This revised Emergency Appeal seeks a total of 2,635,276 Swiss francs (increased from 1,128,171 Swiss francs) to enable the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to support the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross (ABRC) and the Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society (SKNRCS) to deliver assistance and support to 3,000 people (600 families) for 12 months (extended from 6 months), with a focus on the following sectors: health; water, sanitation and hygiene promotion (WASH); shelter (including household non-food items); livelihoods, nutrition and food security; disaster risk reduction (DRR) and National Society capacity building. Cash Transfer Programming (CTP) is also a major part of this Emergency Appeal.

This revised Emergency Appeal results in a funding gap of 1,586,943 Swiss francs due to an increased number of beneficiaries, and activities in health (first aid kits, psychosocial support [PSS] and trainings) and shelter (a number of items have been included such as shelter tool kits and financial support to families to repair their homes). The planned response reflects the current situation and will be adjusted based on further developments and more detailed assessments. Details are available in the Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) <click here>

The disaster and the Red Cross Red Crescent response to date

30 August 2017: Irma develops near the Cape Verde Islands from a tropical wave. It is the ninth named storm, fourth hurricane, and second major hurricane of the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season.

5-6 September 2017: Irma makes landfall on north-east Caribbean islands during the early hours of 6 September, affecting Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, St. Barthélemy, St. Martin, the Virgin Islands, Saint Kitts and Nevis and other islands in the eastern Caribbean Sea.

6 September 2017: The IFRC allocates 61,418 Swiss francs for ABRC and 64,301 Swiss francs for SKNRCS from the IFRC’s Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF).

8 September 2017: The IFRC issues an Emergency Appeal for 1,128,171 Swiss francs to assist 500 families (2500 people) for six months.

21 September 2017: Operation update no. 1 issued.

6 October 2017: The IFRC issues revised Emergency Appeal for 2,635,276 Swiss francs to assist 3,000 people with an extended timeframe up to September 2018.
The operational strategy

Background

On 6 September 2017, Hurricane Irma, a powerful Category 5 hurricane packing winds more than 185 miles per hour, impacted several eastern Caribbean countries. Irma’s wide band swept over Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla, Montserrat and Saint Kitts and Nevis, with Barbuda and Anguilla most heavily affected.

Livelihoods, housing and infrastructure and basic services such as health, telecommunication, electricity, water, sewage and waste systems, as well as agricultural land were severely affected. Road and transport networks were disrupted and, though not quantifiable yet, the socio-economic impact now, and for the near future, is expected to be significant for affected populations.

Undeniably, the levels of destruction exhibited in the Caribbean during this hurricane season are unprecedented. Within four days following the devastating impact caused by Hurricane Irma, the affected population in both Antigua and Barbuda and St. Kitts and Nevis were threatened by Hurricane Jose; and again, just days later, braced for the possible impact of Hurricane Maria. Fortunately, both veered slightly away from the islands sparing them from the worst wrath, but still leaving heavy rains, high winds and waves, leading to flooding, power cuts and damage to public structures.

Current response

Antigua and Barbuda:

- The ABRC carried out national damage and needs assessments in coordination with authorities and responded with the Community Disaster Response Teams and Community Emergency Response Teams in six communities.
- On 23 September, 863 cases of water, 344 hygiene kits and 237 kitchen sets were distributed.
- The Canadian Red Cross Society and the IFRC have donated 50,000 US dollars’ worth of medical equipment to the Hannah Thomas Hospital in Barbuda. The equipment includes a complete consultation room as well as a full emergency room.
- A total of 461 households have been registered (1,482 persons) as of 27 September 2017, and the registration deadline has been extended to facilitate additional registrations.
- The ABRC is working very closely with the Barbuda Council to validate the registration list. A working group session was held with eight members of the Barbuda community (Council representatives and ABRC volunteers of the Barbuda branch) to validate the household sizes and review for duplicate registrations.
- The ABRC is in receipt of 500 debit cards for the cash transfer programme (CTP).
- The National Society is providing updated information and photographs on the response activities through their Facebook page.

