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# DREF Final Report

## Cameroon: Floods

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

### DREF Operation N° MDRCM016

#### Final Report

29 May 2014

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

**Summary: CHF 115, 592 was allocated from the IFRC's DREF on 1 October 2013, to help the Cameroon Red Cross Society assist about 2500 beneficiaries.**

After a portion of the dam along the Logone River in the area of Dougi gave way at the end of September 2013, DREF funds were allocated to support the Cameroon Red Cross Society in providing relief assistance to affected populations. In the course of the operation, the National Society carried out a thorough assessment of the flood situation and established the need for a time extension of the operation to clearly identify remaining gaps that could result in additional activities. Thus, the end of operation date originally scheduled for 30 November 2013 was postponed to 31 January 2014. The result of this operation was that the National Society distributed non-food items to 240 families (1,440 beneficiaries) and built 197 shelters, all these, in a bid to improve the living conditions of affected and ensure some measure of dignity for them. With 198 shelters built by UNICEF, a total of 395 shelters were built for the affected population.



Shelter construction in Dougi by Red Cross volunteers Photo/IFRC

In addition, 100 family tents were received from the Japanese International Cooperation Agency and covered the needs of 100 families (500 people) who had returned to their areas of origin. The Federation transported these items from Cameroon to Yagoua. The total number of beneficiaries later increased from 240 families (1,440 people) to 340 families (1,940 people).

The Red Cross and the Dutch government contributed to the partial replenishment of DREF funds for this operation. The major DREF donors and partners are the Australian, American and Belgian governments,

the Austrian Red Cross, the Canadian government and Red Cross, the Danish government and Red Cross, DG ECHO, Irish and Italian governments, the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Luxembourg government, the Red Cross and the Government of Monaco, the Dutch government and Red Cross, the Norwegian government and Red Cross, the Spanish Government, the Swedish government and Red Cross, The United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), Medtronic and Z Zurich Foundations and other corporate and private donors. Details of contributions to the DREF are available at:

<http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/Active/MDR00001.pdf>

On behalf of the Cameroon Red Cross Society and the Federation wish to thank all and sundry for their contributions.

## Situation

On the night of September 17 to 18, 2013, heavy rains fell in the Mayo-Danay and caused the rupture of the dam along the Logone River at the town of Dougui, District of Kai kai Far North Region, Cameroon. This has caused initial relocation of the people of the village, who were residing on the banks of the dam. The local committee of Maga, who conducted the first assessments, reported 805 affected individuals including 144 children aged 0 to 5 years, 26 pregnant/lactating women, 20 elderly people and 10 widows. Out of the four villages in the community, Begue, Palam and Djafga were seriously affected and flooding has caused damage of farmland and loss of household items and livestock. The situation has left the affected population with increased risk of water-borne diseases, acute respiratory syndrome and other flood-related diseases.

Following field trips, discussions with partners and exchanged lists of beneficiaries, it was discovered that the number of beneficiaries was lower than expected. Thus, instead of the 500 families as initially planned, the actual number was 395 families (2,344 beneficiaries). Thus, emergency and non-food items initially planned for 500 emergency shelter kits were sufficient to cover all needs. During the implementation of the operation, a fire unfortunately destroyed the warehouse where wood was stored for the construction of shelters. Given that the number of beneficiaries was lower than expected, the fire incident fortunately had no impact on the implementation of planned activities.

One of the two warehouses rented by the Cameroon Red Cross Society in Yagoua was consumed by fire on the night of 3-4 November. The fire destroyed 1,300 planks, 39 rafters and 3 boxes of nails, estimated at about CHF 5,000. Necessary steps were taken with insurance companies to obtain compensation damage.

The affected population are currently sheltered on two sites allocated by the local authorities in the area of Begué-Palam, where trained Red Cross volunteers had constructed 402 emergency shelters, and out of which 197 were constructed with Red Cross material, and the rest with UNICEF and UNHCR materials. They are doing their possible best for life to return to normal through their main traditional activities such as agriculture and fishing.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent Action

From 17 to 19 October, the Disaster Manager of the Cameroon Red Cross Society, the Regional Operations Coordinator and Programme Officer of IFRC visited the sites where 395 displaced families had settled. A meeting was held with local authorities and WHO, UNICEF and World Food Programme to monitor the situation.

Training was held for volunteers on 30 November on knowledge of the Red Cross, technical distribution, emergency logistics and concepts related to water, sanitation and hygiene promotion.

