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FINAL REPORT

Central African Republic: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation	Operation n° MDRCF027
Date of issue: 15 June 2022	Glide number: FL-2021-000123-CAF
Operation start date : 26 August 2021	Operation end date: November 30, 2021
Host National Society: Central African Red Cross (CARC)	Budget: CHF 238,885
Number of affected people: 4,120 people (824 HH)	Number of people reached: 3,605
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) French red Cross (FRC) and The Netherlands Red Cross (NLRC)	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: MoHAS, and OCHA	

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

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of Disaster

On 7 August 2021, torrential rains fell on Bangui and its surroundings from 2pm to 10pm. Ten (10) neighborhoods in the 6th arrondissement and six (6) in Bimbo were severely affected, as well as the towns of Birao in the north and Baoro in the west of the country, affecting a total of around 799 households (3,952 people). Assessments conducted by Central African Red Cross (CAR) volunteers in Bangui, Bimbo and Bossongo village revealed that around 721 households are affected. There has been only one case of injury.



Destroyed houses in Bossongo (©Bossongo CARC local committee)

Since then, the rains had never stopped falling almost every day and the situation in the exposed areas was becoming increasingly serious. After the first month of the operation, the flooding had stopped in Bossongo café, and the number of people affected had not changed.

In the sixth arrondissement and in Bimbo, the water continued to affect new neighborhoods. The Ministry of Humanitarian Action and its partners had to update the lists of affected people on two occasions.

A total of 824 households, or approximately 4,120 people, were affected, including 2019 men, 2101 women, 2,307 children, 48 pregnant women, 172 nursing mothers and 23 elderly people. The extent of the damage was important and included 288 destroyed houses, 185 partially destroyed houses, 112 destroyed water wells, 130 destroyed or flooded latrines. Personal equipment (kitchen utensils and bedding) were destroyed by the floods. Of the 824 households affected, 725 found refuge in host families.

Faced with this situation, the Minister of Humanitarian Action organized a meeting with all the departments concerned by the issue and the partners on 14 August 2021. During this meeting, three main orientations were given:

- Provide immediate assistance to those affected,
- Organize the evacuation of water in the affected areas;
- Search for sustainable solutions for areas with recurrent flooding.

A formal request for assistance was then sent on 16 August 2021 to humanitarian partners, justifying this DREF request. Prior to the above event, from 26 to 27 July 2021, four villages in Bossongo/Café, 60 km from Bangui, experienced flooding following heavy rains that continued until 31 July. The town councilor and village leaders counted at least 50 houses totally or partially destroyed, and material goods destroyed. About 250 people were left homeless and are living with host families. Following the Central African Red Cross Society (CARCS) newsletter, a counter-assessment mission was carried out by the head of the disaster management department assisted by the IFRC emergency team. Six (6) volunteers from Bossongo were mobilized for this counter assessment. The IFRC, in agreement with the CARCS and other stakeholders, made arrangements to assist affected population. This year, unlike 2019, the rains were not very abundant from September and October.

SUMMARY OF RESPONSE

Overview of the Operating National Society Response Actions

As initial actions, CARCS has mobilised the local committee volunteers, the CDRT, NDRT members, and disaster management officers to conduct rapid need assessment in the affected localities with the support of IFRC as detailed on the EPoA. A total of three assessments missions were conducted, simultaneously covering all the affected localities:

- one rapid assessment in Bossongo-café village, and counted 50 affected families (250 people) out of a population of over 12,000;
- a second assessment conducted in the 6th arrondissement of Bangui and in Bimbo
- and in the same period, in Birao and Baoro, the local CARCS committees also conducted rapid needs assessments after mobilising 20 and 15 volunteers, respectively.

To carry those assessments, a team of 30 CARCS volunteers composed of members of the National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) under the direction of the disaster managers of the local committees was mobilized. The technical managers of the CARCS (National Director of Disaster Management and National Director of the Department of Health), with the support of the IFRC, produced two information bulletins which were shared on the GO platform and participated in emergency meetings convened by the Minister of Humanitarian Action and National Reconciliation who was responsible for the management of this emergency operation.

The various assessment reports have served to develop the proposed EPoA launched on 27 August 2021.

With this DREF allocation, the National Society (NS) has deployed more human resources to provide assistance to affected households identified. The volunteers were the key actors implementing planned activities within the communities. There was a strong community-based approach which facilitated restoration activities. CARC with its volunteers planned and implemented interventions using resources at their disposal or those mobilized bilaterally within and outside the Movement. These activities were an excellent opportunity for teams in Bangui and Bossongo to learn about various programmatic approaches such as community engagement and accountability, protection, gender, and inclusion and enabled CARCS branches to integrate these elements into future programs. The following key actions were implemented by CARCS:

- Providing assistance and first aid to the most vulnerable
- Helping 569 families to build their temporary shelters with trained volunteers mobilized to support construction with necessary material provided per Households (wood, tarpaulins, nails, shelter kits)
- Raise community awareness of key public health issues, promotion of barrier actions reached more than planned 3,605 people. Both host and affected communities benefit from sensitization. Gender-based violence awareness messages has been streamlined in the sensitization activities and a distribution of 450 dignity kit has been completed
- Conduct hygiene promotion for 8 weeks
- Providing psycho-social support to the affected families
- 721 most vulnerable households received material assistance among the 824 finally identified as affected by the floods during the operation. Based on the vulnerability criteria developed in the EPoA, CARCS provided:

kits for sleeping (1,138 nates), lighting (721 lamps), cooking kits (569 kits), 1,442 buckets (2 per family) for water supply, 1,442 jerry cans (2 per family), soap (5pc per family), personal hygiene kits (01 per family), mosquito nets

- 10 Water point was rehabilitated, and 72 wells were treated with adequate material and chlorine community participation.

