

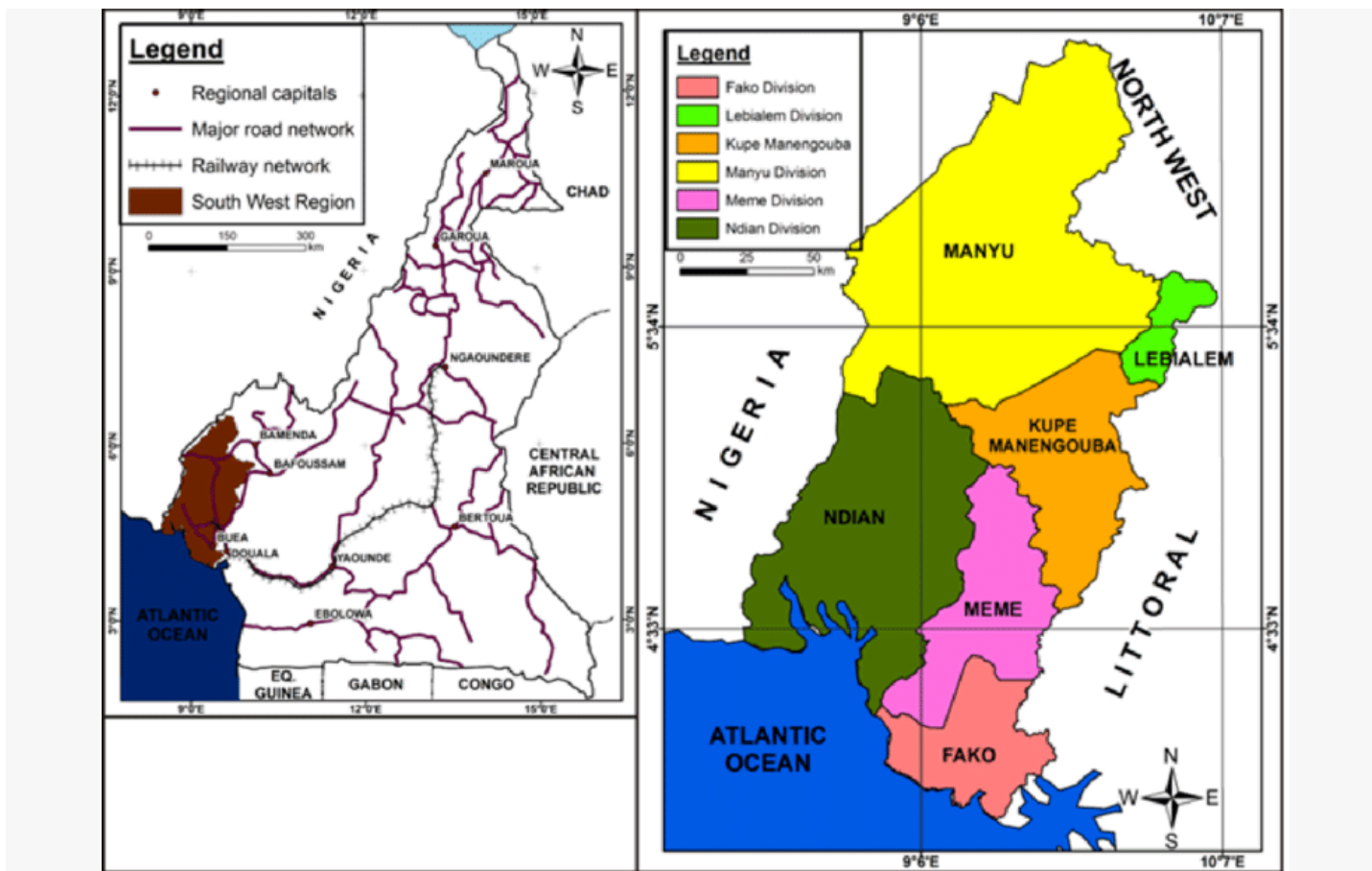


A beneficiary after receiving her WASH kits and NFIs in Limbe. Credit: Cameroon Red Cross

Appeal: MDRCM034	Total DREF Allocation: CHF 159,999	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Flood
Glide Number: FL-2023-000135-CMR	People Affected: 93,255 people	People Targeted: 1,600 people	
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 03-08-2023	Operational End Date: 31-12-2023	Total Operating Timeframe: 4 months
Targeted Areas: Sud-Ouest			

The major donors and partners of the IFRC-DREF include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Britain, China, Czech, Canada, Denmark, German, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, Malta, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, and the Netherlands, as well as DG ECHO, Mondelez Foundation, and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the National Society, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.

Description of the Event



Date of event

19-07-2023

What happened, where and when?

Located in the South-West Region of Cameroon, the city of Limbe was drenched by continuous heavy rains from 18 to 19 July 2023 that resulted in flooding (in the DOWN BEACH and CHURCH STREET neighborhoods) and landslides (MAWOH neighborhood). The flooding was largely due to run-off water and unplanned construction, which prevents water from circulating normally. The neighborhoods' worst affected were CHURCH STREET (700 people), MAWOH (400 people) and DOWN BEACH (500 people), making a total of about 1,600 people directly affected by the flooding.

These floods caused the destruction of one residence and extensive damage to around 250 homes, as the houses were completely flooded, damaging household equipment such as bedding, clothing, furniture, kitchen utensils, etc. Other damage recorded was the destruction of goods in stores, and the most serious case was the suspected disappearance of an adult, 05 injured and 02 killed.

