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Emergency Plan of Action operation update

Burundi: Complex Emergency



Emergency appeal n° MDRBI012	GLIDE n° CE-2015-000182-BDI
EPoA update n°1	Timeframe covered by this update: 1 st – 15 th April 2016
Operation Manager: Andreas Sandin, IFRC East Africa and Indian Ocean Islands.	Point of contact: Vénérand Nzigamasabo, Head of DM Burundi Red Cross Society (BRCS).
Operation start date: 31 ST March 2016	Operation timeframe: 6 months End date 30 th September 2016
Overall operation budget: CHF 1,532,090	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 161,922
N° of people being assisted: 100,000 people (20,000 families)	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: Belgian Red Cross (FL), Belgian Red Cross (FR), Finnish Red Cross, International Committee of Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Luxembourg Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross.	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Civil Protection Unit, Concern Worldwide France Volontaire, Geographic Institute of Burundi, International Organisation for Migration, Save the Children, United Nations Children's Emergency Fund, United Nations Population Fund, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, World Food Programme, and World Vision.	

Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

This update provides a brief overview of the Burundi Red Cross Societies actions to date in the preparations for the start of their response activities to be covered by the Emergency Appeal (in anticipation of pledges). Appeal coverage at the time of writing is 0%, donors are encouraged to support the appeal to enable BRCS to provide assistance to the targeted beneficiaries through the planned activities as detailed in the Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA). A DREF loan of 161,922 Swiss franc is being processed to BRCS.

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

April 2015: Following the President's decision to run for another term, tensions and violence erupts in the capital of Bujumbura and some provinces. This resulted in a number of casualties in the capital and large numbers of people fleeing the country.

June - July 2015: Presidential elections went ahead, however following Nkurunziza's electoral victory, opposition groups in exile aligned to form the National Council for the Restoration of the Arusha Accords.

September 2015: The El Niño weather phenomenon resulted in heavy rains, winds, landslides and floods in 15 out of 18 provinces causing extensive and widespread destruction. Most of the affected provinces normally don't have problem with flooding, and the others experienced heavier rainfall than usual. The floods resulted in 80 reported deaths, 170 people injured, 821 houses damaged, 4,112 houses destroyed along with 15,265 hectares of cultivated fields; 154 schools and 50 bridges destroyed/damaged. It is estimated that 30,408 people have been affected so far (Burundi Red Cross Society).

January – February 2016: IFRC deploys a one-person surge team (supported by British Red Cross) to work with BRCS to identify the priority needs and response actions.

March 2016: An IFRC surge operations manager (supported by Swedish Red Cross) deployed to support the start-up of the operation and ensure coordination of activities with Movement and non-Movement partners.

April 2016: Emergency Appeal launched for 1,532,090 Swiss franc. IFRC's Disaster Emergency Relief Fund (DREF) of 161,922 Swiss franc allocated to support the start of assistance.

This update provides information regarding the first 14 days of the operation since the launch of the Appeal.

Summary of current response

Overview of Host National Society

The Burundi Red Cross Society (BRCS) is accepted as the leading humanitarian agency in Burundi, with a country-wide presence, including 68 employees at National Headquarters (NHQ), provincial (17 branches, with 99 employees), municipal (129 communes, with 129 staff) and colline level (2,900 Red Cross units in collines or hills), as well as a network of 450,000 volunteers. The BRCS has a pool of 40 specialised National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) volunteers trained in first aid, emergency needs assessments, SPHERE standards, WASH and camp management. However, given the current situation, there is need to increase the number of NDRT that can be mobilized. It is the main implementing partner of many United Nations (UN) agencies because of the consistency and extensive presence throughout the country.

In 2014, the BRCS developed an election contingency plan, which was implemented between January – April 2015, but then interrupted at the beginning of the violence. Following the civil unrest and multiple emergencies that have since been experienced across the country, the BRCS has focussed on the following areas of intervention.

