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Emergency Appeal

Republic of the Marshall Islands/ Pacific: Drought

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency appeal n° MDRMH001
GLIDE n° DR-2013-000053-MHL
21 June 2013

This Emergency Appeal seeks CHF 803,347 in cash, in-kind, or services to support the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) to assist 3,409 beneficiaries across six atolls/islands of the 15 affected for a period of six months. A Final Report will be made available by March 2014 (three months after the end of the operation).

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is coordinating with the RMI Government and other key international actors to support the drought response and early recovery operation. A National Volunteer Group (NVG) is currently working to establish a Red Cross National Society in RMI. The NVG, with the agreement of the RMI Government, requested support from the IFRC to provide assistance for the drought response. This Emergency Appeal focuses on delivering relief and early recovery water and sanitation assistance.



Mobilization of Reverse Osmosis (RO) units to drought affected atolls. **Photo:** PZRC.

[<click here to view the attached Emergency Appeal Budget; here to link to a map of the affected area; or here to view contact details>](#)

The situation

Located in the North Pacific Ocean, about half-way between Hawaii and Australia, the Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI) is made up of two archipelagic island chains with the population of 69,747 (2013 est.) spread out over 34 low-lying coral atolls, comprising 1,156 individual islands and islets. RMI, like most of the countries in the region, increasingly faces challenges from climate change and natural disasters.

Due to an extended dry period, the RMI government declared a state of emergency in the northern areas of the RMI on 19 April 2013, which was followed by a declaration of a state of disaster on 8 May for 13 atolls/islands. The disaster assessments undertaken have identified that the communities in these northern atolls/islands are being severely affected by the drought and face potential health, environmental, social and economic hardship, due to the persistent dry weather. The most pressing humanitarian needs are access to safe water and the growing need for food due to dried-up vegetation. Villages have had to ration water to preserve supplies, and the number of affected atolls/islands has since increased from 13 to 15. The drought is now reported to be affecting some 6,400 people across 15 atolls/islands north of Majuro.

Weather forecasts are being provided in 10-day blocks, as accuracy is difficult to obtain past that period. Severe drought conditions persist in the northern atolls of RMI. Some light rainfall has been received in recent weeks in Aur and Maloelap. Forecasts indicate that Majuro and southern atolls will receive sufficient rainfall in the coming weeks, and drought conditions are not expected in these areas. The likelihood is for northern RMI to stay in dry conditions for at least another month and probably two, however, seasonal rainfall has started in June as the monsoon establishes over continental Asia and the northwest Pacific. On 14 June, Marshall Islands experienced heavy showers, but no actual reports have been shared thus far. It is anticipated that even if rain starts to fall now for the 15 drought-affected atolls/islands, the impacts of the drought will continue for several months. It will take months for water sources to be replenished, salinity levels to decrease in natural aquifers, water quality to improve as well as crops to be planted and harvested.

The RMI government initiated the National Disaster Committee (NDC) which then led to the activation of the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) in the capital, Majuro. The EOC is the critical platform for coordination with key government entity representatives and cluster leads based in Majuro. With the support of the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team, the RMI has established four clusters to manage sector specific interventions in water and sanitation, health, food security and logistics. An UNDAC team was leading the support to the RMI Government in developing the Humanitarian Action Plan (HAP) as well as the individual cluster plans.

The RMI government through the actions of the NDC has been deploying a number of vessels carrying food, water, medical supplies and sanitation hygiene items to the affected communities. The staple food crops such as breadfruit, swamp taro, pandanus, and bananas have been devastated. Food has been provided through the distribution of rice, flour, sugar, baking powder, canned fish, milk powder, biscuit, vegetable oil, canned fruit and mixed vegetables. Vegetable seeds and seedlings of local crops will be provided as part of the recovery process across the most drought-affected atolls/islands.

To date, there has been bottled water distributed to the 12 most affected atolls/islands, although more is needed. Concurrently, Reverse Osmosis (RO) units—used for water desalination—are being deployed. Of the 25 RO units in country (20 from USAID, four from AusAid and one from NZRC) 17 have been deployed, while four are prioritized for deployment and four are being repaired. The latter may be placed on a ship to serve as a water distribution hub delivering to the atolls/islands.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are developing a Livelihoods Recovery and Drought Resilience project. The project is intended to include delivery of drought resistant staple crops, short cycle crop seedlings for short term food provision, support for the regeneration of pandanus trees for handicrafts and coconut trees for copra production, technical assistance for improved water and soil conservation, youth training and fishing supplies and equipment.

