

# DREF final report

## Mauritania: Floods

### DREF operation n° MDRMR006 GLIDE n° FL-2013-000119-MRT 12 June, 2014

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 Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

**Summary:** CHF 69,873 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) Mauritanian Red Crescent Society in delivering assistance to some 870 beneficiaries (145 households) for 3 months and assess further needs.

The rainstorms that commenced on the first week of August 2013 took a heavy toll in several regions. They affected at least four regions causing extensive damage to property and resulting in six deaths. A total of 5,635 people were affected by the floods and based on the outcome of the detailed needs assessments carried the Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC), with the support from DREF, MRC provided appropriate and timely assistance in the sectors of Emergency shelter and non-food items, health and water and sanitation.



National Society staff carry out detailed assessments in the Water and Sanitation in R'Veimdy. Photo: MRCS/IFRC

A total of 145 volunteers were mobilized in the 4 affected districts and deployed to implement the planned response operation activities. Family tents were distributed to 70 most vulnerable families in Tourougueiline. Other basic relief items distributed included kitchen sets, sleeping mats and blankets to 145 most affected families in Tourougueiline, Akjouj and Moudjeiria. Furthermore, MRC also provided first aid assistance, water and sanitation sensitization as well as health and hygiene promotion to affected communities in the regions of Tagant, Inchiri and Trarza reaching a total of 300 families with hygiene promotion activities.

#### Lessons learned:

- Non Food Items prepositioning is very important in disaster prone areas for effective and efficient response and provision of assistance to affected persons. Mauritanian Red Crescent Society was able to quickly respond to the flooding due to availability of pre-positioned items.
- Volunteers' capacity building to enhance their operational capacities is paramount to ensure that volunteers deployed in any operation are well equipped to implement and provide necessary support to targeted communities. This was done in this operation through relevant volunteer trainings.
- The National Society effectiveness during the operation has helped to improve its image and visibility. The success of the operation is linked to the good collaboration with IFRC, other humanitarian actors as well as the commitment of Red Cross volunteers.

**Financial Summary:** At the close of the operation, the unspent balance of CHF 400 will be returned to DREF. The shelter/Relief budget line has an overspend because more tents than was budgeted were purchased.

The Netherlands Red Cross/SEF contributed towards replenishment of the DREF allocated for this operation. The major donors and partners of the 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 USA, as well as DG ECHO, the UK Department for International Development (DFID) the Medtronic, Zurich and Coca Cola Foundations and other corporate and private donors.

The IFRC, on behalf of the Mauritanian Red Crescent would like to extend many thanks to all partners for their generous contributions.

[<click here for the final financial report and here to view contact details>](#)

## The situation

Mauritania is a country that experiences numerous natural disasters. During the rainy season, the drought stricken lands are quickly submerged in floods. These climatic conditions have often caused urban migration. Early August 2013, Mauritania experienced seasonal flooding across several regions in the country. In areas with increased rainfall, floods caused damage to households, infrastructure and livelihoods. The most affected regions have been Tagant, Trarza, Inchiri and Nouakchott. In the peri-urban and urban areas, roads were impassable and drainage systems were not able to cope with excess water. Numerous public institutions such as markets and places of worship were flooded. Due to the damage to the roads, the cost of transportation doubled thereby impacting the economy of the peri-urban and urban areas. The Government decided to place the coordination of the assistance under the responsibility of the Office of Food Security (CSA), a body present in all parts of the country, including at the village level. The CSA is under the responsibility of the Prime Minister's Office and is in charge of the management of disasters such as floods.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Mauritanian Red Crescent has extensive experience in responding to disasters such as floods. A number of DREF and Emergency Appeal operations related to food insecurity, floods and population movement have been managed by the Mauritanian Red Crescent to support vulnerable persons in previous years. Therefore, as soon as the floods began the MRCS worked with its local committees located country wide and alongside the local authorities as well as reliable community leaders and key informants of affected communities in order to gather information for emergency responses.

An RDRT with Disaster Management background was deployed to support the DREF operation implementation and a total of 145 volunteers were mobilized in the 4 affected districts. With support from IFRC, the MRCS quickly initiated its early warning measures and alerted its local committees country wide and particularly in areas at risk of flooding. MRCS branch staff and volunteers also performed a quick assessment of the situation in the affected regions (Brakna, Inchiri, Tagant and Trarza) and following these rapid assessments the MRCS distributed food and non-food items to 480 persons in Tourougueiline from its pre-positioned stocks. Following the worsening of the flooding situation, a total of 70 family tents and 65 NFI family kits from the MRCS disaster preparedness stocks were distributed in the communities of Akjouj and Moudjeiria.

