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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) Nigeria : Civil Unrest (Election Preparedness)



DREF n° MDRNG019	
For DREF; Date of issue: 24 December 2014	Expected timeframe: Three months. Expected end date: 23 March 2014.
DREF allocated: CHF 239,946	
Total number of people affected: 120,000 people (12 states)	Number of people to be assisted: 100,000 people (The majority will be reached through first aid, RC safety messages and PSS)
Host National Society presence: 500,000 volunteers, 34 staff and 37 branches.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: ICRC, IFRC	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Oxfam, NEMA, Save the Children, SEMA, United Nations agencies.	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

In February 2015, Nigeria will be having elections, and political parties have begun their preparations across the country. Many international organizations including the United Nations (UN) are predicting violence related to the elections, which could be exacerbated by the continuing insecurity affecting the north eastern areas of Nigeria, and result in increased population movement both within the country and region. The two major political parties; the People's Democratic Party (PDP) and the All Progressive Congress (APC) held their primaries during the second week of December 2014 and have chosen their presidential candidates. The PDP has retained Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan while the APC has chosen Major General Buhari (retired), a former head of state during the military rule. The others are All Progressive Grand Alliance (APGA), Labour Party, and Peoples' Democratic Movement (PMD). However, there are over 30 registered political parties in Nigeria. In the last elections the contest was between the incumbent president and the current presidential candidate of the APC. Based on the previous elections, it is probable that the forthcoming elections be more contentious than those held in the past, and result in violence before, during and post the elections. It is likely that if the opposition wins the elections in 2015 violence will be sporadic while if the PDP wins violence is will be worse.

The Nigeria Red Cross Society (NRCS) has observed that since 1999 elections, there has been progression in violence and in 2015 the opposition will be stronger than the 2011. During the previous elections violence was experienced in the campaigning period, voting, at the time of counting votes and after announcement of results in various states of the Federation. According to the DMIS report of 2011, NRCS documented 452 injured, 150 dead and 65,700 Displaced. The NRCS provided assistance to 50,000 people, and 1,347 volunteers and 50 staff were deployed in 12 states that were affected. It has been noted that religious conflicts are also a major contributing factor in exacerbating the situation. In the last elections the contest was between the incumbent president and the current presidential candidate of the APC. There are also signs that some of the states that were peaceful in the previous elections are now showing serious signs of potential violence. In the 2015 elections the situation has been compounded by the on-going insurgency in the country and most especially in the north east. Having completed internal primaries, it is envisaged that the two major political parties will start serious campaigns across the country when the ban is lifted by the Independent National Electro Commission (INEC). During this period, it is critical that the NRCS is prepared to respond to any violence which may occur.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society

The NRCS is considered a neutral community-based organization with wide geographical spread across the country and enjoys nationwide acceptance and access that allows it to respond and carry out preparedness and response interventions. The NRCS has many decades of experience in responding to disasters and conflicts, and is often called upon by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to distribute relief materials and provide assistance to the affected people across the country. It has a pool of Emergency First Aid Teams (EFATs, 50 trained National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT) that can be mobilized and deployed in disaster management and water and sanitation, logistics, health in emergencies psychosocial support, Restoring Family Links (RFL), and shelter. Many of the NDRT are also Regional Disaster Response Teams (RDRT) trained and focal points. In respect to psychosocial support interventions, NRCS has a core team of 150 volunteers and staff trained, by both IFRC and ICRC, in psychosocial support, mental health and stress management. A total of 185 EFATs are in place and are composed of 2,220 staff and volunteers throughout the country. In 2014, DREF operations have been carried out in response to a cholera outbreak (MDRNG015) in Bauchi state, and explosions in Jos, Plateau state (MDRNG016). The Ebola virus disease (MDRNG017) and complex emergency appeal (MDRNG018) are on-going. The National Society is often called upon by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), UN agencies, International Organizations and Presidential Committees - Presidential on flood relief and rehabilitation (PCFRR), presidential initiative for the northeast (PINE), Victim Support Fund (VSF) to distribute relief materials and provide assistance to the affected people across the country.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) opened a Nigeria country representation in Abuja in 2012, and this office has been providing technical oversight, guidance and capacity building. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has a country delegation with three sub-delegations in the states, working in close cooperation with NRCS in the implementation of its activities and providing them with technical support and capacity building. The NRCS has been in discussion with the ICRC and IFRC regarding the need to develop joint contingency plans to prepare for and respond to potential violence prior, during and after the elections.

