



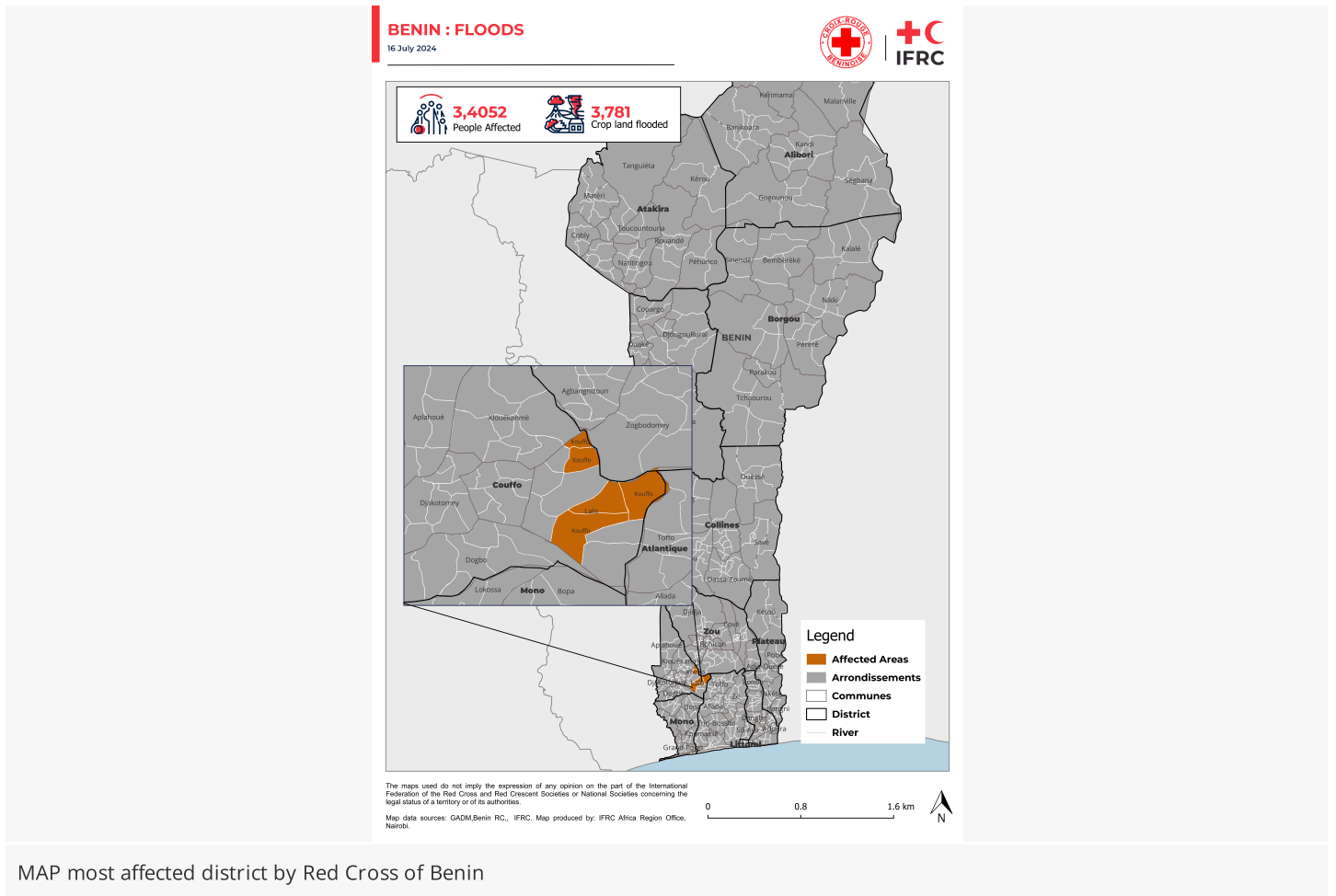
Field visits to displaced communities hosted in a school in Couffo @RCB

Appeal: <b>MDRBJ019</b>	Country: <b>Benin</b>	Hazard: <b>Flood</b>	Type of DREF: <b>Response</b>
Crisis Category: <b>Yellow</b>	Event Onset: <b>Sudden</b>	DREF Allocation: <b>CHF 254,682</b>	
Glide Number: <b>-</b>	People Affected: <b>34,052 people</b>	People Targeted: <b>10,215 people</b>	
Operation Start Date: <b>12-07-2024</b>	Operation Timeframe: <b>4 months</b>	Operation End Date: <b>30-11-2024</b>	DREF Published: <b>23-07-2024</b>
Targeted Areas: <b>Couffo</b>			

# Description of the Event

## Date of event

26-06-2024



## What happened, where and when?

Intense rainfall observed in the departments of Mono, Couffo, Zou and Ouémé in the South of Benin caused the overflow of the river Couffo on 26 June 2024 in 6 of the 11 districts of the commune it crosses in Couffo department, Adoukandji, Ahomadegbe, Gnizounme, Tchito, Tohou and Zalli.

