



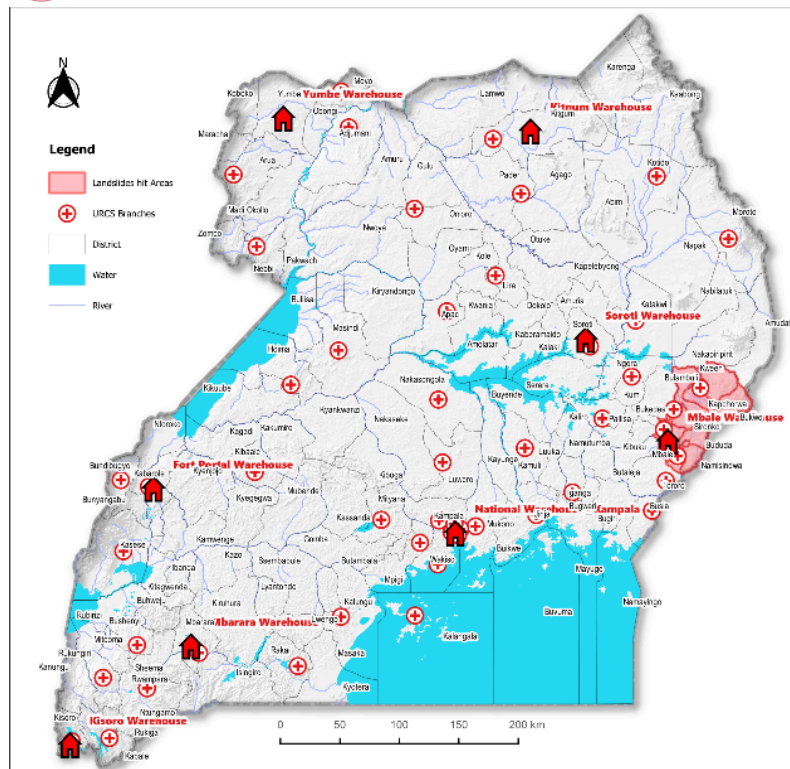
Branch Manager Sironko carrying out risk communication at the camp

Appeal: MDRUG053	Total DREF Allocation: -	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Landslide
Glide Number: -	People Affected: 30,000 people	People Targeted: 12,138 people	
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 16-12-2024	New Operational End Date: 31-05-2025	Total Operating Timeframe: 5 months
Reporting Timeframe Start Date: 16-12-2024		Reporting Timeframe End Date: 13-03-2025	
Additional Allocation Requested: -		Targeted Areas: Eastern Region	

Description of the Event



Map of Uganda showing landslide hit areas - Mount Elgon Region



The map does not imply the expression of legal status of a territory or of its authorities. Author: Uganda Red Cross Society, Data Source: UBOS, URCS

Date: 30 11 2024

Date of event

27-11-2024

What happened, where and when?

Following heavy rains of 27th November 2024 across Bulambuli District and the neighboring districts, flooding was triggered by the overflow of River Simu, which inundated nearby households, destroyed crops, and disrupted major roads, including Sironko-Kapchorwa and Muyembe-Nakapiripit. This led to the collapse of bridges and transport disruptions. Later that evening, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, the conditions also led to landslide events in eight villages in Buluganya parish and other areas in Sooti, Sisiyi, and Bulago sub-counties. While the floods have had impact in the riverine communities, the most significant impact and humanitarian need came from the landslides, which caused extensive destruction, displacing thousands of families.

On 11.12.2024, the Prime Minister conveyed the humanitarian meeting where official figures of the affected population were updated, supported by NS and local authorities' search, rescue and excavation work. 30,000 people were affected. NS has identified 2,023 households (12,138 people) that were hosted at holding temporary camp following the events, 20 deaths, 22 people were injured, and more than 121 were missing. That coordination meeting was attended by the Minister of state for Disaster preparedness, Relief and Refugees, religious leaders, cultural leaders, local authorities and humanitarian actors on ground, the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) Team coordinating the response efforts. The meeting also served at coordinating the response efforts that need to be deployed to assist the communities and reach the target priority of Government which was indicated "to resettle over 5000 households". The Prime Minister also acknowledged the slow registration of affected people and assessment was due to difficulty in accessing the affected area amidst the search and recovery effort as impacted people were scattered in different areas.

As of 29th November 2024, the Prime Minister ordered all the people affected by the landslide and those living at high-risk areas to relocate to Bunambutye holding centre pending procurement of land by government for their resettlement. About 2600 people were living at the holding centre. The government through the office of the Prime Minister and the district was and is still providing food for all the people at the holding centre, URCS provided clean and safe water for domestic use, constructed emergency pit latrines and bathing shelters, provided emergency medical services through the static clinic that was established at the holding centre, distributed NFI and MHM kits to the most vulnerable households, provided emergency shelter through the 4 shelter tents, conducted risk communication



alongside CEA services to the affected people.

On Friday, the 20th December 2024, Around 7:00 pm, the camp experienced high intensity rainfall and windstorms resulting into, destruction of 4 URCS 200 capacity Family tents, for accommodation at the holding center, destruction of roof tops to 2 UNHCR high performance tents of 60 people capacity, destroyed unquantified non-food items that had recently been distributed to the IDPs and caused minor injuries to about 7 people. This led to the relocation of the women's tent to the nearby location at the school staff quarters pending the clearance of the new holding centre.

On the 9th of February 2025, all the households living at the school and those at the school staff quarters were again relocated to the new/permanent holding centre that is about 2km away from the school and within Bunambutye camp surrounding. Decision was due to school re-opening in February 2025. URCS quickly supported the relocation and reassembly with shelter assistance. The NS also promptly reoriented the ongoing assistance to the new situation and relocation sites, ensuring relevant and coordinated intervention. To accommodate the context changes and align with the new priorities, this DREF operation remains flexible.



URCS Volunteer conducting hygiene promotion



Distribution of NFI Kits at the reception centre

Scope and Scale

Since late October 2024, Bulambuli District and its neighboring areas have been severely impacted by heavy rainfall. On November 27th, continuous heavy rains from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM resulted in severe flooding and landslides, significantly affecting infrastructure and communities across multiple sub-counties and town councils. The main impact is the result of the landslides events across the districts, in 8 villages that are identified so far as affected.

Bulambuli and other Mt. Elgon districts have steep slopes of loam soils with heavy cultivation. Continuous rains from September to December have led to landslides, causing significant damage to infrastructure. Two bridges along the main road to Buluganya were washed away, disrupting transportation, especially for moving excavators, search and rescue teams, and relief items to the affected area.