A physical inventory was conducted on 5 December 2013, to have a clear idea of the remaining material in stock.

The French Red Cross distributed non-food items to 100 families and also supported in a nutritional survey in the two camps.

Regarding shelter and drinking water, the living conditions of these populations has improved thanks to the efforts of the different partners. Similarly, the provision of food by World Food Programme and the establishment of the nutrition program by UNICEF and the French Red Cross helped to improve the nutritional status of these victims.

Under an agreement with UNICEF, the Cameroon Red Cross Society has built 80 latrines and 40 bathrooms. It has also installed 50 trashcans and 2 water tanks for displaced families.

## Achievements against outcomes

Assessment	
<b>Result: The emergency needs of flood-affected families and deficiencies are identified and documented and the operation plan revised if necessary.</b>	
Expected Results	Planned Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed assessment is carried out across all sectors and the plan of action is revised appropriately to address outstanding needs if required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the National Society in planning and managing detailed assessments, home visits and interviews with key informants;</li> <li>Identify the needs and gaps not covered in collaboration with local authorities and other stakeholders;</li> <li>Ensure continuous monitoring of rainfall and the evolution of the situation while developing regular reports.</li> <li>Review the action plan and budget as necessary.</li> </ul>

### Impact:

During the first phase of the operation, a number of beneficiaries were not included in the identification list. The Cameroon Red Cross Society decided to redo a comprehensive assessment to ensure that all displaced persons were taken into account in the planning of the operation as well as in the distribution lists. More so, advocacy efforts were effectively conducted with local authorities and humanitarian partners, in order to use a single list of beneficiaries. This resulted in a list of 395 families which became the working tool for all actors in the field.

Furthermore, Cameroon Red Cross Society volunteers reassessed the needs of beneficiaries during the operation. This exercise showed that the aid provided under the current DREF as well as by other stakeholders (including WHO, UNICEF and World Food Programme) covered all the needs observed in the field in terms of non-food items, food, health, access to drinking water and sanitation.

People affected by the floods continue to live on the two sites allocated by the local authorities. Some have returned to their areas of origin and to their usual activities (agriculture, fishing, trading, etc.).

During informal interviews conducted as part of the evaluation of the operation, beneficiaries said they were satisfied with the assistance provided by the Red Cross. In order to facilitate their ownership of the actions undertaken, a training in community-based first aid was organized. They are currently carrying on with the maintenance activities of the water and sanitation facilities built as well as repair works on emergency shelters, under the guidance of volunteers from the Cameroon Red Cross Society local committee.

## Emergency Shelters and Non-food Items (NFIs)

**Outcome: Contribute to improving the living conditions of 500 most vulnerable families (2,500 people) through provision of emergency shelter and non-food items.**

Expected Results	Planned Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 500 families receive basic household items (kitchen sets, blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito nets, jerry cans, buckets).</li> <li>• 500 families receive shelter construction materials (tarpaulins, tools, support structure materials and fitting materials) and the necessary support in erecting emergency shelter.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobilize / Train 30 volunteers in construction of emergency shelters to ensure the transfer of knowledge to the beneficiaries.</li> <li>• Mobilize/ refresh 30 volunteers in emergency distribution and rapid assessment.</li> <li>• Release and transport 1,000 tarpaulins, 100 shelter tool kits, 1,000 blankets, 1,000 sleeping mats, 500 kitchen sets, 1,000 mosquito nets, 500 buckets, 1,000 10l. Jerry cans and 3,000 pieces of soap from IFRC Yaoundé warehouse.</li> <li>• Procure and transport 500 family hygiene kits, 130 female hygiene kits and shelter construction materials for 500 emergency shelters.</li> <li>• Prepare beneficiary lists and distribution tools.</li> <li>• Distribute emergency shelter and non-food items to 500 most vulnerable families in the two resettlement areas.</li> <li>• Support and supervise the construction of emergency shelters and ensure that families are protected from heavy rains.</li> <li>• Replenish the items released from IFRC warehouse through standard IFRC logistics procedures.</li> <li>• Monitor and evaluate the impact of activities and report according to IFRC standards.</li> </ul>

### Impact:

Through the provision of non-food items, beneficiaries stayed safe from diseases related to water, sanitation and malaria, and hygiene and health measures were observed (use of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets and proper use of latrines).