In a coordinated manner, the national president of the CARCS, the IFRC head of delegation, the French Red Cross, and the Dutch Red Cross participated in the emergency meetings convened by the Prime Minister, head of government. Following a coordination meeting held on 13 August 2021 and facilitated by OCHA, these technical officials conducted a needs assessment of the situation in collaboration with national and international NGOs to harmonize the figures with each other. The two local committees of Bimbo and Bangui participated in meetings organized by the local authorities on this disaster.

Overview of Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in country

The Central African Republic has had an IFRC Country Delegation based in Bangui since August 2013. This delegation is piloting several projects, the most important of which are: the project to restructure the health system in CAR (RSS) financed by the KFW and the expanded programme on immunization (EPI) project in 13 health districts of the country. It is also carrying out activities to respond to COVID 19 and to prepare for a possible Ebola epidemic with the support of the World Bank and UNICEF. During the assistance operation, all flood-affected households with vulnerable people were targeted for action against COVID 19. Masks, soap, and hand-washing kits were distributed to them. The affected areas in Bangui are bordering the DRC. Communities living in these neighbourhoods have been sensitized on preventive measures against EVD.

The ICRC has had a permanent presence in CAR since 2007 with its main office in Bangui and sub-offices currently in Ndele, Kaga Bandoro, Bouar and Bambari. ICRC carries out activities mostly in partnership with the CARCS. These activities include response, preparedness, livelihood support project, water and sanitation, visits to detainees, RFL and promotion of IHL compliance. According to information from the NS, the ICRC intends to assist flood-affected populations in the areas of its sub-delegations. These are the flood-affected people of Baoro and Birao.

There are also the participating National Societies (PNS): the Dutch Red Cross, which carries out activities in the field of response preparedness (RPIL) and peacebuilding; the French Red Cross, which has a delegation in Bangui and a sub-office in Berberati, carries out activities in the field of health and psycho-social support; and the SBGV sexual based gender violence.

From the start of this response, the CARCS works in close collaboration with each component of the Movement. Movement partners in Bangui hold coordination meetings to share information on activities carried out and deal with security issues.

There was a strategic-level coordination meeting that brought together the heads of IFRC delegation around the CARC chairperson and a technical coordination meeting that brought together the operational departments. In a coordinated manner, Movement partners participated in emergency meetings convened by the Minister for Humanitarian Action. Eight (8) coordination meetings were held with the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and 5 with the movement partners. These meetings enabled all stakeholders to be on the same level of information.

Overview of other actors' actions in country

- In Bossongo, the municipal councillor and the local chiefs of villages visited the affected villages to provide moral support to the people affected.
- In Bangui, the Prime Minister, Head of Government, and the Minister of Humanitarian Action, Solidarity and National Reconciliation visited the affected areas on Sunday 8 August 21 to see the damage and provide moral support to those affected. A meeting was convened at the Ministry of Humanitarian Action bringing together the Bangui City Council, OCHA, the CARCS and the IFRC; this meeting was chaired by the Director of Cabinet. Two points were discussed: assistance to disaster victims and the cleaning of rainwater collectors and canals. An inter-cluster meeting was convened at the OCHA office to discuss the intervention of the clusters in favour of flood affected populations. Regularly, clear guidelines on assistance were formulated (for the CARC), particularly in the area of hygiene promotion. In addition, a contribution from UNHCR and UNICEF has been made through the provision of tarpaulins.

Needs Analysis and Scenario Planning

The initial assessment data produced by the local Red Cross committees of Bimbo, the 6th Arrondissement of Bangui and the village committee of Bossongo with the support of the IFRC, remained generally the same. Only the total affected population changed based on the reconciliation with the list from the government. 103 new households were affected, bringing the total to 824 HH, or 4,120 people from 3,605 people initially identified. But damaged registered and need

analysis done following the initial assessment was the same. Needs were in relief/distribution, emergency shelter, sanitation and hygiene promotion, health and psychosocial support, protection, and disaster risk reduction (DRR).

From the projected scenario detailed in the EPoA, the operation within the context of scenario 1 (the most likely) and DREF resources were sufficient to assist the targeted people. The rains decreased in intensity and stopped after several days. River floodwaters receded and puddles in neighborhoods and villages dried up. Many displaced people returned to their homes. The impact on individuals was not significant, but there was loss of livelihoods and displacement due to the loss of homes. Several neighborhoods and villages both in Bangui and in the country's provinces are potentially prone to flooding at the height of the rainy season from July to October. This vulnerability is due both to the lack of adequate urbanization to facilitate rainwater runoff and to household waste that clogs drains and prevents rainwater runoff. In addition to these causes, climate change is causing heavier and more violent rains, flooding several neighborhoods and villages.

The rapid response actions taken in this DREF response were sufficient to mitigate the immediate short-term effects. CARCS volunteers continued to provide first aid and relief to those affected through this DREF operation.

Find detailed analysis and scenario in the EPoA [here](#).

