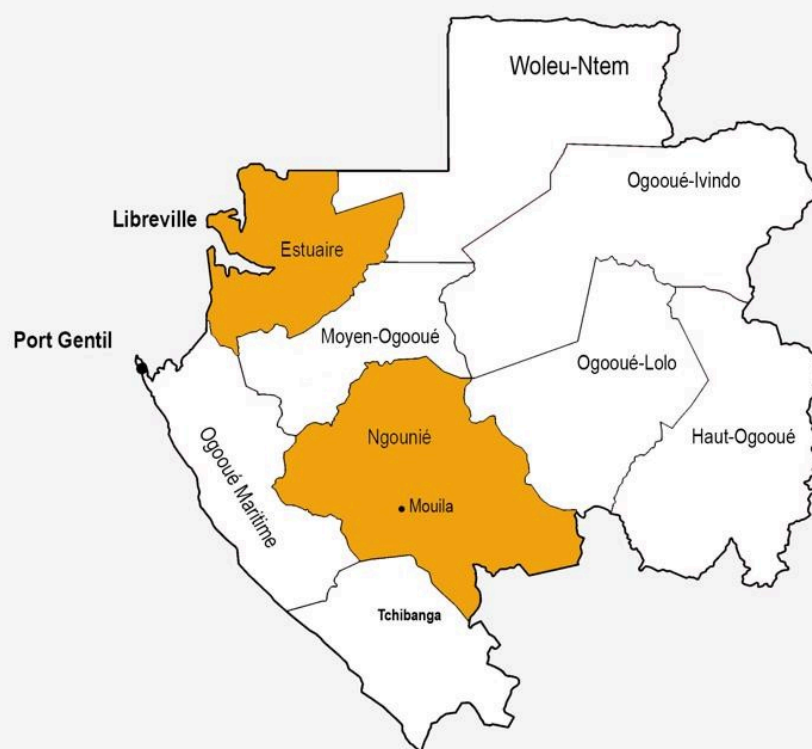




Floods in Mouila, photo from communication team of the Gabon Red Cross

Appeal: MDRGA013	Total DREF Allocation: CHF 257,260	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Flood
Glide Number: -	People Affected: 13,400 people	People Targeted: 2,445 people	People Assisted: -
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 06-12-2024	Operational End Date: 31-05-2025	Total Operating Timeframe: 5 months
Targeted Regions: Estuaire, Ngounie			

Description of the Event



Map of the Gabon with operation areas in yellow

Date of event

26-11-2024

What happened, where and when?

On the night of Monday, November 25, torrential rains fell in the Districts of Mouila (Ngounié Province), Port-Gentil (Ogooué-Maritime Province), Tchibanga (Nyanga Province), and Grand Libreville (Estuaire Province), causing flooding in these areas. A total of 2,680 families, or around 13,400 people, were affected by the floods. The torrential rains led to both rainfall and river flooding in Mouila, affecting 600 households, 1,000 households in Grand Libreville, 80 households in Tchibanga, and 1,000 households in Port-Gentil.

The torrential rains in these cities were reported to be above average for the season. Given their impact and the forecast for more, the risk of additional people being affected was significant. This risk was heightened as Gabon was currently experiencing the short rainy season, while the main rainy season could further expose populations, particularly those living along rivers and the coast, such as in Mouila and Port-Gentil. Fortunately, no more floods were experienced.

In response to the situation, the Gabon Red Cross, with technical support from IFRC, distributed multipurpose cash to 489 households, reaching 2445 persons. The cash helped in reducing household food insecurity for the vulnerable families. Through health intervention, 75% of the people who were sensitized on epidemic awareness improved their living conditions. There was a notable improvement in the WASH practices due to door-to-door sensitization conducted by the Gabon Red Cross, reaching over 2445 people. After the Intervention, there was notable improvement of the sanitation practices in the affected communities as such reducing the level of waterborne-related diseases (diarrhea).



Gutter cleaning to prevent flooding & water-borne diseases.
Photo by Gabon RC



Beneficiary verification prior to the distribution of NFIs. Photo by Gabon RC

Scope and Scale

Over just two days of intense rainfall, torrential downpours triggered severe flooding across the districts of Mouila, Port-Gentil, Tchibanga, and Grand Libreville, impacting an estimated 2,680 households. In many neighborhoods, floodwaters rose quickly, trapping residents inside their homes and causing widespread damage to property. Entire households lost essential belongings—furniture, school supplies, and clothing—while some homes were rendered uninhabitable, forcing families to seek refuge with relatives or remain in unsafe, overcrowded conditions. The impact was particularly alarming given that it occurred during what is typically a short and less intense rainy season. Yet, rainfall levels were far above seasonal averages, leading to overflowing rivers and streams. The situation has been especially concerning in flood-prone areas like Mouila, Grand Libreville, and Port-Gentil, where the presence of nearby watercourses and growing concerns around sea level rise pose ongoing risks. Above-average rainfall is forecast to continue, further threatening already vulnerable communities. In the aftermath, families have been left to cope with limited access to safe shelter, poor sanitation, and increasing exposure to waterborne diseases—all while lacking the means to recover without external support.

