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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

Sierra Leone: Fire Accident



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF Operation n°	MDRSL010	Glide n°:	FR-2021-000029-SLE
Date of issue:	06 April 2021	Expected timeframe:	04 months
Operation start date:	03 April 2021	Expected end date:	31 August 2021
Category allocated to the of the disaster or crisis: Yellow			
DREF allocated: CHF 275,374			
Total number of people affected:	7,093 people (1,597 ¹ HH)	Number of people to be assisted:	5,000 people (1,000 household ²)
Provinces affected:	Susan's Bay, Western Area- Freetown	Provinces/Regions targeted:	Susan's Bay, Western Area-Freetown
Host National Society presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): Sierra Leone Red Cross Society (SLRCS) has above 17,000 active volunteers; 60 staff members. The National Society covers 13 Districts in all the four Regions in Sierra Leone.			
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)			
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: National Disaster Management Agency, FCC & other humanitarian partners.			

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

A fire incident with an unknown cause broke out late on Wednesday 24 March 2021 in Susan's Bay, an overcrowded area in the capital city of Sierra Leone (Freetown), where thousands of poor families live, mostly fishermen and petty traders. According to interagency assessment results released on 27 March by the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA), a total of 7,093 people (including children of 1,208) of 1,597 households have been left homeless from this accident. The fire accident also left 409 people injured (207 men, 181 women and 21 children), by the heaps of burnt rubble that used to be their houses. Some children are feared to be injured or separated from their families due to this fire incident.



The fire destroyed hundreds of homes and businesses in Susan's Bay area of Freetown on 24 March ©SLRCS

It is noted that many children have not been able to go to school as a result of the loss of their school properties in the crisis. At the moment, thousands of families in Susan's Bay already live in desperate conditions as they lost everything they had, including their makeshift shelters, their clothes, food they had in stock, money and other valuable properties are all gone.

¹ Average number of people per household found during assessment was 4.44 people/household.

² Standardized to 5 people/household for planning purposes.

The National Disaster Management Agency has established a joint team comprising of partners (Agencies and Humanitarian organizations) to lead and undertake a joint in-depth assessment of the situation and provide technical and coordinating leadership to immediately respond to the incident.

Summary of the current response

Overview of National Society Response Action

Upon receiving the news of the fire incident, Sierra Leone Red Cross Society (SLRCS) immediately deployed 160 volunteers and four staff to the scene to render first-aid service to 409 injured persons and collaborated with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MoHS) to provide ambulance services which supported the referral of people that were seriously injured to the hospital for intensive treatment. Constant follow-up is being made to those referral sites to track progress of the victim health condition. Also, SLRCS deployed 60 volunteers (out of the 160 mentioned above) to provide psychosocial support to affected persons who were experiencing trauma due to the loss of their properties worth millions of Leones and most importantly their means of livelihood and shelter.

SLRCS is participating in national coordination meetings organized by the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) with other partners. The coordination meeting from the onset of the disaster has been leading planning and response mechanism and have been assessing the situation and taking necessary steps to support the Government of Sierra Leone in providing humanitarian support to the victims. At the moment, SLRCS has positioned 25 tents which accommodate 375 people (15 people per tent) to be used as a temporary shelter for the affected people while reaching out to partners for additional support.



SLRCS volunteers provided first aid services to injured persons in the affected area ©SLRCS

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Actions in country

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has a country office in Sierra Leone, together with Movement partners (British and Finish Red Cross).

Given the limited means available at SLRCS, IFRC Country Delegation in Sierra Leone supported the preparation and submission of this DREF request to enable the National Society (NS) to provide a response to the fire incident. Through representation and coordination, the IFRC Delegation continues to engage SLRCS leadership and support in identifying SLRCS's areas of intervention, its roles and responsibilities in its coordination with Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) Movement partners, UN agencies, national and international NGOs, and donors through networking and collaboration.

Overview of other actors' actions in country

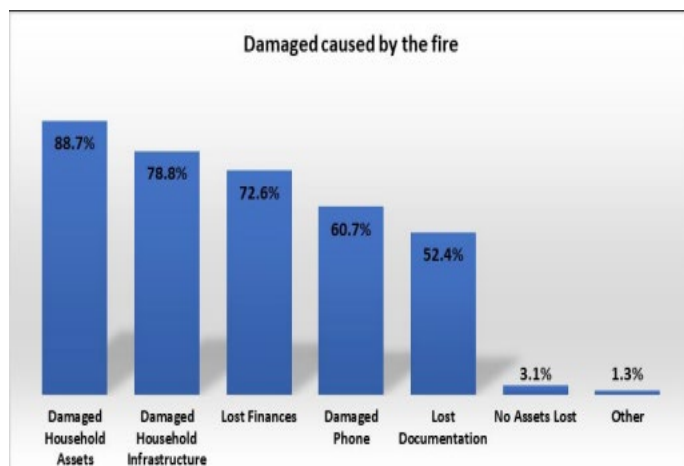
There are other actors that are very active in assessing and responding to the impact of the Freetown fire incident. They include, WFP, Plan International, Caritas, GOAL, UNICEF, CRS, Concern Worldwide, WHO, UNICEF, China Centre for Diseases Control (CCDC), World Vision, International Rescue, NaCSA and many others. These organizations are represented in the existing coordination forum. Each of these organizations has either supported the affected or has committed to provide support to the Government of Sierra Leone through the Disaster Management Agency.

Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

Needs analysis

The National Disaster Management Agency team, representing the Government, conducted a joint assessment with its partners to confirm the preliminary status of the situation and embark on registration of number of households and families affected by the fire. These partners include Concern, BRAC, UNDP, WFD, ACTION AID, CRS, CARE, CARITAS, PLAN INTERNATIONAL, Trocare, Health Alert and SLRCS. The following emergency needs were highlighted:

1. Emergency Shelter: Assessment results, at least 88.7% of affected community had their household items damaged, while 78.8% had their house structure destroyed. Immediate needs have been identified to include emergency shelter (plans to be address by other partners) and household items (blankets, mattresses, clothing, hygiene and cooking items). The National Disaster Management Agency, together with other partners, have committed to provide some of the materials for the families to rebuild more permanent houses in a safe and proper manner. The deadline for this reconstruction of shelters for the affected households is yet to be done as Government is still lobbying with its partners for resources to implement this.



Summary of damages caused by the fire accident ©NDMA Assessment report

2. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH): The findings from the recent assessment indicated that the fire incident have displaced some households and destroyed livelihoods, including cash, petty trade items in their houses and limited and impure water sources, consequently increasing the risk of water borne diseases, with the worst affected being mothers, elderly, persons with disabilities and malnourished women and children. Given the extent of the damages which destroyed over 70% of infrastructure area, the affected communities are now in dire need of support to clean up the rubbles and provide adequate WASH services to the community to avoid any waterborne and hygiene related diseases outbreaks.

3. Livelihoods: As indicated in the description of the disaster, most families living in Susan's Bay lived of fishing and petty trading. The NDMA assessment report indicates that 72.6% of these families have lost their livelihoods, which exposes them to greater vulnerability. There is a need for these families to access support to restart their livelihoods to avoid slipping into extreme poverty and hunger.

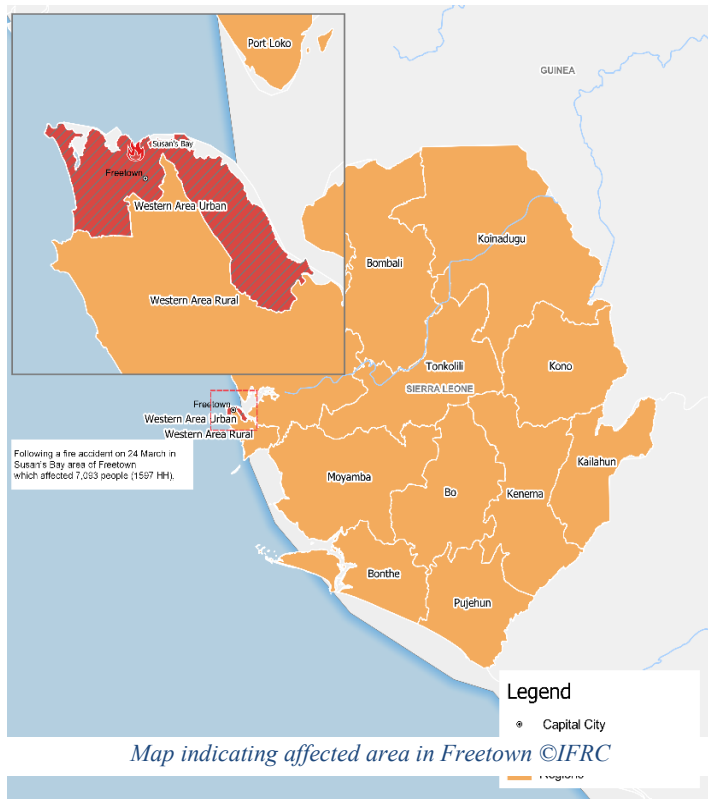
4. Healthcare: In light of the global Covid-19 pandemic context, there is a great risk for the virus to spread, which would be a double disaster for the affected community. In addition, the congested nature of the location, lack of water and sanitation facilities makes it a perfect breeding ground for potential epidemics as communities might be tempted to resort to unsafe water for consumption. There is an urgent need to enhance these families water storage capacity at household level and conduct health and hygiene promotion.

Targeting

Considering that affected people have varied levels of vulnerability and that there are other partners on the ground, SLRCS will focus its intervention to target **5,000 people (1,000 households)** in the affected community of Susan's Bay. They will be supported with emergency shelter and household items through house rental assistance and food to ensure impact given limited funds. Hygiene and health promotion campaigns will target overall affected area.

Reverification of targeted households will be done referencing the standard selection criteria. The community will be informed of the selection process through meetings with key stakeholders within the affected communities to outline the response options suggested by the Red Cross. Beneficiary's selection criteria will also be discussed and decided with these stakeholders, ensuring to be fair and transparent. This way, the communities will have a chance to influence the operational strategy and provide key information on needs as they evolve.

The initial beneficiary selection criteria will include households that have lost their homes, women headed households, families which have one or several members with special needs including disabilities, the elderly, lactating mothers, pregnant women and children under five. These criteria could be revised as situation unfolds.



