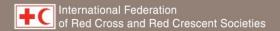


DREF Final Report Benin: Ebola Virus Disease



DREF	Operation n° MDRBJ014;					
Date of Issue: 20 March 2015	Date of disaster: 20 July 2014					
Operation start date: 27 August, 2014	Operation end date: 27 November, 2014					
Host National Society: Benin Red Cross	Operation budget: CHF 50,204					
Number of people affected: 14 Zones at risk	Number of people assisted:1,000,000(indirect),41,299 (direct)					
N° of National Societies involved in the operat	ion: Luxembourg and Netherlands Red Cross Societies and IFRC.					
N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation: Ministry of Health, Ministry of the Interior (through						
the ANPC), Plan Benin and UNICEF.						

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

In February 2014, there was an outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in Guinea, which spread to Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and Sierra Leone causing untold hardship and thousands of deaths in these countries. As of 27 February 2015, a total of 23,694 cases, and 9,589 deaths, which were attributed to the EVD, had been recorded across the most affected countries of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), an outbreak of the EVD was also reported, but is considered of a different origin than that which has affected West Africa. Benin, with a population of 10,051,000 (UNCDP 2014) shares a border with Nigeria, which has been affected by the EVD, and therefore the risks presented by the epidemic to the country are high. The Benin authorities in response to this situation, initiated measures to prevent and



Mobilization of staff to support the EVD preparedness activities Photo: BRCS

prepare for the occurrence of the virus within its borders, which has included:

- Strengthening of epidemiological surveillance throughout the country; especially in the border areas with Nigeria, and at the airport;
- Strengthening of health checks at land, sea and air borders;
- Increasing vigilance to emergency departments of public hospitals, and in private health facilities.

In Benin, the health authorities also activated the national platform for disaster risk reduction to reflect on the situation through meetings held at the Ministry of Interior and Public Security.

This final report is being issued following a preliminary final report issued on 2 March 2015 without the financial report.

The Netherlands Red Cross/Silent Emergencies Fund contributed to the replenishment of the DREF allocation made for this operation. The major donors and partners of DREF include the Australian, American and Belgian governments, the Austrian Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross and government, Danish Red Cross and government, DG ECHO, the Irish and the Italian governments, the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Luxembourg government, the Monaco Red Cross and government, the Netherlands Red Cross and government, the Norwegian Red Cross and government, the Spanish Government, the Swedish Red Cross and government, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), the Medtronic and Z Zurich Foundations, and other corporate and private donors.

IFRC, on behalf Benin Red Cross Society, would like to extend thanks to all partners for their continued support.

<click here for the final financial report and here for the contact details >

Summary of response

Overview of Host National Society

On 27 August 2014 2014, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies allocated 50,204 CHF from the Disaster Relief and Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Benin Red Cross Society (BRCS) with EVD preparedness activities for a period of 3 months specifically in 14 municipalities on the border with Nigeria, as well as the cities of Cotonou and Porto Novo. Through the DREF operation, the BRCS has contributed to the Benin authorities' efforts to prevent and prepare for an outbreak of the EVD, by reinforcing the capacity of its volunteers to carry out social mobilization activities, as well as preparedness activities in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MoH).

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) support through its' West Coast regional representation in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, as well as through its Zone office in Nairobi, Kenya. The IFRC deployed a Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) member to support the effective implementation of the operation. The Netherlands Red Cross (NLRC) has been present in country and in collaboration with the BRC has prepared a





BRCS volunteers' awareness campaign at markets in targeted municipalities Photo/ BRCS.

proposal for an EVD prevention and response programme, which has been since shared with key partners including the Belgian Red Cross, European Commission (DG ECHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO). The Luxembourg Red Cross has also provided EUR 20,000 for the procurement of a batch of personal protective equipment (PPE) (Low risk and High risk), as well as administrative costs and logistics.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

Other partner organizations involved in the preparedness efforts has included UNICEF, which provided a training of for 24 "super" trainers and 154 trainers throughout the country over the period of three months; and the Chinese Embassy, which provided CFA 10,000,000 to help prepare for the EVD. The BRCS worked in collaboration with the MoH and the Ministry of Interior (through the National Agency for Civil Protection (ANCP). To counter a possible outbreak, a platform was set up at the ANPC under supervision of the Ministry of the Interior. Thus, the early warning system, regular monitoring and surveillance was strengthened and revitalized throughout the country. The authorities have also identified facilities that can serve as isolation centres for potential EVD cases.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Needs Analysis

In Benin, since the EVD has not been experienced before, population and the health authorities also had limited understanding of the virus, its mode of transmission and the behaviours required to avoid it.

