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# Final Report

## Fiji: Tropical Cyclone Sarai

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>DREF operation</b>	<b>Operation n° MDRFJ003</b>
<b>Date of Issue:</b> 13 July 2020	<b>Glide number:</b> <a href="#">TC-2019000180-FJI</a>
<b>Operation start date:</b> 28 December 2019	<b>Operation end date:</b> 31 March 2020
<b>Host National Society(ies):</b> Fiji Red Cross Society	<b>Operation budget:</b> 110,887
<b>Number of people affected:</b> 39,414 people at risk	<b>Number of people assisted:</b> 7,780
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation:</b> The Fiji Red Cross Society (FRCS) has been implementing response activities within the DREF and has been supported by the IFRC Country Cluster Support Team (CCST) in Suva. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) were actively involved in the response to tropical cyclone Sarai and Tropical Cyclone Tino, in providing technical assistance and support to FRCS preparedness and response activities.	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations (CSOs), the corporate and private sectors and Government agencies, were all part of the response through Cluster Working Groups. Government coordination was provided by the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) and through linkages to Government units in the locations affected.	

## A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

### Description of the disaster

On 24 December 2019, Fiji was hit by Tropical Cyclone (TC) Sarai and again on Saturday 18 January 2020 by TC Tino. The Category 2 cyclones brought destructive winds and heavy rain, causing landslides and flooding in low lying areas in parts of the Central, Western and Northern divisions. It also resulted in the closure of roads and power outages in the main island of Viti Levu. The worst affected areas experienced destruction to crops and livestock. Damages to housing was also experienced in some areas, and the government activated four community evacuation centers.

The National Disaster Management Council declared a state of alert for the country and Emergency Operation Centres (EOC) were activated at national and sub-national (divisional and district) levels to monitor the progress, impact and respond with greater efficacy.



Flooding affected main road in the main island of Viti Levu. (Photo: Fiji Times)

#### Number of evacuation centers and evacuees in north, eastern and western division.

Division	No. of Centres	No. of Evacuees
North	65	2,612
Eastern	9	294
Central	4	205
<b>Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>3,111</b>

## Summary of response

### Overview of Host National Society

FRCS implemented its emergency plan to help the affected communities impacted by TC Sarai and TC Tino. Seven Branches were engaged in the assessment and distribution of relief items to the affected people, assisted by Government departments at the sub-national level. In partnership with the NDMO and Cluster sector groups, FRCS was able to respond through a cohesive effort. The New Zealand Government supported the deployment of personnel (e.g. FRCS staff and volunteers, and government staff) to the Eastern division (Island of Kadavu and the islands of the southern Lau group). The FRCS branches in the northern division supported the Ministry of Health by implementing an awareness campaign on Dengue Fever, with a focus in the more populated urban and peri-urban locations of Labasa, Savusavu, and Seaqaqa.

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

The IFRC CCST in Suva and ICRC have provided technical support throughout this DREF operation:

- The IFRC Disaster Management Surge Officer provided general guidance to the FRCS operations team on operational management, including planning and reporting. The IFRC Logistics Manager assisted the FRCS Operations Manager in sourcing and procurement of relief items.
- The IFRC Shelter Manager assisted FRCS in the assessment of local vendors to supply shelter relief items.
- The Communications Manager supported in Media updates and situation reports.
- The IFRC Health Surge Officer assisted in providing support for team briefings and training volunteers before they were deployed for response work.
- The IFRC PMER Officer assisted in planning and facilitating lessons learnt exercises, and in developing DREF EPoA operation updates.
- The FRCS RFL Officer (partially funded by ICRC) assisted in getting RFL processes ready in case any case is received to be supported through this RFL assistance.

### Overview of other actors in country

Coordination with stakeholders has been very effective. FRCS worked closely with local NGOs and CSOs through cluster groups and during response ensuring that collaboration happens at all levels of engagement in humanitarian response. Joint briefings and debriefings with Government teams and stakeholders were organized to share and analyze information. The NDMO and the Disaster Management Council (DMC) were well informed about FRCS response developments before, during and after the disaster.

## Needs analysis and scenario planning

The initial response plan developed by FRCS was based on the projected path of the cyclones, the projected build-up of wind strength, and the experience of past responses. Based on these factors, FRCS decided to focus on shelter, WASH, essential household items, and social support around Gender, Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) issues that may arise in the evacuation centres. The most vulnerable groups considered in the response were the elderly, children, persons with disability or those who were chronically ill.

FRCS assessment teams were deployed after TC Sarai. It was determined that the large amount of rainfall recorded during and after the cyclone affected water sources and water infrastructures, increasing the risk of outbreaks of dengue, typhoid and diarrhea. This confirmed the need for FRCS to assess and distribute relief items based on health and hygiene needs. These items included mosquito nets because of the increased mosquito breeding sites after the heavy rainfall, hygiene kits to address personal and household hygiene and assist families to clean their homes after flood waters receded. Dignity kits were also distributed to address the needs of women. Assessment teams also identified significant damage to the agricultural sector. This was further supported by the NDMO report on 1 January 2020.

