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Final Report

Somalia: Tropical Cyclone GATI

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation	Operation n° MDRSO010
Date of Issue: 14 May 2021	Glide number:
Operation start date: 01 December 2020	Operation end date: 28 February 2021
Host National Society(ies): Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS)	Operation budget: CHF 136,955
Number of people affected: 180,000 people (30,000 HHs) in Bosaso SRCS Branch of Puntland State, Somalia.	Number of people assisted: 6,000 people (1000 HHs)
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: None	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management Agency (HADMA), United Nations Agencies (OCHA, WFP, HCR, FPA), NGOs (SC, CARE, WVI, Islamic Relief, NRC) and NNGOs (KAALO, PDO, PSA, among others.	

The major donors and partners of the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Belgium, Britain, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland, as well as DG ECHO and Blizzard Entertainment, Mondelez International Foundation, Fortive Corporation and other corporate and private donors. DG ECHO and the Canadian Government contributed to replenishing the DREF for this operation. On behalf of Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS), the IFRC would like to extend gratitude to all for their generous contributions.

<Please click [here](#) for the Final Financial Report and [here](#) for the contacts>

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the Disaster

On 22 November 2020, Tropical Cyclone (TC) GATI, originating from the Bay of Bengal, became the strongest ever documented tropical storm to hit Somalia. GATI made landfall at Ras Hafun (Northeast of Somalia) with maximum sustained winds of 170Km/hr and was classified as a Category 2 storm. The Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System (GDACS) raised its impact score to "ORANGE" (1.5 out of 3) and forecasted the expected level of humanitarian impact of the cyclone as "MEDIUM".

GATI left a trail of destruction across Bari and Sanaag regions of Somalia, disproportionately affecting coastal communities. Authorities estimated 180,000 people (30,000 households) had been affected in Puntland Regional State, with 42,000 people (7,000 households) displaced and at least eight people killed, with considerable damage reported to infrastructure, livelihoods, and social services (communication, electricity, roads, schools). Resultant flooding burst sewerage system and increased the risk of diseases among the affected population. The worst hit areas were Baargaal, Fooaar, Garduush, Hurdiya, and Xaafuun



SRCS Bosaso Branch facilitating the Lessons learnt workshop in Hafun District, January 2021 ©SRCS

in the Indian Ocean and Bosaso / Qandala in the Gulf of Aden.

In response, this DREF Operation was launched, targeting 6,000 people (1,000 HHs) with unconditional mobile cash transfers in Hafun District covering five (5) worst hit villages – Xaafuun, Hurdiya, Fooaar, Garduush and Garan Hoose. For more details, see the [EPoA](#).

Summary of response

Overview of National Society Response

In response to the humanitarian impact of GATI, SRCS Bosaso Branch carried out a rapid assessment. The objective was to establish and monitor the evolving humanitarian needs of the affected areas. The findings of the SRCS initial rapid assessment were further corroborated by a subsequent Interagency multisectoral assessment led and coordinated by Government under Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management Agency (HADMA) in which SRCS also participated. Subsequently, findings from both assessments informed the SRCS Partners call where IFRC Somalia Country Delegation and the ICRC among others, participated and a resolution was reached to activate DREF initially targeting 6,000 people (1,000HHs) with Unconditional Mobile Cash Transfers. For more details see the [EPoA](#).



SRCS Bosaso Branch Volunteer registering beneficiary in Harfun District in December 2020 ©SRCS

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

IFRC, through Somalia Country Delegation, provided financial support to SRCS through this DREF grant. Additionally, Somalia Country Delegation and Africa Regional office based in Nairobi provided SRCS with technical and logistical support, respectively. Direct responsibility for the operation in Puntland-Somalia sat with the Somalia Country Delegation. SRCS was responsible for field level implementation and reporting. The Senior DRM Officer provided technical coordination under the guidance of the Head of Somalia Country Office.

Overview of other actors' actions in country

SRCS continued to maintain a good working relationship with the Government-led interagency humanitarian coordination mechanisms with actors such as the World Food Programme, who were already supporting with emergency food and nutritional supplements for children identified with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). UNICEF provided protection services as well as vaccines for the immunization of children and women of childbearing age, alongside nutritional supplements for children diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition (SAM). INGOs such as CARE International, Norwegian Refugees Council and ADRA supported with WASH, Health / Nutrition and shelter, among others. All these actors were coordinated by HADMA and UNOCHA, with SRCS active participation in the Interagency Coordination mechanisms.