A rapid assessment conducted during the following days by Benin Red Cross and the Lalo council on July 1, 2024 indicates that about 13 villages (Ahouada, Hazin, Yamontou, Ahomadegbe, Gnizounme, Hangbannou, Tandji, Aboti, Zounhome, Hehokpa, Sawanou, Tohou-Centre and Adjassagon) were flooded with several houses destroyed and damaged. The report says more than 3,679 people have been affected and nearly 2,482 homes damaged. Crop losses are estimated at nearly 3,781 hectares and 4,196 head of livestock and poultry have also been recorded on thousands of hectares in 6 districts.

This assessment follows the priority actions identified at the emergency meeting convened on 27 June by the Municipal Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. The aim of this meeting was to assess the situation and identify priority actions. As an active member of this platform, Benin Red Cross attended this meeting, at the end of which the partners and members formulated a series of recommendations aimed at initiating actions in support of those carried out by the local committee of Benin Red Cross, namely (i) the mobilization of 200 volunteers for almost two months to provide information sessions to the general public, (ii) the empowerment of 20 focal points within the volunteers to monitor and alert in real time on rising water levels (iii) support to communities for the relocation of areas identified as potentially flood-prone and risky for communities to areas prepared for the needs of the cause and also to certain schools identified in this effect. In addition, a rapid assessment is planned to have the evidence of the situation.

On July 4, in accordance with the above, the mayor of the commune launched an appeal to all humanitarian organizations to contribute to the response to this flood.





Displaced families



Flooded houses

## Scope and Scale

This sudden rise in water levels on the evening of 26 June 2024, is an event that had not occurred for more than 50 years, according to the local populations in distress. According to the evaluation report of 01 July 2024 of the Red Cross and the Lalo council, 34,052 people have been affected in the 13 villages, of which 3,679 people require priority emergency assistance because they have been made homeless following the impact of this flooding.

- The number of houses partially and totally damaged is 2,482.
- These floods have caused significant damage to both equipment and agricultural systems, due to the loss of crops submerged by flood waters and livestock losses that are still being assessed. As of 01 July 2024, the situation was as follows:
  - o 3,781 hectares of crops damaged
  - o 4,196 the number of poultry and cattle swept away.
  - o As being mainly a rural area, the localities will feel the effect of this flood in the short but also in the medium and long term because it has and will have an impact on the economic, social, health and food levels, requiring assistance in the short and medium term.

The most affected districts are: Adoukandji, Ahodjinnako, Ahomadegbe, Gnizounme, Tchito, Tohou and Zalli, including the following 13 villages: Ahouada, Hazin, Yamontou, Ahomadegbe, Gnizounme, Hangbannou, Tandji, Aboti, Zounhome, Hehokpa, Sawanou, Tohou-Centre and Adjassagon. People with disabilities, the elderly, pregnant women; lactating mothers and children are particularly affected by displacement.

Other groups heavily affected are those who have lost their homes, livestock and crops. In this context, consumer goods could become scarce, and prices may rise locally. These factors could increase the vulnerability of already fragile households, which struggle to meet their basic needs for health, access to water, dignity and shelter. As in most similar situations, this pushes communities to adopt unconventional practices and take risks that could worsen the current situation.

## Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	No
Did it affect the same population group?	-
Did the National Society respond?	-
Did the National Society request funding form DREF for that event(s)	-
If yes, please specify which operation	-

**If you have answered yes to all questions above, justify why the use of DREF for a recurrent event, or how this event should not be considered recurrent:**

-

### Lessons learned:

Key lessons learned from past DREF operations in response to the floods in Benin have been incorporated and guided into the strategic planning of this DREF. They focus mainly on strengthening the planning method and the system for monitoring and sharing information, both internally and externally. These lessons will provide project teams with the necessary steps to implement to make

the current response more effective and efficient, from planning to reporting. The objectives of this response include:

- o Define internal management and oversight mechanisms in advance in collaboration with community leaders through planning meetings, to clearly state the priorities of the plan, budgetary relevance, roles and responsibilities within the framework of the operation, and mechanisms for sharing information with the various parties involved.
- o Identify beneficiaries in collaboration with the community, not just National Society (NS) staff and volunteers, so that communities are actively involved in the selection of beneficiaries.
- o Clarifying from the outset the process of validating and verifying the lists of beneficiaries.
- o Strengthen the provision of continuous updates on project activities to local authorities, especially for distribution activities, to avoid divergent information that councils send to communities.
- o Ensure proper entry into the community through appropriate Community Communication (CEA) and the creation or strengthening of community feedback mechanisms.
- o Form gender- and diversity-sensitive blended response teams to ensure successful assistance.
- o Ensure collaboration and regular updates with other actors to ensure that planning strategies complement each other and that all stakeholders ensure implementation.

