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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) Central African Republic: Berbérati Storms



DREF Operation ° MDRCF019	
Date of issue: 14 May, 2015	Date of disaster: 24 April 2015
Operation manager: Pierre Danladi, IFRC operations manager	Point of contact: Pierre Danladi, IFRC operations manager
Operation start date: 13 May 2015	Expected timeframe: Three months (End date: 13 August 2015)
Overall operation budget: CHF 99,788	
Number of people affected: 210 households (1,109 people)	Number of people to be assisted: 210 households (1,109 people)
Host National Society presence: Five national headquarters staff (Head of Health, Head of communications, programme coordinator, disaster management officer and finance officer), three national disaster response team members, 35 volunteers, and two drivers.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: Central African Republic Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: None	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

On 24 April 2015, continuous storms resulted in extensive flooding, destruction of houses and loss of household belongings in the first, second, third, fourth and fifth districts of Berbérati, located 584 kilometres from Bangui, in the Central African Republic (CAR). According to a rapid assessment carried out by the local committee of the Central African Republic Red Cross (CAR RC), 210 households (1,109 people) have been affected, with 199 houses completely destroyed. It has been reported that one person has been killed, and seven injured, which have been referred to the Berbérati regional hospital for treatment.

As of 5 May 2015, the displaced population is being hosted by other households within Berbérati; however some are living in the open air, increasing their exposure to the extreme weather conditions, as well as their risk to communicable and respiratory diseases. In addition, water and sanitation infrastructures have been submerged; and contaminated, increasing the risk of spread of waterborne diseases. It is expected that situation will worsen, as the CAR meteorological department has forecast that the rains will continue. Therefore, an immediate response to support the needs of the affected population is required, especially since they are also located in an area that has experienced the effects of the on-going conflict in the country, and were already extremely vulnerable prior to the flooding.

Summary of current response

Overview of Host National Society

From the onset of the disaster, the CAR RC through its local Red Cross Committee in Berbérati mobilized 35 volunteers for the immediate response, in collaboration with the local authorities. The CAR RC volunteers have carried out first aid for minor to medium injuries and transferred major injuries to the regional hospital. In addition, the volunteers conducted psychosocial support for some of the affected households and assisted in evacuating others to the host families. They also conducted a rapid assessment to ascertain the magnitude of the disaster and to identify

the needs of those affected. With the rains continuing in the affected area, the volunteers are monitoring the situation and are on standby for any eventualities.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is providing assistance through its CAR country representation, Central Africa regional representation (CARREP) representation, and Africa zone office. Since the onset of the disaster, there has been regular contact with the IFRC CAR country representation, CARREP and Africa zone disaster management unit (DMU); and regular updates on the situation and activities. On 26 April 2015, an alert was issued using the IFRC disaster management information system (DMIS), and an Operational Strategy Call carried out with colleagues at Secretariat, zone and regional level. It was agreed that an allocation should be made from the Disaster Relief and Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the CAR RC to respond to the situation. Prior to the rainfall, the population of Berbérati had been targeted through the on-going MDRCF017 Civil Unrest Emergency Appeal (EA). However, due to low funding this area has not received any assistance. It is thus intended that the DREF allocation would be used specifically to support those households that have been directly affected by the storms in Berbérati, since they are now even more vulnerable, and not to cover activities planned within the EA that have not been carried out due to low funding. The IFRC CAR country representation are also working with the Global Fund, specifically the implementation of HIV, malaria and tuberculosis related operation, which will complement the DREF operation (specifically the distribution of mosquito nets through the Global Fund malaria operation). The French Red Cross have an in-country presence, but are not actively involved in the operation as their focus is supporting those populations affected by the civil unrest. Other movement partners in the country include the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Qatari Red Crescent. However, they have not yet mobilized resources for this response.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

Approximately 100 national and international non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies are operating in CAR; however are mostly involved in the response to the on-going civil unrest, and not the storms in Berberati. Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) have carried out an assessment of the situation but not committed to providing a response; however should this be received, a revision to the activities planned within this DREF operation might need to be considered to avoid any potential duplication.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Needs analysis

