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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) Senegal: Ebola virus disease preparedness

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation	Operation n° MDRSN009
Date of issue: 13 April, 2014	Date of disaster: 21 March, 2014
Operation manager (responsible for this EPoA): Aissa Fall, IFRC Sahel Regional Representation Health Manager	Point of contact: Aissa Fall, IFRC Sahel Regional Representation Health Manager
Operation start date: 11 April, 2014	Expected timeframe: Three months (until 11 July)
Overall operation budget: CHF 54,848	
Number of people affected: up to 2.4 million	Number of people to be assisted: up to 1.2 million
Host National Society presence: Nine branches involved, six NS staff in the field, three National Disaster Response Teams and 150 volunteers	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: IFRC, ICRC, Danish, Spanish and French Red Cross	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Ministry of Health	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Guinea recorded early this year 134 suspected cases of febrile illness and 83 deaths in districts of Forest Guinea region, with a fatality rate of 69 per cent. The highest concentration of cases and deaths are as follows: Guékédou (80 cases/ 54 deaths); Macenta (26 cases/ 14 deaths) and Conakry (15 cases/ 4 deaths).

Faced with this situation, the health authorities in the region of N'Zérékoré, together with the Institute of Public Health, Infectious Diseases University Hospital, World Health Organisation and Médecins Sans Frontières worked together to confirm the nature of this unusual pathology. A total of 36 samples were taken, of which 12 were sent to the Laboratory of Lyon, France for confirmation in mid-March 2014. The results of these samples revealed six positive samples.

Since the confirmation of the Ebola virus disease in Guinea, a regional response framework has been envisaged. The regional response framework includes supporting the National Societies of the affected countries and countries with a physical border to the affected countries.

The main activities the IFRC is supporting the affected National Societies include:

- Strengthening National Society volunteer and coordination networks through logistics and training support
- Clinical case management, support with isolation and life-support
- Contribution to epidemiological investigation and epidemic control measures
- Case finding, contact tracing, disinfection and dead body management
- Information, education and communication to the population and reduction of stigma
- Psychosocial support; coping with crisis, grief and loss

The main activities the IFRC is supporting the National Societies with a physical border to the affected countries include:

- Preparedness for response through volunteer training in communication around epidemics and behavioural change
- Supporting Ministries of Health in prevention activities and social mobilisation
- Pre-positioning personal protective equipment and related training
- Adaption and dissemination of information, education and communication material linked with community social mobilisation activities

The proposed activities in Senegal follow the regional response framework's support to neighbouring National Societies.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society

Senegal is vulnerable to disasters including epidemics. The Senegalese Red Cross Society (SRCS) has placed disaster risk management and preparedness at the forefront of its activities in community preparedness and resilience.

The high risk of Ebola virus disease in the neighbouring regions to Guinea has promoted the National Society to conduct preparedness activities alongside the Ministry of Health and Social Action. SRCS has expertise in preparedness and response related to epidemics over the past years and is in the midst of reinforcing the branches along the border with Guinea.

Movement Coordination

SRCS is supported by the IFRC through its regional office, the ICRC, Danish, Spanish and French Red Cross. Regular Movement Coordination meetings and joint-activities occur and at the onset of the alert for Ebola virus disease, the SRCS has been keeping all Movement actors informed of activities of the Ministry of Health and Social Action and themselves. IFRC regional office is supporting in information gathering and dissemination.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The Ministry of Health and Social Action works alongside the World Health Organisation in Senegal on epidemic preparedness and response. For preparedness around this event, the authorities are keeping all relevant health actors in the country informed of the overall strategy and coordination mechanism.

Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

Needs Assessment

As Senegal has not experienced the Ebola virus disease previously, the population has limited knowledge, including mode of transmission and proper behaviour to avoid risks. Due to the highly-infectious nature of the disease many people are fearful and it is important to reduce rumours and misconceptions related to risks.