## Current National Society Actions

### Start date of National Society actions

26-07-2024

<b>Health</b>	<p>Volunteers have been deployed to provide psychosocial support to those in need of assistance, most of whom are affected. These volunteers, trained in the field of emotional and psychological support, are actively working in the field to help individuals and families cope with the stress and trauma caused by the floods.</p> <p>Their role is crucial in supporting community resilience, providing services such as counselling, discussion groups and activities to improve the mental well-being of those affected. This psychosocial support not only mitigates the immediate effects of disasters, but also strengthens the capacity of communities to rebuild and prepare for future challenges.</p>
<b>Water, Sanitation And Hygiene</b>	<p>A total of 20 volunteers from the local committee and 3 staff members were mobilized and organized into teams to accomplish various missions, namely the organization of awareness-raising sessions on hygiene and sanitation promotion that aimed at supporting communities in the adoption of best practices for the prevention of hygiene-related diseases. These teams have also helped the affected populations to clean up the temporary relocation sites.</p> <p>Their support allowed creating safe and habitable spaces for displaced populations, ensuring that these sites are cleared of debris and potential health risks. Sanitation kits and handwashing devices have also been provided.</p>
<b>Other</b>	<p>Volunteers of the Red Cross of Benin at community level played a crucial role in helping communities evacuate people and transport some belongings to safety. They have set up coordinated evacuation operations to ensure the safety of residents threatened by the floods.</p> <p>These volunteers also provided essential logistical support, helping residents to secure their personal assets and temporarily relocate to unregulated areas. Thanks to their commitment and dedication, many lives have been saved and material losses reduced.</p>

## IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

<b>Secretariat</b>	<p>Through its Abuja cluster, the IFRC has an office in Benin to support the Red Cross. During the operation, the IFRC provides technical and financial support (operations,</p>
--------------------	--



	funds, etc.) for development and implementation. The information will be shared with all stakeholders in the operation.
<b>Participating National Societies</b>	Red Cross of Benin has Belgian Red Cross Flanders and Swiss Red Cross as in country Partner National Societies (PNSs), but the Belgian Red Cross delegate is not present in country at the moment in Benin. This support involves first aid, blood donation and disaster preparedness. These achievements will also be highlighted for a good operationalization of this DREF. The DREF will also be shared with the PNSs.

## ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

Although ICRC does not have an office in Benin, it is collaborating with the ICRC office in Lomé. Through this office, the ICRC was informed of the flood situation in Benin. Once it has been implemented, this Plan of Action will be shared with all Movement components.

## Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

<b>Government has requested international assistance</b>	Yes
<b>National authorities</b>	As things stand, officials from the Lalo council and civil protection have launched pleas for the mobilization of resources to deal with this exceptional situation in the municipality. The Head of the office for Social Protection (formerly CPS) was also mobilized and provided psychosocial support to the affected populations. When the disaster occurred, a visit to the site was carried out by the Prefect of the Department of Couffo to assess the facts, to provide moral support to the affected populations and to be able to channel information to the State. For the moment, the government has not yet taken concrete measures in favour of the affected community, but it is actively working to mobilize resources.
<b>UN or other actors</b>	Caritas Benin has provided valuable assistance by donating clothes and providing financial support to the affected population. Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) has made a significant contribution by providing 200 blankets, 150 mats, jerry cans with Aquatabs for water purification, and more than 300 mosquito nets to prevent mosquito-borne diseases. These contributions aim to improve the living conditions of the Populations affected by these disaster-stricken floods who have been displaced and relocated to community spaces by providing them with essential resources for their well-being and safety.

### Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

Red Cross of Benin as an auxiliary of the public authorities in the humanitarian field and a member of several platforms, at national, departmental and local levels dedicated to disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change, actively participates in various planning and review meetings at local level. The assistance plans developed are shared through this platform and coordinated under the leadership of the mayor, thus ensuring harmonized and effective management of the resources and interventions needed to respond to emergencies and the needs of the communities involved.

In the case of the occurrence of this disaster, the organization of its decentralized structures facilitated the mobilization of volunteers involved in preparedness activities, who assisted the affected populations in the first hours, which were very crucial and contributed to the survival of the affected populations. No deaths were recorded.



