



Operation Update Report

Cabo Verde: Drought

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n° MDRCV003	GLIDE n°: CE-2022-000200-CPV
Operation update 2; date of issue: 23 November 2022	Timeframe covered by this update: 16 September-31 October 2022
Start date of the operation: 16 April 2022	Operation timeframe: 8 months (new end date: 31 December 2022)
Overall budget of the operation: CHF 327,188	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 327,188
N° of people being assisted: 6,026 people	
Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and British Red Cross	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Municipalities of Porto-Novo, Ribiera Grande and Sao Domingo	

Summary of major revisions to the emergency plan of action:

This operation update aims to inform stakeholders of implementation progress since last update and to extend the operational deadline by two months at no cost (new end date: 31 December 2022) to allow the IFRC and the Cruz Vermelha de Cabo Verde (CVCV) to complete the cash distribution and outstanding repairs of wells and boreholes for targeted communities.

The additional period requested is due to challenges encountered during the operation, linked with financial reporting and complex mechanisms of fund transfer. No additional allocation is requested, and the initial budget of CHF 251,386 will be implemented within the new timeframe.

Due to the worsening food insecurity situation in the country, the CVCV has included in ongoing activities, the development of a Plan of Action on the basis of which, it shall seek to be included into the Hunger Crisis Emergency Appeal. This will also support exit plans from this operation.

Please access the EPoA [here](#) and the [DREF Operation Update no.1](#)



Cape Verde Red Cross volunteer in the field

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

The country is facing one of the worst drought crises since the 1990s. Rains continue to be rare, and production does not even cover 1% of the country's food needs. Most of the Cape Verdean population lives from agriculture (22% of the active population is employed by the agricultural sector, of which 82% is in rural areas); and tourism affected by COVID-19 measures (around 70%). This situation has caused approximately 24.2% of the population to live in poverty and 9.2% in extreme poverty.

Farmers find it increasingly difficult to continue their productive activities. After more than four seasons of considerable rainfall deficit, agricultural productivity yields have deteriorated drastically dwindled and aquifers did not recharge, which affects access to water for the population and their livelihood activities. See more detail in the [DREF Operation](#), and in the [DREF Operation Update no.1](#).

In February 2022, the Cape Verdean government declared a state of emergency due to this exceptional drought. A report from the Harmonised Framework in March 2022, predicted a worrying situation for this year's lean season (June to August 2022) of 46,093 food insecure people (10% of the population) of which 43,003 were in crisis (Ph 3) and 3,090 in emergency phase (Ph 4).

The food insecurity situation worsened further between May and July 2022. Based on the WFP and FAO report, the Government of Cape Verde recognizes that at least 30% (approximately 168,570 people) of the population is at high risk of deteriorating food security conditions.

Despite some rainfall since September 2022, the situation does not seem to be improving, as indicated by the Council of Ministers in the same month. A national plan for adaptation to climate change in Cape Verde has been approved by the government and provides for interventions in the institutional framework, in technology and in the resilience of the most vulnerable for 30 million euros until 2026.

Summary of the Current Response

Host National Society Overview

The Cape Verde Red Cross (CVCV¹), has been intervening on the ground since 2018, on this drought crisis with assistance to vulnerable people through a distribution of food goods, provision of medical assistance to people in need but who have difficulties to pay medical expenses. With the support of the Spanish Red Cross- Livelihoods Centre, the CVCV organised a field assessment of the situation in several municipalities of the country.

Since the first declaration of the state of emergency by the government last February, the National Society has implemented activities to support affected population. The Cape Verde Red Cross (CVCV), as part of its mandate, with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, launched this [DREF operation](#), which is operational since April 2022.

Two municipalities, Porto Novo on the island of Santo Antão and Ribeira Grande on the island of Santiago are targeted by this operation. Several activities, including those listed below, have been carried out to help the most vulnerable people:

- Conduct a field assessment and a targeting process. CVCV volunteers contributed to the identification of affected families and the needs assessment (in collaboration with the assessment committees set up by CVCV).
- Strengthen CVCV capacity by training around 250 volunteers in WASH, food security and cash transfer programmes.
- Conduct awareness campaigns on water, hygiene, sanitation and food security.
- Assist 200 children suffering from malnutrition through the Ministry of Health.
- Start the maintenance/repair of 24 water points in the two targeted municipalities.
- Coordination and sharing of information on the disaster with internal and external partners of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

At the time of writing, 600 families have already benefited from the first instalment of CVA assistance to improve their food conditions over a two-month period.

