



Community consultative meeting on preparedness between the Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS) and some community representatives in Edo state, Nigeria. Photo: Mofe Amoma, NRCS.

sEAP №: EAP2022NG01	sEAP timeframe: 2 Years	Period covered by this annual report: 14/10/2022 to 31/12/2023
sEAP approved: 23/08/2022	Operation №: MDRNG035	

Annual Budget: 49,797 CHF
sEAP Budget: 220,000 CHF

SUMMARY OF THE SIMPLIFIED EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL



The IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated CHF 220,000 for the implementation of anticipatory actions to reduce and mitigate the impact of Floods in Nigeria in August 2022. This simplified Early Action Protocol includes an allocation of CHF 206,573 to preposition stock and undertake annual readiness activities to implement early actions, if and when the trigger is reached. The early actions to be conducted have been pre-agreed with the National Society (NS) and are described in the simplified Early Action Protocol [[IFRC GO - Emergency](#)].

This report summarizes the annual readiness and prepositioning activities done during the reporting period.

Chronology of Activities

Project inception meeting

In kick starting the sEAP activities, an inception meeting was organized in January 2023 by IFRC project manager to achieve overall understanding of the project. The DREF team members introduced the project to both NRCS and IFRC staff members to enable them to understand their various roles in the project. The team made presentations on the project overview, objectives, and strategies for implementation. NRCS and IFRC staff members from finance, procurement and logistics, disaster management, CEA/PGI, and PMER attended the meeting. Questions raised were answered and next steps discussed to the understanding of the participants who pledged their support to the project. The team went further to develop the project implementation plan with tentative timelines and shared it with focal persons. A total of 11 staff members (7 NRCS and 4 IFRC) attended the meeting.

Meeting with stakeholders

A meeting was held with the relevant government stakeholders to brief them on the project and the need to coordinate efforts towards a successful flood emergency management and response. The meeting was held in the NRCS conference hall on 10 August 2023. The partners were briefed on the Anticipatory Action approach of IFRC and how the project will be rolled out. The stakeholders present include Nigeria Meteorological agency (NIMET), Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency (NIHSA), and Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs (FMHADMSD). The partners also presented on their various activities and gave contacts of focal points in their organizations for further engagements.

Selection of program implementation locations

The prioritized geographical areas for the simplified EAP (sEAP) are Adamawa, Kaduna, Kwara, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Benue, Nasarawa, Delta, Kano, Yobe and Taraba. After comparing the Climate Center forecast with the data from NIHSA annual floods outlook (AFO) and NIMET, four states were selected, namely Adamawa, Akwa Ibom, Edo, and Nasarawa out of which three will benefit from the sEAP implementation depending on the states where the trigger is activated. The four states were predicted to experience heavy floods in the months of July, August, and September 2023.

Training of NRCS branches

A virtual meeting and training of trainers was organized with the twelve branches comprising of branch secretaries, disaster management, communications, and CEA officers. A total of 36 staff members attended the training. The branches were trained on CVA selection criteria, registration, emergency evacuation, Code of Conduct, PGI and PSEA. The training was conducted by the IFRC project manager and supported by NRCS CEA and DM focal points. The training was conducted to introduce the Programme to the staff and volunteers and to train the branches on the implementation.



Training of Volunteers in Nasarawa State, Nigeria. Photo: Gabriel/IFRC



Cross Section of sEAP training participants in Nasarawa State, Nigeria. Photo: Gabriel/IFRC



Training of Volunteers in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. Photo: Lilian/IFRC



Training of Volunteers in Edo State, Nigeria. Photo: Mofe/NRSC



Community consultative meeting at Doma LGA, Nasarawa State. Photo: Gabriel/IFRC



Community entry and meeting at Boronji Community, Adamawa State. Phot: Dauda/NRCS



Floods rescue tactics during a community sensitization in Adamawa state. Photo: Dauda/NRCS



Community consultative meeting with Siluko, Ogbuma, and Okwa community representatives in Benin, Edo state. Photo: Mofe/NRCS

Floods simulation



NRCS volunteers and community members in a boat during floods simulation in Adamawa state. Photo: Dauda/NRCS



NRCS team at simulation site with community members in Edo state. Photo: Mofe/NRCS



Training community people on the use of local resources for floods emergencies. Photo: Gabriel/IFRC



Community members practicing the use of a life jacket for rescue during floods simulation in Nasarawa state. Photo: Gabriel/IFRC



Community members during simulation in Nasarawa state. Using local materials for flood emergency rescue. Photo: Gabriel/IFRC



NRCS team at river site with community members during floods simulation in Nasarawa state. Photo: Gabriel/IFRC

Coordination with government and media houses



NRCS Adamawa state branch secretary during a media chat on sEAP implementation in the state. Photo: Dauda/NRCS



NRCS Akwa ibom state branch in an awareness creation session with media on sEAP implementation in the state. Photo: Dauda/NRCS