1. Mouila (Ngounié Province)

In Mouila, flooding resulted from a combination of river overflow and construction in high-risk zones. The Ngounié River burst its banks following intense rainfall, submerging entire houses—particularly those located on both sides of the river. Some displaced families found temporary shelter in the town's main gymnasium, thanks to the support of the municipal deputy. While no casualties were reported, the material damage across several neighborhoods was substantial. The absence of footpaths in flooded areas led local canoeists to step in, helping residents cross from one side of the city to the other.

The worst-affected districts included Divindet, Moutokobo, and Dirouni, where the local river overflowed; Moukoumounabouala, Ngoyinga, Moukounza, and Manjassango in the 1st district; Mangui and Dikongo in the 2nd district.

2. Libreville (Estuaire Province)

In Libreville, the flooding was primarily attributed to poor urban planning and inadequate infrastructure. Clogged and poorly maintained drainage systems, combined with unregulated construction, led to river overflows and localized flooding. These conditions not only worsened flood impacts but also contributed to broader environmental and sanitation challenges throughout the city.

3. Port-Gentil (Ogooué-Maritime Province)

In Port-Gentil, the flooding highlighted chronic urban issues, including the absence of proper drainage and inefficient waste management, which prevented effective water evacuation. The city also faces a growing threat from rising sea levels—a phenomenon long observed and now evolving into a full-blown crisis. More than 75,000 people living in vulnerable coastal and riverine areas are at continued risk. As the economic capital of Gabon and situated on the low-lying Mandji Peninsula, Port-Gentil remains particularly exposed. In response, local authorities have begun implementing structural adaptation measures. The Special Delegate of Port-Gentil recently initiated the cleaning of main drainage basins to facilitate better water flow during future rains. Discussions around relocation and large-scale infrastructure planning are also underway to mitigate the long-term impacts of climate-related flooding.

The intervention of the Gabon Red Cross with support from IFRC (multipurpose cash distribution, health campaigns for epidemics, awareness raising and sensitization of WASH thematic, and community cleanings) reaching 2445 persons greatly relieved these vulnerable families, and the scope and scale of the disaster have also been greatly reduced.

Source Information

Source Name	Source Link
1. France24, risk of sea floods	https://www.france24.com/en/tv-shows/focus/20220922-gabon-s-fight-against-rising-seas-port-gentil-at-risk-of-disappearing

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	The IFRC Cluster Office in Yaoundé, which covers Gabon, worked closely with the NS and posted the alert on go. There was close collaboration in drafting the plan of response, as well as conducting several missions in the field to support the NS. A surge was deployed; the communications team from IFRC and the PMER from IFRC all travelled to Gabon and supported effective implementation of the response.
Participating National Societies	There are no Participating National Societies (PNS) in Gabon.

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

The ICRC works with the Gabonese Red Cross on the basis of a cooperation agreement that sets out an annual schedule of activities. They did not plan activities to respond to this disaster.
--

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	In Mouila, local authorities played an active and supportive role in the emergency response. The deputy mayor visited the affected areas, assessed the situation firsthand, and provided mattresses to some of the most vulnerable residents to address their immediate needs. The authorities welcomed the interventions of the Gabonese Red Cross (CRG) and remained fully committed throughout the project. They provided essential support by facilitating connections between the IFRC and the communities and by helping to establish community committees that ensured the successful implementation of the project. The Special Delegate of Mouila made storage space available for relief kits, which facilitated smooth distribution in the area. Furthermore, arrangements at the community level were established to support the cash assistance activities, demonstrating strong collaboration between the Red Cross and local government throughout the response. Other NGOs were not fully active in providing relief to flood-affected persons.
UN or other actors	The National Society was not aware of any actions taken by United Nations agencies or other actors in response to this disaster.



Needs (Gaps) Identified



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Many families lost their productive assets and basic necessities in this natural disaster. To address the livelihood and basic needs of disaster-affected households, essential items and multipurpose cash assistance were distributed. A total of 489 households benefited from the intervention, each receiving 140,000 CFA francs to cover their priority needs, along with an additional 5,000 CFA francs to offset withdrawal fees for those who received the transfer electronically. In total, the response reached approximately 2,445 individuals, including both direct and indirect beneficiaries.