But considering that the situation remains the same since the beginning of the operation and that several other municipalities are also at immediate risk, the Cape Verde Red Cross intends to launch an appeal within the frame of Zero Hunger Crisis for further assistance to support around 120,000 families at risk of food insecurity, throughout the country people.

See more detail in the [DREF Operation](#), and in the [DREF Operation Update no.1](#)

¹ Abbreviated CVCV from Portuguese: Cruz Vermelha de Cabo Verde

Overview of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in the country

Since the beginning of this operation, the IFRC Dakar cluster, has continued to provide technical and financial support and regular coordination to the operation, both with the deployment of the emergency capability and technical specialist, and through remote support.

The IFRC also accompanies the CVCV towards an expansion of the operation, through its actions to mobilise funds and partners, such as with USAID, which has already been on the ground to monitor activities in the Ribeira Grande de Santiago localities, accompanied by the US Embassy.

See more detail in the [DREF Operation](#), and in the [DREF Operation Update no.1](#)

Overview of other actors' actions in the Country

As part of this emergency, the Government of Cape Verde opted for the approval and implementation of an Emergency Program for the mitigation of drought and the bad agricultural year 2021/2022 (Resolution No. 13/2022 of 16 February 2022) based on 3 major groups of measures to be implemented:

- **Livestock rescue:** Protecting livestock activity and ensuring conditions for the maintenance of ruminant livestock.
- **Management of water shortage:** Minimizing the problem of water shortage by ensuring rational use and regularity of supply to households and agricultural and livestock operations.
- **Employment creation for affected families:** Protection of livelihoods with special attention to the most economically vulnerable families (women and youth).

On 6 June, following the catastrophic effects of the drought in Cape Verde, and the devastating impacts of the war in Ukraine on global markets, the government of Cape Verde declared an economic and social state of emergency for the country. According to the Head of State, the drought situation is already heavily impacting on inflation, hence deteriorating the purchasing power of families, food security and economic growth prospects.

The government is supported by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), which has also stated that if nothing is done to support rural areas, the extent of the damage caused by hunger and the deterioration of living standards will be dramatic. Thus, urgent, and large-scale humanitarian action is needed.

Needs Analysis and scenario planning

Needs Analysis

Cabo Verde is experiencing the worst food crisis, driven by a combination of factors, including years of drought since 2017; slowdown of food production; indirect consequences of successive international crisis including COVID 19 and Ukraine-Russia conflict.

For the lean season, the *Cadre Harmonisé* analysis projected this situation of food insecurity (see table), with Porto Novo (on the island of Santo Antão), as well as Sao Domingos, Santa Cruz and Ribeira Grande (on the island of Santiago), as the 4 most affected municipalities.

Phasing	Zones		Population		Population (%)	
	Current	Projected	Current	Projected	Current	Projected
Ph1	4	2	346,464	299,473	72	62
Ph2	17	16	106,666	138,062	22	29
Ph3	1	4	29,421	43,003	6	9
Ph4	0	0	1,076	3,090	0,2	1
Ph5	0	0	0	0	0,0	0
Total	22	22	483,627	483,628	100	100

Source: Analysis of the harmonized framework - March 2022. Results of the analysis of the harmonized framework (March 2022) on the current situation and the projected situation (June to August 2022).

CVCV assessments, conducted at the beginning of the operation (See more detail in the [DREF Operation Update no.1](#)), highlighted the following situation, that should be addressed through basic needs assistance and livelihoods protection activities (including facilitating water access).

- The below-average rainfall since 2017 and consequently failure of cereal crops and livestock and incomes, have resulted in a negative coping mechanism for vulnerable smallholder farmers and pastoralists families (already affected by poverty),

- Cape Verde ongoing agricultural challenges have been exacerbated by the covid-19 effects and by conflict in Ukraine, contributing to long-lasting food security needs which is expected to continue (or worsen) beyond the lean season (July-September).
- Vulnerable households coping strategies, consist of reducing the food intakes, sale of livelihoods inputs or migrating².

At the moment of the publishing of this Operational Update, the Government of Cape Verde recognizes that at least 30% (approximately 168,570 people) of the population is at high risk of deteriorating food security conditions, so needs remain the same:

- Food access,
- Improve water access (for both human consumption and livelihoods),
- Support agricultural production (considering both agriculture and livestock).

Although the rains that have fallen since June throughout the archipelago suggest a good agricultural year, with production, pasture and water, the levels of economic and food stress among the population are substantial and require accompaniment, especially for the most vulnerable and dependent households.