# Needs (Gaps) Identified



## Shelter Housing And Settlements

Of the 13 most affected villages identified in the evaluation report, 10 are seriously affected in terms of accommodation, access to housing and basic needs. These villages include: Ahouada (441 houses damaged), Hazin (5 houses damaged), Yamontou (27 houses damaged), Ahomadegbe (241 houses damaged), Tandji (111 houses damaged), Zounhome (79 houses damaged), Hehokpa (66 houses damaged), Sawanou (329 houses damaged), Tohou-Centre (1,163 houses damaged) and Adjassagon (20 houses damaged). This represents 2,482 houses affected by the floods. Of these households, 615 households have completely destroyed homes and represent the people with the most glaring needs because they are exposed to bad weather and require immediate assistance in shelters.

The majority of the houses in these affected areas were built of clay and tree branches, which led to their total or partial destruction, forcing the affected populations to displace.

This region had never experienced a flood of this magnitude before. The Red Cross of Benin will engage with communities with the support of all actors to rebuild shelters and put in place protective measures around these homes, to prevent future destruction due to similar disasters.



## Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The main affected families are farmers and fishermen, who lost their crops and livelihoods in the disaster. They are followed by households with the greatest material damage. On the income side, losses to farms and equipment led to the loss of 3,781 hectares of agricultural land in the commune. The crops lost include those for the current crops and the reserves that these families had stored in their homes in anticipation of rainy seasons and new production. Crops and stocks destroyed mainly include maize and soybeans. Medium-term crops will be needed for these families to regain their livelihoods.

They are in urgent need of food aid, which is essential for most of them.

It will be crucial to build the capacity of volunteers to ensure appropriate support during the various activities.



## Health

With the displacement observed following the floods, the situation is likely to worsen if diseases break out. Due to a lack of financial resources, the homeless are obliged to sleep in makeshift shelters, often without mosquito nets for all family members. This will lead to the emergence of diseases in the various areas, including waterborne diseases and malaria, to which the elderly, pregnant women and children aged 0-5 years are most vulnerable.

To prevent disease outbreaks in the 10 districts, it will be necessary to provide information on primary health care through community health promotion, including essential family practices and basic first aid, including in relation to drowning. This will strengthen preventive measures through awareness-raising sessions, educational discussions and health education on various health risks. To mitigate the risks associated with the malaria epidemic in the population, the most at-risk households will urgently need additional mosquito nets, in addition to those already provided by MSF.



## Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Priority water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) needs include access to safe drinking water, promotion of healthy behaviours in household practices, access to a basic hygiene level, much-needed support for environmental sanitation resources, water treatment and reducing the risks associated with its use and treatment. Raising awareness of good practices remains essential to promote hygiene.

To this end, awareness-raising activities on good hygiene practices will be carried out, including the installation of handwashing facilities, the distribution of water transport and storage items, and water purification products.





## Community Engagement And Accountability

The participation of all affected households in the community will be ensured in 34 hamlets through regular community meetings, the organization of discussion groups with women, young people, etc. in response activities and feedback will be collected regularly and implemented. The results of the needs assessment survey and the available secondary data will be used to provide information on the needs of the population and how to involve communities, as well as to receive feedback during and after the operation. For the planned intervention, a feedback system is created by the CEA and PMER teams, and suggestion boxes, a complaint number and a community satisfaction survey. With these tools, (non-sensitive) reactions will be processed and documented in real-time as Red Cross volunteers engage in the community, using the Volunteer Q&A Guide. When the volunteer or Red Cross staff cannot provide answers, these complaints or concerns will be shared with the relevant officials (actors) and the response will be given to the community members through their preferred communication/trust channels, via helplines and meetings. Sensitive complaints received through the feedback mechanism will be dealt with confidential and forwarded to an expert for better handling, while protecting the complainant. The feedback collected will be analyzed monthly at the head office, with a monthly report that will be made available to all stakeholders and technical leads to discuss updates and recommendations from the feedback results to improve the programme/operations. Planning and response to affected communities will also involve considerations on cultural specificities and community structures, gender and diversity inclusion, and the promotion of minimal ACE actions. Community engagement will also involve informing them of their right to complain and providing feedback during the operation. A system for managing comments and complaints will be created in collaboration with the communities and will be widely disseminated to ensure that everyone is aware of the system and is comfortable using it. The feedback and complaints system will be key to identifying 'risky behaviors', such as unsafe hygiene practices, non-use of mosquito nets and integrity issues in target communities during distribution activities. This feedback will make it possible to better meet the needs of the operation.

Refresher training will be organized for all selected volunteers for the operation on the concept of CEA, including the Code of Conduct, and communication skills to enable them to implement a participatory approach. Key topics, feedback analyses and recommendations will be approved at headquarters and shared with all relevant stakeholders based on the results of the feedback.

### Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

Only the data as of 01 July 2024 is currently the only document available on the assessments and is based on a rapid needs assessment carried out with the Lalo municipality and the Red Cross of Benin.

