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Operation Update Report

Fiji/Pacific: Tropical Cyclone Yasa/Ana

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n° MDRFJ005	GLIDE n° TC-2020-000238-FIJI
Operation update n° 4; Date of issue: 19/08/2021	Timeframe covered by this update: 16 December 2020 to 31 July 2021
Operation start date: 16/12/2020	Operation timeframe: 11 months End date: 30 November 2021
DREF allocated: CHF ¹ 676,325	
N° of people being assisted: 20,806	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: The Fiji Red Cross Society (FRCS) and its branches in Bua, Macuata and Cakaudrove are working with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), its country cluster delegation (CCD) in Suva and the International Committee of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (ICRC) sub-regional office. New Zealand Red Cross and the Australian Red Cross (ARC) also supported FRCS with deployments, communication and technical support.	
Other partner organisations actively involved in the operation: National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) and the cluster system, Ministry of Health and Medical Services and other major government actors. Medical Services Pacific for counselling. Other partners involved in the response include the United Nations (UN) Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Children's Emergency Funds (UNICEF), Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), Oxfam and the Pacific Rotary Association.	

Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

This Operation Update is issued to inform stakeholders of the extension to the operation timeframe by three months until 30 November 2021. The extension is required due to an ongoing COVID-19 outbreak in Fiji, and the Fiji government has imposed strict restrictions on movement of people and logistics within different provinces and islands.

The operation was suspended in late April 2021 with activities halted until FRCS was granted exemption by the Government in late July 2021 to complete the remaining activities for the operation under very strict COVID protocols.

The extended timeframe allows for remaining activities to be completed in support of the most vulnerable people and communities affected by Tropical Cyclone (TC) Yasa and TC Ana. Many of these same households have increased needs due to the COVID outbreak in Fiji, which has had a large economic impact on the most vulnerable.

There has been no major revision to operational activities. However, all requirements of the early recovery phase of the operation that was delayed by the COVID outbreak need to be completed:

- **WASH**

- The main activity remaining for the DREF operation, which is also supported through other donor funding, is the installation of community water tanks in the targeted affected communities. Technical assessment is ongoing to confirm the total requirement. Installation of water tanks for the affected communities will also have a secondary effect of improving access to water, which will in turn improve hygiene and minimise risks of an ongoing COVID outbreak.

- **Health**

¹ CHF= Swiss Franc

- Health activities have focused on provision of awareness messaging for Leptospirosis, Typhoid, Diarrhoea and Dengue (LTDD) to communities, to reduce the risk and spread of vectorborne diseases. Prior to COVID restrictions, FRCS health activities had reached 255 communities, a total of 37,135 people (7,371 households) in hotspot areas affected by TC Yasa and TC Ana.
- To adapt to the COVID-19 outbreak, the LTDD awareness will occur through mass media communications (radio, television and social media). Planning is being finalised in coordination with the divisional health authorities to launch the LTDD campaign via mass media. This also includes messaging for hygiene promotion to reduce risk of COVID transmission.
- **Shelter**
 - Through the assessment conducted by FRCS, 1,047 households were identified for shelter support kits. These items will strengthen household repairs in preparation for the next cyclone season. Local procurement was in progress prior to lockdown and these items will now be delivered and distributed as per the detailed plan.
- **Logistics**
 - Remaining relief items for distribution. Prior to the COVID outbreak, local procurement of remaining relief items for distribution had been completed (hygiene kits, baby kits and disability kits), also supported through other donor funding. These will now be delivered and distributed as per the detailed plan to support the most affected and vulnerable (people living with disabilities, elderly, single parents).
 - Relief items for pre-positioning. Prior to COVID restrictions, in-kind donations of relief items from Australian Red Cross had arrived in Fiji. Unfortunately, the logistics agent could not clear these items due to COVID restrictions. These will now be delivered to branches for pre-positioning along with family kits and dignity kits being procured locally.

The Fiji Red Cross Society (FRCS) activated its branches and mobilized its volunteers in the affected provinces of Bua, Macuata and Cakaudrove. A team from the FRCS headquarters travelled to Bua province on 20 December 2020, to assist volunteers conducting initial assessments. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) also sent four technical staff in WASH, shelter, cash voucher assistance (CVA) and health to assist FRCS staff and volunteers. The country cluster delegation (CCD) in Suva continues to provide technical support in operations management, logistics, human resource, WASH, shelter, health and planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER). The International Committee of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (ICRC) sub-regional office provided communications support to the FRCS and restoring family links (RFL) equipment and personnel support in the affected areas.

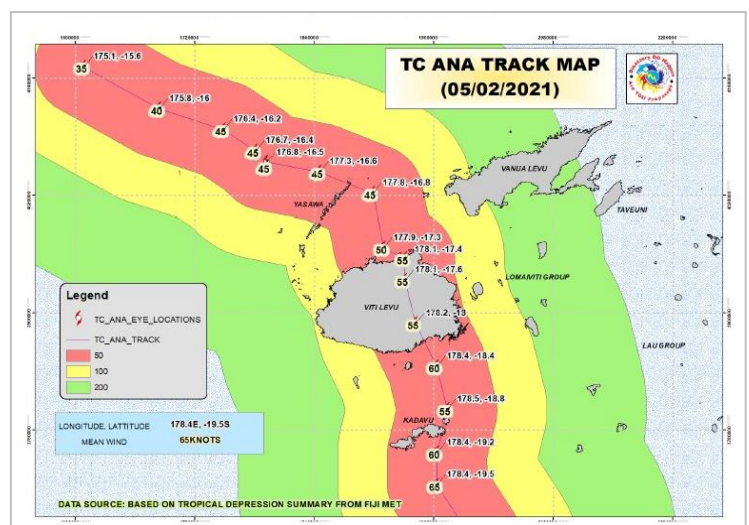
The New Zealand Red Cross (NZRC) supported through deployment of an operations manager on secondment to IFRC to support FRCS and have also been providing remote information management (IM) and logistics support while the Australian Red Cross (ARC) have been providing communications and WASH support to the IFRC CCD in Suva.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

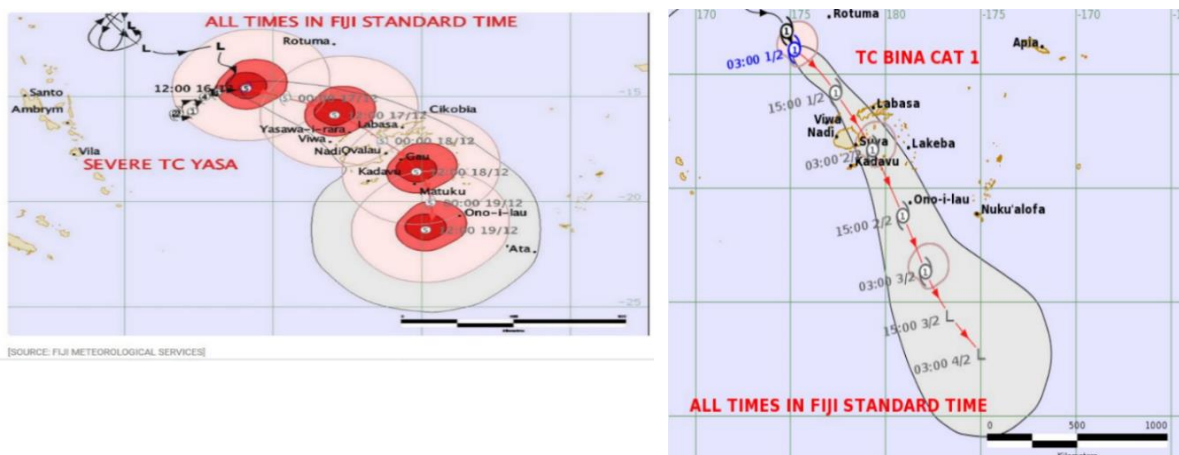
TC Ana made landfall as a Category 2 tropical cyclone on the main island on Viti Levu on 30 January 2021 and exited the country through Kadavu on 31 January 2021. At the centre, winds averaged 100 kilometres per hour with gusts of 140 kilometres per hour. The cyclone damaged trees, weakened house structures, damaged crops heavily and triggered power failures. Significant level of precipitation caused rivers to overflow and flood roads, villages, towns, and communities extensively. Extremely high seas and storm surges caused coastal inundation. Click [here](#) to see affected areas from both TC Yasa and TC Ana pathways to Viti Levu.

By midday on 31 January 2021, TD07F developed into TC Bina with an expected path similar to TC Yasa, bringing more rain. TC Bina was downgraded on 1



Tropical Cyclone Ana pathway to Viti Levu as of 05 February 2021 (Photo: Fiji Meteorological Service)

February but brought additional rainfall. The accumulated rainfall from all three tropical cyclones that followed similar paths caused extensive flooding across all the four divisions. Below is the track of TC Yasa and TC Bina:



TC Yasa and Bina pathways to Viti Levu as of 5 February 2021. (Photo: Fiji Meteorological Service)

As of 2 February 2021, the NDMO reported 14,755 evacuees in 422 evacuation centres across the country. Extensive flooding caused damage to infrastructure, with 131 roads and crossings temporarily closed. All major roads in Vanua Levu were closed, cutting off supply of food and relief items to affected areas. There were two confirmed fatalities and three people reported missing. Access in the northern division was a challenge during the response period, however after significant repairs to sections of road across Vanua Levu, conditions have returned to normal.