Health

The floods created hazardous conditions that increased the risk of waterborne diseases and infections due to stagnant water and scattered waste, which became breeding grounds for mosquitoes and contributed to the spread of diarrheal illnesses.

In response, 38 Red Cross volunteers and 4 supervisors in Mouila and Libreville received rapid training on preventing epidemic-prone diseases such as cholera, typhoid, diarrhea, and malaria. These volunteers conducted awareness sessions that reached 4,769 people. Additionally, 489 households received insecticide-treated mosquito nets to prevent malaria.

Ongoing hygiene promotion and the distribution of hygiene kits helped communities feel more empowered and better equipped to prevent outbreaks and improve living conditions.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Due to flooding, the homes of affected families were completely submerged, raising serious hygiene and sanitation concerns. Many households lost essential items such as water storage containers and cooking utensils, which were contaminated by floodwaters. To address this, hygiene kits and basic household necessities were distributed promptly, enabling families to restore safe living conditions and minimize health risks.

As part of the emergency response, WASH activities were carried out in Mouila and Libreville to improve hygiene and sanitation.

A total of 40 volunteers were trained and conducted 6 awareness sessions per locality, reaching 4,769 people (2,333 men and 2,436 women). Visual materials—posters, leaflets, and 10 picture boxes (5 focused on WASH)—were used to support communication across different literacy levels. Community cleaning sessions were also organized with active participation from residents.

To support these efforts, 30 community sanitation kits (10 in Mouila and 20 in Libreville) were distributed. Additionally, 489 household sanitation kits were provided to improve hygiene at the household level.



Education

The impact of the floods on education was initially significant, with many families losing school supplies and materials in the disaster. However, as recovery efforts progressed, affected households gradually found ways to replace essential items, enabling children to return to school. Support from relatives and the resilience of families themselves contributed to restoring a sense of normalcy in this sector. As a result, there are currently no major disruptions to schooling due to the floods in the affected areas.



Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery

Field assessments revealed that many disaster-affected communities lacked knowledge of risk zones and early warning systems, limiting their ability to seek safe shelter during emergencies. With continued rainfall forecasted, strengthening community awareness and preparedness became a priority.



In response, Red Cross volunteers were trained in disaster risk reduction and deployed to flood-prone areas to raise awareness on the dangers of settling in high-risk or unplanned zones, promote safe construction practices, and encourage environmental protection and waste management. These awareness campaigns focused on the risks of building in hazard-prone areas and the impact of climate-related hazards on housing. As a result, communities gained a better understanding of local vulnerabilities and adopted safer settlement and preparedness practices, contributing to greater resilience.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Generally, the population had limited awareness of the Red Cross's mission, mandate, and fundamental principles. Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) activities have helped bridge this gap by actively involving both communities and local authorities in the actions led by the National Society. In Mouila, particular emphasis was placed on strengthening this connection through a Governance field mission, which successfully advocated with local authorities. This engagement proved essential in fostering community trust and ensuring the smooth acceptance and integration of Red Cross volunteers in the field.

- Additionally, 40 volunteers and supervisors have already been trained on the topic of community engagement and accountability (CEA) and collecting community feedback. They have organized focus group discussions before distributions.

A total of 8 community committees for complaint management and feedback were established across the provinces. These committees successfully collected and processed 600 feedback responses from community members, improving communication and accountability between the project team and the affected populations.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The main objective of this operation was to contribute to addressing the immediate and most urgent needs of 489 households, approximately 2,445 people most affected by the floods, through interventions in health, water, sanitation, and hygiene, as well as in the cross-cutting areas of community engagement and protection. A 'Cash+' approach was adopted, combining unconditional cash transfer with the distribution of non-food items to effectively address the diverse needs of the targeted households. The response strategy remains aligned with the initial plan. The Gabon Red Cross, with technical assistance from the IFRC, provided assistance through multipurpose cash and reached 489 households. Volunteers and supervisors were trained, who conducted sensitization and awareness raising on epidemics and WASH thematics reached 2445 people (females = 1440, males=1005). Through CEA and PGI, the community was highly engaged in the project implementation with increased awareness on gender sensitivity.

Operation strategy rationale

To reach its objective, the following strategy was adopted:

1) Cash transfer

The Gabonese Red Cross planned on providing unconditional and multi-purpose cash assistance to 489 households to help them meet their most urgent basic needs, including shelter, food, WASH, health, and education. Each household received XAF 140,000 (CHF 198) per month via Airtel Money, a mobile transfer platform previously used successfully during a past DREF operation. An additional XAF 5,000 was allocated per household to cover withdrawal fees, and a 2% service fee for the financial provider was included in the budget. This cash modality was selected for its proven effectiveness and for preserving household dignity by allowing recipients to decide how best to meet their needs. Market functionality had been confirmed, and further assessments supported the viability of the approach. The operation included beneficiary targeting, market and needs assessments, training, and monitoring activities to ensure effective implementation and accountability.

