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Emergency appeal

Timor Leste: Drought

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Revised Emergency Appeal n° MD RTP004	27,500 people to be assisted	Appeal Launched 18 May 2016
Glide n° DR-2016-00048-TMP	215,752 Swiss francs advanced from DREF	Revised Appeal n° 1 launched 23 September 2016
	751,074 Swiss francs revised Appeal budget	Appeal ends 28 February 2017
	361,969 Swiss francs funding gap	

This Revised Emergency Appeal seeks **361,969 Swiss francs**, with a revised appeal budget of 751,074 Swiss francs, to enable the **International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)** to support **Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste (CVTL)** in delivering assistance and support to the people affected by drought conditions caused by El Niño. The operation focuses on the following sectors: food, nutrition and livelihoods; water, sanitation and hygiene; health; disaster risk reduction. Major changes include the increase of the operation's target from 20,000 to 27,500 people, the removal of the cash transfer component which targeted 500 households in the initial plan, a new component on provision of seed package to 2,700 households, and the integration of health and hygiene promotion components. Under the revised plan, CVTL will explore using conditional cash transfers as a modality to deliver livelihoods support. **Details are available in the Revised Plan of Action [<click here>](#)**

The disaster and Red Cross Red Crescent response to date

Late 2015: Monitoring of the El Niño situation intensifies and CVTL drafts a contingency plan.

15 April 2016: 215,752 Swiss francs allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Emergency Relief Fund (DREF) to support CVTL in addressing the immediate needs of up to 20,000 affected people in three affected districts.

12 May: A first Surge Operations Manager was deployed to provide in-country support to CVTL prior to the launch of the IFRC's Appeal.

18 May: Emergency Appeal launched for 798,618 Swiss francs to support CVTL to upscale the delivery of humanitarian assistance to 20,000 people.

9 June: Distribution of safe water started which was crucial to meet the urgent needs of the affected population. 97,695 litres of safe water have been distributed daily to 1,333 households. CVTL and IFRC met with Ministry of Interior to update the government of the progress of the Red Cross response.

28 June: A second Surge Operations Manager is deployed to provide in-country support to CVTL and support the National Society in refining its plan of action to better reflect operational priorities and capacity.

8 July and 26 August: [Operations Update no.1](#) and [Operations Update no.2](#) issued respectively.

21 September: Revised Emergency Appeal issued, seeking 751,074 Swiss francs to support CVTL to deliver humanitarian assistance to 27,500 people.



Due to drought conditions brought by El Niño, Angelo de Costa Belo, 54, from the village of Bulobai in Baucau district has been unable to plant or harvest his usual seasonal crop. His maize fields are bare, as are his rice paddies.
Photo: IFRC/Sam Smith

The situation and its impact

The 2016 El Niño brought severe drought conditions to parts of Southeast Asia, including Timor-Leste. Loss of crop, livestock, a poor rice harvest and diminished seed stock are among the consequences that presented acute problems for the most vulnerable affected households. In Timor-Leste, the authorities sought immediate assistance for the affected population in five districts (Baucau, Cova Lima, Lautem, Oecusse and Viqueque) where the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries estimate that at least 120,000 people are severely affected. Although the El Niño was declared officially over – by forecasters – in June, its effects are still impacting on the poorest communities.

As the response to the drought was being rolled out, the authorities and humanitarian community recognized that the situation of affected communities could become worse if a La Niña event were to occur. That is because above-average rainfall and flooding would have a potentially devastating effect on communities that are yet to recover fully from the effects of El Niño.

As such, in addition to delivering immediate assistance in communities impacted by the drought, priority is also on monitoring seasonal forecasts issued by the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) and the World Meteorological Organization (WTO). The latest forecasts by IRI indicate that computer models show chances for the development of a La Niña are down slightly. Similarly, WTO – in a [recent press release](#) – has indicated that while a “La Niña event may develop in the third quarter, it is likely to be weak.

Red Cross Red Crescent response to date

As an auxiliary to the public authorities, CVTL maintains a strong working relationship with the government departments through active participation and collaboration in emergency response. CVTL were consulted on their targeted areas to ensure the humanitarian needs of the most affected population—particularly where no other actors were present – can be met. CVTL activities began in 20 communities in three of the five districts most affected by El Niño: (Baucau, Viqueque and Lautem), all located in the east of the country.

