

www.ifrc.org  
Saving lives,  
changing minds.

## Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) Algeria: Floods

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>DREF Operation</b>	<b>Operation n° MDRDZ002; Glide n° <a href="#">FL-2015-000146-DZA</a></b>
<b>Date of issue: 03/11/2015</b>	<b>Date of disaster 23/10/2015</b>
<b>Operation manager: Muftah ETWILB</b>	<b>Point of contact: Damache Mourad</b>
<b>Operation start date: 30/10/2015</b>	<b>Expected timeframe: 3 months</b>
<b>Overall operation budget: CHF 225,128</b>	
<b>Number of people affected: 90,000 refugees (35,000 in need of assistance)</b>	<b>Number of people to be assisted: 7,500 (1,500 families; direct beneficiaries) and 20.000 indirect beneficiaries</b>
<b>Host National Society(ies) presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): 5 Staff and 100 volunteers</b>	
<b>International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC), Spanish Red Cross</b>	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), OXFAM</b>	

### A. Situation analysis

#### Description of the disaster

Heavy rains and flooding affected the south-west Algeria's arid Tindouf region on Friday 23 October 2015. The heavy rains have caused widespread damage to all five camps sheltering 90,000 of the most vulnerable Sahrawi refugees. Although there is little rain in the Sahara for most of the year, when the season hits, it can be devastating, especially for mud-brick constructions as the sand cannot resist the effects of the rain. With most refugees still living in the camps (80% percent) and few in host communities, the situation of the displaced is among the most devastating worldwide.

The limited opportunities for self-reliance in the harsh desert environment have forced the refugees to rely on international humanitarian assistance for their survival. The number of people (35,000) in need could increase as this is just the beginning of the rainy season. According to meteorological predictions, heavy downpours are still expected, which could cause the collapse of more houses. So far there have been no reports of casualties among the refugees in the hardest hit Awserd and Dakhla camps nor in the Laayoune, Boujdour and Smara camps.

#### Summary of the current response

##### Overview of Host National Society

The Algerian Red Crescent is auxiliary to the Algerian government and partner to many organisations and agencies including the UNHCR in relation to refugee management. The National Society who managed a flood of this magnitude for the last time five years ago, is present in the field to provide direct assistance to the affected population, with lifesaving activities such as first aid, psychosocial support and to carry out a rapid needs assessment.

Since the disaster, more than 5,000 families (25,000 people) have received visits from about 100 National Society volunteers, who helped them to evacuate the area.

Around 400 tonnes of food aid<sup>1</sup> were collected by the Algerian Red Crescent volunteers from host communities not affected and the distribution is now taking place in camps and is targeting more than 5,000 people (1,000 families). More consignments of food is expected in the following days to cover gaps in assistance at this moment.

In term of needs, after a rapid assessment carried out by the Algerian National Society on 25 October and after going through reports received from the UNHCR office in Algeria, the affected population is in great need of shelter; with at least 10,000 traditional tents damaged or destroyed, shelter assistance is considered to be the main priority.

The assessment revealed that other non-food items (blankets, kitchen sets, buckets, etc.) have also been considered as major needs.

A deeper analysis is needed and will be supported by the arrival of the Disaster Response Delegate on 3 November to see how far the lives and livelihoods of the affected population have been affected and how best the people can be enabled to recover quickly. The National Society is anticipating shelter needs by requesting that a local factory starts producing mattresses in large quantities to meet the needs of affected population when the financial support is available. Based on the results of the detailed assessment, a second allocation or emergency appeal may be considered.

### **Overview of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in country**

The Algerian Red Crescent is an Algerian humanitarian volunteer organization founded in 1956. It was recognized by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in 1963 has therefore been since then a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The ICRC has been in Algeria since the 1954 war of independence. At that time, it focused on visiting prisoners and helping refugees in Morocco and Tunisia. Today, the ICRC's main job consists of visiting detainees. It also cooperates with the Algerian Red Crescent on a number of files, such as First Aid or Restoring Family Links.