Estimated disaggregated data for population targeted: Disaggregated data will be made available as soon as registration process is completed. This will be provided in any future updates/reports of this operation.

Scenario planning

Scenario	Humanitarian consequence	Potential Response
Best Scenario: Fire affected community receives emergency assistance within a month, including access to temporary shelter from the partners and government, while waiting necessary measures to facilitate their return to a normal life.	<p>Affected communities have access to emergency shelter from the government and private sector.</p> <p>Affected communities can continue social distancing to curb the rising trend of COVID-19 cases in their community.</p> <p>Affected communities have access to adequate sanitation infrastructure, which prevents outbreak of waterborne or hygiene related diseases.</p>	The implementation of this DREF operation is finalized within planned timeline, in coordination with authorities and other stakeholders.
Most likely Scenario: Affected population receive emergency assistance within three months, while waiting for measures which will allow them to return to their homes.	<p>Affected communities have no access to adequate sanitation infrastructure, exposing them to waterborne or hygiene related diseases.</p> <p>Community remains highly exposed to the spread of Covid-19 within affected community.</p> <p>Vulnerability of affected families is increased, exposing them to negative coping mechanisms such as theft, prostitution, etc.</p>	This DREF operation is implemented as planned with possibility of a timeframe extension and adjustment of the operational strategy based on the specific situation.
Worst case scenario: Affected population stays in affected area for longer than 03 months with no adequate support to move back to their homes. In addition, the rainy season which begins in May and might cause flooding in the bay area, increases their vulnerability due to double shock.	<p>Affected communities have no access to adequate sanitation infrastructure, exposing them to waterborne or hygiene related diseases.</p> <p>Vulnerability of affected families is increased, exposing them to negative coping mechanisms such as theft, prostitution, etc.</p>	<p>SLRCS mobilises more volunteers and financial resources to support relevant response sector.</p> <p>SLRCS engages its national and international partners to develop an exit strategy through a medium-to-long term project with a view to supporting development of livelihoods within the affected community.</p>

Operation Risk Assessment

The current DREF operation is exposed to a number of risks as highlighted below, for which NS and Country Delegation have discussed mitigation measures to ensure targeted communities receive the needed support.

1- **Security Risks (and Mitigation measures):**

The affected community could be exposed to armed robbery, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), among other criminal activities, which could affect this operation in several ways. Likewise, Red Cross teams are equally exposed to these crimes, in addition to potentially having the affected community attack them if the support provided is not sufficient. Below are equally situations both Red Cross teams and affected communities must remain aware of, for their safety:

- Ambush, armed robbery, banditry, looting, and theft of asset.
- Access constraints due to the continued rainy season and bad road condition.
- Carjacking, road travel accident

To mitigate such incidents during the operation, all security measures of both the Movement and the Government will be strictly adhered to by all volunteers and staff involved in the operation to reduce risks. The security management as part of this operation will be based on the RCRC Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values. The following actions related to security will be implemented:

- These measures include the respect of visibility through the wearing of jackets and regular communication on all the movements.
- Ensure community engagement to provide clear explanations on the role of Red Cross, the support being provided and beneficiary selection criteria to be communicated clearly.
- Regular briefings will be organized to remind volunteers and staff of their behaviour and Safer Access.
- Coordination will be maintained between the NS and IFRC to ensure that all security measures are adhered to.
- Constant communications check-in measures with base by all operation staff will be sustained.
- Regular security updates will be organized, and information disseminated.
- Real time monitoring of field activities through the SLRCS information management system ensured.
- Other IT means of contact system to ensure communications during follow-up missions will be used.

All staff and volunteers must have undergone the Stay Safe security course and abide by the Code of conduct.

2- Upcoming rainy season and potential flooding

The rainy season, which typically begins in April, intensifies in May/June, and could lead to flooding. Affected community, which is mainly homeless for the moment, will be exposed to the elements and potentially flee completely from the area, making it hard to find them for support. In addition, a potential flood could worsen the situation for already affected persons or create new needs among those not severely affected by the fire accident. The floods might also make the targeted areas inaccessible, increasing the risk of the implementation to be delayed.

3- COVID-19 Pandemic

This DREF operation and its operational strategy considers the risks related to the current COVID-19 pandemic and is aligned with the IFRC global emergency appeal that supports NSs to deliver assistance and support to communities affected or at risk of being affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. As of 01st April 2021, the country has recorded a total of 3,980 cases of which 40 are active. Some 79 deaths of Covid-19 have been recorded with 2,812 recoveries according to the Ministry of Health. To date, the following measures have been taken to curb the spread of the disease: mandatory mask wearing, set up of proximity screening sites and obligation for every building to have a screening station, set up of treatment centres; risk communication, providing updated information on the COVID-19 situation.

NS responses to COVID-19 are supported through the IFRC [global appeal](#) which is facilitating and supporting them to maintain critical service provision, while adapting to COVID-19. This DREF operation is aligned with and will contribute to the current global strategy and regional Emergency Plan of Action for COVID-19 developed by the IFRC Africa Regional Office, in coordination with global and regional partners. This means that the NS will ensure, even as it responds to this fire accident, that COVID-19 prevention measures are adhered to, in line with regional plan of action and its national COVID-19 country plan. IFRC continues to assess how emergency operations in response to disasters and crises should adapt to this crisis and provide necessary guidance to its membership on the same. The NS will keep monitoring the situation closely and revise the plan accordingly if needed, taking into consideration the evolving COVID-19 situation and the operational risks that might develop, including operational challenges related to access to the affected population, availability of relief items, procurement issues, and movement of NS volunteers and staff and international staff. For more information, please, consult the [Covid-19 operation page](#) on the IFRC Go platform.