Risk Analysis

The main risks to the operation were:

i. **Violence/security:** Throughout the period of the operation, the security situation remained unstable throughout the country, particularly in the axes linking the major towns. The presence of residual elements of armed groups created serious risks for humanitarian actors. Cases of violence linked to these residual elements of armed groups were reported in the Bambari region, where trucks carrying goods were attacked. In addition, fighting with these residual armed groups was reported in the Bossangoa area in the north-east. This has significantly reduced access to the interior of the country and the supply of items to assist vulnerable people. Bangui and its outskirts, and the area around the village of Bossongo-café, remained calm, thus facilitating the implementation of the operation. The IFRC and ICRC security units regularly shared security information during Movement meetings, which facilitated the movement of the operation team.

ii. **Unpredictability:** Convoy attacks on axes and violence continued on provincial axes. This context required increased agility in decision making and management of the operation. The announcement of the dialogue excluding the still active armed groups provoked their discontent. At political level, the decision to lift the parliamentary immunity of certain deputies caused unrest within the political class. The IFRC's security unit constantly assessed the situation prior to any trip to the field.

iii. **Disasters:** The rainy season ended towards the end of November. The rains were less regular and less abundant. However, the situation has still being monitored.

iv. **Road conditions:** The incessant rains have damaged roads and tracks that were already in very poor condition. The road that passes through the village of Bossongo-café is paved and has facilitated the transport of assistance kits and training and supervision missions.

v. **The COVID-19** pandemic continued in the country throughout the period of the operation. Fortunately, the deterioration in the living conditions of those affected did not aggravate the spread of the epidemic in Bossongo village, Bimbo, and the 6th arrondissement of Bangui.

B. STRATEGIE OF OPERATION

Proposed strategy

The overall objective of the operation was to contribute to the improvement of the living conditions of 3,605 people (721 households) affected by the floods in the 6th arrondissement of Bangui, Bimbo, and Bossongo-café village.

Beneficiaries of the operation:

The selection of beneficiaries was done on the basis of vulnerability criteria detailed in the targeting section of the EPoA. This selection was done by mutual agreement with community leaders, district leaders, local authorities and the affected population who were involved throughout the identification process.

Priority was given to:

- People directly affected by the floods (totally or partially destroyed houses, and loss of property and livelihoods).
- Children, pregnant or breastfeeding women, the elderly, disabled people are considered to be more vulnerable.

Host populations and communities were included in this intervention, as they host IDPs while having very limited resources themselves. Host communities are collateral victims, and it was necessary to extend the support of the Red Cross to these host communities to prevent tensions and conflicts between host populations and displaced persons. Activities such as decontamination of water points and disinfection of settlements benefited both displaced and host communities. In addition, all hygiene dissemination and promotion activities (health, washing) and psychosocial support activities also reached the host populations, to increase their impact and sustainability.

Based on the rapid needs assessment carried out by volunteers from the local Red Cross committees in the 6th arrondissement of Bangui, Bimbo and Bossongo, the most urgent activities consisted of providing relief through the distribution of household items, assisting in the construction of emergency shelters, participating in hygiene and sanitation activities, providing food and shelter to the most vulnerable, participating in hygiene and sanitation activities, distributing mosquito nets and helping to attach them, raising awareness of health promotion and the various risks of potential epidemics, hygiene promotion and sexual and gender-based violence.

The Central African Red Cross Society (CARCS) is committed to working with all actors on the ground and involving the affected community to facilitate ownership of the actions to be taken. The National Society's Regional Disaster Response Team (NDRT), led by the head of the disaster management department, trained the volunteers involved in the implementation of the operation. The Bossongo volunteers were trained from 05 to 09 October 2021. The main themes of the training were those retained in the DREF, namely: shelter distribution and construction techniques, hygiene promotion awareness, health promotion awareness and psycho-social support, sexual violence, and gender-based violence. The learners were CDRT volunteers trained with the support of the Dutch Red Cross. The training in Bossongo was launched in the presence of the municipal councilor of the commune of Pissa, to which the village Bossongo-café belongs. It was an opportunity to explain to him the intervention of the CARCS in favour of the disaster affected populations in his locality.

The same training sessions were organized in the 6th district and Bimbo committee premises. A total of 70 volunteers were trained, distributed as follows: Bossogo committee: 20; Bimbo committee: 25 and 6th arrondissement committee: 25. The training sessions were monitored by the IFRC emergency coordination office. This enabled the collection of data that was shared during Movement meetings and in the Clusters.

One of the main lessons learned was the strong involvement of local authorities, especially in Bossongo-café (village chiefs and municipal councillors).

