

www.ifrc.org  
Saving lives,  
changing minds.

# Emergency Plan of Action Operation Update

## Rwanda Storm & Heavy Winds

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>DREF:</b> MDRRW015		<b>GLIDE n° ST – 2017 – 000143 - RWA</b>	
<b>EPoA update n° 2</b>		<b>Timeframe covered by this update:</b> 22 September 2017 to 31 January 2018	
<b>Operation start date:</b> 03/10/2017		<b>Operation timeframe:</b> 5 months <b>New End date:</b> 03 March 2018	
<b>Overall operation budget:</b> CHF 120,262	<b>Additional DREF allocation:</b> CHF 17,303	<b>DREF amount initially allocated:</b> CHF 102,959	
<b>N° of people being assisted:</b> 5,460 people (1,092 households)		<b>Project manager/Budget Holder:</b> Patricia Kibui, IFRC CCST	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation:</b> Belgian Red Cross Flanders, Austrian, Belgian French Community, Spanish Red Cross Society, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.			
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugees Affairs (MIDIMAR), and Local Authorities			

### Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

This Operations Update no. 2 extends the operation timeframe by a month (03 March 2018) to allow Rwanda Red Cross Society (RRCS) to complete the implementation of the cash activities. The extension will also allow time to conduct monitoring on the usage of the cash and have a joint RRCS/IFRC DREF review and lessons learnt workshop on the successes, challenges and impact of cash assistance. The outcomes of the lessons learnt workshop will be important in the roll out of cash assistance to other National Societies in the region and will inform any future cash project by the RRCS.

## A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

### 1. Description of the disaster



*RRCS staff and volunteers visit a house whose roof was damaged by the storms.  
Photo/IFRC*

On 17<sup>th</sup> September 2017, at around 15:30 local time, the districts of Rusizi, Nyamasheke, Huye and Bugesera, Gicumbi, Ngoma, Kirehe, Rubavu and Nyabihu experienced heavy rainfall associated with heavy storms, which resulted in destruction of houses and community farm lands. The affected areas were mostly in five districts; two located in western province (Rusizi and Nyamasheke), two located in Eastern province (Ngoma and Bugesera), and one in the Southern Province (Huye). This was the second time in 2017 where RRCS dealt with this kind of disasters., In April – May 2017, there was a

DREF intervention in Gatsibo district, Eastern Province.

According to data from a rapid assessment conducted by Rwanda Red Cross staff and volunteers, was estimated that 5,850 people from 1,170 households were affected by heavy winds and out of them 640 families were homeless and classified as most vulnerable. The disaster caused three deaths and 24 people were injured. The affected families were accommodated in the nearby communities after their homes were damaged and a variety of household materials, shelters and clothing destroyed, leaving the affected population without basic necessities and means. Household bedding materials were also destroyed, creating the need for blankets, sleeping mats and other essential Non-Food items (NFIs). It was reported that an estimated 1,024 hectares of mixed crops (including banana trees and cassava plants) were destroyed, and household food stocks were completely damaged. As a result, a lack of access to food presents a situation that may result in short term food insecurity, especially for chronically ill people, the elderly, female-headed households, lactating mothers and children under five, pregnant women, and single parents. Furthermore, latrines and other sanitation infrastructure were also destroyed, increasing the risk of diseases outbreak, particularly during the rainy season – since 25 September, 78 cases of AWD were reported in the Nyamasheke district.

This Operations Update extends the timeframe for an additional month, due to the following reasons:

- Cash assistance is a new tool in the National Society that was piloted in the DREF operation. It was also new to local partners including the local government. This required constant discussions with the local authorities in the different districts to ensure they understood it and fully accepted the distribution of cash, which delayed implementation.
- The extension will allow for monitoring on the usage of the cash. A joint IFRC/RRCS DREF review and lessons learnt workshop will be conducted to assess the impact of the cash assistance. The outcomes will be used to better inform future emergency operations using cash assistance.
- The extension period will also allow the distribution of shelter materials for reconstruction of damaged houses (iron sheets) to 123 households targeted by CTP in Bugesera branch which was supported by the Spanish Red Cross in addition to the DREF response.