4- Ebola Virus Disease

With the ongoing outbreak in Guinea, Sierra Leone is at risk of an outbreak, which will impact the implementation of this operation as National Society's capacity will be overstretched. Preparedness and prevention activities with regards to this potential outbreak are being considered through the IFRC [West Africa EVD Emergency Appeal](#), which covers Guinea for response and six other countries for preparedness actions.

B. Operational strategy

Overall Operational objective:

The overall objective of this EPoA is to provide immediate basic assistance to address the most acute needs of 5,000 people (1,000 households) affected by the fire incident in Susan's Bay area of Freetown. This will be done by addressing immediate Shelter and household items, food, health and WASH needs. Implementation is planned for four months to accommodate procurement of food, updating financial service provider (FSP) contract and in anticipation of any potential delays.

Proposed strategy

SLRCS, through its thematic core areas of focus, will ensure collective response to the most urgent needs of the fire affected population. The strategy will include gender-sensitive and protection in all programming, psychosocial support, community engagement and accountability to affected people.

The DREF operation will provide support in the following sectors:

1. Shelter support and household items (Target: 2,500 people or 500 HH)

To provide targeted population with shelter and household items as per the urgent needs of the affected families, SLRCS will focus on the provision of immediate shelter needs to 2,500 people (500 HH). This support will be provided through unconditional cash grant to allow them access rental houses for 02 months.

SLRCS estimates that 1,250,000 Sierra Leonean Leones (SLL) are needed for a family to access the rental of a two rooms space for one month. As such, a total of 2,500,000 SLL will be disbursed to 500 families to allow them access to accommodation for two months. This disbursement will be done monthly to monitor use. Selection criteria for cash for shelter will include female-headed households, the elderly, persons with impairment and households with more than three children.

Twenty (20) volunteers will be allocated to support cash activities which include cash for rental and cash for household items. They will sensitize targeted families on the use of the cash following IFRC guidelines for rental assistance, and for a day, support them in accessing their cash grants as they are stationed at the FSP cashing points. Volunteers will also conduct post distribution monitoring for three days, a few weeks after each distribution.

Each of the 500 households will equally receive a total of 1,550,000 SLL to support purchase of household items such as kitchen sets, mattresses, blankets based on below calculations. This grant will be disbursed at same time with the rental solution grant in the first month.

Table 1: Cost value calculation for cash for shelter and HHI

Item description	Quantity per HH	Unit Cost in SLL	Total in SLL
Rent	2	1,250,000	2,500,000
Kitchen set	1	250,000	250,000
Mattress	2	500,000	1,000,000
Blanket	2	150,000	300,000
Total per household			4,050,000

Table 2: Number of disbursements and amount per month

Months	Purpose			Number of Households
	Description	Amount for disbursement	Total amount per month (SLL)	
First month	Cash for Rental solution	1,250,000	2,800,000	500
	Cash for Household items	1,550,000		
Second month	Cash for Rental solution	1,250,000	1,250,000	500

2. Livelihood and basic needs (Target: 2,500 people or 500 HH)

The assessment visit and report clearly show that most of the families have lost their livelihood especially their source of income and most of their savings in cash have been burnt by the fire incident. As such, the intervention will provide food to 500 households to ensure they have immediate access to food. This will be based on the food basket in Sierra Leone (cf. table below). Same households receiving rental support will benefit from food.

After the food distribution, 15 volunteers will conduct post distribution monitoring (PDM) of the response for 3 days.

Table 3: Content of food basket for each household

Item description	Quantity per day (kg)	Quantity/month/individual (kg)	Unit of measure	Quantity for HH of 5 persons (kg)
Rice	0.3	10	Kgs	50
Cooking oil	0.025	0.75	litres	3.75
Fine salt	0.006	0.2	Kgs	1
Sugar	0.02	0.6	Kgs	3

3. Health (Target: 5,000 people or 1,000 HH)

SLRC will be providing Psychosocial Support (PSS) to families affected by the disaster. This is with the aim to ease stress experienced from the tragedy. These volunteers will be holding PSS sessions in affected communities and conducting health talks on key health messages relating to COVID-19 and Ebola virus disease. Facemasks will also be distributed by volunteers during their community engagement activities to both promote adherence to COVID-19 regulations and protect them from contracting the virus. Some 20 volunteers will undergo one day refresher training in PSS before beginning activities. This is because they are already trained.

Activities will include:

- Refresher training of 20 volunteers in psychosocial support.
- Provision of PSS services to targeted community and volunteers, once a week in group session (4 sessions) throughout the first month of operation. All cases requiring professional support will be referred to appropriate service at the local health care centers.
- Health promotion, including Covid-19 and EVD awareness (to be conducted and budgeted together with hygiene promotion under WASH).

4. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene – WASH (Target: 5,000 people or 1,000 HH)

Following the fire incident, the entire affected area is currently filled with rubbles. There is need to support sanitation of this area. Similarly, as the people have lost most of their assets, they do not have access to proper drinking water, which may lead to outbreak of waterborne diseases. As such, below activities will be conducted and distributions will be done together with food items.

- Provision of buckets (14L) and jerricans (10L) for water collection to 500 HH targeted with cash for rental assistance (1 bucket and 2 jerricans);
- Procure and distribute Aqua tabs for water purification, sufficient for 30 days. Based on Sphere standards, each person should have access to 5L of water per day. So, for a full month, each household will need 5L X 5 persons x 30 days, which sums up to 750 litres of water per month. Each tablet of Aquatabs is meant to purify 20 litres of pure water, as it is not good for turbid water. Thus, each household needs 37.5 tablets of Aquatabs. Based on above, a total of 18,750 tablets of Aquatabs will be procured and distributed to 500 households to serve for one month.
- Monitor treatment and storage of water through household surveys and quality tests;
- Procurement and distribution of soap for household use to 1,000 families (5 pieces of 500g per HH per month) to serve for two months;
- Procurement and distribution of hygiene kits for 1,000 families. These kits shall contain bathing soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc. for household personal hygiene.
- Provision of dignity kits to 24% of the targeted females, i.e., 780 women and girls of childbearing age, to serve for 03 months. Each kit shall contain sanitary pads, panties and bathing soap for women and girls.
- Conduct hygiene and sanitation campaigns twice a month for 03 months. This activity will be coupled with health promotion, with emphasis on awareness against Covid-19 and EVD. Some 15 volunteers will be deployed to conduct these sessions. They will also conduct home visits as part of their rounds, to enforce hygiene promotion.
- Continued assessments and monitoring are also integrated in the operation to ensure that the operation is in line with the evolving situation on the ground.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI): Women and children are more vulnerable especially owing to the fact of their homeless condition with the affected community. As such, PGI will be streamlined throughout the intervention, ensuring that volunteers receive adequate briefing during the various refreshers. SLRCS will ensure that protection issues are taken into account and that everyone feels protected despite age, gender and disability status. The NS will conduct awareness-raising and orientation session on protection. For inclusion of everyone, engagement with people in the centres will be done to ensure that all the assistance is distributed equitably and impartially. Gender roles will be considered when setting up distribution time and dates and in hygiene promotion activities. As part of the needs assessment and analysis, a gender and diversity analysis will be included in all sector responses including Shelter, Livelihoods, Health and WASH, to understand how different groups have been affected, which will inform any revision of the operational strategy. All sectors will seek to meet the [IFRC minimum standards for protection, gender and inclusion in emergencies](#)

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA): Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) will be mainstreamed throughout the intervention to guarantee meaningful participation of the affected communities. An effective complaints and feedback mechanism will be set up to ensure community feedback is taken into account in the implementation of this EPoA. This will also help in the event the situation changes, to ensure that the community is listened to with regards to any change of strategy. Hygiene and health promotion sessions will also be instrumental in collecting feedback and respond to community concerns. SLRCS will inform community members that they can use the 300 Hotline service to ask questions, make complaints or provide feedback.

- Conduct orientation of 35 volunteers in CEA to ensure they can clearly convey to communities the objectives of the operation, ensure a good flow of information and clear roles and responsibilities between representatives, community leaders and committees
- Hold meetings with affected communities
- Set up feedback system and ensure to process the complaints received. Feedback will also be provided to the community to ensure they are aware their feedback had been considered.

Operational support services

Human Resources: Overall, 35 volunteers will be engaged in this operation to support the various sectors. Some of the volunteers will be selected amongst the National Disaster Response Team members and will support in assessments, coordination and response. This will ensure that effective response preparedness and NS surge capacity mechanism is maintained. Insurance for volunteers is covered in this operation and their per diem for each deployment. The deployed NS staff cost is also included in the operation. Some four NS staff members will also be on the field to provide support. This includes, the Disaster management coordinator, the logistics manager, the cash focal point, the director of programmes and the Secretary General. Their costs are imputed to this operation.

The National Society Cash focal point will provide technical guidance on Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) activities. The overall operation will be led by National Society Director of Programmes and Operations.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER)

SLRCS will oversee all operational, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting aspects of the DREF implementation. The Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (PMER) unit of SLRCS will work closely with IFRC Country Delegation and will be responsible for performance-based management systems and the overall quality and effectiveness of the operation. The performance of the operation will be monitored through a robust system of accountability and reporting, with emphasis placed on tracking the progress of outputs to inform operational planning and decision making. The PMER unit will develop a monitoring schedule and appropriate tools to collect data on key performance indicators to ensure accountability, transparency, and financial management of the operation.

SLRCS staff in the Operation, Disaster Management, Health, WASH and CEA units will conduct monitoring and supervision visits to the branch and affected community to provide technical support and ensure that activities are implemented according to agreed standards. For quality assurance, regular monitoring of the planned activities will be carried out by the DREF implementation team, while scheduled monitoring visits will be made jointly by the SLRCS team and IFRC. Findings from these monitoring visits will be analyzed for reporting and decision-making purposes.