As the rains were not as heavy as in 2019, the needs of the affected households and people have not changed much, and the strategy detailed in the PoA remain unchanged. This involved:

Shelter and household items (target: 3,605 people or 721 households):

- Support the provision of emergency shelter for the 569 most vulnerable households (50 in Bossongo and 519 in Bangui and Bimbo). These people were targeted according to the level of destruction and damage to their homes, as most of those whose homes were damaged were not able to return immediately to their flooded homes. The following activities were carried out:
 - Provision of emergency shelter to all targeted families including 1,707 tarpaulins (3 per family), 2,163 mosquito nets (3 per family),
 - Purchase and distribution of tarpaulins for temporary shelter (3 per shelter) for 569 families
 - Acquisition of shelter tool kits (hammer, saw, rope, knife, and spikes), 1 per family, available in the CAR Delegation's stocks,
 - Purchase of local materials for shelter construction (slats, red wood rafters),
 - Purchase of nails, string, etc. for the construction/rehabilitation of emergency shelters for destroyed houses,
 - Distribute household items to 50 households in Bossongo, 300 households in the 6th arrondissement of Bangui and 216 households in Bimbo, i.e., 569 households (2,845 people) identified as the most vulnerable, including 1,138 blankets (2 per family), 1,138 mattresses (2 per family) and 569 kitchen kits (one per family),
 - Purchase and distribute 721 solar lamps (1 per household) to all targeted families
 - Mobilize 30 volunteers and 6 supervisors for 20 days to support the construction of emergency shelters. They were trained before being deployed for this work. The volunteers were distributed as follows for the shelter activities: 10 in Bimbo, 5 in Bossongo and 15 in the 6th arrondissement of Bangui.



Minister for Humanitarian Action at the launch of the distribution in Bimbo

Health reached 37,900 people

CARCS deployed the below response to cover health needs in the affected communities:

- Ensure health and hygiene promotion in flooded neighborhoods and villages (6 awareness-raising sessions on individual hygiene and collection in each of the affected neighborhoods, CRCA volunteers helped the communities during the 3 sanitation sessions carried out in each zone, cleaning and disinfection of water points, rehabilitation of wells),
- Provide psychosocial assistance to the most affected people as needed, In total, 52 people received psychological first aid and 11 people were referred to care structures.
- Provide specific assistance to women and the elderly and/or disabled as needed. A total of 32 elderly, 13 disabled were identified and have benefit from DREF assistance,
- Provide mosquito nets (2 per family) to 721 households to prevent the spread of malaria as stagnant water is a breeding ground for mosquitoes that transmit the disease,
- Collect data on outbreaks in communities isolated from health centres, including ACT and malaria,
- Assess the nutritional status of children, pregnant women and refer them to nutrition services if necessary.

Water, Hygiene and Sanitation (Target: 3,605 people or 721 households)

As planned, wash activities have started with training sessions. Volunteers were trained in hygiene promotion, water, and sanitation thematics and best approach to support the affected communities early in October 2021. The response implemented by volunteers has also support in accessing safe drinking water according to Sphere standards and helping them to weed the area around huts/houses where water had receded, and to disinfect flooded latrines and wells. The 721 HH splited between Bossongo, Bimbo and the 6th arrondissement of Bangui have received the following in-kind support:

- 1,442 buckets (2 per family) for water supply, 1,442 jerry cans (2 per family) for transporting and storing water for all 721 targeted households. Drinking water is accessible to the communities in the host areas thanks to the boreholes in Bossongo and the SODECA (Société Publique de Distribution d'Eau) water supply system in the 6th arrondissement of Bangui. These drinking water infrastructures were not destroyed by the floods.
- Chlorine and disinfectant for 72 flooded traditional wells in the 3 targeted sites.
- 10 community water points were rehabilitated in the targeted towns in the affected areas. This involved the construction of concrete slabs and coping stones to sanitize the area around these community water points.
- 10,815 pieces of soap 250g for all targeted families for 3 months (5 pieces per family per month).
- Hygiene kits for personal family hygiene (1 per household) for 721 households and handwashing kits consisting of: handwashing device base, 15-liter bucket, 12-liter basin and soap guard plus soap.
- Dignity kits to 450 women and girls of childbearing age, for use over three months. Each kit contains sanitary towels, women's pants and bras, and bath soap for women and girls.

In addition to the distributed items to the affected households, CARCS, sanitation equipment has been purchased to enable volunteers to support environment clean up. 15 sanitation kits provided to local committee volunteers were used to conduct sanitation activities all the long of the operation with communities. The kits comprise sleet, sprayers, chlorine, sanitation kits to disinfect water points and latrines that were flooded.

Forty (40) volunteers (20 in Bangui, 10 in Bossongo and 10 in Bimbo) were deployed to support the implementation of WASH and Health activities. These volunteers worked under the supervision of two members of the National Disaster

Response Team (NDRT). They conducted sensitization sessions with communication tools distributed to communities: leaflets, posters and picture boxes were used by volunteers for awareness raising sessions.

All activities were carried out under the coordination of the head of the CARCS disaster management department and the monitoring of the IFRC emergency coordination.

Beneficiaries were involved in disinfecting their latrines and cleaning gutters to facilitate rainwater drainage.

One of the lessons learned for the WASH activities is the great satisfaction of the local authorities with the weeding activities in the neighborhoods/villages and the cleaning of gutters to facilitate rainwater drainage.

Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI):

Training on sexual and gender-based violence was provided to volunteers in Bossongo from 7 to 8 October 2021 and to volunteers in Bimbo and the 6th arrondissement of Bangui from 11 to 12 October 2021. Forty-eight (48) female volunteers out of 80 (60%) were involved in the implementation of the DREF. No serious cases of SGBV were reported in Bossongo-café, Bimbo, and the 6th arrondissement of Bangui. Thus, PGI was mainstreamed in all sectors of intervention. The Gender and diversity have been respected during the implementation. Assistance had targeted the most vulnerable beneficiaries including female-headed households, children, and people with disabilities.

Other aspects examined included the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence and the protection of children.

