NRCS staff to their forecast mailing list and all received daily forecast information over a period of three months from August to October 2023, and from June to October 2024.

#### **Community Consultation on Early Warning System**

IFRC and NRCS programme staff were deployed to four branches (Adamawa, Akwa Ibom, Edo, Nasarawa) where they held community consultation meetings with community heads and members. The team worked with the NRCS branch volunteers in the four states to visit the selected communities. During the community entry and consultative meeting, the programme officers explained the objectives of the programme and how the programme aimed to prepare the community to respond effectively to flood emergencies. The community people were guided to form community resilience committee (CRC), and floods management committee. The team sensitized the communities and conducted floods simulations for members with practical training at the riverside in the various communities. The aim was to enable members practice the steps for emergency rescue using the various local resources available. The teams also visited the State Emergency Management Agencies (SEMA) in the states to familiarize and to solicit governments support in the project implementation. The team in Adamawa and Akwa Ibom states had a media briefing where they were on air sensitizing the public about floods on the simplified early action project and how the participants would benefit.

During the early action activation in September and October 2024, the NRCS led the team to community leaders who helped sensitize the communities and disseminate the early action messages widely.

(max)	CHF preposition budget:	CHF preposition actual:
	0	0
Community Engagement and		
Community Engagement and	CHF readiness budget:	CHF readiness actual:

#### Narrative description of plan vs achievements

#### **Production of Jingles**

The NRCS communication team with support from IFRC produced jingles and aired them during the early action activities. The jingle was produced in various Nigerian languages (Pidgin, Hausa, and English) for easy understanding by the target population and was aired on radio stations in the affected states.

Also, 450 information, education, and communication materials (IEC's) were produced in the major languages (Hausa and pidgin English) and kept ready for distribution during early action sensitization activities.

During the early action activities, jingles were aired in the three states and the IECs were equally distributed to community members and the volunteers pasted some on walls and trees for those who did not receive copies.

# **Enabling approaches**



CHF preposition budget:	CHF preposition actual:
0	0
CHF readiness budget:	CHF readiness actual:

#### Narrative description of plan vs achievements

The IFRC supported the national society throughout the programme's implementation, which included community entry across four states, community sensitization, flood simulation exercises, volunteer training on PGI-sensitive CVA, beneficiary selection and registration, cash distribution, post-distribution monitoring, and a lessons learned workshop.

	CHF preposition budget:	CHF preposition actual:
FC.	9,393	6,831.35
National Society Strengthening	CHF readiness budget:	CHF readiness actual:
	17,620	29,080.14

#### Narrative description of plan vs achievements

#### **Procurement of prepositioning materials**

Materials including communication modems, data collection phones, rainboots, raincoats, and visibility jackets were procured and prepositioned in the four sEAP states where they were utilized when the trigger was activated.

#### **Visibility Materials**

The NRCS procured and distributed 50 bibs for the use of volunteers in three branches.

# CHALLENGES, LESSONS LEARNED, PROPOSED AJUSTMENTS

#### **Trigger Activation**

A major challenge in Year 1 was the flooding caused by the opening of the Lagdo Dam in Cameroon, which affected communities in Adamawa and Nasarawa states. Despite the devastation, the National Society (NS) could not respond to the disaster because the opening of the dam was not included in the proposal as a trigger. Flooding occurred along the riverine communities in both states, which were selected as SEAP target states, and readiness activities had been conducted there. It was difficult to explain to the affected communities why the NS could not provide an immediate relief response, as they were expecting assistance and did not understand the SEAP implementation strategies. Additionally, ocean surges caused devastation in Edo state, but no response activities had been planned. However, sensitization efforts, supported by the media, were conducted in Adamawa to guide affected persons in managing the floods.

#### **Training Budget**

The IFRC Climate Centre supported the project implementation team by providing training on Risk Watch and the Trigger Mechanism. However, the Climate Centre team was unable to conduct in-person training, which is considered more effective. To ensure full support for the implementing team, it is necessary to include staff from the Climate Centre in the project budget.

#### **Beneficiary Number and Transfer Value Increased**

The rising inflation in Nigeria led to currency devaluation which adversely affected the value of the naira. The value of Naira to Dollar at the inception of the project was around NGN 450. However, in 2024 when the trigger was activated, Naira was 1,700 to 1 Dollar. The currency gains necessitated the national society to increase the number of beneficiaries from 1,500 to 4,000, and the cash transfer value from NGN30,500 to NGN 50,000.

#### **Proposed Adjustments**

The conditions for trigger activation should include flooding caused by opening of dams and ocean surge. With expanded trigger points, we will be able to activate in the event that one trigger does not come true.

IFRC Climate Centre training support should be included in the budget.

#### Scale up /More Beneficiaries

It would be beneficial to consider including more beneficiaries in the project, as 1,500 HHs (7,500 individuals) represents only a small fraction of the affected population.

