

# Operation Update Report

## Democratic Republic of the Congo: Floods in Kinshasa

DREF n° MDRCD029	GLIDE n° <a href="#">FL-2019-000160-COG</a>
Operation update n° 1; date of issue: 11 April 2020	Timeframe covered by this update: December 2019 - April 2020
Operation start date: 12 December 2019	Operation timeframe: 06 months (New end date: 11 June 2020)
Funding requirements (CHF): 344,152	
N° of people being assisted: 5,000 people (1,000 households)	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: IFRC	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Ministry of Health (MoH), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), WFP, UNFPA, and UNWOMEN	

### Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

The signing of the MoU with the National Society (NS) took considerable time, until late January 2020. Besides, the activities started towards late February 2020 due to NS internal administrative delays. With the recent outbreak of COVID-19, the operation is again halted as Government authorities have decided to confine the Kinshasa province until late April 2020, as a measure to stop the spread of the pandemic. This unexpected situation is occurring at a time when the NS and IFRC teams were rushing to complete the operation by 11 April 2020 as initially planned. This will no longer be possible due to the new restrictions in place. Thus, this operations update is requesting a two months no-cost timeframe extension of the DREF operation, until 11 June 2020. This will allow NS to complete activities if lockdown ends in ending April and allow sufficient time to close down the operation. Additionally, the NS has expressed the need to extend the contract of the Rapid Response personnel (1 PMER and 2 WASH) who have been supporting them with this operation. Thus, this update is also extending the contract of the Rapid Response personnel by one month because of travel restrictions and in the meantime, they can support NS to complete activities and begin drafting of final report.

<Please click [here](#) for financial report and [here](#) for contacts>

## A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

### Description of the disaster

From October to November 2019, torrential rains caused serious flooding in seven provinces of the Democratic Republic of Congo, including Nord - Ubangi, Sud -Ubangi, Mongala, Bas -Uele, Haut-Uele, Maniema, Sud-Kivu, Kasai, Kinshasa and Tshopo, with Nord-Ubangi, Sud-Ubangi, Mongala and Kinshasa provinces being the most affected provinces. The IFRC tried to mobilize international support to respond to the floods and secured funding from USAID for the response in Nord Ubangi province, and DREF funds for the response in Kinshasa through this [DREF operation](#). The situation described in this report relates

exclusively to the intervention in Kinshasa with DREF funds. Another reporting line exists for the response in Nord Ubangi.

In Kinshasa, the rains continued until March 2020 and forecast estimate that the rains will continue until June 2020, with possible new flooding. So far, the situation has not reached a level where there is a need to revise the operation to include new people in need.

However, there is an ongoing outbreak of COVID-19 in Kinshasa, which has already affected about 90 people and killed 6 as at 6 April 2020. The flood operation is halted because of the measures taken to contain the COVID-19 outbreak.

## Summary of current response

### Overview of Host National Society

Immediately after the flooding occurred in Kinshasa, the NS deployed 135 Red Cross volunteers to the field to conduct a rapid multi-sector assessment of the situation. This resulted in the identification of the most vulnerable people and their urgent needs, including emergency shelter, first aid, non-food items (NFIs) distribution, environmental sanitation and hygiene promotion.

In addition to the assessment, the NS trained 90 volunteers and supervisors on sensitization, distribution and sanitation. So far, the trained volunteers have conducted hygiene promotion activities (sensitization) and sanitation activities in targeted 9 communes of Kinshasa. Sensitization activities have reached a total of 144,683 people, including 74,982 women, 51,085 men, 10,402 girls and 8,214 boys.

The volunteers also conducted hygiene promotion activities in 29 schools, reaching 12,937 children and 505 teachers. They extended the same activities in public places such as churches and markets, reaching 2,960 people. Red Cross volunteers were supported during those activities by community relays.

Moreover, Red Cross volunteers disinfected 11,372 houses and 11,970 latrines for 39,070 people, including 20,808 women, 12,702 men, 3,038 girls and 2,522 boys. The volunteers supported by community volunteers also disinfected 593 classrooms in 29 schools. In addition, the volunteers cleaned gutters and distributed chlorine to targeted communes.

During hygiene promotion activities, DRC RC volunteers recorded community feedback indicating that there is a decrease in the number of flies and mosquitoes in their neighborhoods as a result of disinfection. The beneficiaries also reported having slept well during the week following disinfection activities. They are hoping that with the chlorinated drinking water there will be less diarrhea in children during the following days. Thus, they are requesting DRC RC to regularly carry out the same activities several times in the year, with the contribution of communities.

### Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

IFRC re-established its Country Office in Kinshasa in 2018 and has been supporting the DRC RC from there since then.

ICRC is also present in the country and has been supporting the NS mostly in eastern region of the DRC.



*Training of DRC RC volunteers on disinfection techniques.*  
© DRC RC

In addition, the DRC RC is carrying out programs with the Spanish RC, Swedish RC, Belgium RC and French RC. These include capacity building projects in first aid, disaster preparedness and management, health and resilience in several provinces of the country.

The NS' disaster response stockpile pre-positioned in Kinshasa province to respond specifically to the floods was used in this operation.

### Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

In Nord-Ubangi, Government supported the identification of the communities, and distributed food items to the most vulnerable people affected by flooding.

UNICEF, UNFPA and UNHCR have responded in accordance with their respective mandates by providing food assistance or HHIs, as well as by distributing protection, dignity kits, etc.

## Needs analysis and scenario planning

### Needs analysis

In Kinshasa, the rains continued until March 2020, and forecast estimate that the rains will continue until June 2020, with possible new flooding. So far, the situation has not reached a level where there is a need to revise the operation to include new people in need. However, with the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a need to extend the operational timeframe to ensure that activities delayed by the lockdown are implemented and the Country team can close down operation properly.

### Operation Risk Assessment

The major risk affecting the operation at this point is the COVID-19 outbreak in Kinshasa. Close to 90 cases and about 6 deaths have been registered in Kinshasa as at 6 April 2020, and Government authorities have taken measures that are restricting the implementation of DREF activities. If the Government decides to extend the lockdown to all the communes of the city province of Kinshasa as is currently the case in the commune of Gombe, the operation will then be closed down by 11 June 2020.

As regards COVID-19 response, on 31 January IFRC launched a global [Emergency Appeal](#) to support its worldwide membership to deliver assistance and support to communities affected or at risk of being affected by the COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) outbreak. Besides critical components such as health interventions, risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) and other forms of support to medical services, the global Emergency Appeal has a strong focus on National Society institutional preparedness. This component considers how the humanitarian landscape is changing due to challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic and considers the development of effective and relevant guidance to ensure that ongoing activities will factor in these new risks. As auxiliaries to public authorities, Red Cross and Red and Crescent National Societies have a strong role to play in supporting domestic operations focused on preparedness, containment and mitigation against the pandemic.

Focus is also given to supporting National Societies to maintain critical service provision through ongoing Emergency Appeals while adapting to COVID-19. This includes ensuring the health and safety of staff and volunteers and developing plans specifically for emergency health service provision where relevant. As such, the National Society actions dedicated to COVID-19 and those conducted through ongoing operations will be mutually beneficial and built upon common synergies.

IFRC continues to assess how emergency operations in response to disasters and crises should adapt to this particular crisis and provide necessary guidance to its membership on the same.

The below scenario analysis has been prepared to list in advance mitigating measures as foreseen in the current situation.

COVID-19 measures	Standard epidemic control measures	Temporary lockdown of society (schools, shops, public functions)	Sustained lockdown and restriction of movement during the implementation period
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Likelihood (Not likely-Somewhat likely-Very likely)	Conventional measures have been adopted and implemented by the DRC RC	Measures in progress. schools, universities are closed. Only essential personnel work in the public sector	Only the commune of Gombe is concerned for the moment. Gombe is not the area of implementation of the operation.
Impact on the operation	Reduced movement of volunteers due to the high spread of the disease even though no cases have been found in the municipalities of implementation.	<p>Reduced movement of volunteers due to the high spread of the disease even though no cases have been found in the municipalities of implementation.</p> <p>Risk of prolonging the duration of the implementation of the activities as a whole. For example, the prohibition to gather more than 20 people has an impact on the distribution and sanitation activities.</p> <p>The IFRC office in the commune of Gombe is closed and staff work from home, But we have a waiver that gives us access to the office.</p>	<p>Reduced movement of volunteers due to the high contagiousness of the disease even though no cases have been found in the municipalities where it is present.</p> <p>The IFRC office in the commune of Gombe is closed and staff work from home, but we have a waiver that gives us access to the office.</p> <p>Total halt to the implementation of DREF activities and close down the operation.</p>
Mitigating measures	Recording of awareness messages on hygiene, cholera, and other diseases and dissemination through megaphones placed at strategic locations in the intervention zones.	<p>Recording of awareness messages on hygiene, cholera, and other diseases and dissemination through megaphones placed at strategic locations in the intervention zones.</p> <p>Setting up small groups of volunteers for sanitation activities</p>	Storage of items in the NS warehouse to be used in the event of further disasters or flooding in the coming year.