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA):

CEA has been integrated at all levels throughout the operation to ensure maximum and meaningful participation of affected communities and local and administrative authorities.

The Bossongo village chiefs and the municipal councillor participated and gave their opinion throughout the distribution and sensitization process during the interviews conducted at the final evaluation of the operation.

CARCS established a feedback mechanism to collect and respond to beneficiaries' comments and complaints. This mechanism was defined as follows: beneficiaries were told to send SMS and/or make phone calls to the number of the Heads of Department for Communication and Disaster Management stating their complaint. The two heads of department were able to provide responses as needed. The most serious complaints were analyzed for corrective actions. Complaints are also expressed to the supervisors during sensitization activities on health and hygiene promotion. Communities were informed of the existence of the feedback mechanism, its use, and the role of volunteers in the feedback process.

Most of the complaints were about the number of people assisted (3,605) compared to the total number of people affected (4,120) in the villages/neighborhoods. As not all of the people affected (4,120) could be assisted, targeting was carried out on the basis of the criteria adopted by the Ministry of Humanitarian Action (households headed by single women, the disabled, the frail or children).

In addition, IEC materials were produced for hygiene promotion awareness activities and family protection measures against communicable diseases including COVID-19.

In Bangui, the Minister of Humanitarian Action, together with the representative of the mayor of Bimbo, five neighborhood chiefs, the national president of the CARCS and the IFRC Cluster Leader, presided over the distributions in Bimbo. The Director of Cabinet of the same Ministry also presided over the distributions in the 6th arrondissement of Bangui.

Operational support services

Human resources: 70 volunteers (30 for shelter, 40 for health and WASH awareness support) were actually involved in the operation with 3 supervisors. The Head of Disaster Management Department, 3 RDRT members, disaster management officers from local committees and 2 drivers were also involved in the implementation of DREF. They were all covered by the DREF budget.

Logistics: All necessary items were purchased on the national market. According to the IFRC office logistics coordinator, the items exist on the national market, and she has a short list of suppliers who have already delivered for the office. The ICRC has household kits in stock that has been distributed to the affected communities in Biraó and Baoro.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER):

The IFRC CAR office does not have a PMER team, and this responsibility is assumed by the Programme Coordinator. The emergency coordinator and logistics assistant supported the CARCS disaster management department to ensure proper follow-up of this operation.



Group work in the lessons learned workshop

A post-distribution survey was conducted to assess the effectiveness and relevance of the assistance provided to beneficiaries. The survey revealed that the assistance did not cover all disaster affected people, especially in the 6th arrondissement of Bangui.

A two-day workshop on lessons learned was organized at the CARCS headquarters from 15 to 16 November 2021. This workshop brought together the beneficiaries of the aid (1 from Bimbo and 1 from the 6th arrondissement of Bangui), two executives from the Ministry of Humanitarian Action, an executive from the Directorate General of Civil Protection (DGPC), an executive from the Directorate General of Meteorology, a representative of the reflection committee on the national disaster risk reduction strategy based at the Prime Minister's Office, the IFRC Emergency Coordinator, the volunteers, and the DREF management team. The main lessons learned from the operation are:

- Volunteers who are easily mobilized and available facilitate the timely completion of activities.
- Respect for the fundamental principles of the Red Cross and the Code of Conduct by volunteers during activities guarantees integrity and behaviour on the ground.
- The strong involvement of the authorities at district level (Mayor and district chiefs of the 6th arrondissement and Bimbo), village level (Pissa municipal councillor living in Bossongo) and ministerial level (Minister of Humanitarian Action, his Director of Cabinet and the executives of the Directorate of Humanitarian Action) avoids conflicts and facilitates their resolution in case of occurrence.
- Good involvement of beneficiaries during the assessment and distribution of the kits creates the conditions for the success of the operation.
- Good information sharing between stakeholders puts partners on the same level of information and avoids conflict situations.
- The purchase of the kits at national level saved time.

Communication and visibility:

To support volunteers in their mission and the visibility of the Red Cross actions in the field, protection and visibility kits have been purchased for the volunteers. These included: 146 bibs and caps, 73 mackintoshes and 73 pairs of boots and gloves with the logo of the NS.

Finance and administration:

The CARCS finance and administration officer under the supervision of the Secretary General was responsible for all financial transactions with the support of the IFRC delegation's finance coordinator. IFRC financial procedures were fully implemented.

An MoU was signed between the IFRC and the CARCS on 20 September 2021 and set out the clauses for the implementation of the DREF.

Security:

The security situation in CAR remained very volatile and could deteriorate as a result of simple statements by politicians or corporatist demands. The preparation of a so-called republican dialogue excluded the armed groups, which risked inflaming the situation. The process of lifting the immunity of three opposition parliamentarians created a poisonous political climate.

The CARCS, with the support of the IFRC and the other Movement partners, had always committed itself to respecting all security rules throughout the country, including in the flooded areas (6th arrondissement of Bangui, Bimbo and Bossongo). Volunteers and all staff involved in the implementation of the DREF were provided with bibs with the NS logo and were insured. Volunteers and staff on mission outside Bangui were always briefed on the security situation by the delegation's security unit. During the mission, they were in constant contact with the IFRC radio room. Vehicles with Red Cross emblem travelled in a minimum convoy of two vehicles.