The FRCS response team joined the government agencies and NGOs in the joint response on board the government's vessel (MV Veivueti) 28 days after TC Sarai hit Fiji. Initial assessment reports from government officials stationed in the affected locations supported by the village headman and village nurses was critical for FRCS in putting together a distribution plan for the affected areas. The DREF EPoA was designed to address the needs of potentially affected population based on the projected path of the cyclone, therefore the communities and settlements along this path were considered vulnerable. Secondary data was used to determine the populations that were likely to be affected.

The operation was initially planned for two months and was extended for an additional month after the second cyclone (TC Tino) impacted Fiji in January 2020. The needs from the cyclone were less than expected, therefore the activities were adjusted, as well as the budget. FRCS did not complete replenishment during the operational timeframe due to time constraints and involvement in the response activities. Fiji was hit by another Category 4 cyclone – TC Harold on 8 April causing widespread flooding and damage to the outer islands (see [DREF operation MDRFJ004](#)) Hence, these stocks will be replenished within the TC Harold operation, as the operation supported similar community areas with the same relief items.

## Risk analysis

The distance between the islands and their geographical spread created a huge challenge for FRCS because of the inability to get to the islands, which meant a greater reliance on secondary data from community leaders in all villages on the island. The continuous bad weather also made distribution a challenge as there was a travel ban by the Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji due to the adverse conditions affecting the group of islands. The travel restrictions in place did not allow FRCS assessment teams to conduct a thorough assessment and ascertain the correct number of essential household items on the same trip, but instead work with the information that was available. The house to house assessment that followed helped FRCS validate the information and data received.

The following table details the operation risks that were identified during the planning of the operation with associated measures taken to mitigate risks.

Sector	Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation measures taken
Shelter	People at risk from flying debris and being displaced from homes. Other homes at risk from flying debris.	Possible	Major	Community risk reduction training and awareness programmes (e.g. House tie downs/retrofitting).
Shelter	Overcrowding in evacuation centres. Tension over space and food.	Possible	Major	Assisted government in evacuation centres.
Health	Diseases outbreak i.e. diarrhea, dengue, typhoid and leptospirosis.	Possible	Major	Deployed volunteers to do messaging to evacuees or affected people in communities in health awareness including communicable disease control and hygiene promotion, and surveillance of diseases.
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	Lack of clean water. Lack of sanitation facilities in evacuation centres compared to number of evacuees.	Possible	Major	Provision of water containers, hygiene kits, dignity kits for affected people and hygiene promotion
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	Possible gender-based violence (GBV) issues. Unsafe conditions for vulnerable especially women/girls/boys/ people with disabilities.	Possible	Major	Messaging on PGI and CPP principals and actions.
Electricity	Power outage & water cuts	Possible	Major	Provided solar lamps
General: Trees & debris blocking roads and waterways	Safety risk to communities concerning access to places	Possible	Major	Contacted local authorities like National Fire Authority (NFA) & Fiji Roads Authority (FRA).

Fiji also recorded its first COVID-19 case in early March, therefore diverting FRCS resources and focus to support the Ministry of Health's response. Subsequent lockdowns and travel restrictions due to COVID-19 also impacted the operational activities.

## B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

### Proposed strategy

The overall operational objective was to provide assistance to 7,780 at-risk/affected people before and immediately after the impact of TC Sarai with preparedness and early action activities in Fiji's Northern, Western and Eastern Divisions (affected population estimate based on the 2017 Fiji Population & Housing Census). While FRCS was responding to TC Sarai, TC Tino landed in Fiji, and FRCS requested an additional month to accommodate the delays in the response to TC Sarai and accommodate changes to the response due to TC Tino. To date, FRCS has been able to reach 6,195 people (3,283 male / 2,912 female) with relief assistance (which is 2,880 less). The reduced reach is attributed to the fact that response teams arrived two weeks post-cyclone, by which time, many people had progressed their own rehabilitation. The travel ban imposed by the Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji (MSAF) because of bad weather delayed assessments and access. The response teams confirmed that there were minimal damages to shelter which communities were able to repair on their own using the available resources that they could collect.



Response team validating needs during assessment. (Photo: FRCS)

The demonstration of resilience and initiative by the communities is noteworthy. This is partly attributed to the effectiveness of FRCS community resilience programmes. The integrated approach through the IVCA tool was evident in the action plans that were triggered before the two cyclones made landfall. Examples of initiatives taken on by the communities prior to the arrival of the FRCS and Government response teams:

- The timely messaging initiative within the communities by the people.
- The most vulnerable, such as the elderly, were catered for. Breast feeding mothers, babies and children were also well cared for.
- Rebuilding of shelter from materials available at hand.
- Cleaning and clearing of household compounds.
- Re-establishing of food gardens.

Upon the validation of needs assessment reports, the FRCS response teams modified and contextualized its plan of action. FRCS Emergency Operations Centre team collected and analyzed data received from field teams which was later entered in the response database. This resulted in FRCS distributing items that were not in the imminent crisis EPoA but were seen as necessary needs based on actual damage assessments and identified health and hygiene risks in affected communities – specifically the shelter toolkits, cooking sets and mosquito nets. FRCS teams ensured that the most vulnerable were identified. Relief assistance was provided to the most vulnerable persons based on their needs.