It's important to note that the town of Limbe is located in a bay against the flank of the volcanic chain. The city lies on a plain that is highly exposed to flooding from regular heavy rainfall, as well as to landslides from the mountainside. Some vulnerable populations have built their homes around the swampy areas, thus blocking the passage for run-off water hence the risk of flooding is increased in the region, with the corollary of water-borne diseases.

On 10 March, the report from the Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action System (AMHEWAS) Situation Room for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) classified Cameroon as a Level 2 alert overall, with a moderate level of risk for certain regions, including the South-West. The multi-risk meteorological bulletin published on 14 July 2023 indicated that the period from 14 to 17 July 2023 would be marked by heavy rains accompanied by strong winds, with a risk of flooding, particularly in certain towns in the Littoral (Douala and Nkongsamba), West, North-West and South-West Regions (Buea, Limbe and Tiko).





Volunteers during the initial assessment in the streets of Limbe 1



House partially covered by the landslide

Scope and Scale

According to initial information received from the Fako Divisional Committee of the Red Cross, the locality of Limbe 1 suffered flooding in the Church Street and Down Beach neighborhoods and a landslide in the Mawoh neighborhood due to the torrential rains of 18 July. The damage recorded by volunteers put the number of people affected at over 1,600, or almost 229 households. The figures are likely to increase given the difficult access to most of the affected areas due to water levels. In fact, the Limbe 1 district has 93,255 inhabitants with a density of 1,167 inhabitants per Km². According to the local branch believes, around 40% of those affected have taken refuge in host families in neighborhoods spared so far by the floods.

As for other damage within the community, the Limbe 1 District Medical Centre was also flooded, making access to this health facility difficult for patients and staff. Furthermore, around 60 shops, including 21 in New Market, were also flooded, causing the partial destruction of goods (foodstuffs, fabrics, groceries, etc.) and posing supply problems for these populations.

The town of Limbe is no stranger to such damage. In fact, every year during the big rainy season, several neighborhoods are flooded with various material damages and sometimes loss of life, these include 2 deaths recorded during a landslide in 2022 and 4 deaths in the 2018 floods.

The affected area is quite dense, and this situation is exacerbated by the population movements from villages where insecurity reigns as a result of the socio-political crisis that has been raging in the region since 2016, to neighboring urban centers (Buea, Tiko and Limbe). These vulnerable populations build their dwellings in marshes, closing the way to run-off water. The main groups at risk of flood damage are people who are already economically vulnerable, both indigenous and internally displaced, forced to build in dangerous areas.

The Cameroon Red Cross Divisional Committee mobilized 20 volunteers to assess the situation, and observed that the impact of the disaster was being felt mainly in the following sectors:

- Health, hygiene and sanitation: Blocked drains led to waste and rubbish being dumped on public roads and neighborhood streets, exposing these communities to the risk of disease, mainly malaria, which is endemic in the sub-region, and cholera, which had an upsurge in 2022 in the area to which the National Society responded through a DREF. Although water is supplied in the town by the national water corporation, some of the population in the affected neighborhoods continued to fetch water from open wells and a few private boreholes. Other supply sources (rivers and streams) were patronized by displaced persons, and the dubious quality of this water made these people more vulnerable to water-borne diseases.
- Essential household items (HHIs): Nearly 250 houses were completely flooded, with mattresses, blankets, clothes, household furniture and kitchen utensils destroyed or washed out by water and mudflow slides.

National Society Actions

Have the National Society conducted any intervention additionally to those part of this DREF Operation?	No
Please provide a brief description of those additional activities	-

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	<p>The IFRC Delegation in Yaoundé provided technical support for the development of this action plan and assisted the NS throughout the operation. Several staff (WASH, communication, CASH) were deployed to the field on two occasions to provide support to the National Society in order to sustain the activities. This was the case for the training of volunteers, the targeting of beneficiaries, cash and HHI distributions, awareness-raising on WASH, etc.</p> <p>The Cluster also provided support for the lessons learned workshop, which was attended by representatives of the beneficiaries, the departmental committee and staff from the national headquarters and the Cluster involved in implementing this operation.</p> <p>Other support department staff (finance, logistics, NSD, PMER) provided remote support for procurement procedures and budget monitoring for this operation.</p> <p>The support of the security focal point also made it possible to monitor the security situation in this part of the country, which has been in crisis for several years, in order to avoid uncomfortable situations for staff deployed in the field.</p>
Participating National Societies	<p>The French Red Cross, which is the only PNS in the country, was made aware of the situation and received the initial field reports from the NS. They did not take responded to this crisis.</p>

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

ICRC has an office in Cameroon that covers the sub-region. The initial field reports were shared by the NS to ICRC.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	<p>A crisis meeting was immediately held with all the stakeholders in the Fako Division, including the Senior Divisional Officer (SDO), the Divisional Officer (DO) and the City Mayor. During this meeting, the authorities took the decision to demolish the houses located in risky areas, more specifically on hillsides, and to clean up the drainage system. Furthermore, they discussed the possibility of putting up warning signs prohibiting building in these areas.</p> <p>The council set up a resettlement site identified at the Bota 1 public school.</p>
UN or other actors	<p>UNICEF met with the authorities to obtain further information on the flooding and landslides. The UN representative also visited the identified resettlement site.</p>
Are there major coordination mechanism in place?	



A crisis committee was set up at divisional level, with the Council acting as the lead. This committee worked to resettle people affected by the flooding at the Bota 1 public school site with the assistance of available partners.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Health

Flooding is a factor in exposure to cholera and other water-borne diseases. The South West Region (Limbe, Tiko and Buea) was the focus of a cholera outbreak in December 2022. The town of Limbe remained an active focus and required particular attention, as the epidemic could return and even intensify.

