

Emergency Plan of Action operation update

Mauritania: Food Insecurity

Emergency appeal n° MDRMR007	Glide n° OT-2011-000205-NER
6 month update	Timeframe covered: May 13 – November 13, 2015
Date of issue: 27 January 2016	Emergency Appeal start date: 12 May 2015
Appeal budget: CHF 998,467 Donor Response: 4%	Operation timeframe : May 13, 2015 – May 13, 2016
Expected end date: 13 May 2016	Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated: CHF 100,000
N° of people being assisted: 10,400 people immediate assistance; 27,000 medium-term assistance	
Host National Society (ies) presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): 300 volunteers from 2 local Red Crescent branches in Brakna region, 200 volunteers from Hodh El Gharbi region 2 supervisors, 2 nutrition technicians and 2 drivers.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: IFRC, British and French Red Cross Societies, ICRC	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

This Food Security crisis is a regional crisis affecting the Sahel area. According to the last Harmonized Framework in March 2015, the food insecure population within Mauritania was estimated to be 723,000 people in IPC Phase 2 (Stressed) and an additional 260.000 people in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). The number of households in IPC Phase 2 have risen sharply over the last months. This reflects a gradual deterioration of the situation particularly for the rain-fed farming areas that face a second year of bad crop harvest. The projected situation for June-August 2015 estimated that the number of people affected would increase to 851,000 people under Stressed (Phase 2), 443,000 people in Crisis (Phase 3) and 21,000 people in emergency (Phase 4) on the IPC scale. The food insecurity situation affected the provinces of Hodh Elchargui (19.5% of the total population), Assaba (16.3%), Brakna (14.9%), Gorgol (14.6%), Hodh Elgharbi (14%) and Guidimakha (13.9%).

According to the Harmonized Framework, (March 2015) the Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence is 6.2%. This is supported by the various nutritional surveys carried out at the post-harvest period, which ranged from 5.6 to 8.5% nationally. No region of the country exceeds the 10% threshold, but the regions of Hodh El Charqui (9.6%), Guidimakha (9.4%), Brakna (8.8%) and Gorgol (7.7%) are the most affected. It is this context that the International Federation supported the Mauritanian Red Crescent to respond and provide relief to the most affected people.

Summary of current response

Overview of Host National Society

To ensure the relief activities were implemented in an effective and efficient manner, the Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC) invested in trainings. The trainings included two nutrition training sessions targeting 30 volunteers from the two intervention areas. The training enhanced the volunteers knowledge of malnutrition, screening techniques, referral of severe malnutrition cases to health facilities, recording, water, hygiene and sanitation, awareness techniques for behavioural change.

The training was followed by nutrition screening campaigns simultaneously conducted in Magtaa Lahjar and Tintane. The campaigns enabled the identification and registration of 2,000 beneficiaries (i.e. children from 6 to 23 months old, pregnant and lactating women). 1,933 beneficiaries out of the targeted 2,000 beneficiaries benefited from the distribution of enriched food. The screening activities were complemented by awareness campaigns to promote good

nutrition practices and behavioural change. A total of 1,400 households (8,400 people) were reached by the promotion of good hygienic practices.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

With support from the British Red Cross, 25 volunteers benefited from NDRT training on food security, livelihoods, nutrition and cash transfer programming organized in Nouakchott in June-July 2015. French Red Cross (FRC) also supported a training in livelihoods and cash transfer programming in September, 2015. The FRC supported training targeted 20 volunteers from local committees that had not participated in the NDRT training.

Additionally, together with the French Red Cross, the National Society has started implementing a prevention and response plan for the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in Mauritania for a period of six months. This response plan against EVD aims at contributing to the reduction of morbidity and mortality related to EVD targeting 23 villages in Trarza, *Brakna*, *Gorgol*, *Assaba*, *Guidimaka*, *HodhCharghi*, and *Hodh Gharbi* in *Nouakchott* regions.



Malnutrition screening activities MRC/ IFRC

In collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and within the framework of its annual partnership action plan with Mauritanian Red Crescent a capacity building program, training staff and volunteers on first aid, communication, and economic security (ECOSEC) has been conducted.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The Mauritanian Government has been leading the coordination of responses by national agencies such as the Food Security Commissioner (CSA), the Agriculture Department as well as humanitarian actors including WFP, FAO, UNICEF, OCHA, ACF, Oxfam and Save the Children,. It is worth mentioning that these latter supported the affected people through the distribution of either food items or cash. The National Society regularly participated in the coordination meeting held at national and regional levels.