With limited access and safety considerations, NS's initial rapid Needs Assessment conducted on 29th November was limited, and not all areas were assessed. By that time, the total population affected stood at 4,000, however 1,546 people from 220 households have been displaced out of which 125 houses were fully destroyed and by the time of this application, 19 dead bodies had been retrieved comprising of (14 males, 5 females; 7 children (6 male and 1 female). As a result, 22 people were injured and taken to Buluganya Health Centre (H/C) III and Muyembe H/C IV for medication, but one of them succumbed to the injuries, bringing the number of dead to 20. By the time of this application, 121 people were still missing and unaccounted for. Out of the 1,546 people displaced, 750 people were living with their relatives and neighbors, while the remaining 796 are hosted at Masugu Primary School. The search for the missing persons continues through combined efforts from the Uganda People's Defense Forces, URCS, and community members, and by February 2025, 49 bodies had been retrieved, and about 38 people are still unaccounted for.

As of 11th December 2024, with further research and assessment, 30,000 people were affected, including the direct impact on the families

and the overall humanitarian consequences to livelihood and services in the entire communities. Those directly affected and hosted at the holding/ reception centre are currently about 2200 households (13,200 people). From the meeting an urgent meeting held on 11th December 2024 chaired by the Prime Minister of Uganda and attended by the Minister of state for Disaster preparedness, Relief and Refugees, religious leaders, cultural leaders, local authorities and humanitarian actors on ground including URCS, the Once of the Prime Minister (OPM) Team coordinating the response efforts, said that 5,000 households (30,000 people) have been affected. Since the Prime minister pronounced the relocation of all the households to the Bunambutye holding center, over 2200 are living at the holding center. The prime minister said that the slow registration was because of difficulty in accessing the affected area amidst the search and recovery effort as impacted people were scattered in different areas.

Search and rescue operations, led by the Uganda Peoples Defense Force (UPDF), the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS), and local communities, lasted for long. Preliminary assessments have identified priority needs, but detailed evaluations in some sub-counties are still pending.

There have been disruptions in the availability, quality, use, and awareness of goods and services in the area, as WASH and health facilities have been damaged or destroyed. The disaster has impacted the physical and mental well-being of the population and Strong Minds Uganda is supporting the affected households with psychosocial support and mental health services at the holding centre. Some community members have refused to evacuate until the bodies of their family members are found. The government encouraged people to relocate to the holding centre as the search for their relatives continues.

The scale of the disaster in Buluganya sub-county and multiple events in neighboring sub-counties and districts have triggered a response action by the URCS. Immediate and coordinated efforts remained essential to respond to the needs of the affected populations and restore normalcy in the region.

Summary of Changes

Are you changing the timeframe of the operation	Yes
Are you changing the operational strategy	Yes
Are you changing the target population of the operation	No
Are you changing the geographical location	No
Are you making changes to the budget	No
Is this a request for a second allocation	No
Has the forecasted event materialize?	No

Please explain the summary of changes and justification:

This update aimed at updating the URCS stakeholders about the progress of the intervention and operational adjustments made to align to the context change since 2025 and inform on a two months' timeframe extension to the MDRUG053 DREF operation.

Following heavy rains on November 27, 2024, floods and landslides in Bulambuli District displaced thousands, destroying homes, roads, and bridges. 30,000 people were affected, with 20 deaths, 22 injured, and 121 missing. The government relocated victims to Bunambutye holding center, providing food, shelter, and medical aid and URCS deployed a response through the IFRC-DREF allocation. A storm on 2024, December 20 damaged tents in the camp, forcing further relocations in nearby schools. By February 9, 2025, ahead of school re-opening, households were moved to a new permanent center.

URCS has been adapting its response to context changes, evolving needs & shift of priorities in total coordination with the Government agencies leading the landslide response. URCS quickly supported the relocation and reassembly of the 18 shelter tents, construction of 20 stance pit latrines and 2 communal bathing shelters. The Texans and Ugandans on Mission provided 2 water tanks of 10,000-litre capacity for water storage. URCS continued and is still trucking water to the new holding centre and the T70 water tank remained at the school to serve the old caseload of the households living adjacent to the school. The risk communication alongside CEA activities continues at the new holding centre. OPM, through the district, is still providing food and firewood; the food is cooked in communal clusters by the households themselves.

Strong Winds Uganda is also providing psychosocial support and mental health services to the households living at the new holding centre. The households were shifted to the new holding centre to allow the school to reopen for its first term of the year.



This extension will also serve to implement some operational changes for the WASH strategy, enabling the UGRCS to drill hand pump bore holes that aligned with current priorities defined by the Government. The National Society had planned to deploy Wash kit 5, however, further assessments conducted in collaboration with Bulamuli District Local Government and other partners highlighted the need for a sustainable water supply solution at the resettlement site, Consequently URCS will drill hand-pump boreholes instead of deploying WASH Kit 5. The drilling is a contribution to building the boreholes. Other partners complementing for the other needs to ensure the boreholes are operational.

The coming weeks and especially April, the pending activities are being speed-up to complete the assistance and ensure operational learnings are being collected and discussed during the lessons learnt workshop. Below is the summary of the pending activities yet to be completed:

- Drilling of boreholes processes has started with the hydrological surveys and assessment ongoing, and this is expected to be completed before the end of May.
- The procurement of search and rescue thermal detector equipment is already ongoing noting that the equipment will be imported, and delivery is expected before the end of May.
- The procurements below are local procurements that are expected to be delivered by end of April; Procurement of search and rescue medical equipment.
- Distribution and monitoring of multi-purpose cash will be completed by end of April, although the cash feasibility assessment and beneficiary registration has already been conducted. The CVA process was delayed by the Prime Minister's systemized registration and verification of the beneficiaries for resettlement. The affected persons remain vulnerable at the Holding centre since they are slowly but systematically being resettled at the allocated pieces of land.
- Procurement and distribution of 100 shelter kits is expected by end of May. The shelter kits will complement the already 4 deployed emergency shelter by URCS.
- Procurement and delivery of the 300 NFI kits is expected by the end of April. URCS has already distributed 300 NFI kits from the prepositioned stock at the Mbale regional warehouse, therefore, the 300 NFI kits will be used to replenish the stock.
- Procurement of 2 emergency shelter is a heavy procurement with delivery expected before end of May. URCS already deployed 4 tents The 2 new tents will be used to replenish the stock.
- Procurement of the first aid kits is expected by the end of April. URCS already provided 10 first aid kits during the response from the prepositioned stock and part of the 18 new kits shall be used to replenish the used-up stock.