As floodwaters carried and littered waste everywhere, and also caused latrines to overflow, there was a high risk that drinking water supplies would get infested. The Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) survey conducted as part of the cholera and monkey pox DREF in the towns of Limbe, Tiko and Buea revealed that almost 20% of the population fetch water from wells, boreholes and streams.

At community level, stagnant water and waste dumped in the open fostered the creation of mosquito niches and was conducive to diarrheal diseases and other dirty water-related diseases. The risk of a disease/epidemic was considered a priority in terms of disease prevention.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

The fact that the rains have been continuing for several days makes the situation even more worrying. Information from the volunteers indicate that the water drainage channels were completely blocked, making it difficult to carry out sanitation work within the communities, all of which created a risky environment for households, especially children and pregnant or lactating women. Rainwater that could not be found had its way through stagnated water and limited environmental hygiene conditions, while creating niches for vectors of diseases such as malaria and other water-borne diseases.

A number of households that found refuge with host families needed support for household hygiene. It was necessary to assist these families with products to purify drinking water and water for domestic use, as well as utensils for water supply and conservation.

The situation described above also exacerbated the vulnerability of women at childbearing age, more specifically when it comes to their menstrual hygiene management. Women in the Southwest region make up around 52% of the households. There was a need for hygiene kits to help them better manage their menstrual hygiene.



Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery

It was noted that the affected populations were not fully aware of the areas at risk and of early warnings to be able to take shelter in the event of a disaster. They needed to be better informed so that they could protect themselves.

Bearing in mind the variations in climate, the rainy season which began in June lasted until early September. According to the Directorate of National Meteorology, there was also a significant variation in the level of rainfall, which rose from 25mm in end of June to around 350mm since 16 July in the coastal zone. This posed a risk flooding spreading to other neighborhoods, not to mention the risk of the landslides.

Capacity building of volunteers in disaster risk reduction and to sensitize the population on the need to shun settling in high-risk areas was thus identified as a major need. There was also a need to advocate for authorities to take immediate decisions about the uncontrolled settlement of populations in high-risk areas. The mapping of these areas being very useful in reducing the impact of disaster.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Generally speaking, people are unaware of the Red Cross mission, mandate and principles. This could explain the rejection the teams suffered during previous operations. Thus communication was identified as a need as it would facilitate the acceptance of volunteers on the ground.



Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

This operation aimed at improving the living conditions of people affected by flooding in Limbe by providing direct assistance to 229 households (1,600 people) with regard to hygiene, health and essential items.

The project reached its objective by providing cash and NFIs to 229 most vulnerable households and dignity kits to 208 women of childbearing age. Besides, 19,525 people were reached with awareness-raising and benefited from the various community cleaning activities.

Operation strategy rationale

To achieve its objective of providing immediate assistance to 229 flood-affected households, CRC planned to deploy 25 volunteers for 4 months with the following specific objectives:

1- Improving the living conditions of 229 disaster-stricken households (1,600 people) through the distribution of unconditional cash, i.e. CFAF 64,000, corresponding to the transfer value harmonized by the Cameroon Cash Working Group. This to enable the targeted households to cover their needs according to their priorities. The National Society entered into framework agreements with PSFs, namely MTN and Express Union, which are widely used in the area. The feasibility study that was carried out in December 2022 showed that cash transfers are preferred by beneficiaries and can be effected safely in certain towns in the South-West, including Limbe, in the markets that are functional and goods available. A cash distribution took place in May 2023 without any incident.

2- Improving hygiene conditions for 229 targeted households, or 1,600 people, through:

- the distribution of 144,270 Aqua tabs for the purification of drinking water, at a rate of 630 tablets per household, for 90 days (i.e. 1 tablet per person per day for 3 months). Some 100 additional tablets will also be purchased for use during the demonstrations.

- The distribution of 229 WASH kits to 229 identified households. Each kit will include 2 jerry cans, 2 (20L) buckets with cover, 7 (250g) soaps, 2 (1L) cups, 1 child defecation pot and 1 basin.)

- community clean-up and water drainage work in order to limit the health risks associated with exposure to bad weather and seriously deteriorated hygiene and sanitation conditions, especially for households and structures that have been flooded. To this end, sanitation equipment will be made available to volunteers who will carry out disinfections in at-risk areas at the rate of 2 campaigns per month for 3 months. Each campaign lasts two days. During these sessions, wastewater management will also be promoted to contribute to environmental hygiene.

- Distribution of menstrual hygiene kits to 208 women at childbearing age: According to a community survey carried out by volunteers, women prefer disposable sanitary pads. The kit will consist of 06 packs of sanitary pads (i.e., 02 per month for 03 months), 06 bars of soap, 05 pairs of dark-colored cotton pants, 01 toiletry bag, 01 (10)-litre bucket with a non-transparent cover and 01 pack of garbage bags.

- Sensitization campaigns in the Limbe 1 subdivision, which has a population of 93,255 inhabitants.

3- Improving the health conditions of 229 households through:

- Sensitization on the prevention and control of water-borne diseases, malaria and cholera.

- First aid and psychological first aid to affected people, as may be required.

- Distribution of insecticide-treated mosquito nets to 229 households at a rate of 03 nets per household to prevent malaria.

4- Building the operational capacities of subdivisional committees by providing 10 first-aid kits possible interventions.

Targeting Strategy

Who was targeted by this operation?

The operation planned to reach :

- 229 most vulnerable households whose homes were flooded with cash and WASH kits.

- 208 women at childbearing age with dignity kits.

- 18,651 people with WASH sensitisation campaigns.



Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

Assistance in the form of cash and WASH kits targeted 229 most vulnerable households whose homes were flooded, destroyed or partially destroyed, with priority given to:

- female-headed households
- households with vulnerable people and people with specific needs,
- the most economically vulnerable households

The targeting of 18,651 WASH sensitisation beneficiaries corresponded to 20% of the 93,255 people living in Limbe 1.

The targeting of 208 women beneficiaries of dignity kits taking into account the fact that women represent 52% of the population and 25% of them are at childbearing age for a ratio of 1.5 per household.

Total Targeted Population

Women	707	Rural	-
Girls (under 18)	125	Urban	100%
Men	614	People with disabilities (estimated)	8%
Boys (under 18)	154		
Total targeted population	1,600		

Risk and Security Considerations

Please indicate about potential operation risk for this operations and mitigation actions

Risk	Mitigation action
Discontent on the part of households in Limbe 1 which will not be among the beneficiaries.	Communication with the community through: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- community meetings with community leaders.- setting up of an information feedback mechanism.
Difficulty of access to certain areas due to the rains that continue to fall.	Providing Volunteers with personal protective equipment.
Inaccessibility of headquarters support teams in the Division due to the ongoing socio-political unrest in the region.	A remote activity monitoring plan will be set up. In addition, coordination meetings will be held every week to avoid any lack of information.
Poor perception and reluctance on the part of	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-At the start of the project, the team will meet with the authorities to explain the rationale for this type of assistance and the project objectives.- Good communication will be maintained with the authorities throughout the operation via visits during missions and regular information letters on the progress of implementation.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

Since 2016, the Southwest Region is grappling with a socio-political crisis. Armed groups are operating in the area perpetrating kidnappings and murders in some peripheral localities of the Fako Division. Nevertheless, Limbe which is the regional chief town, remains relatively calm owing to a much tighter security. However, it should be pointed out that "ghost town" is observed every Monday, with entry to and exit from the town as well as other economic activities being interrupted, normalcy is from Tuesday to Sunday.

Thus, the NS and IFRC staff involved in this operation had to complete the IFRC's online courses, namely Level 1 on Fundamental principles, Level 2 on Personal and Volunteer Security in Emergencies and Level 3 on Security for Managers.



Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?

No

Implementation



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 28,645

Targeted Persons: 1,600

Assisted Persons: 1,766

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of households reached with cash	229	228
Number of volunteers trained on cash.	25	25

Narrative description of achievements

After the occurrence of the floods, markets and services remained operational. Questions about the feasibility of cash and community preferences regarding the intervention approach had already been addressed, as the NS recently carried out cash activities in the area. The contracts signed with the FSPs were up to date and served for this operation.

All the planned activities were carried out as described below:

- 25 volunteers (10 men and 15 women) were trained in the basics of CVA. During this training, the volunteers were told about the terminology, the different methods and mechanisms of cash transfers, the stages of cash transfer assistance and the risks associated with cash transfer operations. This training took place in a 2-day session out of the 5 days devoted to building the volunteers' capacity on the various topics identified as part of this operation.
- Beneficiary selection and complaint management committees were then set up in each neighbourhood. During community meetings, members of the community were identified and invited to each neighbourhood. After the objectives of the programme, the target group, the selection criteria, the process for appointing committee members, their role and that of the volunteers during registration had been explained, they voted to choose 4 members for the beneficiary selection committee and 2 members for the complaints management committee, with feedback from each department. A briefing on the role of the complaints and feedback management committee was given to the committees that had been set up.
- The choice of beneficiaries took into account vulnerability criteria and the representativeness of different ethnic groups, as recommended by the authorities. Initially, 315 households were identified on the basis of the vulnerability criteria initially agreed. Subsequently, 228 (male=96, female=132, host=120, IDP=108) households were selected and validated by the selection committee (85 in Church Street, 86 in Down Beach and 57 in Mawoh) reaching 1,766 people (male=848, female=918). They received 65,000 XAF from the mobile phone operator MTN, including the cost of withdrawals through their mobile accounts and direct withdrawals from MTN branches in the town (95% via MTN Mobile Money and 5% in an envelope). The 5% who received cash in envelopes represented 40 households and it was done this way because they didn't have the documents required to set up a Mobile Money account (National Identity Card) and 188 were paid directly into their mobile money account. However, cash distribution was planned for 229 households, but one beneficiary didn't receive his money because his telephone number was not going through, and he could not be reached by community members. According to the information received, he travelled immediately after he received the first intervention which was distributing of WASH kits. Therefore, MTN refunded the cash for reconciliation.
- A post-distribution survey was carried out 14 days after the distribution, showing a 100% satisfaction rate among beneficiaries, all of whom also stated that receiving the cash had not created any tension either in their homes or in the community. However, an increase in food prices was noted after the distribution. In addition, all the beneficiaries expressed their satisfaction with the amount received, which was mainly used for food (26%), health and hygiene needs (20%) and education (20%). 47% of beneficiaries also said they had shared the cash with relatives in need.



Lessons Learnt

- Bringing aid closer to the beneficiary communities (kits, money, etc.). For security reasons, the distributions took place at the headquarters of the departmental committee and not at sites close to the communities, which resulted in higher or lower transport costs depending on the beneficiaries.
- When registering beneficiaries, check the name on the mobile account, which does not always match the name on the beneficiary's identity papers.
- Improve planning and communication so that beneficiaries can be informed of distributions in good time.

Challenges

- Beneficiaries who received the cash in envelopes at the FSP agency waited for a long time before being served
- The name of some beneficiaries was not the same on their national ID and their mobile account, which created confusion.
- There was a significant amount of time between the beneficiaries selection and the distribution
- Beneficiaries received information on the place and time of the distribution less than 24h before it took place.