St. Kitts and Nevis

- The SKNRCS provided support to the population in response to Hurricane Irma, working in close coordination with government entities, specifically the government National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) who was leading the actions jointly with the SKNRCS.
On 16 and 18 September 2017, the SKNRC participated in coordination meetings with NEMA to outline preparedness and response activities considering human, material resources as well as pre-positioned stocks in preparation for Hurricane Maria.

On 17 and 23 September 2017, the National Society supported registration of beneficiaries using mobile devices with Open Data Kit (ODK) technology; to date, 102 households have been assessed and registered.

On 18 September 2017, the SKNRC pre-positioned stock in the North and South of mainland St. Kitts as well as on Nevis island.

In coordination with NEMA, the National Society conducted detailed assessments in the three most affected districts in St. Kitts. Red Cross volunteers were trained by the surge team and went house to house using ODK application.

The SKNRCs has so far distributed 346 tarpaulins, 143 blankets, 32 hygiene parcels, six buckets and 23 kitchen sets.

Needs assessment and beneficiary selection

Health: In Barbuda’s Hanna Thomas Hospital – an eight-bed, outpatient facility – all medical equipment and supplies in the facility were destroyed. As a result, there are currently no health services available on the island. Although the population of Barbuda will not return for some time, there will be environmental cleaning crews, military and other government-approved people staying and working on the island during the recovery period who will require access to emergency medical services. To ensure that people can work safely in Barbuda and rehabilitate the health service in the long run, the Ministry of Health (MoH) has determined as top priorities the establishment of an advanced first-aid and an Advance Cardiac Live Support (ACLS)-level emergency room.

In a rapid assessment focused on psychosocial support among the displaced Barbudans (including single men and women, elderly and families), respondents showed signs of psychological and mental distress from losing everything and being forced to evacuate to Antigua island. Respondents also reported increased feelings of stress, sleeping difficulties, anxiety and fear of returning to Barbuda.

Water and Sanitation: In Barbuda, which was the hardest-hit island by Irma, most of the water supplied to the population comes from shallow wells. It is expected that many of these have been destroyed or contaminated following the widespread destruction wrought by Irma.

Water-borne diseases, including acute watery diarrhoea, are a concern for the countries affected due to disruption of the water supply and the potential contamination of the countries’ drinking water supply. There is also a risk of acute respiratory tract infections. In the coming weeks, Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Kitts and Nevis are at risk of outbreaks of vector-borne diseases. The countries are particularly vulnerable to Dengue, Chikungunya and Zika, as the floodwaters subside and debris filled with stagnant water provides ideal breeding sites for the Aedes aegypti mosquito, which is the main vector for these diseases. It is expected that cases of Dengue and Chikungunya will rise in the weeks after the hurricane (with possible lag times of six to eight weeks). Consequently, the removal of breeding sites, coverage of water storage, and personal protection from mosquitoes during reconstruction activities will be key to prevention efforts. Finally, leptospirosis is a risk in Antigua and Barbuda. The National Societies are part of the ongoing Zika Operation in the Americas, and have carried out activities to prevent these diseases and further complementary actions will be considered. The provision of hygiene kits, long-lasting insecticide-treated mosquito nets, safe water (rain harvest collection) and hygiene promotion will be essential to preventing outbreaks of disease, that could affect vulnerable groups, especially children under five years of age.

Shelter and settlements: In Antigua, there are two collective centres managed by the government, but most of the population has been hosted by relatives or friends. Since collective centres are not appropriate for families (women and men are accommodated separately), there are non-confirmed plans from the government to move families to new collective centres with more appropriate spaces. It is anticipated that families currently hosted by relatives and friends will move to collective centres in the coming weeks.