Assessment

The BRCS at branch level plays an important role in the coordination of rapid assessments, which are carried out at provincial and commune level in collaboration with the Government, Civil Protection Unit (CPU) as well as international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) / non-governmental organizations (NGOs) representatives. For the El Niño operation and political violence, BRCS shares its rapid assessment findings in a daily SITREP, published on the BRCS website.

Health and care

Since April 2015, the BRCS has been working in Bujumbura and the provinces most affected by the violence to provide emergency first aid, information and referral services. A total of 34 emergency first aid posts have been established, which are supported by 68 volunteers equipped with first aid kits and other consumables. The emergency posts provide first aid to those in need and evacuate the wounded to contracted health care facilities, which are supported by partners. The teams work only during the day. After office hours, the calls for assistance are referred to the CPU. As of 8 March 2016, BRCS had assisted and evacuated more than 845 wounded in Bujumbura.

A National emergency hotline service using a Very High Frequency (VHF) radio has been activated with partner organisations, to enable the public request advice or assistance on health and first aid, as well as referral information. Five (5) BRCS staff currently operate the hotline service in Kirundi, French, Swahili and English during office hours. In partnership with the UNICEF and other WASH sector actors, the BRCS has also been involved in preventing the spread of cholera, including: carry out assessments, vector control (spraying of chlorine), as well as supporting safe household water treatment and hygiene promotion.

Shelter and settlements

In partnership with IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF and UNFPA, as well as donations received from the public, the BRCS has been involved in the distribution of one-off standard Non Food Item (NFI) and hygiene kits to populations affected by the multiple emergencies (specifically the civil unrest and El Niño responses). The BRCS has distributed a few NFI kits from their own preparedness stocks.

Since November 2015, the BRCS has also been responsible for the management of 2 temporary camps in Rumonge province. The BRCS works with the local authorities, UN agencies and international non-governmental agencies (INGOs) to help meet the immediate needs of IDPs affected by El Niño related floods and landslides, who have relocated to the Cashi (135 families/859 people) and Gitaza (141 families/869 people) camps. In partnership with UNICEF, the BRCS has supported the installation of infrastructure including bladders, cooking facilities, latrine and shower blocks, as well as a perimeter fence (to prevent hippos entering the camp at night). It was expected that the camps would open for a maximum of 3 months, however they have remained open as commitments made by the authorities for replacement housing and land have not yet been delivered.

The BRCS is the lead in camp management in the Congolese transit refugee camp, which was established in 2013 and has a capacity to assist 1,000 people. Each arrival stays a minimum of 2-3 days before onward referral or return to the Democratic Republic of Congo. In total, there are more than 55,000 Congolese refugees living in Burundi and though UNHCR, BRCS is currently working on an exit strategy for the transit camp, although with the forthcoming elections in DRC a new influx of refugees is anticipated and therefore it seems unlikely to be closed.

In partnership with IOM, BRCS is also involved in assessing major population movement trends and the related humanitarian needs of IDPs who have sought refuge in host communities using the DTM (Displacement Tracking Matrix). BRCS volunteers conduct monthly monitoring in 3 provinces – Kirundo, Makamba and Rutana. IOM plans to expand this monitoring to an additional six provinces in 2016.

Food security, nutrition and livelihoods

In 2015, in partnership with WFP, the BRCS was involved in the distribution of general food rations to 36,000 families (180,000 people) per month in Bujumbura, Kirundo Makamba, Rumonge and Rutana. Following joint assessments carried out in collaboration with other partner organizations and informed by monthly monitoring of malnutrition, this is to be increased to 50,000 families (250,000 people) per month in 2016. In addition, in partnership with WFP the BRCS are also targeting children less than 20 months, pregnant and lactating women with specialized food rations in Kirundo and Makamba.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