Budget: CHF 14,867

Targeted Persons: 18,651

Assisted Persons: 19,525

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people reached by sensitizations	18,651	19,525
Number of households that received mosquito nets.	229	229
Number of volunteers trained in FA and CBHFA.	25	25

Narrative description of achievements

In the health sector, this operation promoted health through the following activities:

As planned, the 25 volunteers recruited for this operation were briefed in psychological first aid and briefing on Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA), with a focus on epidemic prevention and management).

- 687 mosquito nets were distributed to 229 households, i.e. 3 per family
- 19525 (male=9372, female=10153) persons were reached with sensitization and awareness raising that helped in the prevention and control of malaria and water-borne diseases
- Distribution of ORS was done alongside awareness-raising/demonstration of their use during home visits and mass awareness-raising with leaflets and posters on several themes linked to reducing the risk of diseases linked to dirty water and epidemics.

Lessons Learnt

The NS should invest in preparation to be ready to respond in the event of a disaster by:

- Pre-position contingency kits for immediate response in the event of a disaster.
- Pre-position PPE in committees to better prepare them for activities

Challenges

- Difficult access to certain neighbourhoods during door-to-door awareness campaigns due to impassable roads





Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 65,508

Targeted Persons: 18,651

Assisted Persons: 19,525

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of families reached with Aquatab and WASH kits	229	229
Number of neighbourhoods reached by disinfections	8	8
Number of people reached by WASH sensitizations.	18,651	19,525
Number of women who received dignity kits	208	208

Narrative description of achievements

- At the start of the operation, 25 volunteers mobilised to implement the activities were trained in a number of areas, particularly hygiene promotion. Over the course of the operation, this training provided them with the skills they needed to help the community prevent the water-borne diseases to which the disaster victims were exposed.

- The distribution of Aquatabs to 229 selected households helped to improve access to quality drinking water for the affected population, given that some water sources had been infected by floodwaters that had washed away latrine contents and other waste. Awareness-raising sessions and practical demonstrations of how to use the equipment were held in the community. A total of 19525 (male=9372, female=10153) persons were successfully sensitized during hygiene promotion.

- The 229 vulnerable households identified also received wash kits consisting of jerrycans and buckets with lids (2 jerrycans and 02 buckets with lids per household). To these items were added soaps, cups, baby defecation pots and a household basin (07 400g pieces of soap, 02 0.5 litre cups, 01 basin and 01 per household). These supplies have improved household hygiene, which had deteriorated during the floods.

- Women and girls of childbearing age were specifically taken into account as part of the operation, and menstrual hygiene management kits (MHM) were made available to them. A total of 208 kits were distributed, each consisting of 01 pack of sanitary towels, two 15-litre bucket, two 200-g bars of soap, one 3-yard loincloth and one toilet bag. The type of wipe was chosen by the beneficiaries. Volunteers raised awareness of the use of the kits before distribution.

- Chlorine disinfection was carried out in Mawoh, Down beach, church-street, Limbé new market, Limbé old market, Down Beach Government School, PMI Hospital, Bota hospital, Batoke market and Sokolo market. Volunteers were trained in chlorine dosage and awareness techniques by the Fako departmental committee. During the operation, the teams responsible for disinfection were provided with pots of chlorine, sprayers and personal protective equipment (boots, gangs, coats and protective masks). A total of 12 disinfection sessions were carried out, considerably reducing the risk of the above-mentioned diseases.

- In order to ensure the success of this operation, a hygiene committee has been set up in each neighbourhood. The role of this committee is to coordinate community sanitation activities and to raise awareness of the risks of flooding. The main activities coordinated by these committees were: cleaning gutters to allow regular drainage of water, filling in areas where water stagnates and raising awareness of household waste management. To carry out these activities, the operation has provided each hygiene committee with WASH kits, each consisting of 05 wheelbarrows, 05 shovels with handles, 05 rakes with handles, 10 pairs of gloves, 10 pairs of boots and 20 nose masks.

Lessons Learnt

All the challenges encountered in this section were related to planning and organization. Better planning will be needed for future operations to make PGI available to volunteers, as well as flyers to raise awareness.



Challenges

- Awareness-raising materials such as posters and flyers arrived late in the field after distributions had begun.
- The supply of personal protective equipment for the volunteers was delayed, exposing them to the risk of injury in the target area.
- Long waiting period from targeting to actual distribution, making it difficult to mobilise beneficiaries.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 0

Targeted Persons: 1,600

Assisted Persons: 19,525

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of volunteers trained on PGI.	25	25

Narrative description of achievements

In this operation, PGI was taken into account at several levels:

- Firstly, during a training session of 25 volunteers, the concept of gender, its implications and how to take it into account in the various stages of the operation were explained to the participants.
- Then, when the various community committees were set up (targeting, complaints management, hygiene committees), the team ensured that women were well represented (60% in some committees and at least 40% in others).
- When targeting the target groups, priority was given to women heads of household, households with people with special needs, and young people heads of household.
- The awareness-raising strategy reached 19525 (male=9372, female=10153) persons and took into account the status of vulnerable persons, who were part of the target group. The volunteers relied on community members, who helped to spread the messages more effectively. The sex disaggregation of the number of people reached via sensitization and awareness raising was based on the yardstick given by the National Institute of Statistics.

Lessons Learnt

- All documentation must be prepared in English, which is the official language used in the area of the operation.
- take into account the linguistic sensitivities of all strata in terms of awareness-raising, in particular Pidgin, which is more widely used than English.