Current National Society Actions

Start date of National Society actions

27-11-2024

<p>Shelter, Housing And Settlements</p>	<p>The Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) deployed four shelter tents, each with a capacity to accommodate 200 people, to support affected communities at the reception centre. On the 9th of February 2025, the households relocated from the school to the new holding center to allow the school to reopen. URCS relocated and erected 2 shelter tents since UNICEF, UNDP, WHO, UNHCR added 16 more tents to accommodate the households.</p> <p>Additionally, 300 of the most vulnerable individuals were provided with Non-Food Items (NFI) from pre-positioned stocks at the Mbale Regional Warehouse.</p> <p>At the beginning of this crisis, the Uganda Red Cross Society had 400 NFI kits available and prepositioned at the Mbale Regional Warehouse with Rapid Response Action. 300 of the NFI kits were distributed to the most vulnerable affected households at the holding centre. URCS Teams have been providing emergency services, including search and rescue and recovery.</p> <p>URCS also provided 4 shelter tents of a capacity of 200 to provide shelter to the displaced households following the second floods that disrupted the camps on 20 DECEMBER 2024; While Government is providing food and communities are organizing cooking in clusters.</p>
<p>Health</p>	<p>URCS deployed its Red Cross Action Teams (RCATs) to support Search and Rescue efforts, deployed an Ambulance and Emergency Medical Technicians/ health staff to support evacuation and referral of injured persons allowing them to receive timely medical care.</p>



	<p>The ambulance oscillated between the disaster area and the reception centre with a static clinic that was established at the holding centre and later shifted to Bunambutye health centre III where the new holding centre is located.</p>
<p>Water, Sanitation And Hygiene</p>	<p>Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) is supporting water supply efforts with the current T70 tank that needed repair and was repaired. URCS conducts water trucking into the T70 tank and the two 20,000-litre capacity tanks that the Texans and Ugandans on Mission provided at the new holding centre.</p> <p>URCS also distributed 100 MHM kits to the most vulnerable women and girls within the reproductive age.</p>
<p>Coordination</p>	<p>The Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS), through its Sironko Branch, remains actively involved in District Task Force and District Disaster Management Committee meetings to ensure a coordinated response to the landslides in affected communities. The Branch Manager with technical support from the EPR Assistant provide critical input and timely updates during these meetings, which are documented and shared with the Emergency Operations Managers and Director Disaster Risk Management committee. This continuous communication strengthens the alignment between local and National response efforts, ensuring that the needs of affected communities are addressed promptly and efficiently.</p>
<p>National Society Readiness</p>	<p>The Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) has developed regional capacity to respond to landslide emergencies, drawing on extensive experience gained from managing similar events over the years. Regional warehouses are strategically located in Mbale and Soroti districts, and while start-up response kits are available, they are insufficient to meet the current needs. It is noteworthy that 12,138 people, including those at risk of landslides in nearby areas of the disaster site, have been guided by the government to evacuate to the reception center in Bunambutye, situated in the lower part of the district.</p> <p>In response to the disaster, URCS promptly activated its Branch Disaster Response Teams (Red Cross Action Teams/RCATs) under the local administrative structure in Sironko Branch. These teams are actively supporting search and rescue operations. A regional ambulance has been deployed to transport deceased and injured individuals to health facilities, strategically stationed at the Bulambuli District Headquarters along the highway to serve both uphill areas and the reception center.</p> <p>To ensure the readiness of response teams, URCS supplied First Aid kits, body bags, and dispatched prepositioned Non-Food Household Items (NFIs) and shelter tents from its regional warehouses in Soroti and Mbale. Additionally, other resources were mobilized to deliver life-saving interventions and address the immediate needs of affected families. Recognizing the evolving nature of the situation, URCS has also deployed software and hardware WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) personnel, supported by its efficient National Disaster Response Teams (NDRTs), to further strengthen its response. It should be noted that the NS response preparedness is also informed by the National Society PER Plan of action.</p>
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>In collaboration with the Bulambuli and Sironko District Local Governments, the Uganda Police Force (UPF), and the Uganda People's Defense Forces (UPDF), the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) conducted initial assessments to evaluate the extent of landslide damage, identify the needs of affected populations, and plan targeted response interventions to support the impacted communities. The findings from these assessments have been pivotal in shaping the response plan, ensuring that interventions are tailored to address the specific needs of those affected. Additionally, detailed multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder assessments are ongoing in Bulambuli, Sironko, Mbale, Bukedea, and other neighboring areas that continue to experience heavy rainfall and disaster events during the September–December (SOND) period.</p> <p>URCS also conducted a cash feasibility assessment to inform the multi-purpose cash distribution to the most vulnerable affected people.</p>



	The Texans and Ugandans on mission also conducted hydrological surveys to inform the drilling of a motorized borehole at the new holding centre.
Resource Mobilization	The National society is in talks with other partners to cover some gaps which are not covered by the current DREF.
Activation Of Contingency Plans	As part of its contingency plan for the September–December (SOND) 2024 season, the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) activated its prepositioned stock and trained Operations Team members in response to the seasonal forecasts. While the heavy rains were initially projected to recede by mid-November 2024, they unexpectedly intensified, resulting in widespread devastation to the livelihoods of populations in high-risk areas. This proactive activation has been critical in addressing the immediate needs of affected communities and mitigating further impacts caused by the unrelenting rainfall.
National Society EOC	URCS is in the process of procuring and setting up an Early Warning and Emergency Operations Centre (EWEOC) that will run in both normal and peak disaster times to provide timely Early Warning Information and coordinate response actions during disasters. The current functions of the EWEOC are visible through the EWEA and EPR workflows guided by the URCS Emergency Response Protocols and SOPs. The Secretary General chairs periodic Emergency Task Force (ETF) meetings that include members of the Senior Management Team (SMT) and Operations staff in the response action

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	<p>The International Federation of Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is present in the country currently supporting Uganda Red Cross Society to implement the DREF Population Movement, Emergency APFEAL for Monkey Pox and DREF floods that's ending on the 30th of November 2024. The IFRC is also supporting the URCS in delivering Disaster Preparedness and Response (DPR) through the ECHO-PPP Project, Community Epidemic and Pandemic Preparedness (CP3) project, Floods Early Action Protocol and Strengthening Pastoralist livelihoods in the African Greater horn through Effective anticipatory action (PASSAGE) project.</p> <p>The IFRC Juba cluster delegation team provides technical guidance on health, logistics, Disaster Risk management, PMER, and finance. For this response, the Disaster management delegate is working with URCS to provide operational technical support and will continue to ensure proper monitoring of this operation and support to URCS through monitoring visits throughout the operation. Through the IFRC GO platform and using the various channels, URCS ensures that all Movement partners are informed about all disaster/ emergency events and emergency operations being implemented in Uganda.</p> <p>ECHO-PPP provided 04 shelter tents that were prepositioned at the URCS Soroti regional warehouse in Eastern Uganda. They were installed within 72 hours of the Emergency Task Force meeting after the disaster hit. The URCS Mbale regional warehouse also in Eastern Uganda provided 100 NFI kits for the first response in Bulambuli district. These were prepositioned under the URCS – Government of Uganda partnership. As of 11/12/2024, the Government has called upon URCS to install more six shelter tents to cater for the rapidly growing population at the reception/ holding centre. This DREF come in as a response to that request and complement the actions engaged under ECHO.</p> <p>Oxfam Consortium (includes URCS) activated crisis modifier and distributed first set of MHM kits. 128 Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits to 75 adolescent girls and 53 women. This was under the coordination of consortium partners, including Oxfam in Uganda, Caritas Uganda, and CSR, with support from @EUinUG. https://x.com/UgandaRedCross/status/1866123833217777954</p> <p>The DREF action will complement the above actions and cover the gaps on which the authorities have called for support. Any further resources mobilized will be aligned with</p>
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	NS response plan and coordination mechanism among NS and other members will mitigate any risk of overlapping while aligning the targeting priorities for all the available resources.
Participating National Societies	<p>There are currently four (4) Partner National Societies (PNS) present in the country including the Netherlands Red Cross, Belgium Red Cross-Flanders, Austrian Red Cross, and the German Red Cross who are directly providing technical and financial assistance to URCS' humanitarian and development projects targeting beneficiaries in the various parts of the country.</p> <p>The ECHO OXFAM project Consortium have previously supported response in Bulambuli and other districts in Eastern Uganda during the MAM 2024 disaster period. The Consortium contractual arrangements for a new phase of the OXFAM project are being finalized. The OXFAM Consortium will implement the project-based activities in its implementation areas while the DREF will provide rapid response to the immediate needs of the target group of the disaster-hit population.</p>

