

Rapid Response Fund (RRF)

This Rapid Response Fund, published on August 21st, got revised on August 25th. The government decided to move affected population to a different location and cater for the housing. Targets/allocations were revised based on this changing context and to avoid duplication. Consequent changes in needs have been reflected by a reduction in Shelter of about USD 8,000 and increase in Food Security of about USD 7,500 and WASH about USD 500. The provision of emergency shelter materials was removed (as well as the assistance in location of housing), NFIs distribution remain unchanged, and the additional Food and WASH items will enable the 100 targeted households to have a longer secure period.

Section 1: Overview of response	
Sierra Leone	Freetown Mudslide
Summary	ACT Requesting Member: Council of Churches in Sierra Leone (CCSL)
Implementation period	21 August 2017 30 September 2017 1.5 months
Geographical area	Regent town and Lumely area
Sectors of response	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shelter / <input type="checkbox"/> Protection <input type="checkbox"/> NFIs / <input type="checkbox"/> Health psychosocial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WASH <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food Security
Targeted beneficiaries (per sector)	Homeless Survivors who lost all possessions in the Mudslide
Requested budget (USD)	59,957 (USD)
Is there an updated ACT Forum EPRP?	No
Section 2: Narrative Summary	
<p>Background</p> <p>On the evening of the 14th August, mudslides triggered by three days of heavy rains poured in and around the capital of Sierra Leone, Freetown. The most severe mudslides occurred in the coastal suburb of Racecourse on the city's eastern edge, as well as in Regent and Lumley where thousands of makeshift settlements are home to the city's poorest communities. Torrential rains have led to a series of significant floods and mudslides in several areas of Freetown.</p> <p>According to Freetown Mayor, rescue workers have recovered 270 bodies so far mainly from the Regent neighbourhood where the mudslides happened. As rescue operations are still ongoing, the death toll is expected to rise. An estimated 3,000 or more people are believed to have lost their homes and are in immediate need of emergency assistance and shelter according to Sierra Leone's Office of National Security (ONS).</p>	

Communication lines and electricity have been disrupted in some parts of the capital, and there has been extensive damage to roads, infrastructure and houses. In addition, rescue teams lack the right equipment and are facing difficult conditions with large amounts of mud and debris (UNOCHA, 15 August 2017).

Humanitarian Needs

After a heavy torrential downpour lasting approximately 8 hours in Regent Town, a significant portion of Sugar Loaf Mountain topsoil slid down and demolished approximately 200 houses and killed approximately 300 persons in that specific location. The torrential downpour swelled the river causing it to overflow its banks as it wound its way down the hills through Freetown to the sea. In this process, additional houses along the riverside were swept away killing approximately an additional 100 persons in the Lumely area. This has been witnessed first-hand by the Executive committee of the Council of Churches in Sierra Leone prior to initiating this request. At present it is thought that approximately 400 people have been killed with 600 missing persons. Surviving affected persons, approximately 3000, have lost everything – housing, food & clothing. The government hospitals are at capacity treating the injured. The mortuary is overfilled; mass burials scheduled for 16th and 17th August took place as a disease control/prevention measure. Surviving families are traumatised, have lost virtually all household possessions except the clothes on their backs. Some initial disaster response is being undertaken by UNICEF and two international NGOs (Not ACT Forum Members) and the Office of National Security of the Government of Sierra Leone, which reported that its disaster response resources were depleted. Emergency support is being provided for the two types of responses: floods and mudslides.

The Government is currently evaluating the needs of the Internally Displaced Persons, but is currently requesting affected people to evacuate and stay with relatives.

Two emergency relief centres have been set up and the immediate life-saving needs include:

- Emergency food rations
- Non Food Items
- Emergency Shelter
- Health services

For this response, CCSL have identified gaps in food (Food Security) and non-food items (under Shelter/NFIs sector as well as WASH related NFIs) and will respond in the two respective sectors.