Based on the detailed assessment, the relief assistance distributed focused on:

- Hygiene kits - due to the severe amount of rainfall that flooded low lying areas. Dignity kits- specifically targeting women and girls in the affected families.
- Tarpaulins and Shelter tool kits - for partially and completely damaged homes to support building an emergency shelter while collecting what was left from the damaged houses (not in the original plan).
- Black pack - clean and new clothing to families whose house has been destroyed including their belongings.
- Solar lanterns - served as source of lighting, security and for protection to those families and communities that got their lighting source got cut off.
- Jerry cans - due to the number of water sources destroyed or disturbed by strong winds and the heavy rain, sea water from storm surges and debris contaminating water sources.
- Mosquito nets - for families with new-born babies as a prevention measure for mosquito borne diseases (not in original plan).
- Cooking sets - targeting families whose kitchen has been washed away by flood waters or strong winds destroying their kitchen and kitchen utensils (not in original plan).
- Assessment teams also provided psychosocial support and attended to injuries using their first aid kits and made referrals to relevant authorities and organizations. Teams conducted messaging in affected communities on health and hygiene, NCD awareness as well as the identification and removal of risks.

Specific needs were taken into consideration during FRCS planning stages in relation to gender, ethnicity, age, people living with HIV/AIDs and other factors that may have increased vulnerability. FRCS provided training to its volunteers and staff on Gender, Protection and Inclusion (PGI) in emergencies to continue to equip them with knowledge to cater for the vulnerable and their needs. The pre-deployment training, IDA forms and evaluation included the integration of GESI and Youth components. In team briefings and training prior to deployment, the emphasis on community participation was highlighted. This was further stressed and encouraged during team reporting to the FRCS EOC. One of the risks that was identified was the rise in mosquitoes and the possibility of a Dengue Fever outbreak. The need for protection for the vulnerable like children, nursing mothers and the elderly prompted the distribution of mosquito nets to meet this need.

Overall, the operation intended to reach 46 communities; in actuality, FRCS reached 70 communities, which is an increase of 24 communities. This is due to the difference in the actual path of damage versus what was predicted in the imminent crisis EPoA. Below table shows the total number of communities, households and people assisted by FRCS during TC Sarai and TC Tino. Due to the reduced needs and the fact that replenishment will be conducted under the TC Harold operation, 28 per cent of the MDRFJ003 budget has been utilized. The remaining funds will be returned to the DREF.

**Areas supported through the response to TC Sarai and TC Tino**

Division	Areas	# of Communities Assessed	Total # of Household	Total # of Population
West	Ba	11	39	188
	Nadi	6	36	178
North	Savusavu and Labasa	9	9	37
East	Kadavu	25	325	4,264
	Lau	19	904	1,385
<b>Total</b>		<b>70</b>	<b>1,313</b>	<b>6,052</b>

The FRCS conducted Lessons Learnt (LL) exercises involving the response teams with the EOC team based at National office and volunteers. Findings were reviewed at a National Lessons Learnt workshop that was co-facilitated by the IFRC CCST. Reports have been submitted and recommendations tabled for Senior Management action.

## C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN



### Shelter

**People reached: 4,900**  
Male: 2,366  
Female: 2,534

### Outcome 1: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer –term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Number of affected households provided with essential household items and emergency shelter</i>	1,556	1,058

### Outcome 1.1: Shelter and settlements and basic household items assistance is provided to the affected families

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Number of affected households provided with tarpaulins (emergency shelter)</i>	1,556	147

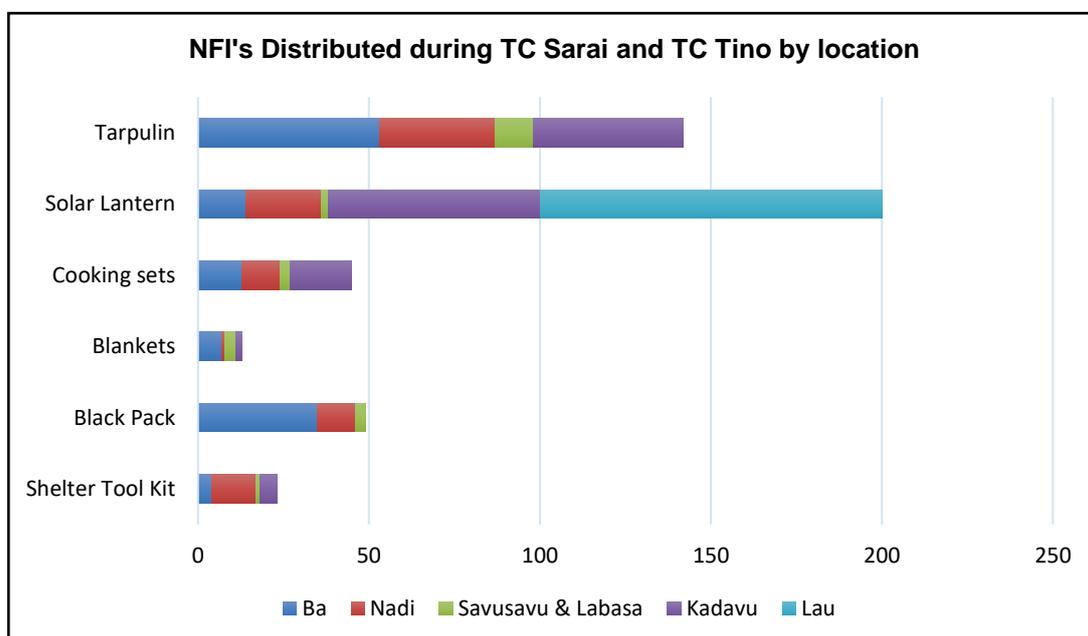
### Outcome 1.2: Technical support in safe shelter construction provided to affected households

