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DREF operation update Nigeria /West Africa: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRNG010 GLIDE n° FF-2011-000088-NGA Update n°1 –15 December, 2011

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) 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 emergency response. 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.

Period covered by this update: 25th July- 30 September 2011.

Summary: CHF 289,282 was allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 25 July, 2011 to support the Nigeria Red Cross Society (NRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to some 12,500 beneficiaries for 4 months, by conducting in-depth assessment, supporting 2011 flood preparedness programs and prepositioning relief materials. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

The NRCS has been providing assistance to some of the persons affected by the floods disaster caused by the heavy downpour in Lagos and Ibadan, south-west of Nigeria in July and August, 2011 respectively.



Red Cross volunteers presenting NFIs to an aged beneficiary in Oyo State/NRCS

The NRCS collaborated with Lagos State Emergency Management Agency (LASEMA), National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and other humanitarian agencies to carry out a joint assessment in the affected areas. With the technical support of the IFRC, the national society has distributed 75% of its target relief items, and 65.4% of water and sanitation items during this reporting period. 187 Red Cross volunteers have been trained on registration and distribution strategies as well as hygiene promotion, and they are effectively involved in the ongoing implementation of planned activities in Lagos State. Additionally, the NRCS, supported by the DREF pre-positioned items, provided support to 300 household in 2 most flood-affected areas in neighbouring Oyo State.

This operation has a duration of 4 months, with a Final Report due by February, 2012.

The NRCS and IFRC express their appreciation to Netherlands and Canadian Red Cross and governments for their contributions to the DREF in replenishment of the allocation made for this operation. The major donors and partners of DREF include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the U.S.A., as well as DG-ECHO, the U.K. Department for International Development (DFID), the Medtronic and Z Zurich Foundations and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the National Society, thanks all for their generous contributions. Details of contributions to DREF are found at: www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/Active/MAA00010_2011.pdf.

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The situation

The massive flooding of the entire Lagos metropolis, south west of Nigeria caused by a day-long heavy downpour coupled with the erection of buildings along the channel of rivers, canals and floodways; dumping of refuse and industrial wastes in drainage channels as well as silting of river channels resulted in loss of lives and the destruction properties worth thousands of US Dollars in the state.

The situation was further worsened by the collapse of a link bridge to areas such as Denro, Akute, Alagbole in the outskirt of Lagos State thereby limiting population movement from the affected areas. The flooding led to collapse of building in areas like Oniwaya area of Agege, Gbagada/Oworonshoki, Aboru, and some other areas. The intensity of the flow carried vehicles away from the road and dumped them into the canal. According to the Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS), based on rapid assessment carried out, about 5,393 households were affected in 31 districts/streets. Toilet facilities were destroyed, water sources, including pipelines were broken, while wells were contaminated by flood water. Further assesment identified Alimosho, Ebute Metta and Agege as the worst hit areas.

In the course of the intervention in Lagos metropolis, another flood disaster affected neighbouring Oyo State, The floods ravaged Ibadan, the state capital and its environs on Saturday, 27 August, 2011 leading to the loss of 120 lives and destruction of property. More than 50 buildings collapsed and many underground water sources got contaminated. The earlier collapse of the wall of Eleyele Dam which was yet to be repaired brought in uncontrolled water into residential and commercial areas. The flood affected 11 Local Government areas of Ibadan North, Ibadan South West, Oluyole, Ido, Ibadan North West, Egbeda, Ona Ara, Ibadan North East, Lagelu, Akinyele. The impact of the disaster prompted the state government to commence the process of clearing all structures erected on drainage system in the city.