Risk analysis

As of 20 August 2015, 16 cases and five deaths attributed to EVD were reported in Lagos, Nigeria, and its neighbour Benin due its proximity; as well as the mobility of the population between the countries, particularly from the cities of Cotonou and Porto Novo, was identified as being especially at risk of an outbreak of the virus.

High risk identified communities in border municipalities with Nigeria and in Cotonou and Porto Novo were targeted through this DREF operation. Specific groups of individuals (community leaders etc.) were targeted in the municipalities as multipliers on disseminating messages to others

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall Objective

The overall objective was to prepare the BRCS through staff and volunteer training, awareness raising and social mobilization activities alongside the MoH and ensure the pre-positioning of PPE when possible, in coordination with other actors. The social mobilization activities were intended to increase knowledge of risk and promote prevention behaviour.

Proposed strategy

The proposed strategy was in accordance with the IFRCs response and preparedness strategy for countries in the region, and specifically those that bordered those countries where cases had been reported. The activities focused on:

- Preparedness for response through volunteer training in communication around epidemics and behavioural change;
- Supporting Ministries of Health (and other actors) in prevention activities and social mobilisation;
- Pre-positioning personal protective equipment and related training;
- Adaption and dissemination of information, education and communication material linked with community social mobilization activities.

Operational support services

Human resources (HR)

Through the DREF operation, 90 volunteers were mobilized (on average six per municipality) to carry out prevention and social mobilization activities. A Relief and Disaster Management coordinator, a Health coordinator, and 11 National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members were deployed to provide supervision of the volunteers. As noted, the IFRC West Coast regional representation deployed a RDRT with a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion (WatSan) profile, to support the effective implementation of the operation, specifically Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV) training, mobilization of volunteers, monitoring and reporting of activities.

Communications

The BRCS established an information system that ensured all Red Cross and Red Crescent (RC/RC) actors were kept aware of the activities carried out within the DREF operation, and in support of the MoH. The visibility of the Red Cross was strengthened by the production of 100 T-shirts and 100 caps, which were distributed to volunteers and the management team. The volunteers used the T-shirts and caps during sensitization sessions.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER)

Continuous monitoring of activities across 14 localities proved a challenge at the beginning of the DREF operation; however a follow-up strategy was then established to ensure regular close supervision. The Relief and Disaster Management coordinator provided monitoring of activities carried out in the nine local committees in the departments of the Atlantic / Littoral and Ouémé Plateau. In addition a local focal point based in Comè (located 80 km from Cotonou) was responsible for monitoring the activities in the remaining five local committees located further to the west of Cotonou. Ten monitoring visits were made by each of the focal points in their local committees thus 20 outlets in total across 14 local committees over a period of six weeks. Please note that a light vehicle was rented on site to facilitate the movement of the focal points during the supervisions. Supervisions focal points were supported by the RDRT deployed. A final assessment was carried out by Secretary-General and the Director of Health helped to understand the level of understanding of the communities about the disease; get the lowest anomalies, and see prospects after the sensitization sessions in communities. One 27 November 2014, lessons learned workshop was held in Porto Novo, which was attended by 14 volunteers representing each of the 14 local committees.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

Early Warning & emergency response preparedness

Outcome 1: The immediate risks to the health of affected populations are reduced

Output 1.1: The capacity of Benin Red Cross to prepare for potential Ebola response is strengthened