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Number of affected families provided with guidance on safe shelter at point of distribution</i>	1,556	147

### Narrative description of achievements

FRCS completed its distribution on 29 February 2020 reaching a total of 1,058 households (4,900 people) with the following shelter tool kits and essential household items (cooking set) was essential based on the detail assessment conducted by the FRCS team. This was not budgeted in the plan but due to damages in some areas, these items were much needed. Solar Lanterns were the most needed item as it assisted families living in areas where electricity was affected and the outer islands who were depending on suppliers to deliver fuel for generators.

Thirty-three volunteers were engaged during the TC Sarai operation, and 11 volunteers accompanied by three FRCS staff responded after TC Tino. Most of these volunteers were new, so it was important for FRCS to organize Disaster Emergency response trainings pre-deployment briefings for them.



Items	Items budgeted by FRCS	Items purchased under DREF	Items distributed after TC Sarai	Items distributed after TC Tino	Comments
Shelter Tool Kits	0	0	23	0	<b>23 Shelter kits distributed.</b> All items were distributed from FRCS stock. Four houses were fully destroyed, and 12 houses were partially destroyed by TC Sarai but there were no reports of houses destroyed by TC Tino. In some cases, two or more families are living in one household which accounts for the greater number of kits than houses. This was not in original EPoA but was deemed a necessity given the damage observed. These shelter tool kits to be replenished under TC Harold Operation.
Solar Lamps	400	55	100	100	<b>200 solar lamps distributed.</b> 55 solar lamps were bought under the DREF and 145 solar lamps were distributed from FRCS stock. Low count of items distributed is due to the failure of FRCS to respond in the first 72 hours. This was due to the movement restrictions placed by the Fiji Government. Solar lamps distributed met the lighting needs of the affected families. 145 solar lamps will be replenished under TC Harold operation.
Blankets	600	53	13	0	<b>13 blankets were distributed.</b> With a remainder of 40 blankets left in FRCS stock. This value will be reimbursed to the DREF.
Cooking Sets	0	0	45	0	<b>45 cooking sets were distributed</b> from FRCS stock. This was not in original EPoA but was deemed a necessity given the flooding damage observed. 45 cooking sets will be replenished under TC Harold operation.
Tarpaulin	600	0	142	0	<b>142 tarpaulins were distributed</b> from the FRCS stock. No tarpaulins were purchased with the DREF budget. 142 tarpaulins will be replenished under TC Harold operation.
Black packs	500	0	49	0	<b>49 black packs</b> were distributed from FRCS stock. Each pack includes clothes for 4 to 6 family members, equating to approximately 49 households assisted with clothing. 49 black packs will be replenished under the TC Harold operation.

### Challenges

The main challenges identified were:

- Deployment delays due to shipping services and adverse weather and sea conditions.
- FRCS may have overestimated the total population affected in the DREF Emergencies Plan of Action (EPoA) from the projected cyclone pathway and the high expectation of damage to shelter and people affected.

### Lessons Learned

Ensure essential household items are covered in plastics when transporting to outer islands. Ensure all support cost are included in the budget.



## Health

People reached: 2,530

Male: 1,341

Female: 1,189

### Outcome 1: The Immediate risks to the health of affected populations are reduced

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Number of people reached by health management programs	7,780	2,530

### Outcome 1:1 The health situation and immediate risks are assessed using agreed guidelines

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Number of health assessment carried out (part of needs assessment)	1	1

### Outcome 4: Transmission of disease of epidemic potential is reduced

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Communities are supported by NS to effectively detect and respond to infectious diseases outbreak	Yes	Yes

### Outcome 4.1: Community-based disease control and health promotion is provided to the target communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Number of people reached with community-based disease prevention and health promotion programming in the community	7,780	2,530