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is physically present in the country working with the URCS to facilitate effective Emergency Preparedness & Response (EPR) services, Safer Access Frameworks (SAF), providing Restoration of Family Links (RFL) needs of the refugee population settled in Uganda as well as promoting International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and Communications as well as direct delivery of detention visits for Political detainees through its Kampala and sub-delegations. For this DREF operation, the URCS will engage the ICRC for technical support in the areas of Tracing in Emergency services, SAF training for RCATs and promotion of EPR capacity of Uganda Red Cross Society.

The ICRC through the EPR function supported the URCS response Team with PPEs at the Bunambutye reception centre during the recent resettlement of the population that was moved from the high-risk areas in the uphill Bududa district.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	<p>The Ministry of Disaster Preparedness and Relief within the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) is leading the coordination of all stakeholders involved in the response to the landslide-affected communities. This coordination brings together representatives from the Ministry of Health, the Uganda Police Force (UPF), the Uganda People's Defense Forces (UPDF), District Disaster Management Committees (DDMCs), and development partners, including the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS).</p> <p>On 29th November 2024, OPM allocated relief food to be distributed to the most affected individuals, with the DDMC overseeing the delivery and distribution process. During a national humanitarian emergency meeting held on the same day at the Office of the Prime Minister, partners were called upon to bolster support for the response efforts in Bulambuli District.</p> <p>In alignment with its mandate, OPM has taken charge of registering and validating individuals at the reception/holding center, with crucial support from URCS volunteers, CARITAS, CRS, and the DDMC. The Uganda People's Defense Forces (UPDF), complemented by URCS Red Cross Action Teams (RCATs) and community members, has been instrumental in search, rescue, and recovery operations. These efforts have been enhanced by the arrival of two excavators at the site on 8th December 2024, supplementing manual tools such as hand hoes.</p> <p>The government is providing food where people cook in clusters. This was especially useful Following the second displacement of 20 December 2024.</p>



To address the urgent water needs, the Bulambuli District water bowser has been deployed to support water trucking, ensuring consistent refilling of the T70 URCS water tank. Additionally, on 11th December 2024, the government called upon URCS to install six additional shelter tents to accommodate the growing population at the reception/holding center. Currently, Texans and Ugandans on mission are working on the development of a motorized borehole drilled by ministry of water and environment. URCS is equally conducting initial assessment to inform the construction of hand pump boreholes.

UN or other actors

UN bodies and other actors actively participate in the monthly Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Platform meetings and were part of the national humanitarian emergency meeting at the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) on 29th November 2024, where partners were urged to support the response in Bulambuli District. The Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) has shared rapid disaster emergency data from its disaster database with OPM, which will, in turn, share this information with UN agencies and other partners to inform response planning.

In support of the response, UNHCR provided two large tents for shelter, while the Malaria Consortium and the Ministry of Health (MoH) supplied eight bales of mosquito nets. MoH, with support from URCS EMT staff, conducted health screenings, and a joint partner Adolescent Health Orientation meeting was convened, involving URCS, ACODE, and UNFPA.

ECHO-PPP contributed four shelter tents prepositioned at the URCS Soroti regional warehouse, which were installed within 72 hours of the Emergency Task Force meeting. Additionally, the URCS Mbale regional warehouse dispatched 300 Non-Food Items (NFI) kits to the most vulnerable landslide-affected individuals, prepositioned under the URCS-Government of Uganda partnership.

The Oxfam Consortium (URCS, Caritas Uganda, and Oxfam in Uganda) activated a crisis modifier to distribute 128 Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits to 75 adolescent girls and 53 women.

UNICEF supported the operation with medical supplies, 16 communal shelter tents, handwashing facilities, chlorine for mass water treatment, aqua tabs for household water treatment, and 300 MHM kits for vulnerable women and girls. Furthermore, the government, through OPM, continues to provide hot meals to displaced landslide victims and residents of high-risk areas now living at the Bunambutye holding center. WHO contributed two communal shelter tents for accommodation.

UNDP provided clean cooking energy to 500 affected households by distributing 500 gas cylinders and pressure source pans. They also delivered 500 MHM kits to women and girls of reproductive age. Additionally, the Oxfam Consortium supported 125 households with multi-purpose cash transfers, complementing the NFI kits. Texans and Ugandans on Mission (TaUoM) conducted hydrological surveys and are drilling a motorized borehole at the holding center. They are also providing food to residents at the site while they await government resettlement.

Strong Minds Uganda is offering psychosocial support and mental health services to the affected population at the holding center. The Rotary Club-Mbale provided bedding (mosquito nets, blankets, bedsheets, mattresses, and mats) to 150 landslide-affected households, further strengthening the collective response efforts.

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

The Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) actively participates in National Task Force meetings, as well as Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) monthly and weekly operational coordination meetings. These platforms provide an opportunity to review forecasts, assess previous response actions, and receive updates from the field, facilitating the planning of coordinated response interventions. At the field level, the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), through the District Disaster Management Committees (DDMCs) and District Emergency Coordination and Operations Centres (DECOCs), facilitates information gathering and disaster coordination efforts. The URCS Emergency Task Force (ETF), chaired by the Secretary-General and comprising members of the Senior Management Team and a multi-skilled operational team, oversees response efforts at both regional and field levels. URCS's regional operations are managed from its local Branch Offices, which maintain close collaboration with Regional DECOCs. Branch Managers in disaster-prone districts actively



contribute to DDMC meetings, ensuring local-level coordination and preparedness.

Throughout the ongoing flooding period, URCS has maintained strong coordination with active partners who have been instrumental in supporting the National Society's efforts from the onset of the disaster. This robust collaboration has ensured an effective and cohesive response, leveraging the resources and expertise of various stakeholders to address the urgent needs of affected communities and enhance disaster management at both national and local levels.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

URCS provided four shelter tents of 200 capacity to accommodate the landslide-affected persons and those at risk living at the holding centre at the beginning of the response. However, currently, there are about 2200 people living at the holding centre in a crowded shelter.