## 2. Summary of current response

### Overview of Host National Society

The Rwanda Red Cross Society (RRCS) has mobilized its field staff and volunteers (5 field staff, 4 HQs staff, 100 volunteers from BDRT / LDRT and 5 NDRT members<sup>1</sup>) to support families that have been affected by heavy wind and to be on stand-by to provide immediate assistance from its contingency stock to the affected population in different districts. An emergency needs assessment was carried out in the nine districts (Rusizi, Nyamasheke, Huye, Rubavu, Nyabihu, Gicumbi, Bugesera, Ngoma and Kirehe) that are affected by heavy winds and rains in collaboration with the local authorities, including the Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugees Affairs (MIDMAR). The RRCS volunteers have provided psychosocial support to some affected families struggling with the loss of household materials and agricultural crops. The distribution of Non-Food items to most affected populations (including households and hygiene related items) has reached 401 households (this was based on the level of preparedness stocks) in Rusizi, Nyamasheke and Ngoma districts, and additional assistance will be provided through the support from the DREF. Therefore, the DREF was requested to replenish items distributed from the National Society stocks and to continue supporting those who are still in need. The RRCS volunteers in the affected areas are providing first aid, psycho-social support and health sensitization (PHAST) to avoid epidemic outbreak in the areas that have been affected since the start of the rainy season.

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

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is providing assistance through the Eastern Africa and Indian Ocean Islands (EAI/OI) country cluster office as well as through the Africa regional office based in Nairobi, Kenya. Since the onset of the disaster, there has been regular contact with the IFRC EAI/OI country cluster support team's disaster management department; and regular updates on the situation and activities planned have been shared. On 22 September 2017, an alert was issued using the IFRC disaster management information system (DMIS), and on 25 September 2017 an Operational Strategy Call was carried out with colleagues in Geneva Office, the region and the country cluster team. It

---

<sup>1</sup> BDRT: Branch Disaster Response Team, LDRT: Local Disaster Response Team, NDRT: National Disaster Response Team

was agreed that a request for an allocation should be made for the Disaster Relief and Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the RRCS with replenishment of the NFIs that were distributed and to cover costs that have been incurred in response to this operation to date.

In the last week of October, an IFRC Cash Expert from the EAIOI Cluster supported RRCS in-country in making a comprehensive assessment and implementation plan for the activities under the Cash component of this DREF. Concurrently, RRCS informed the EAIOI Cluster of confirmed cases of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) in the area. Another Operational Strategy Call took place, to discuss both the recommendations from the cash assessment and the AWD situation. As a result, the budget was increased for CTP activities from CHF 30 to CHF 55 per household. There was also an increase in the number of volunteers to be trained in AWD management and Hygiene Promotion to address AWD cases in the area to 270 from the initially planned 100. See Ops Update no. 1.

### **Movement Coordination**

Belgian Red Cross French community, Austrian Red Cross, Belgian Red Cross Flanders and the Spanish Red Cross have in country presence and the Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) and its budget for the DREF operation have been shared to all the PNSs with the intention of mobilizing additional assistance, if available, for the activities outlined in the proposed strategy, where additional support is required. The Belgian Red Cross French community in-country delegate committed to support RRCS on the administrative monitoring of the DREF and the Belgian Red Cross Flanders committed to replenish the NFIs distributed to 237 families in Rusizi district. The plan of action was also discussed with ICRC.

The Spanish Red Cross developed a proposal to support 300 families with shelter materials to reconstruct damaged houses and also participated in the October CTP assessment but only received funding to make available shelter materials to support 123 households in Bugesera branch which will be given in line with the Cash programme.