In this situation CVCV consider essential to complete the ongoing response and to launch an emergency appeal to limit the impact of the projected drought and reduce the vulnerability of the most at-risk populations.

See more detail in the [DREF Operation](#), and in the [DREF Operation Update no.1](#)

Operational Risks Assessment

All identified risk will be monitored during this extension. No extra risks have been identified. For details on the risk assessed, refer to the risk analysis section [DREF Operation](#), and in the [DREF Operation Update no.1](#)

B. Operational Strategy

Proposed strategy

The overall objective of this appeal is to continue to meet the immediate needs of the population affected by the current drought and reduce its vulnerability to severe food insecurity and malnutrition, by extending the implementation period by two months. This would lead overall implementation timeframe of this DREF Operation to six months.

The operation targets the localities of Ribeira Grande de Santiago, on the island of Santiago, and Porto Novo, on the island of Santo Antão, by providing immediate food assistance, implementing livelihood preparedness and protection activities, deploying malnutrition prevention actions, ensuring better access to water and raising awareness on hygiene and sanitation issues.

The CVCV's strategy through this operation is to work to prevent and mitigate the consequences of the drought and poor agricultural years on the food and nutrition security situation and the protection of the livelihoods of the most vulnerable affected populations. This DREF operation aims to implement and anticipate response activities to an impending crisis. The approach deployed is as follows:

- Respond to the urgent needs of the most vulnerable and food insecure populations during the 2022 lean season (June to October 2022).
- Provide immediate livelihoods assistance response actions in terms of food and basic needs, and health.

Due to the increasing food insecurity situation in the country, and that several other municipalities are also at immediate risk of food insecurity, Cape Verde Red Cross intends to launch an appeal within the frame of Zero Hunger Crisis for further assistance to support around 120,000 families at risk of food insecurity, throughout the country people.

Details of planned activities are found in section C of the [EPoA](#), Operations Strategy while a recap of actions implemented so far can be found below under section D. Detailed Operational Plan below.

² The country's population has dropped from around 555,988 in 2020 to 505,044 today.

C. Detailed Operational Plan



Livelihoods and basic needs

People reached: 600 heads of households

Male: 0

Female: 0

Outcome 1: Communities, particularly in disaster/crisis-affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods

Output Livelihoods and basic needs 1.2: The most affected communities receive basic needs assistance to ensure livelihood security, including food

Indicator:	Target	Actual
# of completed evaluations	2	2
# of completed market surveys	2	2
# of farmer households supported with cash transfer	100	100
# of farmer households supported by cash transfer	100	100
# of households supported with destocking by slaughter	50	50
# of awareness sessions for breeders and farmers	10	10
# post-distribution monitoring	2	0

Livelihoods and basic needs output 1.5: Households receive unconditional/polyvalent cash transfers to meet their basic needs

# of households supported by cash transfer for food assistance	400	400*
# of awareness sessions to strengthen cash transfer	4	4
# of volunteers trained in CVA	40	36
# of volunteers trained in targeting and CEA	40	36

Progress towards Outcomes

See previous activity information in the [DREF Operation Update no.1](#)

Cash and Livelihoods activities:

After targeting process (explained in [DREF Operation Update no.1](#)) CVCV distributed the first cash instalment in the two target municipalities for two months' worth of food assistance to 400 households (*). A cash distribution was also made to 100 farmer households and 100 herder households to support recovery of their livelihoods.

A first cash distribution to 400 families (1600 people), 200 in Porto Novo and 200 in Ribeira Grande was organised by the CVCV in September. The amount distributed represents two months of food aid to families. Similarly, the first distribution was made to 200 farmers and herders (100 in Porto Novo and 100 in Ribeira Grande de Santiago)

The second instalment for the 400 households is planned for mid-November after the PDM (Post Distribution Monitoring) which is already ongoing.

About 50 livestock farmers also received assistance from the CVCV in destocking their weakest livestock. In the end, 100 animals (goats and sheep) were slaughtered, and the meat was distributed to the most vulnerable people in the community.

Pending activities include:

- Post-distribution monitoring
- Second distribution of cash for the 400 households

(*) The 400 targeted households have only received 2 months of cash for food assistance out of three months support for food needs.

Awareness raising sessions: Ten (10) awareness raising sessions targeting farmers and breeders have been carried out since the DREF operation was launched. With the support of the Ministry of Agriculture, the workshops focused more on the techniques to ration use of water especially in this time of crisis. For example, through the implementation of the drip system, soil conservation by changing crops and the use of pesticides and their potential dangers.