Challenges

- Some awareness-raising documents were not translated into English, which is the official language used in the South-West, the area of the operation.
- As many of the people affected were nationals of Benin and Nigeria, there was a language problem during the awareness campaigns. This aspect had not initially been taken into account when selecting the volunteers, who were not all bilingual.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 2,046

Targeted Persons: 25

Assisted Persons: 25



Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
% of feedback that receive a response	95	82
Number of volunteers briefed on CEA.	25	25
Number of feedbacks collected and dealt with.	2,400	168
Number of community meetings to validate beneficiary selection criteria.	6	6

Narrative description of achievements

During the operation, volunteers of the Cameroon Red Cross went through neighbourhoods like Down Beach, Mawoh, Church Street to sensitize population on dangers in living in risky zones and also dangers of taking ill due to insalubrity, diseases related to floods. Committees such as selections, Complaints, and Health were put in place for the smooth functioning of activities related to DREF Fako in the three selected neighborhoods chosen for distribution.

Before, during and after distributions, volunteers received 206 feedback and 168 were responded to, giving 81,5%). These feedback were either appreciation, suggestions, complaints, such as;

- When is the Red Cross going to do the distribution?
- We are grateful to the Red Cross and let God bless providers.
- We instead need foodstuff rather than non-food items.
- The cost of transportation to come collect items are sometimes costly than the non- food items received especially kit of dignity.
- We are registered but our name is not featuring in the final lists.

Volunteers provided responses to some of this feedback, and some were channeled to staff who came from Yaoundé for distribution and others were forwarded for lessons learnt workshop.

• Despite the intensive communication, the PDM revealed that only 60% of the beneficiaries were aware of the feedback mechanism in place.

Lessons Learnt

- Include affected community leaders when registering beneficiaries if they are vulnerable
- Involve local committees in coordination meetings.
- Communication on the selection criteria must be strengthened at the level of the community, volunteers, authorities and members of the community targeting and complaints management committees.

Challenges

- Community leaders, who were also vulnerable, were not taken into consideration or assisted.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 35,089

Targeted Persons: 5

Assisted Persons: 5

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of Cluster staff deployed.	5	5

Number of follow-up visits conducted.	3	3
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Narrative description of achievements

- A surge was deployed for 3 months, but ended his mission just two weeks after his deployment. Arrangements were made with the Surge Desk for his replacement, but this new move met with a great deal of reluctance from the SN, which led to a delay in the selection of the new Surge, and subsequently the Cluster Office continued to support the SN in this operation.
- The cluster office deployed its staff in the field for this support (Cash Manager, Wash Officer and Communication Officer, PMER) to provide local support in the implementation of the various activities. These included targeting, awareness-raising, training volunteers, distributing cash, HHI and dignity kits, as well as the MDP and lessons learned.
- Other cluster staff provided remote support through the weekly monitoring meetings held throughout the implementation of the operation. This was the case for the CEA, finance, the project manager, the PGI, health and the security officer. The same applies to logistics officer, who assisted with procurement procedures, the supply of items to be distributed and their transport to the field.

Lessons Learnt

- For operations in areas where there is a risk of insecurity, it will be necessary to provide satellite telephones for the Surge and the field team. As far as the town of Limbé is concerned, it would have been necessary to provide budget for accommodation of the teams in Douala as well as the daily transport costs to get to the field from Douala. The same applies to the costs of the surge, because even if he had stayed until the end of the operation, the security situation would not have allowed him to stay in the field.
- For operations closing in December, it would be more prudent to consider the possibility of requesting more months to write the DREF to close in January, given the constraints and diary conflicts and end of year celebrations.

Challenges

- The security situation in the department that did not allow the staff to move around freely.
- The early departure of the surge
- The NS was piloting several other DREF operations and other projects at the moment, the staff was overwhelmed.
- Delay in transferring funds to the NS



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 13,844

Targeted Persons: 25

Assisted Persons: 25

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of volunteers insured	25	25
Number of volunteers trained	25	25
Number of volunteers equipped with protective and visibility equipment Number of volunteers kitted out with protective and visibility equipment	25	25

Narrative description of achievements

- As planned, 25 CRC volunteers were mobilized and trained for the operation. They received training in WASH, CVA, CEA, PGI, Code of Conduct, Fraud and corruption. IFRC subscribed an insurance for the 25 volunteers, who were then equipped with PPE. Visibility equipment was also given to volunteers for field activities.
- 10 first aid kits were given to the Limbe divisional committee of CRC.



Lessons Learnt

- Strengthen the branches in terms of equipment to rapidly assist first aid beneficiaries when disasters occur.
- Reinforce branch skills in DREF procedures.
- Capitalise on the insurance of the 1,000 volunteers put in place annually by the ICRC, by not underwriting a new one for the operation.

Challenges

- Lack of first aid equipment within the local committee



Financial Report

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

MDRCM034 - Cameroon - Floods

Operating Timeframe: 03 Aug 2023 to 31 Dec 2023

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2023/08-2024/02	Operation	MDRCM034
Budget Timeframe	2023/08-2023/31	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 04/Apr/2024

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	159,999
DREF Response Pillar	159,999
Expenditure	-135,614
Closing Balance	24,385

II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction			0
AOF2 - Shelter			0
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	28,645	24,395	4,250
AOF4 - Health	14,867	40,455	-25,589
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	65,508		65,508
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			0
AOF7 - Migration		412	-412
Area of focus Total	109,020	65,262	43,758
SF11 - Strengthen National Societies	15,890		15,890
SF12 - Effective international disaster management			0
SF13 - Influence others as leading strategic partners			0
SF14 - Ensure a strong IFRC	35,089	70,352	-35,263
Strategy for implementation Total	50,979	70,352	-19,373
Grand Total	159,999	135,614	24,384

[Click here for the complete financial report](#)

Please explain variances (if any)

IFRC-DREF allocated CHF 159,999 to support the response to floods in Cameroon from 03.08.2023 to 31.12.2023. From the allocation received, CHF 135,614 was spent and the balance of CHF 24,385 will return to the DREF pot following the closure of this DREF. The variances reported of 10% and beyond are explained below and summary financial report is attached with consolidated figures under the standard DREF report format and NS financial execution attached to it.