Achievements

- 1.1.1 In total, 90 volunteers from the 14 municipalities (Abomey, Adjarra, Avrankou, Comè, Cotonou, Grand Popo, Ifangni Kétou, Kpomassè, Ouidah, Pobè, Porto-Novo, Sakété and Seme-Podji) received training on the ECV manual, which equates to 100 per cent of the intended target. Each volunteers received training on how to: recognize and prevent the virus; as well as to ensure suspected cases were referred to hospital as soon as possible. The ECV trainings were carried out in Comè (one) with four local committees; and in Porto Novo (two) with 10 local committees. ECV training facilitation was carried out by the RDRT, with support from 27 staff (Please refer to 1.1.2)
- 1.1.2 In total, 27 staff participated in the ECV training, which included representatives from the Blood Transfusion department.
- 1.1.3 Purchase of PPE was carried out by the IFRC; and then pre-positioned at the BRC national headquarters (NHQ). Please note that pre-positioning was intended in three locations; however due to security conditions, i.e. limited space at branch level to securely store them, it was decided that they should be located at NHQ level. Nonetheless, if required the PPE can be mobilized and delivered to any of the 14 municipalities, even to the most remote locations within three hours.
- 1.1.4 Disinfection equipment (70% chlorine) and disinfection gels were procured for pre-positioning. Following the agreement with the IFRC, the funds to be used for the purchase cresyl were used to supplement the number of sanitizing gel to buy.
- 1.1.5 Please refer to "Section "B. Operational strategy and plan / Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting
- 1.1.6 Please refer to Section "B. Operational strategy and plan / Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting
- 1.1.7 The contingency plan was updated; however it has not been approved by the local committees and authorities involved.

Output 1.2: Increased public awareness about EVD (signs and symptoms, transmission risk factors, actions for suspected cases, its prevention and control measures) in the Porto Novo, Cotonou and the 14 areas bordering with Nigeria

Impacts

- 1.2.1 Community leaders were identified in accordance with the recommendations of the community strategy, which was developed by the BRCS. Following the ECV training and prior to any social mobilization activities, the 90 volunteers sensitized community leaders on the EVD and shared with them the content of the Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA).
- 1.2.2 In total, 3,000 Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials were produced, which equates to 30 per cent of the intended target (10,000). The IEC materials comprised sensitization posters, which were approved by the sub-committee on social mobilization, which was led by UNICEF. Please note that the variance against the intended target was caused by delays in the approval/printing of the IEC materials by the sub-committee on social mobilization, which did not take place until the fourth week of implementation.
- 1.2.3 In total, 280 schools (20 schools per targeted municipality) each received 10 posters (2,800 posters), with the remaining (200) displayed in strategic public places across the 14 municipalities.
- 1.2.4 Please refer to 1.2.6.
- 1.2.5 In total, 270 EVD awareness messages (three per day for 90 days) were broadcast on Radio-Pobè in conjunction with Plan Benin and UNICEF. Please note that to ensure that the dissemination of EVD awareness messages through the media was not duplicated, a mapping of all organizations involved in the "Fight against Ebola" campaign was carried out. Following this, the community radio station "Radio-Pobè" was selected; and EVD related messages broadcast in the most widely spoken languages in the region (Fon, French and Yoruba).
- 1.2.6 In total, 141,299 people (52,293 children, 48,609 women and 40,397 men) were reached through social mobilization activities, which were carried out in public places (churches, markets, mosques, schools and stations) across the 14 target municipalities. Please refer to "Table 1: Summary of numbers reached during sensitization sessions". Following the ECV training, the 90 volunteers were arranged into pairs, thus 45 pairs. Each pair of volunteers were equipped with megaphones, and carried out two mass sensitization sessions per week for four weeks (360 sessions). After the initial sensitization phase, another was carried out in three busy towns for three weeks (Abomey, Porto-Novo and Sèmè-Podji).