Oversight and technical support for the operation were provided by the IFRC Cluster CVA Manager based in Yaoundé, who offered technical guidance, validated transfer amounts, supported evaluations, facilitated training for staff and volunteers, and oversaw field implementation and monitoring. Key supporting activities included stakeholder engagement meetings, a feasibility study for the cash modality, multi-sectoral needs and market assessments, and the mapping of financial service providers. The operation also involved training for Red Cross personnel, beneficiary targeting and registration, list validation, and the implementation of baseline and endline surveys. Two rounds of cash distribution were conducted, followed by post-distribution monitoring and market price tracking. A lesson learned workshop to capture lessons learned and inform future interventions will take place at the end of the operation.

2) Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)



To ensure affected communities had access to relevant, verified, and context-appropriate information, the Gabonese Red Cross implemented a comprehensive CEA strategy:

- Communication needs assessment: A thorough study to identify the specific information needs of communities, taking into account the impact of the floods on their safety, health and well-being.
- Facilitating access to information: Ensuring that the population has clear and up-to-date information on ongoing operations, available assistance and decision-making mechanisms, with a specific attention to promoting a two-way communication, allowing communities to express themselves and actively participate in decision-making processes.
- Strengthening community participation: Closely involving communities in all phases of the project, from initial assessment to final evaluation, thus increasing the effectiveness of the interventions and strengthening their ownership.
- Continuous improvement: Continuous analysis of feedback from communities to adjust strategies and optimise the impact of future interventions.

3) WASH (target: 489 households or 2,445 people)

- Distributing jerry cans and buckets with lids to 489 households to support safe water storage.
- Providing soap and bleach to the most severely affected households to improve hygiene conditions.
- Conducting four hygiene promotion campaigns, held twice a month, to encourage good sanitation practices and environmental cleanliness.
- Promoting wastewater management and mobilising communities to clean and maintain drainage systems.
- Supplying 75 garbage bags (25 in Libreville, 50 in Mouila) to support solid waste disposal.
- Distributing monthly hygiene kits to 175 women of reproductive age, including sanitary pads, soap, underwear, toiletry bags, buckets with lids, and rubbish bags.
- Noting the continued availability of safe drinking water, with no interruption in supply from the national utility company.

4- Health (target: 489 households or 2,445 people)

In this sector, the Gabonese Red Cross (CRG) planned on.

- Providing first aid and psychological first aid over a 14-day period to individuals in need.
- Integrating health messaging into sanitation campaigns to raise awareness about waterborne diseases and environmental health risks.
- Distributing mosquito nets to reduce malaria risk, with prioritisation for households with pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers, and elderly individuals.
- Using ongoing targeting and evaluation to identify and support vulnerable groups effectively.

Targeting Strategy

Who was targeted by this operation?

The operation targeted 489 of the most vulnerable households in Mouila, Grande Libreville, and Port-Gentil, providing them with cash assistance and WASH kits. In addition, 220 women of reproductive age from these households—representing 8% of the total female population received dignity kits. Furthermore, 81% of the affected population participated in awareness campaigns focused on WASH, health, and disaster risk reduction. In total, the intervention reached 6,480 people from the affected localities.

- Mouila was selected due to its challenging economic conditions and underdeveloped infrastructure. The population lives in precarious circumstances, which significantly worsened the impact of the floods.
- Grande Libreville was included based on the extent of flood-affected populations, particularly among impoverished communities in the Komo-Mondah department (Ntoum, Bikelé, Essassa) and underdeveloped neighborhoods, especially those located near watercourses.
- In contrast, Port-Gentil was not included in the operation due to the structural nature of the issues, which fall under government responsibility and require substantial resources. As an economic hub, Port-Gentil has the potential to receive support from local businesses, reducing the need for direct humanitarian intervention.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The cash and WASH kits targeted 489 of the most vulnerable households whose homes had been flooded, destroyed, or partially destroyed. Priority was given to:

- Female-headed households,
- Households with persons with disabilities and/or the elderly,
- Households with vulnerable individuals and those with special needs,
- The most economically disadvantaged households,
- Households that had lost productive assets,



- Households that had lost property and other essential belongings.

The selection of the 220 female beneficiaries for dignity kits took into account that women of reproductive age represented 18% of the total targeted female population.