In Barbuda, the impact on housing is significant. Eighty per cent of the housing stock is estimated to be destroyed or damaged. As a result, the entire Barbuda population was resettled in Antigua. Around 20 per cent of individual houses are undamaged or received minor damages on roofs, windows, walls and doors that can be repaired. About 27 per cent present structural damages and can be rebuilt but need improvements on main structural elements. About 44 per cent show structural damages or have totally collapsed and need to be rebuilt.
As the families are either hosted by relatives or friends in Antigua, or staying in the two collective centres, there may be a need to support the most vulnerable families that have no income or limited savings. Beneficiary criteria should be in place to identify the families with the biggest need and support them with conditional cash transfers for house rental for the next three to six months, or until they can go back to the Barbuda Island. In Barbuda, the houses that received minor damages or structural damages can be rebuilt but need improvements on main structural elements. As the island is flat and exposed to strong winds, hurricanes and heavy rain, houses need be constructed based on the Government building code.

**In St. Kitts and Nevis**, according to Red Cross assessment, 83 per cent of the 102 houses assessed, suffered partial home damages, considered to be damage level 1. Nevertheless, the structures of the affected houses are strong and well-built. No damages can be observed on foundations, plinth beam lintel and walls. The level of damage is mostly 1, some are of level 2. Some roofs (protective layer) are damaged, as iron sheets were destroyed or have blown away. Most of the houses were covered with plastic sheets or tarpaulins by the time of the assessment. Therefore, the existing wood structure could not be observed. It seems that the structure is strong and can be reused. Below the asphalt shingles the wood structure is usable and needs not to be replaced. The long-term needs will be supported by NEMA.

**Livelihoods**: In Antigua and Barbuda, the damages to livelihoods of people in Barbuda left many families without the means to meet their basic needs. The storm may have particularly impacted small businesses and small markets/shops, due to damage to essential service infrastructure such as the power supply, fuel supply, ports, roads, etc. Additionally, both countries’ service sectors, including the tourism industry, which accounts for 80 per cent of the Gross Value Added, is expected to have suffered serious losses due to infrastructural damage and the expected time of recovery; thus, there will be a considerable shock to the local and national economy. A preliminary market study assessment was carried out in Antigua showing that markets are functioning properly, and cash can be a good option.

Personal interviews during registration revealed that majority of the families that moved to Antigua are incurring additional expenditures relating to meeting their basic needs including clothing, hygiene products and other essentials which are not completely met in collective centres.

**In St. Kitts and Nevis**, according to the assessment conducted by Red Cross volunteers, people have maintained their livelihoods primarily related to the tourism and manufacture sectors and that the average salary, based on a minimum wage, has proven to be sufficient to cover their basic needs such as basic services and food supplies and they are able to save approximately 20 per cent of their monthly income.

**Beneficiary Selection**

Interventions will be aligned with IFRC minimum standard commitments to gender and diversity in emergency programming, which include targeting women-headed households, pregnant or lactating women, men and boys made vulnerable by the disaster, households that have not received any or sufficient assistance from the government or other organizations, those belonging to the socially vulnerable households, and those who lack relevant resources to cope with basic needs on their own. These groups will be considered according to the level of impact.

In order to ensure a coordinated approach to identifying and listing at-risk communities, a multi-sectoral targeting process will be proposed to both governments for discussion and approval. This proposed methodology builds on sub-regional experience and considers vulnerability to natural hazards, the impact of previous hazards, geographic, infrastructural and socioeconomic vulnerability, local knowledge and secondary data sources. Key outputs from such a process include a centralized databank of communities ranked based on their vulnerabilities and capacities and the development of the respective community resilience action plans, inclusive of proposed sectoral interventions.

**Overall objective**: The overall objective of this operation is to ensure that at least 3,000 people (600 families (400 families in Antigua and Barbuda, and 200 families in Saint Kitts and Nevis) affected by the hurricane receive appropriate assistance in a timely, effective, and efficient manner, and that they are provided with the necessary support to recover with increased disaster resilience. This operation will ensure that affected women, men, children, persons with disabilities and minority groups are reached through this operation.