Table 1: Summary of numbers reached during sensitization sessions

Municipality	Week							
Wumcipanty	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Adjarra	5,484	2,554	1,850	2,508	-	1	-	12,396
Avrankou	2,031	2,333	1,873	1,414	-	-	-	7,651
Abomey-Calavi	1,399	1,503	1,325	968	1,109	1,004	623	7,931
Come	1,694	3,977	3,586	7,503	-	1	-	16,760
Cotonou	1,575	1,945	894	1,770	-	-	-	6,184
Grand-Popo	1,167	1,092	1,855	1,343	-	1	-	5,457
Ifangni	1,182	849	1,849	982	-	1	-	4,862
Ketou	1,323	640	1,498	2,555	-	-	-	6,016
Kpomasse	1,114	1,781	3,112	1,815	-	-	-	7,822
Ouidah	1,109	657	681	1,085	-	-	-	3,532
Pobe	3,092	3,337	3,777	2,325	-	1	-	12,531
Porto-Novo	1,675	7,044	4,163	3,122	3,155	2,077	929	22,165
Sakete	2,306	1,760	4,630	3,194	-	-	-	11,890
Seme-Podji	2,378	1,811	1,822	3,131	2,661	2,420	1,879	16,102
Total								

Output 1.3: Community epidemiological surveillance is set up / enhanced

Impacts

- 1.3.1 Community leaders in the 14 local committees involved in social mobilization activities were for making official visits to political and administrative authorities in their locality to inform in relation to the implementation of awareness sessions.
- 1.3.2 Activity related to "set-up / enhance community monitoring committees for disease surveillance" has been given to community leaders identified in each community under the supervision of volunteers and involvement of political and administrative authorities in their locality
- 1.3.3 In each locality contact between BRCS focal point and local health authorities has been establish for an epidemiological control and monitoring of activities carried out by disease surveillance group.
- 1.3.4 Follow-up meetings with the local authorities (health districts, prefectures, and town councils) were achieved. The BRCS, represented by its communication and coordination health, has been an active member of the subcommittees Social Mobilization and case management set up by the Ministry of Health to prevent the spread of EVD.

Challenges

- Proper and secure storage locations for pre-positioning of PPE at branch level were not available.
- IEC materials were only available from the fourth week of implementation due to delays in the approval/printing of posters allowed to be used by all the institutions and structures by the sub-committee on social mobilization
- Remaining risk presented by the epidemic through transmission from the Eastern and Northern Nigeria, and the
 western corridor Abidjan-Ghana-Lomé; and as such it is urgent that a more comprehensive response across the
 entire country is conducted.

Lessons Learned

- Establishment of mission orders for volunteers to strengthen the official involvement on the ground
- The effective involvement of local officials in the activities of the BRCS.
- Involved more local committees in the EVD preparedness activities
- Train more volunteers, at least 50 more per towns to reinforce sensitization activities.
- The needs to strengthen the capacity of the local committees to be more prepared to respond to such an epidemic never recorded before in West Africa.

D. Finance Report

At the close of the operation the closing balance of CHF14, 954 will be returned to DREF.Below is a summary of explanations to the variances between the budget and expenditures at the close of the operation.

- Medical and First Aid budget line was underspent by CHF 4,961 (CHF 539 against CHF 5,500), equating to 90 per cent due to the procurement/pre-positioning of a regional stock of safe and dignified burial (SDB) kit. The decision was agreed following discussion with Africa zone Disaster Management Unit to combine the cost of purchase of the PPE between the Togo and Benin EVD operations. As such, the cost for Benin operation was reduced.
- Distribution and Monitoring was overspent by CHF 4,300 (CHF 4,300 against CHF 0) due to cost recovery related to logistics services that was coded at Geneva level for the SDV/Air freight of SDB kits, which was not budgeted at the onset of the DREF operation.
- Transport and Vehicles Costs was underspent by CHF 5,510 (CHF 4,390 against CHF 9,900), equating to 56 per cent due to the decision agreed following discussion with the Africa zone Disaster Management Unit to divide the cost of transportation of the PPE between the Togo and Benin EVD operations, since the consignment for both had been combined. As such, the cost for Benin operation was reduced.
- Logistics Services was overspent by CHF 500 (CHF 500 against CHF 0); due to cost related to procurement service as shipping/transport, that was coded at Geneva level for the procurement of PPE and SDB Kits, which was not budgeted at the onset of the DREF operation.
- International Staff was underspent by CHF 8,778 (CHF 3,222 against CHF 12,000), equating to 73 per cent; and
 was due to the RDRT being deployed for one month, rather than two months that was planned. This underspend
 was then used to cover volunteers and National Society Staff, which had been under budgeted at the onset of the
 DREF operation (see below).
- National Society Staff was overspent by CHF 1,453 (CHF 1,453 against CHF 0), due to costs for National Society supervisor to monitor social mobilization activities carried out by volunteers. This overspend was covered by the International Staff line (see above).
- Volunteers was overspent by CHF 5,984 (CHF 6,134 against CHF 150), due to costs for social mobilization
 activities being under budgeted at the onset of the DREF operation. This overspend was covered by the
 International Staff line (see above).
- Travel was underspent by CHF 5,049 (CHF 2,451 against CHF 7,200), equating to 67per cent; due to a
 monitoring mission, which was budgeted but not carried out by IFRC with the agreed timeframe for the DREF
 operation.