Main concerns included increased risk of leptospirosis, typhoid, dengue, and diarrhoea due to poor water access and standing water. Hygiene is also a concern due to the lack of access to clean water. Psychological first aid is a need given the recurring losses in a short period of the successive cyclones. Early recovery efforts for livelihoods, fixing shelters and access to food and water are all required, acknowledging the risk of further cyclones through to the end of the cyclone season in May 2021. Whilst no further cyclones have occurred, there were periods of significant low-pressure systems and rain that caused ongoing damage to road infrastructure and isolated flooding.

Summary of current response

Overview of host National Society response action for TC Ana

The Fiji Red Cross Society (FRCS) was very active in monitoring the track forecast, disseminating early warning within its network to communities and mobilizing its branches through division managers (DMs) to prepare communities. Below were actions taken in preparation prior to TC Ana making landfall:

- Activation of the FRCS National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC), coordinated with divisional and branch Emergency Operations Centre (EOCs) to prepare for response across the country.
- Planned for the initial assessment (using D1 form), volunteer deployment and in-depth assessment (using D2 form) which was revised and distributed to all 16 branches.
- Restocked disaster preparedness containers with essential household items from 3 February 2021 for the Western division, specifically in Nadi, Lautoka, Tavua, Rakiraki and Nalawa.

In response to the impact of TC Ana, FRCS:

- Updated the stock take in all its branches and restocked essential relief items.
- Engaged local districts officers to initiate response to affected communities.
- Assisted local authorities in supporting people to and in evacuation centres.
- Assessment was conducted at branch level of affected areas.
- Distribution of relief items occurred in the most affected area. This included hygiene kits, jerry cans and mosquito nets.
- A health focus was provided to LTDD awareness messaging in communities due to the increased risk of vector borne diseases.
- Reactivated the restoring family links (RFL) service with the support of ICRC.
- A recovery assessment was conducted by FRCS staff and volunteers from mid-February until early March 2021. The analysis of this assessment provided the confirmation and planning of the early recovery activities to be implemented for WASH, shelter, health and PGI support activities.

The following staff and volunteers have been deployed as part of the emergency response as of 04 August 2021:

Total Staff and Volunteers deployed (04/08/2021)			
Division	# of staff	# of volunteers	Total by division
Central	10	15	25

Eastern	2	0	2
Western	2	39	41
Northern	8	121	129
Total	22	175	197

Summary of response for TC Yasa

As of 29 January 2021, FRCS reached a total of 11,694 people (2,564 households) through its TC Yasa response. Out of the 11,694 people assisted, 11,266 (2,500 households) were reached through shelter assistance including relief items, 5,997 (1,260 households) through health, 9,083 (2,004 households) through WASH and 4,097 (854 households) for protection, gender and inclusion (PGI). Distributions are outlined in the table below:

Division	Bua	Labasa	Seaqaqa	Savusavu	Taveuni	Rabi	Total
Shelter Tool Kit	185	148	191	263	66	70	923
Tarpaulin	793	1,191	609	409	193	89	3,284
Blankets	557	253	359	489	105	83	1,846
Black Packs	356	502	439	307	128	97	1,829
Cooking Set	239	382	342	286	147	55	1,451
Solar Light	123	108	1	0	0	0	232
Mosquito Net	223	790	490	120	0	0	1,623
Dignity Kit	193	209	88	23	0	0	513
Hygiene Kit	173	232	213	31	1	0	650
Water Containers	559	547	481	663	232	85	2,567
Total	3,401	4,362	3,213	2,591	872	479	14,918

In response to TC Yasa, FRCS assisted 11,694 people at the end of January 2021 (2,338 households). A total of 10,913 people (2,183 households) were supported in the Northern division, 301 people (60 households) in the Western division, and 478 people (95 households) in the Eastern division. Distributions of essential household items are still ongoing due to the remoteness of some communities in the Eastern division. Operations were halted due to the development of TC Ana and TC Bina until it was safe to resume. The remaining households in the Western division were included as part of the TC Ana response.

Summary of response for TC Ana

By the end of February 2021, FRCS had reached a further total of 3,030 people (730 households) through its TC Ana response. 1,963 people (114 households) were reached through shelter assistance, 3,138 (745 households) through health, 3,236 (1,088 households) through WASH. Distributions are outlined in the table below:

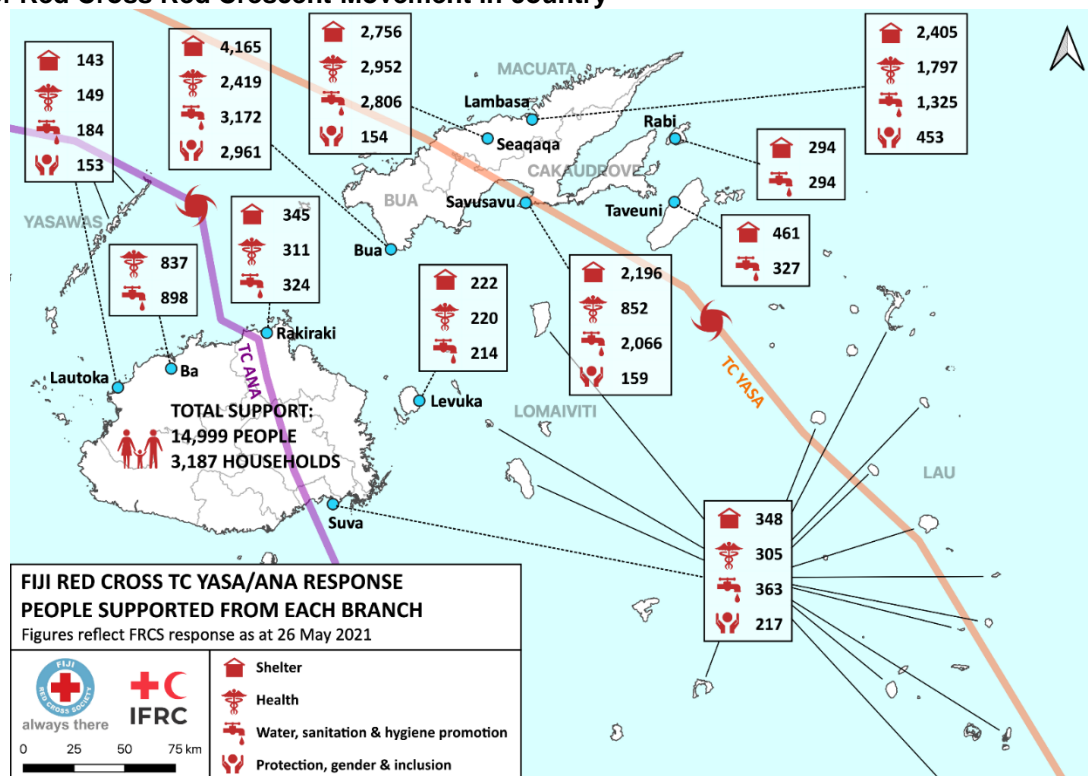
Branches	Levuka Branch	Bua Branch	Labasa Branch	Savusavu Branch	Seaqaqa Branch	Ba Branch	Lautoka Branch	Rakiraki Branch	Total
Shelter Toolkit	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Tarpaulin	26	0	1	0	39	0	2	67	135
Blankets	19	10	0	0	0	0	0	59	88
Cooking Set	19	6	0	16	261	0	0	0	302
Solar Lantern	0	0	0	29	261	0	0	0	290
Black Pack	40	0	0	24	261	0	0	0	325
Dignity Kit	38	10	0	12	78	0	0	40	178
Disability Kit	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Mosquito Kit	8	9	1	14	329	163	2	41	567
Hygiene Kits	38	4	0	25	329	46	1	43	486
Water Containers	20	20	0	0	329	177	2	54	602
Total	211	59	2	120	1,887	386	7	304	2,976

In response to TC Ana, FRCS has assisted a further 3,030 people (730 households). To date, 1,583 people (385 households) have been supported in the Northern division, 1,222 people (303 households) in the Western division, and 225 people (42 households) in the Eastern and central divisions, where there was less impact. A total of 2,976 relief items were distributed in the affected areas. There have also been 5,672 people reached (1,121 households) with LTDD awareness messaging following TC Ana.

As a pilot programme supported by other donor funding, a multipurpose cash grant targeting 500 households in the most affected areas has been prepared and planned for implementation. Training of personnel to support registration of target households and conduct distribution is in progress and is being supported by IFRC CCD cash coordinator. Implementation is due to start from August. This will be the first CVA activity conducted by FRCS, with the aim of understanding and implementing CVA, to prepare for the modality's usage where applicable in the future.

