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DREF Operation Sierra Leone: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF Operation	Operation n° MDRSL006
Date of issue: 18 September 2015	Date of disaster: 5 - 6 September 2015
Operation manager (responsible for this EPoA): Alberto Bocanegra; IFRC West Coast; Operations coordinator	Point of contact (name and title): Moulaye Camara; IFRC Sierra Leone country representation; Head of Delegation
Operation start date: 7 September 2015	Expected timeframe: Three months
Overall operation budget: CHF 88,050	
Number of people affected: 2,630 (567 families)	Number of people to be assisted: 2,630 (567 families)
Host National Society presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): Sierra Leone Red Cross Society	
Number of volunteers: 3,000 Number of staff at branch level: 150	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation (if available and relevant): International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government of Sierra Leone; Caritas, Christian Aid and World Vision	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Sustained heavy downpour of rain from the 5 to the 6 September 2015 (48 hours) burst river banks and caused destruction in eight communities in Bo and two in one Chiefdom in Pujehun District in southern Sierra Leone. The overall population in the three chiefdoms in Bo District is 8,695 of which 2,630 were directly affected losing properties and being exposed to rain with no appropriate sanitation and some evacuating and taking shelter in nearby schools. The number of people affected by the floods in Bo District is 2,630 in 239 household heads with 463 males 614 females, 645 boys, 607 girls and 301 children under five years. A total of 339 houses are reported destroyed. Pujehun District has 272 persons affected by floods with 41 household heads affected losing 16 houses.



Flooded road between Kenema and Freetown / Photo: Umaru Fofana.:
Source: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p031tpjs>

The affected communities have been inaccessible and aid has not reached the vulnerable persons for more than the standard response time creating high risk of epidemic outbreaks of Acute Watery Diarrhoea due to contaminated water sources. It has been reported that one person drowned during the floods.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society

Sierra Leone Red Cross Society (SLRCS) has long experience in emergency response operations in the country. In response to the floods disaster, SLRCS is coordinating the response supported by the IFRC country

delegation. The SLRCS staff and volunteers based in Bo District have already started evacuating families affected by the floods from Kpahn community to Falah community. In addition a joint rapid assessment of the current situation has been carried out in collaboration with the Office of National Security and local councils.

SLRCS is also a member of the National Ebola Response Centre (NERC) and of the District Ebola Response Centres (DERC) with its branch officials participating at daily coordination meetings and briefings. SLRCS has a permanent representation at the Western Area Command Centre, which coordinates all Ebola related activities in respect of alerts, ambulances and burials in the populous Freetown area, and participates and works in partnership with the DHMT and WHO.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The IFRC through its Sierra Leone country representation based in Freetown and the West Coast regional representation in Abidjan, Cote D'Ivoire continues working closely with the SLRCS by in all response operations ensuring that management and operational issues are implemented within the principles and core values of the Red Cross Movement; and are efficiently and effectively meeting the needs of the most vulnerable and affected people.

Movement Coordination

The Host National Society – SLRCS is responsible for the implementation of this DREF supported floods operation with technical support of the IFRC country and regional offices. In addition, in response to the Ebola crisis, the Red Cross (SLRCS and IFRC) are the co-facilitators along with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MoHS) of the Safe and Dignified Burial (SDB) pillar and chairs weekly meetings that are attended by representatives from the MoHS, NERC, WHO, CDC, DFID, USAID, Concern Worldwide, CRS, World Vision, MSF and UNMEER. Furthermore, SLRCS maintains permanent communication with the UN system, more precisely with UNICEF (social mobilization), WHO (case management) and UNFPA (surveillance and contact tracing).

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country:

The government of Sierra Leone in the capacity of the Office of National Security (Department of Disaster Management) jointly conducted a needs assessment with the SLRCS and MoHS. The government has appealed to humanitarian organisations for help in assisting the floods displaced people and as at the 14 of September, assistance had been provided as follows:

- Non-governmental Organisation (NGOs): Caritas and World Vision provided rice, while Christian Aid provided mattresses and food items.
- Government: Ministry of Health and Sanitation provided medicine and food items (rice)

Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

Needs Analysis:

The floods have displaced families that are currently living in schools and court barriers with little or no facilities. The identified needs of the people displaced by the flood disaster are the supply of non-food items (NFIs) to address temporal shelter needs, hygiene and sanitation promotion, livelihood support, risk reduction assistance/activities for the medium-term interventions.