### **Overview of non-RCRC actors in country**

[See operations update 1](#)

## **3. Needs analysis and scenario planning**

### **Needs analysis**

[See Operations Update 1](#)

### **Operation Risk Assessment**

[See Operations Update 1](#)

## **B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY**

### **4. Proposed strategy**

[See Operations Update 1](#)

## **C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN**

## Programming / Areas Common to all Sectors

Programming / Areas Common to all Sectors			
Outcome 1: Continuous detailed assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the operation.	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 1.1: Initial needs assessment is updated following consultations with beneficiaries		90
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Deployment of staff/volunteers to conduct rapid needs assessment	x		100
Conduct detailed assessment	x		100
Conduct monitoring visit in the area of operation	x		continuous
Output 1.2 The emergency plan of action is reviewed and revised as necessary to reflect needs			
Continuous update of the operation plan	x		ongoing
Coordination meetings at HQ & branch level (refreshments, conference hall, transport, airtime)	X		100
Implementation, Monitoring & Reporting	x		ongoing
Final lessons learnt workshop (to be held in 5 regions) and beneficiary satisfaction	x		0
Progress towards outcomes			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RRCS deployed staff and volunteers to conduct a rapid assessment to identify the urgent needs. The assessment findings informed the scope of the DREF operation. Following the approval of the DREF, IFRC and RRCS conducted a Cash assessment in the five targeted districts to determine the cash transfer value, identify the best and most feasible cash transfer modality to reach the targeted 300 households. The findings informed the adjustment of activities and budget and an Operations Update was issued.</li> <li>A joint IFRC/RRCS lessons learnt workshop has been planned for mid-February 2018 to assess the use of cash in the operation.</li> </ul>			

## Health & care

**Needs analysis:** An initial assessment of the disaster indicates that the total number of people displaced by the local storms & heavy winds is 640 families (approximately 3,200 people), which are at high risk of malaria infection. During the assessment, psychosocial support was also identified as needed to the affected population especially to those who lost all their personal belongings due to the damages caused by the storm. First Aid services will be provided to the injured and affected- First Aid kits (10) will be procured and 5 will be replenished.

**Population to be assisted:** The 640 most affected households (approx. 3,200 people) in the district of Rusizi, Nyamasheke, Huye, Ngoma and Bugesera districts will be assisted, household identified during the needs assessment. Please note; each household will receive two mosquito nets. People who have lost their houses will also receive psychosocial support to deal with stress over loss of personal items.

Health & care			
Outcome 1: Contribute to reduce the psychosocial and health effects of the storm and the risks of malaria infections among the affected families	Outputs		% of achievement
		Output 1.1: Target population (640 families) will receive PSS, first aid and relief items and information to reduce the risks of malaria infection	
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Train 105 branch volunteers (20 volunteers including 1 NDRT volunteer per district) on awareness raising messages for malaria prevention for the affected population		X	0
Demonstrate on the usage of mosquito nets to the beneficiaries		X	0
Procure 10 and replenish 5 first aid kits for the Branch	X		100
Provide first aid and PSS support for the families that has been affected	X		ongoing
Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	X		ongoing
Progress towards outcomes			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstration on the usage of mosquito nets was cancelled as the procurement of mosquito nets was not possible because of long lead time from supplier (3 months). RRCS had requested the government to provide mosquito nets to the target families but unfortunately there were out of stock they had already finished the distributions.</li> <li>The training of volunteers on malaria awareness raising messages was subsequently cancelled as well.</li> <li>First Aid kits were procured and replenished.</li> <li>PSS first aid is ongoing since the beginning of the operation</li> </ul>			

## Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Needs analysis: Following the storm and heavy wind, sanitation infrastructures were destroyed; while the storm and heavy wind-affected population have been displaced and are living with families in nearby communities, which are now overextended and increase the risk of air borne diseases. The National Society will help the affected population access clean water and provide hygiene promotion through distribution of hygiene related non-food items; and carry out community hygiene promotion, information dissemination, awareness sessions and sharing of best practices. There is an urgent need to provide sensitization to the affected population to prevent the risk of water born disease, including AWD. As part of vector control and to support Rwanda RC, we will target all 640 households in provision of mosquito nets which is therefore an important and urgent intervention.