For more information please consult the [COVID-19 operation page](#) on the IFRC Go platform.

Another risk is the fact that given these delays, all items might not be distributed. Any items not distributed will be stored in the DRC RC warehouse and will only be utilized with knowledge of IFRC for future DREF operations.


## B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY


### Proposed strategy

The interventions conducted so far are in line with: the IFRC strategy and DRC RC 2019-2023 Strategic Development Plan, the 2019-2020 Operational Plan and the 2019/2020 IFRC Country Operational Plan. Communities have been involved in the identification of the most vulnerable people to be assisted, and also the places requiring urgent intervention.

Activities are implemented in a coordinated manner, with a Rapid Response staff deployed by IFRC to support DRC RC with this operation. Please see [EPoA](#) for details on the Operational Strategy.

## C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

 <p><b>Shelter</b>                  People reached: 0                  Male:                  Female:</p>		
<b>Outcome 1: Affected households receive technical support, guidance and awareness for safe shelter design and facility planning, as well as improved construction techniques</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
% of targeted households receiving housing assistance who have actually repaired their damaged home	93%	0%
<b>Output 1.1: Short term shelter and settlement assistance is provided to affected households</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Number of households receiving emergency shelter equipment	1,000	0
Number of households recognizing the utility of distributing housing items	1,000	0
Number of volunteers and staff mobilized for relief distribution	100	0
<b>Output 1.2: Technical support, guidance and awareness raising in safe shelter design and settlement planning and improved building techniques are provided to affected households</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Number of de volunteers trained or re-trained	90	99
<b>Progress towards outcomes</b>		
<p>Output 1.1: DRC RC volunteers identified the most vulnerable 200 beneficiary households who will soon receive 200 kits comprising mats, cooking sets, mosquito nets and tarpaulins. These items will be taken from DRC RC stocks. As concerns items procured under this operation, they are now being packaged in DRC RC warehouse, ready for distribution as soon as possible. If operation ends without these items being distributed, they will remain stored in DRC RC warehouse and only be utilized with knowledge of IFRC to respond to emergencies eligible for DREF funding.</p> <p>Output 1.2: This activity was planned to be moved to the emergency appeal. Unfortunately, the emergency appeal was never launched. Thus, no activities to support this output has been done.</p> <p><b>Challenges:</b> Government restrictions following COVID-19 outbreak have delayed activities. In addition, the NS had suggested that construction activities be moved to the then planned emergency appeal on floods in the country. Unfortunately, the emergency appeal has not been launched due to administrative bottlenecks. Thus these activities have not been carried out.</p>		

 <p><b>Health</b>                  People reached: 0                  Male:                  Female:</p>		
<b>Outcome 1: The immediate risks to the health of affected populations are reduced</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of people reached with RC health education	5,000	0
<b>Output 1.1: Community-based disease prevention and health promotion and early detection (surveillance) or potential disease outbreaks is provided to the target population</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of volunteers trained in PSS	90	0
<b>Progress towards outcomes</b>		

99 DRC RC staff and volunteers, as well as community members and communal authorities, have been trained on WASH and health promotion in 9 communes of Kinshasa.

**Challenges:** Government restrictions following COVID-19 outbreak have delayed activities.



## Water, sanitation and hygiene

People reached: 144 683

Male: 59,299

Female: 85,384

### Outcome 1: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of targeted households that benefit from WASH activities	100%	229% or 144,683 people

### Output 1.1: Hygiene promotion activities which meet Sphere standards in terms of the identification and use of hygiene items provided to target population

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Number of hygiene promotion sessions	48	54
Number of volunteers participating in the activities	50	99
# of mosquito nets purchased and distributed	2,000	0

### Output 1.2: Hygiene-related goods (NFIs) which meet Sphere standards and training on how to use those goods is provided to the target population

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with soap	5,000	0
# of people acknowledging they have been taught to use distributed items	4,500	0

### Progress towards outcomes

Output 1.1: DRC RC volunteers conducted hygiene promotion activities (sensitization) and sanitation activities in targeted 9 communes of Kinshasa. Sensitization activities reached a total of 144,683 people, including 74,982 women, 51,085 men, 10,402 girls and 8,214 boys.