Beneficiary Selection:

In total, 1,000 people (200 families) (40% women and children) will be targeted through the distribution of NFIs (including emergency shelter) and hygiene related item; while 2,630 persons will benefit from the health and hygiene promotion campaigns.

CHIEFDOM	TOWN/VILLAGE	AFFECTED HOUSES	AFFECTED HOUSEHOLDS	AFFECTED POPULATION
KAKUA	KPAN	33	99	290
	FARLU	3	9	56
	KEGBAI	15	45	124
	MBAOMA-LUGBU	5	10	48

CHIEFDOM	TOWN/VILLAGE	AFFECTED HOUSES	AFFECTED HOUSEHOLDS	AFFECTED POPULATION
Sub Total		56	163	518
BABGWE	NJALA GENDEMA	62	186	832
	BENDUMA	30	60	492
	GBONJEMA	33	99	589
Sub-Total		125	345	1,913
BAOMA	GERIHUN	13	39	114
	NJAMA	10	20	85
Sub-Total		23	59	199
Grand Total		204	567	2,630

SLRCS will ensure that the DREF operation is aligned with the IFRC's commitment to realize gender equality and diversity, by adapting a beneficiary selection criteria that targets (women headed-households, people with disabilities) Other aspects considered will include prevention of sexual violence and gender-based violence, and the protection of children. As such, the selection of beneficiaries to receive NFIs and hygiene related items will be based on the following:

- Older persons,
- Persons with disabilities,
- Families with at least 2-3 children below five years
- Pregnant women and lactating mothers

Risk Assessment: Indications coming from meteorological forecasts claim that future heavy and sustained downpours are expected in the region therefore a need for disaster risk reduction activities such early warning systems (EWS) will be immediately required in order to ensure preparedness of communities at risk of flooding; Since these are not eligible to be covered through the DREF allocation, other resources will be sought.

Scenario Planning:

- The worst case scenario is that water level will continue to rise in the flooded areas as more heavy rains are expected
- Outbreak of water-borne disease and other health crisis

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall objective

Immediate survival needs of the flood-affected population are met through the provision of essential emergency relief, shelter, health, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion assistance, targeting a total of 2,630 people (567 households) in eight communities in Bo and two in one Chiefdom in Pujehun District, for a period of three months.

Proposed strategy

The proposed strategy aims to support the SLRCS in assisting a total of 2,630 people (567 households) that are flood-affected with immediate relief, shelter, health, and water, sanitation and hygiene promotion interventions. This DREF operation will include the following activities:

- Procurement and distribution of Non-Food Items (NFIs) to support 1,000 people (200 families) including: blankets (2 pcs per family), clothing (20 bales) kitchen sets (1 pc per family), mats (1 pc per family), and tarpaulins (2 pcs per family); mosquito nets (2 pcs per household; as well as water, sanitation and hygiene related items including: aqua tabs (10 cartons), buckets (1 pc per family), bowls (1 pc per family), cups (1 litres) (1 pc per family) hygiene kits (soaps, sanitary and baby pads, tooth paste and brush, towel, razor) (1

pc per family), jerry cans (1 pc per family) and soap (40 cartons). In total, 30 volunteers will be mobilized to support the distribution of these items, and sensitization on their use, for a period of 10 days, which is the timeframe required to cover all of the communities being supported through this DREF operation.