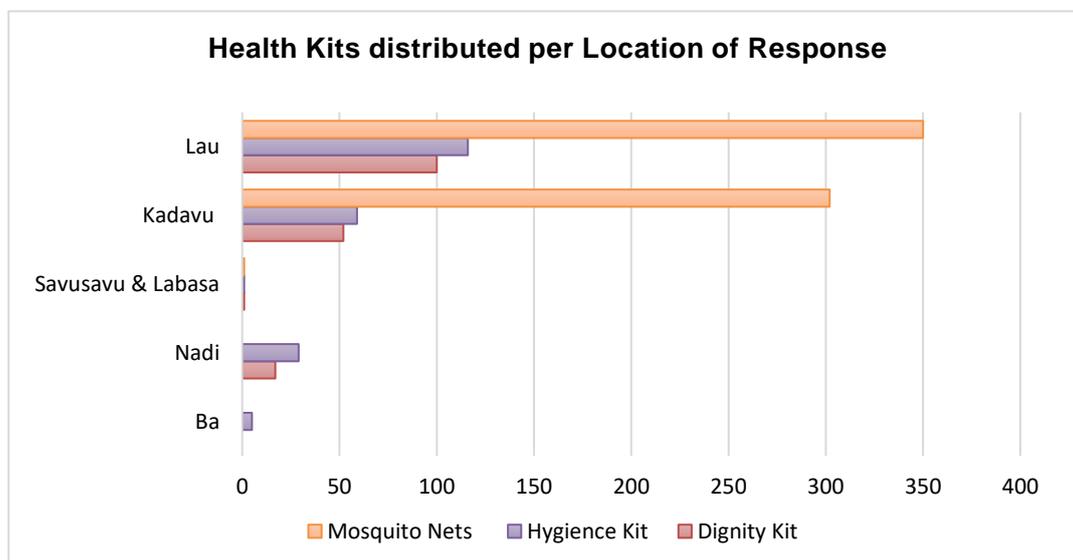
### Outcome 4.6: Improve knowledge about public health issues among population in at risk area

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Number of people reached with community-based disease prevention and health promotion programming in the community	7,780	2,530

### Narrative description of achievements

A total of 2,530 of people were reached through health promotion and community diseases prevention activities. The graph below shows an overwhelming demand for mosquito nets followed by Hygiene and then Dignity Kits. The latter two items were well catered for in the budget.

Mosquito nets were not in the original EPoA but were distributed to affected families to mitigate the risk of dengue fever infections, particularly those where vulnerable people were identified such as breast-feeding mothers, the elderly and children. This accompanied the awareness raising activities. Mosquito nets were not included based on the anticipated damages, but rather because of the heavy rain brought by TC Sarai that caused an outbreak of dengue fever in high risk areas. In these areas the most immediate need was to distribute mosquito nets to affected people and held clean up campaigns and community health awareness.



170 dignity kits 635 mosquito nets, and 776 IEC materials were distributed after TC Sarai and TC Tino. Below also notes what will be reimbursed to the DREF. Families of 24 individuals were also given information and contact details of the FRCS branch officers for any required referral assistance. There is an established working relationship under the FRCS auxiliary role to Government, which allows FRCS to inform them about any future needs in health and hygiene practices and promotion.

Items	Items budgeted under DREF	Items purchased under DREF	Items distributed after TC Sarai	Items distributed after TC Tino	Comment
Dignity Kits	500	300	70	100	<b>170 dignity kits were distributed</b> , which benefited 170 women. Dignity kits were ordered prior to the cyclone making landfall in Fiji. There were no dignity kits stock available at the FRCS. 300 were purchased under DREF. There is a balance of 130 dignity kits left in FRCS stock. The value will be reimbursed to the DREF.
Mosquito Nets	0	0	303	350	<b>653 mosquito nets were distributed from FRCS stock</b> , which benefited 653 children under 6 years old and pregnant women. 9 volunteers worked in partnership with the Fiji Government Ministry of Health team as part of TC Tino response on Dengue Fever awareness covering 72 households. IEC materials distributed included First Aid Response, "Together we can fight mosquito-borne diseases and dengue fever" Posters. 653 mosquito nets will be replenished under TC Harold operation.
IEC (Information, Education, Communication) Materials	1,600	1,429	623	153	<b>776 IEC materials were distributed</b> , which benefited 2,695 people. IEC materials were also distributed to the community nurses to assist in their on-going advocacy and post-cyclone activities.
Referrals to the Fiji Government Social Welfare Assistance	0		24	0	<b>FRCS team referred 24 individuals</b> to Fiji Government department of Social Welfare for assistance.

The Ministry of Health team was responsible for organizing the health awareness visitations to the respective communities. House to house messaging, site inspection of household compounds, mosquito-borne and animal related diseases were part of the exercise throughout the programme. On the briefings before departure, the Health Inspector did ensure that a list of homes in the various locations was on hand to guide the response effort. This was systematically observed during the operation.



FRCS volunteer creating awareness on the fight against Dengue Fever through house-to-house visits. (Photo: FRCS)

In addition, the government health officers together with 11 FRCS volunteers conducted Dengue awareness campaign in the northern division reaching a total of 601 people covering 11 communities identified as possible high-risk areas. The table below details what was achieved during the 10 days campaign.