Movement Coordination

Planned activities related to election preparedness have been agreed upon, and will support jointly by the ICRC and IFRC in order to promote a coordinated and complementary approach. The ICRC is supporting through the training of key staff on the "Safer Access Framework"; pre-positioning of First Aid items and provision of communications (VHF radio), targeting those areas that have been identified as particularly at risk for potential civil unrest.

The ICRC will be procuring volunteer protective equipment (gloves, masks, goggles, boots, and helmets) as well as stretchers and body bags to support the NS. The IFRC is supporting through an allocation from its Disaster Relief and Emergency Fund (DREF), which will enable activities to be extended to other areas of the country where the ICRC is not operating, and will comprise: joint facilitation of a contingency planning workshop at national level, strengthening of existing Emergency First Aid Team (EFAT) volunteers and pre-positioning of First Aid items. The ICRC is supportive of this suggestion, and recognize that additional assistance is required to cover those areas not being covered. In order to effectively improve coordination, the regular Movement coordination meetings will be held. The coordination mechanism will be enhanced with the development of a cooperation agreement.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The UN and international organizations in the country are also preparing for the elections. The United Nations Office for Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) has conducted an analysis of the current situation and historical data to identify potential hotspots country-wide. The information will be used during the contingency planning workshop to develop scenarios. The Government of Nigeria through the NEMA in conjunction with other stakeholders at federal and state levels has started the process of preparing for any emergency that may occur before, during and after the elections.

Many other organizations such as the International Medical Corps, Médecins San Frontières (MSF), Mercy Corps, Oxfam and Save the Children have also begun their own preparedness processes. Through the DREF allocation, coordination activities with other stakeholders, including the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and UN organizations will also be supported.

Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

Please refer below for the ranking of the potential areas of election related violence, which has been prepared by the NRCS. It is important to note the ranking can change any time.

Table 1: Classification of states by potential risks (NRCS mapping)

No.	Red (High Risk)	Orange (Medium)	Yellow (Low Risk)
1	Edo	Adamawa*	Bayelsa
2	Kaduna	Bauchi	Zamfara
3	Plateau	Imo	
4	Nasarawa	Kwara	
5	Taraba	Niger	
6	Delta	Kogi	
7	Borno*	Sokoto	
8	Oyo	Ekiti	
9	Lagos	Benue	
10	Ogun		
11	Katsina		

It is expected that branches in 12 of the above states (Adamawa, Borno, Delta, Edo, Kaduna, Katsina, Lagos, Nasarawa, Ogun, Oyo, Plateau and Taraba states): will need assistance in order to improve their level of preparedness to respond to election related violence. The majority of the affected people are likely to be those attending rallies during campaigns and also those participating in the voting process on the polling day. After the elections, if there is dissatisfaction among people with the outcome of the elections, violence may affect many people and the affected will be provided with assistance by the NRCS volunteers and staff. Due to the insurgency, it is likely that some people may experience improvised explosive devices (IEDs) or attacks during campaigns and the voting period.

**Please note that Adamawa and Borno states are being included in the DREF operation since though they are being supported through the MDRNG018 Complex Emergency Appeal – there is no cross in terms of preparedness activities.*

Risk Assessment

Current security concerns relate to the vulnerabilities of staff and volunteers from bomb blasts (IEDs) during voting periods. Some areas of the country are under the control of the insurgency and it is not clear how the voting will be carried out in those locations. The NRCS will work closely with the ICRC to ensure the safety of the volunteers in the conflict prone states to ensure their security and well-being. The volunteers will be provided with necessary training and protective equipment to manage their own risk.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall objective

The immediate needs of populations affected by election related violence are met through the provision of emergency first aid and psychosocial support.