Needs Analysis, Targeting and Scenario Planning and Risk Assessment.

Needs Analysis

Initial reports indicated that Tropical Cyclone GATI had affected 180,000 people (30,000 households). With access challenges to the affected areas and little information available, awaiting accurate assessment findings that would take time beyond the DREF timelines was not an option. A technical decision was made to go for the DREF minimum target of 6,000 people (1,000 households) with unconditional mobile cash transfer (to meet their livelihood and basic needs) in order to establish a footing in the emergency response, pending a subsequent accurate and verifiable assessment

finding that would inform an operation update to scale up the response based on gaps. Unfortunately, this envisaged assessment did not take place.

For detailed needs analysis, see the [EPoA](#).

Targeting

This DREF operation targeted at least 6,000 people (1,000HHs) in need of immediate humanitarian assistance covering livelihood and basic needs through Unconditional mobile cash transfers. Five (5) villages of Hafun District were reached—see [EPoA](#) for details.

Scenario planning

For details see the [EPoA](#) for scenario planning.

Risk Analysis

For details see the [EPoA](#).

Internal and External Coordination

To ensure quality implementation, SRCS Bosaso Branch Coordinator led the operation at field level in close coordination with the Mayor of Hafun District and Puntland Government Humanitarian Agency – HADMA. SRCS Bosaso BERTs and CERTs were activated and deployed throughout the operation.

The IFRC Somalia Country Delegation in Nairobi ensured that all Movement partners were informed of the operation and all procurement processes were risk informed.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

The overall objective was to protect and save the lives and livelihoods of 1,000 households (6,000 people) affected by the cyclone in Puntland Regional State of Somalia. This was achieved through a one-off unconditional mobile cash transfer (UMCT) pending findings of an interagency needs assessment to determine gaps. Later, the findings indicated that there were no gaps. The UMCT (100 US\$ / Household) provided the beneficiaries with the dignified means of meeting their basic needs. For more details see the [EPoA](#).

Details on achievements are found in section C – Detailed Operational Plan, below.

Operational Support Services

Human Resources: Two (2) SRCS Staff and 20 community-based volunteers (CBVs) were deployed to support the operation.

Logistics, Procurement and Warehousing: All procurements were done in line with SRCS / IFRC logistics and financial procedures. IFRC Somalia Country Delegation, supported by the Regional Logistics Unit, provided procurement oversight and support in the speedy recruitment, and contracting of the Financial Services Provider (FSP).

Communication and Visibility: SRCS supported protection and visibility items for volunteers. These included Red Crescent reflector bibs from existing stocks and banners.

Security: To minimize safety and security risks to SRCS, IFRC and beneficiaries, SRCS undertook active situational surveillance. Information gathered alongside IFRC, ICRC and INSO's intelligence informed a package of mitigation measures. No incidents of security and safety breaches were reported during the operation.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER): PMER ensured effective project implementation and continuous monitoring at field level through the newly recruited SRCS PMER Manager and the Bosaso Branch Coordinator. Both jointly conducted the planned Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) exercise using a tailored IFRC PDM Tool. A planned lessons-learned workshop at the end of the operation was facilitated by the SRCS Bosaso Branch.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN



Livelihoods and basic needs

People reached: 6,000

Male: 2,500

Female: 3,500

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Percentage of displaced households reached with multipurpose cash grants to support their basic needs	10% or 1,000 HHS	10% or 1,000 HHS
Number of market assessments conducted	1	
Number of verified targeted households registered	1000	1000
Number of agreements made with Financial Services Provider (FSP)	1	1
Number of Beneficiary Cash transfers made	1	1
Number of market monitoring exercises conducted	2	1
Number of PDMs conducted	1	1
Number of volunteers mobilized and trained on Cash transfer	50	0
Percentage of community feedback acted upon	At least 60%	0
Percentage of target population aware of how to interact with RCRC and its feedback mechanism	At least 60% or 3,600 people	100%

Narrative description of achievements during the reporting period.