## Achievements against outcomes

| Assessment  |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Outcome: Emergency needs of flood-affected families are identified and gaps documented, leading to revision of the operation's plan of action if required.</b>                                   |   |
| <b>Outputs (expected results):</b>  | <b>Activities planned:</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed assessments are carried out across all sectors and the plan of action is revised appropriately to address outstanding needs if required.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support National Society in planning and managing detailed assessments including household visits and key informant interviews;</li> <li>Identify outstanding needs and gaps in consultation with local authorities and other</li> </ul> |

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | stakeholders;<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain monitoring of the prevalent rains and evolving situation with regular reports;</li> <li>• Revise plan of action and budget as needed.</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

**Impacts:** Through the DREF support MRCS conducted detailed assessments in Brakna, Trarza and Inchiri regions precisely in R'weimdy, Rosso and Akjoujt areas through which the national society to collected accurate data on health, hygiene, sanitation, and shelter. This impacted positively on the success of the operation as they enable to address the outstanding needs.

#### Emergency shelter and non-food items

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Outcome: The immediate needs of 145 families affected are met through the distribution of essential household items.</b>                                     |   |
| <b>Outputs (expected results):</b>  | <b>Activities planned:</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 70 families are provided with emergency shelter solutions and 145 families with appropriate non-food items.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distribute family tents to 70 most vulnerable families in Tourougueiline (Completed);</li> <li>• Distribute non-food item kits (kitchen sets, sleeping mats, blankets) to 145 most affected families in Tourougueiline, Akjouj and Moudjeiria. (completed);</li> <li>• Procure 145 kitchen sets, 290 sleeping mats, 290 blankets, 50 IFRC shelter kits and 20 IFRC family tents for MRCS stock replenishment;</li> <li>• Monitor and evaluate relief activities and provide reporting on relief distribution;</li> <li>• Develop detailed intervention plan based on detailed assessment results.</li> </ul> |

**Impacts:** A total of 145 Red Cross volunteers were mobilized and actively participated to the distribution of NFIs reaching the targeted most affected families in Tourougueine, Akjouj and Moudjeiria. These non-food items and emergency shelter solutions constituted basic survival materials and brought relief to these affected beneficiaries thus reducing their vulnerability and improving their situation. The items included IFRC family tents, kitchen sets, sleeping mats, blankets and shelter kits.

#### Emergency Health

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Outcome: The immediate threat to health status for 145 families is reduced for targeted communities.</b>  |   |
| <b>Outputs (expected results):</b>   | <b>Activities planned:</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased awareness and prevention of waterborne diseases is ensured through support and information campaign in targeted communities.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct first aid, evacuation and carry out psychological support to the affected beneficiaries;</li> <li>• Conduct epidemic control and PHAST re-trainings for 25 communities agents and 25 volunteers;</li> <li>• Distribute 290 mosquito nets to most vulnerable families in Tourougueiline, Akjouj and Moudjeiria. (completed);</li> <li>• Procure 290 mosquito nets for replenishment of MRCS stocks;</li> <li>• Conduct door-to-door sensitization on reduction of flood related health risks;</li> <li>• Regular control and monitoring of community health status and possible referral of cases of ill health identified;</li> <li>• Print and distribute IEC materials on epidemic control.</li> </ul> |

**Impacts:** The activities related to first aid, evacuation and psychological support to the affected beneficiaries were realized in the initial response. Further, to achieve the expected results of the DREF operation related to emergency health the capacity of 15 Red Cross volunteers in R'weimdy, 20 in Rosso and 15 in Akjoujt

was enhanced through epidemic control and PHAST re-trainings. The training of volunteers enabled thereafter the effective distribution of 290 mosquito nets to the most vulnerable families in Tourougueiline, Akjouj and Moudjeiria. With their refreshed skills, the volunteers conducted door to door sensitization and reached a total of 300 families.

The hygiene promotion activities focused on access to potable water, the hygiene of the environment, hand washing and included also the distribution of IEC materials on epidemic control. Additionally, the Red Cross volunteers ensured regular control and monitoring of community health status in three regions. These preventive measures undertaken in the floods affected areas have contributed to the absence of the outbreak of an epidemic. It is worth mentioning that the emergency stocks already distributed during the initial response were replenished.

### Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

**Outcome: The risk of waterborne and water related diseases is reduced in the affected areas through the provision of water, water purification items and adequate sanitation as well as hygiene promotion in the affected areas.**

| Outputs (expected results):  | Activities planned:   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waterborne diseases are prevented through awareness campaigns and provision of hygiene kits in targeted communities.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue monitoring and assessing the situation in the affected areas as well as in other parts of the country; local authorities, fire-fighters and civil protection who will provide the tankers;</li> <li>• Refresher training for 25 volunteers on household water treatment and hygiene promotion;</li> <li>• Conduct door to door sensitization campaigns to promote individual and collective hygiene as means of avoiding the spread of water borne diseases;</li> <li>• Procure and distribute 145 boxes of 50 water purification tablets and 145 IFRC hygiene kits to the targeted 145 households;</li> <li>• Distribute 145 jerry cans and 145 buckets to the most vulnerable families in Tourougueiline, Akjouj and Moudjeiria. (completed);</li> <li>• Procure 145 jerry cans and 145 buckets for replenishment of MRCS stocks;</li> <li>• Produce and disseminate hygiene leaflets on the risks associated with flooding and precautions to take;</li> <li>• Establish hygiene promotion committees in the communities to reinforce the work of volunteers and community agents;</li> <li>• Rehabilitate 5 wells and 10 community latrines.</li> </ul> |

**Impacts:** To complement health assistance, the trained Red Cross volunteers were assisted by local committees to monitor the sensitization activities in Rosso, Brakna and Akjoujet. Additionally, 145 jerry cans and 145 buckets were distributed to the most vulnerable families in Tourougueiline, Akjouj and Moudjeiria. Latrines to be rehabilitated were part of the findings of the detailed assessment and in response to this specific need, two blocks of latrines were rehabilitated in a school. This encouraged, good hygiene practices, increased hygiene knowledge and behaviour of the 250 pupils' beneficiaries in Rweimdy village (Brakna region). Overallly, the Watsan and hygiene promotion activities were an important component in the response to floods as they enabled to reduce the risks related to waterborne and water related diseases.

**Challenges:** The analysis of challenges encountered during the relief operation revealed that there were some areas which need to be strengthened. For instance, the coordination between the National Society's headquarters and Red Cross local committees as well as volunteers should be improved. The communication lines with this tripartite should work in a more efficient way. It is also worth to mention that the remoteness of some affected areas made the response efforts of the operational teams very difficult.

## Contact information

### For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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

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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.

[www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)  
Saving lives, changing minds.



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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**Disaster Response Financial Report**

MDRMR006 - Mauritania - Floods

Timeframe: 20 Sep 13 to 20 Dec 13

Appeal Launch Date: 20 Sep 13

FINAL Report

**Selected Parameters**

|                         |               |           |          |
|-------------------------|---------------|-----------|----------|
| Reporting Timeframe     | 2013/9-2014/5 | Programme | MDRMR006 |
| Budget Timeframe        | 2013/9-12     | Budget    | APPROVED |
| Split by funding source | Y             | Project   | *        |
| Subsector:              | *             |           |          |

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**I. Funding**

|                                      | Raise humanitarian standards | Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people | Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development | Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work | Joint working and accountability | TOTAL  | Deferred Income |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| <b>A. Budget</b>                     |                              | 69,873                                    |  |   |                                  | 69,873 |                 |
| <b>B. Opening Balance</b>            |                              |   |  |   |                                  |        |                 |
| <b>Income</b>                        |                              |   |  |   |                                  |        |                 |
| <u>Other Income</u>                  |                              |   |  |   |                                  |        |                 |
| <i>DREF Allocations</i>              |                              | 69,873                                    |  |   |                                  | 69,873 |                 |
| <b>C4. Other Income</b>              |                              | 69,873                                    |  |   |                                  | 69,873 |                 |
| <b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)</b> |                              | 69,873                                    |  |   |                                  | 69,873 |                 |
| <b>D. Total Funding = B +C</b>       |                              | 69,873                                    |  |   |                                  | 69,873 |                 |

\* Funding source data based on information provided by the donor

**II. Movement of Funds**

|   | Raise humanitarian standards | Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people | Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development | Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work | Joint working and accountability | TOTAL   | Deferred Income |
|---|------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| <b>B. Opening Balance</b>               |                              |   |  |   |                                  |         |                 |
| <b>C. Income</b>                        |                              | 69,873                                    |  |   |                                  | 69,873  |                 |
| <b>E. Expenditure</b>                   |                              | -69,473                                   |  |   |                                  | -69,473 |                 |
| <b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b> |                              | 400                                       |  |   |                                  | 400     |                 |