As noted, a CAR RC rapid assessment was carried out following the storm, which identified that at least 210 families (1,109) people have been affected by the storm. Please refer to “Table 1: Summary of affected population by neighbourhood”

Table 1: Summary of affected population by neighbourhood

Locality	No of affected families	No. totally damaged houses	No. partially damaged houses	Affected children	Affected women	Affected men	Total affected people
First district	37	37	-	137	38	37	212
Second district	42	42	-	167	42	42	251
Third district	47	40	7	178	47	47	272
Fourth district	39	39	-	99	39	39	177
Fifth district	45	41	4	106	46	45	197
Total	210	199	11	687	212	210	1,109

During the assessment, the immediate needs identified in the following sectors: Shelter and settlements (including non-food items); health and care, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion. Please note that since this is an area that is prone to storms, and resulting flooding, it was recommended that a disaster risk reduction component be integrated within the activities planned to help support the resilience of the affected population beyond the DREF operation.

Risk analysis

In CAR, the rainy season lasts from June to September in the northern regions of the country; and from May to October in the southern regions. As noted, it is expected that the situation will worsen, as the meteorological department forecast that the rains are going to continue, and as such an immediate response to the needs of the affected population is required. In addition, as has been explained, CAR is continuing to experience civil unrest in most parts of the country, with close to one million people displaced within or outside the country; however the United Nations peacekeeping force (MINUSCA) are present in the Berbérati; and as such the situation in this area is relatively stable. As of 5 May 2015, the CAR RC have access to Berbérati, and have been able to transport/distribute mosquito net distributions as part of a Global Fund operation. In addition, CAR RC is also providing sensitization of the population in the area to ensure access, as well as the safety and security of its staff and volunteers

Beneficiary selection

The CAR RC intends to support all 210 households (1,109 people) affected by the storms, since they are all regarded as extremely vulnerable given the on-going civil unrest; however they ensure that the DREF operation is aligned with the IFRC's commitment to realize gender equality and diversity, by adapting a beneficiary selection criteria that targets (women headed-households, people with disabilities etc.) where possible. Other aspects considered will include prevention of sexual violence and gender-based violence, and the protection of children.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall Objective

The storm-affected population's survival and immediate needs are met through the provision of essential emergency relief, shelter items, health and care, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion assistance, targeting a total of 210 households (1,109 people) in five neighbourhoods of Berbérati, CAR.

**NB though Berbérati is included in the MDRCF017 Civil Unrest EA; the DREF operation is intended to support those directly affected by the storms only, and not the existing activities planned within the EA, which have not been carried out due to low funding.*

Proposed strategy

The proposed strategy of this DREF operation aims to support 210 families (1109) people located across the 1st - 5th districts of Berbérati town in the Mambere Kadei region of CAR with activities focused on:

- Distribution of Essential Household Items (EHIs) / Non-Food Items to 210 households (1,109 people), who have lost all their household items following the storms, specifically: 555 blankets (one for two persons); 210 kitchen sets (one per household), 555 mats (one for two persons), 555 mosquito nets* (two for two persons), and 210 solar lamps (one per household). In addition, the 35 volunteers will receive briefing on distribution techniques; and provide sensitization on the use of the EHIs / NFIs at the point of receipt. It is expected that the 35 volunteers will be mobilized for two days (one day for briefing; one day for distribution).
- Distribution of emergency shelter materials to 210 households (1,109 people) whose houses have been damaged/destroyed, specifically: 420 big poles (two per household), 1,260 small poles (six per household), 210 IFRC standard shelter kits (one per household), 420 tarpaulins (two per household), as well as fixing materials. In addition, the 35 volunteers will receive training (three days) on safe housing construction approaches, and then be mobilized for 15 days to support households with construction. Please note that since this is an area that is prone to storms, and resulting flooding, a disaster risk reduction component will be integrated to help support the resilience of the affected population beyond the DREF operation.