During the relief distributions for TC Yasa and TC Ana, a total of 17,894 essential household items were distributed for shelter, health, WASH and PGI assistance. A detailed recovery assessment was completed in the Northern division from mid-February to early March 2021, which informed the specific support for water, sanitation, shelter and basics needs. The combined distribution of relief items for TC Yasa and TC Ana is shown in the infographic below:

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country



FRCS response for TC Yasa and TC Ana based on focus areas and branch/geographical location. (Photo: FRCS)

The IFRC CCD in Suva initially provided advice to FRCS on revising the TC Yasa response to include the TC Ana response. Two technical staff provided technical support to FRCS in the review of the TC Yasa response and development of the plan and budget for the TC Ana response. Support is being provided in health, WASH, shelter, PGI, first aid, logistics, communications, volunteer management and operations support by the IFRC. The FRCS RFL programme, supported by ICRC, started during TC Yasa and was also activated in the TC Ana response.



Vetting assessment forms in Bua, Vanua Levu. (Photo: FRCS)

Overview of other actors in country

The government announced new curfew hours on 30 December 2020 from 11pm until 4am each night. These have remained in place until now and increased due to COVID-19 restrictions. The Fiji Police Force and Fiji Military Forces were on call around the country to assist people who needed to be evacuated. All schools were closed from Friday, 29 January 2021 and only reopened on 8 February 2021 as most schools were being used as evacuation centres.

Since the community transmission of COVID-19 occurred in mid-April 2021, the Fiji government has put in place significant restrictions and containment zones throughout the main island of Viti Levu. Restricted movement of people has been in place through several containment zones. Initially, the focus was in Nadi and Lautoka where the outbreak occurred, but quickly included all greater Suva area as cases occurred in various locations. The restrictions have been ongoing since 22 April 2021 with curfew extended from 11pm to 4am, and increased to 6pm to 4am each evening, in the greater Suva area. International flights in and out of Fiji have been suspended along with domestic flights, and most domestic shipping and ferries between island have also been suspended, apart from essential supplies.

The COVID outbreak has increased exponentially through June and July and there is now considerable widespread community transmission on the main island of Viti Levu. The medical facilities are overwhelmed and testing and contact tracing is no longer keeping pace with the spread of the virus. Fiji has, however, been proactive in its vaccination of adults with the latest information reported by Ministry of Health showing that approximately 87 percent of the eligible population have received the first vaccination and 30 percent have been fully vaccinated.

There remain severe restrictions on movement of people within Viti Levu and all domestic travel has been suspended since late April. Vaccination of the eligible population is the main strategy to contain the spread of the virus. Government is allowing essential and support businesses to operate under very strict COVID protocols to maintain required goods and services for the population. Businesses require a permit to open and must follow required protocols including all staff being vaccinated. People will also now need to provide proof of vaccination to gain access to services.

Coordination with the authorities

The FRCS is part of the National Emergency Operation Taskforce, and the Director General has attended all TC Ana meeting and briefings. All FRCS branch EOCs were also activated and manned by trained community-based volunteers in each location. The NEOC continued to monitor the situation whilst maintaining communication with divisional and branch EOCs. Close coordination and planning were conducted with divisional commissioners and provincial administrators and district level authorities, which includes the Ministry of Health and Medical Services through the Disaster Management Committees and the Disaster Preparedness Committees, with FRCS and other NGOs contributing to the coordination of national plans.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

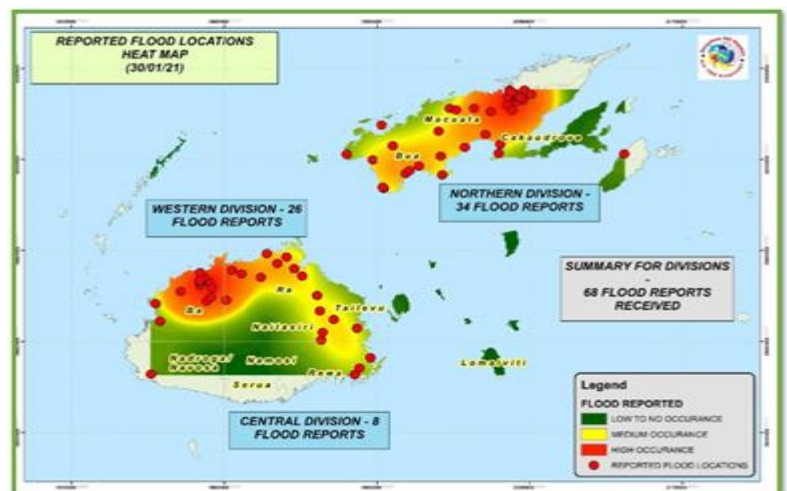
Needs analysis

TC Yasa impacted 97,000 people in its direct path, and approximately 200,000 people overall, with high winds up to 240 kilometres per hour and excessive rainfall. Majority of damage was in Vanua Levu with destroyed crops, flooded and damaged houses, landslides, flooded crossings, and significant infrastructural damages in Bua province. A total of 24 health facilities and 101 schools were damaged. OCHA reported that the initial damage assessments found that 40 per cent of the communities in the West Central and Northern divisions needed safe water for drinking and hygiene. This equates to roughly 25,000 people (5,000 households) (Fiji: Severe Tropical Cyclone Yasa Situation Report No. 06 as of 06 January 2021). As of 1 February 2021, 3,241 households were still in need of WASH support according to the WASH cluster. The government reports that 12,000 farmers have been impacted by TC Yasa and the agriculture sector has suffered 150 million Fijian dollars (CHF657,750) worth of damages.

TC Ana focus area

After TC Ana made its landfall in Fiji, the NDMO established that majority of the population affected by TC Yasa were also affected by TC Ana, specifically the same communities in the Northern division, some of the same communities in the Western division and additional communities in the Central division.

TC Ana brought in continuous rain which caused heavy flooding throughout Fiji. As of 30 January 2021, there were 68 floods reports received by NDMO. Refer to below map.



Flood occurrence report based on divisions. (Photo: NDMO)

Targeting

Below is the original targeting for TC Yasa across the Northern, Western and Eastern districts.

Summary of statistics of population and number of affected people by province.

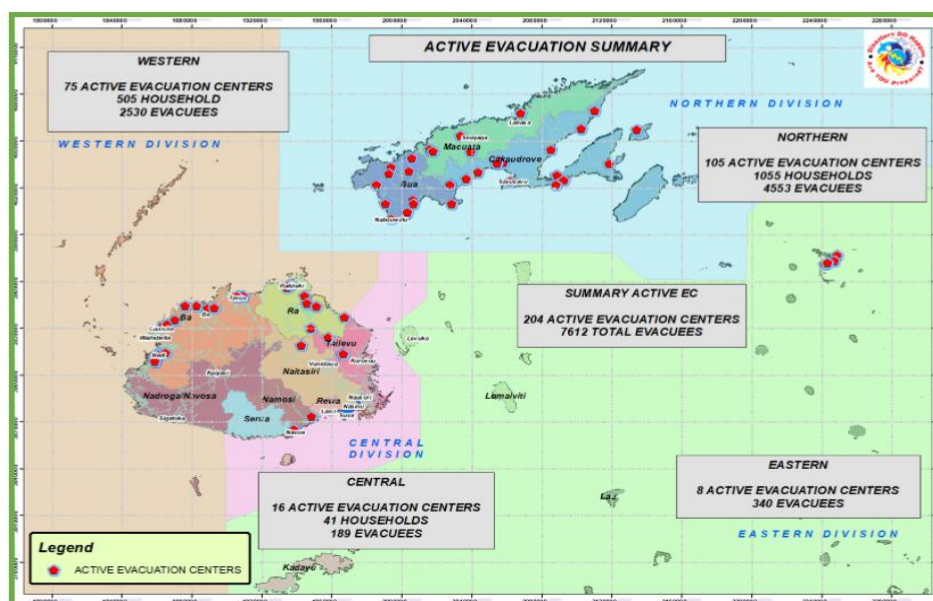
Province	Division	Male	Female	Total population	% of Damage	# of people affected	# of people affected to be supported by FRCS	# of affected households to be supported by FRCS
Yasawa (Ba)	Western	1165	1061	2,226	30	668	668	134
Bua	Northern	8,028	7,461	15,489	70	10,842	2,168	434
Cakaudrove	Northern	26,309	24,138	50,447	30	15,134	3,027	605
Lau	Eastern	5,117	4,422	9,539	40	3,816	763	153
Lomaiviti	Eastern	8,101	7,556	15,657	20	3,131	626	125
Macuata	Northern	33,182	32,796	65,978	40	26,391	5,278	1,056
Total		81,902	77,434	159,336	n/a	59,982	12,531	2,506

As of 1 February 2021, Global Disaster Alerting Coordination System (GDACS) estimated 310,000 people were exposed to the impacts of TC Ana. Based on the 2017 census data (OCHA COD data set), the FRCS planning team worked with an estimate of 82,751 people (16,550 households) severely affected by TC Ana. Considering other actors in the country, FRCS intends to reach approximately 10 per cent of the most vulnerable people in the worst impacted regions (Northern Western and Central districts) targeting a total of 8,276 people (1,656 households). The number of people severely affected, as well as targets are displayed below:

Divisions	Province	Total population	Estimate of # of people severely affected	FRCS targeted people (10% of the severely affected population)	FRC targeted households (HH)
Western	Ba	247,685	49,537	4,954	991
Western	Ra	30,416	6,083	608	122
Northern	Bua	15,489	3,098	310	62
Northern	Cakaudrove	50,447	10,089	1,009	202
Northern	Macuata	65,978	13,196	1,320	264
Central	Tailevu	3,739	748	75	15
Total		413,754	82,751	8,275	1,655

The Government of Fiji opened 422 evacuation centres to accommodate 14,755 evacuees. Schools, churches, community halls and private residences were all utilized to establish evacuation centres. Evacuees who were occupying school buildings relocated to other evacuation centres or returned to their own homes by 7 February 2020 as children resumed school on 8 February 2020. FRC prioritized support to those in the evacuation centres.