The drought prompted the Ministry of Health to deploy medical and pharmaceutical supplies immediately to all affected atolls/islands. RMI completed deployments of health teams through the Ministry of Health to undertake health assessments in all drought-affected atolls. At the same time they have been providing a range of health messages and preventative health practice, and distributing hygiene kits, water purification tablets, jerry cans and delivering direct health treatment. Although health concerns were initially listed as one of the key issues resulting from the drought disaster, there has been no indication of severe disease outbreaks.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently announced that federal disaster assistance has been made available to the Government of RMI under the Compact of Free Association between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of RMI.

Coordination and partnerships

Coordination and prioritization of the needs of the drought-affected communities is even more crucial for the success of this operation because of the distances between the affected atolls/islands and scarcity of means of transportation. The RMI government and international partners continue to respond cooperatively to the drought situation.

In addition to IFRC and Red Cross societies, the following partners are involved: UNDAC, Asian Development Bank (ADB), AusAID, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), International Organization for Migration (IOM), New Zealand Aid Programme, World Health Organization (WHO), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Regional Office for the Pacific (ROP), Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), UNICEF, U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), USAID/Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), and the Embassy of Japan.

Combined response to date

Through the establishment of the EOC and led by the RMI Government, a sound foundation for collaboration has been established. The following combined response for the drought is being implemented:

Cluster/ Sector	Response to date ¹	
WASH	• Distribution of bottled water to the 12 most affected atolls and islands.	RMI Government
	• Dispatching 12 RO units.	RMI Government
	• 2 RO units (rated flow: 1 litre / minute) with 3 technicians. One unit remains in-country.	IOM/USAID NZRC/IFRC
	• Relief supplies (which include hygiene kits, water containers 5gal (20L), water purification tablets).	IOM/USAID
	• Grant (\$100,000) for the purchase of 4 RO units and spare parts.	AusAid
	• 1,000 WASH kits (water purification tablets, water containers)	UNICEF
	• 2.5gal (10ltr), IEC, and soap • Deployment of WASH cluster coordinator for 4 weeks • Key radio messages (protection of food, promotion of nutrition and hygiene practices).	UNICEF
	• Emergency Cash Grant (\$50,000).	OCHA
Health	• Supply of medical test kits and Oral Rehydration Salts (ORS).	MoH / RMI Government
	• 10,000 ORS sachets, 2 Basic Emergency Health kits (to cover 10,000 people/kit), IEC, and MUAC Tapes.	UNICEF
	• Deployment of pharmaceutical and medical supplies to all affected atolls (except Enewetak).	RMI Government
	• Deployment of health teams to Ujae, Lae, Wotho, Lib, Namu, Mejit, and Likiep.	RMI Government
	• Technical assistance (1 WHO Surveillance Expert)	WHO
Food Security	• First round of distribution of food rations (rice, flour, canned food, baking powder) Maloelap, Wotje, Mejit, Ailuk, Uirik, Likiep, Ujae, Lib, Wotho, Lae, Namu.	RMI Government
	• Deployment of 2 food security experts (SOPAC and FAO) for initial assessments.	SOPAC, FAO
	• Donation of food and water (\$80,000).	JICA
Logistics	• Provision of chartered boats for transporting medical and relief supplies.	RMI Government
	• Provision of chartered aircraft (AMI) for assessments and RO deployment and health teams.	RMI Government
	• Response support for affected areas (\$100,000).	DAEF
	• Response support for affected areas (\$100,000).	ROC
	• Local donations – funds (\$1,200).	
	• Local donations – relief supplies.	
	• Mobilization of 5-member coordination and assessment team (logistics, coordination, information management and WASH)	UNDAC/OCHA

¹“Immediate and Near-Term Drought Response Plan for the Republic of the Marshall Islands” RMI Government May 2013.

The RMI government has released for general circulation the: "Immediate and Near-Term Drought Response Plan for the Republic of the Marshall Islands" May 2013. This plan details the work to be undertaken within each of the four clusters of Food, WASH, Health and Logistics. The activities of the IFRC have been developed based on discussions with the RMI Government and the four active clusters. The IFRC team leader was requested by the RMI Government to assist in developing the cluster plans, as well as supporting the UNDAC team in developing the overall HAP.