Health

People reached: 3,000 people (600 HH)

Outcome 5: Less severe cases of disease or malnutrition are treated in the community, with referral pathways for severe cases established

Output 5.2: Acute malnutrition cases are managed in the community, with referral established for severe cases.

Indicator:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers trained	30	30
# of screening campaign sessions	2	2
# of households that received nutritional supplements	200	200
# of nutrition awareness sessions and cooking demonstrations	10	10
# of people affected by nutrition activities	1000	Ongoing

Progress towards Outcomes

See previous activity information in the [DREF Operation Update no.1](#)

In collaboration with the Ministry of Health through its delegations in the municipalities of Porto Novo in Santo Antão and Ribeira Grande on the island of Santiago, the Cape Verde Red Cross conducted a screening campaign targeting 200 children in a situation of malnutrition who received assistance in food supplementation.

Within the framework of this operation, and to preserve the anonymity of people in a situation of malnutrition, the Red Cross of Cape Verde relied on the expertise of nurses from the Ministry of Health in each of the localities of DREF. Six teams of 3 trained volunteers were deployed for the screening campaign. Given the sensitivity of the subject of malnutrition in the country, this campaign was done in a very discreet way. Volunteers deployed in the field went door to door, with the support of some community religious leaders. The identified children were referred to the nearest health centre, where the nurses were already briefed for treatment by the health department of the Red Cross.

Activities include:

- Door-to-door visit and discussion with families on
 - The definition of malnutrition
 - The causes
 - Prevention of malnutrition
 - How to manage positive cases
 - Hygiene and sanitation
 - And so many other behaviours to value within families for a good development of children.
- Distribution of nutritional supplements
- Nutrition awareness sessions and cooking demonstrations.



Training volunteers in screening techniques



Door to door awareness campaign



Water, Hygiene and Sanitation

People reached: 3,000 people

Outcome WASH 1: Immediate reduction of waterborne disease risk in targeted communities

Output WASH 1.1: Detailed assessment of the water, sanitation and hygiene situation is conducted in target communities

Indicator:	Target	Actual
% of people reached by outreach activities	80%	100%
# of WASH assessments conducted	2	2

Outcome WASH 1.2: Daily access to drinking water in quantity and quality that meets Sphere and WHO standards is provided to the target population

Indicator:	Target	Actual
# of rehabilitated reservoirs	12	12
# of rehabilitated wells or boreholes	12	6
# of buckets distributed	500	500
# of jerrycans distributed	1000	1000

Outcome WASH 1.4: Hygiene promotion activities that meet Sphere standards for identification and use of hygiene products provided to the target population

Indicators	Target	Actual
# of volunteers trained	40	27
# of sensibilization session	10	10
# of households reached with key messages to promote personal and community hygiene	500	100%

Progress towards outcomes

See previous activity information in the [DREF Operation Update no.1](#)

The drought crisis in Cape Verde is without a doubt one of the most visible and dramatic manifestations of climate change. Water plays a central role in these crises and inevitably has an impact on the populations. The operation implementation areas are particularly affected by the scarcity of water resources, both for humans and animals.

The assessment revealed that 41% of the houses visited have water from the local distribution network, but with the numerous water cuts, people are getting water from wells/forests (10%). Those who have some financial means buy water delivered by truck (5%).

The awareness campaign on home water conservation and treatment was done in different ways.

- Through the regular activities of the Red Cross, in the third age centres, in the gardens, in the media, during the meetings with the youth, in the markets.
- Also, during the identification of the CVA beneficiaries and during the CVA distribution.
- Home awareness (more than 500 houses were visited during the implementation of this DREF in the two localities).

As a support to this awareness campaign, buckets and jerry cans were distributed. In total, 500 buckets of 15L and 1000 jerry cans of 10L were distributed.

With the support of the agency for the regulation of water points on the two islands and the farming community, the CVCV was able to identify 12 water reservoirs that were subjected to minor repairs (such as: sealing of pipes, replacement of broken or damaged pipes, repair of taps, etc.), according to the needs identified.

Similarly, 6 boreholes were identified, which also underwent some minor repairs (rehabilitation, clearing of debris blocking the water flow to the plantations, etc.).