These targeting criteria were discussed with the community to ensure a harmonised selection process, focusing on levels of vulnerability. This approach helped to prevent conflicts within the community.

For this phase, the intervention did not prioritise the locality of Port-Gentil, as the flooding issues in this town involved structural challenges related to urban development measures initiated by the government—such as relocation plans and drainage works. Most of these actions were under the responsibility of the authorities and required resources and approaches beyond the scope of the DREF.

Therefore, the National Society continued to coordinate with the authorities in Libreville and Mouila. No changes were deemed necessary to the current DREF to cover additional needs in other localities.

Total Assisted Population

Assisted Women	-	Rural	-
Assisted Girls (under 18)	-	Urban	-
Assisted Men	-	People with disabilities (estimated)	-
Assisted Boys (under 18)	-		
Total Assisted Population	-		
Total Targeted Population	2,445		

Risk and Security Considerations (including "management")

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

Risk	Mitigation action
Occurrence of Waterborne Diseases.	Incorporate prevention measures into the ongoing intervention by facilitating access to drinking water for the population and intervention teams. Provide sanitation kits and promote WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) awareness.
Access Issues in the Intervention Area:	The National Society at departmental level works with the authorities as well as with the national headquarters. Bypass methods are defined by the National Society to facilitate access in the area of intervention.
The continued rainfall with increased river overflow and flooding in the intervention area of the Red Cross teams.	Designate a safety zone when volunteers are deployed and provide them with personal protective equipment (PPE). Ensure that teams are aware of the weather conditions.
Internal coordination between the national headquarters and departmental committees:	Established a weekly exchange platform between the head office and the departmental committees, placing the committees at the



	centre of the implementation of activities and involving them in the community.
The operation could be exposed to confusion. Many people believe they are entitled to assistance because they were affected by the floods in 2023.	Communicate clearly that this is the operation following the floods in November 2024. Emphasize how the RC is implementing assistance activities. Emphasize the need for greater community involvement to ensure a better understanding of this operation.
Perception: the date of the Presidential elections has been made official. 12 April, and the electoral campaign begins on 29 March. There is a great risk that Red Cross activities that bring crowds together (distribution of kits) will be interpreted as campaign activities for a candidate.	Speed up the process so that distribution can take place very quickly before the campaign meetings begin. Increase awareness of the CRG's mandate and activities.
Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation: Personal protective equipment (PPE) was made available to all personnel deployed on the ground. The teams also respected the established security perimeter. A rescue team was deployed, and daily briefings and debriefings were conducted.	
Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?	No

Implementation



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 113,225
Targeted Persons: 2,445
Assisted Persons: 2,445
Targeted Male: 1,015
Targeted Female: 1,430

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of staff, supervisors, and volunteers trained	35	40
Market evaluation report available	1	1
Number of households benefiting from cash transfer:	489	489

Narrative description of achievements

• While in Mouila for multisectoral assessment, the Gabon Red Cross team trained 40 volunteers and supervisors on Cash Transfer Programme.

Due to the upcoming electoral campaign and process, the two planned rounds of cash distribution were carried out in one shot. This was done to avoid the perception issue and the risk of confusion with the electoral campaign.

Cash was distributed jointly with the non-food items. It started in Libreville. Each household received, in one shot, the amount of 140,000 in cash. An additional 5000 frs for withdrawal charges was given to those who received their money electronically for withdrawal charges. A total of 2445 people (direct and indirect) benefited from cash



The cash transfer program was highly appreciated by the communities and beneficiaries because it took into consideration their dignity.

A coordination activity was held in Mouila from March 15th to 17th under the auspices of the president of Gabon Red Cross t and the representative of the governor of La Ngounie province for a better strengthening of the coordination between CRG, public local authorities and beneficiaries.

Post-distribution monitoring was conducted, and the results revealed that 90.8% of the beneficiaries were satisfied with cash.

Below are some testimonies from the beneficiaries of cash:

- "I sincerely thank the Red Cross. I was desperate. Without this support, I don't know how I was going to get out of it, because I am alone, and I don't have anyone to help me." (Jean Bosco Boussougou, a 70-year-old widower living in Ntoun (Estuaire Province))
"I used to get a lot of aches and pain sleeping on the floor. With the mattress I'm going to buy, I'll now be able to sleep more peacefully". (Moudinga Josephine, aged 81, living in Mouila).
- "I thank the Red Cross for this gesture towards me and the other people affected. I am proud of the Red Cross". (Beneficiary from Mouila).

Lessons Learnt

- The Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) team should mobilize and inform the population prior to multisectoral assessments.
- Engaging two Financial Service Providers (FSPs) facilitates smoother cash distribution processes.
- Ensure that selected beneficiaries are clearly informed and adequately prepared ahead of the distribution.