The IFRC supports ARC from its clusters and regional offices in Tunis and Beirut and is following the situation closely. It also works in coordination with the ICRC, who has been present in Tindouf since the year 2000 (with an office attached to the Tunis Delegation). IFRC is working hand in hand with the National Society in order to provide the necessary support to facilitate the implementation of the planned relief operations in order to insure the alleviation of the suffering of the affected population. It is also assisting the Algerian Red Crescent in deepening its assessment to better evaluate whether a scale up of intervention is needed, and if so, to properly plan for reaching more affected people.

Moreover, IFRC is providing the necessary remote technical assistance, in terms of needs assessment and planning, and is deploying in the following days a resource person – the MENA regional office's Disaster Response delegate - to better support the National Society on the ground. This person will be replaced by a Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) member deployed for one month to support the Red Crescent Society.

The Spanish Red Cross is also present in country and is in discussion with the Algerian Red Crescent on further assessments and possible support.

### **Movement Coordination**

Various coordination meetings between the Algerian Red Crescent and other Movement partners (Spanish Red Cross and ICRC) have been taking place on a regular basis, since the beginning of the floods, to ensure that all partners agree on the plans of the current response, their implementation, as well as a contingency planning in case the situation worsens.

Operational Movement coordination meetings, led by the Algerian National Society, with the support of the IFRC will take place on a weekly basis to update each other on progress, as well as to discuss future plans related to the operation.

At an interagency level, members of the Algerian Red Crescent organization and the IFRC will regularly attend coordination meetings with the UNHCR, the World Health Organization (WHO), government authorities and other agencies, including the inter-sectorial coordination mechanism, and meetings the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).

### **Overview of non-RCRC actors in country**

Several local authority and international organisations or non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are present in Algeria and are continuously working on responding to the current situation. These include:-

---

<sup>1</sup> consisting of rice, lentils, sugar, oil, concentrated tomato, and pasta

- Algerian Civil Protection has supported the building of communal shelters in Boujdour camp
- UNHCR is urgently appealing to donors for emergency funds to respond to the flooding crisis. UNHCR's 2015 budget for the Tindouf operation is just 20 per cent covered, leaving a huge funding gap and restricting operational activities.
- EUR 200,000 were pledged by the Government of Italy, as announced by CISP (Comité International pour le Développement des Peuples)
- ASSDF - a local solidarity association - offered to rent trucks for food delivery in any of the camps
- Oxfam is providing fresh food in Dakhla camp and will be focusing in WASH in the following days
- UNICEF is going to send a plane with tents (figures, dates to be confirmed later) for schools

## Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

An assessment was conducted on Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 October by humanitarian organizations present in Tindouf which showed that more than 900 of mud-brick homes inhabited by Sahrawi refugees were destroyed or damaged. Those living in traditional Sahrawi tents (10 percent) were spared the worst of the devastation. Other infrastructure and buildings have also been damaged or destroyed, including dispensaries, hospitals, schools, shops, and livestock sheds.

There has also been a lot of stagnation of water in certain areas, which presents a high risk to the affected population of water borne diseases. In addition, contamination of the underground water sources risks worsening the situation. Some specialized NGOs such as OXFAM, are focusing on this sanitation situation and are carrying out assessments to have clearer view of the situation.

The accumulation of water has also raised the risk of the collapse of the fragile mud houses and septic tanks. While access is possible but limited because of the muddy terrain, trucks or light vehicles cannot access some locations where the most vulnerable families are based.

Water is being distributed in Ausserd camp and is produced (extracted from the borehole, treated, stored in T45 Oxfam tanks, water-trucked and distributed in other locations in the Layoune camp. Hence, currently the availability of water depends on the efficiency of the water system in Layoune and the ability to transfer it to the other locations. Water test analysis also needs to be increased and carried out regularly before any distribution can be made to families.