Population to be assisted: The 1,092 affected households (approx. 5,460 people) identified from 5 branches will be reached by hygiene sensitizations and 640 households with (approx. 3,200 people) will be assisted through provision of hygiene related relief items: Jerry cans for water conservation, soap and sanitation services. Please note; each of the 640 households will receive two mosquito nets

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion			
Outcome 1: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities and the risks of	Outputs		% of achievement
		Output 1.1: Target population is provided with hygiene related non-food items and community awareness on the risks of waterborne and vector	

malaria infections among the affected families		borne diseases, which meet SPHERE standards (Target: 640 households / 3,200 people)		
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)	
	Yes (x)	No (x)		
Conduct 35 health, hygiene and sanitation promotion awareness sessions in the affected areas.	X		100	
Conduct training for 270 volunteers on PHASTER (Target: PHASTER 90 volunteers in Nyamasheke/ 90 in Rusizi/ 30 in Ngoma / 30 in Bugesera/ 30 in Huye) and thereafter conduct training for 50 volunteers on Mobile Cinema in emergencies (Target: 27 volunteers /district)	X		100	
Conduct bi-weekly mobile cinema on hygiene promotion events in the affected area (Target: 2 mobile cinema sessions (per district per month; total = 30 sessions)	X		100	
Distribution of hygiene related NFIs (Target: 1,280 jerry cans and 7,680 pcs of soap (3 months provision); and sensitization on their use.	X		100	
Procure and distribute 1,280 mosquito nets (2 per family)		X	0	
Conduct activity monitoring visits, evaluation and reporting	X		ongoing	
Progress towards outcomes				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of mosquito nets did not take place as procurement of mosquito nets was not possible because of long lead time from supplier (3 months). RRCS had requested the government to provide mosquito nets to the target families but unfortunately there were out of stock they had already finished the distributions.</li> <li>806 jerrycans and 4,836 pieces of soap were procured. 401 jerrycans and 1,300 pieces of soap were used to replenish RRCS emergency stocks that had been distributed at the beginning of the operation.</li> <li>270 volunteers were trained on PHASTER and 50 on mobile cinema in December 2017</li> </ul>				

## Shelter and settlements

Needs analysis: The NS will conduct another field visit and needs assessment to update the situation shortly. This assessment will also look at the feasibility of using cash to support at least 300 households meet their shelter needs. Currently, and during the previous assessments, a number of families were made homeless and lost their basic household essential items as a result of the storms. The affected families are hosted with host communities, and there is a need to provide shelter and shelter related NFIs to the affected population.

Population to be assisted: Some 300 from 640 most affected households (approx. 1,500 people) identified during the needs assessment will be assisted through the provision of materials for shelter. The option is using cash program to support these beneficiaries finding their own choices, while additional shelter needs will be advocated from PNS partners. Further, 640 households are targeted for distribution of NFIs, including blankets, kitenge, kitchen sets, mats, plastic sheeting and tarpaulins (some of which came from RRCS stocks). As part of the initial distribution, replenishment of the items distributed is requested under the DREF.

Shelter and settlements		
Outcome 1: Immediate shelter and settlement needs of the affected population are met through the provision of basic shelter and household relief items are met, over a period of four months	Outputs	% of achievement
		Output 1.1: Target population receives relief assistance in terms of basic shelter non-food items (Target: 640 households / 3,200 people)

Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Distribution of NFIs (Target: 1,280 blankets, 640 Kitenge, 640 kitchen sets, 1,280 plastic mats)		X	100
Distribution & replenish of 1,280 plastic sheeting/tarpaulins	X		100
Design of the cash transfer system including feasibility study and market assessment	X		100
Orientation and training of staff on cash transfer system		X	100
Cash transfer to 300 families		X	50
Conduct activity monitoring visits, Evaluation and Reporting	X		ongoing
Market / initial assessment for CTP	X		100