To reduce the risk of Movement staff becoming victims of crime, violence or road hazards, active risk mitigation measures have been adopted. These include monitoring the security situation and implementing security guidelines. All Movement staff (CARCS and IFRC volunteers and staff) actively involved in operations have completed the respective IFRC online security training courses.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN



Shelter

People targeted: 3,605

Male: 1,730

Female: 1,875

Indicateurs :	Cibles	Réels
# Households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance in Bangui and Bimbo	519	519
# Households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance in Bossongo	50	50
# of people reached with distribution of basic necessities (tarpaulins, blankets, kitchen kits, mats, and solar lamps)	2,845 (569 HH)	2,845 (569 HH)
# of solar lamps provided for households	721	721
# of volunteers trained/retrained in shelter construction techniques	30	30
% of beneficiaries who confirm that their shelter needs have been met	80	70
Achievements		
<p>All targeted households in Bossongo (50), Bimbo and the 6th arrondissement of Bangui (519) were provided with emergency shelter construction kits. 30 volunteers were trained in temporary shelter construction techniques to assist affected populations (10 in Bossongo, 10 in the 6th and 10 in Bimbo). Emergency shelter construction activities started first in Bossongo where the training of volunteers had begun. All targeted households were provided with kits for sleeping (1,138 nates), lighting (721 household lamps) and cooking kits. At least 10% of disaster affected people said that their emergency shelter needs had not been completely met. Feedback received from communities has highlighted that families would have liked to have had kits for the construction of durable houses, which is not possible under a DREF.</p>		
Challenges		
<p>Disaster-affected people in Bossongo, Bimbo and the 6th arrondissement of Bangui have not been relocated to one site to facilitate the construction of emergency shelters in one place. Volunteers had to circulate in the flooded neighbourhoods and villages to help with the construction of emergency shelters.</p>		
Lessons learned		
<p>Village and neighbourhood leaders have closely followed the construction of emergency shelters in their area. This shows their interest in the work of the NS in the disaster response in their villages/neighbourhoods. The planning of future DREFs should take this commitment into account.</p>		



Health

People targeted: 3,605

Male: 1,730

Female: 1,875

Indicateurs :	Cibles	Réels
# of volunteers trained on health promotion	40	40
# of people indirectly reached through health promotion messages in Bimbo	15,000	13,200
# of people indirectly reached through health promotion messages in Bossongo	1,000	900
# of people indirectly reached through health promotion messages in Bangui-6th arrondissement	25,000	24,000
# of households receiving impregnated mosquito nets	721	721
% of households able to install and have actually installed their mosquito nets	100	100

# kits de lavage de mains	N/A	721
# of people sensitized to the prevention of the COVID-19 pandemic through containment measures	N/A	30,000
% of volunteers and other people involved in the operation who participated in the psychological debriefing sessions	100	100
% of volunteers who participated in debriefing and indicate to have learnt something new after the briefing session	80	80
Achievements		
Forty (40) volunteers (10 in Bimbo, 10 in Bossongo and 20 in the committee of the 6th arrondissement of Bangui) were trained (3 sessions of 3 days in each locality) to raise awareness on health promotion.		
Volunteers from Bossongo village trained in Community-Based Surveillance as part of the KfW-funded Health System Strengthening project; carried out awareness-raising and epidemic surveillance activities. Thus, 40 volunteers (20 from the 6th arrondissement committee, 10 from the Bimbo committee and 10 from the Bossongo committee) were hired to support the implementation of first aid, malnutrition screening, health and hygiene promotion awareness and psychosocial support (PSS) to communities. They were trained from 11 to 14 October 2021. These volunteers also support the implementation of WASH activities.		
A total of 37,900 people were sensitized to health promotion in Bossongo (900), Bimbo (13,000) and the 6th arrondissement of Bangui (24,000). In Bossongo, Bimbo and the 6th arrondissement, a total of 30,000 people were sensitized on barrier measures to protect against COVID 19. No cases of epidemics have been reported in the three affected areas. When a suspected COVID 19 case was detected in Mongoumba, about 80 km from Bossongo, hence the necessity to carry out intensive sensitization activities there also and reinforced in Bossongo as well.		
Challenges		
It was not easy for volunteers to move around the flooded neighbourhoods and villages to raise awareness about health promotion because of the mud and rubble from collapsed houses.		
Lessons learned		
There has been good collaboration with health centres to manage simple cases of malaria in children who are still targeted for free treatment. The next DREFs should provide health centres in disaster areas with products for treating simple forms of malaria.		



Water, Hygiene and Sanitation

People targeted: 3,605

Male: 1,730

Female: 1,875

Indicateurs :	Cibles	Réels
% of target population reached with WASH activities	100	
#of volunteers trained on awareness raising, preventing waterborne diseases, and promoting hygiene	40	40
% of households that received the materials for drawing, transporting and conserving water	100	100
% of beneficiaries who know how to wash their hands properly	100	90
# of volunteers trained in sanitation techniques and water point cleaning and treatment	60	60
# of water points treated in flood-affected areas	67	67
# of volunteers trained in sanitation techniques	60	60
# of traditional latrines disinfected in Bossongo, Bimbo and the 6th district of Bangui	270	270
# of volunteers trained in Hygiene promotion in Bossongo, Bimbo and 6eme arrondissement	60	60
# of hygiene promotion awareness held by CARCS volunteers	67	67