Partner	Role
ICRC	Refresher training on first aid and simulation, provision of first aid kits, dissemination of IHL and Red Cross Principles and Values in the army and policy institutions, financial, logistical and material support.
IFRC	Supports BRCS in disaster risk reduction and disaster preparedness (including flood, election and cholera preparedness) in response to the increased El Niño season, humanitarian diplomacy and communication with beneficiaries.
Finnish Red Cross	Model homes in Kirundo and Ngozi provinces.
Belgian Red Cross (Fi)	WASH and organisational development in Muramvya and Mwaro provinces, and strengthening first aid services in all provinces.
Belgian Red Cross (Fr)	Nutrition, first aid and organisational development in Bururi, Gitega and Kirundo provinces.
Luxembourg Red Cross	Livelihood and shelter support to most vulnerable Burundian returnees in Muyinga province
Netherlands Red Cross	Reduction of maternal and infant morbidity and mortality in Cankuzo province.
Norwegian Red Cross:	Capacity building, finance development and leadership trainings in Ruyigi, Rutana, Cibitoke, Muramvya provinces; integrated health in Muramvya, Rutana and Ruyiga provinces; and road safety in Ruyigi, Rutana, Cibitoke, Muramvya provinces.
Spanish Red Cross	Food security and livelihoods in Rutana province.

A Movement Coordination Agreement (MCA) has been finalized between BRCS, ICRC and IFRC to improve coordination. To date, ICRC has had a major role in Burundi and future efforts will focus on preparedness to respond to escalation in armed violence. ICRC main focus will continue to be on civil unrest and IFRC and PNS will support other emergency situations. Given the multiple emergencies the country is experiencing and from the many partner organizations, BRCS, ICRC and PNS have identified a clear need for IFRC support and for the EA.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

Sector	BRCS partners	Nature of support being provided	Who is being targeted and in which provinces?	Estimates on people being reached?
Health and care	UNFPA	Dignity kits for women	Bujumbura Rural, Kirundo, Makamba and Muyinga	7,100 people
	MSF Belgium	Assistance of wounded and victims of conflicts	Bujumbura Rural and Bujumbura Town	As required
	Cholera belt around Lake Tanganyika (6 provinces) IFRC and PNS	Dissemination of messages on Cholera, Malaria, Nutrition, Diarrhoea through Mobile cinema (Community Engagement and Accountability); spraying campaigns, distribution of long lasting insecticide treated nets, sanitation works etc.	Makamba, Cibitoke, Bubanza, Bujumbura Mairie, Bujumbura Rural, Bururi Rumonge, Mwaro, Muramvya Ruyigi, Gitega, Cankuzo, Karuzi, Ngozi, Kayanza,	126,000 people
	UREPORT	URreport (UNICEF) and Mobile cinema (IFRC and PNSs) for health messaging	18 provinces (whole country)	40,400 people (covered by the first campaign)
Shelter and settlements	UNHCR	Camp management	Cibitoke	Gitaza camp currently houses 141 families (869 people) with a further 68 families awaiting shelter; and Cashi camp 135 families (859 people).
	IOM	DTM – Monitoring of IDPs	Bujumbura Rural and Bururi, Kirundo and Makamba	
Food security, nutrition and livelihoods	WFP	General food distributions	In case of disaster	250,000 people
		Specialised food distributions targeting children under 20 months, pregnant and lactating women	Kirundo and Makamba	28,719 people
Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion	UNICEF and ICRC	Training in WASH in emergencies WASH equipment's	Cholera Belt (six provinces)	2,000 families
Protection	ICRC	Monitoring of separated and unaccompanied Children in different cities of Bujumbura town. Monitoring of wounded and or arrested or hospitalized children. Providing training	Bujumbura Rural Bujumbura town, Cibitoke, Gitega and Ngozi Prisons for ICRC, Ruyigi	> 11.250 persons
	UNICEF and ICRC	Monitoring of separated and unaccompanied Children	18 provinces (whole country)	Of which >5 years olds are 18%-20%
	UNHCR	Monitoring of returnees	15 provinces: Makamba, Cibitoke, Bubanza, Bujumbura Mairie, Bujumbura	

			Rural, Bururi, Ruyigi, Gitega, Cankuzo, Karuzi, Ngozi, Kayanza, Moyinga, Rutana, Kirundo	
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Needs analysis and scenario planning

Please refer to the [Original Plan of Action \(MDRBI012\)](#) for information on the operation, including on the operational strategy and plan and operational support needs.