IFRC senior DM officer explaining the objectives of the SEAP project, and soliciting the support of the director of SEMA, in Nasarawa state. Photo: Gabriel/IFRC



NRCS/IFRC team during a courtesy visit to the Nasarawa state commissioner for special duties and humanitarian affairs. Photo: Gabriel/IFRC

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL PROGRESS BY PLANNED OPERATION

 <p>Multi-purpose Cash</p>	CHF preposition budget:	CHF preposition actual:
	CHF 1,156.45	1,156.45
	CHF readiness budget:	CHF readiness actual:
	CHF 1,734.68	

Narrative description of plan vs achievements

Training of volunteers:

A total of 20 NRCS staff members and 60 volunteers were trained at the peak of the rainy season (August 2023) as part of the readiness activities. The training was conducted on CVA selection criteria, registration, emergency evacuation, Code of Conduct, PGI and PSEA. The volunteers further cascaded the training to their communities. The training on PGI sensitive CVA was not conducted but planned for year 2 (2024).

Financial Service Provider (FSP) procurement

Financial service providers play a critical role in the early action activities. This is because they facilitate the process of cash transfers/distribution to the beneficiaries. To enable them stand to their responsibilities, the team organized a meeting with the 3 financial service providers in separate sessions. The FSPs were taken through the sEAP implementation strategies and what roles they are expected to play. A non-banking FSP (TASSHI) was selected because of their proven expertise in conducting direct cash distribution. TASSHI has accepted to comply with the requirements of the project. A total of CHF 114,488.55 was transferred to the FSP for cash distribution during the early action activities. The FSP however returned the amount when the activity was not conducted because the trigger was not reached.

Visibility and protective equipment

To enhance visibility, 50 Nigerian Red Cross jackets were procured for the use of volunteers during the early action activities. The items were prepositioned in Adamawa, Akwa Ibom, Edo, and Nasarawa state.

Transfer of Cash to FSP

The IFRC Abuja Country Delegation transferred the sum of CHF 114,488.55 to the FSP (TAASHI) for cash distribution after the activation of the trigger. The fund was however returned to IFRC when the trigger was not activated.



Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and Recovery

CHF preposition budget:

N/a

CHF preposition actual:

N/a

CHF readiness budget:

CHF 9,853

CHF readiness actual:

1,445.00

Narrative description of plan vs achievements

Risk reduction and climate adaptability activities were conducted to prepare communities ahead of disasters.

These activities are:


Training of Staff on Risk Watch and Trigger Mechanism

The IFRC Climate Center supported IFRC and NRCS in the training of staff on risk watch and trigger mechanism in September 2023. Seven NRCS and four IFRC staff were trained. The training enabled the participants to read and interpret flood forecast information. Also, Climate Center added the contacts of both IFRC and NRCS staff in their forecast mailing list and all have received daily forecast information over a period of three months from August to October 2023.

Community Consultation on Early Warning System - Community entry and meeting with community members

IFRC and NRCS programme staff were deployed to four branches (Adamawa, Akwa Ibom, Edo, Nasarawa) to conduct community consultation meeting with community heads and members. The team worked with the NRCS branch volunteers in the four states to visit the selected communities. During the community entry and consultative meeting, the programme officers explained the objectives of the programme and how the programme will prepare the community to respond effectively to flood emergencies. The community people were guided to form their community resilience committee (CRC), and floods management committee. The team sensitized the community and conducted floods simulations for members with practical training at the riverside in the various communities. The aim was to enable members practice the steps for emergency rescue using the various local resources available. The teams also visited the State Emergency Management Agencies (SEMA) in the states to familiarize and to seek support in the project implementation. The team in

Adamawa and Akwa Ibom states had a media briefing where they were on air sensitizing the public about floods and the simplified early action project and how the participants will benefit.

 Community Engagement and Accountability	CHF preposition budget:	CHF preposition actual:
	N/a	N/a
	CHF readiness budget:	CHF readiness actual:
	CHF 1,847	1,734.68

Narrative description of plan vs achievements

Production of Jingles

The NRCS communication team with support from IFRC produced jingles ready for deployment during the early action activities. The jingle was produced in various Nigerian languages (Pidgin English, Hausa, and English) for easy understanding of the target population and ready for airing on radio stations.

Also, information, education, and communication materials (IECs) were produced in the major languages (English, Hausa and Pidgin English) and kept ready for distribution during sensitization activities.

Enabling approaches

 Secretariat Services	CHF preposition budget:	CHF preposition actual:
	N/a	N/a
	CHF readiness budget:	CHF readiness actual:
	CHF 8,673	2,128.91

Narrative description of plan vs achievements

IFRC staff accompanied the NRCS during the community entry consultation activities. The IFRC team worked with the NRCS to conduct sensitization activities and training for volunteers in the four sEAP states.