The overall population to be supported through this operation in response to TC Yasa and TC Ana is 20,806 people (4,163 households) across the Northern, Western, Central and Eastern divisions. See detailed table below:



Active evacuation centres based on divisions. (Photo: NDMO)

Division	Province	Total population	Targeted TC Yasa (people)	Targeted TC Yasa (HH)	Targeted TC Ana (people)	Targeted TC Ana (HH)	Total people targeted	Total HH targeted
Western	Ba	247,685	668	134	4,954	991	5,622	1,125
Western	Ra	30,416	-		608	122	608	122
Northern	Bua	15,489	2,168	434	310	62	2,478	496
Northern	Cakaudrove	50,447	3,027	605	1,009	202	4,036	807
Northern	Macuata	65,978	5,278	1,056	1,320	264	6,598	1,320
Central	Tailevu	3,739			75	15	75	15
Eastern	Lomaiviti	15,657	626	125			626	125
Eastern	Lau	9,539	763	153			763	153
Total		438,970	12,530	2,507	8,276	1,656	20,806	4,163

Operation Risk Assessment

The main risks are public safety due to clean-up, lack of infrastructure and the number of evacuees in evacuation centres. The following risks had been considered for TC Yasa and TC Ana and are mitigated by the planned actions below.

Hazardous Events	Current Risks and Impacts	Planned Response
Flooding and landslides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People sharing shelter with others potential risk of sexual gender-based violence (SGBV). Increase of WASH problems leading to health issues. Possibility of people being swept away by the flood (missing persons). Rise in theft and criminal activities as people leave behind property. Waterborne diseases outbreak. (dengue, diarrhoea, typhoid and leptospirosis); COVID-19. Livelihood destroyed (food crops). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of emergency shelters, blankets, water containers and tarpaulins for affected people. Messaging to evacuees promoting proper hygiene practices. Messaging on community preparedness planning with protection, gender, diversity and inclusion (PGI) principles and action. Contact search and rescue teams with information on missing persons. Possible CVA assessment and provision. Restoring family links (RFL) to be activated and focal points mobilized with the assistance from ICRC. Messaging and community awareness on Leptospirosis, Typhoid, Diarrhoea and Dengue (LTDD) Continue monitoring COVID-19 situation.
Structures with roofs blown away/damaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Injuries and death from flying debris. People displaced from their homes. Other homes at risk from flying debris. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online restoring family links (RFL) hotline established to support people in locating loved ones. Provision of black packs² (i.e., family kits of clothing, sheets, household items), shelter tool kits and tarpaulins and build back safer kits, alongside safe shelter awareness raising. Identification of clear and safe evacuation routes. First aid trained volunteers respond to injuries.
Trees, debris blocking roads and waterways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blocked waterways can mean flooded roads and bridges, and mosquito breeding places. Safety risk to communities concerning access to places. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact local authorities like National Fire Authority (NFA) and Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) Provision of mosquito nets and messaging. Volunteers working in their respective communities assisting affected population.
Power outage and water cuts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unsafe conditions can lead to a lot of problems and issues. Break down of communication networks (radio, mobile network etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide solar lamps. Provide jerry cans Face-to-face engagement through community networks
Evacuation centres open	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Challenges with social distancing (COVID-19). Possible lack of evacuation centres due to COVID-19 guidelines. Possible tension over space/food, etc. Possible SGBV issues. Overcrowding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist government in possible relocation to other identified evacuation centres. Online messaging and support on safety, protection, psychosocial support and community and household preparedness. Distribution of information, education and communication (IEC) materials on COVID-19 precautionary measures.

² Black pack contains of bedsheet single and double, women underwear (size M and XXL), men underwear (size M and XXL), sulu wraps, bath towel (size L), blanket, children t-shirt and short (3 sets), men shirt and short, women top and skirt and insect repellent.

Hazardous Events	Current Risks and Impacts	Planned Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unsafe conditions, lack of privacy, security and dignity for the most vulnerable especially women/children PWDs, etc. 	
Storm surge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Damaged houses in low-lying coastal areas. Death and injuries. Damage to infrastructure such as roads, water pipes, nursing and health stations, schools, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population moved to higher ground. Provide advice on household emergency kits. ICRC is ready to provide support to FRCS in dead body management if required.
COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of COVID-19 community infection COVID is widespread in communities throughout Viti Levu There is currently no COVID transmission on any of the Outer Islands of Fiji 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FRCS has sufficient personal protective equipment (PPE) on hand if needed by volunteers in the future. Good hygiene practices and awareness raising on COVID-19 continue and FRC will ensure COVID-safe programming to limit the spread of communicable diseases. All domestic travel by air and sea has been suspended Only essential freight is permitted to be transported to the outer islands All of Viti Levu is in a state of lockdown with curfew from 6pm to 4am. Restrictions of travel within Vanua Levu and between containment zones only with permit from Ministry of Health (MoH) Vaccination programme is being rolled out across Fiji to have all eligible adults vaccinated

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Proposed strategy

The DREF operation is targeted to reach 20,806 people (4,163 households) across Ba and Ra (Western); Bua, Cakaudrove, Macuata (Northern); Tailevu (Central); and Lomaiviti, and Lau (Eastern).

The third allocation revised the DREF Operation and expected to reach a further 8,276 people (1,656 households) affected by TC Ana in all four divisions. Initial assessments confirmed minimal damage to shelter but an increased need in health and WASH as a result of extensive flooding, and psychological first aid (PFA) due to the trauma of loss of possessions and familiar spaces/homes.

The extension of the DREF operation by two and half months until 15 November 2021 will provide time to complete all remaining activities, which was under COVID-19 constraints imposed by MoH until the FRCS operation was granted exemption recently. The focus of the remaining activities is on Vanua Levu, as that was the island most severely impacted by tropical cyclones Yasa and Ana. This will allow the completion of the planned WASH, health and shelter support, along with remaining distribution and pre-positioning of relief items at branches.

A small team of personnel have been granted permission to deploy to Vanua Levu to provide technical support to the team in the North to implement the remaining WASH activity. They are required to be fully vaccinated and complete 14 days quarantine at a MoH approved location prior to travelling from Suva to Vanua Levu. Whilst this has caused some further delay to implementation, it will also enable the completion of remaining activities, with the necessary support.

Shelter

The most severely affected communities were prioritised to receive emergency shelter and essential household item (HHI) assistance. Detailed assessments of the north have been completed after the delay caused by TC Ana. The results have been analysed and will be used for early recovery planning and targeting. The IFRC shelter team continues to support the FRCS at provincial-level with emergency shelter refresher training and safe-shelter awareness, preparing volunteers to help affected households to select safe sites, build temporary accommodation, and carry out basic house repairs using the tarpaulins and shelter tool kits distributed as part of the response. This approach aims to encourage and support communities to 'self-recover' and has been successfully used in the TC Pam and TC Harold responses in Vanuatu and elsewhere in the Pacific region.



Volunteers undertaking shelter refresher training in Bua Photo: FRCS

The early recovery strategy supports the worst affected households in the most impacted communities with shelter support kits. Shelter support kits include additional hardware such as cyclone strappings, nails, and roofing nails, which complement available resources of the household. The kits will assist them in strengthening household repairs and constructing emergency/ temporary shelter solutions strong enough to survive the next the cyclone season. Complementary technical support will be provided with each of the shelter support kits in the form of a Help for Homes booklet. These Help for Homes booklets are available in English³ and in the local languages of Fiji-Hindi⁴ and iTaukei⁵ (Native Fijian). The booklets have simple and contextualized Build Back Better/ Safer tips to allow better understanding of construction principles and measures to make houses stronger and more resilient to natural disasters.

Since there was not much damage caused to the homes of the affected population during TC Ana, the FRCS revised interventions will focus in the

areas of WASH, health, PGI and PFA. Assessments carried out by the government saw minimal to nil additional damage to homes/structures. Therefore, the FRCS focus is on rebuilding water sources, sanitation and promotion of general hygiene in the communities affected.

Health

It is essential to address public health concerns as community members become more susceptible to communicable diseases with the destruction and damage to shelters, water sources and sanitation facilities wrought by TC Yasa. The focus of the TC Ana operation will remain the same, but attention with turn to LTDD awareness as households experience heavy flooding and damages, and thus, increased health risks. The new areas in the Western and Central Eastern division were also affected by major floods brought in by TC Ana. With an increase in sanitation damages and sewage overflow due to flooding, there is a rise in hygiene issues affecting communities, and they will be more susceptible to LTDD. Therefore, FRCS is also distributing hygiene kits and water storage tanks and containers in communities to store clean drinking water, advocating on boiling drinking water and creating hygiene and LTDD awareness.

