

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE USE OF CERF GRANTS MADAGASCAR

Country	Madagascar
Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator	Ms. Fatma Samoura
Reporting Period	1 September 2010 – 31 January 2011

I. Summary of Funding and Beneficiaries

Funding	Total amount required for the humanitarian response:	US\$ 15,000,000		
	Total amount received for the humanitarian response:	US\$ 7,215,398		
	Breakdown of total country funding received by source:	CERF	US\$ 4,725,398	
		CHF/HRF COUNTRY LEVEL FUNDS	US\$	
		OTHER (Bilateral/Multilateral)	US\$ 2,490,000	
	Total amount of CERF funding received from the Rapid Response window:	US\$ 4,725,398		
	Total amount of CERF funding received from the Underfunded window:	US\$		
	Please provide the breakdown of CERF funds by type of partner ¹ :	a. Direct UN agencies/IOM implementation:	US\$ 4,725,398	
		b. Funds forwarded to NGOs for implementation (in Annex, please provide a list of each NGO and amount of CERF funding forwarded):	US\$	
		c. Funds for Government implementation:	US\$	
d. TOTAL:		US\$ 4,725,398		
Beneficiaries	Total number of individuals affected by the crisis:	2 million individuals (460,000 households)		
	Total number of individuals reached with CERF funding:	2,000,000 total individuals		
		Around 480,000 children under 5		
		Around 985,000 females		
Geographical areas of implementation:	Great South and South west of the country (regions of Anosy, Androy Atsimo Andrefana and Ihorombe)			

¹ No allocation was made to both NGOs and Ministry of agriculture. FAO office contracted directly the helicopters with a private company and FAO purchased also the pesticides.

I. Analysis

In Madagascar, the region known as the “*Grand Sud*” (Greater South) is one of the poorest parts of the country. In 2010, agricultural production has been heavily compromised due to poor rains, further worsening the livelihoods of thousands of households, already weakened by natural disasters and the political instability over the course of the previous year. The area is also at risk from other natural threats such as the Malagasy migratory locust [*Locusta migratoria capito* (Saussure 1884), LMC].

Since 2009, the National Anti-Locust Centre (CNA, *Centre National Antiacridien*), which is in charge of locust monitoring and early control, is no longer in a position to collect/manage regular and relevant field data nor to monitor the evolution and population dynamics of the Malagasy migratory locust. The severity of the situation became clear when partners operating in the field detected massive swarms in the extreme south (Tsihombe district) in May 2010.

Control operations conducted during the 2009 and 2010 locust campaign (October 2009 to May 2010) covered a total of 123,000 hectares, i.e. about 85 per cent of the infested areas. Due to lack of funds, the CNA was not able to carry out surveys and detect locust targets, therefore no additional control operations was conducted. In June 2010, locust swarms and crop damages were reported in the southern and northern parts of the outbreak area. Field observations indicated that the northern edges of the outbreak area and a large part of the mid-west as well as the south-eastern coastal strip were infested by locusts. The geographical extent of infestations and the number of swarms observed in July and August 2010 were alarming and were indicative of the onset of a severe upsurge that could impact severely on food security of thousands households for many years to come. A report published by the CNA in June 2010 indicated that more than 460,000 households could be affected by the infestation over an area of 500,000 hectares and crop losses were estimated at \$135 million, in a country where 80 per cent of the populations’ livelihoods is based on agriculture.

In view of the worrying situation and the extensive logistics support required, the Government of Madagascar (Ministry of Agriculture) submitted a request for emergency assistance to FAO on 14 July 2010. This request triggered FAO’s response and resulted in the preparation of a draft action plan and the fielding of a mission to Madagascar to gather additional technical data, raise awareness among the donor community and support national technical authorities in preparing the locust control campaign. The mission approached the OCHA office in Antananarivo to seek funding for the locust campaign.

The FAO locust control programme was also part of an integrated strategy for the Greater South elaborated by Madagascar’s humanitarian partners in June 2010 and led by OCHA. FAO ensured coordination of resource mobilization activities aimed to provide emergency assistance in line with both the request from the Ministry of Agriculture and the integrated strategy, and to prepare a major locust campaign. During its 22 August 2010 meeting, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) approved the urgent request for funding to the “CERF Rapid Response” in order to start timely intervention.