[<click here for interim financial report and here for contact details >](#)

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall Objective

The overall objective of this intervention is to contribute to mitigating the impact of food insecurity and malnutrition, and to build the community resilience in assisting 8,400 vulnerable people (1,400 households) plus 2,000 pregnant, lactating women and children under-two years old that are in food insecurity situation in Brakna and Hodh El Gharbi Regions through food parcel distribution and distribution of enriched food. It is also geared towards supporting 3,500 households (21,000 people) in terms of enhancing livestock production and agricultural production.

Proposed strategy

This operation is part of wider response in the Sahel Region and is included in the IFRC Sahel Food Insecurity Regional Operational Strategic Plan. Actions taken are based on a holistic and integrated approach to meet not only immediate needs of targeted households with a food distribution programme, but also to meet the nutritional needs of children under two years of age and pregnant or lactating women (PLW) by providing enriched supplements and related activities. The strategy also aims at strengthening livelihoods through the distribution of agricultural and livestock inputs (seeds, tools, livestock feed, livestock replenishment, etc.) to support middle-term livelihood recovery. The strategy is built on IFRC's Twin Track approach, which includes emergency intervention actions with resilience building activities to provide support to immediate and longer-term needs of the affected population.

Food Security and Livelihoods			
Outcome 1: 1,400 households (8,400 beneficiaries receive food assistance during 3 months through food distribution.	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 1.1: Immediate food needs of 1,400 households (8,400 beneficiaries) are met through food distribution) per month per household for 3 months.		0%
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
1.1.1 Information for authorities/setting up of targeting committee / awareness session in village assemblies			0%
1.1.2 Targeting process, and surveys verification.			0%
1.1.3 Validation of beneficiary list and contract with partners (UPA and shops)			0%
1.1.4 Food distribution (three distributions).			0%
1.1.5 Post distribution monitoring and monitoring and impact analysis			0%
Outcome 2: Middle/longer-term twin track approach, to build community resilience through livelihoods reinforcement to avoid future food crisis to 3,500 households (21,000 people) including 500 herders + 3,000 cooperative members in two targeted regions.	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 2.1: 500 herders (3,000 beneficiaries) receive appropriate livestock inputs to reinforce and replace their livestock production in two regions. Output 2.2: 100 women cooperatives with at least 30 members/cooperative totaling 3,000 cooperative members receive adequate agricultural inputs (seeds, fertilizers and tools) and training to undertake the vegetable gardening campaign (September-October).		0%
Activities	Is implementation on time?		0% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
2.1.1 Detailed assessment, on recovery needs			
2.1.2 Identification of farmer households on needs about agriculture			
2.1.3 Distribution of agriculture inputs (seeds, tools, fertilizers etc.) by volunteers			
2.1.4 Post distribution monitoring and monitoring and impact analysis			
2.1.5 Awareness sessions on destocking during the lean period (4 awareness sessions x regions)			
2.2.1 Detailed assessment and market analysis on recovery needs			
2.2.2 Identification of beneficiary cooperatives			
2.2.3 Agricultural inputs distribution (seeds, tools, fertilizers, etc.) for 100 women groups			
2.2.4 Organize CTP pilot distribution with a limited number of cooperatives			
2.2.5 Beneficiaries training on productive best practices, management, market basis and finance			
2.2.6 Post distribution monitoring and monitoring and impact analysis			
Progress towards outcomes			
None was reported			
Challenges			
The low funding coverage 4% has not allowed the implementation of the planned activities.			