In the mid to long term, probable health impacts identified are the increase in communicable diseases that are water or vector borne. Short and long terms mental health effects are also likely to increase, as the full impact on health continue to unfold post TC Ana flooding.

With health facilities affected, the delivery of basic health services was disrupted. Village nurses or health workers were mobilized without resources to provide immediate treatments to injuries. Deaths and injuries from collapsed buildings, wind-strewn debris, or existing illness were some of the direct impacts of TC Yasa on the population's health. Fiji NDMO reported four deaths due to TC Yasa.

The focus of the health component of the response is:

- Implementation of communicable disease prevention, COVID-19 key messaging and health promotion activities in communities in collaboration with health authorities and partners. Leptospirosis, Typhoid, Diarrhoea and Dengue (LTDD) are a high risk in affected areas.
- FRCS undertakes awareness raising activities amongst target communities about vector control and promotes community clean up campaigns to reduce breeding sites. FRCS staff and volunteers are provided with mosquito repellent while they are working in high-risk areas.
- FRCS continues to advocate and create awareness on COVID-19 and ensure measures are in place and in line with the Ministry of Health, in parallel to the response to TC Yasa and TC Ana.
- Staff and volunteers are trained in psychological first aid (PFA). They provide support in these areas (and make referrals) during community activities to address psychosocial well-being and coping skills.
- Identification of further health referral systems needs are identified with temporary first aid.

³ Help for Homes booklet (English): <https://www.sheltercluster.org/pacific/documents/help-homes-tips-build-back-safer-booklet-english-version-fiji-2016>

⁴ Help for Homes booklet (Hindi): <https://www.sheltercluster.org/fiji/documents/help-homes-tips-build-back-safer-booklet-hindi-version>

⁵ Help for Homes booklet (iTaukei): <https://www.sheltercluster.org/fiji/documents/help-homes-tips-build-back-safer-booklet-itaukei-native-fijian-version>

- Employing the community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) approach, psychosocial support (PSS) activities and services are undertaken. Child protection, violence prevention, gender and diversity considerations are integrated into the design of these interventions. The CBHFA also integrates child protection and gender-based violence through PSS. The approach can identify injuries and trauma that may have possible links to child abuse or gender-based violence such as domestic violence, and ensures information is provided on referral pathways.
- The FRCS has identified specific need for PSS for cyclone-affected communities, which will see more volunteers being trained on PSS/PFA offering support to those showing signs of stress from the effects of the cyclone.
- Volunteers are trained to identify signs of violence and equipped with skills to provide counselling (and first aid, if needed) to affected people, referring more serious cases to the relevant health centres and authority supporting protection, gender and inclusion.
- Reprint of the LTDD posters to reach new areas that were affected by TC Ana include hot spot areas that were recently identified by the Fiji Ministry of Health.
- Printing and messaging on long lasting insecticidal treated nets (LLINs) mosquito nets.

WASH

Early rapid assessments conducted by FRCS, IFRC and integrated survey teams under provincial administration coordination indicate widespread destruction of water and sanitation infrastructure in the path of TC Yasa. The assessment teams are also providing WASH rapid response support through the provision of hygiene kits, baby kits, dignity kits and jerry cans depending on the hygiene needs of the affected communities. IEC materials translated to the main languages have also been distributed as time limitation did not allow for proper community health and hygiene messaging.



Unloading relief items at Nabouwalu, Vanua Levu **Photo: FRCS**

The WHO and UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program (JMP) data from 2017 indicates that 11 per cent of rural communities in Fiji have either limited or no existing water supply service, and five per cent have limited access to sanitation. We can expect that existing hygiene behaviour practices will vary across the affected communities, from the urban centres of Labasa and Savusavu, to the rural and remote communities of Vanua Levu and islands in the Lau group. This is caused by disparities of income, markets, education, and water and sanitation infrastructure. The environment to sustain these practices has been significantly impacted, resulting in high risk of water-borne diseases within the communities. A WASH delegate (supported by Australian Red Cross) provided advise and support to FRCS.

Cash and voucher assistance

As part of the need assessment of FRCS, IFRC provided technical support in piloting a market assessment in the cyclone affected communities in the Northern district to identify the impact of the disaster in the markets and physical and economic access of households to these markets. Cash voucher assistance (CVA) assessment found that CVA is viable for the affected areas. Markets were sufficient and the modality was acceptable to recipients. It also found coordination with the government at national and local levels, alongside coordination with other agencies is required to ensure a smooth implementation and clarity on targeting. A FRCS CVA focal point is being hired and will be trained in CVA preparedness and response. A further detailed assessment assesses basic needs, market system, and financial service providers to determine feasibility of CVA in these communities, considering the recent impacts of TC Ana. FRCS and IFRC worked together with the Fiji Cash Working Group in developing the minimum expenditure basket and the standardization of grant values.

Delivery mechanisms is explored during the assessment to select the best possible financial service provider (FSP) based on the local context of the affected communities. The provision of multi-purpose cash grant is supported by complementary funds. The pilot programme will target 500 households in the most affected areas as this will be the first time CVA is to be implemented by FRCS. Technical support is to be provided by IFRC CCD cash coordinator. A CVA preparedness plan supported by Australian Red Cross is in place for 2021 which will accompany and provide some additional supports to the long-term viability of CVA by FRCS.

Protection, gender and inclusion

Safety of the affected population is a major PGI concern emanating from the severe damages left behind by TC Yasa. Homes were affected resulting in families being relocated to evacuation centres and temporary shelters. Ensuring the safety and protection of individuals is crucial in preventing further harm. Fiji medical officials monitored the centres, and FRCS provided further relief items as necessary to support existing assistance and services. PGI focuses on providing key messages on safety to affected communities and evacuation centres. Information sessions teach recipients how to engage services confidently, including child protection, gender-based and domestic violence referral pathway options available on the ground in the Northern division Referrals include the National Toll-Free Child Helpline and the National

Domestic Violence toll free contact. The protection of children from further risk and support for potential survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is paramount, to ensure they are properly informed of their rights in times of disaster.

To assist in safeguarding people, FRCS provided SGBV referral IEC materials in the form of a pocket card containing pertinent information and contact of essential service providers such the legal services, police, medical and counselling. In promoting inclusivity, FRCS is considering a tailored approach by developing specialized baby kits⁶ and person with disability (PWD) kits which for now will mainly focus on elderly bedridden citizens. FRCS is distributing PWD kits and baby kits as part of its TC Ana response in the areas of the Northern division that were also affected by TC Yasa. The distribution includes newly identified communities under TC Ana, particularly around the Western and Central division. Sex, age and disaggregated data is being collected to ensure that no one is left behind or left unsafe from FRCS response and interventions.

Community engagement is underway through monitoring of social media, two-way communication between the branch and community leaders and members, and through the informal networks on the appropriateness of the initial distributions. More structured community engagement will be done by FRCS in the coming weeks through monitoring missions to verify coverage, identify remaining gaps and discuss suitability of the services/items received so far.

Disability kit content		
Socks	2	pcs
Flashlight	1	pcs
T-shirt, round neck	2	pcs
Toothpaste, tube 100g	1	tube
Toothbrush, medium, soft	1	pcs
Sulu wraps	2	pcs
Soap, body soap	2	pcs
Soap, box	1	pcs
Cotton blanket	1	pcs
Plastic bag	1	pcs
Adult diapers	2	pkt
Wet wipes	2	pkt
Latex gloves, disposable	1	box
Pressure ulcer cushion	1	pcs
Mattress protector	1	pcs
Bath towel, small	2	pcs
Bath towel, large	1	pcs
Jerry can	1	pcs
Reusable cup	1	pcs
Packing	1	kit

Security

The National Society's security framework is applicable for the duration of the operation to their staff and volunteers. For personnel under IFRC security's responsibility, including surge support deployed to the area, the existing IFRC country security plan, including security regulations, contingency plans for medical emergencies, relocation and critical incident management are applicable. All IFRC must, and FRCS' staff and volunteers are encouraged, to complete the IFRC Stay Safe e-learning courses, i.e., Stay Safe Personal Security, Stay Safe Security Management and Stay Safe Volunteer Security online training. Staff and volunteers are made aware of the security situation and briefed on reactions in emergency before deployment in the operational area.