CVTL is one of the few organizations that have complemented the activities of the authorities in delivering much-needed assistance to affected households. Utilizing the funds advanced from IFRC DREF and later resources mobilized via the emergency appeal, primary interventions of CVTL have to date focused on delivering trucked water (130,000 litres) to the five communities facing the most severe water shortage and distributing jerry cans (5,776) to eight target communities. Hygiene promotion activities have also been undertaken in all 20 districts, and will continue to be delivered, by CVTL staff and volunteers, in target communities for the duration of the appeal.

Following the comprehensive household-level assessment in the five most-affected districts, CVTL identified 5,508 households (with a total beneficiary number of 27,500) as vulnerable and, therefore, eligible to receive assistance from the National Society.

Longer-term planning to support community-based risk reduction and institutional disaster preparedness is being undertaken by the CVTL DM team with – in-country or remote – support of IFRC technical teams in Dili, the Country Cluster Support Team (CCST) in Jakarta and Regional Office for Asia Pacific (ROAP) in Kuala Lumpur.

Coordination between CVTL, IFRC, ICRC and PNS is currently managed on a frequent but informal basis due to the proximity of all partners based at the national headquarters in Dili.

The IFRC ROAP, through the DREF, deployed a cash and livelihoods coordinator to support CVTL in undertaking an initial assessment and developing a response plan.

To support CVTL in the delivery of the EPoA for the El Niño response, a surge Operations Manager was seconded from the IFRC Myanmar Country Office – with funding from Swedish Red Cross – for slightly over a month followed by another surge Operations Manager seconded by British Red Cross for a period of two months (July/August). Moving forward, operational support to CVTL will be led by an Operations Manager who starts mission in September.

The IFRC CCST in Jakarta and the ROAP in Kuala Lumpur support coordination with Movement partners who do not have presence in Timor-Leste, provide high level technical advice and ensure dissemination of CVTL activities and progress towards the achievement of operational outputs and outcomes.

The IFRC CCST in Jakarta and the IFRC ROAP are providing further coordination support for information sharing and resources mobilization across the Movement partners. Some PNSs are keen to support this Emergency Appeal operation as the strategy is seen as complementary to the actions planned under the ICBRR and nutrition programmes.

The operational strategy

The revised plan is developed by CVTL, with support from IFRC, to reflect the current needs of the communities assessed and to ensure delivery of services is achievable within the operation time frame. The plan also considers the capacity of CVTL to implement the response without negatively impacting their core delivery of services. The plan for this operation is fully in line with CVTL and IFRC policies, procedures, commitments and mandates.

With IFRC support, CVTL seeks to provide immediate and early recovery support to the most vulnerable affected households in the three districts of Baucau, Lautem and Viqueque, in a timely, effective, and efficient manner, and are supported to recover with increased disaster resilience. The operation will be implemented over a ten-month period.

Needs assessments

Three major assessments were conducted to further understand the impact of El Nino on vulnerable communities in Timor-Leste. Multi-agency and government assessments alongside CVTL's own assessment have identified key vulnerabilities across five districts of Timor-Leste (Baucau, Lautem, Viqueque, Covalima and Oecusse). The authorities now recognize that a minimum of 120,000 individuals are considered at risk due to the effects of El Niño. A multi-agency assessment by the Humanitarian Partnership Agreement (HPA) agencies in February 2016 identified that the severe restrictions in access to water, loss of crops and livestock as well as depletion of seed banks especially in the coastal areas as indicative of key vulnerabilities of the poorest households.

Further, detailed, household-level assessments are underway and will inform the improvements to this plan in order to refine or realign approaches with the evolving situation.

Beneficiary selection

CVTL will ensure that programmes under this operation are aligned with its gender commitments as well with the IFRC minimum standard commitments to gender and diversity in emergency programming. Specific considerations will be given to pregnant and lactating female-headed households, the elderly, people with a disability and households with infants or young children. These groups are more vulnerable to challenges faced during a period of drought and are likely to have restricted access to nutrient-rich food and safe water and as a result may be more susceptible to diseases/infections.




Overall objective

This operation aims to assist 27,500 people affected by drought attributed to El Niño in the districts of Baucau, Viqueque and Lautem with appropriate relief and recovery assistance in a timely, effective, and efficient manner, and support them to recover from the impact of the drought and increase their resilience to future shocks.