National Society Strengthening

CHF preposition budget:

CHF 9,393

CHF preposition actual:

CHF readiness budget:

CHF 17,620

CHF readiness actual:

6,130.53

Narrative description of plan vs achievements

Procurement of prepositioning materials

Materials including communication modems, data collection phones, rainboots, raincoats, and visibility jackets were procured and prepositioned in the four sEAP states.

Visibility Materials

The NRCS procured 50 bibs for the use of volunteers.

CHALLENGES, LESSONS LEARNED, PROPOSED AJUSTMENTS

Challenges:

Trigger Activation

A major challenge for year 1 is that some communities in Adamawa and Nasarawa states were affected by flooding caused by the opening of Lagdo dam in Cameroon and we could not respond to the disaster despite the devastation because the opening of the dams was not included in the proposal as a trigger for the activation of the early action activities. Communities in Adamawa and Nasarawa state were affected by the opening of the dam which caused flooding along the riverine communities in the two states. Both states were selected as sEAP target states and readiness activities were conducted in the two states. It was difficult to explain to the communities why we could not respond because they were expecting immediate relief response and do not understand the strategies for the sEAP implementation. Also, ocean surge was causing devastation in Edo state but there were no response activities conducted. Sensitization activities were conducted in Adamawa supported by the media to guide affected persons against the floods.

Training Budget

The IFRC Climate Center supported the project implementation team with training on Risk Watch and Trigger Mechanism. Somehow, the Climate Center team could not deploy to conduct a face-to-face training which is seen to be more effective. There is the need to include staff from the Climate Center in the budget to have full support to the implementing team.

Proposed Adjustments:

The condition for trigger activation should include flooding caused by opening of dams and ocean surge. With expanded trigger points, we will be able to activate in the year 2024.

Climate Centre training support should be included in the budget.

Scale up and increase more beneficiaries

It will be good to consider including more beneficiaries to the project. A total of 1,500 HHs (7,500 individuals) is targeted but represents a fraction of the affected population.

Lessons Learned:

Key lessons learned so far are:

- The collaboration with federal and state government agencies helped to give the project a wider visibility.
- Media engagement helped the project to sensitize a large audience which volunteers and staff would not have been able to achieve in a little time.
- Community people are willing to cooperate when they understand the impending disaster risks that surround them, but they lack the resources to organize themselves against such risks. It will be good for the project to support the communities with materials that will help them during the floods, e.g., sandbags, local boats, ropes, floating objects, etc.
- Understanding and planning community engagement / activities according to communities' timetable helps community participation. Some community members were found to be absent during the time the implementing teams visited their communities. The teams must be aware of the communities farming and fishing activities, festivities, and market days, etc. This will open doors for full participation of community members.
- To get the full participation of community heads and members, a budget should be provided for refreshment.
- More effort is required from the programme team to educate people and make them understand that the project is not about cash transfer but establishing a community-based approach and preparing the communities to fight disasters. Community people will often expect to receive money and are often discouraged where money is not involved.
- Designing early action messages in local languages is very effective for the understanding. Community people in a survey indicated that they prefer to receive information or communication in their local language.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The overall budget allocated for the sEAP is CHF 220,000, out of which CHF 51,884.68 representing 23.5% has been expended, leaving a balance of 168,115.32 CHF (76.5%) for the activities planned for the remaining period of the sEAP.

Justification for underspent budget lines:

Multipurpose cash (MPC)

Preparedness activities for MPC was conducted which includes PGI and CVA training but the retirements were delayed and was not captured in the report at the time of reporting. Consequently, the actual amount will be higher than what was reported.

Items were procured and distributed to the various branches and the budgeted amount was exhausted.

Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery

The training on risk trigger budgeted for CHF 2,312.90 was conducted by IFRC Climate Centre for free. Even though costed, there was no agreement for payment to Climate Centre, so the amount will be used to train volunteers at branch level on risk trigger mechanism in year 2.

Community consultation on Early Warning system was conducted. The activity budget is CHF 2,317.90 but retirement was not complete as at when this report was prepared.

Flood simulations activity budgeted for CHF 4,625.80 was conducted. The surplus will be converted to year 2 refresher activities for communities. When the retirements are completed, the burn rate will increase obviously.

Community Engagement and Accountability

The readiness budget for CEA is 1,847 CHF. Production of jingles was partly done, and the budget will be exhausted when the airing of jingles is completed during the early action activities.

Secretariat Services

Four IFRC staff members supported the NS to implement programmes in the various states. The budget of CHF 4,625.80 has not been exhausted but in year 2. Financial management cost of 3,469.35 CHF is yet to be deducted by IFRC.

National Society Strengthening

Repositioning of materials like modems, phones, rainboots/raincoats, and visibility items was done. Other costs like 7 percent admin cost and vehicle fuelling and communication support will be utilized in year 2.

Contact information

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Reference



Click here for:

- Simplified EAP
- <https://go.ifrc.org/emergencies/6234/details>
- Annual reports from previous years (*delete if not applicable*)