IOM has received a contribution under the CERF application grant of US\$ 1.0 million to provide safe drinking water and support the logistics effort to reach the most vulnerable. This appeal has been drafted in close coordination with the national and regional stakeholders involved in this response to avoid gaps and ensure that all needs are covered.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Currently, RMI does not have an established Red Cross National Society. The National Volunteer Group (NVG) has been working on the drafting of the Red Cross Act to establish a Red Cross National Society, and has strong support from the RMI Government. The most recent version of the Act was shared with the IFRC and the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) in early May 2013 for feedback. The NVG, with the agreement of the RMI government, requested support from the IFRC for the drought response. For humanitarian reasons (and in light of the formation of the NS) it was deemed important for the IFRC to respond to the needs in RMI, and through the operation to develop the capacity of the NVG.

The IFRC Secretariat has been liaising with the ICRC as well as regional National Societies (NSs) in regards to how the IFRC can best support the RMI government's humanitarian efforts and the people of RMI. IFRC is coordinating the work of all partners such as the New Zealand Red Cross (NZRC), Australian Red Cross (ARC) and Kiribati Red Cross Society to provide assistance to RMI.

An IFRC team consisting of a team leader, a water and sanitation delegate, and a Pacific Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) member were initially deployed to RMI. Four water and sanitation short-term delegates were provided by NZRC, each for a period of two weeks. These delegates (accompanied by RMI government counterparts from the Majuro Water and Sewerage Company) were deployed to atolls/islands to operate temporary RO units. In addition to water production and distribution, the teams also carried out community messaging on effective water resource management, safe water and good hygiene practices. An additional short-term delegate was deployed (three-week mission) with support of the Australian Red Cross to assist IFRC with the deployment of additional RO units which have been loaned to the RMI government by USAID through IOM.

The needs

The drought is affecting approximately 6,400 people in 1,134 households across 15 atolls/islands (Ailuk, Aur, Lae, Lib, Likiep, Maloelap, Mejit, Namu, Ujae, Utrik, Wotho, Wotje, Ebadon, Enewetak, Mejjatto) north of Majuro. The RMI, through the NDC, together with other government agencies (Public Works, Majuro Water and Sewerage Company, Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Agriculture) and supported by advisers from the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA)/USAID and International Organization for Migration (IOM), deployed assessment teams between 27 April and 2 May.

Initial joint assessments (RMI government reps, Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and USAID officials) identified that the communities in these northern atolls/islands are being severely affected by the drought and face potential health, environmental, social, and economic hardship, due to the persistent dry weather.

Drought-affected communities are experiencing a range of issues listed below:

- The majority of household water tanks are empty.
- Water in wells is significantly reduced and the majority of wells are contaminated with salinity
- There are insufficient numbers of RO units within drought-affected atolls/islands and there is declining water production output from the RO units in place due to maintenance issues
- Insufficient supply of food in the communities is a growing concern. Local food crops, such as breadfruits and bananas, are severely damaged as trees are dying.
- Health issues associated to the drought & effected water sources, such as diarrhoea, conjunctivitis (commonly known as pink eye), and scabies have been reported.

Immediate needs: To provide safe drinking water to each of the households identified (see beneficiary section below) at the agreed minimum (SPHERE) standards. This will be achieved through the continued deployment and operation of RO units currently in country, the purchase of two additional units and by continuing to provide training and expertise to national counterparts and identified persons on island/atolls.

Longer-term needs: The longer-term needs will be addressed by installing water tanks in homes that have been identified as not having sufficient water storage, no tank capacity, no rain water harvesting systems and those that require upgrading or modification of the home systems.

Beneficiary selection

Agreed number of affected population by EOC on 19 MAY				
Affected atoll		Number of affected		Number of health care centres reporting data
		Population	Households	
1.	Ailuk	339	63	1
2.	Aur	499	95	2
3.	Lae	347	51	1
4.	Lib	155	27	1
5.	Likiep	401	78	2
6.	Maloelap	682	125	5
7.	Mejit	348	64	1
8.	Namu	780	187	4
9.	Ujae	364	54	1
10.	Utrik	435	69	1
11.	Wotho	97	20	1
12.	Wotje	859	133	1
13.	Ebadon	106	15	1
14.	Enewetak	664	106	1
15.	Mejatto	308	47	1
	Total:	6,384	1,134	24

* Identified atolls/islands and beneficiaries for IFRC drought response and early recovery activities are shaded

Data collation includes:

- The effect of the drought on the availability and use of water, water sources and supply points and their reliability, management and maintenance, and contamination.
- Assessing the viability of water tanks and most appropriate approach to providing and/or increasing water storage capacities.
- Availability of alternative water sources.
- The need for water treatment.
- Key hygiene issues related to water and sanitation, including:
 - defecation practices
 - beliefs and traditions
 - facilities and infrastructure
 - equitable access and women's specific needs
 - readiness to use defecation fields, communal latrines and family latrines
 - cleaning hands
 - space and elevated land
 - groundwater table
 - availability of local materials

IFRC aims to provide assistance to 3,409 beneficiaries in 650 households on six atolls in addressing the humanitarian issues caused by the current drought. The six atolls selected from the government response plan are: Ailuk, Likiep, Maloelap, Mejit, Namu and Wotje. IFRC has liaised with government and response partners through cluster meetings and daily interaction within the EOC in regards to these target locations. IFRC will also work with the communities on these atolls/islands to build their capacity to become more resilient to future droughts.

The criteria to select atolls/ islands was based upon identified needs from the government assessments:

- drinking water access and capacity
- rain water harvesting capability
- food security
- lower level of support from other agencies (not included in '177'² agreement)
- number of beneficiaries (larger communities or grouping of communities in proximity)
- known level of current sanitation and hygiene practices (insights provided by local health services)
- increased isolation through receiving limited boats and planes
- geographical location and accessibility.

In consultation with RMI government and cluster leads, further details in the six identified locations are as follows:

1. **Ailuk Atoll** (Population: 339; households: 63)
 - did not have sufficient water supply in the recent drought
 - need to improve drought preparedness through rain water harvesting and increased tank capacity
 - problems with food security due to drought (crop failure)
 - proximity to Wotje and Likiep atolls.
2. **Likiep Atoll** (Population: 401; households: 78)
 - did not have sufficient water supply in the recent drought
 - need to improve drought preparedness through rain water harvesting and increased tank capacity
 - problems with food security due to drought (crop failure)
 - proximity to Wotje atoll.
3. **Maloelap Atoll** (Population: 682; households: 125)
 - community health issues associated with sanitation and hygiene practices
 - did not have sufficient water supply in the recent drought
 - need to improve drought preparedness through rain water harvesting and increased tank capacity
 - problems with food security due to drought (crop failure)
 - proximity to Wotje and Mejit.
4. **Mejit Island** (Population: 348; households: 64)
 - community health issues associated with sanitation and hygiene practices
 - did not have sufficient water supply in the recent drought
 - need to improve drought preparedness through rain water harvesting and increased tank capacity
 - problems with food security due to drought (crop failure)
 - proximity to Wotje and Maloelap.
5. **Namu Atoll** (Population: 780; households: 187)
 - community health issues associated with sanitation and hygiene practices
 - did not have sufficient water supply in the recent drought

²177 is an ongoing agreement with USA Govt for the provision of additional assistance

- need to improve drought preparedness through rain water harvesting and increased tank capacity
 - problems with food security due to drought (crop failure)
 - relatively large population
 - isolated from other atolls/islands.
6. **Wotje Atoll** (Population: 859; households: 133)
- community health issues associated with sanitation and hygiene practices
 - did not have sufficient water supply in the recent drought
 - need to improve future drought preparedness through rain water harvesting and increased tank capacity
 - problems with food security due to drought (crop failure)
 - proximity to Likiep, Maloelap and Mejit.

The proposed operation

The goal of the operation:

Drought-affected people in six atolls/islands will recover following the drought and develop greater resilience to future droughts through:

- increased provision of safe, equitable access to appropriate quantities of water through the installation of RO units and maintenance of previously installed RO units
- early recovery initiatives which increase communities' capacities to collect, store and use water efficiently, by repairing and improving water supply schemes (catchments, tanks, gutters, etc)
- increased community participation in recording weather patterns, well water quantity/quality assessments and community education
- increased equitable access to and involvement in identification and promotion of good sanitation and hygiene practices.

The overall strategy for the operation is to:

- address the humanitarian needs resulting from this drought
- further build partnerships with RMI government and other international and local humanitarian actors
- support the ongoing formation of the Red Cross National Society
- develop linkages between the operation and the longer term formation activities of a NS
- utilize the expertise of other Pacific NS, importantly their understanding of small island contexts, at the same time as further developing their capacity in managing RO units and wider water and sanitation activities
- contribute to support the national coordination in disaster response and preparedness in supporting the development of the cluster national system
- work closely with local government, schools, health centres and other community organizations on atolls/ islands to ensure they are active in the distribution of water supplies and participate in initiatives and community education opportunities
- encourage community members to assume responsibilities for maintaining RO units for water production
- work with RMI government to ensure effective complaints procedures are in place.