All intended shelter and non-food items were purchased in Yaoundé and Maroua before transportation by truck to IFRC Office in Yagoua. In all, 1,000 tarpaulins, 1,000 blankets, 1,000 mattresses, 500 kitchen kits, 3,000 bars of soap, 1,000 mosquito nets, 500 buckets, 100 toolkits for building shelters, 1,000 jerry cans, 500 hygiene kits, 130 female hygiene kits and materials to build 500 emergency shelters were sent by road to Yagoua. This equipment was stored in two warehouses in Yagoua.

Given the particularly difficult conditions of the road along the dam, it was not possible for the truck to go to the displaced persons sites during distribution. So, an alternative means to transport non-food items and shelter building equipment had to be found. For this reason, boats were rented in Benue to deliver the materials to beneficiaries in Begué-Palam.

30 volunteers from the Red Cross were deployed and trained in general knowledge of the International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, emergency logistics, water treatment, distribution techniques and the building of emergency shelters. The volunteers then prepared distribution of tools. Identification tokens were given to the beneficiaries to receive non-food items. The trained volunteers also assisted beneficiaries to build 197 emergency shelters using material purchased with DREF funds, while 198 other shelters were built by UNICEF and local authorities. A total of 395 shelters were built.

Overall, 240 families received non-food items, while volunteers also distributed 340 tarpaulins, 561 blankets, 561 mats, 240 kitchen kits, 2,000 bars of soap, 486 mosquito nets, 429 buckets of 16 litres each, 408 jerry cans of 10 litres each and 219 family hygiene kits, 30 female hygiene kits and building materials for 197 emergency shelters.

During the second distribution that took place on 30 November, 108 families received the following non-food items: 191 blankets, 191 mats, 836 bars of soap, 108 hygiene kits, 108 kitchen kits, 93 buckets, 169 mosquito nets and 112 jerry cans.

Regular contact was maintained with local authorities to ensure maximum effectiveness in responding to the disaster.

At first, each actor on the field had their own distribution list, which made it difficult to coordinate efforts. Some beneficiaries did not receive aid during the first phase of the operation; thus, Red Cross volunteers conducted a comprehensive registration in which 115 households affected by the dam breakage were identified. Thus, 108 vulnerable families benefited from the second distribution.

The irregularity was quickly noticed by the Cameroon Red Cross Society volunteers and the beneficiaries were immediately added to the Cameroon Red Cross Society distribution list. Following discussions with partners, a single list containing all the 395 families was produced.

## Communication

<b>Outcome: Contribute to the prevention and reduction of flood risks through a media campaign to raise public awareness of the affected areas and risks.</b>	
<b>Expected Results</b>	<b>Planned Activities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The entire population of the affected areas and surrounding is sensitized through radio programs and spots and previously designed with key prevention messages and actions taken by the National Society in the operation.</li> <li>The activities of the IFRC and the Cameroon Red Cross Society are promoted through the IFRC website.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating a two-minute radio spot in local languages (Mousgoum, Massa and Foulfouldé).</li> <li>Dissemination of radio spot twice a week alternating on community radio stations and regional stations of CRTV (Cameroon radio and Television) in Maroua.</li> <li>Broadcast weekly news on CRTV Maroua (on the planning and development of project activities).</li> <li>A weekly 15 minute live broadcast on CRTV Maroua is performed.</li> <li>Insertion of a quarter-page monthly in local written press (<i>L'œil du Sahel</i> and <i>Septentrion</i>).</li> <li>Production of leaflets and posters for awareness-raising of flood-risks.</li> <li>Mission to monitor the progress of activities for the purposes of communication</li> <li>Identify a focal point and brief communication within the county committee of the Cameroon Red Cross Society Mayo-Danay</li> <li>Support the Cameroon Red Cross Society with production of stories for the IFRC website.</li> </ul>

### Impact:

The community radio station contributed by announcing distribution days and the types of materials to be distributed. Some awareness sessions on hygiene measures were organized by local Red Cross officials. Information on Red Cross actions was regularly shared through reports and publications especially in local media.

An article was prepared by the communications team in Yaoundé and the teams on the field. This article was published on the IFRC website on, 3 October 2013. This article can be read here: <http://www.ifrc.org/en/news-and-media/news-stories/africa/cameroon/heavy-rains-force-thousands-to-run-for-higher-ground-in-cameroon-63471/>

The communications team of the National Society worked with the team on the field to broadcast on Cameroon Radio and Television Regional station, information on the work of Red Cross volunteers. This started at the end of November and continued through December. Contact was made with officials of community radio station, which covers the area to regularly broadcast key actions taken by the Red Cross.