Operations Support

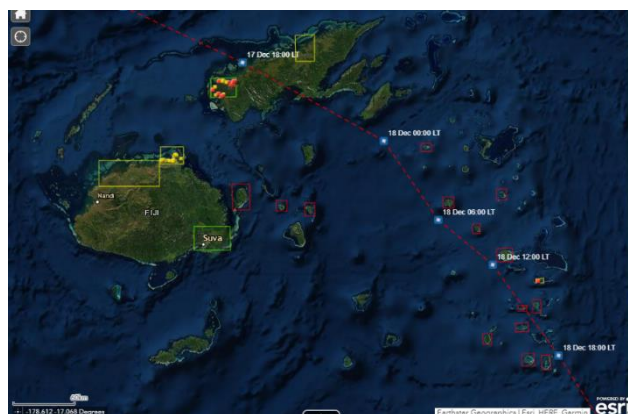
Operations management support includes surge support from New Zealand Red Cross (NZRC) for an IFRC operations manager for six months, remote communications support for two months and logistics support for two months. Continued remote information management support is also provided by NZRC during the needs assessment phase. Australian Red Cross (ARC) is supporting a WASH delegate position for two months. The DREF will support three FRCS staff in psychosocial support (PSS) for four and a half months, an operations manager for three months, and a logistics officer for three months. Support was also provided for the 35 staff that are working in the EOC for the first 20 days. The FRCS EOC is set up with units for operations (four people), planning (four people), finance (one person), information management (one person), communications (one person), resource mobilization (one person), volunteer management (one person), as well as administration support (one person), logistics (two people), and technical sectoral focal points

⁶ Baby kits items: Napkins x 24, large safety pin, Diaper x 10pc, baby wipes x2 pkt, teething necklace x 1, Panadol elixir x 100ml bottle, baby wraps x 4 pc, Baby towel x 2pc, cotton buds 1 pkt, beanie x 2, socks x 2, grape water x 100ml, small thermos x 1, bottle x 1, plastic teats x 2, baby powder x 600mg.

leads: WASH/shelter, health, PSS, RFL, (three people). Other complementary funding will provide additional support to FRCS divisional roles in WASH/shelter, and a health officer at the national office. In-kind relief supplies of tarpaulin, shelter kits, blankets, mosquito nets, solar lamps and jerry cans have also been donated by ARC and NZRC.

Logistics and NS capacity

Due to the remote nature of some of the affected areas, access to many of the affected communities requires boat transportation – some are small remote islands in the Eastern division (Lau), others are in the Northern division that are difficult to reach by land. With damage to road access in areas affected by TC Ana, the transportation of volunteers and relief items will also include new areas in the West and the Central division which was affected by flood waters. FRCS is coordinating with authorities on joint transportation options for cost sharing, and with private donors for relief goods to be transported free of charge during this immediate phase. This operation supports boat hiring for trips to two main locations - the northern division and the eastern division, for follow-up distributions and to complete WASH and shelter early recovery activities. The decision for this is in direct response to the lessons learned from TC Harold on the limitations in terms of FRCS access to the remote areas and the challenges in timing of assessments and distributions. It will allow FRCS more flexibility to complete assessments and deliver humanitarian needs in timely manner.



Tracks for TC Yasa. (Photo: ESRI)

As TC Yasa crossed a remote area, the branches in Bua and Seaqaqa were supported by two main field EOCs. Previously these have just been small branch offices. TC Ana operations in the new locations of West and the Central is coordinated from the HQ for the Central division and the divisional service manager office in the west for the west branches. They were not significantly damaged, but required clean-up, minor fixes to windows, etc. so they could be functional for the coming months. It also required setting them up EOC's, therefore generator, printer, basic office supplies, etc. was required for decentralization of the operation, and the staff can operate adequately out of them.

Stocks for FRCS were all pre-positioned at the headquarters, storage containers and at branch level upon receiving the last stocks in October 2020. In response to TC Yasa, affected branches had the capacity to support the population while more stocks were loaded and sent from storage containers and central division. Local procurement was placed after receiving technical approval from IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Delegation. FRCS has also been supported by ARC and NZRC with HHI's for TC Yasa.

Logistics also support continued local procurement related to WASH and kits (hygiene, dignity, family, etc.) and support international procurement, as necessary.

Transportation was a challenge faced early in the response, since vessels were restricted from departing to these affected locations and major roads were affected, with accessibility as a main concern. Another major challenge faced is the Duty and Tax component, which is applied to FRCS for selected NFI's, but was recently provisioned for a waiver as TC Yasa remained to be at state of natural disaster ending in mid-February.

The other main challenge has been the ongoing restrictions due to the COVID outbreak in Fiji. Since late April the operation was suspended with no ability to move logistics (or personnel) to the island of Vanua Levu where the most significant damage and impact occurred. Since late July FRCS have been provided exemption from the MoH and NDMO to continue with remaining activities, including the movement of relief items for pre-positioning. There are very strict protocols to be followed and FRCS is working through the details in coordination with government agencies to finalise transportation of remaining relief items to the branches in Vanua Levu.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN



Shelter

People reached: 11,694

Male: 6,045

Female: 5,649

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

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance	2,506	2,614

Output 1.1: Shelter and settlements and basic household items assistance is provided to the affected families

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of /households provided with emergency shelter items, materials and/or tools to have a space that meet the minimum living conditions.	2,506	2,614

Output 1.2: Technical support, guidance and awareness raising in safe shelter design and settlement planning and improved building techniques are provided to affected households

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# households provided with technical support and guidance, appropriate to the type of support they receive	2,506	2,614

Progress towards outcomes

For TC Yasa, emergency shelter and essential household items were distributed to approximately 2,500 households (HH) in the worst affected divisions; northern, eastern and western divisions as below:

- tarpaulins (up to two items per household, depending on level of damage, the size of household, and presence of family members with disabilities).
- shelter tool kits (up to one item per household).
- kitchen sets (one item per household).
- blankets (one item per household, depending on household who have lost everything, and large households who need more).

The distributions were complemented with technical support and guidance from the 13 volunteers (three teams) that have received emergency shelter refresher training.

Initial distributions were focused on households with severely damaged houses. A second sweep of distributions of emergency shelter and essential household item was done four weeks after the impact of TC Yasa with the remaining balance of relief items to cover distribution gaps.

From the analysis of the assessment conducted by FRCS, it was confirmed to provide shelter support kits to houses that were classified as category 3 damage. A total of 1,047 households were targeted for this support and local procurement of the items was completed. Unfortunately, the restrictions due to the COVID-19 outbreak stopped the distribution of these kits due to the inability to move logistics into the affected areas. The FRCS have now gained approval from NDMO and MoH to complete the remaining activities. Final preparation is underway for delivery of the items to be distributed as per the detailed plan. This is aimed to support strengthening of repairs to prepare for the next cyclone season. The shelter support kits contain the following items:

Shelter Support Kit	
Item Description/Specifications	Quantity
Cyclone strapping 1.0 x 25mm x 27m	2 coils
Roofing Nails with washers	1 kg
Galvanized nail 6" (150mm)	1 kg
Galvanized nail 4" (100mm)	1 kg
Galvanized nail 2" (50mm)	1 kg
Clout nail for strapping	1 kg
White sack (empty) 25-30kg	1 piece

TC Ana crossed the main island of Viti Levu as a Category 2 with reports of widespread flooding on both Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, with the latter heavily affected by TC Yasa just one month prior to the impact of TC Ana. There have not been any reports of damages to dwelling places and as such, the proposed TC Ana response will not have a shelter component.



Health

People reached: 11,694

Male: 6,045

Female: 5,649

Health Outcome 1: The immediate risks to the health of affected populations are reduced

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached by NS with services to reduce relevant health risk factors	20,806 (12,531) ⁷	11,694

Health Output 1.1: The health situation and immediate risks are assessed using agreed guidelines

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of assessments conducted based on standard IFRC and / or WHO assessment guidelines	50	Recovery Assessment Completed

Progress towards outcomes

First aid services and health awareness messages		
MALE (51%)	FEMALE (49%)	Total
5,730	5,964	11,694

Initial assessments and aerial footage confirmed extensive damages to dwelling places, sanitation facilities and water sources across all the affected areas for both TC Yasa and TC Ana. TC Ana poses a direct health risk to the affected communities due to the heavy flooding. The FRCS reached out to households and communities to assist in the clean-up of their environment and created awareness on sensitisation of future outbreaks and hygiene. The FRCS assessment teams conducting assessments in the field had at least one trained volunteer or staff trained in first aid and were also provided with first aid kits. The teams were expected to provide basic first aid for any injuries and psychosocial support if needed and facilitate referrals for further medical treatment. The assessment teams also distributed hygiene kits and jerry cans to mitigate the immediate health risks faced by the affected population, especially with the likely risk of typhoid due to water being contaminated from the flooding. Other messaging such as boiling of drinking water, and safe storage was part of the advocacy. The assessment teams also collected detailed information on specific household and individual health needs such as existing medical conditions, the number of disabled people, the number of lactating mothers and other special needs. The assessment results have informed further support or shared with other partners.

From the recovery assessment baby kits were identified as a specific need. Targeted distribution was confirmed for the most affected and vulnerable households. Local procurement was completed for 200 baby kits. Unfortunately, because of the restrictions due to the COVID-19 outbreak, distribution was delayed. With FRCS now having permission to complete the activities, planning is being confirmed for transportation and distribution of these kits.