The following is a summary of the proposed short to medium-term assistance to the six targeted atolls affected by the current drought situation in the northern atolls of the RMI. These activities support the work of the NVG and the RMI government and are coordinated with other international partners.

Water and Sanitation

IFRC and regional Red Cross National Societies have the background and expertise in water and sanitation including managing RO units. RMI government has requested support within this sector as there are a limited number of local technical personnel to undertake the installation and maintenance of RO units, within atolls/islands.

Safe drinking water is a high priority for all drought-affected communities now and in the future. Through the installation, running and maintenance of RO units for water production, there will be increased availability of safe drinking water for drought-affected communities.

RO units to be managed by NVG volunteers in conjunction with MWSC counterparts. Specifically this will involve:

- Procurement and distribution of two RO units, solar batteries, spare parts and fittings, with two large bladders to use in water distributions.
- Training community and NVG volunteers in the maintenance and deployment of RO units.
- Deployment of RO units for current water shortage situation.
- Deployment of volunteers with water and sanitation delegates for the installation and operation of the units.
- Dialoguing with communities to ensure that there is an understanding that these RO units are on a short-term placement and will be returned to the RMI NVG (in MWSC premises) for storage and utilization for future events.

Provision of water storage tanks with necessary water catchment systems

On three atoll/islands (Likiep, Mejit, and Namu), new tanks and roof catchment guttering will be installed in 117 houses which currently do not have rain water harvesting systems. Where necessary, repairs and upgrades will also be carried out on other households on these islands/atolls that already have water tanks but inadequate systems. This will include establishing sound community engagement practices to ensure beneficiaries are involved in constructing and installing tanks and guttering to increase water collection capacity. Community education and support to repair, install and maintain effective water collection and storage will be undertaken.

The work of IFRC in supporting the WASH cluster plan as outlined within the “Immediate and Near-Term Drought Response Plan for the Republic of the Marshall Islands” will be undertaken through the following activities:

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: Immediate risk of waterborne and water related diseases has been reduced through the provision of safe water and hygiene messaging to 3,409 beneficiaries in 6 atolls for up to 6 months.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
1. Access to safe water which meets SPHERE standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to 3,409 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide safe water to 3,409 people in targeted communities through RO mobile water treatment plants • Conducting water quality testing (by RMI EPA) • Maintaining four previously installed RO units located on the 6 isolated atolls/ islands (with MWSC) • Installing two additional RO units on two of the six isolated atolls/ islands together with necessary spare parts, in collaboration with MWSC • Training on operation and maintenance of RO units (with MWSC and community volunteers) • Considering alternative options to RO if they are appropriate and provide greater cost benefit
2. Continuous assessment and up-to-date collection of data on the water supply, sanitation, and hygiene situation is carried out in six atolls	<p>Building on RMI Government and WHO assessments, further WASH-specific information is to be collected, with the help of RMI Government and MWSC, to refine and meet immediate needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct training for NVG and community volunteers on carrying out water, sanitation and hygiene assessments and monitoring

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuously monitor the water, sanitation and hygiene situation in targeted communities Identification of other WASH stakeholders Coordinate with other WASH/water and sanitation actors on target group needs and appropriate response
3. Improved access to and use of adequate rain water harvesting for 117 houses	<p>To provide a platform for early recovery from the effects of the drought with regards to continuous access to safe water, the following activities supporting the work of MWSC are proposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> establishing sound community engagement practices to ensure beneficiaries are involved in constructing and installing tanks and guttering to increase water collection capacity, with community participation, procure and distribute tanks /guttering and repair of catchments across the initial three nominated atolls/ islands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for 117 houses which currently do not have rain harvesting, provide new tanks and rain harvesting systems repair damaged and inadequate guttering, plumbing, water tanks and associated RWH systems
4. Communities in the affected atolls increase knowledge and ability to change practices regarding water collection and storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dissemination of effective household water collection practices storage practices, maximizing water availability and preventing transmission of water borne diseases. Providing sanitation messaging to alleviate water borne diseases and health issues. Training for communities on maintenance of water catchment systems with awareness on better water harvesting techniques and managing usage to promote more sustainable water availability. Pre-positioning RO units with the Majuro Water and Sewage Company or strategic locations for future drought response. Training on RO unit maintenance, in conjunction with MWSC, to ensure RO units are available when needed. Integrated baseline survey to further determine gaps in infrastructure, social structure and behaviors for longer term resilience.