Coordination and partnerships

The NRCS continued to collaborate affected state governments and other actors to respond to the flood situation. The rapid assessment carried out by the state branches of the national society served as the basis for initial response by the State and Federal Government institutions. This is coupled with memoranda of understanding (MoUs) with organizations such as UNICEF who usually implement their interventions through the NRCS. In Oyo State, The National Emergency Management Agency solicited the support of the Nigerian Red Cross for rapid assessment and in the distribution of both food and non-food relief items. The relief materials were distributed at Agbowo, Apete, Abey Technical Secondary School, Odo-Ona Elewe . Items like mattresses, rice, vegetable oil, blankets and maize were distributed to sustain the beneficiaries for a week. Oyo State Government has commenced the re-construction of collapsed bridges, a team of engineers were brought from CCECC Nigeria Limited(a construction firm) and has started the assessment. While engineers from the State Ministry of Works commenced the construction of foot-bridges at the Apete and Olomi areas of Ibadan, the state capital to link communities for the time being. Furthermore, the NRCS, based on the forecast provided by the IFRC through its collaboration with ACMAD is liaising with Nigerian Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and State Emergency Management Agencies (SEMAs) on flood preparedness.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The NRCS Lagos State Branch provided initial response by mobilizing and deploying 80 volunteers in the affected communities to assist in the evacuation to safer areas and provision of first aid service. The Red Cross also provided psychological support to the affected population and has been collaborating with other actors especially LASEMA and NEMA in information sharing and support through the volunteers. The NRCS carried out a rapid assessment of the situation in Lagos State which has served as the baseline data for the other response activities. The Red Cross is also intervening in the most affected areas of Alimosho, Ebute Metta and Agege through the distribution of NFIs and WASH materials as well as sensitization. The Red Cross has also helped in advocating for community participation for problem solving. In Ebutte Meta, the affected person have come together to task themselves and liaise with the Government towards clearing the blocked major



The Red Cross at a FGD with community representatives of affected persons in Ebutte Metta, Lagos State. NRCS/GRCS

drainage leading to the canal that caused the flooding of their area.

A Contingency Planning meeting was held in Kaduna State to review and update the NRCS contingency plans of the state branches for flood preparedness purposes based on the ACMAD forecast. 11 most vulnerable branches were identified, the Branch Secretaries, Disaster Management Coordinators and Health Care Coordinators developed synergized plans that will align with the national contingency plan and also ensure that plans are made for secondary threats like cholera.

In Oyo State, the Nigerian Red Cross volunteers assisted in rapid assessment and registration of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Abey Technical Secondary School, Odo-Ona, Elewe and Sacred Heart Primary School, Odo-Ona, Oke-Ayo in Ibadan. The Nigerian Red Cross Society assisted in search and rescue, as well as, the recovery of dead bodies. The volunteers participated in the distribution of food and non-food relief materials at the invitation of National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA). The Red Cross has also been administering first aid services and providing psychological supports to the affected. Tracing services were also set up for those who were declared missing. This has yielded positive results with 2 children who were found and reunited with their families.

Based on the support through the DREF prepositioned items, the national society carried out an in-depth assessment of the situation in the communities of Odo Ona (Apata road) in Ibadan South West LGA, Odo Ona (Elewe) in Ibadan North LGA and Odo Ona Kekere Oluyole in Olu Ole LGA in Oyo State. Based on the assessment 350 most vulnerable households were identified for assistance. NFIs including mats, buckets, blankets and jerry cans were distributed to the beneficiaries. The NRCS and volunteers also carried out WASH sensitization in the affected communities and distributed Aquatabs to assist them in water purification.

Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)	
Outcome : Some 1,500 most affected households have received specific quantity and quality of non-food items based on the assessment and selection criteria from Red Cross	
Outputs and activities planned:	
Expected Output Relief items are procured and distributed to 1,500 most affected families and selected through established Red Cross selection criteria.	Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure and distribute 3,000 blankets and 3,000 sleeping mats to 1,500 most affected households; • Procure and distribute 1,000 mosquito nets to 500 most affected persons • Mobilize and brief 200 Red Cross volunteers on registration and distribution strategies of the Red Cross; • Disseminate key messages concerning LLIN use (targeting pregnant women and caretakers of children under 5) • Conduct a needs assessment in the target communities; • Control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user; • Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide report on distribution of relief items.