Challenges

- Female vendors were reluctant to share information during the market assessment due to fear it might be reported to local authorities.
- Market offerings lacked diversity and had limited quantities of essential items.
- Difficulty in reaching affected individuals during the multisectoral needs assessment.
- Insufficient information provided to communities prior to the cash distribution in Mouila.
- Absence of some selected beneficiaries during the distribution period.



Budget: CHF 10,299

Targeted Persons: 6,480

Assisted Persons: 6,480

Targeted Male: 2,333

Targeted Female: 2,436

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Percentage of people sensitized out of the total affected populations	81	75
Number of households that received mosquito nets	489	489
Number of field visits for door-to-door sensitization	6	10

Narrative description of achievements

20 volunteers and 2 supervisors in Mouila and 16 volunteers and 2 supervisors in Libreville received rapid training in the preventive fight against diseases with epidemic potential (diarrhea, cholera, typhoid, etc.) and malaria. Awareness raising was done by the volunteers on waterborne diseases, cholera, malaria, and typhoid, reaching 4769 people. 489 households received impregnated bed nets. The 6480 people reached for health include both direct and indirect beneficiaries reached during sensitization and awareness raising.



Lessons Learnt

- Strengthen community sensitization in flood-affected areas.
- Enhance public awareness of the Red Cross and its mandate to distinguish it from governmental actions.
- Distribute communication materials (e.g., leaflets) that beneficiaries can refer to even after the intervention ends.

Challenges

- Insufficient supply of mosquito nets to meet the needs of the affected population.
- Red Cross activities were frequently mistaken for government (municipal council) initiatives.
- Shortage of communication materials such as posters, leaflets, and banners.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 52,419

Targeted Persons: 2,445

Assisted Persons: 2,445

Targeted Male: 1,005

Targeted Female: 1,440

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of sanitation kits distributed at the community level	30	30
Number of campaigns on waste management	4	4
Number of sanitation kits distributed at the household level	489	489
Percentage of people sensitized out of the total affected population	81	195

Narrative description of achievements

- 40 volunteers and supervisors received rapid training in the promotion of water, hygiene and sanitation in Libreville and Mouila. They conducted sensitization and awareness raising.

In each target locality, 6 awareness-raising sessions were held, reaching 4769 (males=2333, females=2436). Awareness-raising materials (posters, leaflets, and picture boxes) were designed, printed, and sent out to the field (Mouila and Libreville). They were used by volunteers during awareness-raising sessions. Of the 10 image boxes printed, 05 focused on WASH/health prevention awareness messages. The visual tools were a great help in raising awareness at different levels of literacy in the various communes.

Community cleaning sessions were also held with the involvement of the beneficiaries to encourage and promote sanitation. Sanitation and water collection and conservation kits were purchased, transported, and distributed to the various sites planned (Mouila and Libreville). WASH intervention targeted 81% for people sensitized, which corresponds to 1980 persons, but the volunteers exceeded their targets, meeting even indirect beneficiaries to reach 4768 people, which constitute 195%

Lessons Learnt

- Procure a tent for awareness-raising activities, along with a banner to remain visible on-site during door-to-door outreach efforts.
- Increase the quantity and diversify the contents of the kits to better meet the varied needs of the affected population.

Challenges

- Insufficient quantity of dignity kits to meet the needs of the affected population.
- Inadequate supply of sensitization materials, such as fliers.



- Limited availability of visibility materials, including banners and billboards.
- Insufficient funds to rent a van for conducting awareness campaigns and community outreach activities.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 529

Targeted Persons: 2,445

Assisted Persons: 2,445

Targeted Male: 1,005

Targeted Female: 1,440

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people trained	40	40
Number of toolkits developed	7	7
Number of household receiving dignity kit for ladies aged between 18 and 40	220	220

Narrative description of achievements

- 40 volunteers received induction on PGI considerations during the implementation of humanitarian activities
- 5 toolkits were printed with key messages on PGI and gender-based violence (GBV). The tools were used during the community awareness campaigns.

Lessons Learnt

- Increasing gender awareness in communities helps in increasing inclusivity in projects and ownership of the project by the community.

Challenges

- Lack of PGI focal point to facilitate operations.



Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery

Budget: CHF 665

Targeted Persons: 6,480

Assisted Persons: 6,480

Targeted Male: 230

Targeted Female: 269

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people trained	40	40
Number of sensitization campaigns organized on construction risks	3	4



Narrative description of achievements

- Volunteers were trained in knowledge of at-risk areas and the risks to be built in these areas. They were deployed to raise communities awareness of the risks to which they are exposed. This also enabled a better understanding of the impact of climatic hazards on construction in at-risk areas.