Resources

The CERF-funded project made available \$4,725,398 for the locust emergency response in Madagascar. The overall locust control programme developed by FAO and the CNA amounted to \$15 million. FAO contributed to the programme by funding a technical cooperation emergency project amounting to \$490,000 in September 2010 and an additional \$2 million has been approved by USAID (United States Agency for International Development) in January 2011.

IFAD (International Fund for Agriculture Development) has also set aside \$105,000 for pesticides and operating costs in order to protect agricultural activities of its community development project in the mid-west.

The CNA was the main implementing partner of this emergency response operation and represented the technical service within the Ministry of Agriculture of Madagascar. Partnerships have also been established with other national institutions involved in locust control, particularly the Office National pour

l'Environnement (ONE, *National Environmental Office*) and the FOFIFA-CENRADERU (Centre National de Recherches Appliquées pour le Développement Rural or *National Centre for Applied Rural Development Research*).

Purpose

The main objective of the CERF-funded project was to safeguard the food security of rural communities affected by the locust upsurge, which were already weakened by the bad agricultural season of 2009 and 2010. More specifically, the project aimed to protect crops and pastures through a control campaign to reduce locust populations in a way that respects environmental and human health.

The expected result of the intervention was *to strengthen national survey and control capacities* through the provision and pre-positioning of appropriate human and physical resources before the beginning of the locust campaign in October-November 2010.

Results achieved

Project activities started in mid-September 2010. By then, FAO had already contacted suppliers for the urgently needed inputs, such as pesticides and aircraft. Through the emergency assistance and thanks to the advanced action undertaken by FAO during August 2010, it was possible to provide timely expertise and material inputs to start the locust campaign at the right bio-ecological period, thus responding effectively and timely to the locust emergency.

The following activities were carried out under the project:

- timely delivery of inputs to support survey and control operations, such as pesticides, equipment and material; and provision of funds for the operations;
- international and national technical assistance to the implementation and coordination of the campaign; and
- support to survey and control operations through the hiring of two helicopters.

As per the project document, the following equipment and materials were procured for survey and control operations:

- Personal Protective Kits
- Communication equipment
- Camping kits
- Portable fridges
- Pesticides loading pumps
- 1,500 kg of bio-pesticide
- 110,000 litres of conventional pesticide
- 18,000 litres of insect growth regulators.

Contrary to the initial schedule, no pesticide triangulation occurred because it would have been more costly in time and money than direct procurement to companies. Discussions with the CERF Secretariat in New York led to an agreement to use the funds allocated under the “contracts” budget line for direct procurement of pesticides in the market following the mandatory international tendering process.

Additionally, two helicopters were hired to carry out aerial survey and control operations as of mid-October 2010 for a six-month period (as per the contract, both helicopters should be operating as of the end of September and October 2010 respectively).

International and national experts were also recruited to sustain the anti-locust campaign. An international campaign coordinator was recruited and went to Madagascar on a three-month assignment from 16 September to 4 December 2010. An international locust expert was also recruited at the beginning of the campaign for a one-month period (19 September to 14 October 2010) to establish the itinerary of extensive aerial surveys, carry out the surveys, analyze the results and adjust the action plan accordingly. The control campaign was supported by an international logistician, who was recruited for a three-month period (19 September to 15 December 2011). Operational support was provided by FAO Headquarters and the FAO field office in Madagascar. A national locust expert was also recruited, and national administrative and logistics support was also provided throughout the project.

Ground and aerial survey operations started on 25 September 2010 and are still ongoing. All the inputs needed to undertake control operations were provided on time, but due to the weather conditions only limited control operations were carried out against the first generation of breeding of the Malagasy Migratory Locust (1,000 ha) in late November 2010. Between 25 September and 31 December 2010, the two helicopters totalled 321 hours and 24 minutes of flight time.

Large-scale control operations started during the second half of January 2011. From 19 January and up to 28 February 2011, 50,540 ha have been treated using conventional pesticides or protected using insect growth regulators, by aerial spraying. Another 798 ha have been treated by ground spraying with conventional pesticides during the last decade of February 2011.

Technical backstopping was provided by FAO when required. Bulletins were prepared and disseminated every ten days by the campaign coordinator in collaboration with the national locust expert, other international consultants and the FAO locust officer, in order to report on the weather and ecological conditions, the locust and anti-locust situation as well as the use of inputs and pesticide stock. They also present forecast and planning of activities for the next ten-day period. As such, the bulletins are essential tools for monitoring the progress of the locust campaign. In addition, meetings are organized with national and international stakeholders in Antananarivo for briefs on the locust situation in the field or debriefs at the end of missions.