Surveys and focus group discussions with various groups of people, including women, men, boys and people living with disabilities, will be carried out to verify the information already available and to provide up-to-date information on the actions of other stakeholders. It will also examine the risks that may hinder the operation and the capacities of the target populations, while taking into account the specific needs and risks of people of different ages, gender and disabilities. Some 20 volunteers will be trained to carry out rapid surveys using mobile tablets.

This intervention also considers the support from MSF with mosquito nets and mats due to one item per household. This needs to be completed.

## Operational Strategy

### Overall objective of the operation

The objective of this operation is to support 3,679 people, i.e., 615 households, in the municipality of Lalo, affected by the overflow of the Couffo River. This assistance will include emergency health, water, sanitation and hygiene services, as well as material assistance through the provision of shelter and immediate food assistance for the 615 most vulnerable households. These priority actions will be carried out for a period of 04 months.

### Operation strategy rationale

The objective of this operation is to support 3,679 people, i.e., 615 households, in the municipality of Lalo, affected by the overflow of the Couffo River. Assistance will include emergency health, water, sanitation and hygiene services, as well as material assistance through the provision of shelter and immediate food assistance for the most vulnerable households. These priority actions will be carried out over a period of 04 months.

The idea behind the response will revolve around meeting the basic needs of the 615 priority households and preventing risks of disease in affected communities, targeting at least 3,679 people at risk of disease due to the damage that has occurred. To ensure the relevance of



the response, the Red Cross of Benin (RCB) will launch activities by conducting a detailed needs assessment for 07 days, supported by community committees and coordination and information mechanisms. A delegation from headquarters will accompany this mission to the 13 villages to organize coordination meetings with the various stakeholders, mainly local elected representatives, to facilitate implementation. This evaluation phase will be coupled with the identification of beneficiaries.

With regard to the assistance proposed, the BRC will focus on meeting the priority needs identified in the rapid assessment, while taking into account the possible evolution of the situation following the results of the needs assessment to be carried out. The plan of action will include immediate food assistance consisting of a kit to meet basic needs for cereals for one month, and the provision of essential household kits: basic household equipment, hygiene kits, necessary to access drinking water and household services.

To prevent disease risks and report detected cases, awareness-raising actions will be carried out through volunteers, messaging services, social media and community engagement for sustainable change in practices. The trainers will train volunteers on basic first aid, shelter, hygiene-based prevention, CEA

(Communication and Community Engagement) and protection, to support the smooth and effective implementation of activities. With the capacity building activities conducted from the RCB in terms of accommodation, funding and logistics in the context of past response operations, the BRC will provide, through its headquarters and its staff dedicated to the operation, technical support that could be reinforced by ad hoc missions of the IFRC Delegation.

As regard food and non-food assistance, 615 households will benefit from a kit. The food aid kit will consist of maize, rice, beans, salt and oil. In terms of non-food support, this will involve the distribution of additional mats following what MSF has already distributed. The RCB has calculated a food basket for a family of 06 people, based on the minimum essential energy benefit. Most of the inhabitants live from agriculture, fishing and trade, so this support is vital, especially for women.

The shelter response will be carried out only in flood-prone areas with the contribution of communities and the experience of those whose homes have not been destroyed. The 615 households will be provided with shelter, and funds will be made available to the teams to support reconstruction/rehabilitation or spontaneous construction efforts by the communities. The same support will be available for households that are not physically able to rebuild their homes. Each kit will include wood, nails and zinc sheets.

This assistance prioritizes the needs of the people directly affected by this flood crisis and which have partially or entirely lost their shelter. The 615 shelters to be assisted for the reconstruction belong to the most vulnerable people. The other shelters belong to the people, some of whom have more than one shelter that has not been destroyed and others have the means to rebuild by themselves, but it is planned to mobilize volunteers to help them during the reconstruction process. Each support will be tailored to the specific needs of the beneficiaries, which may include a range of interventions depending on the situation of the household being provided. For households that cannot rebuild by themselves, appropriate support should be put in place, such as financial support to hire local volunteers or people of goodwill.

To enhance the relevance and effectiveness of the actions planned above, the NS will ensure the active participation of communities and by facilitating a two-way flow of information. This will not only improve the results of the operation, but also strengthen trust and collaboration with beneficiaries and local partners.

- o Adaptation of a participatory approach and constant maintenance of the inclusion of communities and their opinions. An open and continuous dialogue with community members will be established through village committees and discussions with some representative groups.

- o Strengthening communication to communities on actions, selection criteria and stages of assistance. This will be done through awareness-raising sessions and direct information sessions to communities via volunteers, group discussions, and the use of local media as needed when coordinated with the authorities. These channels will be used to disseminate essential information on the humanitarian response that is not confidential.

- o Direct messages to selected beneficiaries and communication with village committee groups will facilitate the planning of distributions and their smooth conduct.

- o Feedback will be organized through volunteers during door-to-door and group activities. The information collected as feedback, key questions will be used to adjust intervention priorities or identify messages to be reinforced.

