



SAHEL

IFRC COUNTRY CLUSTER SUPPORT TEAM

COUNTRY CLUSTER PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Food insecurity and malnutrition are worsening with the impact of natural disasters, climate change, demographic change, poorly managed urbanization, epidemics and violent conflicts resulting from political, social and economic tensions. Regional trends for the coming years show that, for millions of vulnerable people, the humanitarian situation is not likely to improve.

The Sahel region faces an exceptional crisis with the worst humanitarian needs in years requiring an urgent scale-up of emergency response. Millions of people in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal are struggling to meet their daily food needs and face extreme vulnerability and increasing hardships. Poor rainfall in the 2017 and 2018 seasons has sparked acute pasture and water shortages, raised food costs and caused livestock prices to plummet. Pastoralists have migrated months earlier than usual with millions of livestock in search of water and pasture. Levels of food insecurity and malnutrition are markedly high. Almost six million people require food assistance, and up to 1.6 million children risk facing life-threatening severe acute malnutrition in the six countries. Around 2.5 million pastoralists and agro-pastoralists are at a serious risk of livelihood crisis. Epidemics such as cholera and meningitis along with migration represent also key and recurrent threats in the region and require a strong community surveillance approach to prepare, mitigate the risk and respond effectively at time of crisis (outbreaks, Population Movement/Displacement and Returnees).

This operational plan outlines the results that the IFRC Sahel Country Cluster Support Team (CCST) based in Dakar has agreed to achieve in close collaboration with the Sahel National Societies of Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania and Senegal. It will also enhance the collaboration between Movement partners, facilitating context analysis at national and regional level, coordination towards common and harmonized approaches, plans alignment, efficient utilization of resources, strengthening Sahel NS capacity to deliver its mandates. This plan is aligned on Sahel NS strategic plans priorities, country resilience plans, and reflects the strategic directions defined through the SDGs, the 2017 Pan African Conference (use of the indicators) and the Africa Road Map 2017-2020, guided by key principles such as (i) a profound commitment to be closer to the National Society, (ii) the centrality of National Society Development in all what we do, (iii) a shift from a short-term project-based funding to multi-year thematic funding, (iv) a recognition that saving lives remains an essential responsibility of IFRC and its members but also insufficient, (v) and a commitment to measure results. The operational focus of this plan are in the following areas (AOF): (i) Disaster Crisis Prevention and Response /DRR, (ii) Livelihood and Basic Needs, (iii) Shelter, (iv) Health, (v) Water and Sanitation, (vii) Migration (including Protection, Gender and Inclusion). These AOF are part of coherent and co-ordinated global approach of IFRC support to National Societies World-wide, and which together with the Strategies for implementation (SFI) describes the IFRC Sahel CCST strategy to support Sahel NS. It includes (i) the strengthening of NS Capacities and ensuring sustained and relevant Red Cross, Red Crescent presence in the communities, (ii) ensuring an effective international disaster management, (iii) influence others as a leading strategic partner in humanitarian action and community resilience, (iv) ensuring a strong IFRC that is effective, credible and accountable.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT



Toward a Community Resilience

The Sahel region faces an exceptional crisis with the worst humanitarian needs in years requiring an urgent scale-up of emergency response. Millions of people in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal are struggling to meet their daily food needs and face extreme vulnerability and increasing hardships. Through the 2019 Plan the IFRC seeks to support the NRCS to provide support to communities in DRR, Shelter, Migration, Health and livelihoods and basic needs. Focus will also be on strengthening the NS capacities and ensuring effective international disaster managements.