Health Outcome 4: Transmission of diseases of epidemic potential is reduced

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with community-based disease prevention and health promotion programming	4,163 (2,506)	37,135

Health Output 4.1: Community-based disease control and health promotion is provided to the target population

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of mosquito nets distributed	4,163 (2,506)	2,504

Health Output 4.2: Vector-borne diseases are prevented

# of mosquito nets distributed	4,163 (2,506)	2,504
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Progress towards outcomes

⁷ Numbers in brackets are old targets adjusted for TC Ana response

The extensive damage caused by strong winds, sea water rises, and major flooding significantly increases the likelihood of communicable diseases. The volunteers engaged during the response are provided with refresher training on Leptospirosis, Typhoid, Dengue Fever, and Diarrhoea (LTDD) and COVID-19 key messages to prepare to conduct awareness in affected communities.

During the recovery assessment, the remoteness of most communities and difficulty in travelling due to blocked and damaged roads meant that volunteers did not have sufficient time in the communities to conduct awareness. As such, IEC materials translated into the main local languages were printed and distributed.

Due to the significant flooding that was caused by TC Ana, the priority for health support was identified as the need for awareness messaging in relation to vector borne diseases. Due to increased risk of LTDD, a comprehensive awareness campaign is being conducted in all high-risk communities.

As part of TC Yasa, 209 communities (6,250 households) have been reached on LTDD messaging. During the period following TC Ana, until the suspension of the operation because of current COVID outbreak restrictions, a further 46 communities (1,121 households) had been reached and it was planned to reach a further 180 communities. As outlined below:

Disaster	Community	Total Household	Population	
			Total Male	Total Female
TC YASA	209	6,250	16,427	15,036
TC ANA	46	1,121	2,939	2,733
	255	7,371	19,366	17,769

With the ongoing COVID outbreak the completion of LTDD awareness messaging will now occur through mass media communications (radio, television and social media). Coordination is being conducted with health authorities in Vanua Levu to finalise arrangements for the mass media campaign.

Concurrently, with the LTDD awareness messaging FRCS also provided the following support:

Further targeted distribution of mosquito nets to households with children under five years old, and pregnant women. To date, a further 324 mosquito nets have been distributed.

FRCS volunteers also support communities in cleaning up and creates awareness on the importance of keeping their environment clean.

Rat bait was distributed in high-risk areas (along with direction for safe use) to reduce the risk of spread of leptospirosis. To date, 957 containers of rat bait have been distributed across the 255 communities.

Volunteers were equipped with personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gumboots, raincoats etc. To protect them from any exposure of risk to LTDD and injuries from hazardous work areas especially post TC Ana, volunteers will wear necessary safety gear like gloves, boots, etc.

Health Outcome 6: The psychosocial impacts of the emergency are lessened

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached by Psychosocial support (PSS)	1,000	134

Health Output 6.1: Psychosocial support provided to the target population as well as to RCRC volunteers and staff

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of staff/volunteers briefed/trained on psychological first aid (PFA)	200	15

Progress towards outcomes

A key lesson learnt from previous disasters, particularly TC Winston, was the need for psychosocial support (PSS) and psychological first aid (PFA). TC Yasa passed directly through the province of Bua and parts of Macuata and Cakaudrove. In the meantime, TC Ana affected both Viti Levu and parts of Vanua Levu with heavy rainfall and flooding of homes and villages. As majority of people in these areas rely on farming, the reported extensive damage to vegetation and crops meant that they have not only lost their homes but also their livelihood. As such, there is an increased need for PSS.

An immediate short PSS training was conducted by IFRC health lead for FRCS EOC staff and team leaders going to the field. Further training for branch volunteers on PFA is needed to ensure volunteers can fill in the assessment form and provide support on the ground and among their peers. Through the DREF, the FRCS will engage two counsellors (west, mostly covering maritime areas, and the north) for six months to conduct PSS support in the worst affected

areas. There is still a great need for PSS for volunteers responding to disasters. The IFRC also provides post response PSS sessions for all staff and volunteers involved in the response with FRCS.

The IFRC will support FRCS instructor to train FRCS volunteers for PFA in preparation for the next cyclone season. Dates and details of the training are currently being confirmed by FRCS Collaboration is also occurring between PFA trainers in the Pacific National Societies to support each other with online capacity building of volunteers and staff.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

People reached: 9,083

Male: 4,701

Female: 4,382

Outcome 1: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households reached with key messages to promote personal and community hygiene	4,163 (2,506)	2,004

Output 1.1: Continuous assessment of water, sanitation, and hygiene situation is carried out in targeted communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
No. of assessments/monitoring visits undertaken and shared.	50	Ongoing

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.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of families reached with household water treatment and storage awareness using existing IEC material based on IFRC's Household Water Treatment and Storage in Emergencies	4,163 (2,506)	2,004
# of families provided with water containers/jerry cans (two per family)	4,163 (2,506)	4,265
# of household water supply systems repaired and cleaned	100	Planned
# of rainwater harvesting and gravity-feed systems installed	5	Planned

Output 1.3: Adequate sanitation which meets Sphere standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to the target population

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of toilets repaired	100	De-prioritised

Output 1.4: Hygiene promotion activities which meet Sphere standards in terms of the identification and use of hygiene items provided to target population

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached by hygiene promotion activities	20,806 (12,531)	7,371

Output 1.5: Hygiene-related goods (NFIs) which meet Sphere standards and training on how to use those goods is provided to the target population

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households provided with a set of essential hygiene items	4,163 (2,506)	2,004

Progress towards outcomes

- Coordination with the WASH cluster co-leads – Fiji Ministry of Health and UNICEF – to establish an efficient data-sharing mechanism through a new 5Ws platform with the support of the IFRC IM officer.
- Rapid WASH assessments in Bua province were integrated with IFRC technical assessments, where 2,004 households were provided with hygiene kits⁸ packed in 20-litre buckets with lids.
- 4,265 households provided with water containers/jerry cans.
- 1,939 households provided with dignity kits⁹ packed in 20 litre buckets with lids.
- 7,371 households provided with leptospirosis, typhoid, dengue fever, diarrhoea (LTDD) awareness.
- Distribution of 2,400 water flasks for school children to fill clean drinking water. A further 1,200 to be distributed, currently on hold due to COVID-19 restrictions
- Provision of 15 cleaning kits¹⁰ per branch to assist in the community clean up in villages targeted for LTDD awareness.

⁸ Each hygiene kit consists of 12 body soap, 1 kg laundry soap, 1 kg washing powder, 3-piece bath towel, 6 toilet paper rolls, 2 toothpaste tubes, 6 toothbrushes, 1 pack wet wipes, 1 litre bleach, 1 pack garbage bag, 5 disposable razors, 2 solar lamps, 1 coconut oil bottle, 1 gas lighter, 1 mosquito repellent

⁹ Each dignity kit consists of 30 sanitary pads, 2 body soaps, 1 toothpaste tube, 1 toothbrush, 2 sulu wraps, 1 bath towel, 1 sulu I ra (women's skirt), 2 t-shirts, 2 combs, 1 torchlight, 1 pack batteries, 2 women underwear, 1 pair flip flop, 1 plastic Ziplock

¹⁰ Cleaning kits include: wheelbarrow, fork, pinto poly rake, cane knife, spade, bucket, broom and handle, plastic water broom, hose, tap adapter

Staff and volunteers involved in the response are briefed on basic WASH awareness in emergencies.

Hygiene awareness and messaging was not conducted by volunteers during the relief distribution operation due to the limited time in the communities. LTDD awareness was conducted in a parallel operation led by the FRCS WASH Focal Point. IEC materials translated to the main Fijian languages were printed and distributed with the awareness sessions.

Coordination with northern divisional and provincial authorities confirmed the requirement for WASH support in the form of water tanks. The FRCS deployed the WASH focal point to conduct technical assessment to confirm number of supported water tanks. The provincial water authority supported the assessment. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with each community to confirm they would provide gravel and support the building of bases for the water tanks. Through coordination with the provincial government and WAF, a total of 71 water tanks (10,000 L and 5,000 L) were confirmed for phase one, and the procurement was completed to purchase order stage prior to operation suspension because of the restrictions put in place by the Fijian government due to the outbreak of COVID.



Installation of handwashing station at a school, Macuata
(Photo: FRCS)

Recently, FRCS have received approval to restart the remaining activities of the operation and to deploy a small team of personnel to provide technical support to complete the WASH activity in Vanua Levu. Whilst waiting for the team to complete the COVID protocols that MoH require prior to deployment to Vanua Levu, a second team of three carpenters and the Northern Divisional manager are completing further technical assessment in the targeted communities. This is being done to verify needs based on the previous technical assessment for phase one, due to the period of time since the previous technical assessment was completed in March (prior to lockdown), also to confirm requirements in communities that were identified to be supported as part of phase two of the water tank activity, that has been delayed due to the COVID outbreak.

The total number of water tanks to be installed will be confirmed through the technical assessment. The team is due to complete all technical assessment and first phase of procurement by end of August in order to commence construction of water tank bases prior to delivery and installation of water tanks.

Construction will also be supported by the second team from Suva and labour support from the communities. It is planned for the activity to be completed by the end of October, allowing for the procurement, manufacture and delivery of water tanks from Viti Levu to Vanua Levu as supply is not available in Vanua Levu.

