

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE USE OF CERF GRANTS THE GAMBIA

Country	The Gambia
Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator	Chinwe Dike
Reporting Period	1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010

I. Summary of Funding and Beneficiaries

	Total amount required for the humanitarian response:		US\$	993,069		
	Total amount received from CERF for the humanitarian response:	US\$	563,955			
		CERF:	US\$	563,955		
	Breakdown of total country funding received by source:	CHF/HRF COUNTRY LEVEL FUND	DS: US\$	373,134		
	received by source.	OTHER: (Bilateral/Multilateral)	US\$	543,290		
	Total amount of CERF funding received from the Rapid Response window:			US\$		
ing	Total amount of CERF funding received from the Underfunded window:			US\$		
Funding		a. Direct UN agencies/IOM implementation:	US\$	200,108		
	Please provide the breakdown of CERF funds by type of partner:	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\$	363,847		
		d. TOTAL:	US\$	563,955		
	Total number of individuals affected by		,990 total population			
ries	the crisis:	13,635 total population targeted by WFP 6,835 including displaced persons targeted by WFP				
Beneficiaries		5,746 displaced persons reached				
Ben	Total number of individuals reached with CERF funding:	442 displaced children under 5				
		1,680 displaced females affected				

There were two municipalities covered (Banjul and Kanifing Municipal Councils) and five regions (West Coast, North Bank, Lower River, Central River and Upper River Regions). Table below shows details of coverage:

Region/ Municipality	No. of communities reached	No. of Distribution sites		
Banjul	1	1		
Kanifing	11	1		
West Coast	38	1		
North Bank	49	3		
Lower River	17	3		
Central River	53	6		
Upper River	15	1		
Total coverage	184	16		

Geographical areas of implementation:

II. Analysis

Heavy rainfalls since mid-July have caused extensive flooding and damages to infrastructure and livelihoods in The Gambia. The most heavily hit areas were the Western Coast Region (WCR), Upper River Region (URR), and the Kanifing Municipal Council (KMC) and Greater Banjul municipalities while loss of lives and livelihoods have been reported in other parts of the country as well. The Government declared a state of National Emergency in the country on 7 September 2010, and launched an appeal both in country and abroad for additional relief and rehabilitation efforts. According to a report by the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA), approximately 34,990 people were affected, including 5,461 under five children.

The most significant and far-reaching damages were in the areas of sanitation facilities, housing, and road networks. Many houses located in lowland areas or water ways collapsed, mainly due to weak infrastructural planning and usage of poor construction materials, leaving a total of 7,000 persons displaced. Poor drainage system, coupled with limited access, overland flow of storm run-off caused by an increase in impervious surfaces in urban areas, and public waste disposal, exacerbated the flooding in large parts of the urban areas, particularly in the Greater Banjul Area, Kanifing Municipality, and rural Basse of the URR.

Drinking water sources were found contaminated by run-off water. This resulted in increased cases of water related diseases, particularly diarrhoea and skin infections, in the greater part of rural health facilities, thus outstretching the capacity of the health system, both in terms of supplies, drugs, and human resources, to respond effectively to the flood. Furthermore, access to and quality in education was threatened as some school facilities were used as shelters for displaced persons.

Food stocks were damaged, livestock lost, and harvest crops destroyed, often hard for subsistence farmers in rural farming communities who fully depend on these means as a source of food and income. The majority of households in both rural and urban areas reduced the quantity and frequency of meals while resorting to other coping strategies such as borrowing from neighbours and relying on remittances. In addition to existing expenses such as school fees and cost of health services, and given the loss of crops for household consumption, those affected were faced with the arduous task of finding additional cash to reconstruct damaged houses and purchase food. The flooding not only affected the household purchasing power, it also negatively impacted on food access.