## Targeting Strategy

### Who will be targeted through this operation?

This operation has two targets: a direct target and an indirect target.

- 1) The direct target concerns 3,679 people, representing 615 most affected households.

- 2) The indirect target concerns 30% of the total population affected and exposed to disease and hygiene risks, i.e. 10,215 people. This is 30% of people who were also exposed to the risk of disease. These people will benefit from humanitarian services and messages of prevention, hygiene promotion and sanitation.



## Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The selection criteria will take into account those who are most at risk, based on a vulnerability analysis, prioritizing those with special needs, namely the elderly, pregnant women, people with disabilities, the sick, widows and widowers, while registering those who fall ill as a result of flooding. The mechanism for the active participation of communities in the process is fully taken into account. The beneficiaries will be identified at the village assemblies, which will approve the criteria for beneficiaries proposed by the RCB and the list of beneficiaries.

To select the most vulnerable beneficiaries, a committee will be set up with the participation of community members through their representatives, and community, religious and state leaders. This committee will comply with the criteria set out in full transparency and under the close supervision of the RCB. The selection of beneficiaries will be verified and approved by a broad representation of the community and then published.

## Total Targeted Population

Women	5,230	Rural	55.6%
Girls (under 18)	2,770	Urban	44.6%
Men	4,985	People with disabilities (estimated)	0.9%
Boys (under 18)	2,640		
Total targeted population	10,215		

## Risk and Security Considerations

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

Risk	Mitigation action
Inaccessibility of the intervention areas due to the flooding of the access roads.	This would require appropriate means of travel (Motorized boats and secure pirogues). A local mobilization of volunteers in each locality will be prioritized. These volunteers will see their capacities strengthened on all the themes that will involve them.
The proliferation of diseases with epidemic potential such as cholera.	Red Cross of Benin will invest heavily in health promotion and disease prevention. These are activities to raise awareness among volunteers on epidemics with IEC equipment, including the means of transmission, the causes, and the action to be taken in the event of a suspected case.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

Security management will be based on the fundamental principles and humanitarian values of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The following security measures will be implemented:

1. Regular security updates will be held, and relevant information will be shared.
2. Field activities will be monitored in real time through the RCB's information management system.
3. Other information and communication technology (ICTs) will be used for communication during surveillance missions.
4. A security risk assessment specific to each operational area will be carried out; Risk mitigation measures will be adapted if necessary and systematically aligned to the MSR.
5. All Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers will be encouraged to take the IFRC's Stay Safe online courses, namely the courses on personal safety, security management and volunteer safety.
6. All staff and volunteers will be required to complete the safety course and comply with the Code of Conduct.
7. All staff members, especially volunteers, will be covered by IFRC insurance.

These measures are intended to ensure the safety and protection of all those involved in the rescue operations.



Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?

Yes

## Planned Intervention



### Shelter Housing And Settlements

**Budget:** CHF 111,238

**Targeted Persons:** 3,679

#### Indicators

Title	Target
# of households receiving shelter items	615
# of constructions supervised	2
# of households assisted with construction	615
Percentage of shelters built in resettlement sites	100
# of households that received an additional mat	615

#### Priority Actions

Regarding shelter, the aim is to facilitate the resettlement of people who have lost their homes and who are not in the corridor of the river.

The following activities will be carried out:

- Procurement of shelter materials for the 615 most vulnerable households, with priority given to those wishing to be resettled in sites already identified by the councils.
- Distribution of shelter items to 615 households.
- Supervision of the construction of resettlement shelters.
- Support for households that are not physically able to rebuild their homes.
- Exploiting the experience gained from previous shelter construction operations, through authorized focal points, to optimize the implementation of construction activities
- Support from community volunteers for construction support
- Distribution of the additional mats to the 615 households; that is one more mat.



### Livelihoods And Basic Needs

**Budget:** CHF 59,793

**Targeted Persons:** 3,679

#### Indicators

Title	Target
# of households that have received in-kind food aid.	615
# of PDMs performed in the targeted areas.	1

## Priority Actions

- Identify beneficiaries in need of basic livelihoods and needs on the basis of defined criteria.
- Purchase of approved food products from the branches or capital based on the market assessment report. Food kit consisting of corn, rice, beans, salt and oil, and a non-food kit including mats and soap.
- Quality verification by the approved government agency.
- Distribution of food kits.
- Post-distribution follow-up.



