

DREF final report

Dominica: Tropical Storm Ophelia

DREF operation n° MDRDM001 GLIDE n° [TC-2011-000152-DMA](#) 18 May 2012

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: 27,516 Swiss francs were allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 11 October 2011 to support the Dominica Red Cross Society (DRCS) in delivering assistance to up to 79 families (approximately 395 persons).

Although Tropical Storm Ophelia did not pass across Dominica, the system lingered in the north-east of the island, producing heavy rains. Feeder bands from Tropical Storm Ophelia –which are clouds streaking out from the extreme edges of a storm– brought more than 80 millimetres of rain in six hours. On 30 September, an emergency meeting between organizations and authorities responding to the situation was convened to develop a coordinated plan of action. During the meeting the Dominica Red Cross Society agreed to support affected households with non-food relief items. With the support of the DREF, the National Society was able to reach 65 families (98 women, 89 men of whom 29 were children under five and 10 adults over 65 years old) with mattresses, bed sheets, blankets, kitchen sets, hygiene kits and jerry cans.



Residents in Canefield clear debris from the road after the passage of Tropical Storm Ophelia. Source: Dominica News Online

From the DREF allocation of CHF 27,516, an amount of CHF 19,627 was spent. All activities were successfully carried out, and this report is final in terms of narrative and financials. The operation is now closed, with a final balance of CHF 7,889 unspent and returned to DREF.

The major donors and partners of DREF include the Australian, American and Belgian governments, the Austrian Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross and government, the Danish Red Cross and government, the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), the Irish and the Italian governments, the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Luxembourg government, the Monaco Red Cross and government, the Netherlands Red Cross and government, the Norwegian Red Cross and government, the Spanish government, the Swedish Red Cross and government, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), the Medtronic and Z Zurich Foundations, and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the National Society, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions. ECHO has replenished the DREF for the allocation made to this operation. Details of all donors can be found on <http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp>

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

The situation

Tropical Storm Ophelia developed and passed across the northern Caribbean as of 21 September. Some days later, from 25 to 29 September 2011, the storm lingered in the north-east of Dominica and produced heavy rains over the island. Feeder bands from Tropical Storm Ophelia –which are clouds streaking out from the extreme edges of a storm– produced more than 80 millimetres of rain in six hours. As streams and ravines overflowed their banks, roads became waterways that washed away cars and flooded homes, particularly in the communities of Canefield, Massacre, Mahaut, Cochrane, Coulibistrie and Campbell. Water and electricity supplies were disrupted and roads remained obstructed due to flooding and landslides in several areas. Traffic could not resume until water levels subsided some 24 hours later. At such time, heavy equipment undertook the clearing of roads to enable personnel to commence restoration of utilities and to complete assessments of affected households. Assessment carried out by local authorities stated that 180 households were affected. More detailed assessments completed by the DRCS in coordination with the government on a later date revealed that of these families, 100 did not require assistance while 15 families had their homes destroyed, 17 suffered major damage, 26 suffered minor damage and 22 were affected by the loss of household items. There were no injuries or deaths as a result of Ophelia.

On 30 September, an emergency meeting of the Food and General Supplies and Welfare Sub-committee was convened by the National Emergency Planning Organization to develop a coordinated plan of action. During the meeting it was agreed that the sub-committee would provide food and water to respond to immediate needs while the Dominica Red Cross Society would provide affected households with non-food relief items. The Ministry of Education undertook the responsibility of providing school books and uniforms to affected students, and the Ministry of Public Works and the Planning Division were to identify appropriate lands to relocate families living in vulnerable areas.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Achievements against outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Outcome: The immediate needs of the disaster-affected population in the communities of Canefield, Massacre, Mahaut, Cochrane, Coulibistrie and Campbell are met through the provision of non-food items.
Outputs: Up to 79 households affected by Tropical Storm Ophelia will receive non-food items such as kitchen sets, mattresses and bedding materials.
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. • Distribute relief supplies to end user in collaboration with the Disaster Committee Members of affected communities. • Replenishments of relief items distributed • Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

Impact: The DRC successfully met the immediate needs of 65 families that were in need of non-relief items such as kitchen sets, mattresses and bedding materials. As the table below states, 98 women and 89 men were assisted, of which 29 were children under five and 10 adults over 65 years old.

Community	No. of families	No. of members in h/hold	Men	Women	< 5 years	> 65 years
St Joseph	4	2.5	6	4	3	1
Campbell	2	5.5	5	6	3	2

Canefield	14	3.5	22	27	13	0
Massacre	28	3.6	42	34	10	7
Mahaut	13	2.3	11	19	0	0
Les Pointe	4	3	3	8	0	0
TOTAL	65	2.9	89	98	29	10

The National Society conducted detailed assessments to determine the specific needs of each family and to select the items that each would require. As a result, the DRC distributed 81 mattresses and bedding sheets, 72 blankets, 150 towels, and 35 kitchen sets in the first two weeks after the flooding. These items were then replenished with the support of the DREF.

The mattresses and bedding materials were a priority need as flood waters had irretrievably damaged those that were not washed away, while kitchen sets enabled families to provide for themselves and return to work and school, thereby resuming some semblance of pre-disaster functioning. Cleaning kits were also supplied by the National Society, although outside the DREF support, to facilitate return into areas of the houses inundated by mud as in many instances only the first floor of homes were affected.