### Beneficiary selection

This DREF allocation will support assistance targeted towards the most vulnerable groups among the affected population. This beneficiary identification will be carried out by the Algerian Red Crescent staff and volunteers in discussion with key members of the local refugee population and with other organisations working with the refugees, particularly UNHCR. They will agree targeting criteria to ensure assistance reaches the most vulnerable groups of refugees

The shelter assistance and household non-food items (NFIs) will be particularly targeted towards registered refugees meeting at least two of the following criteria:-

- Female headed households
- Family with 3 elderly members
- Shelter completely destroyed

Two dispensaries also had their buildings destroyed by the floods and will be supported with NFIs.

For the hygiene response, the hygiene kits will be provided primarily to elderly beneficiaries who have been registered on the UNHCR data base and who have not received assistance from other organisations.

### Risk Assessment

One of the biggest risks is the ensuring that the beneficiaries in this community and other local populations, understand the non-political engagement of the national society and are clear about the neutrality, impartiality and independence of its actions. To mitigate this the National Society will continue to build the trust of the community to avoid any misunderstandings around political perceptions and ensure that the humanitarian imperative and Principles of the RCRC are seen as the primary reason for the assistance and are promoted to ensure better access to the affected population.

Another risk is limited access to the affected areas, due to the destruction of the roads by the heavy rains. To address this, volunteers at the community level will help through the use of local means of transportation (donkeys) as the need arises and to help ensure the assistance reaches the vulnerable communities.

## B. Operational strategy and plan

### Overall objective

.

The immediate survival needs of the flood-affected population are met through the provision of essential emergency shelter and settlement items, hygiene kits, hygiene promotion and sanitation and food, targeting a total of 7,500 people (1,500 families) in Tindouf camps, for a period of three months.

### Proposed strategy

The Algerian Red Crescent, utilizing its presence of staff and volunteers across the affected areas, has been actively engaged in disaster response since the beginning of the floods. The operation is relief focused, providing the affected population, and especially the displaced and vulnerable people, with shelter and essential non-food items, hygiene kits and hygiene promotion.

This DREF operation will focus on the following:

- 1- Using ongoing detailed assessments and analysis to inform the design and implementation of the operation, with revisions made to the DREF operation as required
- 2- Reducing the immediate risk of waterborne disease through the provision of hygiene promotion in flood-affected areas of the camps over a period of three months
- 3- Meeting the immediate food needs of 1,000 of the most vulnerable households (5,000 people) in five camps over a period of three months
- 4- Procuring and distributing Non-Food Items (NFIs) and emergency shelter items to 500 vulnerable families (2,500 people) in flood-affected areas to meet their needs
- 5- Procuring and distributing two family size tents for two dispensaries

Please note that the food being distributed by National Society volunteers is food items collected from host communities in the area as in-kind contributions. The DREF is supporting the distribution and volunteer costs to ensure this food reaches the most vulnerable.

### Operational support services

#### Human resources

The Algerian Red Crescent's Disaster Management (DM) team will supervise the response in the implementation areas in the five camps and will work in close coordination with other organizations. The DREF allocation will ensure provision is made to support the following staff and volunteers: five team leaders and 100 volunteers, mobilized to support the operation. Each volunteer will be insured under the IFRC scheme. A RDRT member will also be mobilized via the IFRC to support the effective implementation of the DREF operation for a period of one month, and will take over from the current resource person (the Regional Office Disaster Response delegate) already deployed by the regional office to help the ARC start the operation.

#### Logistics and supply chain

All logistics services are following IFRC logistics procedures and systems. IFRC will continue to support the Algerian Red Crescent in this DREF operation and to strengthen the capacity of the National Society in fleet management, procurement, warehousing and import/export processes. A chain is in place to deliver all equipment supplies and to effectively support the DREF operation:

**Procurement plans:** Local procurement will be carried out via the ARC logistics unit, with support from the IFRC regional office in Beirut to ensure compliance with the IFRC agreed procurement procedures (and costings). International procurement will be carried out via the Global Logistics Services.