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1 Level 1: Structure is usable and can be occupied. Repairs required are minimal. E.g. some shingles blow off roof or roof covering loosened; windows broken.
In Antigua and Barbuda, the immediate response efforts will focus on the sectors of health; water, sanitation and hygiene promotion; shelter; and household non-food items, livelihoods, disaster risk reduction, emergency response preparedness and National Society capacity building. More than 50 per cent of this operation is dedicated to carrying out a cash transfer programme to the affected population to contribute to the restoring of the local economy and to re-establish households’ structures. Considering that local economy has been severely affected, the operation will distribute relief items in its first phase, continuing with cash transfers to beneficiaries for three months.

In St. Kitts and Nevis, the population most affected by Hurricane Irma will receive the support needed to cover their immediate shelter needs. As the two primary disaster response agencies in the country, the SKNRCS and NEMA, will reinforce their coordination by standardizing the templates and methodology for conducting needs assessments and will receive the related training to adequately identify the needs of the affected population.

Coordination and partnerships

The National Societies have participated daily in the National Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). In these coordination meetings, information has been shared with humanitarian partners in both countries. The ABRC and the SKNRCS are working in close relationship with national authorities in charge of disaster response in the countries, and joint assessments of the situation have been ongoing.

Since the declaration of Alert by the IFRC Regional Office for the Americas on 21 August 2017, continuous coordination with the National Societies has been established and a Dashboard was developed to monitor the storm’s progress.

The IFRC Country Cluster Support Team in Trinidad and Tobago for the English and Dutch Caribbean countries, together with the Regional Intervention Platform for the Americas and the Caribbean (PIRAC) of the French Red Cross and the IFRC Regional Office have been participating in coordination meetings to articulate the Movement response to the emergency. The American Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross Society, Italian Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) have been in constant communication and participating in the IFRC EOC meetings. The IFRC has been coordinating with the headquarters of the British Red Cross, French Red Cross and the Netherlands Red Cross concerning their overseas branches also with the support of PIRAC.

The IFRC also has been participating in REDLAC (OCHA meeting for its acronym in Spanish) coordination meetings in Panama and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) meetings in Barbados.

Planned coordination and communication mechanisms between entities ensures efficient support to actions and provides a platform for adequate and timely decisions on all requests related to the operation. The IFRC surge capacities deployed to the islands will support the National Societies in the implementation of the emergency plan of action.

Proposed sectors of intervention

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health and care</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 1: The immediate risks to the health of affected populations are reduced</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Output 1.1:</strong> First aid and health care provided to people affected by Hurricane Irma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Activities planned:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Emergency room (supplies and equipment) is donated to the Ministry of Health (MoH) and set up in Barbuda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provision of First Aid services in collective centres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• First aid trainings provided to the affected community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Disseminate health promotion and illness prevention messages to the affected population reinforcing pre-existing community health programmes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provision of mosquito nets to residents in collective centres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Output 1.2:** Affected population experience a restored sense of safety, calming, self and community efficacy, connectedness and hope

Activities planned:
- Provide information on psychosocial support (PSS), hygiene promotion and non-communicable diseases to affected people
- Provide psychosocial support activities for boys, girls, men and women

**Output 1.3:** ABRC volunteers and staff are trained in psychosocial support and have the means to carry out expected tasks

Activities planned:
- Capacity building of ABRC volunteers (trainings in PSS in emergencies, Children’s Resilience Programme, etc.)