#### Progress towards outcomes

##### Overview of NFI's for emergency response operation.

Items	Total quantity required for intervention	Quantity for replenishment (see table 2)	BRC - FI planned intervention	Distributed	Total request on DREF
Blanket (2 pieces per HH)	1,280	680	474	126	806
Kitenge (1 piece per HH)	640	325	237	78	403
Sleeping mats (2 pieces per HH)	1,280	726	474	80	806
Kitchen set (1 piece per HH)	640		237	403	403
Plastic Sheeting / Tarpaulin (2 pieces per HH)	1,280	726	474	80	806

##### Details on pre-DREF emergency response interventions per region - basis for replenishment

Items	Nyamasheke	Rusizi	Ngoma	Bugesera	Huye	Total
Blanket (2 pieces per HH)	176	474				650
Kitenge (1 piece per HH)	88	237				325
Sleeping mats (2 pieces per HH)	176	474	76			726
Kitchen set (1 piece per HH)						0
Plastic Sheeting / Tarpaulin (2 pieces per HH)	176	474	76			726

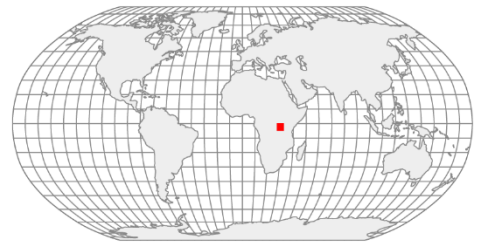
- Using pre-positioned stocks RRCS was able to provide assistance to affected households in Rusizi, Nyamasheke and Ngoma districts and through the DREF operation, RRCS replenished the items that were distributed.
- The cash transfer assessment was completed in October 2017 and training of staff took place in December.
- The cash transfer to the 300 families was delayed because of negotiations with the local government authorities that needed to fully understand and accept cash as a tool for assistance
- The funds were already transferred to MTN for 200 families ready to be distributed
- Direct cash will be given to 100 and their funds has been sent to the branches ready to be distributed (this direct cash was selected because beneficiaries are most vulnerable, and they don't have mobile phones.
- A joint IFRC/RRCS lessons learnt workshop has been planned in mid-February to assess the use of cash in the operation.

## D. BUDGET

[See Operations Update 1](#)