Volunteers began awareness-raising sessions in the field. Today, the focus is on general themes. During the distribution phases, the teams took the opportunity to raise awareness of the various topics. There was a break due to the presidential elections, but activities have resumed and are in the process of being finalised. After the election on the 12 April, which were peaceful, we were able to finalise these activities

Lessons Learnt

- Reinforce sensitizations before disasters occur.

Challenges

- Insufficient budget for the number of training sessions planned.
- The affected population requested regular sensitization sessions than was planned.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 4,658

Targeted Persons: 2,445

Assisted Persons: 2,445

Targeted Male: 1,005

Targeted Female: 1,440

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of group discussions organized with men, women, girls, boys, and marginalized groups to understand the preferred communication channels of the community and their information needs	25	20
Number of volunteers trained on the objectives of consultation and focus group facilitation	40	40
Number of feedback collected	600	600
Number of feedback reports produced and shared	11	11

Narrative description of achievements

- 40 volunteers and supervisors have been trained on community engagement and accountability (CEA) and on collecting community feedback.
- These trained volunteers organized focus group discussions prior to distributions.
- A total of 8 community committees for complaint management and feedback were established across the provinces.
- These committees successfully collected and processed 600 feedback responses from community members, enhancing communication and accountability between the project team and the affected populations.
- Due to delays in funds transfer, the team was unable to conduct all planned focus group discussions on time in the field.



Lessons Learnt

- Collect two contact numbers per beneficiary one personal and one from a close family member—to maintain communication in case of unavailability.
- Provide comprehensive CEA training for staff and volunteers; briefings alone are insufficient to ensure proper engagement.
- Involve community members in decision-making throughout project implementation to enhance ownership and trust.

Challenges

- Some beneficiaries were unavailable for educational sessions due to farming activities.
- The Gabonese Red Cross was often confused with government actors by community members.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 59,005

Targeted Persons: 6

Assisted Persons: 6

Targeted Male: 3

Targeted Female: 3

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of insured volunteers	40	40
Number of Surge deployed:	1	1
Number of follow-up missions	4	4
Number of lessons learned workshops:	1	1
Branches and HQ DM focal points trained on DREF	15	24

Narrative description of achievements

• As part of the Secretariat's support by the IFRC Cluster based in Yaoundé, the subscription of insurance for the year 2024 and the year 2025 was done in favor of the 40 volunteers involved in this operation.

A Surge with an Ops manager profile was deployed to the Gabonese RC, who provided local support for the implementation of this operation.

As part of the cluster's support, the training workshop on the DREF was conducted from 18 to 22 March in Libreville with the technical support of the Regional Delegate DREF. this workshop allowed the NS to better understand the DREF tool in the different phases (from the introduction to the DREF, when to use the DREF, how to use it, how to report, the EIP mechanism, the different pillars of the DREF). this training was attended by 24 people made up of the staff of the SN as well as volunteers and focal points from other departments that are at higher risk of crises and disasters (Estuary, Haut Ogooué, Ogooué Lolo, Ogooué Maritime, Ngounié and Woleu-ntem).

The PMER provided remote support in conducting the lessons learned and in-person technical assistance in facilitating the lessons learned workshop. Weekly follow-up meetings were held with the NS to monitor the implementation and how to manage the challenges. Technical support was also provided in the different areas (programme (CVA/PMER), finance, logistics, communication, PGI and CEA) for the various activities.

Also, financial support was given remotely for the verification of the supporting documents of the first expenses made by the NS as part of this operation. An update on these expenses was frequently made to continue financial follow-up until the closing of the operation.



Lessons Learnt

- Provide additional training for staff and volunteers on how to develop a DREF application and clarify the differences between a DREF and an Emergency Appeal.

Challenges

- Inability to get all the project stakeholders in the lessons learned workshop would have missed out on some important learnings that might have come up during the workshop.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 16,460

Targeted Persons: 50

Assisted Persons: 50

Targeted Male: 21

Targeted Female: 29

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of trainers trained on different themes:	10	10
Number of volunteers trained	35	40
Number of field visits per province by HQ staff	2	2

Narrative description of achievements

• A multi-sector assessment was organised. For three days, teams of volunteers, supervisors, staff and Surge were deployed in the field in the target areas for a more in-depth study of the situation. The aim was to see how up-to-date and relevant the needs were. The visit was preceded by a briefing on understanding the data collection form and mastering the different areas of action in the evaluation.