There is need for household size shelter tents to provide dignity and privacy for the individual living at the holding centre to decongest the crowded communal shelter tents and to enable the Office of the Prime Minister and the district to implement the strategy of individual family cooking.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The evacuation site is currently overcrowded, and the government, through the Office of the Prime Minister and the district, has provided food to over 1150 people living at the holding centre. The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) initially provided meals for the affected individuals at Masugu Primary School. On 29th November, the government directed all landslide-affected individuals to relocate to the Bunambutye holding center, where they will remain until the government secures land in a safer location for resettlement. At present, OPM continues to provide food for the households at the holding center, where meals are prepared collaboratively in clusters by the affected people themselves.

Additional support has been provided by partners such as Texans and Ugandans on Mission and the Rotary Club Mbale, who have contributed food for the displaced households at the Bunambutye holding center. However, there are currently no livelihood interventions in place to strengthen the coping mechanisms of the affected population, leaving a critical gap in long-term recovery and resilience-building efforts.



Health

"Search and rescue" efforts remain ongoing, primarily led by community members with support from Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) volunteers and the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF). Due to the inaccessibility of the affected areas, rudimentary methods, such as pickaxes, hoes, and shovels, are currently being employed to recover bodies. The unstable landscape caused by continuous rains delayed the deployment of heavy equipment like excavators, further complicating recovery efforts. The process has been particularly precarious, with collapsing soils repeatedly covering areas being excavated before bodies could be retrieved. Currently, with the soil having dried, excavators provided by the Ministry of Works are complementing the efforts of community members and URCS volunteers in the search for missing persons.

As of February 2025, 49 bodies have been recovered from the landslide site, while approximately 38 individuals remain unaccounted for. To enhance future disaster response, URCS is procuring advanced search and rescue equipment, including a thermal detector. URCS has also provided personal protective equipment (PPE) to its volunteers assisting in the operations and plans to conduct training for volunteers and emergency medical technicians on search and rescue, as well as dead body management. This training aims to equip responders with skills to handle deceased individuals safely, reducing risks of exposure to potential disease outbreaks during emergencies.

The situation and the second impact to their effort to recovery with the storm of December have increase mental pressure for these communities and threaten the improvement to the living condition for the affected communities.

The affected area has a history of disease outbreaks, including cholera, during past responses. To mitigate the risk of diarrheal disease



outbreaks, URCS volunteers are currently conducting risk communication with both search and rescue participants and evacuated populations residing at the holding center. These efforts are critical in addressing immediate health risks while strengthening preventive measures within the impacted communities.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

In November, following the rapid assessment, the immediate action required to support displaced populations and restore infrastructure has been conducted, especially the provision 54 stances of emergency pit latrines, 2 communal bathing shelters, 15 handwashing facilities, water trucking and treatment is also done to provide for people at the holding centre with water for domestic use. Access to safe water and WASH infrastructure for both displaced and host communities remain critical.

Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) has constructed two inclusive emergency pit latrines, each with 10 stances, and two communal bathing shelters designated separately for males and females. To promote hygiene and disease prevention, 15 handwashing facilities have been installed, and eight refuse pits have been excavated to serve the 1,150 people currently residing at the holding center.

Additionally, URCS has established a T70 water tank, which facilitates the trucking and treatment of 40,000 to 60,000 liters of clean and safe water daily. To date, a total of 1,180,000 liters of water has been trucked and treated for domestic use by the affected people at the holding center as well as the host community. Meanwhile, URCS volunteers continue to conduct hygiene and sanitation risk communication, reaching a total of 7,991 individuals with sensitization efforts.

Despite these achievements, there remains a significant demand for a sustainable water supply at both the holding center and the resettlement land. The Bunambutye holding center, the sole facility in the Mt. Elgon region accommodating landslide-affected people and those at risk, is now housing individuals indefinitely as the government works to procure land for their relocation. Moreover, families relocated to the holding center during the August and November 2024 periods remain there due to the absence of an adequate water supply at the resettlement land.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Search and rescue efforts are ongoing, with 121 individuals still reported as missing. Families continue to endure significant emotional challenges as they struggle to locate their loved ones amidst the rising number of deceased individuals recovered from the disaster site. The increasing separation of children and family members has heightened the need for phone calls and tracing services, yet these remain unaddressed, creating substantial psychological risks for the affected population.

These psychological challenges are particularly evident among community members actively participating in search and rescue operations. The conditions at the disaster site are harrowing, with a pervasive atmosphere of despair intensified by the odor of decomposing bodies. Operations teams and volunteers on the ground share their traumatic experiences during daily update meetings, underscoring the heavy emotional toll of their work.

As of February 2025, a total of 49 bodies have been recovered from the landslide site. The ongoing efforts highlight the urgency of addressing the logistical and psychological needs of both the responders and the affected families. Continued support, including resources for tracing services and psychological interventions, remains critical to alleviate the challenges faced by these communities.



Community Engagement And Accountability

District Local Government (DLG) structures play a crucial role in supporting risk communication, and the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) has significantly leveraged on this capacity of build community-based disaster risk reduction groups. These groups ensure timely dissemination of vital information to communities, strengthening preparedness and response efforts at the grassroots level.

In addition, URCS has conducted 16 outreach sessions in both the host community and the holding center. These engagements have been instrumental in reducing conflicts between host community members and new arrivals, particularly regarding resource distribution. By fostering dialogue and mutual understanding, these sessions have promoted social cohesion and strengthened relationships among community members. Cases of domestic violence have also seen a marked decrease due to these initiatives, highlighting the importance of community engagement. Furthermore, URCS has established feedback points to provide affected individuals with access to information about services offered by partners during the emergency response. Further awareness is still recommended through RCCE activities.



Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

Over the past two years, the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) has actively contributed to preparedness and response efforts in this specific area. Despite these endeavours, the scale and impact of the landslide have surpassed the capacity of the affected communities, the district authorities, and other supporting partners to adequately address the resulting challenges.

Several emerging needs have been identified, with the top priorities being the provision of long-term livelihood interventions to enhance the coping mechanisms of the affected populations residing at the holding center. Additionally, there is an urgent requirement for assistive devices, such as wheelchairs, to support people with disabilities and the elderly who have been impacted by the disaster.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

This operation is designed to directly support 12,138 persons affected by the landslide disaster in Bulambuli District during the emergency and immediate phase. The focus is on providing shelter, Multipurpose Cash, health services, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) at the reception and holding center, as well as in the areas near the disaster site. Initially planned for a duration of three months, a request for a no-cost extension of two months is being made to ensure effective delivery of the necessary support.