Proposed strategy

- Carry out continuous assessment of the situation through participating in meetings with key stakeholders at Federal, state and branch levels. Branch level staff will be trained on how to conduct community assessments and continuous monitoring and reporting of the situation. Channels of communication and reporting will be established from the local government areas, state capital to the national headquarters (NHQ). The EFATs will be trained on simple, easy-to use templates of gathering and reporting data to the branch focal persons.

- Establishment of referral systems with the existing institutions such as the health facilities, NEMA and State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) at state level. As part of preparedness, discussions will be held with the identified institutions on the modalities of collaboration.
- Coordination with other stakeholders will be promoted before, during and after the elections. Internal coordination within the movement will be enhanced especially with the finalization of the movement cooperation agreement.
- Joint contingency planning workshop for election preparedness will be carried out (in January 2015), with the intention of this to inform the approach and strategy on how to provide meaningful assistance to the people who will be affected by election violence. During the contingency planning workshop only key people from the 12 identified states will participate in the training. In total 24 participants from the 12 branches and six (6) people (three facilitators and three participants) from the NRCS HQ will participate in the two day workshop. ICRC and IFRC (country and Zone) including two external organizations will provide technical support during the workshop.
- Training of trainers (ToT) workshop for 24 EFAT team leaders will be carried out to equip them with skills in the Safe Access Framework, emergency First Aid, psychosocial support, facilitation, and communications. In addition to the team leaders, six (6) people from the HQ will participate: - three people as facilitators and three people as participants. The EFAT team leaders will undergo a three (3) days training of trainers, and then be expected to cascade the training to EFAT members at state level. Each branch will cascade the training to 15 EFAT members. Previous investments in from the ICRC, IFRC and other donors will be taken into consideration in order to maximize the support being provided to strengthen the EFATs through the DREF allocation
- In total, 180 EFAT members (15 people per branch) will be trained for two (2) days on emergency first aid, psychosocial support and safer access framework. The EFATs are expected to respond to any violence before, during and after the elections. The EFAT training will include Safer Access Framework, as well as emergency first aid and psychosocial support. The EFATs will be equipped with basic first aid knowledge, materials and they will be linked to the referral facilities in the states. Previous investments in the EFATs since 2013 from ICRC, IFRC and other donors will be taken into consideration in order to maximize the support being provided through the DREF allocation. Each EFAT will be deployed for 14 days. The branch secretaries and disaster management coordinators in the identified states will act as links to both the NRCS headquarters and EFATs. They will also ensure that the activities of the EFATs are well structured, monitored and coordinated
- Prepositioning of basic first aid materials and body bags for 12 states will be procured in December 2014 and stocked. The two national warehouses (Lagos and Kano) will be used as points of distributions. The first aid materials will be procured centrally by the HQ and will be distributed to the identified branches before the elections. In addition, traditional first aid services will be provided by the branches during campaign rallies and also during the voting period.
- Procurement of protective equipment (gloves, nose masks, stretchers, safety goggles, safety helmets) and visibility items (ID cards, bibs, stickers and flags) for volunteers. Body bags will also be acquired from the ICRC.
- Dissemination of Red Cross fundamental principles through the distribution of Information, Education and Communication materials on the Red Cross fundamental principles.