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**Water; Sanitation; Hygiene promotion**

**Outcome 2:** Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water-related diseases in targeted communities

**Output 2.1:** Distribution of hygiene-related goods (non-food items), which meet Sphere standards, to Barbudan families

Activities planned:
- Distribution of hygiene kits (1 per family), jerry cans and buckets to displaced population living outside of collective centres in Antigua

**Output 2.2:** Provision of safe water to Barbudan families

Activities planned:
- Provision of safe water to displaced families living in Antigua
- Provision of household water storage facilities to vulnerable populations in Barbuda
- Provision of additional community water storage facility for Barbuda

**Output 2.3:** Provision of additional community water storage facility for Barbuda

Activities planned:
- Construction of a 424,000 litres community water reservoir in Barbuda

**Output 2.4:** Hygiene promotion and vector control activities which meet Sphere standards in terms of the identification and use of hygiene items, is provided to the target population.

Activities planned:
- Community sensitization on water management and storage for displaced families living in Antigua
- Reinforcement of hygiene promotion activities both in Antigua (with displaced population as well as in Barbuda once population are returned (i.e. sensitization, promotion, and clean up campaigns).

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**Shelter (including household non-food items)**

**Outcome 3:** Households are able to meet their shelter needs.

**Output 3.1:** Most vulnerable households will receive non-food items and shelter emergency shelter assistance including tarpaulins, shelter tools kits, blankets and kitchen sets (Antigua and Barbuda and St. Kitts and Nevis)

Activities planned:
- Identification of target families based on need assessments and registration
- Provision of tarpaulins and shelter tool kits to the most vulnerable families
- Distribution of blankets and kitchen sets to the most affected families
- Basic awareness on emergency shelter (use of tarps and how to set them up)
**Output 3.2:** Financial support to rent (rental subsidy) is provided to vulnerable families that have no possibility to stay with relatives or host families (Antigua and Barbuda) – Focus on houses with level 3-4 damage

Activities planned:
- Information and communication campaigns
- Market analysis for rental support
- Development of standard rental agreements
- Conditional cash for house rental

**Output 3.3:** Financial, material and technical support is provided for affected people to repair their existing house with a secure structure (Antigua and Barbuda, St. Kitts and Nevis) – Focus on house with level 1-2 damages

Activities planned:
- Identification of target families based on need assessments and registration
- Assessment of the existing damaged structure
- Individual planning to strengthen the existing structure
- Replacement of some structure with stronger elements
- Repair of damaged houses (lintel, roof windows, doors etc.)

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**Livelihoods; Nutrition; Food security**

**Outcome 4: Household economic security of the disaster targeted population is improved**

**Output 4.1:** Unconditional cash transfers are provided to targeted households to meet their essential needs and/or protect their livelihoods and remaining assets

- Elaboration of CTP feasibility study
- Unconditional cash programme for replacement assets
- Design of Questions and Answers (Q&A) system for the execution of the CTP
- Cash Training for ABRC volunteers and staff
- Create and implement monitoring and evaluation system
- Create and implement cash specific Q&A system

**Output 4.2:** The livelihoods of evacuee Barbudan households are restored or temporarily replaced during their displacement in Antigua

Planned activities:
- Livelihoods training for ABRC volunteers and staff
- Livelihoods assessment
- Labour market analysis
- Beneficiary selection to restart/temporarily replace livelihoods while staying at Barbuda
- Cash programme for restarting livelihoods
- Skills trainings
- Monitoring and evaluation

**Output 4.3:** Targeted returned Barbudan households have sufficient working capital and inputs to restart activities and have information, better knowledge, skills and practices to protect their livelihoods

Activities planned:
- Livelihoods assessment update
- Beneficiary selection
- Skills and protection of livelihoods trainings
- Cash programme for restarting livelihoods
- Monitoring and evaluation
### Disaster Risk reduction (including Emergency response preparedness)

**Outcome 5: Affected communities are prepared and sufficiently resilient, in coordination with local authorities, to respond to future hurricanes and other disasters**

#### Output 5.1: Integrated Early Warning Systems (EWS) are established

**Activities planned:**
- Meetings coordinated to facilitate the development Multi-Hazard National Platform on EWS
- Procurement of Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) software
- Installation and testing of CAP software
- Training in CAP-compliant EWS
- Provision of equipment for EWS