With the support and overall coordination of the NDMA, local authorities quickly assessed the situation on the ground and immediately responded by distributing food and non-food items to critically affected populations. The Government responded promptly, from the onset of heavy rains in mid-July, and by donating 10 million Dalasi (equivalent to \$373,134.33) to restore the infrastructure and procurement of food items for households in affected communities. Non-governmental organization (NGOs) contributed August 2011

other types of emergency relief items (non-food) while the Gambia Red Cross Society (GRCS) provided bedcovers, and water containers, and assisted families to relocate with friends, in nearby schools, or in community facilities. Other forms of solidarity in the form of limited donations from the private sector and individuals were also registered. Moreover, UNICEF procured and pre-positioned essential drugs and supplies for water disinfection as part of the emergency preparedness plan, and supported the provision of sanitation facilities to schools and some 120 families. Other UN agencies, notably those working in health and food, also provided support.

The UN Country Team (UNCT)'s involvement was immediate. When called upon by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), it was well prepared to provide instant support by pre-positioning available emergency relief stocks, and closely monitoring the situation. It concluded that a joint proposal for a CERF grant was essential to cover gaps in the immediate needs of affected populations. In this regard, the UNCT, together with Government and NGO partners, and in close collaboration with the local disaster management authorities at the regional level, embarked on a countrywide Rapid Joint Assessment in September 2010. The joint assessment was undertaken as part of the UNCT's continuing effort to determine the needs of people affected by the floods in order to make informed decisions on the most appropriate type and scale of response.

The UNCT, guided by the UN Disaster Management Group, convened to review the key findings of the multi-sectoral assessment team and its recommendations on the forms of assistance required to meet immediate and longer term needs of populations affected by heavy rains and floods. Health, food, and WASH assistance were identified as critical areas that were insufficiently addressed in all the affected households.

As Chair of the UN Disaster Management Group, WFP coordinated UN interventions and responded to the needs of food insecure people at various levels. At the outset of the crisis, WFP spear headed a joint rapid multi-sectoral need assessment that included Government institutions (NDMA, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Water Resources and Fisheries, Ministry of Forestry, Ministry of Interior, NaNA, NEA, etc.), other UN agencies (UNICEF, UNDP, WHO, FAO) and NGOs. This report complemented the earlier assessments made by NDMA and the RDMCs and served as the basis for justification of the UN response through various mechanisms to fill the gaps in meeting the needs, especially the immediate and short term needs.

WFP coordinated the preparation and submission of a request to the Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF). For the second year in a row, a grant of \$563,955 was allocated to several UN agencies in The Gambia: WFP (\$299,998), FAO (\$112,340), UNICEF (\$76,576) and WHO (\$75,041).

To respond immediately WFP initiated an Immediate Response Emergency Operation (IR-EMOP) 200213 (approved on 27 October 2010) for the provision of 409 tons of food commodities for \$496,086, including associated transport and support costs. Out of this amount, WFP received a CERF grant of \$299,998.

This assistance covered the immediate requirements of 13,635 beneficiaries most critically affected people during their period of recovery:

- 6,835 internally displaced persons for a period of three months;
- 6,800 swamp rice farmers who completely lost their crops for two months, to cover them until their next harvest following their replanting

More specifically, the food assistance aimed at protecting the livelihoods and safeguarding the already precarious nutritional status of vulnerable groups, particularly women and young children. WFP's support was in line with the UN's immediate response and aimed at complementing ongoing assistances provided by the Government, other development partners and the civil society.

CERF funding has ensured timely response to the immediate WASH needs of the affected populations. The funding made it possible for UNICEF to immediately restore access to safe water supplies and basic sanitation, maintain household water safety, and improve hygiene practices. Household latrines were built for the most affected families to restore dignity, respect, and safety, particularly for women and girls who use the bush for defecation.

CERF funding contributed to achieving the overall WASH objective of preventing outbreaks of water and sanitation related diseases and deaths that could result from flooding. The funding made it possible to provide safe water, hygiene, and sanitation services to flood victims, and particularly displaced persons, therefore improving survival rates and good health. CERF funding supported the Department of Water Resources (DWR) in conducting regular water quality monitoring in the affected communities. In addition, the provision of 12 drums of chlorine made it possible for the National Water Quality Laboratory to disinfect 1,387 contaminated water sources across the six regions of the country. Through these interventions, safe water supply has reached the entire flood affected population. No major outbreaks of water-related diseases, such as cholera and other serious forms of diarrhoea, were reported among flood-affected communities. Additionally, 1,298 gallons of bleach and 1,250 packets of soap were supplied to all affected families for hygiene practices, home water treatment, and disinfection of potentially contaminated surfaces.