**Budget:** CHF 13,806

**Targeted Persons:** 3,679

## Indicators

Title	Target
# of volunteers trained	20
# of mosquito nets distributed	615
# of people reached by PSS	600
# of unpaid workers and employees trained on PSS	25
# of people reach with health prevention messages	11,000

## Priority Actions

Based on the operational logic developed above, the priority activities under this response will be the following:

- Training of 20 volunteers in Basic First Aid and essential family practices
- Purchase of mosquito nets for 615 households.
- Raising awareness among communities on the prevention of malaria and waterborne diseases.
- Deployment of 20 volunteers and 1 focal point for 5 door-to-door outings.
- Psychological support to people affected by the crisis or disaster before the deployment of 10 volunteers and psychologists for 10 days.
- Support planning and coordination on the advanced strategies for the early detection of community diseases



**Budget:** CHF 15,611

**Targeted Persons:** 3,679

## Indicators

Title	Target
# of Aquatabs distributed	615
# of IEC materials printed	25
# of hygiene kits distributed	615
# of families that had access to treated water through the reception of water treatment material	615



# of people reached by WASH promotion messages	10,215
# of families that benefited from the hygiene kits distributed	615
Percentage of families that have effectively change their hygiene and water treatment practices during the DREF timeline	70

## Priority Actions

- Provide drinking water to 615 households through the distribution of Aquatabs.
- Design/printing of IEC promotional materials on WASH and Health messages for 20 volunteers and 1 focal point.
- Distribution of soap for 02 months in addition to 02 kits per month, and 250g bars of soap/personal hygiene and soap powder for 02 months in addition to 02 kits per month.
- Support sanitation and cleaning activities and involve community committees and heads of households in maintaining good practices.
- Training communities in the use of the various kits.
- Post-kit distribution monitoring.



## Protection, Gender And Inclusion

**Budget:** CHF 1,071

**Targeted Persons:** 10,215

## Indicators

Title	Target
# of volunteers and staff briefed on PGI, minimum safeguarding and related key messages	50
# of people informed on the intervention safeguarding principle in the community and safe feedback system	3,679

## Priority Actions

- Integrate to the community message delivery, the protection and safeguarding messages.
- Ensure the inclusion of minority groups such as people with disabilities and the elderly.
- Ensure that the criteria for assistance and the various activities take into account the needs of these groups.

This approach will be integrated into all sectors through volunteer visits. All volunteers will be informed of the minimum safeguards and key messages and will sign the Code of Conduct.



## Community Engagement And Accountability

**Budget:** CHF 6,000

**Targeted Persons:** 3,679

## Indicators

Title	Target
# of community meetings for the collection of feedback	39
# of Community Feedback System	13

# of communication tools on the feedback collection system	1
# of workshops to capitalize on what has been learned, lessons learned and sharing of experience	1
# of internal inter-village communication and updates on the progress of the operation	1

## Priority Actions

- Training of 21 Volunteers on ERP and CEA.
- Support to community meetings for the collection of feedback on key planning steps, targeting and identification of beneficiaries, for distribution stages and for post-distribution collection.
- Creation of communication tools on the feedback collection system.
- Support to the community feedback system (including follow-up of rumours and/or perceptions).
- Workshops to capitalize on what has been learned, lessons learned and sharing experience.
- Set up internal inter-village communication and updates on the progress of the operation.
- Ongoing communication on the intervention.



## Secretariat Services

**Budget:** CHF 13,838

**Targeted Persons:** 3

## Indicators

Title	Target
-------	--------

## Priority Actions

- Support monitoring from operational and financial perspective
- Support duty of care
- Insurance of volunteers
- Monitor the compliance to the DREF and timely reporting



## National Society Strengthening

**Budget:** CHF 33,327

**Targeted Persons:** 50

## Indicators

Title	Target
# of technical frameworks on principles and rules, emergency response framework, emergency call procedures, and DREF procedures	15
# of preparation and planning meetings with national officials and staff	2
# of Part-Time Deployments	6
# of coordination meetings with stakeholders on activities	4
# of t-shirts and gowns for volunteers	50

## Priority Actions

- Training of technical staff on principles and rules, emergency response framework, emergency call procedures, and DREF procedures are properly understood and applied.
- Organize a preparation and planning meeting for the operation with the national authorities and staff.
- Organize coordination meetings with stakeholders on activities
- Purchase and distribution of t-shirts, vests (bibs) and life jackets for volunteers
- Deployment of two local BRC staff to support field activities with volunteers.
- Technical and operational monitoring from HQ.
- Organize two joint BRC/IFRC missions to monitor activities.
- Governance oversight
- Part-time deployment (Motivation) Disaster Relief and Relief Coordinator
- Part-time deployment (Motivation) Accountant
- Part-time deployment (Motivation) logistics
- Part-time deployment (Motivation) recovery manager
- Part-time deployment (Motivation) Health
- Management of resources and administrative support from HQ to respective branches through the administrative cost.