Proposed strategy


1. ***Ensure adequate water supply and hygiene awareness in areas of greatest vulnerability.***
CVTL will continue supplying water through water trucking and will continuously increase hygiene awareness through hygiene promotion activities. Rainwater capture systems shall be installed to both promote hygiene practices as well as support agricultural production.
2. ***Promote the consumption of nutritious foods and the increase of household food production***
Most vulnerable households will be supported through distribution of nutritious food to address chronic shortage of food as well as provision of seeds to promote and support planting of staple crops once seasonal rains return. CVTL will pursue a partnership with WFP in undertaking food distributions in Lautem, Baucau and Viqueque.
3. ***Provide livelihood support to extend longer-term coping mechanisms***
Livelihood support shall be provided to the most vulnerable households to re-establish income generation activities, to mitigate them from falling into high risk coping strategies and to protect households from selling of assets. The provision of livelihood assistance will take into account the unique needs of target households and consider the capacity of CVTL to implement the same.
4. ***Support disaster risk reduction measures in communities***
In view of a likely La Niña, with the potential of humanitarian impact, CVTL will interpret forecasts of weather patterns and translate them into layman's terms so that community members are aware of potential risks and are able to act accordingly.
5. ***Support institutional disaster response capacity enhancement***
Capacity of CVTL at both national and district level will be strengthened. Pre-positioning appropriate emergency items for future response will also be supported.

Proposed sectors of intervention

	<h3>Livelihoods; Nutrition; Food security</h3>
<p>Outcome 1: The nutritional status of the target community is improved</p>	
<p>Output 1.1: Access to nutrient-rich food by vulnerable households is increased</p>	
<p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure and distribute supplementary, nutrient-rich, food items and seed packages to 2,700 households based on agreed criteria • Organize nutrition training for selected pregnant and lactating women • Undertake monitoring to ensure that households that receive assistance have improved nutritional status 	
<p>Outcome 2: Economic security of vulnerable households is restored</p>	
<p>Output 2.1: Access to livelihood options, for income generation, by vulnerable households is increased</p>	
<p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select beneficiary households, prepare beneficiary lists and sensitize them on the livelihood support process • Design response with individual households, including identifying preferred income generation activities • Provide initial cash transfers or inputs for restoring or enhancing income generation sources to target households • Provide second cash transfers (where applicable) on verification that initial target has been achieved 	
	<h3>Water, sanitation and hygiene</h3>
<p>Outcome 3: The immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities</p>	
<p>Output 3.1: Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere and WHO standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population</p>	
<p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct continuous assessments to identify gaps in meeting water needs of affected communities • Coordinate with local authorities and other humanitarian actors to maximize efforts • Hire and deploy trucks to distribute water to 4,000 households (20,000 people) in target communities • Procure and distribute household water storage containers to 2,000 households 	
<p>Output 3.2: A sustainable access to safe water is provided to the target population through installation of rainwater harvesting systems</p>	
<p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify ten locations (within the three target districts) for installation of rainwater capture systems • Meet with target communities to agree on location and on post construction maintenance of systems • Purchase and supply of materials for rainwater capture systems • Install rainwater harvesting systems in 10 target communities (to benefit up to 20,000 people) 	
<p>Output 3.3: Hygiene promotion activities which meet Sphere standards in terms of the identification and use of hygiene items provided to target population</p>	
<p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize hygiene promotion volunteers to conduct hygiene promotion/awareness activities • Reproduce information, education and communication materials for hygiene promotion • Conduct hygiene promotion activities, including on safe water and food handling, to 5,500 households in target communities • Provide 5,500 households with hygiene kits, including a minimum of 250g soap per person per month for three months • Monitor hygiene practices in target communities, including correct use of sanitation facilities and safe water and food handling 	
	<h3>National Society capacity building</h3>
<p>Outcome 4: National Society capacity to respond to disaster and crises is strengthened</p>	
<p>Output 4.1: CVTL headquarters and branches have improved staffing and office facilities</p>	
<p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit project staff at the national headquarters and requesting branches (if gaps are identified) • Provide essential items and personal protective equipment to the national headquarters and branches 	