Apart from scheduled monitoring, the day-to-day monitoring on the progress of the operation will be the responsibility of the PMER unit and the coordinating team based on the DREF plan of action and outputs indicators. They will advise on any delay or difficulties faced during implementation so that appropriate support or corrective measures can be adopted in a timely and appropriate manner. Reporting on the DREF will be done per the IFRC minimum reporting standards. There will be series of reports to monitor performance including activity reports, monitoring reports, and internal tracking tool to compare the approved plan of action with actual performance and identify constraints and recommended remedial actions as required. A one-day lesson learned workshop will be conducted at the end of the operation, and final narrative

report will be produced a month after the DREF that will outline key achievements, best practices, challenges, and lessons learned that will be referenced when responding to future fire disaster of such nature.

Logistics

Logistics activities have effectively managed the supply of items to the site including some 25 tents which are presently providing temporary shelter to affected households. Transport support were provided to National Disaster Management Agency for the supply of items to the affected community. It is expected that all procurement relating to this operation will follow the regulations of the Sierra Leone government (NPPA) and the IFRC standard procurement systems and procedures to ensure transparency and accountability. Quality inspection will be undertaken at the end of all procurement process before items are accepted and goods received notes signed. SLRCS will use its warehouse in Waterloo to store items temporarily before distribution to the affected community.

SLRCS has identified cash disbursement as the preferred response mechanism under this sector because it currently has an existing agreement with a financial service provider (FSP) (Orange Money). Although, this agreement expires by 30 April 2021, the NS will engage the FSP with approval of this operation, for an extension of the agreement.

Communication

SLRCS has engaged with media 04 times through radio discussion programmes from 27 to 29 of March 2021. A communication pillar established by the National Disaster Management Agency, of which Red Cross is part, was setup at the Office of National Security (ONS) with request for partners to provide support in communication activities around response to this disaster. At the moment, there are plans to provide Airtime for mobile phones for staff and volunteer team leaders to be used in data collection and communication from field to HQ.

Security

To reduce the risk of RCRC personnel falling victim to crime or violence, active risk mitigation measures have been communicated with staff and volunteers through 05 house induction or briefing exercise. The briefing exercise including putting out some potential security issues and how they can mitigate, report or manage some of those issues. Relating to safer access concern, one of the main benefits of the SLRCS is the nationwide recognition of the NS. This has rendered ease and facilitation with affected community head and most importantly the community people themselves. The SLRCS is well accepted and trusted by the community. SLRCS is presently reviewing the existing risk matrix to inform all staff and volunteers about some of the risks and how this could be handled or mitigated.

C. Detailed Operational Plan



Shelter

People targeted: 2,500

Male: 875³

Female: 1,625

Requirements (CHF): 196,804

Population to be assisted: 2,500 people or 500 HH

Programme standards/benchmarks: Operation will seek to meet Sphere Standards

P&B Output Code	Shelter Outcome 1: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions	% of targeted households reached with emergency shelter support (50% or 500 HH)															
	Shelter Output 1.1: Shelter and settlements and basic household items assistance is provided to the affected families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - # of people reached cash for rental support (Target: 2,500 people) - # of cash interventions under shelter component (Target: 2 interventions) - # volunteers supporting cash for shelter activities (Target: 20 volunteers) - # of PDM conducted (Target: 2 PDM) 															
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP005	Identification of caseloads and verification of beneficiaries in different target groups – inclusion factors integrate gender, diversity and disability in the response																
AP005	Update FSP contract with Orange Money																
AP005	Cash Disbursement to 500 households for a period of 02 months for rental solution.																
AP005	Cash Disbursement to 500 households for household items																
AP005	Deployment of 20 volunteers to sensitize targeted families on use of cash grant for 02 days																
AP005	Deployment of 20 volunteers to support beneficiaries on two cash distribution days																
AP005	Conduct post distribution monitoring (PDM) for 03 days after each distribution																

³ percentage ratio of men versus women in Sierra Leon is 35% : 65%.



Livelihoods and basic needs

People targeted: 2,500

Male: 875

Female: 1,625

Requirements (CHF): 28,453

Population to be assisted: 2,500 people or 500 HH

Programme standards/benchmarks: Based on monthly minimum food basket in Sierra Leone.

P&B Output Code	Livelihoods and basic needs Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods	% of households having received livelihood support (Target: At least 50% or 500 HH).															
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of people provided with food items (Target: 2,500 people) # of volunteers engaged in food distribution activities (Target: 15 volunteers) # of PDM conducted (Target: 1 PDM) 															
P&B Output Code	Livelihoods and basic needs Output 1.2: Basic needs assistance for livelihoods security including food is provided to the most affected communities	Activities planned Week															
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP008	Provision of food items (rice, oil, salt and sugar) for distribution to 500 HH																
AP008	Mobilisation of 15 volunteers to support food distribution																
AP008	Distribution of food to 500 HH																
AP008	Conduct post distribution monitoring (PDM) for 03 days																



Health

People targeted: 5,000

Male: 1,750

Female: 3,250

Requirements (CHF): 1,265

Population to be assisted: 5,000 people (1,000 HH) will be targeted with health care and PSS.

Programme standards/benchmarks: MoHS and WHO standards.