IFRC organizational development of the NVG/Emerging RMI Red Cross National Society

Currently there is a small group of committed community members who, with the support of RMI government, is working to establish a Red Cross National Society. The drought provides an opportunity for the NVG/emerging Red Cross National Society to develop its skills in disaster management.

The IFRC country operation manager will provide the following support to the NVG:

- develop the experience and profile of the NVG in drought relief and early recovery activities
- explore longer term humanitarian activities that the future NS could provide as a service to its communities
- train NVG volunteers in:
 - water and sanitation (running and maintaining RO units, community messaging, and disaster preparedness activities)
 - volunteer recruitment and retention
 - collection of donated goods and funds for appeals
 - distribution processes
 - disaster relief and recovery processes

Capacity building and organizational development

Outcome: The quality of the operation is supported, through protecting and promoting the emerging national society's development, domestic capacities and future sustainability.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Emergency response planning is a collaborative effort by the emerging national society (NVG) leadership and the IFRC team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close communication (daily) between the IFRC country operation manager and focal person for NVG • Regular meetings with NVG with discussions documented • Regular meetings with the RMI government with discussions documented • Develop consensus among the NVG on the role of emerging national society in the operation • Identify the potential roles for NVG members in the operation • Map existing skill sets within the NVG • Advise, support and train NVG members • Recruit three lead volunteers to travel to atolls/ islands with IFRC team members to support work with affected communities
IFRC partners base their support on the requests and advice of the NVG in close cooperation with RMI Government	
Increased experience and skills of NVG members in drought relief and early recovery activities	
In conjunction with MWSC, two RO units maintained by the NVG	
In kind and cash donations to the NVG are transparently managed	
Strong balanced relationship established with the Government of RMI	
Capacity building activities under the relief operation are closely coordinated with the longer term support provided to the NVG by the IFRC and ICRC regional teams (in Suva) and the Kuala Lumpur Zone Office	

Capacity of the IFRC

The IFRC Pacific Regional Office in Suva will be responsible for managing the implementation of the response and providing operations support (in monitoring, reporting, financial management, communications, etc.) while the IFRC Asia Pacific Zone in Kuala Lumpur will be responsible for coordinating international assistance and technical support.

In addition to the IFRC team members which were already deployed to RMI, the following human resources will be provided by the IFRC for the six-month duration of the operation outlined in this appeal:

Delegates

Country Operation Manager

- Lead the IFRC Emergency and early recovery operation in close coordination with the emerging national society.
- Work with the Ministry of Resources and Development, other national/international actors and the emerging national society in supporting relief and recovery efforts under the existing coordination system (clusters: food sec, log, WASH).
- Engage with emerging the NVG to develop its profile and build its involvement in drought relief and early recovery activities.
- Assist emerging NS within RMI to develop future directions; and develop a plan moving forward.
- Train NVG in understanding role of Red Cross in disasters and early recovery, volunteer recruitment processes, collection of donated goods and cash donations, accountability, probity and distribution processes.

Water and Sanitation/Early Recovery Delegates (2)

- Work within current distribution and establishment/use and maintenance processes for RO units, train community/MWSC volunteers/staff.
- Using tools such as basic hygiene promotion IEC material to provide community education and training on RO units (or other technologies as appropriate), disseminate effective household water collection practices storage practices, maximizing water availability and preventing transmission of water borne diseases.

- Establishing sound community engagement practices to ensure beneficiaries are involved in constructing and installing tanks and guttering to increase their household water collection capacity.
- Provide mentoring to counterparts within NVG and MWSC to develop/enhance their skills in carrying out the above activities.
- Distribute tanks and guttering across the initial three targeted atolls/ islands.
- Under the supervision of the country operation manager and with the emerging national society work in supporting the identified early recovery and longer term WASH activities.

Country Support Service Manager

- Implement relevant IFRC standards logistics processes and procedures to facilitate the logistics of the operations and support the programs.
- Liaise on a regular basis with the Zone Logistics Unit in KL and Regional Office in Fiji to report on progress and/or get assistance and technical advice.
- Further develop systems for implementing, warehousing, procurement, transport, as well as ensuring logistics accountability to support the IFRC emergency operation.
- Strong capacity building focus, through role modeling, peer support, one-on-one and group training as required.
- Support logistics staff recruitment for the operation.
- Support coordination and provide technical support to RMI government, IOM and other partners/organizations through the logistics cluster.