Given the small number of beneficiaries, the National Society implemented a new system to complete their goal. After providing cards to beneficiaries and collecting copies of identifications (or taking pictures if these were lost), the DRC organized their transportation to headquarters where the relief items were located and then back to their communities. This resulted in a very orderly distribution and relieved the beneficiaries of the burden of having to transport their goods from the distribution point back to their homes. The vehicles used for transporting the beneficiaries and their relief items were hired from the communities and proved to be more cost effective than hiring trucks to move the relief items to the communities. Purchases of certain items were made with a small number in excess of those distributed; these items remain in stock for future use.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: reduction of the risk of waterborne and water related diseases in the disaster affected population in the communities of Canefield, Massacre, Mahaut, Cochrane, Coulibistrie and Campbell.

Outputs: Up to 79 families can appropriately store safe water and have access to items for personal hygiene.

Activities planned:

- Assess the existing coverage with a view of ensuring availability of an adequate water supply
- Provision of containers for the safe storage of drinking water to 79 families while their homes and damage pipes are restored.
- Replenishment of relief items distributed.
- Distribution of hygiene kits to end user in collaboration with the Disaster Committee Members of affected communities.

Impact: Although the main water pipes were restored to service during the first two weeks after the emergency, the connections to individual homes took longer. To assist families affected by the disruption, 72 jerry cans were distributed to enable households to collect water from neighbours and water trucks until their homes were reconnected to the main water pipes. In addition, 48 families received hygiene kits to ensure that adequate sanitary standards were maintained.

Meals and transportation for the DRCS volunteers, as well as the costs of a DREF coordinator within the National Society, were also supported through this operation as they were an integral element for the achievement of the outcomes.

Lessons learned:

- It became evident during assessments that the differences in the forms used by the DRCS and the Local Government Department (LGD), the main actors in implementing damage and needs assessments, were a hindrance. After analyzing the information requested by each form, a decision was taken by the LGD to adopt the Red Cross forms in future operations.
- The distribution system adopted for this small relief operation proved to be more cost and time effective and efficient than the truck distribution system implemented in larger operations. With beneficiaries also

demonstrating their satisfaction with this method, the National Society will consider continuing this system for future operations of this scale.

- Where photo identifications were not available for validating beneficiaries, the adopted practice of taking photos of the head of household during assessments has ensured that only eligible persons receive the relief items.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In the Dominica Red Cross Society:** Kathleen Pinard-Byrne, Dominica Red Cross Society director general; phone: +1.767.448.8280; email: directorgeneral@redcross.dm
- **IFRC Caribbean regional representation office in Port of Spain, Trinidad:** Howard Arfin, regional representative for the Caribbean; phone: +1.868.628.7289; fax: +1.868.628.9715; email: howard.arfin@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Americas zone office in Panama; phone: +507.317.3050**
 - Jorge Zequeira, PADRU coordinator; email: jorge.zequeira@ifrc.org
 - Douglas Baquero; regional logistics coordinator; email: douglas.baquero@ifrc.org
 - Jane Grimshaw, PMER manager; email: jane.grimshaw@ifrc.org
- **In Geneva:** Christine South, quality assurance senior officer, phone: +41.22.730.4529, email: christine.south@ifrc.org

DREF history:

- This DREF was initially allocated on 11 October 2011 for CHF 27,516 for three months to assist 395 beneficiaries.



[Click here](#)

1. Financial report [below](#)
2. Click [here](#) to return to the title page

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 Disaster Response](#) 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
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.
-

MDRDM001 - Dominica - Tropical Storm Ophelia

Appeal Launch Date: 07 oct 11

Appeal Timeframe: 07 oct 11 to 07 jan 12

Final Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/10-2012/4
Budget Timeframe	2011/10-2012/4
Appeal	MDRDM001
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Funding

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
A. Budget	27,557					27,557	
B. Opening Balance	0					0	
Income							
<u>Other Income</u>							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>	27,516					27,516	
C4. Other Income	27,516					27,516	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)	27,516					27,516	
D. Total Funding = B +C	27,516					27,516	
Coverage = D/A	100%					100%	

II. Movement of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
B. Opening Balance	0					0	
C. Income	27,516					27,516	
E. Expenditure	-19,627					-19,627	
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	7,889					7,889	

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2011/10-2012/4
Budget Timeframe	2011/10-2012/4
Appeal	MDRDM001
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		27,557					27,557	
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Clothing & Textiles	15,080	14,105				14,105	975	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	927	844				844	83	
Utensils & Tools	1,214	1,052				1,052	162	
Total Relief items, Construction, Supplies	17,222	16,002				16,002	1,220	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage		57				57	-57	
Distribution & Monitoring	2,300	1,315				1,315	985	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	920	802				802	118	
Logistics Services	221	196				196	25	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	3,441	2,370				2,370	1,071	
Personnel								
National Society Staff	966	594				594	372	
Volunteers		133				133	-133	
Total Personnel	966	728				728	238	
General Expenditure								
Travel	1,840						1,840	
Information & Public Relations		63				63	-63	
Office Costs	230	220				220	10	
Communications	138	37				37	101	
Financial Charges	2,000	-990				-990	2,990	
Total General Expenditure	4,208	-670				-670	4,878	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recov	1,720	1,198				1,198	522	
Total Indirect Costs	1,720	1,198				1,198	522	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	27,557	19,627				19,627	7,929	
VARIANCE (C - D)		7,929				7,929		