- SRCS Bosaso BDRT was deployed to undertake an initial rapid needs assessment of the five (5) cyclone-hit communities in Harfun District – Xaafuun, Hurdiya, Garan Hoose, Karduush and Foocaar. Findings of this assessment informed the initial targeting of 10% (6000 people or 1000households) of the 60000 people projected to have been affected in Puntland only. Volunteer CDRTs District were activated, mobilized, trained and deployed during the operation.
- Prior to the selection, verification and verification of beneficiaries, SRCS engaged other humanitarian stakeholders and the Local Government.
- The BDRT / CDRTs mobilized affected communities. The objective was to identify, verify and register the most affected members of the community. The register captured disaggregated data of the beneficiaries based on gender summarized in **Table-1** below. The verified register of the 1,000 households (6,000 people) became the basis of Unconditional Mobile Cash Transfer to the targeted families by the Financial Services Provider (FSP). The beneficiaries were entitled to a one-off transfer worth 100US\$.



SRCS Bosaso BDRT surge training for Volunteers in Harfun District. February 2021 ©SRCS

Village	Garan Hose	Foocaar	Hurdiya	Kardush	Xaafuun	Total
Gender						
Male	40	58	82	35	148	363
Female	30	92	158	55	302	637
Total	70	150	240	90	450	1,000

Table-1: Registered beneficiaries disaggregated data – 64% females and 36% males.

- Based on the lessons learnt from the protracted procurement of the FSP during the [Qardho Floods DREF Operation](#), SRCS jointly with IFRC quickly amended the agreement to a long-term framework in line with the principles of Preparedness for Effective Response (PER). This made it possible to quickly disburse the funds to the beneficiaries.
- IFRC Regional Finance Office directly transferred 101,000 US\$ (including 1000US\$ as service charge) to the FSP (GOLIS Telecoms) in line with IFRC Financial Risk management regulations for Somalia for onward disbursement to the 1,000 beneficiary households.
- SRCS undertook a Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) process that confirmed all the beneficiaries received their UMCT entitlement worth 100 US\$.



SRCS Bosaso Volunteer during the PDM in Harfun District. February 2021 ©SRCS

Challenges

- The remoteness of the affected districts with vast distances apart and bad roads, took time for the completion of targeted household registration and verification. This in turn delayed the disbursement of the UMCT.
- During home visits, a number of would-be beneficiaries were away attending to their daily subsistence livelihoods, hence missed out. The caseloads were higher than targeted but SRCS field teams did not bring this to the attention of the IFRC technical team in time for further action.
- The face-to-face Cash Transfer training for planned 50 volunteers did not take place due to Covid-19 travel and meetings restrictions. Internet connectivity challenges could not allow for online training.
- Detailed and timely information from the field to pull together future DREF requests remains a huge challenge despite the presence of SRCS volunteer network in the affected communities. There is a need to prioritize investment in rapid emergency data gathering and information management through the SRCS volunteer network as a service to other humanitarian actors.

Lessons Learned

- Despite good mobile telecommunication coverage in the affected areas, availability of information on the humanitarian needs was still inadequate. This gap is a huge opportunity for the SRCS volunteer network.
- The last quarter of each year could be emerging as Cyclone season in Somalia – 2019 TC Pawan and 2020 TC Gati. Despite this emerging trend, the level of preparedness is low and needs strengthening.
- While UMCT was assessed to be the best intervention option, during registration, targeted families indicated they preferred Food (the culture of sharing food is very strong) and household items, observing that UMCT would only benefit the individual recipient. However, during PDM majority 91% reported preference for UMCT – a change of mind indicating their initial fears did not materialize signaling trusted social relations.

Strategies for Implementation

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Number of volunteers involved in the operation	50	22
Number of community feedback mechanism set up and operational	1	1
Number of stories on the operation shared with local and international media	1	0

Number of monitoring visits undertaken	2	1
Number of lessons learned workshop conducted	1	1

Narrative description of achievements

- One CEA Training took place prior to a functional community feedback mechanism being set up. This involved sixteen (16) volunteers (9 females + 7 males).
- One field monitoring visit was undertaken by the SRCS Bosaso Branch Coordinator. During this visit, a feedback session was held with Community representatives (1 female, 8 males) led by the Mayor of Harfun District.
- One lesson learned workshop was held and facilitated by SRCS. During this workshop, Community members recognized that Harfun District, especially the town, is at risk of cyclones and flooding. Poor town planning has contributed to the vulnerability of the town and inappropriate shelter designs / construction leave households more exposed. Community recommendations are not linked to tackling the identified vulnerabilities internally and are relief-driven. There is need to strengthen the SRCS capacity to facilitate community managed disaster risk reduction (CMDRR) programming – Risk identification, Risk monitoring EWEA, Prevention, Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, Recovery and advocacy on key issues.