Local Staff

To be recruited within RMI to work alongside the delegates to support the operation:

Water and Sanitation/Early Recovery Officers (2)

Admin/Finance Officer

Logistics Officer

Monitoring and Evaluation

The IFRC country operation manager with the support of the regional disaster management coordinator will oversee the monitoring of the activities under this project. Monitoring will be an ongoing process throughout the duration and will be undertaken within the context of existing IFRC management systems.

Monitoring for this project will involve: 1) progress monitoring - tracking the use of inputs (HR, travel, equipment), the progress of the activities under each of the outcomes and the delivery of outputs 2) financial monitoring to ensure expenditure is according to budget and timeframes and 3) results monitoring.

IFRC's existing monitoring systems are weekly management meetings, quarterly programme coordination meetings, monthly financial reporting, and bi-monthly management reporting and field/monitoring visit reports. These processes will be in place at the regional office as well as in RMI and will ensure that any unanticipated changes with the project will be used to adjust project implementation plans. A final evaluation will be conducted through which lessons learnt will be identified to inform future interventions.

Communications – Advocacy and Public information

IFRC operational activities will be highlighted amongst key stakeholders through the production of a variety of communications materials. A communications mission will be undertaken to produce print and audio visual materials that will be promoted via IFRC internal and external communication platforms including social media. These products will include news and feature stories, blogs, case studies as well as a series of photographs. Targeted media relations activities will also be carried out locally and in conjunction with partner National Societies.

Budget summary

See attached budget (Annex 1) for details.

The Pacific presents a unique set of challenges for relief delivery. With small islands scattered across a large area, small populations on each atoll/island and high travel costs, relief assistance in the region is inevitably expensive. Since there is currently no Red Cross Society in RMI, and therefore no NS staff, the majority of the work will be done by the IFRC personnel hired to manage this operation. Also, the Government of RMI has requested high-level technical assistance, hence the number of international delegates included in the EA. For these reasons, the operational costs versus the relief items in the budget are relatively high for this response.

Walter Cotte
Under Secretary General
Programme Services Division

Bekele Geleta
Secretary General

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **IFRC regional office:**
 - Aurelia Balpe, Head of Pacific Regional Office; phone: +679 331 1855; email: aurelia.balpe@ifrc.org
 - Ysabeau Rycx, Regional Disaster Management Coordinator; phone: +679 331 1855; mobile: +679 999 2509; email: ysabeau.rycx@ifrc.org.
- **IFRC Zone:**
 - Christine Strater, Operations Coordinator; office phone: +60 3 9207 5729; email: christine.strater@ifrc.org.
 - Al Panico, Head of Operations; phone: + 603 9207 5704; email: al.panico@ifrc.org
 - Peter Ophoff, Head of Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER), email: peter.ophoff@ifrc.org
 - Florent Chane, Zone Logistics Coordinator, phone: +6 012 298 9752, email: florent.chane@ifrc.org

Please send all funding pledges to zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org



Click here

1. **Emergency Appeal [budget](#)**
 2. **Map [below](#)**
 3. **[Return](#) to the title page**
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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 \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster 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.