Using the CERF funds, 120 units improved pit latrines were built for 120 critically affected households, representing 3 per cent of the total households affected. The funding also made it possible for UNICEF and partners to implement community and school based sanitation education and hygiene promotion in all six regions, targeting all flood affected communities. The sanitation and hygiene education focused on the prevention of diarrhoeal diseases, hand washing, water handling, and the safe disposal of human faeces and other wastes. Demonstrations of proper hand washing and household water treatment were also conducted. Community volunteers were trained on water disinfection methods and interpersonal communication skills to promote and monitor household water treatment. Damaged water facilities were rehabilitated in ten most affected communities to restore safe water supply. The rehabilitation specifically involved the repairing of hand pumps and well tops/covers. The joint assessment showed that in some affected communities, notably in the rural areas, women trekked for more than two hours to neighbouring communities in Senegal to fetch water for domestic use. Furthermore, the purchase of water depletes their already low incomes. These difficulties contribute considerably to household poverty and vulnerability to unsafe water.

The bulk of WHO's contribution towards the relief efforts consisted of the provision of essential medicines, medical items and other supplies. The procurement of these medicines was completed and the last of the two consignments arrived. WHO worked with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare to strengthen the existing coordination and coping mechanisms, especially through the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) at national, regional and community levels to pre-position these essential medicines in health facilities close to the affected areas. WHO also continues to work with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare through the Regional Health Teams to monitor and evaluate the utilization and uptake of these pre-positioned medicines in the affected regions.

The CERF grant played an important role in filling the resource gap, replenishing and complementing funds released that enabled the immediate food needs of 6,835 internal displaced people (IDPs) and their families. It supported WFP's immediate release of food as a loan from its in-country project stocks. These arrangements allowed the rapid food distribution of essentially needed food during a critical time. The timely provision of three-month of general food distributions helped save lives, met the needs of most vulnerable food insecure households and allowed them to quickly resume their livelihoods.

The timeliness and flexibility of CERF funding was instrumental in helping meet the objectives of the immediate food assistance by overcoming the constraints that would have resulted from the shipment lead-time (four months) to get the consignment to the country.

WFP received the largest amount of funding from CERF for the implementation of the immediate food assistance. It represented 60 per cent of the total intervention of which WFP Immediate Response Advance Fund covered remaining balance. Three rounds of general food distributions were conducted: the first in December 2010, the next in January and the final one in February 2011. A total of 184 communities were reached covering the whole country though 16 distribution sites in two Councils and five regions. An average of 5,747 IDPs received 440.6 metric tons of assorted commodities during this period. Each IDP received a daily ration composed of 400 grams of rice, 65 grams of pulse, 65 grams of CSB, 25 grams of vegetable oil and 5 grams of salt.

ACTUAL IDPs REACHED							
Distribution Sites	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3				
BCC	37	39	39				
KMC	1,236	1,382	1,471				
WCR	941	857	888				
NBR - Kerewan	313	313	318				
NBR - Barra	328	352	364				
NBR - Farafenni	354	406	399				
LRR - Kwinella	345	325	310				
LRR - Keneba	303	284	289				
LRR - Wellingara Ba/Sutukung	289	267	298				
Njau	0	0	0				
CRR - Wassu	88	90	90				
CRR - Ballanghar	177 177		177				
CRR - Bansang	329	327	333				
Brikamaba	0	0	0				
CRR - Jareng	324	349	348				
Basse	574	548	561				
Total	5,638	5,716	5,885				

As the agency responsible for the overall in-country coordination of responding to the flood 2010 crisis, the NDMA provided data on locations and populations affected in each region through regional disaster management committees. The data further included the WASH gaps in flood-affected communities. While at the level of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), WFP coordinated the joint UN response.