Risk Analysis

The humanitarian situation in Burundi is becoming ever more critical as the country is affected by multiple disasters and emergencies. A further escalation of politically related violence is a serious threat which would likely overshadow the current impact of natural disasters and health-related crises and impede the humanitarian sector's collective response capability. Refugees in neighbouring countries now stand at over 250,000 Burundians, majority of whom are residing in Tanzania and Rwanda. Should the situation stabilize the refugees are most likely start coming back which will cause a strain to the resources and BRCS will have to think of coping strategy with the community.

During the surge mission assessment which was conducted in January 2016 with the support from British Red Cross, the following risks were identified:

- Drawn-out, multiple health and natural disasters exacerbated by political unrest and violence exhausts BRCS's capacity to respond effectively.
- The reputational harm to BRCS by trying to maintain a level of response preparedness for future emergencies while there are unmet needs for current emergencies.
- Being unable to meet the expectations of beneficiaries, government and partner organisations due to diminishing resources and capacity.
- Being dependent on other agencies and having no independent capacity or resources to respond as the Red Cross in Burundi apparent from other partners
- Lack of access to the victims of violence.
- Monitoring of security situation in the area of high tensions and by radio and smart phone.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Please refer to the [Original Plan of Action \(MDRBI012\)](#) for information on the operation, including on the operational strategy and plan, and operational support needs.

C. Detailed Operational Plan

Health & care

Needs analysis: Due to the ongoing flood response and continuing civil unrest there is a need for Red Cross volunteers to provide important health information and emergency first aid.

Population to be assisted: The aim is to disseminate vital health information for mass distribution through radio spots.

Health & care			
Outcome 1 Immediate impact of the range of complex emergencies to the health of population is reduced, over a period of 6 months (Target: 2,000 people / 400 families)	Outputs		% of achievement
		Output 1.1. Rapid medical management of injuries and diseases is provided to the affected population living in most affected and at risk areas (Target: 2,000 people / 400 families)	
	Output 1.2: National emergency hotline service to provide advice on health and first aid; as well as referral information as appropriate to the affected population is operational (Target: sharing 2,160 messages)		
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Output 1.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dissemination of first aid messages and IFRC principles in hotspots areas by spot radio (Target: 2,160 messages) Procurement of an ambulance operating from Bujumbura (Target: 1 ambulance) Provision of referral and ambulance services for more specialized management of the injured 		X X X	0%
Output 1.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure toll free number (165) Develop health and first aid advice sheets for volunteers to provide remote assistance Conduct a training of volunteers on the hotline service training (Target: 15 volunteers) Conduct on the job refresher training on the hotline service (Target: 20 volunteers – including five existing volunteers) Running of the national emergency hot line service for six months Develop a communication and dissemination plan for the hotline service 		X X X X X	0%
Progress towards outcomes			
<p>There is an existing functioning national emergency hotline service using a Very High Frequency (VHF) radio which has been set up (in collaboration with IOM, Save the Children, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) and World Vision), which enables the public to call in to request advice or assistance on health (e.g. cholera and malaria messaging) and first aid, as well as referral information.</p> <p>The appeal aims to enhance this work by have a secure toll free number and volunteers who are more trained to improve their skills and capacity to respond to the variety of complex calls received.</p>			

National Society capacity building

Needs analysis: Given the multiple emergencies the country is experiencing and from the many partner organizations including non-RCRC partners who seek the support of the BRCS volunteers and its branch network for their activities, there is a need to increase skills, capacity and ensure our people are protected. As noted, the BRCS is the main implementing partner of many UN agencies, however such partnerships often do not provide the necessary support for BRCS's capacity or infrastructure, and strengthening support is urgently needed to enable them to continue to deliver these services, especially in logistics and warehousing.