P&B Output Code	Health Outcome 6: The psychosocial impacts of the emergency are lessened	% of people provided with PSS services (Target: 100% or 1,000 HH)
		# of volunteers who have received PSS orientation (Target: 20 volunteers)
	Health Output 6.1: Psychosocial support provided to the target population as well as to RCRC volunteers and staff	

Activities planned Week		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP023	Conduct a refresher session of 20 volunteers on PSS to conduct psychological support for affected people																
AP023	Provision of PSS support to community and volunteers as needed.																
AP023	Health and hygiene promotion																



Water, sanitation and hygiene

People targeted: 5,000

Male: 1,750

Female: 3,250

Requirements (CHF): 24,955

Population to be assisted: SLRCS aims to assist 5,000 people (1,000 HH) will be targeted with WASH support.

Programme standards/benchmarks: This operation will seek to meet Sphere standards.

P&B Output Code	WASH Outcome1: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities	% of target population which has access to clean water (Target: 50% or 500HH)															
P&B Output Code	WASH Output 1.2: Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere and WHO standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of water conservation items procured and distributed (Target: 500 buckets and 1,000 jerricans) # of PDM conducted (Target: 1 PDM) 															
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP026	Provision and distribution of buckets (1/HH)																
AP026	Provision and distribution of jerricans (2/HH)																
AP026	Provision and distribution of 18,750 tablets of Aquatabs																
AP026	Monitoring use of Aquatabs by volunteers																
AP026	Post distribution monitoring																
P&B Output Code	WASH Output 2.4: Hygiene promotion activities are provided to the entire affected population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of HH reached with soap (Target: 1,000 HH) # of families receiving personal hygiene kits (Target: 1,000 HH) # of women and girls receiving dignity kits for 3 months (Target: 780 women) # of Hygiene Promotion sessions conducted (Target: 6 sessions) 															

	Activities planned Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # of people reached with hygiene promotion activities (Target: 5,000 people) • # of volunteers supporting HP (Target: 15 volunteers) 															
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP030	Procurement and distribution of soap for household use to 1,000 families																
AP030	Procurement and distribution of hygiene kits for 1,000 families																
AP030	Provision of dignity kits to 780 of the targeted women and girls to serve for 03 months.																
AP030	Conduct hygiene and sanitation campaigns twice a month for 03 months.																
AP030	Continued assessments and monitoring are also integrated in the operation to ensure that the operation is in line with the evolving situation on the ground.																
AP030	Post distribution monitoring																

Strategies for Implementation

Requirements (CHF): 23,897

P&B Output Code	S1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # of volunteers involved in the response (Target: 35 volunteers) • # of volunteers insured (Target: 35 volunteers) • # of volunteers provided with visibility material and protective clothing for their safety (Target: 35 volunteers) 															
		Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
AP040	Provide complete briefings on volunteers' roles and the risks they face																
AP040	Provide psychosocial support to volunteers																
AP040	Ensure volunteers are aware of their rights and responsibilities																
AP040	Ensure volunteers' safety and wellbeing																
AP040	Ensure volunteers receive proper orientation on cash for shelter, food distribution, CEA, health and WASH before deployment																
AP040	Ensure volunteers' engagement in decision-making processes of respective projects they implement																

P&B Output Code	Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured	# of monitoring visits conducted by Country delegation (Target: 2 visits)															
	Output S2.1.3: NS compliance with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance is improved	- # of CEA orientation conducted (Target: 1) - # of feedback mechanisms setup (Target: 1) - # of feedback responded to (Target: N/A) - # of Lessons learned workshops held (Target 1)															
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP046	IFRC provides support to NS through Migration and finance monitoring visits																
AP084	Methods are put in place to ensure communities can participate in the response and influence decision-making																
AP084	Community communication activities ensure people are kept informed of operational plans and progress and they have information they need about the response																
AP084	Community feedback systems (including rumour and/or perception tracking) are established, and feedback acted upon and used to improve the operation																
AP084	Conduct lessons learned workshop																

Funding Requirements

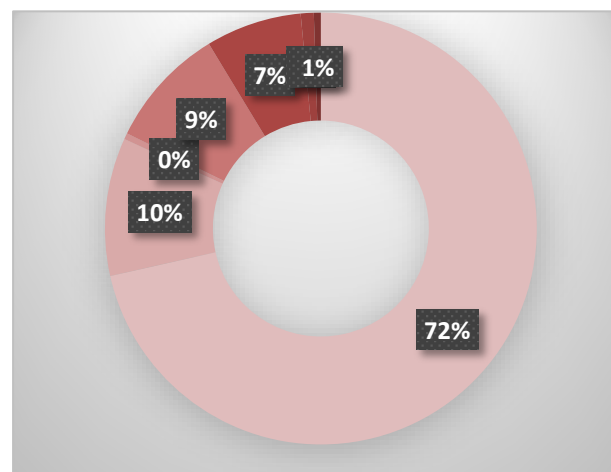
The overall amount approved for this operation is CHF 275,374 as detailed in below budget.