- Replenishment of costs incurred by volunteers (30) involved in the initial assessment/response to the flooding.
- Orientation of volunteers (30) on identification/registration of beneficiaries; and has been budgeted at CHF 8 approx. per volunteers (including both per diem and transportation).
- Refresher training of volunteers (30) on the Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV) manual / health promotion; and has been budgeted at CHF 40 per volunteers. Following the refresher training, the volunteers will be mobilized to carry out health promotion campaigns in the areas of implementation, for 15 days per month for three months, targeting of 2,630 people (567 households). Procurement of first aid kits (10) will be also be carried out, and issued to the volunteers.
- Orientation of volunteers (30) on hygiene promotion; and has been budgeted at CHF 8 approx. per volunteers (including both per diem and transportation). Following the orientation, the volunteers will be mobilized to carry out health promotion campaigns in the areas of implementation, for 15 days per month for three months, targeting of 2,630 people (567 households).
- Completion of a post distribution monitoring (beneficiary satisfaction) survey using the Rapid Mobile Phone-based approach (RAMP) with beneficiaries. In total, two NHQ staff will be mobilized to support his exercise, for a period of five days.
- Lessons workshop at the end of the DREF operation to capture lessons learnt, and inform recommendations.

Operational support services

Human resources

The SLRCS NHQ disaster management (DM) team composed of regional disaster response team (RDRT) trained staff will supervise the national disaster response team (NDRTs) at branch level, and will work in close coordination. The SLRCS DM coordinator based at the NHQ in Freetown, and reinforced human resources at the branch level through the health department and community engagement officers, will coordinate the DREF operation. The NHQ / branch level staff mobilized to support the DREF operation will receive a per diem of CHF 24 per day, as well as provision for accommodation (CHF 30 per night) when in the field. The SLRCS branch offices in Bo and Pujehun Districts will be assisted to ensure they are fully operational (well-functional offices: internet, IT equipment, generators, vehicles, stationery and trained personnel. The two districts will be supported with capacity building to promote community awareness and preventative measures and hygiene practice. However, the two Districts already have a cadre of trained volunteers engaged in social mobilization, community education and psychosocial support (PSS) activities. The DREF allocation will ensure provision is made the following staff and volunteers: In total, 30 volunteers will be mobilized to support the DREF operation. Each volunteer will receive a per diem of CHF 5 per day; as well as provision for transportation (if required), e.g. for orientation sessions. Each volunteer will be issued with personal protective equipment, e.g. rain jacket and rain wear. A Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) member will also be mobilized via the IFRC to support the effective implementation of the DREF operation, for a period of two months (CHF 6,000 per month).

Logistics and supply chain

All logistics services are following IFRC logistics procedures and systems. IFRC will continue to support the SLRCS in this DREF operation and to strengthen the capacity in fleet management, procurement, warehousing and import/export processes. A robust supply chain is in place to deliver all equipment supplies and to effectively support the DREF operation:

- Procurement plans: Local procurement will be carried out via the SLRCS NHQ logistics unit, with support from the IFRC Sierra Leone country representation to ensure compliance with the IFRC agreed procurement procedures (and costings). International procurement will be carried out via the Global Logistics Services (CHF 2,500 has been budgeted). Use of prepositioned NFIs at both National Society Level and IFRC regional level will be replenished through this DREF allocation. AI
- Transport and fleet needs: The IFRC Global Fleet Unit has several VRP vehicles available in country (through the MDRSL005 operation), and fuelling/maintenance of these has been budgeted for (CHF 5,250) to enable them to be used to also support this DREF operation. In addition, the transportation of all items to the affected area (from NHQ) has been budgeted for (CHF 3,000).
- Logistics and warehousing: The IFRC Sierra Leone country representation has secured a 2,000 m² in Freetown, which will be used for this DREF operation (if required)

Information Technologies

The IFRC is implementing a Digital Divide Initiative (DDI) project to assist the SLRCS build its IT and telecommunications infrastructure and services. The DDI is targeted at the management and information system, enhancing the network infrastructural systems, modern telephone systems, standard software licensing, website and online profile management, and branch support services, which include internet access provision, computer hardware and software and the technical and user trainings to enable the SLRCS to efficiently use these resources to communicate and automate the work process. In Bo and Pujehun districts, access to internet goes from limited to inexistent, however a local internet company has been identified to provide internet and the availability of IT equipment and Information Management (IM) activities (through the MDRSL005 operation) have greatly improved the information flow between the branches, which are now able to produce and disseminate timely and accurate reports on a weekly basis. The DREF allocation will support communications related costs (internet, airtime, courier services etc.) (CHF 600)

Communications

The SLRCS with support from IFRC Sierra Leone country representation communications delegate has been coordinating various awareness and publicity activities aimed to sensitize the public, national and international media and donors on the situation, needs on the ground and the humanitarian response. It is expected that the support of communication delegate will continue to raise the DREF operation's profile through fostering relationships with international journalists, proactive pitching and engaging media outlets showcasing the work of the Red Cross. The communication departments of the IFRC and SLRCS will serve as a critical link to maintain the Red Cross at the fore of the floods and recovery media coverage as well as supporting the National Society in global campaigns and donor relations/field visits.

