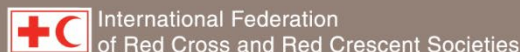


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## Early Protocol activation Update Mali: Floods



Operation no. MDRML017

To be assisted: 1,000 HH

Launch date: 02/09/2022

EAP number:  
EAP2020ML01

DREF allocated: CHF 209,532

End date: 28/02/2023

Period covered by this update:  
02/09/22 – 20/11/22

### The Early Action Protocol hazard and trigger

#### Chronology

**September 2020:** EAP approval

**September 02, 2022:** Trigger reached

**September 04, 2022:** Launch of the first actions



River flood in the village of Kaka-

#### Summary of the main revisions to the implementation plan for the initial action:

- According to the National Directorate of Hydraulics, the water levels have not yet start to decrease, especially for the regions of Mopti, Timbuktu, and Gao. It is predicted that water levels will continue to rise until the end of December, resulting in possibly reaching the trigger levels in another area and a need to implement additional early actions. Because the initial activation targeted a smaller amount of people than initially planned, about 30% of the funds remain unspent and pre-positioned material is still available, the National Society, in cooperation with the disaster management cell, is monitoring the situation and is ready to implement early actions in case the triggers are met again. Since the operation was meant to close at the end of November a 3 month timeframe extension is being requested to be able to implemented additional early action if the triggers were to be met until December 2022.
- Since the National Society (NS) is still actively working with the communities at risk and monitoring the situation, it is not possible to organize the lessons learned before January 2022, when the rainy season has ended.

#### Reason for requested change in approach

The hydraulic levels of the Niger River continue to be exceptionally high in the center and North of Mali, posing the risk of further flooding's. These localities are under daily monitoring by the DNH who confirmed that flooding could occur in the coming weeks if the trends become reality. Mali Red Cross is requesting an extension of the EAP as the situation is alarming throughout and would like to have the opportunity to implement early actions in a second area of intervention.

#### Rationale for approving the change

Of the budget for Early Actions allocated by IFRC to CRM, 70% was used to carry out anticipatory actions in the Sofara area. 30% of the budget remains unspent and this could still be used if the triggers in another area are met. The needs are high as the water levels in Timbuktu and Gao continue to increase.

In September, the [Mali Red Cross activated its Early Action Protocol \(EAP\) for Floods](#) after weeks of heavy rain across much of West and Central Africa. Using funds released from the anticipatory action pillar of the IFRC's [Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\)](#), staff and volunteers were able to implement a series of predetermined early actions in Kaka village, Sofara sub-prefecture, in Mali's Mopti region.

A report on this EAP activation demonstrates the success of this operation. Among the many successful outcomes, it notes that:

- around 3,045 people in the village, and two neighbourhoods of Sofara, were protected from the risk to their lives from the floods
- people avoided damage to their homes and property due to increased awareness and early evacuations
- public infrastructure and buildings were protected ahead of the floods.

The report also details the steps taken on each day, providing a revealing snapshot of how anticipatory action works in practice.

On **day 1** (4 September) the Mali Red Cross team worked with the local branch and regional crisis committee to get an update on the situation, and to check the pre-positioned stock (e.g., mosquito nets, emergency shelter kits); they also created a WhatsApp group for rapid communication. The team then met the head of the Regional Directorate of Hydraulics to prepare warning messages to be broadcast via local radio.

On **day 2**, staff and volunteers loaded vehicles with the pre-positioned stock (which was stored in Mopti) and transported both this and the volunteers to Sofara. Once in the target region, the team met with officials from the sub-prefecture to explain the flood alert and how the early actions would be carried out. This was followed by a field visit to meet the village chief and his advisors to explain the planned activities. Local radio stations began to broadcast the warning messages in different localities. Lastly, the team was divided into working groups for: (1) sensitization with households; (2) assessing household vulnerabilities; and (3) management of the emergency kits.

Activities on day 3 focused on installing equipment (e.g., shelter kits, kitchen kits, etc.), distributing empty sandbags to households, and community sensitization. The houses to be evacuated were identified, and work was carried out to protect houses and the village mosque. The team also visited a third district in Sofara, where there had been an alert about the rising water level.

On **day 4** of the activation, the team installed five more emergency shelters. By now, several community members had learned how to do this, and they were able to install shelter and kitchen kits the local volunteers. Further work was undertaken to protect a mosque and a cattle market in Sophora, while team members toured the region in pirogues to observe the water levels in households.

Focus areas and implementation strategies



**Livelihoods and basic needs**  
**Target individuals: 1,000 households**  
 Men: 1,817  
 Women: 1,560

**People targeted:** The Mali Red Cross aims to contribute to reducing the vulnerability of communities to flooding by securing funds for early action before the disaster to secure lives and livelihoods and protect infrastructure. The populations to be supported are mainly people bordering rivers.

**Response Standards/Benchmarks:** All activities will be carried out in accordance with the decisions of the three jurisdictions including members of the National Crisis Committee, Regional Crisis Committee and Response Team. The Malian Red Cross has pre-positioned 16 volunteers trained on FbF in each of its branches for the holding of early actions.

<b>Pre-activation measures:</b> Certain preparatory measures must be implemented prior to activation to ensure that the FbF mechanism is ready once the trigger is reached. These preparatory measures are summarized in the Table above.															
Planned activities		Period (months)													
Readiness activities		J	F	M	Has	M	J	J	O	S	O	N	D	J	
1.1	Development of adapted intervention tools (roosters, equipment, coordination element, etc.)	X													
1.2	Identification of areas (Community Infrastructure) and households at risk		X												
1.3	Determine the thresholds required per village/commune to trigger the emergency alert.		X												
1.4	Organization of training required for regional teams, volunteers, and members of the crisis committee.					X									
1.5	Identification of upstream mitigation activities at household level, Identification of potential partners in coverage areas in case of cooperation and/or complementarity needs.			X											
1.6	Increased monitoring of the event/flood announced through scientific tools available on a weekly and daily basis (weather reports and river water level readings)								X	X	X				

1.7	Identification and implementation of a crisis room 96 hours before the event with required equipment (radio, telephones, maps...)								X	X			
1.8	Verification of availability and training of response teams for possible deployment and their individual alerting for monitoring and management of mitigation activities					X							
1.9	Information sharing through the pre-established communication mechanism					X				X	X	X	
1.10	Checking available contingency stock						X						
	<b>Pre-positioning activities</b>	<b>Period (months)</b>											
2.1	Pre-positioning of emergency stocks that can be used for mitigation actions			X									
2.2	Pre-positioning of emergency funds at the regional level to be used for the FbF				X								
	<b>3. Activation</b>	<b>Period (months)</b>											
3.1	Activation of National, Regional and Local Crisis Committees									X			
3.2	Positioning of materials and volunteer team in intervention area									X			X
	<b>Early Actions</b>	<b>Period (months)</b>											
3.3	Mass communication								X	X	X		
3.4	Community Outreach								X	X	X		X
3.5	Identify evacuation centre								X	X	X		X
3.6	Protect habitats and public infrastructure (wells, mosques, health centres, schools)								X	X	X		X
3.7	Distribute aquatabs, mosquito nets, bleach								X	X	X		X
3.8	Set up shelter kits								X	X	X		X
3.9	Evacuation to shelters								X	X	X		X
3.10	Post-intervention survey FbF											X	
3.11	Lessons Learned Workshop												X

Reference documents

For a more complete description of the activities, see the summary of the [Early Action Protocol](#).

**For more information, in particular on this operation, please contact:**

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