Health & Nutrition			
Outcome 3: To improve the immediate nutritional status of child under 2, pregnant and lactating woman for 2,000 beneficiaries	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 3.1: Assisting the screening and referral to existing health facilities in two regions of child under 2, lactating and pregnant woman at risk of malnutrition until end of lean period (September-October 2015) Output 3.2: Distributing enriched food for 2000 children under 2, lactating and pregnant women in targeted regions to prevent malnutrition with these vulnerable targets for three months		100%
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
3.1.1. Information for authorities / setting up of targeting committee /awareness session in village assemblies	X		
3.1.2. Training on malnutrition screening by MUAC and referral and on delivery of messages on nutrition and health	X		
3.1.3. Screening of child and women (pregnant and lactating) at risk of malnutrition in targeted communities and referral to existing nutrition/health facilities	X		
3.2.1. Identification of populations targeted by the activity (PLW, under 2 years children) resulting from very poor households targeted by the project	X		
3.2.2. Fortified food for distributions (3 distributions)	X		
3.2.3. Performing social mobilization activities on causes of malnutrition, best practices about nutrition ways of improving family diets using available resources, specific food needs for sick and other vulnerable people etc., These messages will be established with partners and government agencies to establish key messaging	X		
3.2.4. Monitoring and evaluation of the activity	X		
Outcome 4: Increase the medium-term access to safer water and the promotion in good hygienic practices among most vulnerable communities in the targeted regions	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 4.1: 1,000 households (6,000 beneficiaries) reached through hygiene promotion		100%
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
4.1.1. Workshop to elaborate and adapt sensitization material	X		100%
4.1.2. Community sensitization on main hygiene practices and distribution of soap, aqua tabs and any other disinfectant materials according to Sphere standards	X		100%
4.1.3. Monitoring and evaluation of the activity	X		100%
Progress towards outcomes			

In Magtaa Lahjar

A total of 1,000 beneficiaries have been screened and registered as beneficiaries for the nutritional supplement distribution; 983 of the targeted beneficiaries received the enriched food. The NS referred 81 severely malnourished beneficiaries (47 children and 34 pregnant and breastfeeding women) to health facilities for medical care. A total of 570 mothers were reached through sensitization on good nutritional practices.

In Tintane

Out of the 1,000 registered beneficiaries 950 (95%) received nutritional supplement. The NS referred 19 severely malnourished beneficiaries to health facilities for medical care. 510 mothers were reached through sensitization on good nutritional practices.

The nutrition supplement distribution activities were followed by demonstration on how to cook the enriched flour.

Challenges

The enriched flour could not be accessed on the local market. The Mauritanian Red Crescent with support from the IFRC had to procure the flour from Senegal in the process delaying the distribution activities.

Disaster Preparedness and Risk Reduction

Outcome 5: Improve NS capacity on community, branch and national level in preparation, risk reduction and response to future crisis.	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 5.1: The capacity of staff and volunteers (10 staff and 50 volunteers) are built in food & nutrition security, livelihoods and cash transfer programming and in better information collection and operational efficiency in targeted regions		95%
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
5.1.1. NDRT Food Security refresher course	X		100%
5.1.2. Volunteers operational training in different activities (assessment, distribution, nutrition awareness)	X		100%
5.1.3. Training and Capacity Building in Livelihoods and Cash Programming among the staff and volunteers (implementation of a pilot in CTP)	X		100%
5.1.4. Deployment of food security RDRT, a HES and a CTP delegate for training and capacity building in CTP, FS and Livelihoods	X		95%

Progress towards outcomes

In its endeavours to carry out the relief activities in an effective and efficient manner, the Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC) invested in trainings. The trainings included two nutrition training sessions targeting 30 volunteers from the two intervention areas. The training enhanced the volunteers knowledge of malnutrition, screening techniques, referral of severe malnutrition cases to health facilities, recording, water, hygiene and sanitation, awareness techniques for behavioural change

With support from the British Red Cross, 25 volunteers benefited from NDRT training on food security, livelihoods, nutrition and cash transfer programming organized in Nouakchott from in June-July 2015. The French Red Cross (FRC) organized a second training session on livelihoods and cash transfer programming in September, 2015 reaching 20 volunteers who had not participated in the NDRT training.

The Human Resource capacity of the Mauritanian Red Crescent was enhanced through the recruitment of operational staff and trained Red Crescent volunteers. These teams benefited from a technical support of a RDRT deployed by IFRC as well as an Operations manager who was recruited. MRC's Food Security Coordinator, Health coordinator, administration and logistics officer, reporting officer and Watsan officer are highly involved in the operation.