WFP pursued its efforts to strengthen the operational capacity of key Disaster Response Institutions with the provision of additional IT equipment and other Emergency related Non-Food Items (pallets, tarpaulins, etc.). These activities were complementing the previous year's donation to National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) and the Regional Disaster Management Committees (RDMC's) that comprised (seven computers, six printers, and two scanners), pallets and tarpaulins. Special emphasis was given to meet basic IT and data analysis requirements of the Regional Agricultural Directorates' information collection capacities as they encountered huge challenges during the implementation of the immediate assistance. The latter comprises provision of twenty computers and four laptops that were expected to significantly strengthen their capacity to treat and analyse data resulting from needs assessment and improve their reporting.

UNICEF played key coordinating and facilitating roles among stakeholders for WASH services, which continued throughout the 2010 emergency response. With a global lead role in the WASH sector, UNICEF worked closely with government partners, local authorities, NGOs, and communities to plan and map critical households in affected communities; and provided technical support for the implementation and monitoring of WASH activities. UNICEF worked with partners to conduct a joint participatory assessment to determine the extent of the flooding to WASH facilities, and other related issues.

UNICEF's WASH section coordinated the water and sanitation interventions with sector counterparts, key partners, and Regional Disaster Management Committees. Technical meetings were held to identify and agree on which institutions should do what and where, therefore ensuring the effective and efficient use of resources and preventing duplication of efforts. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) took the lead in the implementation of the water source disinfection, water quality monitoring, and the rehabilitation of water facilities. The Ministry of Health (MoH) led the Community and School Based Hygiene and Sanitation education and promotion, which included household water treatment sensitization. NDMA was responsible for the distribution of bleach and soap, while the Department of Community Development (DCD), together with the local government authorities (LGAs) and Village Development structures, led the project to construct improved household pit latrines using the trained local masons.

The existence of the Multi-sectoral Working Group for WASH has provided the opportunity to leverage strong partnership in the planning and implementation of interventions. This body effectively coordinated the interventions to avoid overlapping. Through its interventions, community radio stations continually disseminated messages on the need to adopt improved hygiene and sanitation behaviours.

In addition to the provision of food to the victims, WFP's response included an important capacity development component in areas such as needs assessment, logistics, food distributions and reporting. This component was implemented through continuous working sessions, workshops and on-the-job trainings and benefited key national institutions at central (NDMA, Ministry of Agriculture) and decentralized levels (RDMC's, FMC's, Regional Agriculture, Governor's office, etc.)

Prior to implementing the emergency intervention, on 13 November, WFP trained 27 participants from various institutions (Office of the Vice President, National Disaster Management Agency, Regional Disaster Management Committees, Food Management Committees, and Staff from the Ministry of Agriculture). A one-day training session covered, in depth, the operational modalities for the implementation of the food assistance to the targeted flood victims countrywide.

A lessons learned workshop is planned for the end of March 2011; this session will offer a forum to review the modalities and outcomes of the joint response by assessing achievements, highlighting best practices as well as drawing attention to encountered obstacles during the implementation of the assistance. The workshop is expected to draw constructive lessons and make practical recommendations with a view to further improve preparedness and response of key stakeholders for this type of emergency in the future.

Monitoring was conducted both nationally and locally through the MoH, LGAs, NDMA, DCD, and DWR. A joint technical assessment was conducted by the MoH, DCD, and DWR to mobilize the communities for improved sanitation, assess the situation. Constraints and the way forward were also discussed with the regional disaster management committees. Monitoring of the quality of water sources has been on-going, and positive results have been registered in terms of water source protection from contamination.

As the lead UN Agency responsible for the health cluster, WHO played a key facilitating role in this sector during the 2010 emergency response. WHO took part in the joint UN, the Government and other partner's rapid response assessment and coordinated all health sector activities during the development of the CERF relief appeal.