The activity for water tank support to communities and households will be implemented through funding from other donors. This will be complimentary to the planned activity supporting rainwater harvesting and repairs to water supply within this operation.

Initial priority for water filter distribution was provided to primary schools and early childhood education centres. To date a total of 437 water filters have been provided to classrooms in 87 schools in Vanua Levu. The next priority is to provide water filters to affected households based on the analysis of the recovery assessment. Up to 325 households were identified for this support. These households lacked access to clean water and met the targeting criteria (PLWD, single headed households, elderly 70+). Local procurement and distribution are planned to occur when the situation allows, once current restrictions from the COVID-19 outbreak are lifted.

As previously reported, FRCS have de-prioritised the repair/construction of household latrines. The Ministry of Health is undertaking construction of latrines in the communities targeted by FRCS, and the FRCS has limited technical capacity in this area. The budget allocated for household latrines is to be reallocated to increase the number of community and household water tanks being supported by FRCS.



Protection, Gender and Inclusion

People reached: 4,097

Male: 2,091

Female: 2,006

PGI Outcome 1: Communities become more peaceful, safe and inclusive through meeting the needs and rights of the most vulnerable.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Distribution of dignity kits, baby kits and disability kits to those in need	500	513 dignity kits 181 baby kits

Output 1.1: Programmes and operations ensure safe and equitable provision of basic services, considering different needs based on gender and other diversity factors.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Does the operation demonstrate evidence of addressing the specific needs to ensure equitable access to disaster response services?	Yes	Ongoing

Progress towards outcomes

Initial assessments from national situational reports and aerial images indicated several areas of interest for Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI). In the most seriously affected communities, families lost their homes and livelihoods which may increase risk to social issues, exposing vulnerable people to further risk. People experiencing family violence, persons with disabilities, people identifying as LGBTQIA+, elderly and children are at greatest risk if protection and inclusion is not effectively integrated throughout the response.

The FRCS previously trained approximately 40 volunteers from its three main divisions (North, West & Central-Eastern) on PGI mainstreaming during an emergency. Other topics included Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV), and Child Protection and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

In line with the above, FRCS incorporates Sex, Age and Disability Disaggregated Data in its initial assessments to better capture the needs of people affected and tailor their response with the aim of meeting such needs. Collection of data will assist FRCS in identifying vulnerable groups which may need further intervention and protection.

To assist in safeguarding people, FRCS provided SGBV referral IEC materials in the form of a pocket cards containing pertinent information and contact of essential service providers such the legal services, police, medical and counselling.

Distribution occurred for 513 dignity kits and 183 baby kits (For each kit, one per HH). Local procurement was completed for a further 200 baby kits and 200 disability kits. These kits are ready for distribution based on the analysis of the secondary assessment conducted by FRCS. Unfortunately, these kits could not be transported from Suva to the branches for distribution due to COVID restrictions in place. Now that FRCS has approval from MoH to continue with remaining activities, final coordination is underway for transportation and distribution of the items.

Local procurement is also in progress for 1,244 family kits for replenishment of pre-position stocks.

To support the WASH community water tanks installation, solar streetlights are also under procurement. The solar streetlights will be placed with each water tank to provide safe lighting for the community water points. The procurement and installation will be completed once technical assessment confirms total numbers required.

Strategies for Implementation

Outcome 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.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of NS volunteers that receive briefing and trainings	250	Ongoing

Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of NS volunteers that are insured	250	Ongoing
Output S2.1.6: Coordinating role of the IFRC within the international humanitarian system is enhanced		
Red Cross actively contributes to shelter coordination	Yes	Yes
Outcome S3.1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable.		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues.	Yes	Yes
Output S3.1.1: IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues		
NS is pro-active on social media	Yes	Yes
Indicators	Target	Actual
Programmatic reach is expanded (Target: yes)	Yes	Ongoing
Output S4.1.4: Staff security is prioritized in all IFRC activities		
BCP is activated and actively monitored	Yes	Yes
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>FRCS currently has 228 active and insured volunteers of which 64 are currently engaged in the response. It is anticipated that a total of 250 volunteers will be needed for the response. A volunteer drive conducted after TC Yasa attracted over 1,300 applications. The FRCS is provided inductions to new volunteers, and an IFRC youth and volunteer senior officer provided support to FRCS to scale-up their volunteer management supports and systems.</p> <p>As volunteer insurance expired in December, DREF funds provided insurance coverage for 250 volunteers from January 2021.</p> <p>The IFRC CCD Suva shelter team supported coordination of the Fiji shelter cluster, and to represent the Pacific shelter cluster as a part of the Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT). A number of shelter cluster meetings were held for this response (with IFRC supporting the government lead, the Ministry of Housing and Community Development, and joint co-lead Habitat for Humanity Fiji). Regular contributions were made to the coordination meetings for the PHT and national-level inter-cluster coordination meetings organized and chaired by the Fiji NDMO. Information management support by IFRC was also provided to the Fiji shelter cluster in the form of the dissemination and collation of 5Ws for the TC Yasa / Ana response, which highlighted needs, gaps and geographical working areas of shelter agencies in Fiji. A webpage has been set up for this response on the Global Shelter Cluster website https://www.sheltercluster.org/response/tc-yasa-2020.</p> <p>FRCS and IFRC also worked together with the Fiji Cash Working Group in developing the minimum expenditure basket and the standardization of grant values in order to conduct the pilot multipurpose cash programme through other donor funding.</p> <p>The FRCS has contributed to many publications, news outlets, media and interviews to communicate the situation and what the Red Cross undertook during its response. Social media was actively updated and tracked. FRCS actively contributed to national coordination mechanisms and planning.</p> <p>The programmatic reach of the FRCS is being expanded through the CVA activity in progress, and through ongoing improvements to EOC procedure and capacity building support provided to the branches.</p> <p>The IFRC BCP was successfully activated from 15 December till 20 December 2020 when it returned to the white phase with no damage or injuries to IFRC staff or assets. It was then activated again due to the COVID outbreak from late April and remains in place due to ongoing covid situation and government restrictions.</p>		

D. Financial Report

Total budget (CHF 676,325) and budget lines remain the same as the second allocation. Total expenditure to date stands at CHF 316,985. Closing balance stands at CHF 359,340, which will be utilized for remaining operational activities. A financial report is attached at the end of the report.

Reference documents



Click here for:

- [Imminent DREF Operation](#)

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

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- **In IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Delegation:** Alice Ho, partnerships in emergencies coordinator; email: PartnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org

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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**.

DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2020/12-2021/7	Operation	MDRFJ005
Budget Timeframe	2020/12-2021/8	Budget	APPROVED

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 18/Aug/2021

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRFJ005 - Fiji - Tropical Cyclone Yasa

Operating Timeframe: 16 Dec 2020 to 31 Aug 2021

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	676,325
DREF Allocations	676,325
Expenditure	-316,985
Closing Balance	359,340

II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction		259	-259
AOF2 - Shelter	129,943	11,450	118,493
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs			0
AOF4 - Health	48,500		48,500
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	202,762	14,433	188,329
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	54,584		54,584
AOF7 - Migration	479		479
Area of focus Total	436,269	26,142	410,127
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	143,823	257,991	-114,168
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	88,805	29,089	59,716
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	6,949	2,802	4,147
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	479	960	-481
Strategy for implementation Total	240,056	290,843	-50,787
Grand Total	676,325	316,985	359,341

DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2020/12-2021/7	Operation	MDRFJ005
Budget Timeframe	2020/12-2021/8	Budget	APPROVED

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 18/Aug/2021

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRFJ005 - Fiji - Tropical Cyclone Yasa

Operating Timeframe: 16 Dec 2020 to 31 Aug 2021

III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	370,762	25,332	345,431
Shelter - Relief	78,525	2,587	75,938
Clothing & Textiles	11,677	1,313	10,363
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	229,654	2,897	226,757
Medical & First Aid	2,430		2,430
Teaching Materials	4,050		4,050
Utensils & Tools	15,462	8,488	6,974
Other Supplies & Services	28,964	10,046	18,918
Land, vehicles & equipment	1,125	1,294	-169
Computers & Telecom	1,125		1,125
Office & Household Equipment		1,294	-1,294
Logistics, Transport & Storage	82,305	24,697	57,608
Storage		3,550	-3,550
Distribution & Monitoring	51,210		51,210
Transport & Vehicles Costs	19,575	21,147	-1,572
Logistics Services	11,520		11,520
Personnel	89,595	74,443	15,152
National Society Staff	20,520	26,799	-6,279
Volunteers	69,075	47,644	21,431
Workshops & Training	21,915	54	21,861
Workshops & Training	21,915	54	21,861
General Expenditure	69,345	13,023	56,322
Travel	12,375	3,434	8,941
Information & Public Relations	10,395	3,514	6,881
Office Costs	6,075	2,336	3,739
Communications		322	-322
Financial Charges	450	486	-36
Other General Expenses	40,050	2,932	37,118
Operational Provisions		158,795	-158,795
Operational Provisions		158,795	-158,795
Indirect Costs	41,278	19,347	21,932
Programme & Services Support Recover	41,278	19,347	21,932
Grand Total	676,325	316,985	359,341