STATISTICS

1.6M

Children risk facing life-threatening severe acute malnutrition in the six countries (IFRC, 2018)

2.5M

Pastoralists and agro-pastoralists are at a serious risk of livelihood crisis (IFRC, 2018)

6M

People require food assistance (IFRC, 2018)

17M

People affected by the crisis in the region (IFRC, 2018)

AREA OF FOCUS

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

CHF 6,570,000 REQUIRED

The Sahel region is chronically affected by a variety of hazards, leading to increasing vulnerabilities and requests for humanitarian assistance. In 2018, the IFRC conducted different operations for responding to the food crisis, population movement, floods and droughts. These recurrent crises have severely eroded the assets of the poorest families and therefore undermining their resilience and coping strategies. Vulnerable households struggle, year after year, to cover their basic food needs, particularly during the long period between harvests, namely the lean season, corresponding for the Sahel mostly to the period June-September. Moreover, the Sahel lean season corresponds also to the rainy season, which heightens the risk of droughts and floods, often compounding the situation and broadening the spectrum of humanitarian needs.

- Country has multi-hazard early warning systems
- Country with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies
- NS is supported by IFRC and the Federation network to develop a forecast-based action

SHELTER

CHF 1,200,000 REQUIRED

The focus of IFRC will be on ensuring adequate shelter material and kits are prepositioned in strategic sites, ready to answer immediate needs. Increasing the capacity of NS and creating a pool of Shelter expert in the region will be the second priority. At the national level and local level, IFRC will focus on the implementation of shelter activities in the two of the countries most in need. Among those, one is Chad where an initiative in the South is planned. Shelter activities will be carried out in partnership with Luxembourg RC, as planned in the Regional level partnership on Shelter which has been developed.

- 19,500 people reached with safe and adequate shelter and settlement assistance

LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS

CHF 320,000 REQUIRED

In 2019, at the regional level, IFRC will strive in collaboration with Sahel NS and RCRC movement actors to anticipate preparedness efforts for impending food crisis, as well as increasing regional capacities for managing these crises effectively.

HEALTH

CHF 1,480,000 REQUIRED

Engagement of communities and civil society in epidemic and pandemic preparedness is vital to ensuring early response and mitigating impact, including the delivery of normative health services. The Sahel Health priorities aims at tackling health risks and particularly epidemics and pandemics threats and building community resilience through Community Based Health activities. Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) will help communities understand the health risk, analyse factors for possible solutions. Others RC/RC tools such as Epidemic control for volunteers (ECV), Community Based surveillance (CBS) will enable effective and timely response and tailored interventions. these tools will be promoted and trained in the implementation of CP3 programme in Mali, Guinea and in Gambia through their community health project being implemented in 2019.

- 300,000 people reached by NS health program and services
- 720 volunteers mobilized by NS for health activities

MIGRATION

CHF 280,000 REQUIRED

International migration looks set to continue and increase in the short and medium term, as individual nations and the international community as a whole struggle to respond to this global phenomenon. Unacceptable levels of death, abuse, exploitation, deprivation, and indignities are currently faced by millions of vulnerable migrants around the world, at all stages of their journey. The movement is uniquely placed to provide critical life-saving care to those in need, and to work with vulnerable migrants, regardless of their legal status. The Movement has significant experience working with vulnerable migrants, governments, and host populations to meet the humanitarian needs of migrants at different stages of their journeys in countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as the communities that support them.

STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETY CAPACITIES

CHF 220,000 REQUIRED

The Sahel Cluster in its NS Development Plan will be guided through these recommendations, the priorities and the indicators defined by the latest PanAfrican Conference, encouraging a stronger Community Engagement and Accountability component in NS long term programming (Road Map for Africa, milestone 2018).

ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT

CHF 960,000 REQUIRED

As a leading actor in the humanitarian field, the IFRC commits to be accountable to its multiple stakeholders. In addition to ensuring the necessary coordination mechanisms, the ability to implement expected services depends on an effective IFRC, seen as relevant and credible, representing and working towards the collective interests and deploying the highest quality services and staff. Strict adherence to procedures and processes like the e contract will be strengthened and well as maintaining optimal compliance to security regulations and recommendations.

INFLUENCE OTHERS AS LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNERS

CHF 320,000 REQUIRED

The Sahel CCST together with the Sahel NS will continue to use their unique position to dialogue, inspire and influence decisions at local, national, regional and international levels that affect the most vulnerable.

ENSURE EFFECTIVE IFRC

CHF 420,000 REQUIRED

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CONTACTS

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