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### III. Expenditure

| Account Groups                                  | Budget        | Expenditure                  |   |  |   |                                  | TOTAL         | Variance |
|---|---------------|------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------------|---------------|----------|
|   |               | Raise humanitarian standards | Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people | Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development | Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work | Joint working and accountability |               |          |
|   | A             |                              |   |  |   | B                                | A - B         |          |
| <b>BUDGET (C)</b>                               |               |                              | <b>69,873</b>                             |  |   | <b>69,873</b>                    |               |          |
| <b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>     |               |                              |   |  |   |                                  |               |          |
| Shelter - Relief                                | 13,390        |                              | 21,702                                    |  |   | 21,702                           | -8,312        |          |
| Clothing & Textiles                             | 2,030         |                              | 2,172                                     |  |   | 2,172                            | -142          |          |
| Food  | 3,750         |                              |   |  |   |                                  | 3,750         |          |
| Water, Sanitation & Hygiene                     | 25,000        |                              | 16,352                                    |  |   | 16,352                           | 8,648         |          |
| Medical & First Aid                             | 1,459         |                              |   |  |   |                                  | 1,459         |          |
| Utensils & Tools                                | 3,335         |                              | 3,329                                     |  |   | 3,329                            | 6             |          |
| <b>Total Relief items, Construction, Sup</b>    | <b>48,963</b> |                              | <b>43,554</b>                             |  |   | <b>43,554</b>                    | <b>5,409</b>  |          |
| <b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>       |               |                              |   |  |   |                                  |               |          |
| Distribution & Monitoring                       | 810           |                              | 1,906                                     |  |   | 1,906                            | -1,096        |          |
| Transport & Vehicles Costs                      | 1,741         |                              | 2,084                                     |  |   | 2,084                            | -344          |          |
| <b>Total Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b> | <b>2,551</b>  |                              | <b>3,991</b>                              |  |   | <b>3,991</b>                     | <b>-1,439</b> |          |
| <b>Personnel</b>                                |               |                              |   |  |   |                                  |               |          |
| International Staff                             | 6,000         |                              | 4,275                                     |  |   | 4,275                            | 1,725         |          |
| National Society Staff                          | 1,086         |                              | 1,172                                     |  |   | 1,172                            | -85           |          |
| Volunteers                                      | 1,256         |                              | 4,691                                     |  |   | 4,691                            | -3,435        |          |
| <b>Total Personnel</b>                          | <b>8,342</b>  |                              | <b>10,138</b>                             |  |   | <b>10,138</b>                    | <b>-1,795</b> |          |
| <b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>                 |               |                              |   |  |   |                                  |               |          |
| Workshops & Training                            | 2,621         |                              | 2,292                                     |  |   | 2,292                            | 329           |          |
| <b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>           | <b>2,621</b>  |                              | <b>2,292</b>                              |  |   | <b>2,292</b>                     | <b>329</b>    |          |
| <b>General Expenditure</b>                      |               |                              |   |  |   |                                  |               |          |
| Travel  | 1,000         |                              | 5,369                                     |  |   | 5,369                            | -4,369        |          |
| Information & Public Relations                  | 300           |                              | 114                                       |  |   | 114                              | 186           |          |
| Office Costs                                    | 250           |                              | 220                                       |  |   | 220                              | 30            |          |
| Communications                                  | 201           |                              | 286                                       |  |   | 286                              | -85           |          |
| Financial Charges                               | 1,379         |                              | -730                                      |  |   | -730                             | 2,109         |          |
| <b>Total General Expenditure</b>                | <b>3,130</b>  |                              | <b>5,259</b>                              |  |   | <b>5,259</b>                     | <b>-2,129</b> |          |
| <b>Indirect Costs</b>                           |               |                              |   |  |   |                                  |               |          |
| Programme & Services Support Recove             | 4,265         |                              | 4,240                                     |  |   | 4,240                            | 24            |          |
| <b>Total Indirect Costs</b>                     | <b>4,265</b>  |                              | <b>4,240</b>                              |  |   | <b>4,240</b>                     | <b>24</b>     |          |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>                    | <b>69,873</b> |                              | <b>69,473</b>                             |  |   | <b>69,473</b>                    | <b>399</b>    |          |
| <b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>                         |               |                              | <b>399</b>                                |  |   | <b>399</b>                       |               |          |

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## IV. Breakdown by subsector

| Business Line / Sub-sector                             | Budget        | Opening Balance | Income        | Funding       | Expenditure   | Closing Balance | Deferred Income |
|--|---------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>BL2 - Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people</b> |               |                 |               |               |               |                 |                 |
| Disaster response                                      | 69,873        |                 | 69,873        | 69,873        | 69,473        | 400             |                 |
| Subtotal BL2   | 69,873        |                 | 69,873        | 69,873        | 69,473        | 400             |                 |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>                                     | <b>69,873</b> |                 | <b>69,873</b> | <b>69,873</b> | <b>69,473</b> | <b>400</b>      |                 |