** Pregnant and Lactating mothers and caretakers for children under 5

Progress:

NFIs distribution

Expected output	Indicator	NFIs	Target No	Actual No distributed	% distributed to date	Overall %
Relief items are procured and distributed to 1,500 most affected families and selected through established Red Cross selection criteria.	1,500 households provided with blankets, buckets and mats, and 500 most vulnerable receive mosquito nets	Blankets	3,000	3000	100	75
		Mats	3,000	3000	100	
		Buckets	1500	1500	100	
		Mosquitoe nets	1000	-	0	

The distribution of the NFIs has gone up to an average of 75% (including blankets and mats and kitchen sets). The NRCS with the support of one RDRT member, six NDRT members and 50 Red Cross volunteers carried out an in-depth assessment in Ebute Meta, Alimosho and Agege. The assessment carried out with

the support of the IFRC West Coast revealed the extent of basic needs of the affected persons which the Red Cross is addressing through this operation.

A total of 187 Red Cross volunteers have been mobilized in Ebute Meta, Alimosho and Agege in Lagos State, and trained on registration and distribution strategy. The trained Red Cross volunteers effectively carried out the registration of beneficiaries and distribution of NFIs to the registered beneficiaries during this reporting period. Procured items had been prepositioned in the NRCS branch office in Lagos well ahead of the distribution dates and the IFRC continued to receive regular update on the stock movement.

Challenges:

Movement of relief materials from the warehouse to the affected areas was very tedious due to heavy traffic and poor road linkages. The national society had to contract commercial transporters who are familiar with the road network to move the items to the designated points.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion	
Outcome: The risks of waterborne diseases are reduced through hygiene promotion, health education and availability of safe drinking water in target communities in the affected states.	
Outputs and activities planned:	
Expected Output - 1,500 most affected households and target communities have improved knowledge on WASH - 1,500 households have access to safe water, hygiene and sanitation facilities	Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize and train 200 Red Cross volunteers on good hygiene, water purification method and health promotion; • Procure 10 first-aid kits to be used by volunteers in the affected areas; • Procure and distribute water purification tablets and 1500 pieces of jerry cans to 1,500 most affected households; • Procure and distribute 6,000 bars of soap^{***}, 500 kitchen sets^{**} • Procure and distribute sanitation materials (glove, shovels, face masks, wheel barrows) • Mobilize community members to undertake drainage cleaning and environmental sanitation. • Sensitize the target communities on water purification, good hygiene and health practices; • Sensitize the targeted households on proper use of available sanitation facilities • Provide first-aid services to the affected communities

^{**} Pregnant and Lactating mothers and caretakers for children under 5

^{***}4 soaps per household

Progress:

WASH items distribution

Expected output	Indicator	WASH items	Target No	Actual No distributed	% distributed to date	Overall %
- 1,500 most affected households and target communities have improved knowledge on WASH - 1,500 affected households have access to safe water, hygiene and sanitation facilities	1500 are trained and receive WASH items	First Aid kits	5	5	100	65.4
		Jerry cans	1,500	1500	100	
		ORS	10000	6000	60	
		Aqua tabs	10 cartons	7 cartons	70	
		Soap	6,000	6000	100	
		Kithchen sets	500	-	0	
		Sanitation Materials	200	-	0	
		Training of volunteers	200	187	93.5	

The implementation of the WASH activities is 65.4% completed (including jerry cans, ORS, aqua tabs, soap) 55 Red Cross volunteers from Alimosho, 70 from Ebute Metta and 62 from Agege respectively have been trained on community-based hygiene and health promotion. The volunteers have also assisted in reaching 1,500 beneficiary households with jerry cans, aqua tabs and soap. The trained volunteers are carrying out good hygiene sensitization in their areas. The WASH orientation for local volunteers and the good hygiene campaign in the affected communities have gone a long way in improving the hygiene level in the identified areas of Ebute Metta, Alimosho and Agege. Training on the use of aqua tabs has also helped in improving

drinking water quality in where the surface and underground water has been contaminated. The jerry cans provided have also helped in ensuring that the people separate their drinking water from the water use for other domestic purposes. The operation received 5 first aid kits which helped in the provision of basic first aid during and after the flood disaster.