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 Disaster 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.

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

- 1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
- 2. Enable healthy and safe living.
- 3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace

Disaster Response Financial Report

MDRBJ014 - Benin - Ebola Virus Disease

Timeframe: 27 Aug 14 to 27 Nov 14 Appeal Launch Date: 27 Aug 14

Final Report

Selected Parameters									
Reporting Timeframe	2014/8-2015/2	Programme	MDRBJ014						
Budget Timeframe	2014/8-2014/11	Budget	Approved						
Split by funding source	Υ	Project	*						
Subsector:	*								

I. Funding

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/ RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
A. Budget		50,204	l			50,204	
B. Opening Balance							
ncome							
Other Income							
DREF Allocations		50,204	1			50,204	
C4. Other Income		50,204	ļ			50,204	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1C4)		50,204	ļ			50,204	
D. Total Funding = B +C		50,204	1			50,204	

^{*} Funding source data based on information provided by the donor

II. Movement of Funds

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/ RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
B. Opening Balance							
C. Income		50,204					
E. Expenditure		-35,250					
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	14,954					14,954	

Disaster Response Financial Report

MDRBJ014 - Benin - Ebola Virus Disease

Timeframe: 27 Aug 14 to 27 Nov 14 Appeal Launch Date: 27 Aug 14

Final Report

Selected Parameters Reporting Timeframe 2014/8-2015/2 Programme MDRBJ014 Budget Timeframe 2014/8-2014/11 Budget Approved Split by funding source Subsector: All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Expenditure

				Exper	nditure			
Account Groups Bud	Budget	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/ RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/ RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Variance
	Α						В	A - B
BUDGET (C)			50,204				50,204	
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	240							240
Medical & First Aid	5,500		539				539	4,961
Total Relief items, Construction, Sup	5,740		539				539	5,201
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Distribution & Monitoring			4,300				4,300	-4,300
Transport & Vehicles Costs	9,900		4,390				4,390	5,510
Logistics Services			500				500	-500
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	9,900		9,191				9,191	709
Personnel								
International Staff	12,000		3,222				3,222	8,778
National Society Staff			1,453				1,453	-1,453
Volunteers	150		6,134				6,134	-5,984
Total Personnel	12,150		10,809				10,809	1,341
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	4,250		4,236				4,236	14
Total Workshops & Training	4,250		4,236				4,236	14
General Expenditure								
Travel	7,500		2,905				2,905	4,595
Information & Public Relations	5,000		4,730				4,730	270
Office Costs	500		12				12	488
Communications	1,100		625				625	475
Financial Charges	1,000		51				51	949
Total General Expenditure	15,100		8,324				8,324	6,776
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recove	3,064		2,151				2,151	913
Total Indirect Costs	3,064		2,151				2,151	913
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	50,204		35,250				35,250	14,954
VARIANCE (C - D)			14,954				14,954	

Disaster Response Financial Report

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Selected Parameters Reporting Timeframe 2014/8-2015/2 Programme MDRBJ014 Budget Timeframe 2014/8-2014/11 Budget Approved Split by funding source Subsector: All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

IV. Breakdown by subsector

Business Line / Sub-sector	Budget	Opening Balance	Income	Funding	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Deferred Income
BL2 - Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people							
Disaster response	50,204		50,204	50,204	35,250	14,954	
Subtotal BL2	50,204		50,204	50,204	35,250	14,954	
GRAND TOTAL	50,204		50,204	50,204	35,250	14,954	