#### Output 5.2: Affected communities are resilient to shocks and stresses of disaster events

**Activities planned:**
- Training of trainers (TOT) on Safer Houses
- Training Safer Houses and training for artisans using standardized methodologies based on existing minimum standards
- Safer Houses training at community level
- Family disaster plans completed with and disseminated to community members
- Community peer-to-peer exchanges to support community-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) activities
- Community Disaster Response Team (CDRT) training
- Joint community simulations delivered

**Outcome 6: ABRC and SKNRCs are well prepared to respond to emergency operations**

#### Output 6.1: National Society personnel have enhanced disaster management skills

**Activities planned:**
- Joint training on emergency assessment, beneficiary registration and distribution (OKD and Mega V)
- National Intervention Team (NIT) training
- Disaster Response Capacity Evaluation exercise with National Societies' headquarters and branches
- Improved capacity on emergency assessment, beneficiary registration and distribution (OKD and Mega V equipment)
- Provision of Very High Frequency (VHF) radio and other equipment
- Modified Barbuda branch's infrastructure as hurricane-proof collective centre
- Enhanced logistics capacities for ABRC and SKNRCs (training, equipment and warehouse improvement)
- Development of a Response Plan and standard operating procedures (SOPs)
- Development of a Hurricane contingency plan

### National Society capacity building

**Outcome 7: National Societies have enhanced organisational capacity**

#### Output 7.1: Financial management and planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) systems are in place in support of response and recovery efforts

**Activities planned:**
- Training in finance management for National Societies
- PMER training for National Societies

#### Output 7.2: Branch governance and volunteer capacity enhanced

**Activities planned:**
- Support the establishment of volunteer development strategies
- Recruitment of members and volunteers at the branch level
- Establishment of governance systems for branch management
Output 7.3: Enhanced financial sustainability of the National Society

Activities planned:
- Training in resource mobilization
- Development of a resource mobilization strategy and plan
- Creation of a communication strategy and plan in support of resource mobilization

In addition to the sectors above, the operation will be underpinned by a commitment to quality programming that involves:
- Continuous and detailed assessments and analysis to inform the design and ongoing implementation of the programme
- Ongoing process of adjustment based on these assessments
- The establishment of mechanisms to facilitate two-way communication with, and ensure transparency and accountability to, disaster-affected people
- Management and delivery of the programme will be informed by appropriate monitoring and evaluation.

The detailed plan of action under quality programming is as follows:

Quality programming (areas common to all sectors)

Outcome 8: The design and implementation of the operation is based on quality data and feedback from beneficiaries

Output 8.1: Detailed quality data is collected and response plan updated per findings

Activities planned:
- Registration
- Distribution
- Community engagement and accountability
- Effective communication with all stakeholders
- Development and use of a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system to support monitoring of the operation progress and cash transfer mechanism and ensure ability to report on indicators
- Regular monitoring visits
- Final evaluation

Programme support services

To ensure effective and efficient technical coordination, the following programme support functions will be put in place: human resources, logistics and supply chain; information technology (IT); information management (IM); communication; security; planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER); partnerships and resource development; finance and administration; legal and risk management. More details are available in the Emergency Plan of Action.

€ Budget

See attached IFRC Secretariat budget (Annex 1) for details.

Jagan Chapagain
Under Secretary General
Programmes and Operations Division

Elhadj As Sy
Secretary General
Reference documents

Click here for:
• Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)
• Revised Budget

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

- Priscila Gonzalez, planning and monitoring coordinator, phone: +507 317 3050; email: priscila.gonzalez@ifrc.org

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 (NGO’s) 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.
## EMERGENCY APPEAL

**MDR49009**  
**2017-10-05**

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### Available Resources

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### NET EMERGENCY APPEAL NEEDS

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