Town: Labasa					Activities
Community	Household	Female	Male	Volunteers	
Batinikama	17	36	40	4 Males 2 Females	<i>Approach:</i> House to house visit involving messaging on the spread, prevention and signs of symptoms of dengue fever in partnership with the Ministry of
Wasavulu	14	46	40		
Nailawa	8	32	27		
Bulileka Lowcost	14	34	30		
Vunika	23	53	51		

Tovata	23	51	53		Health which included application of abase chemicals to standing water and mosquito larva collection.
<b>Total</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b>Town: Seaqaqa</b>					
<b>Community</b>	<b>Household</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Volunteers</b>	
Buavou	7	16	15	2 Males 3 Females	
Natua	25	13	12		
Raimuri Road	25	14	11		
Vunivere Settlement	15	6	9		
Nanivuda	3	2	10		
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>5</b>	

### Challenges

FRCS faced some challenges during its health response:

- The onset of Mosquito related issues due to flooding and water holding in such situation is inevitable. This is worsened when houses and personal household items are damaged and exposed to the elements.
- Unavailability of the community health nurse during the team visit affected the team assessment to ascertain the real need of people affected after the cyclone.
- Lack of resources on the islands affected after cyclone to cater for the FRCS response teams transportation needs.
- Dignity Kits and Hygiene kits were ordered prior to the cyclone making its landfall in Fiji. The difficulty in accessing affected areas made the distribution of relief items challenging.
- Roads were damaged, which meant that less areas were covered for distribution than initially planned.

### Lessons Learned

It is essential to involve ERT trained volunteers in future responses. Review standardization of checklist and reporting formats.



### Water, sanitation and hygiene

People reached: 858

Male: 446

Female: 412

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

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Number of people provided with safe water through NOMAD water system</i>	7,780	0

#### Output 1.2: Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere and WHO standards in terms of quality and quality is provided to target population

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Number of people provided with safe water (according to WHO standards) in the affected area</i>	7,780	0

#### Output 1.5: Hygienic related goods (household items) which meets SPHERE standards and training on how to use those goods provided to the targeted communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Number of families was provided with hygiene kits</i>	500	210

#### Narrative description of achievements

Due to some fault in the NOMAD unit itself and unavailability of spare parts to the ultraviolet (UV) control box, the NOMAD unit was not used. Instead, water purification tablets donated by UNICEF were distributed only in Kadavu. Below are the details of the distribution records: 276 jerry cans, along with 500 water purification tablets and 210 hygiene kits were distributed after TC Sarai and TC Tino. See below for details.

Items	# of items originally budgeted under DREF	# of items purchase under the DREF	# of items distributed after TC Sarai	# of items distributed after TC Tino	Comment
Jerry cans	500	340	176	110	All water issues raised from TC Sarai and TC Tino were handle by the Government owned Water Authority of Fiji. However, the FRCS response team assisted a total of 143 families with water containers (jerry cans - 2 per family). <b>286 jerry cans were distributed:</b> 176 after TC Sarai and 110 after TC Tino. A balance of 54 jerry cans was not distributed as the team were not able to reach community due to the road condition. This value will be reimbursed to the DREF.
Water purification tablets	0		500	0	The purification tablets were donated by UNICEF to FRCS. Since all water issues raised were handled directly by the Fiji Government Water Suppliers, the tablets were provided to the Ministry of Health for their distribution. These tables were distributed while responding to TC Sarai and there were none after TC Tino.
Hygiene kits	500	250	94	116	<b>FRCS distributed 210 hygiene kits:</b> 94 after TC Sarai and 116 after TC Tino. The balance of 40 will be reimbursed back to DREF. Items in the hygienic kit are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bathing soap</li> <li>• sanitary pads</li> <li>• toothbrush</li> <li>• toothpaste</li> <li>• baby wipes</li> <li>• washing soap</li> <li>• washing powder</li> <li>• mosquito repellent</li> <li>• matches</li> <li>• safety candles</li> <li>• cleaning liquid hand towel</li> </ul>

## Challenges

The main challenges faced during the health response were:

- The FRCS team had limited time to verify information due to the location of community water sources, thus the decision to distribute water tablets to communities was done as a temporary measure if report of damage water source or polluted water were received from affected households. This was also distributed due to the lack of such emergency items (water purification tablets) in the rural health centres and periphery stations.
- Weather conditions during the distribution of the items were not favorable during the response period which affected the ability of FRCS team to reach communities that can only assessed by boat. This contributed to the low number of items distributed to affected families.

## Lessons Learned

It is important to review warehouse SOPs, ensure frequent stock-taking and include fleet/logistics in SOPs. Start green response initiatives.



## Protection, Gender and Inclusion

People reached: 114

Male: 49

Female: 65

**Outcome 1: Communities become more peaceful, safe and inclusive through meetings the needs and rights of the most vulnerable**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Number of people provided with PGI services	7,780	114

**Output 1.1: Programmes and operations ensure safe and equitable provision of basic services, considering different**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Rapid need assessment focus on key PGI areas, Sex-age and disaggregated data (SADD) is collected	n/a	65 female, 49 male

### Progress towards outcomes

The GESI officers were involved in all phases of the planning to ensure GESI issues and needs were considered in the overall operation, including the rapid needs assessment, and specifically provision of the dignity kits.

