Death toll rises to 40. Search and rescue continues.

Background

On 11th October 2018, heavy rains that lasted for about 2 hours from 2:15 p.m. hit areas of Bukalasi Sub-county in Bududa district, eastern Uganda. River Suume which is within the same sub-county filled up, burst its banks and the heavy overflow swept off houses in the neighbouring villages, leaving over 34 people dead.

The villages affected include: Suume, Nnayinza, Namalira, Nyekhe, Malanda, Shishambwa, Nanyenga, Bunamwamba among others.
Three (3) trading centres of Naposhi, Nalutumu and Wanjenuwa were also severely affected, halting business and affecting access to social services.

The mudslides have had a devastating effect on the lives of people, livestock, plantations and human settlement. Many people have been displaced while others have had to move to neighboring villages for shelter with relatives and close friends.

Uganda Red Cross Response

“We are doing our best to support the people affected in this disaster. Our volunteers are working closely with the government search and rescue team to identify dead bodies from the rubbles. We are using stretchers to move them to Bukalasi police station. Those injured are taken to Bukalas Health Centre III and Bududa hospital.” Says Patrick Kutosi, the Bududa Red Cross Branch Manager.

Mbale, Bubulo and Buduua Red Cross branch volunteers are on ground supporting the community people. They share timely alerts, involved in the search and rescue, as well as evacuation of people from the affected areas.

The assessment is 80% complete, and report shared with relevant stake holders.

Uganda Red Cross has positioned relief items (blankets, jerrycans, soap, aqua tabs, tarpaulins, and kitchen sets among others) to support the affected families. These will be distributed on Sunday 14th October, 2018 in Bududa district.

Sensitisations on climate change affects, disaster preparedness and response will continue in all disaster prone areas in Eastern Uganda and elsewhere in the country for community preparedness and safety.

Key figures

40 deaths reported

15 causalities. Of these, 13 are admitted at Bukalasi HCIII (6 females, 4 males, and 3 children). 2 are hospitalized at Bududa Hospital.

- 16 people are still missing.
- Total number of affected households - 139 with a population of 695 people. Of these, 278 are children under 5 years.

- The search for the missing persons continues.

- A few places remain inaccessible (soggy ground and impassable roads.

- Suume Junior Academy lost 2 blocks in the disaster. No death registered.

- Suume Community Church was washed away, no death registered.

**Editor’s Notes**

Bududa district in 2010 registered a similar incident where over 100 lives were claimed. The district remains among the disaster prone areas where Uganda Red Cross has heavily invested in disaster preparedness and response efforts as part of supporting communities to prepare, mitigate, and respond to any disasters to save lives.

Uganda Red Cross assessment team will keep updating us, but relief support to the identified affected families will be given out on Sunday 14th October, 2018 at 10:00am at Bukalasi Sub-county.


For more Information:

- Irene Nakasiita - Communications & Public Relations Email: inakasiita@redcrossug.org +256774382583 / 755000695
- **Contact us:** [www.redcrossug.org](http://www.redcrossug.org) **Facebook:** Uganda Red Cross Society **Twitter:** @ugandaredcros **Instagram:** UgandaRedCross