Operational support services

Human resources

The DREF operation will require addition resources to be mobilized, specifically through the deployment of 10 NDRTs and one RDRT between January and March 2015 depending on the outcome of the election results, to provide dedicated support to the DREF operation. The NDRTs will be based in the field and they will be required to travel from one state to the other. They will work initially for 14 days and will be deployed to support the EFAT members in the branches. The NDRTs and RDRT will assist in training of EFATs and also to monitor their activities. The NDRTs and RDRT will ensure that reporting on the operation is carried out on a timely basis. The overall management of the operation will be under the disaster management coordinator who reports to the head of programmes. The branch secretaries will be responsible for the implementation of the operation at the branch level and they will report to the disaster management coordinator on technical level. The EFATs will be provided with daily allowances and all the staff that will be involved in the operation will be provided with transport accommodation and per diem. The NDRT and RDRT will be provided with per-diem, accommodation, insurance and remunerations according to the standard

practice. The operation will support branch capacity by providing support to rentals and utilities as well as maintenance of branch vehicles used during the operation.

Logistics and supply chain

All the supplies will be procured locally except for items not available in the country at the time of procurement. The logistics unit of the NRCS will follow IFRC standard procurement procedures and SPHERE Standards. However, whenever there is a logistical gap, technical support will be requested from the IFRC West Coast regional representation and the IFRC Zone Logistics Unit.

Information technologies (IT)

Communication costs for the operation will be provided to staff and volunteers involved in the operation before, during and after the elections. ICRC will support the NS to establish VHF and HF radios in the branches and at HQ. Where possible some volunteers will be provided with mobile phones to enable them report timely.

Communications

The NRCS will share information and updates on the operation with the donors, authorities, partners and media. The Secretary General will be responsible for communication to external stakeholders. At the operational level, the communication department will undertake communication activities aimed to increase visibility of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and to show impact of our contribution. The IFRC will support with the documentation and publication of stories on the IFRC website.

Security

Security of volunteers and staff involved in the operation will be prioritized – given the prevailing situation and potential for further civil unrest, the safety of volunteers and staff will be carefully considered within this operation. The ICRC and the NRCS have conducted a Safer Access Framework Training for personnel of the NRCS HQ and 22 branches. These branches are identified in the document as High and Medium Risk states for the upcoming elections. Collaboration will be enhanced with a view to getting accurate and timely data on the security situation in the operational areas.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) of activities within the DREF operation will be carried out at all levels, led by NRCS PMER unit with support of the West Coast regional representation PMER unit. Weekly reporting of activities will be submitted by the EFATs and NDRT/RDRT of all activities carried out to the NHQ Disaster Management Coordinator and IFRC Operations Manager. The NDRTs and RDRT will also be involved in the monitoring of activities, and ensuring that reporting on the DREF operation is carried out on a timely basis. Monitoring and supervision visits by branch staff (four days, and two people per branch) in the 12 states, and headquarters staff (six people for four days per visit) have been budgeted for to further ensure the effective implementation of activities. A DREF review will be conducted to capture the lessons learned during the operation and document good practices as well as challenges, which have also been budgeted for.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

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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 Disaster 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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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.

DREF OPERATION

23/12/2014

MDRNG019

Budget Group	DREF grant budget
Shelter - Relief	0
Shelter - Transitional	0
Construction - Housing	0
Construction - Facilities	0
Construction - Materials	0
Clothing & Textiles	0
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	0
Medical & First Aid	48,810
Teaching Materials	0
Utensils & Tools	0
Other Supplies & Services	0
Emergency Response Units	0
Cash Disbursements	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	48,810
Land & Buildings	0
Vehicles Purchase	0
Computer & Telecom Equipment	0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	0
Medical Equipment	0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	0
Distribution & Monitoring	0
Transport & Vehicle Costs	0
Logistics Services	0
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	0
International Staff	12,496
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	11,563
Volunteers	69,834
Total PERSONNEL	93,893
Consultants	0
Professional Fees	0
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	65,230
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	65,230
Travel	0
Information & Public Relations	13,665
Office Costs	1,471
Communications	1,233
Financial Charges	1,000
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Support Services	0
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	17,369
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	14,645
Total INDIRECT COSTS	14,645
TOTAL BUDGET	239,946