The 45 volunteers of the DRC RC also conducted hygiene promotion activities in 29 schools, reaching 12,937 children and 505 teachers. They extended the same activities in public places such as churches and markets, reaching 2,960 people. Red Cross volunteers were supported during those activities by community relays.

Output 1.2: Red Cross volunteers disinfected 11,372 houses and 11,970 latrines for 39,070 people, including 20,808 women, 12,702 men, 3,038 girls and 2,522 boys. The volunteers supported by community volunteers also disinfected 593 classrooms in 29 schools. In addition, the volunteers cleaned gutters and distributed chlorine to targeted communes.



Preparation of a chlorine solution for disinfection. / Photo: DRC RC

**Challenges:** Government restrictions following COVID-19 outbreak have delayed activities.

## International Disaster Response

**Outcome: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Number of surge personnel deployed	3	3

**Output 1.1: Effective response preparedness and NS surge capacity mechanism is maintained**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Number of rapid assessments carried out	2	1
Number of assessed municipalities affected	9	9
Number of volunteers participating in the response	99	99
# of supervision missions provided by the DRC headquarters and the IFRC team	3	2

### Progress towards outcomes

DRC volunteers conducted a detailed assessment of the situation and identified 9 communes of Kinshasa as the most affected requiring intervention. As part of this intervention, the NS trained 99 volunteers on the provision of WASH and health activities.

IFRC deployed 3 Rapid Response staff to support DRC RC with this operation. Additionally, the NS requested logistical support and staff from the IFRC office in DRC to support them in the various assessments carried out during the flood operation.

## D. Financial report

The overall amount allocated for this operation remains CHF 344,152 as indicated in [EPoA](#). To note, the NS has not yet submitted supporting documentation to clarify the level of expenditure. As a result, financial information will be provided in the final report of the operation. Please see interim financial report below.

Area of focus / strategies for implementation	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF2 - Shelter	190,439	98,398	92,041
AOF4 - Health	12,124	-	12,124
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	103,715	2,908	100,807
<b>Area of focus Total</b>	<b>306,278</b>	<b>101,306</b>	<b>204,973</b>
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	10,859	-	10,859
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	25,951	3,068	22,884
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	1,064	750	314
<b>Strategy for implementation Total</b>	<b>37,873</b>	<b>3,818</b>	<b>34,056</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>344,152</b>	<b>105,123</b>	<b>239,029</b>

## Reference documents



Click here for:

- [Emergency Plan of Action \(EPoA\)](#)

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

### In the DRC RC National Society

- Secretary General (or equivalent); Jacques KATSHITSHI, email: [sgcrrdc@croixrouge-rdc.org](mailto:sgcrrdc@croixrouge-rdc.org)
- Operational coordination: Moise KABONGO, DRC Red Cross National Director for Disaster Response, email: [moise.kabongo@yahoo.fr](mailto:moise.kabongo@yahoo.fr) , phone: 00243 85 23 87 181 / 00 243 81 517 60 75

### In the IFRC

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- **IFRC Country Office:** Momoudou Lamine FYE, Head of Country, IFRC Country Office Kinshasa; email: [momoudou.laminefye@ifrc.org](mailto:momoudou.laminefye@ifrc.org) ,

### In IFRC Geneva

- **Programme and Operations focal point:** Nicolas Boyrie, Senior Officer - Operations Coordinator (Africa); + 41 22 730 49 80 email: [nicolas.boyrie@ifrc.org](mailto:nicolas.boyrie@ifrc.org)
- Eszter Matyeka, DREF Senior Officer, DCPRR Unit Geneva; email: [eszter.matyeka@ifrc.org](mailto:eszter.matyeka@ifrc.org)

### For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- IFRC Regional Office for Africa: Franciscah Cherotich, Ag. Head of Partnership and Resource Development, email: [franciscah.kilel@ifrc.org](mailto:franciscah.kilel@ifrc.org) ; phone: +254 202 835 155

### For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

- Logistics Coordinator: RISHI Ramrakha, Head of Africa Regional Logistics Unit, email: [rishi.ramrakha@ifrc.org](mailto:rishi.ramrakha@ifrc.org); phone: +254 733 888 022

### For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

- Philip Kahuho, Manager, PMER Unit, email: [Philip.kahuho@ifrc.org](mailto:Philip.kahuho@ifrc.org) ; phone: +254 732 203 081

## 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 Humanitarian 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.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



**Save lives,**  
protect livelihoods,  
and strengthen recovery  
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**  
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**  
and a culture of  
**non-violence** and **peace**.