

**ROTARY D9200**  
**APPEAL FOR HELP FOR FLOODS VICTIMS IN UGANDA**

**Situation overview:** 25 October 2007

Unusually heavy rainfall since July 2007 has led to severe flooding and water-logging across many parts of eastern, central & northern Uganda.

Children & women comprising of up to 80% of the approximately 300,000 people (50,000 households) are affected, out of which about 200,000 require *immediate emergency shelter & household items* after being displaced from their homes (primarily made with traditional mud bricks or mud & wattle that has crumbled). Some 25 deaths have been reported.

There is contamination of water sources due to flooded latrines. Incidences of waterborne diseases, malaria and acute respiratory diseases have reportedly increased by as much as 30%.

Varying degrees of structural damage to classrooms & teachers' quarters in about 289 primary schools have prevented more than 100,000 children from normal schooling.

1<sup>st</sup> season harvests have been lost, as crops have either become rotten in the fields (cassava & sweet potatoes) or damaged post-harvest due to continued wet conditions. It's estimated that in most areas, 65% of families have lost 90% of their crops. The next harvest cannot be expected before end 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2008, implying food insecurity in the coming months.

**Priority needs:** as identified by Government of Uganda (GoU) & the Humanitarian Organisations (UNICEF, WHO, OCHA, FAO, WFP, LWF & the Int. & Uganda Red Cross)

- Shelter materials, blankets and warm clothing. Includes family kits (kitchen utensils, jerry cans, soap & other household items)
- Food
- Water & sanitation facilities
- Health care assistance

Agricultural support, including seeds & tools, will also be needed in the post floods period to restore pre-floods food security levels and secure community livelihoods.

Major rehabilitation and spot repair of roads & bridges is another immediate priority.

**Humanitarian response** (still over 50% or 150,000 persons have not been reached) This is presently focused on Karamoja and Teso regions.

Shelter & non-food items: led by UNHCR, there has been provision of tarpaulins, buckets etc. Tents & blankets have been distributed, as well as the provision of shelter kits. Uganda Red Cross has provided some family kits.

Food items: led by WFP, there has been a mobilisation of a one-month food ration to cater for 15,000 people. UNICEF has provided some water treatment kits. More is needed.

Health, nutrition & HIV/AIDS management: are being handled by UNICEF, WHO & Uganda Red Cross. Resources available and inputs are a bare minimum.

Education: GoU & UNICEF are handling this cluster by identifying alternative locations where students due for examination can have them.

**Coordination:**

The office of the Prime Minister (OPM) is organising regular coordination meetings between GoU, National and International actors. Inter-agency assessments continue to be conducted with the support of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). A Flash Appeal for the Ugandan Floods has been initiated.

**National Appeal Requirements & Funding by Sector:**

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. Water, Sanitation & Hygiene | US\$ 4.2 mio  |
| 2. Non-Food Items              | US\$ 1.9 mio  |
| 3. Education                   | <u>US\$ 1.1 mio</u>                                 |
| Total                          | <u>US\$ 7.2 mio</u> (source UNICEF Uganda/Sept. 07) |

**Proposed Rotary D9200 Interventions:**

1. RI District 9200 Secretary is to seek an update from the Country Chairs about the local floods situation in their countries and the appropriate reactions & actions taken and still required.
2. Uganda country-specific reaction:
  - i) Under the humanitarian response, efforts are underway to mobilise resources at club level and from corporate institutions to purchase & distribute basic household items/kits / utensils.
  - ii) At club level, Rotarians & their families have been approached to collect un-used clothing and household utensils for distribution to the needy communities in the floods affected areas.
  - iii) International & corporate level: the District 9200 makes an appeal to all sympathisers and the international Rotary fraternity to offer any possible assistance by mainly provision of: i) shelter boxes (tents, blankets, mosquito nets & kits), about 2000 in number at USD 1,000 each; ii) 100,000 mosquito nets at USD 6.00 each; and iii) 100,000 blankets at USD 4.50 each.
  - iv) Post-floods support activities – there will be need for the restoration of food production capacity through a dual response of provision of planting materials for highland location food crops, and seeds for crops that grow easily in damp soil. FAO & GoU have identified a target group of 50,000 households. The District proposes to seek both local & international support for this component.

**Contacts:**

C.M.D Mutalya  
District Governor – D9200  
P.O. Box 8755,  
Kampala – Uganda  
[mutalya@ucc.co.ug](mailto:mutalya@ucc.co.ug)

Martin Kiyaga  
Country Chair  
P.O. Box 7887  
Kampala-Uganda  
[musuco@utlonline.co.ug](mailto:musuco@utlonline.co.ug)

Daniel S. Iga  
Asst. Governor  
P.O. Box 3126  
Kampala-Uganda  
[Daniel.iga@dfa.ie](mailto:Daniel.iga@dfa.ie)