- Distribution of water purification tablets; and sensitization on their use to promote the provision of safe water supply, as well as disinfection of contaminated latrines using cresyl and calcium hypochlorite. In addition, five community sanitation committees will be established (one per neighbourhood), and equipped with buckets, sanitation kits, sprayers and tumblers to ensure that the latrines can be kept clean beyond the DREF operation. It is expected that the 35 volunteers will be mobilized for seven days to support the disinfection of latrines.
- Distribution of hygiene related NFIs to 210 households (1,109 people), specifically: 210 buckets (17 litres / one per household), 420 hygiene kits for women (two per household), 210 jerry cans (20 litres / one per household) and 1,050 pieces of soap (five pieces per household). In addition, the 35 volunteers will receive training on storm-related risk and hygiene promotion, and carry out sensitization across the five districts. It is expected that the 35 volunteers will be mobilized 30 days to carry out the storm-related risk and hygiene promotion campaigns, and will be equipped with information, education and communication materials (IECs) including image boxes (five / one per neighbourhood), leaflets (500 / 100 per neighbourhood), posters (100 / 20 per neighbourhood) and megaphones (five / one per neighbourhood).
- Provision of first aid services; and referral to local health centres. Please note that first aid kits (10) that have been used during the immediate response will be replenished through the DREF allocation.

All activities planned will be in accordance with the recognized SPHERE standards.

**NB mosquito nets to be mobilized through the Global Fund; and not through the DREF allocation*

Operational support services

Human resources

The DREF operation will require the mobilization of the following personnel:

- One CAR RC programme coordinator (10 days per month) and one CAR RC disaster management officer (15 days per month) will be dedicated to support the implementation of the DREF operation. Each will be issued with a per diem of CHF 27.8 per day. In addition, a finance officer (15 days per month) will be dedicated to the DREF operation, and issued with a per diem of 13.93 per day; along with two drivers (20 days per month), and issued with a per diem of CHF 13.88 per day. The CAR RC heads of health and communications will also support the supervision of the DREF operation from national headquarters (NHQ) level, and will carry out monitoring missions.
- 35 CAR RC volunteers will be deployed. Each volunteer will be issued with a per diem of CHF 5.5 per day to support them with the implementation of activities planned, including loading, unloading and distribution of EHIs / NFIs, shelter construction, storm-related risk and hygiene promotion campaigns etc. Each volunteer will be issued with a bib to promote the visibility of the Movement; as well as ensure their safety and security in the affected areas.
- Three NDRT (with hygiene promotion profile) will be deployed to support the storm-related risk and hygiene promotion campaigns. Each NDRT will be issued with a per diem of CHF 27.8 per day; and will be mobilized for 10 days.
- One IFRC shelter and settlements specialist will be deployed to support the effective implementation (and quality assurance) of the safe house building training of volunteers; and has been budgeted (CHF 3,000 for transportation, per diem and accommodation).

Logistics and supply chain

Items required for this DREF operation will be procured and transported from the IFRC CARREP pre-positioned stocks, and then replenished. If any items are not available (e.g. poles) through the IFRC CARREP they will be procured locally. Transportation from Yaoundé to Berbérati, which is situated some 584km from Bangui, will be delivered by a rented vehicle, and is expected to take one week. The items will be transported between these two towns by road. A warehouse, where the items will be offloaded to, will be rented in Berbérati. The distribution will take place in the safest place possible, within the affected communities, as identified by the communities themselves. Two

4x4 IFRC vehicles will also be leased to support the volunteers and staff movement, during the operation. All items that will be bought to replenish the stocks will be according to the IFRC GLs procurement procedures.

Information technologies (IT)

During the DREF operation, the team will utilise internet connectivity, and airtime, which has been budgeted for and enable communication to and from the affected areas, and thus help ensure the safety and security of staff and volunteers.

Communications

Communication and visibility of the work of CAR RC through this DREF operation will be ensure through local media and information, education and communication visibility material. As noted, CAR RC volunteers will be issued with bibs. A proper documentation and reporting to allow for lessons learnt will also be ensured. The CAR RC will provide regular updates on the operation. The communication will not only focus on the disaster and the Red Cross response but will also focus on hygiene, health and sanitation messages targeting both the affected group and the host communities.