Challenges:

Given the fact that the affected communities are in a metropolitan city, most inhabitants are usually not available for the sensitization orientation when the intervention started because they go out early in the morning to look for menial jobs to sustain themselves. However through consultations meetings held at the community level, the method of sensitizing was rationed with women and children being available in specific weekdays while the men are usually available at the weekends for the sensitization orientations and activities.

Prepositioning of Contingency Supplies (Emergency Shelter, WASH and Non-food items)	
Outcome: Procurement and Stocking of Non-Food Items, WASH and Health materials and Emergency Shelter for 1,000 most affected households in the event of Flood disasters within the WC based on the assessment and selection criteria from Red Cross	
Outputs and activities planned:	
Expected Output	Activities planned:
NFIs, Emergency Shelter and WASH items for 1,000 households are procured for prepositioning to respond in the event of flood disasters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> develop CBAs and other procurement process based on Federations guidelines Procure non-food items (blankets, mats, buckets, kitchen sets etc) , Emergency Shelters, WASH items and cholera kits

Progress:

In Oyo State, 300 most affected households were targeted and benefited from NFIs distribution including blankets, mats, buckets, kitchen sets and aqua tabs. This was made possible through the pre-positioned stock funded from this DREF.

Relief distribution

Expected output	Indicator	NFIs	Target No	Actual No distributed	% distributed to date	Overall %
Relief items are procured and distributed to 300 most affected families and selected through established Red Cross selection criteria.	300 households provided with blankets, mats buckets, jerry cans and soap bars	Blankets	600	600	100	100%
		Mats	600	600	100	
		Buckets	300	300	100	
		Aqua tabs	3 ctns	3 ctns	100	
		Jerry cans	300	300	100	
		Bar Soap	1200	1200	100	

Challenges:

The distance of the pre-positioned items was a challenge. The materials were warehoused in Abuja. However, the relationship with established transporters helped in getting the materials to Oyo State in good time for the rapid response.

Logistics

The team made use of the NRCS Lagos State Branch vehicles during the assessment and relief operations in Lagos. However, trucks were hired to transport materials to affected areas and to the NRCS warehouse for the prepositioning of the relief materials.

Communications – Advocacy and Public information

The NRCS has continued to collaborate with local media in Lagos to increase the visibility of the Red Cross during the operation. The IFRC deployed its Communications Officer from the West Coast Office, Abuja to support the operation team in Lagos in profiling the efforts of the Red Cross in assisting the population affected by the floods. Short interview were organized with the media team during the first phase of distribution to highlight the activities of the NRCS supported by the IFRC in community empowerment in disaster reduction. In Oyo State the NRCS has been collaborating with the Oyo State Broadcasting

Cooperation (State TV and Radio) and the Nigerian Tribune Newspaper on its humanitarian support to the flood affected persons.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **IFRC Regional Representation:** Jerry Niati, Ag. Regional Representative, West Coast, Abuja, Nigeria, office phone; +234 098703924, mobile phone: +234 7034142708, email: niati.jerry@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Zone:** Daniel Bolanos, Disaster Management Coordinator, Africa; phone: +27 (0)11 303 9735, mobile: +27 (0)835566911; email: daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org
- **Geneva:** Pablo Medina, Senior Officer, Operations Quality Assurance; phone: +41 22 730 4381; email: pablo.medina@ifrc.org
- **Regional Logistics Unit (RLU):** Kai Kettunen, Regional Logistics Delegate, phone +971 4457 2993, email: kai.kettunen@ifrc.org

For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

- **IFRC Zone:** Pierre Kremer, Acting Head of Resource Mobilization; phone: +41 792264832; email: pierre.kremer@ifrc.org

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

- **IFRC Zone:** Robert Ondrusek, PMER/QA Delegate, Johannesburg; phone: +27.11.303.9744; email: robert.ondrusek@ifrc.org

DREF history:

- This DREF was initially allocated on 6th May 2011 for CHF 246,829 for 3 months to assist 7,500 beneficiaries.
- 1 DREF operation update so far issued.



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How we work

All IFRC 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 IFRC'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.

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The IFRC'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.