Capacity

CCSL responded to the Ebola Outbreak of 2014-15, meeting all ACT reporting requirements on response activities costing approximately \$169,000 and reaching approximately 70,000 households in 230 communities. Response themes included education and sensitisation activities aimed at Ebola prevention and containment, as well as providing food and NFIs for Ebola survivors (approximately 200 survivors and their families and psychosocial counselling training to Church Leaders and Ebola Survivors. This assisted Ebola survivors in their communities to mitigate trauma related to loss, death, stigmatisation and survival itself. CCSL's capacity has been exemplified during the Ebola Crisis in Sierra Leone. CCSL has the capacity to respond in the affected areas of Regent and Lumley due to understanding of the context and operational presence. Besides, other ACT Forum Members will also cooperate with CCSL as needed. Particularly Christian Aid committed to provide technical support where needed in addition to their ongoing responses.

Proposed response

Does the proposed response honour ACT's commitment to Child Safeguarding? Yes No

Problems	Surviving Families have lost all household goods and possessions in addition to their housing.
Target beneficiaries	100 lower economic status (subsistence workers) households who occupied informal settlements at the base of the Sugar Loaf Mt and along the riverside. This includes approximately 100 men, 100 women, and 400 children.
Main activities	In coordination and collaboration with key stakeholders and government ministries and other Disaster Response Providers the following main activities will be undertaken: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Distribution of Food to 100 affected households 2) Distribution of WASH related Non-Food Items (soap, sanitary pads, etc.) to 100 affected households 3) Distribution of Non-Food Items (clothing, bedding, etc.) to 100 affected households 4) Distribution of Shelter materials to 100 affected households 5) Assistance in location of housing for the 100 households with extended family / relatives
Specific objective(s)/ Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100 affected households have their food security needs met for one month 6 weeks - 100 affected households have their Non-Food Items needs met for one month 6 weeks 100 affected households have been provided with shelter materials - 100 affected households have been assisted in locating permanent shelter with extended families /relatives.
Overall objective / Outcome(s)	Address needs of households affected by the mudslide crisis in Freetown

Reporting Schedule

Type of Report	Due date
Situation report	15 September 2017
Final narrative and financial report (60 days after the ending date)	30 November 2017
Audit report (90 days after the ending date)	31 December 2017

Monitoring and evaluation

CCSL Staff, selected ACT Forum Staff and Member Churches volunteers will be engaged in monitoring of the intervention on a weekly basis, while CCSL staff and ACT Forum Staff will do the evaluation. Both will be done within the ACT guidelines.

Section 3: ACT Alliance coordination

Coordination

CCSL will coordinate with ACT Sierra Leone Forum members (Christian Aid, Finn church Aid and Christian Extension Services), Heads of Churches in the affected area and other NGOs/INGOs as well as relevant Government Ministries (National Security Office, Ministry of Social Welfare, Ministry of Health) responding to the Disaster.

Implementation arrangements

In coordination / collaboration with key stakeholders, government ministries and other Disaster Response Providers the following will be undertaken:

- 1) Identify staff from ACT Forum Members and CCSL Member Churches who engage in the disaster response.
- 2) Orient all staff to this disaster response initiative including monitoring and evaluation schedules.

As of this date, a local Memorandum of Understanding/Cooperation agreement has been signed by non-member partners. CCSL Member Churches will not need to sign such an agreement in that, they are governed by the Exec Committee of the CCSL. When their staff engage in the response they are under the supervision of the CCSL.

Relationships with Other NGOs, INGOs, government ministries etc. are of a "coordination nature"; response resources intended for this project remain under the control of CCSL.

Human resources and administration of funds

The General Secretary (GS) retains full control of expenditure of any and all funds related to this project. As funds are needed for purchases above \$45.00, 3 pro-forma invoices are obtained and the lowest cost / high quality service provision is determined by the GS & Finance Officer (FO). A formal request for distribution of funds is completed by the staff requesting the funds and approved by the GS. If approved, a cheque is written by the Finance Officer/Accountant, signed by the GS (after a second review of the supporting documents and two members of the Executive Committee). After purchase, an official receipt is attached to the request for distribution and filed by the Finance Officer / Accountant.