Security

The CAR is experiencing persistent violence in several parts of the country that has so far displaced close to one million people within and outside the country. There is increased insecurity and the situation remains precariously unpredictable. However, Berbérati is one of the areas that have been affected by the current conflict. The IFRC and the CAR RC together with other movement partners, have however been carrying out dissemination within communities about the humanitarian role of the Red Cross and the movement continues to have safe access within areas deemed to be inaccessible by other actors. Further, there is a presence of the peacekeeping forces in Berbérati and this provides good protection for the beneficiaries of the response items. Currently, the CARC volunteers, IFRC personnel and the Ministry of Health are involved in the mass distribution of mosquito nets in this area under the Global Fund malaria grant for CAR.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

Continuous monitoring is being covered by the CAR RC local committees, the CARC at the NHQ level in close cooperation with the IFRC country representation and IFRC CARREP will monitor the progress of the operation and provide necessary technical expertise. The CAR RC will be assisted by the IFRC CAR country representations operations manager and the communications delegate on planning, implementation, monitoring, documentation and the reporting of the activities planned. All the planned activities will be carried out with the collaboration of the affected communities and the local authorities. A IFRC CARREP monitoring mission has been budgeted (CHF 1,500); as well as NHQ costs for two seven day missions to the area of implementation. Brief weekly updates will be provided to the IFRC on general progress of the operation, and regular monitoring reports will provide detailed indicator tracking. In addition, a beneficiary satisfaction survey will also be carried out at the end of the DREF operation; and has been budgeted (10 volunteers for three days @ CHF 5.5 per day).

Administration and Finance

The CAR RC has a permanent administrative and financial department, which will ensure the proper use of financial resources in accordance with conditions to be discussed in the Memorandum of Understanding between the National Society and the IFRC. Management of financial resources will be effective according to the procedures of the CAR RC and DREF guidelines.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

Quality programming / Areas common to all sectors

Outcome 1: Continuous assessment, analysis and coordination to inform the design and implementation of the DREF operation													
Output 1.1: Monitoring of DREF operation informs revisions to the Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)													
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Monitoring and reporting on activities													
Conduct beneficiary satisfaction survey (Target: 10 volunteers for three days)													

Health & care

Outcome 1: Immediate risks to the health of the storm-affected population is reduced in five neighbourhoods in Berberati district, over a period of three months													
Output 1.1: Target population in the affected areas are provided with mosquito nets; and sensitization on their use (Target: 210 households / 1,109 beneficiaries) households / 3,000 beneficiaries)													
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Distribute mosquito nets to target population (three per household) (Target: 555 mosquito nets)*													
Demonstration for the beneficiaries on how to use the mosquito net. (Target: 210 households / 1,109 beneficiaries)													
Output 1.2: Target population is provided with first aid services (Target: 210 households / 1,109 beneficiaries)													
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Provide first aid to people who are injured.													
Provide referrals for affected people to the health centres													
Replenishment of first aid kits (Target: 10 first aid kits)													

*NB mosquito nets to be mobilized through the Global Fund; and not through the DREF allocation

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 enquiries)

- **IFRC Africa Zone:** Robert Ondrusek, PMER Coordinator, Nairobi, phone: +254 731 067277, email: robert.ondrusek@ifrc.org

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 (NGOs) 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.

Budget

MDRCF019: Central African Rep - Storm

14/05/2015

Budget Group	DREF grant budget
Shelter - Relief	16,968
Shelter - Transitional	0
Construction - Housing	0
Construction - Facilities	0
Construction - Materials	0
Clothing & Textiles	4,440
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	7,361
Medical & First Aid	926
Teaching Materials	1,354
Utensils & Tools	9,359
Other Supplies & Services	0
Emergency Response Units	0
Cash Disbursements	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	40,407
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	185
Distribution & Monitoring	12,844
Transport & Vehicle Costs	5,585
Logistics Services	4,680
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	23,295
International Staff	0
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	4,377
Volunteers	12,149
Total PERSONNEL	16,526
Consultants	0
Professional Fees	0
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	1,974
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	1,974
Travel	5,967
Information & Public Relations	1,297
Office Costs	1,574
Communications	2,657
Financial Charges	0
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Support Services	0
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	11,495
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	6,090
Total INDIRECT COSTS	6,090
TOTAL BUDGET	99,788