

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Burkina Faso: Meningitis

DREF operation n° MDRBF009
GLIDE n° FL-2010-000039-BFA
3 March 2010

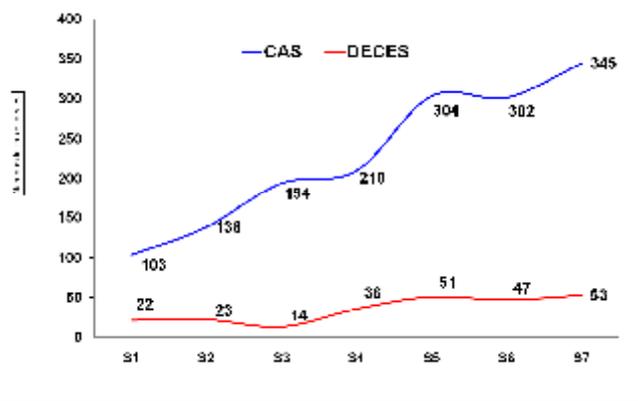
The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

CHF 172,928 (USD 160,669 or EUR 118,071) has been allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Burkinabe Red Cross Society (BRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to some 500,000 beneficiaries (direct or indirect). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Burkina-Faso has again been afflicted by a new meningitis outbreak, with some 1,251 cases and 193 deaths registered within six weeks. Considering the rapid spread of the disease and the high lethality rate, the BRCS, with support from the International Federation's

Regional Health Department in Dakar, has initiated an immediate response by working with the Ministry of Health to conduct a social mobilization campaign to mitigate the effects of the epidemic. This DREF operation aims at supporting the National Society to carry out the planned activities for an estimated 500,000 vulnerable people (directly or indirectly) in the affected areas. Despite the fact that the Federation has made considerable efforts to reinforce preparation efforts for eventual meningitis outbreaks, funding prior to these events remains elusive and therefore National Societies unfortunately often find themselves reacting by requesting support from resources such as the Federation's DREF to contain the threat.

This operation is expected to be implemented over 3 months, and will therefore be completed by 1 June, 2010; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by September, 2010). [<click here for the DREF budget, here for contact details, or here to view the map of the affected area>](#)



The situation

Burkina Faso is a West African country located in the heart of the African meningitis belt stretching from Senegal to Djibouti. The hot and dry climate is favourable to the outbreak of meningitis epidemics from October to May. The country has been once again hit by a massive outbreak.

- The meningitis situation from week 1 to week 6 reflects 1,251 cases with 193 deaths with a lethality rate of approximately 6.5%.

- The most affected districts are Pama, Titao, Sapouy, and Batié with Pama attack rate of 54.5 cases per 100,000 inhabitants; Titao attack rate of 14.5 cases per 100,000 inhabitants, Sapouy attack rate of 6 cases per 100,000 inhabitants and Batié attack rate of 5.1 cases per 100,000 inhabitants.
- The districts on alert at week 6 (17/02/2010) are: Kongoussi, Léo and Nanoro.

The Government has sent field teams from the central level to support the efforts of medical districts and regions. At the Ministry of Health, the following activities are being implemented:

- Trigger the response immunization in endemic areas;
- Conduct vaccination campaign in the districts of Sapouy and Léo;
- Strengthen the stock of medicines.

A mass vaccination campaign has started in week 5 using polysaccharide vaccine A+B in the district of Pama. There is still a need to monitor the situation according to the Head of Service of Epidemiological Surveillance, and there is a need for more assistance especially in the most affected districts where immunization campaigns will be held. Social mobilization and case finding by the BRCS are vital in this operation, especially as the situation is being worse than last year, and the disease is evolving very quickly.

Coordination and partnerships

The BRCS regularly participates in coordination meetings organized by the Ministry of Health at local, district and national levels. The BRCS is also monitoring the situation in close collaboration with the Service of Epidemiological Surveillance. There is also a need for more assistance especially in the most affected districts where immunization campaign will be held.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The BRCS has the knowledge and experience of the management of meningitis epidemic that will be made use again in this outbreak. The actions that will be taken are the following:

- The National Society member staff and volunteers are alerted enabling the central level to remain in contact with the health authorities at the highest level;
- The National Society has contacted the RC branches in the affected areas seeking for more information on the needs;
- BRCS is part of the MoH/inter-agency coordination committee that monitors the epidemiological situation on a weekly basis;
- The BRCS is proposing this urgent action to support the vaccination campaign through social mobilization and public awareness efforts in the affected areas.
- The situation is of special concern in the affected districts where the Government is seeking support from partners to face the increasing number of cases.