If cash funds are transported to the field (by a CCSL vehicle), the FO accompanies the funds to ensure that a proper receipt of funds is received from the recipient; it should be pointed out that this is rarely practiced. When goods are transported to the field, the goods recipient signs a prepared receipt of the itemized goods. This receipt is returned to the finance office and attached to the related documentation.

The GS directly supervises all staff engaged in the disaster response.

Communications

In this response, CCSL will serve as the focal point for the response. Staff assigned to this response will take photographs of the geographic area served, and of response activities with beneficiaries. Photos taken will be accompanied by brief narratives and forwarded to ACT Secretariat. CCSL's Executive Committee and/or Standing committee & Advocacy Committee will advocate/lobby with the relevant government authorities to institute policies and procedures and their implementation to prevent disasters of this nature in the future. In addition, Press releases / conferences are held outlining CCSL's position on and response to the disaster. The first of such a statement outlining the position of CCSL has been issued on August 17th.

Section 4: Budget Summary

Revised budget:

EXPENDITURE		Type of	No. of	Unit Cost	Appeal Budget	Appeal Budget
		Unit	Units	local currency	local currency	USD
DIRECT COSTS						
1 PROGRAM STAFF						
1.1.	staff	ER staff	3	2'000'000	6'000'000	857
1.2.	staff transportation	allowance	3	300'000	900'000	129
TOTAL PROGRAM STAFF					6'900'000	986
2 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES						
2.1.	Shelter and settlement / Non-food items				136'000'000	19'428.57
2.1.1.	tarpulin				0	0.00
2.1.2.	wooden poles				0	0.00
2.1.3.	nails and tools				0	0.00
2.1.4.	cooking pots	set	100	100'000	10'000'000	1'428.57
2.1.5.	dishes	set	100	40'000	4'000'000	571.43
2.1.6.	cutlery	set	100	20'000	2'000'000	285.71
2.1.7.	men's clothing	shirts	200	40'000	8'000'000	1'142.86
2.1.8.	men's trousers	trousers	200	40'000	8'000'000	1'142.86
2.1.8.	women's dresses	lapa	300	40'000	12'000'000	1'714.29
2.1.9.	childrens clothing	set	1'000	35'000	35'000'000	5'000.00
2.1.10.	shoes / sandals	pair	700	30'000	21'000'000	3'000.00
2.1.11.	mattress	mat	200	80'000	16'000'000	2'285.71
2.1.12.	blankets	blanket	200	100'000	20'000'000	2'857.14
2.2.	Food security				251'300'000	35'900
2.2.1.	rice	50 kg sack	300	220'000	66'000'000	9'429
2.2.2.	beans	50 kg sack	65	900'000	58'500'000	8'357
2.2.3.	sugar	50 kg sack	50	290'000	14'500'000	2'071
2.2.4.	salt	25 kg sack	100	23'000	2'300'000	329
2.2.5.	cooking oil	5 gallons	200	175'000	35'000'000	5'000
	sardines	carton	200	200'000	40'000'000	5'714
	groudnuts	50 kg sack	50	700'000	35'000'000	5'000
2.3.	Water, sanitation & hygiene (WASH)				9'000'000	1'286
2.3.1.	bath soap	bar	2'000	1'000	2'000'000	286
2.3.2.	laundry soap	bag	2'000	1'000	2'000'000	286
2.3.3.	sanitary pads	box	625	8'000	5'000'000	714
TOTAL PROGRAM ACTIVITIES					396'300'000	56'614
4 PROGRAM LOGISTICS						
Transport (of relief materials)						
4.1.	Hire/ Rental of Vehicles truck	day	15	300'000	4'500'000	643
4.2.	Fuel	liter	2'000	6'000	12'000'000	1'714
TOTAL PROGRAM LOGISTICS					16'500'000	2'357
TOTAL DIRECT COST					419'700'000	59'957
TOTAL EXPENDITURE					419'700'000	59'957

ACTION

The ACT Secretariat has approved the use of US\$ 59,957 towards the budget from its Rapid Response Fund and would be grateful to receive contributions to wholly or partially replenish this payment. Should there be an appeal for this emergency, the RRF payment will be considered as an advance.

For further information please contact:

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ACT Alliance website: <http://www.actalliance.org>