Risk Assessment

The SRCS is committed to do its utmost to support the Ministry of Health and Social Action around social mobilisation to prepare the population and prevent any outbreaks in Senegal. On reducing risks for staff and volunteers, the SRCS will ensure that personal protective equipment is properly used

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall objective

The overall objective is to prepare the SRCS through reinforcement of volunteers and material for a possible outbreak and also to undertake social mobilisation activities alongside the Ministry of Health and Social Action. The volunteer reinforcement and social mobilisation activities will occur in the regions that border Guinea: Kédougou, Tambacounda, Kolda, Sédhiou and Ziguinchor.

Proposed strategy

The proposed strategy is in line with the IFRCs regional response framework for neighbouring countries of Guinea. The activities will focus on:

- Preparedness for response through volunteer training in communication around epidemics and behavioural change
- Supporting Ministries of Health in prevention activities and social mobilisation
- Pre-positioning personal protective equipment and related training
- Adaption and dissemination of information, education and communication material linked with community social mobilisation activities

Operational support services

Human resources

SRCS is planning to deploy 150 volunteers, six National Society staff in the field, three Health members of the National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) to support the operation. IFRC will be supporting the SRCS with a

deployment of a Regional Disaster Response Team member to facilitate the trainings and support with the social mobilisation activities

Logistics and supply chain

The specialized personal protective equipment kits will be procured by IFRC to ensure they meet the necessary standards. All other necessary items will be procured locally.

Communications

Visibility of the work of Red Cross volunteers will be ensured during the operation through local media and visibility material. A proper documentation and reporting to allow for lessons learnt will be ensured as well. SRCS will provide regular updates on the operation.

Security

Security risks, will be reviewed and responded to accordingly. IFRC has prepared a security brief for its staff deployed to the country, and close consultation will be carried out with the SRCS and ICRC who have permanent presence in the country.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

SRCS in close cooperation with the Sahel Regional Office will monitor the progress of the operation and provide necessary technical expertise. The monitoring and reporting of the operation will be undertaken by the National Society. Brief weekly updates will be provided to the IFRC on general progress of the operation, and regular monitoring reports will provide detailed indicator tracking.

Administration and Finance

The National Society has a permanent administration and finance department which ensures the proper use of financial resources in accordance with conditions to be clarified in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Senegalese Red Cross Society and the IFRC Sahel Regional Representation. Financial resource management will be done according to the National Society's regulations and DREF guidelines. Additionally, the SRCS's own procedures will be applied to the justification of expenses process and will be done on IFRC formats.

Budget

See attached budget

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

- **In IFRC Zone:** Martine Zoethoutmaar, Resource Mobilization Coordinator; Addis Ababa; phone: + 251 93-003 6073; email: martine.zoethoutmaar@ifrc.org

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

- **IFRC Africa Zone:** Robert Ondrusek, PMER Coordinator; Nairobi; phone: +254 731 067277; email: robert.ondrusek@ifrc.org
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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 (NGOs) 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.
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DREF Budget

Senegal Ebola Preparedness (MDRSN009)

13.04.2014

Budget Group	Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	0
Shelter - Transitional	0
Construction - Housing	0
Construction - Facilities	0
Construction - Materials	0
Clothing & Textiles	0
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	1,000
Medical & First Aid	6,000
Teaching Materials	400
Utensils & Tools	0
Other Supplies & Services	0
Emergency Response Units	0
Cash Disbursements	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	7,400
Land & Buildings	0
Vehicles Purchase	0
Computer & Telecom Equipment	0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	0
Medical Equipment	0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	0
Distribution & Monitoring	2,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	8,400
Logistics Services	0
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	10,400
International Staff	6,000
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	2,400
Volunteers	15,300
Total PERSONNEL	23,700
Consultants	0
Professional Fees	0
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	4,000
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	4,000
Travel	1,000
Information & Public Relations	2,100
Office Costs	0
Communications	1,900
Financial Charges	1,000
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Support Services	0
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	6,000
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	3,348
Total INDIRECT COSTS	3,348
TOTAL BUDGET	54,848
NET DREF NEEDS	54,848