In view of the delays that had accumulated in the field, the strategy adopted by the NS was to set up two teams to carry out these activities simultaneously in order to make up for the delays. This strategy also ensured the quality of the training provided to both volunteers and supervisors by the main facilitators.

10 NS staff members strengthened their capacity by training 40 volunteers and supervisors.

A first mission was in the field by the headquarters staff to supervise the secondary assessment and organize the training of volunteers in Mouila. The second mission took place during distributions; the team travelled to Ntoun and another in Mouila. All those trips were led by the national president of the Gabon Red Cross. Some staff and volunteers of the National Society received the training as DREF mentors, which would enable better further submissions of DREF requests.

Lessons Learnt

- Strengthening the technical capacity of the Gabon Red Cross Staff on disaster response is essential to intervene in a timely manner
- Conducting preparedness and assessments before disasters, in line with the Anticipatory Action approach, enables the National Society to proactively identify vulnerabilities, target at-risk populations, and pre-position resources based on early warning systems enhancing the speed and effectiveness of response through Anticipatory DREF mechanisms.
- The absence of a local emergency fund slows rapid response to disasters and crises.



Challenges

- Lack of staff trained in NDRT.
- Inadequate transportation capacity, such as vehicles to move staff between communities.



Financial Report

bo.ifrc.org > Public Folders > Finance > Donor Reports > Appeals and Projects > Operational Strategy - Standard Report

Page 1 of 2

Operational Strategy

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	MDRGA013
Budget Timeframe	Budget APPROVED

Prepared on 29 Sep 2025

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRGA013 - Gabon - Floods

Operating Timeframe: 06 Dec 2024 to 31 May 2025; appeal launch date: 06 Dec 2024

I. Emergency Appeal Funding Requirements

Total Funding Requirements	257,260
Donor Response* as per 29 Sep 2025	257,260
Appeal Coverage	100.00%

II. IFRC Operating Budget Implementation

Planned Operations / Enabling Approaches	Op Budget	Expenditure	Variance
PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items	0	0	0
PO02 - Livelihoods	0	0	0
PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash	101,657	109,002	-7,345
PO04 - Health	6,426	7,501	-1,075
PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	0	0	0
PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion	0	0	0
PO07 - Education	0	0	0
PO08 - Migration	0	0	0
PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0	0	0
PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability	0	0	0
PO11 - Environmental Sustainability	0	0	0
Planned Operations Total	108,083	116,503	-8,420
EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships	0	0	0
EA02 - Secretariat Services	71,622	45,910	25,713
EA03 - National Society Strengthening	77,555	77,732	-178
Enabling Approaches Total	149,177	123,642	25,535
Grand Total	257,260	240,145	17,115

III. Operating Movement & Closing Balance per 2100/9999

Opening Balance	0
Income (includes outstanding DREF Loan per IV.)	257,260
Expenditure	-240,145
Closing Balance	17,115
Deferred Income	0
Funds Available	17,115

IV. DREF Loan

* not included in Donor Response	Loan :	257,260	Reimbursed :	0	Outstanding :	257,260
----------------------------------	--------	---------	--------------	---	----------------------	----------------

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives, changing minds



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

Please explain variances (if any)

IFRC allocated through the DREF pot CHF 257,260 and CHF 240,115 were spent by the end of the intervention to achieve the above-described milestones. The balance of CHF 17,115 will be returned to the DREF pot.

The overall unspent balance is the result of different balances per cost category.

Explanations for each variance are summarized as below:

- Health (-16.72%): This discrepancy results from SPI expenses (purchases and transportation of mosquito nets) exceeding the budgeted amount. The total SPI expenses amount to CHF 7,042.81, to which PSSR costs of CHF 457.78 are added, making a total of CHF 7,500.59.



- Ensure a strong IFRC (35.9%): This discrepancy also arises from the fact that certain missions of the cluster staff were cancelled. Additionally, the Surge costs were initially overestimated.



Contact Information

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

National Society contact: Bivouli Joseph Arnaud, Secretary general, bivoulijoseph@croixrougegabon.org, +24106686695

IFRC Appeal Manager: Adesh TRIPATHEE, Head of Cluster, Yaoundé Cluster, adesh.tripathee@ifrc.org

IFRC Project Manager: Josuane Flore TENE TCHOKODEU, DCPRR Coordinator, josuaneflore.tene@ifrc.org, 677098790

IFRC focal point for the emergency: Josuane Flore TENE TCHOKODEU, DCCPR Coordinator, josuaneflore.tene@ifrc.org, 677098790

Media Contact: Muriel ATSAMA OBAMA, Senior Communication Officer, Muriel.ATSAMA@ifrc.org, 650610006

[Click here for reference](#)