Operation strategy rationale

The only strategy that has changed is the drilling of boreholes as opposed to installation of WASH Kit 5; the rest of the strategy remains the same as captured in the DREF proposal. The key results expected from that strategy remain as follows:

I) Multipurpose Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

URCS will provide unconditional cash assistance to 796 people, helping them meet non-food basic needs. 55,000 UGX (13 CHF) per person will be distributed via mobile money or other financial service providers. Post-distribution monitoring will ensure the effectiveness of this assistance.

II) Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Landslides damaged water sources and sanitation facilities, increasing the risk of waterborne diseases, limiting access to safe water and threatening the general community hygiene. This is what was prioritized by the DREF resources.

From the first impact, a limited number of water treatment tablets have been distributed to the displaced population at the holding center to address immediate needs. Then UGRCS through the DREF and other resources mobilised water trucking for water distribution in the resettlement's areas. The chlorine and water conservation & treatment material are yet to be provided.

Furthermore, the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) initially planned to deploy a WASH Kit 5, as outlined in the DREF landslide application. However, further assessments conducted in collaboration with the Bulambuli District Local Government (DLG), the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), and other partners highlighted the need for a sustainable water supply solution at the resettlement site. Consequently, URCS will drill hand-pump boreholes instead of deploying the WASH Kit 5. These boreholes are expected to provide water access for 1,488 people. A hydrological survey has already been conducted by Texans and Ugandans on Mission in coordination with the Bulambuli District Water Office to guide the drilling of a motorized borehole at the holding center. This activity is scheduled to be completed within three months, starting from 1st March 2025. This DREF will undertake the drilling while other resources will be used to equip the borehole.

The latrines and WASH infrastructure were planned to benefit from the sanitations and environmental hygiene was promoted. The garbage bins and material for cleaning were to be made available for the communities to improve the living conditions.

Additionally, URCS volunteers have been actively engaged in conducting hygiene and sanitation risk communication. To date, 7,991 individuals have benefitted from these sensitization efforts, which have significantly contributed to improving public health and hygiene awareness among the affected population

III) Protection, Gender and inclusion

Restoring Family Links (RFL) services was one of the priority considering the displacement challenge. this remains essential and at the center of the information management in the camps. NS is capitalizing on trained volunteers from other operations to ensure a successful support to the RFL.

Awareness campaigns on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) is being done to mitigate the risk and inform on the reporting channels and referrals.



IV) Shelter support and Settlement

This sector has been the most demanding for the intervention, considering the first impact of November and further impact in December that forced additional displacement, leading to adjust the shelter support to the context change. The last one being to support the process of the resettlement from schools to a permanent site. NS provided two 200-seater tents at the holding center for displaced people. Additional support expected for the coming weeks include 100 shelter kits that will be distributed to support relocation to the current/latest resettlement areas. 300 NFI was distributed from own stocks and the DREF allocation served as replenishment.

V) Health & Emergency Response

Training for 10 Red Cross Action Teams (RCATs) and Emergency Medical Teams was the first priority following the deadly incidents and the injuries and rescue reported. These teams were trained to provide further first aid as required and ensure risk communication and early warning for the landslides and floods.

Additionally, training in Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) will be provided to 10 RCATs to enhance their capacity for effectively addressing the emergency health needs of the displaced population. The procurement of 18 First Aid kits that is underway to replenish what NS used and ensure the teams are well-equipped to support emergency health services for the displaced individuals. Furthermore, the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) is in the process of procuring search and rescue equipment, including a thermal detector, to streamline search and rescue operations during future emergencies of this nature. Due to importation delays, the procurement process will take longer, necessitating a request for a no-cost extension.

VI) Community Engagement & Accountability (CEA)

Community volunteers were selected, mobilized and trained to support awareness and feedback mechanisms. The main channels and tools used for the feedback systems included: CEA kiosks & help desks that were to be set up in targeted areas to collect and address community concerns. The main information from that feedback management also aimed at informing decision making and priorities for community's risk communication for health, wash, and other sectors.

Larger audiences were targeted through radio broadcasts and public address systems that were planned to be the main channels to disseminate key information to the broader district affected.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

The response primarily targeted a total of 12,138 people who were most affected and moved to the reception/ holding centre and continue to be vulnerable due to inadequate services. The population at risk in the disaster site and neighboring areas was targeted with risk communication, WASH, and Health Promotion messages, which were planned to be delivered by the URCS volunteers through the use of IEC material. Once the validated beneficiary list from OPM was shared at the reception/ holding centre, URCS applied the vulnerability criteria to identify the following:

- The primary target is households whose houses were completely destroyed.
- Households who have lost family members or have missing family members.
- The elderly, child-headed households, orphans, persons living with disabilities, individuals living with chronic illness
- Single parent households.

Vulnerability criteria continue to be harmonized further with partners in the respective sectors and considering the ongoing assistance to avoid overlapping and ensure complementation

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The selection is in line with the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) core values of prioritizing assistance to the most vulnerable. Vulnerability criteria are generally used by UNHCR, OPM, and other humanitarian partners to identify persons with special needs (PNS) and targeting criteria for the food rationing currently used by World Food Program (WFP).

To ensure fairness and transparency in beneficiary selection, rigorous verification processes is being undertaken by OPM and URCS utilizes the verified beneficiary lists to prevent duplication and exclusion.

Total Targeted Population

Women	7,213	Rural	100%
Girls (under 18)	800	Urban	0%
Men	3,936	People with disabilities (estimated)	3%
Boys (under 18)	189		
Total targeted population	12,138		

Risk and Security Considerations

Please indicate about potential operation risk for this operations and mitigation actions

Risk	Mitigation action
Risk of intensification of the crisis, extensive landslides and flooding persists, there is a likelihood of further landslides and the expansion of flooding to additional area. With rains continuing to pour, the risk of landslides and flooding spreading all vulnerable sub-counties in the targeted districts is high.	In response to this ongoing risk, the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) will need to conduct comprehensive needs assessments and maintain continuous monitoring of the evolving situation. This approach will help identify emerging gaps in assistance, allowing for timely updates and potential extension of the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) operation. Such an extension may involve transforming the operation into an emergency appeal to encompass newly affected districts and sub counties within the target areas.
Risk of increased SGBV Cases due to the shelter situations within the communities.	URCS in this response will complement other partners in addressing shelter needs while offering adequate referrals.
Possible outbreak of water-borne diseases, including Cholera, Typhoid fever as well as upsurge of malaria cases due to increased vector. Given the context, there is a very high risk of the spread of water-borne diseases consisting of faecal-oral diseases, water-related diseases and aquatic diseases. Destroyed or flooded water points and latrines increase the lack of access drinking water in the targeted departments. This exposes the affected population to epidemics and oral-faecal disease including cholera.	URCS will distribute water treatment tablets as well as conduct hygiene and health promotion sessions. URCS will review the operational strategy based on epidemiological monitoring in coordination with the authorities.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

Possible outbreak of water borne- disease including cholera, typhoid fever given the high risk of the spread of water born disease consisting of fecal-oral disease.

increased cases of vector dieses like malaria cases. URCS due to stagnated water which is breeding ground for mosquitoes that cause malaria. URCS will distribute water treatment tables (aqua tables and water purification sachets) and has deployed a t70 tank for provision of safe water at the relocation site.