A training to refresh PGI, PSEA and the Minimum standards for PGI in emergency was held on 12 March 2020 and built skills of 18 participants (three volunteers and 15 staff; 50 per cent male and 50 per cent female).



FRCS staff and volunteers in GESI training. (Photo: FRCS)

### Challenges

FRCS was not able to take the training to the Western and Northern Divisions, due to COVID-19 restrictions.

### Lessons Learned

The key lesson learnt from the response with regards to Protection and Gender Inclusion is to ensure that officers and volunteers are trained beforehand on GESI issues, so they are well prepared and informed before any response. Another need identified is the establishment of a toll-free line to receive direct calls and references relating to GESI matters.

## International Disaster Response

**Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured:**

**Output S2.1.1: Effective and respected surge capacity mechanism is maintained.**

Indicators	Target	Actual
<i>Rapid response personnel support the operation</i>	1	1

**Output S2.1.3: NS compliance with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance is improved**

<i>DREF procedures applied during implementation of the operation</i>	yes	partial
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**Output S2.1.6: Coordinating role of the IFRC within the international humanitarian system is enhanced**

<i># of coordination meetings held with stakeholders</i>	as needed	X
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### Narrative description of achievements

The daily sitreps (situation reports) were closely monitored against the response plan and the budget. The Emergency Operation Center (EOC) team at FRCS National Office was involved in the monitoring and facilitation processes to quickly address household needs (Non-food items) and other resource needs. Throughout the operation, FRCS aimed to effectively managing the supply chain, including local procurement, fleet, storage and transport of relief items to distribution sites in accordance with the operation's requirements and aligned to IFRC's logistics standards, processes and procedures. Local logistics was also supported by NDMO in the transfer of items across areas affected and travel to the maritime islands. The prepositioned stocks from their warehouse were released. All transportation of relief items was carried out utilizing FRCS existing fleet at both national and branch level. On fleet management, the logbooks and fuel management tools were put in place and shared with the IFRC CCST Suva office upon request for acquittals verification purposes.

The response effort and acquittals were driven by reports and evidence-based assessment to address transparency and accountability in the monitoring process. This mode of work ethic was transferred to stock management, distribution based on IDA reports and validation of prior data and information received. The FRCS Administration and Finance team were in control of finances.

### Challenges

Communication challenges resulted from insufficient and relevant operations equipment (vehicle, lights, generators and communication kits) which resulted in delays sharing updates and documents. In addition, timely submission of supporting documentation was a challenge.

### Lessons Learned

Ensure inclusion of all sectors in the EPoA and budgeting, i.e. representative from all department in the drawing up of the EPoA and Budget and throughout the planning stage of the project. Lessons learned was also to ensure availability of transportation and communication kits to remedy logistics setbacks.

It is necessary to continuously refresh FRCS staff and volunteer understanding of disaster response Standard Operating Procedures (SOP).

## Influence others as leading strategic partner

**Outcome S3.1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable.**

**Output S3.1.1: IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>IFRC and FRCS participate in local, national and international dialogues/meetings</i>	as needed	yes
<i>Communications materials produced/published</i>	5	X

**Output S3.2.1: Resource generation and related accountability models are developed and improved**

<i># of lessons learned workshops</i>	1	1
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### **Narrative description of achievements**

FRCS initial damage assessment (IDA) reports helped inform other partners about needs on the ground. The Fiji Emergency Medical Assistance Team (FEMAT), NDMO, Government agencies, the Fiji Military Forces and the University of the South Pacific School of Geospatial Science deployed personnel for assessment, messaging, maintenance and distribution of relief items to affected communities. The Fiji government supported the assessments and distribution conducted by FRCS response teams in providing transport and support through the provincial network through the village headman. This partnership ensured that communication lines are open for feedback and proper service delivery. The Fiji Council of Social Services coordinated the NGOs and CSOs response and visited evacuation centres, provided messages on Gender equality and distributed dignity and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) kits to evacuees.

FRCS's lessons learned and monitoring & evaluation reports from government agencies are being compiled and will be available to the Disaster Management Coordinator for sharing. Such collaboration has allowed FRCS to reinforce its auxiliary role in emergency response in case of future disasters in the country. The FRCS lessons learned workshop was completed and recommendations have been shared with senior management.

### **Challenges**

The timeline of the response was also not sufficient to assist and capture all information given the multiple disasters within the period. Due to the time restrictions and the high level of activity within FRC, no major communication materials were developed.

### **Lessons Learned**

Include in the budget and utilize this resource to better document and promote the work FRCS is doing within the response. Continue to enhance coordination and communication with stakeholders and as well as to continue to refine auxiliary role with government.

## **Effective, credible and accountable IFRC**

### **Outcome S4.1:**

#### **Output S4.1.4: Staff security is prioritized in all IFRC activities**

<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<i>Staff security is prioritized in all IFRC supported responses</i>	yes	yes

### **Narrative description of achievements**

All safety warnings and movement restrictions were followed. Volunteers were appropriately briefed and provided the necessities to do their job.