SRCS Bosaso CEA training for Volunteers in Harfun District. January 2021 ©SRCS

Challenges

- Under-representation of women in the feedback mechanisms and Lessons learnt workshop sessions undermines and drowns the voices of women / girls. This in turn masks protection concerns. SRCS needs to strengthen PGI-sensitive programming.
- Need to strengthen the National Society Project management and Communications capacity for effective reporting. Particularly, the documentation and dissemination of case studies given the challenges of technical mission support due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Lessons Learned

- While the Early Warning System for TC Gati was effective at Global level, it was unmatched in terms of at-risk community preparedness for effective response in the affected region. The cyclone impact also brought out some of the neglected underlying vulnerabilities including poverty, weak livelihood systems and IDP-related shelter challenges.

D. Financial Report

The overall initial allocation for this operation was **CHF 136,955** out of which **CHF 117,003 (85%)** was spent. The balance of **CHF 19,952** is here declared returned to the DREF pot.

Explanation of Variances:

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance	variance %	Explanations
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	102,500	89,810	12,690		
Cash Disbursement	102,500	89,810	12,690	12	The USD weakened against the CHF
Logistics, Transport & Storage	3,500	3,025	475		
Transport & Vehicles Costs	3,500	3,025	475	14	Fewer field monitoring trips due to Covid-19 restrictions.
Personnel	10,175	7,950	2,224		
National Society Staff	5,600	3,986	1,613	29	Planned Cash programming training did not take place due to Covid-19 restrictions.
Volunteers	4,575	3,964	611	13	Fewer volunteers were engaged
Workshops & Training	6,000	6,290	-290		
Workshops & Training	6,000	6,290	-290	-5	Increased participants' travel expenses due Covid-19 travel protocols.
General Expenditure	6,422	2,787	3,635		
Travel	2,000		2,000	100	No IFRC technical monitoring missions undertaken due to Covid-19 restrictions.
Communications	1,900	266	1,634	86	IFRC charges were met by another project.
Financial Charges	2,521	2,521	1	0	
Indirect Costs	8,359	7,141	1,218		
Programme & Services Support Recover	8,359	7,141	1,218	15	Stronger CHF against the US\$.
Grand Total	136,955	117,003	19,952	15	

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2020/12-2021/03	Operation	MDRSO010
Budget Timeframe	2020/1-2021/12	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 21/Apr/2021

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRSO010 - Somalia - Tropical Cyclone GATI

Operating Timeframe: 01 Dec 2020 to 28 Feb 2021

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	136,955
DREF Allocations	136,955
Expenditure	-117,003
Closing Balance	19,952

II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction			0
AOF2 - Shelter			0
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	112,890	98,869	14,021
AOF4 - Health		0	0
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene			0
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			0
AOF7 - Migration			0
Area of focus Total	112,890	98,869	14,021
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	4,872	4,222	650
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	5,858	5,261	597
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	10,650	5,967	4,683
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	2,685	2,685	1
Strategy for implementation Total	24,065	18,134	5,931
Grand Total	136,955	117,003	19,952

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2020/12-2021/03	Operation	MDRSO010
Budget Timeframe	2020/1-2021/12	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 21/Apr/2021

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRSO010 - Somalia - Tropical Cyclone GATI

Operating Timeframe: 01 Dec 2020 to 28 Feb 2021

III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	102,500	89,810	12,690
Cash Disbursement	102,500	89,810	12,690
Logistics, Transport & Storage	3,500	3,025	475
Transport & Vehicles Costs	3,500	3,025	475
Personnel	10,175	7,950	2,224
National Society Staff	5,600	3,986	1,613
Volunteers	4,575	3,964	611
Workshops & Training	6,000	6,290	-290
Workshops & Training	6,000	6,290	-290
General Expenditure	6,422	2,787	3,635
Travel	2,000		2,000
Communications	1,900	266	1,634
Financial Charges	2,521	2,521	1
Indirect Costs	8,359	7,141	1,218
Programme & Services Support Recover	8,359	7,141	1,218
Grand Total	136,955	117,003	19,952

Contact information

Reference documents



Click here for:

- [Emergency Plan of Action](#)

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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.**