There is going to be an increased number of people at risk relocated to the evacuation site which will pose a risk when identifying the right beneficiaries. URCS intends to deploy extra shelter kits to accommodate more affected people and will use the beneficiary lists that were developed by OPM to identify the right beneficiaries.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?

Yes



Planned Intervention



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 147,822

Targeted Persons: 1,500

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of households supported with Shelter Kits	100	0
Number of households supported with essential household items	300	300
Number of shelter tents deployed	2	4
Number of NDRTs deployed	3	2

Progress Towards Outcome

Two National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members, both male, have been deployed to support the operation, focusing on Communications and Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (PMER). Their role is critical in ensuring effective documentation and enhancing the visibility of response efforts.

The Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) has deployed four shelter tents at the holding center, each with a capacity to accommodate 200 individuals. One tent has been designated for women and children, while the remaining three are allocated for men. Additionally, six classrooms at the holding center have been repurposed to provide women and children with a safer and more comfortable environment. These tents are equipped with full-sized netted windows to ensure adequate ventilation; while sandbagging and trenching have been implemented to prevent flooding, thereby improving security, human dignity, and privacy for the displaced individuals.

To further assist affected households, 300 Non-Food Item (NFI) kits have been distributed to the most vulnerable families at the holding center to address immediate needs and improve living conditions. Meanwhile, 113 shelter kits are still in the procurement process and will be prepositioned at the regional warehouse in Mbale upon acquisition and they will be distributed before the end of May, this is because URCS had to wait for the office of the Prime Ministers systemized registration and verification of the beneficiaries for settlement. The prevailing market estimates allows for the procurement of additional 13 kits.

Furthermore, the procurement of search and rescue equipment, including essential tools such as thermal detectors, is ongoing, and delivery of the equipment shall be by May. This initiative aims to enhance the capacity for effective response during future emergencies.

URCS faced a challenged of devastating storms at the old and new holding centres the fact that the area is to bear with limited trees. The NS has fabricated the tents to have them well anchored on the ground.

People Reached under Shelter is 300 households.



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 12,827

Targeted Persons: 796

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
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Number of people reached with cash assistance	796	0
Number of PDMs conducted	1	0
Number of markets assessments conducted	1	1

Progress Towards Outcome

The cash disbursement process is still pending and is scheduled to take place by the end of April. However, a cash feasibility assessment has already been conducted to ensure the effectiveness of the intervention. Beneficiary registration has been completed, with the cash distribution targeting 796 individuals due to budget constraints.

The CVA process was equally delayed by the Prime Minister's systemized registration and verification of the beneficiaries for resettlement.

CVA is going to be done through the just completed URCS Digital IM System that has just been piloted/tested with support from Netherlands Red Cross, and NITA-Uganda.

The affected persons remain vulnerable at the Holding centre since they are slowly but systematically being resettled at the allocated pieces of land.



Budget: CHF 23,963

Targeted Persons: 12,138

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people reached with risk communication	12,138	11,035
Number of volunteers trained on community based health and first Aid CBHFA	10	0
Number of first aid kits procured	20	0

Progress Towards Outcome

To ensure access to outpatient healthcare for affected individuals, the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS), in collaboration with the District Health Office, established a clinic at the reception center. The clinic operated from November 29, 2024, to February 2, 2025, providing essential primary healthcare services. These services included interventions for non-communicable diseases and general outpatient treatment. To date, the operation has provided medical support to 4,193 individuals, comprising 1,297 males and 2,896 females, who were treated for conditions such as malaria, respiratory tract infections (RTIs), and diarrheal diseases.

A standby ambulance was stationed at the reception center to enable real-time referrals for critical cases, ensuring timely medical intervention and improved coordination with higher-level healthcare facilities. This arrangement facilitated 48 referrals to health facilities within Bulambuli and Mbale districts. However, with the Ebola outbreak in Mbale, the ambulance team was reassigned to support the Ebola Response Team, adapting to emerging health priorities in the region.

Additionally, 30 volunteers were oriented and deployed to conduct risk communication, delivering health literacy messages to 11,035 camp residents. As part of Camp-Based Surveillance (CBS), volunteers shared critical health messages during resettlement activities and communal gatherings at the reception center. The NS also provided 10 first aid kits to support at the beginning of the response. These efforts significantly enhanced community awareness and promoted positive health behaviors among the affected population. Meanwhile, the procurement process of the first aid kits remains ongoing to further support the operation, the kits will be delivered to the end of April.



People reached under Health is 4,193.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 64,193

Targeted Persons: 12,138

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of Procured and distributed Menstrual Hygiene Management kits	300	100
Number of boxes of soap procured and distributed	200	30
Number of WASH NDRTs deployed	3	1
Number of emergency latrines and bathing shelters constructed	40	54
Number of people supplied with clean and safe water	12,138	13,138

Progress Towards Outcome

People reached under WASH so far is 13,138.

The operation is currently trucking 40,000 liters of water daily from a solar-powered water supply system located 800 meters from the Bunambutye resettlement center. Using a 10,000-liter water bowser, the water is transported and distributed to individuals at the holding center. To ensure safety and prevent waterborne diseases, the WASH technical team chlorinates the trucked water on a daily basis. As a result, more than 13,138 individuals now have access to clean and safe water.

In response to hygiene and sanitation needs, 255 Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits are being procured, with 100 already distributed to the most vulnerable women of reproductive age. Additionally, 214 boxes of soap are being procured, with 30 boxes already deployed to communal handwashing stations at the reception center. Two WASH National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members, one specializing in software and the other in hardware, have been deployed to provide technical support. Thirty volunteers have also been engaged to deliver risk communication on hygiene and sanitation, reaching 15,138 individuals. Meanwhile, procurement is underway for communal hands-free handwashing facilities, sanitation toolkits, chlorine powder (HTH 65%), water testing tools and consumables, and garbage bins.

To further improve sanitation, 54 latrine stances have been constructed at the new holding center and the school previously serving as the reception center. These facilities ensure adequate and separate provisions for males and females.

The Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) plans to drill hand pump boreholes at the holding center instead of deploying the WASH Kit 5. This decision aligns with the government's establishment of a permanent holding center for landslide-affected households and those living in high-risk areas, where they will stay indefinitely pending land procurement for resettlement. In August 2024, the government relocated 224 households from Bududa District to the Bunambutye resettlement holding center.

The Texans and Ugandans on Mission are currently expediting the development of one of the boreholes that was drilled by Ministry of Water and Environment, to provide water for the people currently living at the holding centre and the Bunambutye health Centre III that is located right at the holding centre. The Bulambuli District Water Officer is equally supporting technically and with essential information like the underground water maps to guide the borehole drilling by URCS.





Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 11,422

Targeted Persons: 12,138

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people reached with RFL messages	12,138	12,138
Number of RFL kits procured	10	1
Number of ARFL NDRTs deployed	1	0

Progress Towards Outcome

The Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) has incorporated gender-sensitive approaches into its response strategy to address the diverse needs of affected individuals, including children, adults of all genders, and people with disabilities. A total of 30 volunteers, comprising 16 females and 14 males, were oriented on Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) principles. A comprehensive training session is scheduled for March to further equip both volunteers and staff.

The efforts of these volunteers have significantly raised awareness on gender-based issues through various methods, including household visits, focus group discussions (SGBV sessions), community meetings, and one-on-one interactions, all supported by local cluster leaders. Information on different forms of SGBV, sexual consent, and reporting procedures has been disseminated, reaching 11,035 individuals—comprising 1,297 males and 2,896 females—against a target of 12,138.

Additionally, a range of Restoring Family Links (RFL) items is currently being procured. These include a portable tent, projector, four pull-up banners, 40 reflector jackets, 39 RFL-branded T-shirts, and 20 RFL-branded backpacks.

People reached under PGI is 12138.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 8,120

Targeted Persons: 12,138

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of CEA meetings held	3	16
Number of CEA kiosks established	8	2
Number of people provided with clear CEA mechanisms	12,138	2,383

Progress Towards Outcome

Twenty volunteers will be trained and deployed to support protection activities, including Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), and Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI). So far, 16 CEA sessions have been conducted, improving community participation and awareness. At the holding center, three volunteers (two females and one male) manage complaint desks to collect and address feedback, while 18 volunteers conduct monitoring activities and household visits to provide RCCE and share information on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV). Although the initial plan included eight kiosks, budget



constraints have reduced this to two kiosks, with an additional one currently being procured.

To date, 2,383 individuals have been reached with RCCE messages, enhancing community awareness and engagement. Volunteers supporting WASH, Health, and PGI have also been oriented on the Restoration of Family Links (RFL) to address community concerns effectively. These efforts, alongside the ongoing procurement of an additional kiosk, are aimed at ensuring the operation meets the needs of the affected population while maintaining inclusion and accountability.

People reached under CEA is 2,383.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 9,585

Targeted Persons: 38

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of monitoring missions conducted	2	1
Number of financial spot checks conducted	1	1

Progress Towards Outcome

A financial spot check has been conducted to ensure accountability and compliance with established financial procedures, reinforcing transparency and adherence to best practices in resource management.

A field monitoring mission by the IFRC Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (PMER) team is scheduled for March to assess the progress and impact of ongoing interventions, ensuring alignment with operational objectives.

In addition the national Society have undertaken a number of activities in this focus area which include Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) exercise was conducted for Non-Food Items (NFIs) and Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits to evaluate their distribution and utilization. This process ensures that the items effectively meet beneficiaries' needs and provides valuable insights to enhance future interventions.

In addition, weekly and monthly progress reports are being prepared to document key activities, challenges, and achievements, enabling data-driven decision-making and improving response efforts. To strengthen Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) processes, URCS PMER has enhanced data collection mechanisms, including training volunteers in regular data collection at the community level. Volunteers are equipped with tools to gather and analyze feedback, ensuring that beneficiaries' concerns are effectively addressed. These integrated efforts enhance operational responsiveness, promote community engagement, and uphold accountability throughout the intervention.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 57,087

Targeted Persons: 38

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of monitoring visits	10	10
# of lesson learnt workshop conducted and reported	1	0



Progress Towards Outcome

Ten internal monitoring visits have been conducted by the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Director, along with Senior Management, the WASH Engineer, Operations Leads, the Branch Manager, the PMER National Disaster Response Team (NDRT), and the WASH NDRTs. These visits aimed to assess the progress and effectiveness of the response and ensure that activities are aligned with operational objectives. Additionally, an International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) monitoring mission is scheduled for March 2025 to further evaluate the operation and provide technical guidance.

At the conclusion of the DREF operation, a lessons-learned workshop is planned to review key insights, challenges, and best practices, fostering continual improvement for future interventions. In the meantime, 30 volunteers have been trained and deployed to support critical activities, including search and rescue, tracing, WASH and health awareness, and first aid interventions. These efforts aim to ensure comprehensive and timely support to the affected communities.

About Support Services

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

This operation will deploy 30 volunteers backed up by 6 NDRTs and 5 staff members from both the affected branch and the headquarters. Volunteers will be tasked to undertake search and rescue, tracing, wash and health awareness and first aid while NDRTs will be deployed on the following thematic areas; Three for Wash, one for communications, one for PMER and one for RFL Staff members will provide coordination and technical support.

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

URCS will use the logistical capacity in the region. This includes the personnel (Operations Manager, NDRTs, RCATs, land cruiser vehicle). More capacity will be deployed from the Headquarters in Kampala. The response action will mainly utilise local procurement and where need be for international procurement, IFRC will be engaged for support. The operational and maintenance costs will be covered through this response action funding.

How will this operation be monitored?

Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) has robust PMER (Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting) capacity, which will be utilized during the landslide response operation. The URCS has dedicated staff responsible for ensuring that monitoring, reporting, and evaluation activities are carried out in a systematic manner. And PMER NDRT shall be deployed to augment the data collection at field level. The cluster PMER officer and Disaster Management Delegate will undertake three monitoring missions while emergency finance delegate will conduct one financial spot check. The cluster logistics and procurement senior officer will through the operation work with URCE supply chain in procurements.

The PMER Shall support the overall reporting framework of the operation, data collection (Where applicable online data collection shall be prioritized using KOBO), designing and deployment of assessment tools as well as participating in such assessments, post distribution monitoring for NFI distributed and Cash or Voucher assistance provided, field support supervision, support in conducting coordination and conducting lessons learnt workshop for the operation.

The lessons learnt workshop shall review the quality of the operations, self-assessment of the teams involved in the operation including partners and stakeholders, challenges and key lessons to inform the next operation.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

URCS has a well-established communications capacity to support its emergency response operations. URCS has an active communications team responsible for managing both internal and external communications, ensuring timely and accurate information sharing during disasters. The team is skilled in managing media relations, producing reports, and using various communication channels, including social media, radio, and press releases, to update stakeholders on the status of operations and needs.

For the landslide response, URCS will manage communications through its designated team, which will work in close collaboration with the IFRC Communications team. The National Society's communications capacity includes the use of digital platforms to share updates



with the public and stakeholders, providing real-time information on relief activities, challenges faced, and the needs of affected communities.



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRUG053 - UGANDA RED CROSS SOCIETY LANDSLIDES

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	268,347
Shelter and Basic Household Items	147,822
Livelihoods	0
Multi-purpose Cash	12,827
Health	23,963
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	64,193
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	11,422
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	8,121
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	66,672
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	9,585
National Society Strengthening	57,087
TOTAL BUDGET	335,019

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)



Contact Information

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

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