Security

The IFRC security focal point will continue working closely with IFRC Sierra Leone country representation to monitor and support on security related matters. A security review was carried out in May 2015 to identify the multiple challenges of the current Ebola situation. Although the Security Guidelines are in place, there will need to be an in depth analysis of the different contingencies and challenges that could arise from various threats. In terms of security for our most valuable volunteers; the Volunteer Security Booklet "Volunteer Stay Safe" in English will be shared with the delegation to ensure that all volunteers involved in the operation have access to the document to raise their security awareness.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER)

During the DREF operation, monitoring missions (four) will be carried out by members of staff from the NHQ as a means of ensuring the progress of the activities planned in the EPoA, as well as make revisions if required. Each monitoring mission will involve four members of NHQ staff, and will be carried out over two days – this has been budgeted for (including costs for per diem, accommodation and transportation). The IFRC Sierra Leone country representation, and West Coast regional representation will also provide technical assistance to ensure the effective implementation of the DREF operation – with regional monitoring missions also budgeted (two). As part of the IFRC's efforts to improve the appropriateness of its DREF operations in Sierra Leone and elsewhere in the Africa zone, (as noted) a post distribution monitoring (beneficiary satisfaction survey (BSS) of recipients of the NFIs will be carried out using the RAMP – budgeted at CHF 2,128. In addition, there will be a workshop with staff and to capture lessons learnt, and inform recommendations for future DREF operations (and other

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**
and a culture of
non-violence and peace.

DREF OPERATION

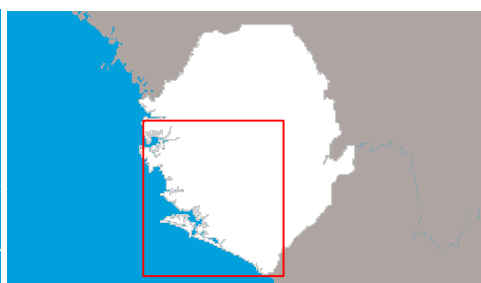
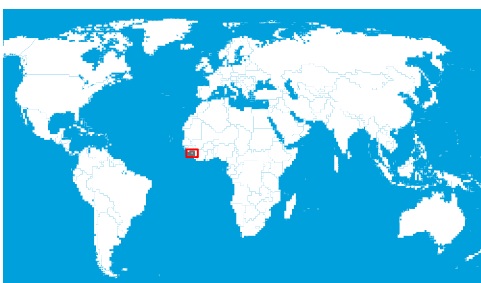
18/09/2015

SIERRA LEONNE- FLOODS (MDRSL006)

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	6,000
Shelter - Transitional	0
Construction - Housing	0
Construction - Facilities	0
Construction - Materials	0
Clothing & Textiles	7,400
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	4,600
Medical & First Aid	750
Teaching Materials	0
Utensils & Tools	12,400
Other Supplies & Services	0
Cash Disbursements	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	31,150
Land & Buildings	0
Vehicles	0
Computer & Telecom Equipment	0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	0
Medical Equipment	0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	0
Distribution & Monitoring	0
Transport & Vehicle Costs	8,250
Logistics Services	2,500
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	10,750
International Staff	12,000
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	2,128
Volunteers	16,530
Total PERSONNEL	30,658
Consultants	0
Professional Fees	0
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	4,200
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	4,200
Travel	3,000
Information & Public Relations	0
Office Costs	750
Communications	1,350
Financial Charges	819
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Office and Services Costs	0
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	5,919
Partner National Societies	0
Other Partners (NGOs, UN, other)	0
Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS	0
Programme and Services Support Recovery	5,374
Total INDIRECT COSTS	5,374
TOTAL BUDGET	88,050



Sierra Leone: Floods



Targeted districts