**Transport and fleet needs:** Local transportation (trucks for NFI transfer or donkeys in extreme cases) will be used in case the normal means of transport (the NS vehicle fleet) is unable to cover the transport needs for this DREF operation. The transportation of all items from the NS Headquarters to the affected area has been budgeted for under this DREF



## Food Security, Nutrition and Livelihoods

<b>Outcome 1:</b> Immediate food needs of the disaster affected population are met in five camps over a period of three months													
<b>Output 1</b> Appropriate food rations provided in-kind from local communities are distributed by ARC volunteers to 1,000 vulnerable families (5,000 people) in coordination with the ARC food committee (DREF will cover distribution costs)													
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Conduct rapid emergency needs assessments to identify the most vulnerable affected refugees as per the criteria													
Collect and forward food stuff to the distribution sites													
Distribute food stuff to 5,000 people (1,000 families) in five camps													
Monitor and evaluate the food stuff distribution activities and provide reporting on distributions													

## Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

<b>Outcome 1:</b> Immediate risk of waterborne disease is reduced through the provision of hygiene promotion in flood-affected areas of Algeria over a period of three months													
<b>Output 1.1 Continuous assessment of water, sanitation, and hygiene situation is carried out in targeted communities</b>													
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Conduct detailed assessment of the water, sanitation and hygiene situation in targeted communities													
Continuously monitor the water, sanitation and hygiene situation in targeted communities													
Coordinate with other water and sanitation actors on target group needs and appropriate response.													
Provide hygiene information to the affected population as appropriate													
<b>Output 1.2</b> Target population of 500 families (2,500 people) in flood-affected areas is provided with improved access to sanitation													
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Procure/distribute sanitation related NFIs (1 bucket per family) and hygiene kits (1 kit per family)													
Promote good hygiene practices in these target communities													

## Shelter and settlements (and household items)

<b>Outcome 1:</b> Immediate shelter and settlement needs of the target population in flood-affected areas of Algeria are met over a period of three months													
<b>Output 1.1</b> Procurement/distribution of Non-Food Items (NFIs) and emergency shelter items undertaken to meet the needs of the target population of 500 families (2,500 people) in flood-affected areas													
Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Procure/distribute NFIs and emergency shelter items in accordance with IFRC procurement standards (Tents (1 pcs per family for 250 most vulnerable families), kitchen sets (1 pc per family) mattresses (3 pc per family) and blankets (3 per family)													
<b>Output 1.2</b> Procurement/distribution of two family size tents frame for two dispensaries													

Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Procure/donate Tents frame Family for Dispensary in accordance with IFRC procurement standards \													

## Budget

# DREF OPERATION

30/10/2015

MDRDZ002

Algeria- Floods

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	79,710
Shelter - Transitional	0
Construction - Housing	0
Construction - Facilities	0
Construction - Materials	0
Clothing & Textiles	28,500
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	7,000
Medical & First Aid	0
Teaching Materials	0
Utensils & Tools	12,750
Other Supplies & Services	0
Cash Disbursements	0
<b>Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES</b>	<b>127,960</b>
Land & Buildings	0
Vehicles	0
Computer & Telecom Equipment	0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	0
Medical Equipment	0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0
<b>Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>0</b>
Storage, Warehousing	0
Distribution & Monitoring	7,500
Transport & Vehicle Costs	5,000
Logistics Services	7,678
<b>Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE</b>	<b>20,178</b>
International Staff	6,000
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	12,250
Volunteers	30,150
<b>Total PERSONNEL</b>	<b>48,400</b>
Consultants	0
Professional Fees	0
<b>Total CONSULTANTS &amp; PROFESSIONAL FEES</b>	<b>0</b>
Workshops & Training	2,500
<b>Total WORKSHOP &amp; TRAINING</b>	<b>2,500</b>
Travel	4,000
Information & Public Relations	5,000
Office Costs	3,000
Communications	0
Financial Charges	350
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Office and Services Costs	0
<b>Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>12,350</b>
Partner National Societies	0
Other Partners (NGOs, UN, other)	0
<b>Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS</b>	<b>0</b>
Programme and Services Support Recovery	13,740
<b>Total INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>13,740</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>225,128</b>