



# IFRC COUNTRY CLUSTER OFFICE FOR NORTH AFRICA

## COUNTRY CLUSTER PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Following the Arab Spring, Egypt and Tunisia are undergoing challenging social and political situations that risk affecting the economic viability of their political transitions. Security remains unstable in Egypt, particularly in the Sinai region. As well, the crisis in Libya feeds a climate of regional instability: the cross-border traffic of goods and weapons facilitated by these illicit networks has increased to concerning levels. The role of the Red Crescent is more crucial than ever in order to fulfil the humanitarian mandate of the National societies in North Africa and provide relevant and sustainable services adapted to the emerging vulnerabilities.

In recent years, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of migrants, particularly those from Sub-Saharan Africa, looking for better opportunities in North Africa or attempting to cross the Mediterranean. North Africa is an area of mixed migration flows, being a destination as well as transit point for those who are either fleeing conflict, insecurity and persecution, or are simply seeking a better life in Europe. The demarcation between “regular” and “irregular” migration is often far from clear. Security is a significant challenge for people on the move, and the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement - through its National Societies - has a crucial role to play in ensuring protection as well as dignity.

The IFRC’s objective in North Africa is to strengthen the capacities of the National Societies, including preparation and response to disasters and volunteer networks - with a focus on youth - and improvement of the organizational capacities. The IFRC’s approach for North Africa has been based in enhancing capacities of the National Societies to face crisis and emergencies and contribute to reduce risk and to build community resilience. However, it remains vital to revamp the partnership with National Societies in the region by empowering the Country Cluster Office to better deliver its services.

The IFRC Operational Plan (OP) 2019 for North Africa - targeting Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco - was developed in consultation with National Societies and will focus on the following Areas of Focus: (i) Disaster risk reduction; (ii) Health; (iii) Water, sanitation and hygiene; and (iv) Migration; and on the following Strategies for Implementation: (i) Strengthen the National Society capacities; and (ii) Ensure effective IFRC. Separate OPs have been developed for Egypt and Libya.

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT



The IFRC's approach for North Africa has been based in enhancing capacities of the National Societies to face crisis and emergencies and contribute to reduce risk and to build community resilience.

## STATISTICS

**0.667**

Average Human Development Index for North Africa

**15.5 to 17.4%**

Youth share (15-24) in total population

## AREA OF FOCUS

### DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

**CHF 130,000 REQUIRED**

The Country Cluster Office for North Africa will support the National Societies to increase public awareness of hazards and preventive measures by disseminating the second edition of the Public Awareness and Public Education (PAPE) for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). Furthermore, the Country Cluster Office will support the National Societies to set up community-based early warning systems and to work with governments and other agencies to take early actions to prepare and respond to disasters and crises. Actions of the National Societies in this area contribute to respective national progress toward sustainable development goal target 11.5 on reducing death and damages caused by disaster.

### HEALTH

**CHF 100,000 REQUIRED**

All health activities will be addressed in an integrated way in order to build resilience of migrants and host communities, and to contribute to the goal of the One Billion Coalition initiative to scale up humanitarian services for those in need. National Societies actions in this area contribute to respective national progress toward SDG 3 on ensuring healthy lives.

### WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

**CHF 80,000 REQUIRED**

It is proposed that 2019 efforts will invest in requisite assessment as an initial step, in order to determine target populations, local actors and their capacities and priority interventions that can demonstrate outcomes and are complementary to the National Society role and national objectives. National Society actions contribute to national progress toward SDG goal 6, ensuring access to water and sanitation for all.

### MIGRATION

**CHF 180,000 REQUIRED**

Activities with migrants will be undertaken, including PSS, CBHFA and culture of non-violence and peace, as well as increasing capacities of the transit centre of the National Society. Actions contribute to national progress toward SDG target 10.7 on orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration.

## STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

### STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETY CAPACITIES

**CHF 150,000 REQUIRED**

Assessment and consultation undertaken with the three National Societies identified desired support to strengthen National Society capacities and presence at the community level. These include an induction course on Red Cross Red Crescent Movement for selected branches and new volunteers, while volunteer management systems will be revised and enhanced in all three National Societies through training of trainers for focal points. Exchange of good practices is encouraged for the National Societies through different existing networks, particularly regarding the Task Force on Migration. As well, disaster response is an area where the three National Societies have demanded support.

### ENSURE A STRONG IFRC

**CHF 200,000 REQUIRED**

The Country Cluster Office provides liaison for member services and brokers technical assistance and training/capacity-building activities described in this OP. The Head of the Country Cluster Office also facilitates the participation of National Societies in global Federation events and actively promotes the work of the three National Societies globally, including using IFRC communication channels to give visibility and recognition.

## CONTACTS

For more information on the work of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Country, please contact:

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