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.
-

EMERGENCY APPEAL

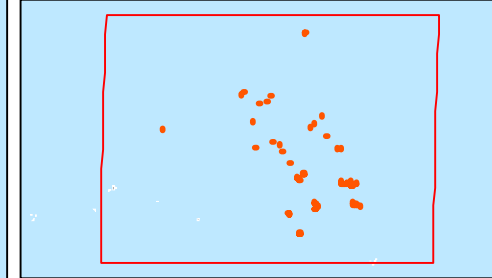
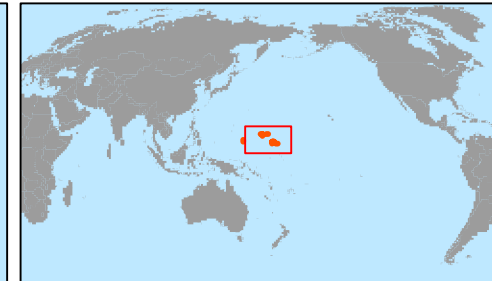
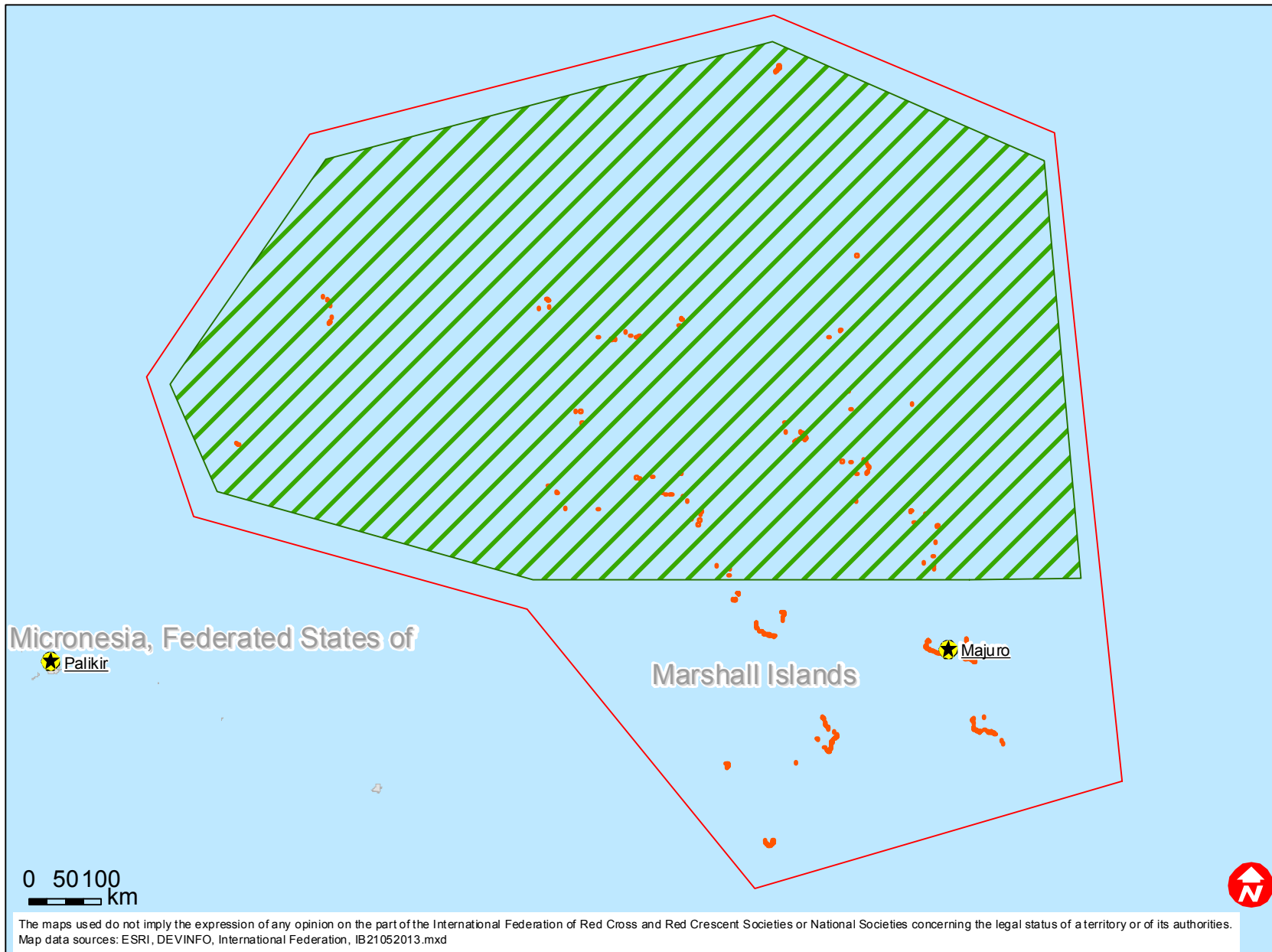
GF/06/2013



MDRMP001 REPUBLIC OF MARSHALL ISLANDS DROUGHT

Budget Group	Appeal Budget CHF
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	316,760
Medical & First Aid	947
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	317,706
Computer & Telecom Equipment	5,680
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	2,840
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	8,520
Transport & Vehicle Costs	2,272
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	2,272
International Staff	222,615
National Staff	39,568
Volunteers	4,392
Total PERSONNEL	266,575
Consultants	5,680
Professional Fees	11,359
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	17,039
Workshops & Training	11,643
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	11,643
Travel	64,015
Information & Public Relations	15,146
Office Costs	23,003
Communications	8,520
Financial Charges	1,420
Other General Expenses	11,359
Shared Office and Services Costs	7,100
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	130,561
Programme and Services Support Recovery	49,031
Total INDIRECT COSTS	49,031
TOTAL BUDGET	803,347



Marshall Islands: Drought



-  Drought affected atolls
-  Marshall Islands