Activities that remain to be planned:

- Continue monitoring on water, sanitation and hygiene situation in target communities
- Continue the repair and maintenance of 6 wells and/or boreholes

**Protection, Gender and Inclusion**

People reached: 50 volunteers

Outcome PGI 1: communities identify and respond to the distinct needs of the most vulnerable, particularly disadvantaged, and marginalized groups, as a result of inequality, discrimination and other human rights violations

Output PGI 1.1: NS programs improve equitable access to basic services to basic services, considering different gender and other diversity factors diversity factors

Indicator:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers trained	30	50
# of SOPs developed	1	Ongoing

Progress towards outcomes

See previous activity information in the [DREF Operation Update no.1](#)

Following IFRC standards on protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI), it was important to train CVCV volunteers and staff on the protection of the most vulnerable groups in the affected communities, such as people with disabilities, children, pregnant and lactating women, women and child-headed households, unaccompanied and separated minors/children, minority groups, the elderly, etc.

A total of 50 people (staff and volunteers) were trained or educated on sexual and gender-based violence, child protection, code of conduct, disability, and diversity inclusion.

An SOP is currently being drawn up to formalize this training. The CVCV has launched mandatory training on the Code of Conduct for all its staff and volunteers on the IFRC website.

Planned Activity

- Finish the developing of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for protection/sexual and gender-based violence, including referral pathway mapping.

Implementation Strategies

Outcome S.1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated so that National Societies have the legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, skills and capacities to plan and implement activities

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

Indicator:	Target	Real
# of volunteers trained, all trainings included	100	110
% of mobilized volunteers who are insured	100%	100%
# of visibility items for volunteers	250	250

Progress towards outcomes

This operation aimed to engage 250 volunteers, but currently a total of 165 volunteers have been trained by incorporating a multi-thematic approach. The IFRC's minimum standards for PGI in emergencies was also included during implementation of sectoral activities such as livelihoods, WASH, and cash transfer.

Activities left to be implemented include procurement and distribution of visibility materials to mobilized volunteers.

Challenges:

Since the majority of CVCV volunteers are civil servants and/or students, it is difficult to get everyone at the same time. Most volunteers are usually available on weekends. To move forward with the activities, CVCV tries to have the maximum number of volunteers available from 4:00 pm. Although this resulted in some slowness in the execution of some activities, there is progress in the operation objectives.

Output S1.1.7: NS capacity to support community-based disaster risk reduction, response and preparedness is strengthened

Indicator	Target	Actual
# of NS coordination missions	8	7
# of NS monitoring missions	3	3
# of lessons learned workshop	1	0
# of action plans developed	1	0

Progress towards outcomes**Activities to be implemented include:**

- Organize a lesson learned workshop
- Develop a medium to long term food security and livelihoods action plan as exit strategy.

Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured**Output S2.1.1: Effective and respected surge capacity mechanism is maintained.**

Indicator	Target	Actual
# of IFRC monitoring missions	5	3
# of rapid response personnel deployed – Operations Manager	1	1
# of rapid response personnel deployed – Finance	1	1

Progress towards outcomes

The Operations Manager is deployed to support with implementation of the action plan. He was in the field during the start-up of DREF in Cape Verde and supported the NS in the preparation of questionnaires for the in-depth evaluation and identification of beneficiaries. He then supported the NS in Cape Verde with the training of volunteers. He accompanied the launch of field surveys. The Operations manager visited the islands of:

- Porto-Novo (the drought situation is catastrophic and worrying)
- Sao Domingo
- Ribiera Grande
- Santa Cruz

The Finance Officer is also deployed to Dakar and supports the Cape Verde DREF remotely. He is waiting for a mission to Cape Verde for closer support to support the monitoring of the implementation. Activities to be planned include IFRC monitoring missions.

Exit Strategy

Due to the increasing food insecurity situation in the country, the CVCV has included in the activities the elaboration of a Plan of Action, to be included within the framework of the Zero Hunger Crisis appeal, as the NS seeks medium to long term solutions for the affected communities.

Challenges

The support of adequate technical HR staff will be more than necessary.

Output S2.1. 3: Improved compliance of NS with the principles and rules for humanitarian assistance

Indicator	Target	Actual
# of telephone hotline set up	1	1

Progress towards outcomes

Activities to be implemented include the set up a feedback system from the community and ensure that this feedback is considered and used to improve the operation.

D. BUDGET

The NS of Cape Verde has received a first instalment of the DREF Budget, and the second instalment was transferred at the end of October 2022. The implementation framework of this operation has been extended at no cost extension.

Reference documents



Click [here](#) for:

- [Operation Update 1](#)
- [Emergency Plan of Action \(EPoA\)](#)

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.