Output 4.2: Capacity of CVTL headquarters and branches to respond to disasters is strengthened
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake inventory of available emergency supplies in each target district to identify gaps • Assess suitable storage capacity to identify potential spaces for prepositioning emergency stocks securely • Procure and preposition preparedness stocks adequate to meet the needs of up to 300 households • Develop/update CVTL standard operating procedures for emergency response

 Disaster risk reduction
Outcome 5: Community resilience to disasters is protected and restored
Output 5.1: Knowledge and skills to assess risk, plan and implement disaster risk management measures in target communities have improved
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure integration of risk reduction initiatives across all recovery sectors • Develop a contingency or readiness plan for the projected La Niña • Interpret La Niña forecasts into simple language and disseminate them to target communities for early warning • Conduct awareness raising sessions on preventable disaster risks in target communities • Harmonize recovery and CBRR interventions with approaches of the ICBRR programme

 Quality programming
Outcome 6: Continuous and detailed assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the operation
Output 6.1: Needs assessments are conducted and response plans updated according to findings
Activities completed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize staff and volunteers for assessments • Undertake assessments to determine specific needs of beneficiaries • Develop detailed response plans with activities that will meet identified beneficiary needs
Output 6.2: Additional assistance is considered where appropriate and incorporated into the plan
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that any adjustments to initial plans are informed by continuous assessment of needs
Output 6.3: Mechanisms are in place to facilitate two-way communication with and ensure transparency and accountability to affected people
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide appropriate information, including on the scope and content of projects, to affected people • Ensure that affected people can deliver feedback, report complaints in confidence (CVTL Hotline)
Output 6.4: Management and delivery of the operation is informed by an appropriate monitoring and evaluation system
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and utilize an appropriate M&E system for the operation • Conduct post-action surveys to determine the level of satisfaction among beneficiaries

Programme support services

Based on the demand for the technical and coordination support required to deliver this plan of action, the following programme support functions have been put in place to ensure an effective and efficient technical coordination by the CVTL: **human resources, logistics and supply chain; information management (IM); communications; planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER); partnerships and resource development; and finance and administration.**

For details, see the [Revised Plan of Action](#).

€ Budget

The revised appeal budget is 751,074 Swiss francs. See attached [IFRC Secretariat budget](#) (Annex 1) for details. The funding received to date (in hard pledges) is 389,105 Swiss francs translating to 52 per cent coverage against the revised budget. There is a funding gap of 361,969 Swiss francs. More funding support is, therefore, needed to enable CVTL to deliver assistance to all the vulnerable households identified via the household-level assessment.

Garry Conille
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Reference documents



Click for:

- [Revised Plan of Action \(RPoA\)](#)
- [Map](#)
- [Donor response](#)
- [Operations Update 2](#)
- [Operations Update 1](#)
- [Emergency Appeal](#)
- [Emergency Plan of Action \(EPoA\)](#)

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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**.

EMERGENCY APPEAL

23/09/2016

MDRTP004

Timor Leste: Drought

Budget Group	Appeal Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	7,800
Clothing & Textiles	3,480
Food	135,000
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	60,200
Utensils & Tools	53,000
Other Supplies & Services	1,200
Cash Disbursements	45,600
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	306,280
Computer & Telecom Equipment	13,527
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	10,000
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	23,527
Storage, Warehousing	3,000
Distribution & Monitoring	19,434
Transport & Vehicle Costs	64,333
Logistics Services	2,100
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	88,867
International Staff	112,393
National Society Staff	27,602
Volunteers	20,503
Total PERSONNEL	160,497
Consultants	20,000
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	20,000
Workshops & Training	40,400
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	40,400
Travel	21,500
Information & Public Relations	15,000
Office Costs	10,000
Communications	5,350
Financial Charges	360
Shared Support Services	13,452
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	65,662
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	45,840
Total INDIRECT COSTS	45,840
TOTAL BUDGET	751,074
Multilateral Contributions	389,105
TOTAL AVAILABLE RESOURCES	389,105
NET EMERGENCY APPEAL NEEDS	361,969



Timor-Leste El Niño Response

Cruz Vermelha de Timor Leste, Targeted Villages

DR-2016-000048-TMP

The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Sources: CVTL, GADM

04 August 2016