MDRSL010 - SIERRA LEONE - SUSAN`S BAY FIRE ACCIDENT

01/04/2021

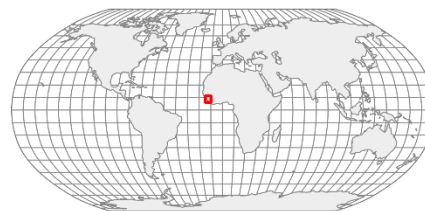
Budget by Resource

Budget Group	Budget
Food	26,663
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	23,054
Cash Disbursement	184,073
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	233,789
National Staff	270
National Society Staff	540
Volunteers	3,696
Personnel	4,506
Workshops & Training	3,150
Workshops & Training	3,150
Financial Charges	1,350
Other General Expenses	15,772
General Expenditure	17,122
DIRECT COSTS	258,567
INDIRECT COSTS	16,807
TOTAL BUDGET	275,374



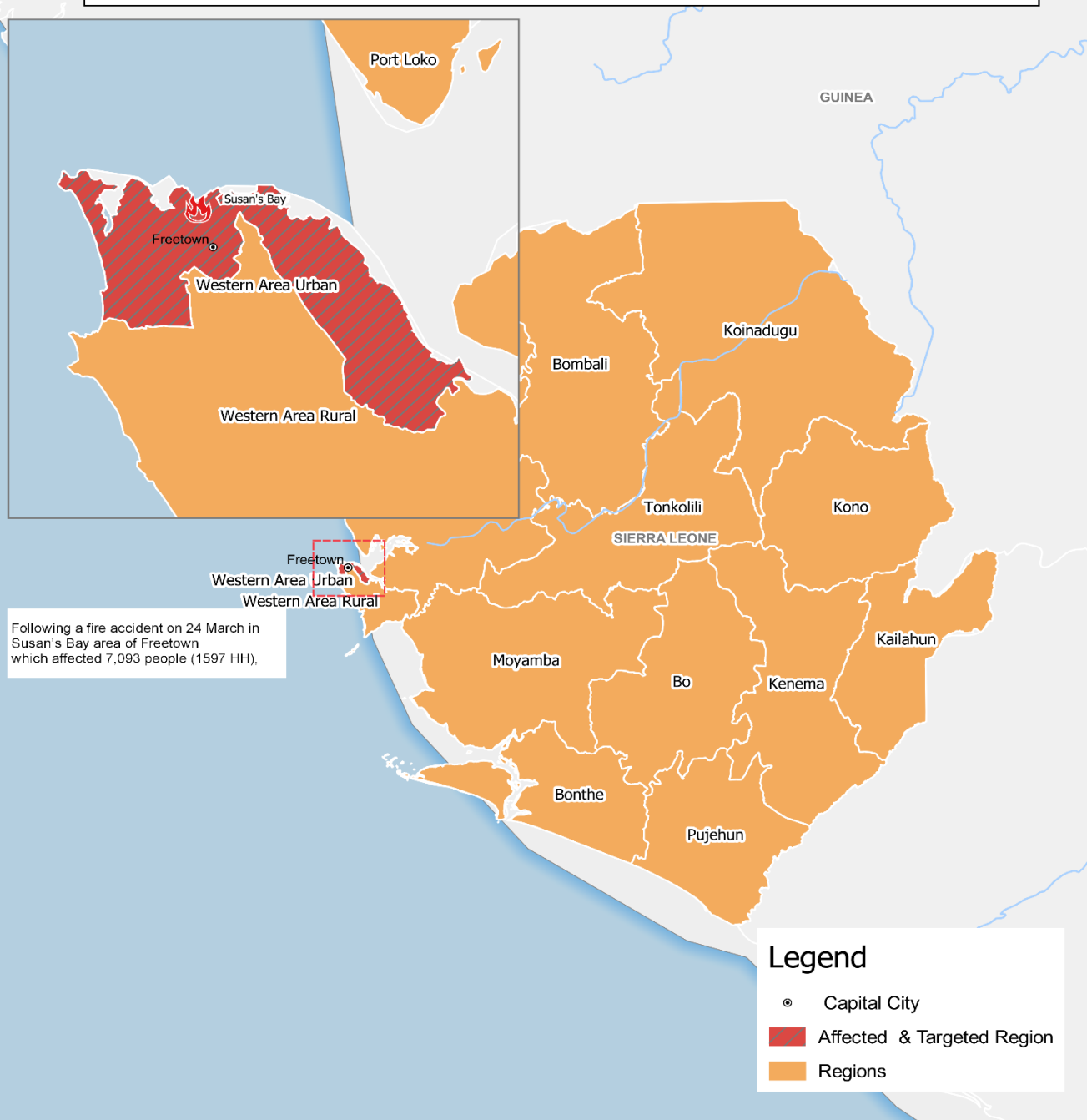
Budget by Area of Intervention

AOF2	Shelter	196,804
AOF3	Livelihoods and Basic Needs	28,453
AOF4	Health	1,265
AOF5	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	24,955
SFI1	Strengthen National Societies	19,775
SFI2	Effective International Disaster Management	2,684
SFI4	Ensure a strong IFRC	1,438
TOTAL		275,374

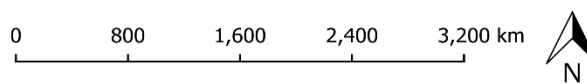


Sierra Leone : Fire Accident

01 April 2021 • FR-2021-000029-SLE



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: GADM, Sierra Leone Red Cross, IFRC. Map produced by: IFRC Africa Regional Office, Nairobi



Reference documents



Click here for:

- Previous Appeals and updates
- Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

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

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For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

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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.**