The impacts of the CERF project include:

- No significant damages on crops or pastures were reported so far; therefore the food security of rural communities affected by the locust upsurge is safeguarded for the time being, which was the overall objective of the project;
- The locust situation is monitored on a permanent basis;
- Control operations are carried out in a timely manner and in a way that respects environmental and human health, thus fulfilling the specific objective of the project.

The 2010 and 2011 locust campaign will come to an end in May/June 2011. Only then will it be possible to confirm – after evaluation of the locust crisis and the impact of the control campaign on agricultural production and food security (Component 3 of the Action Plan) – that the following expected results have been obtained:

- Swarming locusts and their geographical expansion (number of swarms inside and outside the outbreak area by the end of the 2010-2011 rainy season) were significantly reduced;
- Damage to crops and pastures prevented.

Nevertheless, it is already possible to confirm that the CERF project activities as shown in the schedule below have been effectively and successfully implemented.

Activity code	Activity description	08-10	09-10	10-10	11-10	12-10	01-11
Result 1: Survey and control capacities strengthened							
Activity 1.1.	Provide equipment for survey operations						
Activity 1.1.	<i>a Procure all materials for survey operations</i>						
Activity 1.2.	Supply means for the implementation of survey operations						
Activity 1.2.	<i>a Conduct ground survey operations</i>						
Activity 1.2.	<i>b Conduct aerial survey operations</i>						
Activity 1.3	Supply means for the implementation of aerial control operations						
Activity 1.3	<i>a Provide control materials</i>						
Activity 1.3	<i>b Provide means for aerial control operations</i>						

Unlike traditional CERF contributions, which are multi-agency and sector-based, the present CERF project focused merely on a rapid technical response to an emergency that was under development. For that reason, CERF agreed to fund FAO only; therefore, in such a context, it is not possible to assess how country level coordination improved owing to the intervention.

II. Results

Sector/ Cluster	CERF project number and title (If applicable, please provide CAP/Flash Project Code)	Amount disbursed from CERF (US\$)	Total Project Budget (US\$)	Number of Beneficiaries targeted with CERF funding	Expected Results/ Outcomes	Results and improvements for the target beneficiaries	CERF's added value to the project	Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms	Gender Equity
Food security and livelihoods	<p>10-FAO-036</p> <p>OSRO/MAG/003/CHA</p> <p>Emergency assistance to control Migratory locust populations in Madagascar</p>	4,725,398	7,215,398	460,000 households threatened by the locust upsurge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Significant reduction of swarming locusts and their geographical expansion (number of swarms inside and outside the outbreak area by the end of the 2010-2011 rainy season); ▪ Damage to crops and pastures prevented. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All inputs required for locust survey and control operations timely delivered - before theoretical start of the rainy season. ▪ Contrary to initial schedule, no pesticide triangulation occurred because it would have been more costly in time and money than procurement by companies. ▪ Extensive aerial end-of-winter survey carried out during second half of September 2010 provided an overview of the level and location of parental adult populations after the bad season. ▪ Intensive aerial surveys supplemented by ground surveys started mid-October; and will continue up to project completion, providing regular and detailed information on locust populations issued every ten days (bulletins). ▪ Because of a dry season longer than usual and a rainy season delayed of approx. 6 weeks as compared to the normal, the first generation of breeding was of a much smaller scale than anticipated. Consequently, decision was taken to reduce the action plan and related financial means. ▪ One aerial treatment only was carried out in late November using conventional pesticides as per acute locust situation assessment. ▪ Large scale control operations started by mid-January using all means and equipment previously made available. A total of 52,338 ha have been treated up to the end of February 2011. 	<p>Rapid agreement from CERF and quick allocation of CERF funds allowed the project begin in due time, with all human and material inputs available in the field to start the locust campaign at the right bio-ecological period.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monitoring is ensured by regular backstopping visits of a FAO-HQ staff, locust expert, weekly meetings at FAO-HQ and a continuous flow of information between the different FAO staff. ▪ Evaluation will be carried out at completion of the locust campaign and of other emergency projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Households whose livelihoods are not threatened by locusts: benefit is equal for all members of the family. ▪ National staff trained on survey and control techniques

Annex 2: Acronyms and Abbreviations

CAN:	National Anti-Locust Centre
DPV:	Plant Protection Department
ONE:	National Environmental Office
FOFIFA-CENRADERU:	National Centre for Applied Rural Development Research