## **Logistics**

Non-food items from the IFRC regional stock were sent to the affected area by road. Some other material was procured in Yaoundé and Yagoua so as to reduce transport costs.

Non-food items sent from the IFRC regional stocks were: buckets, jerry cans, soap, blankets, mats, tarpaulins, kitchen sets, mosquito nets and toolkits for emergency shelters. Items that were not stored in the IFRC regional stock included: hygiene kits and building material for emergency shelters. Hygiene kits were purchased in Yaoundé and material for the building of emergency shelters was purchased from near Yagoua.

The floods made transportation in the region very difficult and it was a daily challenge for the implementation of the operation. Motorized canoes were rented to ship non-food items to resettlement sites for beneficiaries.

## Contact information

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

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### For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting):

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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.

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**Saving lives, changing minds.**



The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
  2. Enable healthy and safe living.
  3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
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**Disaster Response Financial Report**

MDRCM016 - Cameroon - Floods

Timeframe: 30 Sep 13 to 31 Jan 14

Appeal Launch Date: 30 Sep 13

Final Report

**Selected Parameters**

Reporting Timeframe	2013/9-2014/3	Programme	MDRCM016
Budget Timeframe	2013/9-2014/1	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**I. Funding**

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
<b>A. Budget</b>		115,592				115,592	
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>							
<b>Income</b>							
<u>Other Income</u>							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		115,592				115,592	
<b>C4. Other Income</b>		115,592				115,592	
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)</b>		115,592				115,592	
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>		115,592				115,592	

\* Funding source data based on information provided by the donor

**II. Movement of Funds**

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>							
<b>C. Income</b>		115,592				115,592	
<b>E. Expenditure</b>		-105,019				-105,019	
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>		10,573				10,573	

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## III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability		
	A					B	A - B	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>			<b>115,592</b>			<b>115,592</b>		
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>								
Shelter - Relief	33,981		33,963			33,963	18	
Clothing & Textiles	10,000		7,147			7,147	2,853	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	1,010		989			989	20	
Utensils & Tools	17,885		14,669			14,669	3,215	
Other Supplies & Services	4,260		5,893			5,893	-1,633	
<b>Total Relief items, Construction, Sup</b>	<b>67,135</b>		<b>62,661</b>			<b>62,661</b>	<b>4,473</b>	
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage	1,308		3,572			3,572	-2,264	
Distribution & Monitoring	16,549		8,627			8,627	7,922	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	1,050		2,773			2,773	-1,723	
Logistics Services	2,400		3,197			3,197	-797	
<b>Total Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>21,307</b>		<b>18,169</b>			<b>18,169</b>	<b>3,138</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>								
International Staff			19			19	-19	
National Staff	4,000		4,791			4,791	-791	
National Society Staff	2,400		914			914	1,486	
Volunteers	10,312		10,262			10,262	49	
Other Staff Benefits			384			384	-384	
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>16,712</b>		<b>16,370</b>			<b>16,370</b>	<b>342</b>	
<b>Consultants &amp; Professional Fees</b>								
Professional Fees			47			47	-47	
<b>Total Consultants &amp; Professional Fees</b>			<b>47</b>			<b>47</b>	<b>-47</b>	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel			198			198	-198	
Information & Public Relations	500						500	
Office Costs	2,385		41			41	2,344	
Communications			182			182	-182	
Financial Charges	500		942			942	-442	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>3,385</b>		<b>1,363</b>			<b>1,363</b>	<b>2,021</b>	
<b>Indirect Costs</b>								
Programme & Services Support Recover	7,055		6,410			6,410	645	
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>	<b>7,055</b>		<b>6,410</b>			<b>6,410</b>	<b>645</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>115,592</b>		<b>105,019</b>			<b>105,019</b>	<b>10,573</b>	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>			<b>10,573</b>			<b>10,573</b>		

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Subsector:	*		

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**IV. Breakdown by subsector**

Business Line / Sub-sector	Budget	Opening Balance	Income	Funding	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Deferred Income
<b>BL2 - Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people</b>							
Disaster response	115,592		115,592	115,592	105,019	10,573	
Subtotal BL2	115,592		115,592	115,592	105,019	10,573	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>115,592</b>		<b>115,592</b>	<b>115,592</b>	<b>105,019</b>	<b>10,573</b>	