FAO supported the emergency response in 2010 through the implementation of a project to assist the vulnerable farming household in restoring and reinforcing their livelihood through vegetable production in 11 selected garden schemes, repairing 27 wells in seven garden schemes and nine fences and providing them with seeds and fertilizer.

The project had five components:

- Provision of inputs and fertilizer:
 - o 64 kg of tomato seeds
 - o 62 kg of eggplant seeds
 - 150 kg of okra seeds
 - o 60 kg of onion seeds
 - o 64 kg of pepper (chill) seeds
 - 64 kg of carrot seeds and
 - o 33.3 tons of compound fertilizer
- Restoring collapsed wells: To enhance adequate water supply to the growers to improve their productivity:
 - 296 bags of cement with 105 of 8 mm rod, 102 of 6mm rod and 11 rolls of binding wire was distributed to seven flood affected schemes and a cost of 20 trips of sand and gravel.
- Fixing of fences in vegetable garden schemes: Nine fences to be fixed with barbed wire to protect

the garden from animal intrusion.

- 200 bundles of barbed wire and 160 kg of U-nails was distributed to nine flood affected garden schemes and provision of 3,100 fencing post.
- Training on disaster risk reduction and management to be conducted in partnership with National Disaster Management Agency. Fifty agricultural officers from six agricultural regions will be trained on disaster management and reduction.
- Monitoring and supervision of project implementation at grass root level, which is important to ensure quality and effective work and sustainability purposes. The Department of Agriculture took a lead role in the implementation of the project execution.

FAO project had the main following activities:

- Assessment of wells and fences in collaboration with the Department of Water Resources, Department of Agriculture and FAO.
- Identification of contractors for the repair of the 27 wells and nine fences. Local contractors were identified within the communities for the timely implementation of the project.
- Preparation of the distribution plan was done for seeds and fertilizer and material inputs for the rehabilitation of the 27 wells and nine fences of the 11 garden schemes.
- With the support and overall coordination of the Department of Agriculture, FAO, distributed seeds and fertilizers to 11 garden schemes according to the distribution plan and timely distribution.
- Sensitization and official handing over of seeds and fertilizers to the beneficiaries/11 garden schemes. During the official handing over ceremony, the FOAR, AFAOR, the Director General of the Department of Agriculture and some senior Divisional staff members attended the ceremony. The materials and the inputs were handed over to the beneficiaries for the timely implementation of the project.
- Fencing and restoring of wells are in progress.

CERF funds through FAO had therefore addressed the immediate needs of the affected farmers. The funding made it possible for the Department of Agriculture to address some of the pressing constraints the affected garden schemes were encountering after the 2010 heavy floods. The assistance will go a long away in boosting the productive capacity of these women and increase the resilience of household affected by heavy rains and flood. The 11 affected garden schemes with a total membership of 2,551 women farmers were supported and they expressed their appreciation for the effort.

The Department of Agriculture in collaboration with FAO played a vital role in coordinating and facilitating the implementation of the project for the assessment and verification of the affected garden schemes in the communities. The department provided technical support for the implementation, distribution and monitoring of horticultural activities.

CERF funds through FAO have improved the affected vegetable garden schemes and the beneficiaries with the household at the community level. The supply of different assorted vegetable seeds with fertilizer will improve their production capacities in term of production area and increase yield. The rehabilitation of wells and the tops covers will ensure durability and adequate water supply in the affected garden schemes therefore decreasing the scarcity of water. The fixed fences with barbed wire will protect the destruction of stray animals in the garden.

Monitoring was a continuous activity to ensure efficient project implementation. The Department of Agriculture in collaboration with FAO conducted a joint monitoring for the timely implementation of the activities at the community level and gave technical advice on the handling and production aspect of vegetable production.