### **Challenges**

There were contextual setbacks that affected access due to road and sea safety. The restriction of movement meant FRCS was not able to respond within 72 hours. It also meant greater reliance on other assessment information, which did not reflect the needs seen once on the ground to distribute.

### **Lessons Learned**

Improve PPE to suit the maritime zone (i.e. reef shoes and backpack for disaster relief). Ensure communication equipment is available to support regular coordination/communication.

## D. Financial Report

A total of CHF 70,103 had been allocated for FRCS CHF 110,887 to respond to the needs of approximately 7,780 people. The total expenditure recorded by the end of operation was CHF 25,772 (23 per cent utilization), leaving a balance of CHF 85,115. The balance funds will be returned to the DREF pool. For further details on expenditure, please refer to attached final financial report at the end of this Final Report.

The underspend is due to the overestimation of impact the cyclone would have on the affected areas, the delay in getting to the communities and their own resilience and recovery efforts. In addition, the replenishment of distributed items was not able to be completed during the timeframe due to the ongoing efforts to respond to TC Sarai and TC Tino, which will be replenished under the TC Harold operation. The following will be replenished under TC Harold at a total value of CHF 5,378.

Item	Quantity	Cost (CHF)	Total Value (CHF)
Shelter kits	23	25.65	589.95
Solar lamps	90	7.50	675.00
Cooking sets	45	20.40	918.00
Tarpaulins	142	13.00	1,846.00
Black packs	49	70.30	3,444.70
Mosquito nets	653	2.10	1,371.30
<b>Total NFI</b>			<b>8,844.95</b>
<b>Transport and handling fees</b>			<b>4,500.00</b>
<b>Grand total</b>			<b>13,344.95</b>

In addition, a number of items purchased under this operation, were not distributed due to the delays in reaching the affected areas. This will remain with FRC and their value of approximately CHF 5,400 will be reimbursed back to DREF.

Item	Quantity	Cost (CHF)	Total value (CHF)
Blankets	40	4.50	180
Dignity kits	130	33	4,290
Jerry cans	54	2	108
Hygiene kits	40	20	800
<b>Total to be reimbursed</b>			<b>5,378.00</b>

The major donors and partners of the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Belgium, Britain, Canada, Denmark, German, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland, as well as DG ECHO and Blizzard Entertainment, Mondelez International Foundation, and Fortive Corporation and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the national society, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.



Click here for:

- [DREF Operation](#)

## Contact information

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

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### For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges

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

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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 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.

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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**.

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# DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2019/12-2020/6	Operation	MDRFJ003
Budget Timeframe	2019/12-2020/6	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 16/Jul/2020

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## MDRFJ003 - Fiji - Tropical Cyclone Sarai

Operating Timeframe: 28 Dec 2019 to 31 Mar 2020

### I. Summary

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Funds &amp; Other Income</b>	<b>110,887</b>
DREF Allocations	110,887
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>-25,772</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>85,115</b>

### II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	8,303	6,447	1,856
AOF2 - Shelter	56,135	1,465	54,670
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs			0
AOF4 - Health	20,298	12,024	8,273
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	9,496		9,496
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	730	252	479
AOF7 - Migration	219		219
<b>Area of focus Total</b>	<b>95,181</b>	<b>20,188</b>	<b>74,993</b>
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies		144	-144
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	10,470	3,592	6,878
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	5,235	1,848	3,388
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC			0
<b>Strategy for implementation Total</b>	<b>15,705</b>	<b>5,583</b>	<b>10,122</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>110,887</b>	<b>25,772</b>	<b>85,115</b>

# DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2019/12-2020/6	Operation	MDRFJ003
Budget Timeframe	2019/12-2020/6	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 16/Jul/2020

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## MDRFJ003 - Fiji - Tropical Cyclone Sarai

Operating Timeframe: 28 Dec 2019 to 31 Mar 2020

### III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>	<b>79,587</b>	<b>12,409</b>	<b>67,178</b>
Shelter - Relief	7,902		7,902
Clothing & Textiles	39,751		39,751
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	26,384		26,384
Medical & First Aid	494	12,409	-11,915
Utensils & Tools	1,215		1,215
Other Supplies & Services	3,841		3,841
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>7,636</b>	<b>2,644</b>	<b>4,992</b>
Storage	4,344		4,344
Transport & Vehicles Costs	3,292	2,644	648
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>10,197</b>	<b>6,719</b>	<b>3,478</b>
National Society Staff	3,978	2,784	1,194
Volunteers	6,219	3,848	2,370
Other Staff Benefits		86	-86
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>1,966</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>1,031</b>
Workshops & Training	1,966	935	1,031
<b>General Expenditure</b>	<b>4,733</b>	<b>1,492</b>	<b>3,241</b>
Travel	3,567		3,567
Information & Public Relations	1,097	975	123
Office Costs		237	-237
Communications	69	108	-39
Financial Charges		135	-135
Other General Expenses		37	-37
<b>Indirect Costs</b>	<b>6,768</b>	<b>1,573</b>	<b>5,195</b>
Programme & Services Support Recover	6,768	1,573	5,195
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>110,887</b>	<b>25,772</b>	<b>85,115</b>