On the total allocated to this intervention, Transfers were made to the NS as a project partner of CHF 44,580 and execution was CHF 37,986. Balance represent 14,79% that were expenses not validated or unspent budget.

For the other part of the budget, variances are explained as follow:

1. Relief support

Clothing & Textiles 100% underspent : This variance is due to the fact that this purchase was included in the purchase of hygiene kits.

Teaching Materials 20.6% underspent : This variance is due to the profit made on the purchase of the material

2. Logistics, Transport & Storage

Distribution & Monitoring 100% overspent: this variance is due to the fact that the field trips that took place were made with CRC vehicles, given the security situation.

Transport & Vehicles Costs 72.5% underspent: this variance is due to the fact that the field movements that took place were made with CRC vehicles, given the security situation and the reduction in movement by IFRC staff.

3. Personnel

International Staff 100% overspent : There were no budget in that category while surge costs had to be recorded there as international staff

National Staff 100% underspent: IFRC following the level of implementation and reconciliation at NS level remained with some budget to be executed by the NS which explained this variance. This budget was also not used by IFRC.

Volunteers 56.8% underspend following the effective insurance for final deployed volunteers.

Consultants & Professional Fees, there is an underspent variance under Professional Fees of 85,4% due to low final cost for the translation of Dref documents.

4. Workshops & Training: underspent of 36.7% of this variance is due to the fact that the lesson-learning workshop was held in Yaoundé instead of in the disaster area because of the security situation. So there were savings on initially budgeted line which covered transports, mission from HQ to the field. Restructuration of the workshop with only key focal point participation reduced the cost.

5. General Expenditure

Office Costs 100% underspent variance is because the planned procurement for office equipment related to this operation didn't take place.

Communications 92.4% underspent variance is due to the under-utilization of communications costs given the restrictions on staff travel in the field; we have given priority to virtual communications and have set up a schedule of weekly follow-up meetings on Team.

Financial Charges 100% overspent is high due to the considerable volume of financial operations which faced proportional currency exchanges.



DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2023/08-2024/02	Operation	MDRCM034
Budget Timeframe	2023/08-2023/31	Budget	APPROVED

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 04/Apr/2024

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRCM034 - Cameroon - Floods

Operating Timeframe: 03 Aug 2023 to 31 Dec 2023

I. Summary

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AOF4 - Health	14,867	40,455	-25,589
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	65,508		65,508
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			0
AOF7 - Migration		412	-412
Area of focus Total	109,020	65,262	43,758
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	15,890		15,890
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management			0
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners			0
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	35,089	70,352	-35,263
Strategy for implementation Total	50,979	70,352	-19,373
Grand Total	159,999	135,614	24,384

DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2023/08-2024/02	Operation	MDRCM034
Budget Timeframe	2023/08-2023/31	Budget	APPROVED

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 04/Apr/2024
All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRCM034 - Cameroon - Floods

Operating Timeframe: 03 Aug 2023 to 31 Dec 2023

III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	72,662	69,219	3,443
Clothing & Textiles	4,029		4,029
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	40,390	41,979	-1,589
Teaching Materials	5,514	4,375	1,139
Cash Disbursement	22,728	22,864	-136
Logistics, Transport & Storage	1,320	833	486
Distribution & Monitoring		471	-471
Transport & Vehicles Costs	1,320	362	958
Personnel	11,835	3,654	8,181
International Staff		3,636	-3,636
National Staff	11,791		11,791
Volunteers	44	19	25
Consultants & Professional Fees	2,413	352	2,061
Professional Fees	2,413	352	2,061
Workshops & Training	6,427	4,063	2,365
Workshops & Training	6,427	4,063	2,365
General Expenditure	10,997	11,230	-234
Travel	4,912	5,101	-189
Information & Public Relations	4,106	3,758	347
Office Costs	660		660
Communications	660	50	610
Financial Charges	660	2,321	-1,661
Contributions & Transfers	44,580	37,986	6,594
Cash Transfers National Societies	44,580	37,986	6,594
Indirect Costs	9,765	8,277	1,488
Programme & Services Support Recover	9,765	8,277	1,488
Grand Total	159,999	135,614	24,384

5.1 PROJECT PARTNER EXPENDITURE CERTIFICATION

PROJECT PARTNER NAME
PROJECT NAME
IFRC PROJECT CODE
CURRENT REPORTING PERIOD
PLANNED EXPENDITURE PERIOD

CAMEROON RED CROSS
DREF CAMEROON FLOODS FAKO
PCMS37,AP081,AP109,AP111,AP124,AP129,MDRCM034
From: août-23
To: août-23

To: déc-23 (Y1 Qtr 1-2)
To: 31/12/2023 (Y1 Qtr 1-2)