III. 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
Health	Health Interventions to Prevent Disease Outbreak and Deaths Related to Flooding in the Gambia	75,041	100,271	Children Under 5 5,461 Total Individuals 34,990	Procurement of essential medicines, medical items and other consumables.	With the pre-positioning of these essential medicines and other medical items in health facilities close to the flood victims' access to these items will be increased.	Rapid allocation of CERF funds allowed for the procurement of these items to begin immediate after the needs were identified	WHO and its main partner, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare will undertake the pre-positioning of these medicines in facilities close to the affected victims. Quarterly monitoring visits will be carried out to assess the project's progress.	During the project proposal development, special attention was paid to medicines specifically required by pregnant women and children less than five years.
Water ,Sanitation and Hygiene	10-CEF-066B WASH interventions to flooding in The Gambia	76,576	162,762	34 990 flood affected people 5,461 children	At least 90 per cent of the affected population has access to adequate safe water supply, basic sanitation, and gained knowledge and skills on hygiene practices and household water treatment.	The construction of 120 latrines improved access to basic sanitation for 120 families. Rehabilitation of ten community water sources improved access to safe water supply for ten critically affected communities. Water treatment of 1,387 water sources has made safe water available for 34,990 flood affected population.	The funding helped in addressing the immediate unmet needs of the flood-affected communities particularly in terms of WASH.	The UN had established a rapid assessment team that assessed the 2010 flood.	 Special attention was given to children and women affected to ensure that the burden of water collection is reduced such that young girls and boys could attend school. Built household latrines improved security and safety for women and children.

Agriculture/Food Security	10-WFP-080 Assistance to Populations Affected by The Floods In The Gambia	299,998	496,086	6,835 displaced persons of whom 442 children under 5 and 1,680 adult women	■ Timely provision of food for displaced persons for 90 days. ■ Livelihoods protected and nutritional status of vulnerable groups, particularly women and young children were safeguarded.	Provision of the food covered immediate needs of the beneficiaries and contributed to help them resume their livelihoods.	Flexible and rapid CERF funding was instrumental to enable in-country loans for rapid distribution of general food distributions that saved lives, met needs of vulnerable food insecure IDPs and help them resume their livelihoods.	WFP and partners carried out a joint rapid needs assessment at the beginning of the crisis. During GFD, WFP and RDMCs carried out food baskets. Post Distribution Monitoring PDM was also jointly conducted.	■ Gender was important throughout the project even as all data collected were gender disaggregated, gender equity was taken into account during distributions especially in establishment of FMCs.
Agriculture	10-FAO-050 Rehabilitation of productive capacities and increase of the resilience of households affected by Heavy Rains and Floods in Gambia	112,340	760,000	9,631vul- nerable farming households in the flood affected areas	Timely provision of inputs (seeds and fertilizer). Rehabilitation of collapsed fences and wells of 11 garden schemes of which 9,631 farming families productive capacities rehabilitated.	Provision of seeds and fertilizer restored the productive capacities and increased the resilience of farming households affected by the heavy rains and floods.	The timely availability of the CERF funding helped to addressed the immediate needs of the affected farm families and increase their resilience.	FAO and its main government partners carried out a rapid joint assessment at the beginning of the floods crisis. FAO and DoA carried out a verification of needs assessment prior to distribution of inputs. Post distribution of inputs monitoring and supervision of the rehabilitation of the wells and fences was done jointly with DoA and Department of Water Resources.	Special attention was given to women throughout the distribution of inputs and rehabilitation of fences and wells.

Annex 1: Acronyms and Abbreviations

BCC Banjul City Council
CO Country Office

CRR Central River Region

DCD Department of Community Development

DWR Department of Resources
FDPs Final Distribution Points

FMCs Food Management Committees

GFD General Food Distribution
GRCS Gambia Red Cross Society
KMC Kanifing Municipal Council
LGAs Local Government Authorities

LRR Lower River Region

NDMA National Disaster Management Agency

NBR North Bank Region

NGOs Non-Governmental Organisations
PBA Programme Budget Allotment
PDM Post Distribution Monitoring

RDMCs Regional Disaster Management Coordinators

UN United Nations

UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund UNCT United Nations Country Team

URR Upper River Region

WASH Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

WCR West Coast Region
WFP World Food Programme
WHO World Health Organisation