% of beneficiaries reached by hygiene promotion awareness	80	60
% of beneficiary households who acknowledge that the flooded area has been freed from standing water thanks to the CARCS intervention	50	50
Number of gutters cleaned in affected areas during hygiene and sanitation sessions	50	50
# of households receiving NFIs	721	721
% of households confirming that needs in essential household items have been met	80	80
Achievements		
The quality of drinking water, latrines and concessions was severely affected by the stagnant water in the flooded neighbourhoods and villages. Thus, 60 volunteers were trained (20 in Bossongo, 20 in Bimbo and 20 in the committee of the 6th arrondissement of Bangui) and sensitised about 60% of the populations in the flooded areas on hygiene promotion. All targeted households (721) were provided with buckets (2 per family) for water supply, jerry cans (2 per family) for transporting and storing drinking water, 250g soap (5 pieces per family), dignity kits for 450 women (80 in Bossongo, 150 in Bimbo, 220 in the 6th arrondissement of Bangui). Covers have been built around 10 community water points, including 6 traditional wells in the 6th arrondissement, 2 in Bimbo and 2 in Bossongo.		
Challenges		
Community water points to be rehabilitated were badly damaged. Strong communication with the neighbourhood chiefs enabled the most damaged ones to be closed and the less damaged ones rehabilitated.		
Lessons learned		
The communities in the flooded areas have contributed greatly to the rehabilitation of the community water points. They provided most of the local materials and helped local workers by drawing water for the construction of the coping stones. Their involvement in the process enabled them to take ownership and better maintain them.		



Protection, Gender, and Inclusion

People targeted: 3,605

Male: 1,730

Female: 1,875

Indicateurs :	Cibles	Réels
# of volunteers trained on SGBV	70	70
% of GBV cases that received Psychological First Aid among those received by volunteers	100	70
% of difficult SGBV cases referred to support services	30	0
% of volunteers involved in the activities who have received a briefing on the code of conduct and have signed it	100	100
# of volunteers and staff involved in operation who signed the code of conduct	70	0
# of people affected by SGBV awareness in the intervention area	25,000	600
% of female volunteers mobilized	50	60
Achievements		
Of the 80 volunteers mobilised for the operation, 48 were women who were very brave. The managers and volunteers involved in the operation were not able to sign the CARCS Code of Conduct as it has not yet been validated by the management committee. However, they were made aware of the content of the IFRC Code of Conduct, and all signed it.		
Challenges		
The greatest challenge was the weight of socio-cultural constraints that still give men a greater place in the Central African society. CARCS used the skills of the Community Development Officers (CDAs) of the Ministry in charge of gender promotion and the protection of women, the family, and children to strengthen awareness.		
Lessons learned		
In the awareness-raising activities, there was good collaboration with the Ministry's gender officers in the field, which made it possible to cover all aspects and ensure a certain complementarity.		

Strengthen National Society

Indicators:	Cibles	Réels
Ensure that volunteers are insured	80	80
# of staff and volunteers reached by psychosocial support	80	80
Number of monthly coordination meetings held and in which IFRC/CARCS participated at the level of the Ministry of Humanitarian Action	6	5
Number of monthly meetings held by shelter, health, protection, and wash clusters in which the IFRC/CARCS participated	12	3
Number of press conferences on the operation held by the President of the CARCS	3	2

Achievements

The head of CARCS disaster management department attended five meetings at the Ministry of Humanitarian Action. The list of beneficiaries in Bimbo and especially the fourth arrondissement of Bangui was discussed. A list was produced by the neighbourhood chiefs, another one by the volunteers during the assessments. The Ministry validated the list by triangulating and basing it on one of the DREFs. Only households run by single women, the disabled and children were considered for assistance. The National President of CARCS gave two press briefings and interviews during the distributions in Bimbo. All the most listened to national radio stations and national television were invited to the press briefings and interviews with the President.

CARS and IFRC have been actively involved in clusters coordination in place in the country and this has contributed on sharing information with partners/stakeholders and smooths the implementation as well. The IFRC emergency coordination logistician participated in 2 meetings of the shelter cluster and presented the operation's emergency shelter activities (training of volunteers and support of volunteers to disaster affected populations to build their emergency shelters). The head of the CARCS's health department participated in the health cluster as part of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and took the opportunity to share the DREF's health activities (training volunteers on health promotion and prevention of epidemics and waterborne diseases). The head of the gender unit participated in the gender cluster for SGBV activities with the French Red Cross and presented DREF activities (training of volunteers to prepare them for SGBV awareness and referral of serious cases).



Press conference by the National President of the CARC

Challenges

The main challenge is the conflicting agendas at this time of response to the COVID-19 pandemic, UNICEF-funded preparedness for a possible response to the Ebola outbreak due to a case in the DRC (CAR shares a long border with that country) and the resurgence of violence in the eastern and north-western parts of the country since early October 2021.

Lessons learned

The implementation of the DREF has strengthened the visibility of the NS among the authorities of Bossongo village, Bimbo, and the neighbourhood chiefs of the 6th arrondissement of Bangui. In her speech at the launch of the

distributions in Bimbo, the Minister of Humanitarian Action stated that the CARCS always supports her department and the government during disasters.