National Society capacity building			
Outcome 3 Capacity of the Burundi Red Cross Society to respond to the emergency situation in Burundi and needs of the affected population is strengthened	Outputs		% of achievement
		Output 3.1: Adequate protection is given to staff and volunteers involved in the response to the of the EA operation. Output 3.2: Logistics and supply chain systems are strengthened to enable effective service delivery Output 3.3: National contingency plans are developed or updated	
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Output 3.1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procure and distribute Red Cross visibility materials (caps, jackets, t-shirts etc.) to active staff and volunteers (Target: 300 staff and volunteers) Procure emergency food and water stocks for headquarters Prepare a safe area in BRCS headquarters to compound for staff and volunteers who may have to hibernate during times of civil unrest. Ensure suitable communication equipment is available to active staff and volunteers (HF/VHF/satellite phones) Roll out "Stay Safe" e-learning modules for active staff and volunteers Provide psychological support to active staff and volunteers Ensure staff and key volunteers have the means to work from home during emergencies (<i>mobile phone credit, internet access</i>) 		X X X X X X X	0%
Output 3.2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments of the existing systems/gaps (in collaboration with the ICRC) – including fleet Installation of temporary/permanent warehouse facilities at NHQ/branch level 		X X	0%

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reorganize NHQ/branch level warehouse systems(including the introduction of LOGIC software) Conduct training on warehouse management for BRCS logisticians (Target: 20 logisticians) Introduction of manual inventory control system Set-up supply chain and control supply movements from point of dispatch to final distribution point Maintain fuel stocks to central and four regional warehouse 		X	
		X	
		X	
		X	
		X	
Output 3.3:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a medium/longer term multi-hazard contingency plan including the return of 250,000+ people who have fled to neighbouring countries 		X	0%
Progress towards outcomes			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment is in progress for a logistics delegate. Preparations are in progress to undertake the IFRC security requirement self-assessment with BRCS. 			

Programming / Areas Common to all Sectors

Insert programming area			
Outcome 4 Continuous assessment, analysis, and final evaluation is used to inform the design and implementation of the EA operation	Outputs		% of achievement
		<p>Output 4.1: Initial needs assessment are updated following consultation with beneficiaries; and Emergency Plan of Action is updated and revised as necessary to reflect needs during the timeframe of the EA operation</p> <p>Output 4.2: Cash transfer / voucher solutions are considered and incorporated into the Emergency Plan of Action where appropriate</p>	
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Output 4.1:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct training Emergency Needs Assessment (ENA); and SPHERE standards (Target: 280 NDRTs) Conduct information sharing sessions with authorities on the Emergency Plan of Action (Target: Three sessions) Establish accountability to beneficiaries mechanisms 		X	0%
		X	

(complaints mechanism)		X	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous assessment using the ENA methodology (by; monitoring and documentation of the activities planned in the EA; including updating of the EPoA as required. • Preparation of reporting as required (including Operations Updates) • Programme information on the implementation of the Complex EA is communicated regularly and through appropriate channels • Conduct final evaluation and lessons learned workshop 		X	
Output 4.2:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission a detailed assessment of cash transfer programming • Training of staff/volunteers on cash programming at national and provincial levels on (Target: 20 staff/volunteers) • Test CTP in pilot provinces (Target: 2) 		X	0%
Progress towards outcomes			
The IFRC EAIOI will support an inception workshop which is planned to take place between later in April 2016 in Bujumbura, Burundi. This workshop will include IFRC, ICRC, PNS's and BRCS technical staff directly involved in the implementation of the planned interventions. This meeting will discuss the content of the response and how the activities are going to be implemented within the 6 month period of the appeal.			

D. Budget

The East Africa and Indian Ocean Islands (EAIOI) Country Cluster Office organized a partnership coordination teleconference on Thursday 31st March. There has been interest from some of the partner national societies and the ICRC to potentially support the appeal either bilaterally or multilaterally.

In view of the extent of needs on the ground, IFRC is appealing to partners and donors to provide urgent additional funds to enable the National Society to meet the needs of the most vulnerable and affected families.

A DREF loan of CHF 161,922 has been approved and is being processed for transfer from the IFRC EAIOI Office to Burundi Red Crescent Society.

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For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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.

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.**