#### **Consider Community Based Approach**

The team observed that community-based approach would be more helpful in building community resilience to floods disaster management. Individuals who received support channelled them to their personal endeavours and did not commit to building structures like dykes, clearing of drainages etc that could benefit the community at large. For example, including budgets for group cash transfers would significantly enhance the impact of the project. **Hire a dedicated hydrologist** 

The importance of having a dedicated hydrologist cannot be overemphasized. The hydrologist will commit to information gathering and data analysis particularly to inform team members on the appropriate measures to take. Team members who were not trained in the area struggle with understanding and interpreting forecast data which in most cases were highly technical.

#### **Lessons Learned**

- The collaboration with federal and state government agencies helped to give the project a wider visibility.
- Media engagement helped the project to sensitize a large audience which volunteers and staff would not have been able to achieve in a little time.
- Community people are willing to cooperate when they understand the impending disaster risks that surround them, but they lack the resources to organise themselves against such risks. It will be beneficial to support the communities with materials that will help them during emergencies like floods e.g., sandbags, local boats, ropes, floating objects, etc.
- Understanding and planning community engagements/activities according to the community's timetable
  helps community participation. Some community members were found to be absent during the time the
  implementing teams visited their communities. Teams must be aware of the communities farming and
  fishing activities, festivities, and market days, etc. This will aid full participation of community members.
- To get the full participation of community heads and members, a budget needs to be provided for their engagement and refreshments.
- More efforts are required from the programme team to educate people and make them understand that early action projects are not about cash transfer but establishing a community-based approach and

- preparing the communities to fight disasters. Community people will often expect to receive money and are often discouraged when money is not involved.
- Designing early action messages in the local language is very effective in aiding understanding. Community people in a survey indicated that they prefer to receive information or communication in their local language.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

FUNDS AND INCOME: 220,000 CHF; TOTAL EXPENDITURE: 160,858

#### **Contact information**

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

#### **At Nigeria Red Cross Society**

- Secretary General: Abubakar Kende, e-mail: <a href="mailto:secgen@redcrossnigeria.org">secgen@redcrossnigeria.org</a>, phone: +234 803 959 5095
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#### For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

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#### Reference

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#### Click here for:

- Simplified EAP
- Annual reports from previous years (delete if not applicable)

# FBAF Early Actions FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Reporting Timeframe 2022 Budget Timeframe 2022

 Selected Parameters

 2022/10-2025/5
 Operation PNG079

 2022/10-2025/5
 Budget APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

Prepared on 26/Jun/2025

# MDRNG035 - Nigeria - Floods (EAP2022NG01) / \*

Early Actions Timeframe: 14 Oct 2022 to 30 Sep 2024

#### I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	220,000
DREF Anticipatory Pillar	220,000
<u>Expenditure</u>	-160,858
Closing Balance	59,142

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

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction		32,068	-32,068
AOF2 - Shelter			0
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	141,144	141,107	37
AOF4 - Health		91	-91
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene			0
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			0
AOF7 - Migration		81	-81
Area of focus Total	141,144	173,347	-32,203
SFI1 - Strenghten National Societies	57,557	-15,476	73,033
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management			0
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners			0
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	21,300	2,987	18,313
Strategy for implementation Total	78,857	-12,489	91,345
Grand Total	220,000	160,858	59,142



FBAF Early Actions
FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters Reporting Timeframe 2022/10-2025/5 Operation PNG079 Budget Timeframe 2022/10-2025/5 Budget APPROVED

Prepared on 26/Jun/2025

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## MDRNG035 - Nigeria - Floods (EAP2022NG01) / \*

Early Actions Timeframe: 14 Oct 2022 to 30 Sep 2024

#### III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	120,833	113,074	7,759
Clothing & Textiles		2,568	-2,568
Medical & First Aid	1,156	1,320	-163
Other Supplies & Services	5,188	107,705	-102,517
Cash Disbursment	114,489	1,481	113,007
Land, vehicles & equipment	2,475	154	2,321
Computers & Telecom	2,475		2,475
Office & Household Equipment		154	-154
Logistics, Transport & Storage	6,245	1,641	4,604
Distribution & Monitoring	2,775	956	1,820
Transport & Vehicles Costs	3,469	685	2,784
Personnel	14,340	571	13,769
National Staff	9,252		9,252
Volunteers	5,088	571	4,517
Workshops & Training	19,660	33	19,627
Workshops & Training	19,660	33	19,627
General Expenditure	43,020	9,302	33,719
Travel	8,436	6,169	2,266
Information & Public Relations	8,095		8,095
Office Costs	6,939		6,939
Communications	5,551	3,132	2,419
Financial Charges	14,000		14,000
Contributions & Transfers		26,265	-26,265
National Society Expenses		26,265	-26,265
Operational Provisions		0	0
Operational Provisions		0	O
Indirect Costs	13,427	9,818	3,610
Programme & Services Support Recover	13,427	9,818	3,610
Grand Total	220,000	160,858	59,142