The lessons learned during this operation were identified during a workshop that brought together all stakeholders. These are as follows:

- Easily mobilized and highly available volunteers facilitated the implementation of the operation and allowed the objectives to be achieved within the required timeframe.
- Good respect for the fundamental principles by the RACC volunteers helped to avoid conflicts and incidents that could have blocked the implementation.
- Strong involvement of authorities at the district level (Mayor and district chiefs of the 6th arrondissement and Bimbo), village level (municipal councillor of Pissa residing in Bossongo) and at the ministerial level (Minister of Humanitarian Action, his Director of Cabinet, and executives of the Directorate of Humanitarian Action) improved coordination
- Good involvement of beneficiaries during the assessment and distribution of the kits allowed for a review and clarification of certain situations that had been constraints during implementation

D. Financial report

The final financial report has been issued on May2022 with an overall balance of CHF 48,076 which will be returned to the DREF pot on the CHF 238,885 allocation. The global balance observed in the attached financial final report is mainly resulting on low prices on most of the procurement and general training costs. As for the variances, the general explanations are as follow:

III. Expenditure by budget category & group					
Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance		Variences explanations
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	146,638	130,048	16,590		
Shelter - Relief	42,679	71,231	-	-67%	Most of items were bought from the same supplier, however, they were posted in one line as such causing an artificial deficit in the various lines that they are appearing.
Construction Materials	15,760	21,925	-6,165	-39%	
Clothing & Textiles	11,615		11,615	100%	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	17,978	20,241	-2,263	-13%	
Medical & First Aid	807	3,674	-2,868	-355%	
Utensils & Tools	47,897	9,079	38,818	81%	
Other Supplies & Services	9,902	3,897	6,005	61%	
Logistics, Transport & Storage	17,697	4,815	12,882		
Storage	4,980	194	4,786	96%	The international staff expenditures shown in the report is related to system automatic codification on which the correction made failed to moved it to warehouse cost on which it is normally lined. The necessary correction was made to move it and there was not changing.
Distribution & Monitoring	1,079		1,079	100%	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	11,638	4,621	7,017	60%	
Personnel	22,909	24,019	-1,110		
International Staff	0	8,266	-8,266	-100%	Volunteers' deployment costs higher than budgeted. Line from staff monitoring used to compensate. Also, most of the NS' monitoring was done at field level by volunteers and supervisors at branch level, accountant under "volunteers' lines" instead of "national staff and "National society staff". Volunteers' payment for manutention and distribution were also booked here.
National Staff	4,648	86	4,562	98%	
National Society Staff	15,273	5,936	9,337	61%	
Volunteers	2,988	9,730	-6,742	-226%	
Workshops & Training	28,612	9,584	19,028		
Workshops & Training	28,612	9,584	19,028	67%	Final cost for all the trainings lower than budgeted
General Expenditure	8,449	10,698	-2,248		
Information & Public Relations	3,486	8,962	-5,476	-157%	Final cost for all the trainings lower than budgeted
Office Costs	996	196	800	80%	
Communications	1,411	457	954	68%	
Financial Charges	1,560	1,083	478	31%	
Other General Expenses	996		996	100%	
Indirect Costs	14,580	11,646	2,934		
Programme & Services Support Recover	14,580	11,646	2,934	20%	The global balance observed in the attached financial final report is mainly resulting on low prices on most of the procurement and general training costs
Grand Total	238,885	190,809	48,076		



MDRCF027efrf.pdf

DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2021/8-2022/4	Operation	MDRCF027
Budget Timeframe	2021/8-2021/11	Budget	APPROVED

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 30/May/2022

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRCF027 - Central African Rep - Floods

Operating Timeframe: 26 Aug 2021 to 30 Nov 2021

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	238,885
DREF Allocations	238,885
Expenditure	-190,809
Closing Balance	48,076

II. Expenditure by planned operations / enabling approaches

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items	112,174	138,946	-26,771
PO02 - Livelihoods			0
PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash			0
PO04 - Health	24,418	8,843	15,575
PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	47,246	24,560	22,686
PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion	1,061	1,480	-419
PO07 - Education			0
PO08 - Migration			0
PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	1,061	552	509
PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability	902		902
PO11 - Environmental Sustainability			0
Planned Operations Total	186,861	174,380	12,481
EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships	14,479	4,286	10,193
EA02 - Secretariat Services	19,412	1,723	17,689
EA03 - National Society Strengthening	18,133	10,421	7,712
Enabling Approaches Total	52,023	16,429	35,594
Grand Total	238,885	190,809	48,076

DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2021/8-2022/4	Operation	MDRCF027
Budget Timeframe	2021/8-2021/11	Budget	APPROVED

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

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MDRCF027 - Central African Rep - Floods

Operating Timeframe: 26 Aug 2021 to 30 Nov 2021

III. Expenditure by budget category & group

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Utensils & Tools	47,897	9,079	38,818
Other Supplies & Services	9,902	3,897	6,005
Logistics, Transport & Storage	17,697	4,815	12,882
Storage	4,980	194	4,786
Distribution & Monitoring	1,079		1,079
Transport & Vehicles Costs	11,638	4,621	7,017
Personnel	22,909	24,019	-1,110
International Staff		8,266	-8,266
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Programme & Services Support Recover	14,580	11,646	2,934
Grand Total	238,885	190,809	48,076

Contact details

Documents de référence



Cliquer ici pour consulter des :

- Appels précédents et des mises à jour
- Plans d'action d'urgence (EPoA)

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

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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**.