The needs

Beneficiary selection: The beneficiaries of this operation are the estimated 500,000 vulnerable people in affected areas. The community at large, the Red Cross volunteers and staff shall indirectly benefit from the operation through health education and training in the prevention of epidemics. The needs of the affected people will be reached through IEC, sensitization activities and immunization mass campaign. Some 840 Red Cross volunteers and 70 supervisors will be retrained (or trained) in the affected areas to fill the gap with the others affected regions. Volunteers will also refer patients to health centers and they will also carry out health education in the community.

The proposed operation

The proposed intervention differs from those in the past in the following three ways: the BRCS will vaccinate its volunteers (this was not the case before); and volunteers will employ both direct and indirect contact with beneficiaries (instead of only indirect contact in prior years); two campaigns are planned instead of one as in prior efforts.

The operation aims to strengthen the epidemiological surveillance system in collaboration with the Direction of Prevention through Vaccination (Direction de la Prévention par la vaccination (DPV), an agency of the Ministry of Public Health and the social mobilization through IEC conducted by BFRC volunteers. The network of volunteers will effectively contribute to the awareness of populations in the affected areas.

Goal: To prevent and mitigate the spread of meningitis in Burkina Faso.

General objective: To contribute to the reduction of the spread of meningitis among 500,000 most vulnerable people in the 38 districts within the country for three months.

Emergency health	
Objective 1: To provide 840 BRCS volunteers and 70 supervisors with basic knowledge about the causes, signs and symptoms, prevention and effects of meningitis.	
Expected result: BRCS volunteers and supervisors have acquired basic knowledge about causes, signs, prevention and effects of meningitis and have attained the necessary skills to create awareness on meningitis among the target population.	Activities planned: The BRCS with its network of volunteers in the affected districts will train and retrain a brigade of 840 health volunteers.
Specific objective 2: To organize BRCS volunteers to reach about 500,000 people (directly and indirectly) throughout awareness and social mobilization during immunization campaigns.	
Expected result: some 840 BRCS volunteers have reached 500,000 people with correct information on preventive measures against meningitis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The brigade (teams) of health volunteers will conduct household visits and group discussions. They will work on awareness raising, active case finding and referral to health centres and health posts during two campaigns • These teams will be supervised and monitored by 70 supervisors who have not only the responsibility for data collection, but they will also ensure the proper coordination of burden-sharing among different teams. • The health coordinator, the volunteering focal point and the communication coordinator will oversee communication, in all selected departments where activities will be running by volunteers.

Communication and information dissemination	
Objective: To make the BRCS social mobilization activities more effective and visible through awareness raising on meningitis among the population.	
Expected result: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National and international Medias have published articles and stories on BRCS action to contain meningitis that will highlight the role of volunteers. • RC volunteers wear T shirts/bibs with RC logo, and IEC materials are also stamped with the RC emblem. 	Activities planned: Information dissemination via the BRCS network of volunteers in the affected.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The International Federation's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In Burkina Faso:** Weleti Maiga National Director of Burkinabe Red Cross Society; phone +226 76 66 56 77 email: maigaweleti@yahoo.fr;
- **In Senegal:** Dr Aissa Fall, Sahel Health Manager, phone ++221 77 638 21 36; Fax: +221 33 820 25 34 email: aissa.fall@ifrc.org
- **In Geneva:** Christine South Quality assurance (operation): +41 22 730 45 29 email: Christine.south@ifrc.org

For the mobilization of relief items and logistics inquiries:

- **In Dubai:** Peter Glenister, Regional Logistics Coordinator, Phone: +971.4.88.33 887 ext 14, Mobile: +97.150.600.91.66 email: peter.glenister@ifrc.org

[<DREF budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

DREF OPERATION BUDGET SUMMARY

Burkina Faso: Meningitis; DREF n° MDRBF009

BUDGET CHF

RELIEF NEEDS

Shelter	
Construction Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	6,319
Food	
Seeds & Plants	
Water & Sanitation	
Medical & First Aid	11,049
Teaching Materials	4,477
Utensils & Tools	
Other Supplies & Services	
Total Relief Needs	21,845

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT

Computers & Telecom Equipment
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.
Medical Equipment
Other Machinery & Equipment

TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES

Storage - Warehouse	
Distribution & Monitoring	4,387
Transport & Vehicles Costs	3,681

PERSONNEL

International Staff	
Regionally Deployed Staff	
National Staff	
National Society Staff	116,898
Consultants	

WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

Workshops & Training	8,252
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GENERAL EXPENSES

Travel	3,500
Information & Public Relations	1,852
Office running costs	
Communication Costs	1,273
Financial Charges	