## About Support Services

### How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

This operation mobilizes the following human resources:

- At the level of local committees: 20 volunteers and 01 focal point for the implementation of activities in the field.
- Shelter specialist: A volunteer who specializes in managing shelter-related activities. In addition to this shelter focal point, 20 local workers will be mobilized within the communities to assist with the handling and manual work associated with the construction.
- At the level of the branches: 1 executive secretary for the coordination and close monitoring of activities in the municipality.
- At the national level: A disaster relief and disaster coordinator, an accountant, a planner and a response officer.

Red Cross of Benin, through its Relief and Disaster Department, will oversee all operational aspects, including the implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of the operation in the flood-affected communes, through its national network of branches and volunteers. Responsibility for the close monitoring of the operation will rest with the RCB antenna but will be overseen by the RCB headquarters to ensure accountability, transparency and financial management of the operation.

### If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?

To carry out the activities in the field, the logistics department, in collaboration with the operations coordinator, will plan the purchasing process and the management of logistics requests between the headquarters and the various districts. The NS will follow the learnings from previous operations to define its logistics, distribution and procurement management plan. The following points will be applied:

- Purchase will be made at local level, either in one of the districts or at departmental level after analysis of the capacity of the markets and the cost efficiency by the logistics and operations department. This will be applied for shelter, food kit and non-food purchases.
- The purchase and supply of items and tools necessary for training and workshops. He will be responsible for issuing calls for tenders for the acquisition of equipment for the operation and the acquisitions will be made in collaboration with the IFRC Office Cluster to comply with the rules and orientations of the DREF. Careful use and appropriation of logistical procedural tools such as requisitions, CBAs, POs, BLs, contracts, receipt slips, supplier registration, supplier and consultant evaluation form, etc. must precede any purchase. Transport chain management allows the rental of vehicles to support supervision missions in the field with effective fuel management using tools such as the vehicle's on-board carriage, the transport request, the mission order, the vehicle's carriage, the cylinder gearbox, etc.

### How will this operation be monitored?

The Relief and Disaster Department of the BRC will oversee all operational aspects, including the implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of operations in flood-affected municipalities, through its national network of branches and volunteers. The implementing actors will be responsible for the close monitoring of the operation, while supervision will be provided by headquarters to ensure accountability, transparency and financial management of the operation.

The PMER team of the operation will develop a monitoring and evaluation plan to ensure regular and timely monitoring of all operational activities. An Indicator Monitoring Table (ITT) and an Activity Monitoring Table (ATT) will be set up for close monitoring. A



reporting template will be updated to reflect the indicators identified at all reporting levels, with a section specifically dedicated to the effective monitoring of the implementation of activities.

As distributions will take place, a post-distribution monitoring (PDM) will be carried out to collect and analyse information to verify the effectiveness of the approaches, to obtain feedback from the community for future implementation, and to document success stories. A MIP report will be prepared at the end of the follow-up.

Through the PMER officer, the IFRC office in Benin will provide technical support to the EMO to ensure that operational objectives are met and that reports are properly drafted. The IFRC CEA delegate will also provide support to ensure that complaint mechanisms are created so that community feedback is received and considered to inform the operation.

During the implementation of this DREF, two monitoring visits will be organized under the supervision of the Head of Cluster. A lessons learned workshop involving the various implementing actors will be organized towards the end of the operation to ensure that feedback from volunteers and target communities is taken into account, and to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the implementation of the operation to better plan and inform future responses. A report will be prepared on this workshop and shared with relevant stakeholders.

## **Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation**

The RCB's communication strategy is essentially based on its volunteers. A communication channel has been set up, allowing information to be shared within the network of volunteers across the country. In the digital age, digital tools are essential and an integral part of the CRB's means of communication. This improves the visibility of the institution's actions with local and international partners.



# Budget Overview



## DREF OPERATION

### MDRBJ019 - Benin Red Cross Benin\_Floods

#### Operating Budget

<b>Planned Operations</b>	<b>207,517</b>
Shelter and Basic Household Items	111,238
Livelihoods	59,793
Multi-purpose Cash	0
Health	13,806
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	15,611
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	1,071
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	5,998
Environmental Sustainability	0
<b>Enabling Approaches</b>	<b>47,165</b>
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	13,838
National Society Strengthening	33,327
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>254,682</b>

*all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)*



# Contact Information

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

**National Society contact:** Eustache Orens HOUDEGBE, National Programs Manager, orens.houdegbe@croixrougebenin.org, 96424858

**IFRC Appeal Manager:** Bhupinder Tomar, Head of Cluster Delegation, bhupinder.tomar@ifrc.org

**IFRC Project Manager:** Francis Salako, Coordinator, Programs & Operations, francis.salako@ifrc.org

**IFRC focal point for the emergency:** Francis Salako, Coordinator, Programs & Operations, francis.salako@ifrc.org

**Media Contact:** Susan Nzisa Mbalu, Senior officer communication, susan.mbalu@ifrc.org

[Click here for the reference](#)