5.1.1 BUDGET & EXPENSES BY PROJECT PARTNER ONLY (Local Currency)

Output Description	Budgeted Expenditure (as per Project Funding Agreement/ revision) (LOCAL CURRENCY)			Actual Expenditure (LOCAL CURRENCY)			Budget Variance (Year to Date Period)		Budget Variance (Current Period)		Reason for Variance(s) (more than 10%)
	Prior Period(s) Y1 Q1-2	Current Period Y1 Q3	Total (Year to date)	Prior period(s)	Current period	Total (Year to date)	Variance	%	Variance	%	
	AP081 multi-purpose cash	2 842 500,00		2 842 500,00							
AP109 health services in emergencies	6 772 500,00		6 772 500,00	1 035 000,00		1 035 000,00	1 807 500,00	64%	0,00	0%	
AP111 wash in emergency	10 643 500,00		10 643 500,00	3 936 500,00	1 282 500,00	5 219 000,00	1 553 500,00	23%	(1 282 500,00)		
AP124 National society developpement	1 310 000,00		1 310 000,00	5 731 675,00	2 234 000,00	7 965 675,00	2 677 625,00	20%	(2 234 000,00)		
AP129 community engagement/accountability	8 835 495,00		8 835 495,00	4 476 000,00	2 721 495,00	7 197 495,00	(5 887 495,00)	-449%	(2 721 495,00)		
			4 126 080,00	120 000,00		4 246 080,00	4 589 415,00	52%	(120 000,00)		
			0,00	0,00		0,00	0,00	0%	0,00		
			0,00	0,00		0,00	0,00	0%	0,00		
			0,00	0,00		0,00	0,00	0%	0,00		
			0,00	0,00		0,00	0,00	0%	0,00		
			0,00	0,00		0,00	0,00	0%	0,00		
			0,00	0,00		0,00	0,00	0%	0,00		
			0,00	0,00		0,00	0,00	0%	0,00		
			0,00	0,00		0,00	0,00	0%	0,00		
			0,00	0,00		0,00	0,00	0%	0,00		
			0,00	0,00		0,00	0,00	0%	0,00		
TOTAL	30 403 995,00	0,00	30 403 995,00	19 305 255,00	6 357 995,00	25 663 250,00	4 740 745,00	0%	0,00	0%	(6 357 995,00)

Handwritten signatures and initials:
B
H
A

Cost Categories	Budgeted Expenditure (as per Project Funding Agreement/ revision) (LOCAL CURRENCY)			Actual Expenditure (LOCAL CURRENCY)			Budget Variance (Year to Date Period)		Budget Variance (Current Period)	
	Prior Period(s)	Current Period	Total (Year to date)	Prior period(s)	Current period	Total (Year to date)	Variance	%	Variance	%
	1 PERSONNEL			0			0	0	0%	0
2 RELIEF SUPPLIES TRANSPORTATION	5 970 000,00		5 970 000	6 451 000,00	2 721 495,00	9 172 495	(3 202 495)	-54%	(2 721 495)	UNBUDGETED EXPENSE. PLEASE PROVIDE EXPLANATION ON
3 CONTRIBUTION TO OTHER ORGANISATION	1 559 495,00		1 559 495			0	1 559 495	100%	0	
4 OTHER DIRECT COST	15 223 500,00		15 223 500	5 072 175,00	2 077 005	7 149 180	8 074 320	53%	(2 077 005)	UNBUDGETED EXPENSE. PLEASE PROVIDE EXPLANATION ON
5 INDIRECT COST	7 651 000,00		7 651 000	7 781 080,00	1 559 495,00	9 340 575	(1 689 575)	-22%	(1 559 495)	UNBUDGETED EXPENSE. PLEASE PROVIDE EXPLANATION ON
TOTAL	30 403 995,00	0	30 403 995	19 304 255,00	6 357 995	25 662 250	4 741 245		(8 357 995)	

5.1.3 BUDGET & EXPENSES BY PROJECT PARTNER ONLY (CHF)

*Exchange Rate for Current Period First in First Out (refer to sheet 5.4 Calculating Exc Rate)

Output	Budgeted Expenditure (as per Project Funding Agreement/ revision) CHF			Actual Expenditure CHF			Budget Variance (Year to Date Period)		Budget Variance (Current Period)	
	Prior Period(s)	Current Period	Total (Year to date)	Prior period(s)	Current period*	Total (Year to date)	Variance	%	Variance	%
Overall	44 580,00	0,00	44 580,00	28 891,30	9 477,89	38 369,19	6 210,81	14%	9 477,89	100%

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned authorised officer of the above mentioned project partner hereby certifies that:

- a) they have no knowledge of, nor suspicion of, any fraud and corruption connected in any way to the expenditures included in this report and that they have taken reasonable steps to minimise the risk of fraud and corruption
- b) they have taken reasonable steps to minimise the risk of error and mistake in this report. This includes, but is not limited to exercising the appropriate internal controls and employing competent staff
- c) Supporting documentation exists for the expenditure included in this report and shall be made available for examination when required and for a period of 8 years from the submission of this report
- d) Expenditures have been incurred in line with the agreed project plan and the signed Project Funding Agreement and in accordance with the Project Partners standard procedures and financial regulations, as assessed by the IFRC.
- e) The planned expenditure figures and funds transfer request shown above represents estimated expenditures for the next two reporting periods in accordance with the agreed Project Plan

Date Submitted

Name, Title & Signature of Project partner designated official

 *Jean Urbain Loo*
 Le Secrétaire Général
 PLEG

15/12/2023

 *Alkono Ruben Tchoum*
 Directeur Administratif et Financier

For IFRC internal use

Approved by IFRC Project Manager

Date

Contact Information

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

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IFRC Project Manager: Josuane Flore Tene, DCPRR Cordinator, josuaneflore.tene@ifrc.org, +237677098790

IFRC focal point for the emergency: Josuane Flore TENE, DCPRR Coordinator, josuaneflore.tene@ifrc.org, +237677098790

Media Contact: Susan Nzisa Mbalu, Communications Manager, susan.mbalu@ifrc.org, +254733827654

[Click here for reference](#)