SERVICE FEES

Service Fees

PROGRAMME SUPPORT

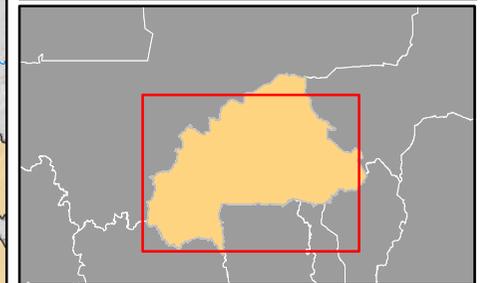
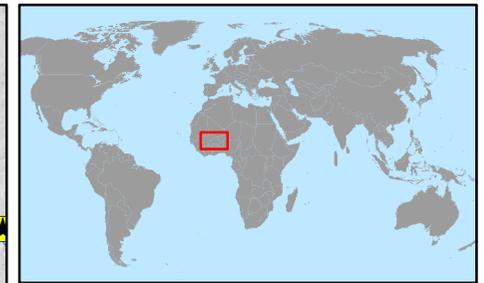
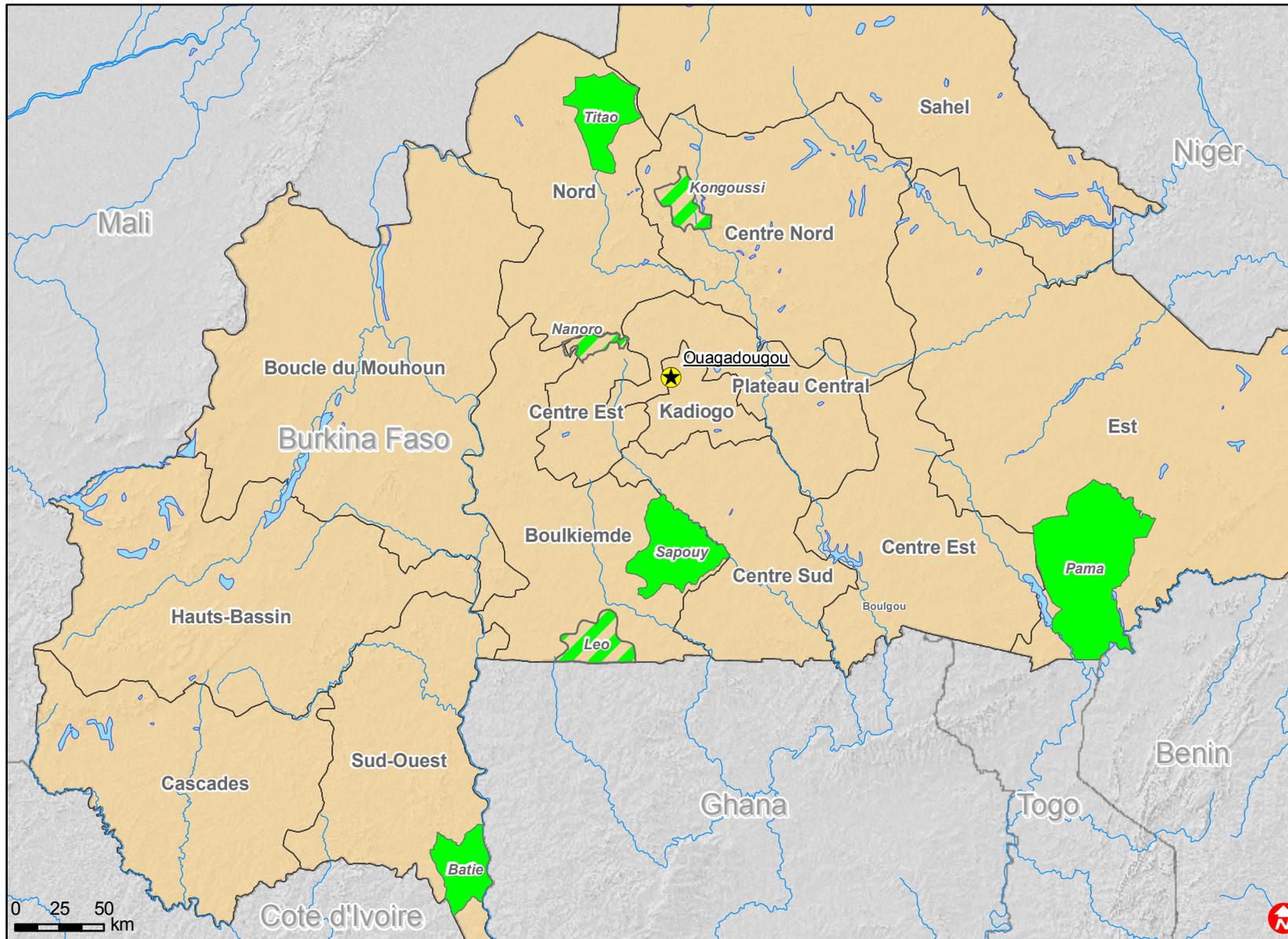
Programme Support - PSR	11,240
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Total Operational Needs **151,083**

DREF ALLOCATION **172,928**



Burkina Faso: Meningitis



- Capitals
- Rivers
- Lakes
- Districts on alert
- Most affected districts