Areas common to all sectors			
Outcome 6: The quality of the operation is ensured and documented by participatory in-depth needs assessments and accountability measures.	Outputs		% of achievement
		Output 6.1: The management of the operation is informed by a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system which will enhance branch capacity to report on the operations.	
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
6.1 Coordination and engagement with key stakeholders (NDMA, MOA, MoH, Community leaders, INGOs, Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, UN Agencies and funding agencies).	X		100%
6.2 Joint monitoring of operations by MRCS & IFRC	X		100%
6.3 Preparation of the FS & Resilience Media Campaign	X		100%
6.4 Conduct lesson learned workshop with targeted branches and HQ staff.		X	0%
6.5 Beneficiary communication for all livelihood activities		X	0%
6.6 Evaluation of assistance impact in supported households (related to all livelihoods activities)		X	0%
6.7 Volunteer Insurance	X		100%
6.8 Activity and Response Monitoring	X		100%
6.9 Coordination within the Regional Strategic Framework	X		100%
Progress towards outcomes			
<p>The Mauritanian Government has been leading and undertaking the coordination of actions of national agencies (the Food Security Commissioner (CSA), the Agriculture Department) and the humanitarian actors, including WFP, FAO, UNICEF, OCHA, ACF, Oxfam and Save the Children. It is worth mentioning that the latter supported the affected people through the distribution of either food items or cash. The National Society regularly participates in the coordination meetings held at national and regional levels.</p> <p>The Mauritanian Red Crescent Communications department ensured the visibility to this food security operation through; publication of training and distribution activities. IFRC provided support to the National Society through advocacy to foreign embassies present in Mauritania as well as other technical and financial partners.</p>			

Contact Information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting):

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace.**

Disaster Response Financial Report

MDRMR007 - Mauritania - Food Insecurity

Timeframe: 13 mai 15 to 13 févr. 16

Appeal Launch Date: 13 mai 15

6 month update 1

Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2015/5-2015/11	Programme	MDRMR007
Budget Timeframe	2015/5-2016/2	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Funding

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
A. Budget						998 467	
B. Opening Balance							
Income							
Cash contributions							
<i>Japanese Red Cross Society</i>		32 900				32 900	
<i>Red Cross of Monaco</i>		10 808				10 808	
C1. Cash contributions		43 708				43 708	
Other Income							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		100 000				100 000	
C4. Other Income		100 000				100 000	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)		143 708				143 708	
D. Total Funding = B + C		143 708				143 708	

* Funding source data based on information provided by the donor

II. Movement of Funds

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
B. Opening Balance							
C. Income		143 708				143 708	
E. Expenditure		-133 474				-133 474	
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		10 234				10 234	

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Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

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III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability		
	A					B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)			998 467			998 467		
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Food	36 000						36 000	
Seeds & Plants	118 000						118 000	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	17 189						17 189	
Teaching Materials	10 500						10 500	
Other Supplies & Services	10 000						10 000	
Cash Disbursement	314 094						314 094	
Total Relief items, Construction, Sup	505 782						505 782	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage	9 000						9 000	
Distribution & Monitoring	30 000						30 000	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	31 346		8 060			8 060	23 286	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	70 346		8 060			8 060	62 286	
Personnel								
International Staff	126 000		14 431			14 431	111 569	
National Staff	18 800						18 800	
National Society Staff	48 481		15			15	48 466	
Volunteers	22 595		525			525	22 070	
Total Personnel	215 876		14 971			14 971	200 905	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	56 672						56 672	
Total Workshops & Training	56 672						56 672	
General Expenditure								
Travel	27 151		17 864			17 864	9 287	
Information & Public Relations	7 000		34			34	6 966	
Office Costs	12 750		32			32	12 718	
Communications	9 000		1 073			1 073	7 927	
Financial Charges	12 500		-2 986			-2 986	15 486	
Shared Office and Services Costs	20 451		55			55	20 396	
Total General Expenditure	88 852		16 071			16 071	72 781	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			86 225			86 225	-86 225	
Total Operational Provisions			86 225			86 225	-86 225	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recove	60 939		8 146			8 146	52 793	
Total Indirect Costs	60 939		8 146			8 146	52 793	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	998 467		133 474			133 474	864 994	
VARIANCE (C - D)			864 994			864 994		

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Reporting Timeframe	2015/5-2015/11	Programme	MDRMR007
Budget Timeframe	2015/5-2016/2	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

IV. Breakdown by subsector

Business Line / Sub-sector	Budget	Opening Balance	Income	Funding	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Deferred Income
BL2 - Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people							
Disaster response	998 467		143 708	143 708	133 474	10 234	
Subtotal BL2	998 467		143 708	143 708	133 474	10 234	
GRAND TOTAL	998 467		143 708	143 708	133 474	10 234	