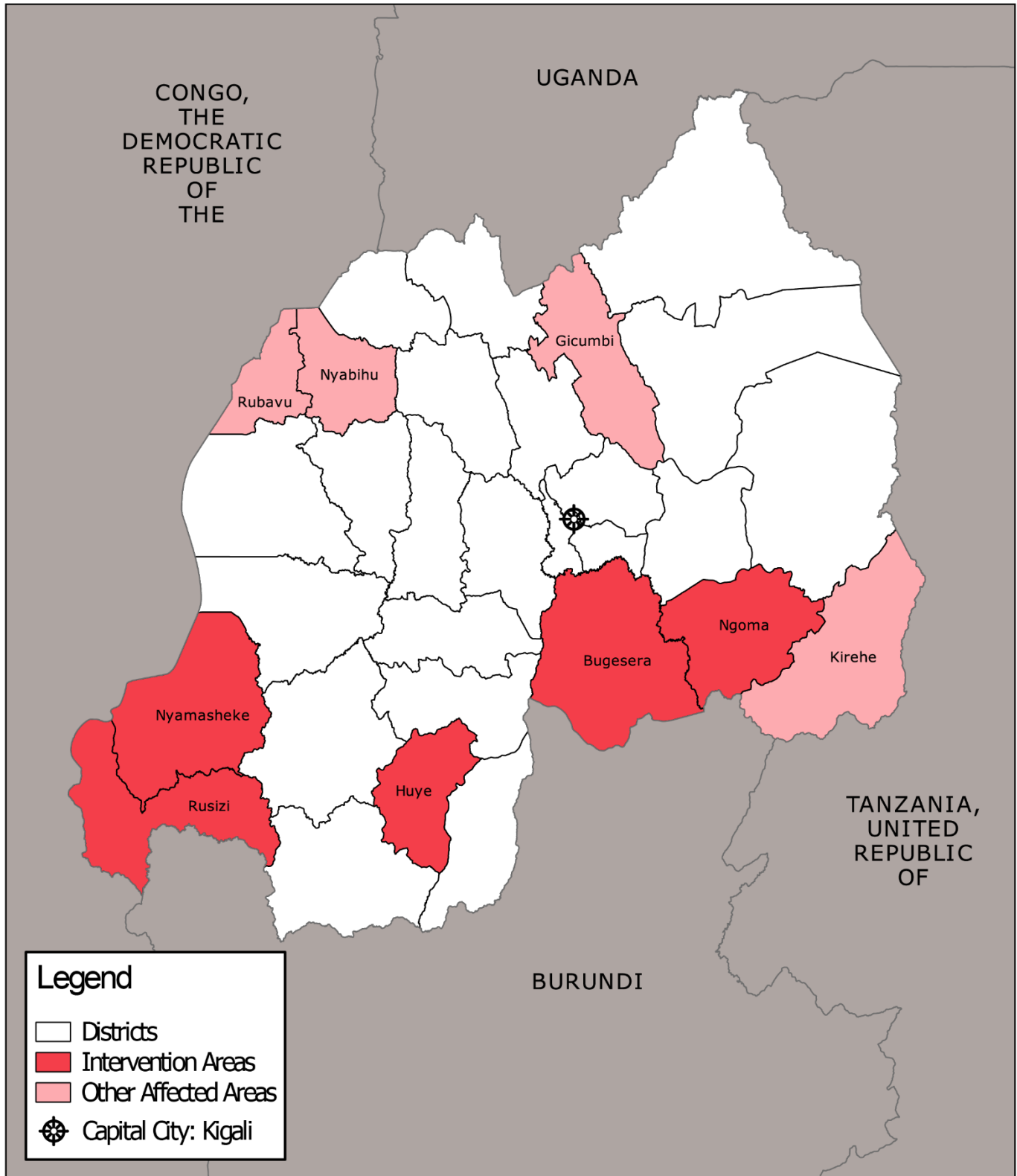


International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر



## Rwanda: Storm & Heavy Winds

29 September 2017 ☒ ST-2017-000143-RWA



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

0 19 38 57 76 km



## Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **Rwanda Red Cross Society:** Apollinaire Karamaga, Secretary General, Rwanda Red Cross; phone: +250 078 8301377; Email: [apollinaire.karamaga@rwandaredcross.org](mailto:apollinaire.karamaga@rwandaredcross.org).

### IFRC East Africa Country Cluster:

- Getachew Taa; Head of Cluster for East Africa; Nairobi; phone: +254-202835000; email: [getachew.taa@ifrc.org](mailto:getachew.taa@ifrc.org)

### IFRC Geneva:

- Christine South, Operations Quality Assurance Senior Officer; phone: +41.22.730.45 29; email: [christine.south@ifrc.org](mailto:christine.south@ifrc.org)

### IFRC Africa Region:

- Florent Del Pinto, Disaster Management Unit; Nairobi; phone: +254 20 2835213; email: [florent.delpinto@ifrc.org](mailto:florent.delpinto@ifrc.org)

### For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

- Regional Logistics Unit (RLU): Rishi Ramrakha, Head of Africa Region Logistics Unit; phone: +254 733 888 022 / Fax +254 202712777; email: [rishi.ramrakha@ifrc.org](mailto:rishi.ramrakha@ifrc.org)

### For Performance and Accountability (Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting):

- Fiona Gatere, Africa Region PMER Coordinator; Nairobi; phone: +254 731 688 230; email: [fiona.gatere@ifrc.org](mailto:fiona.gatere@ifrc.org)

---

## 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**.

---