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Emergency Plan of Action Operation Update

Algeria: Cold Wave

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n° MDRDZ004	GLIDE n° CW-2019-000010-DZA
EPoA update n° 1; 27 March 2019	Timeframe covered by this update: 01/02/2019 – 15/03/2019
Operation start date: 01/02/2019	Operation timeframe: 6 months
Overall operation budget: CHF 265,004	End date: 01/08/19
N° of people being assisted: 4,500 people (900 families) by this DREF operation (8,500 individuals will be supported by Algerian Red Crescent Society in total in the 2019 Cold Wave response)	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: Algerian Red Crescent Society (ARC) and IFRC	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government of Algeria including Civil Protection and People's National Army of Algeria	

Summary of major revisions made to the emergency plan of action:

Algeria was hit in late 2018 and early 2019 by four separate incidences of cold weather affecting between 25 – 35 Departments. The first waves of cold weather occurred, followed by three episodes of very cold wave in a number of remote areas as follows:

- 11-13 January 2019 affecting 25 Departments
- 24-25 January 2019 affecting 13 Departments
- 4 -7 February 2019 affecting 15 Departments
- 21-22 March 2019 affecting 5 Departments

To date, ARC has assisted 800 families from their own resources. This DREF operation will support an additional 900 families with food and household items due to the repetitive worsening of the weather led to expand the reach of the operation based on humanitarian needs.

ARC initially planned to support the families with food, household items and tents, however, the response in the first phase revealed that the need for tents was lower than estimated initially. Families who lost their shelter were hosted by relatives or the community supported them to purchase tents. To date, only 70 tents have been distributed covering the needs of the assisted 800 families, therefore, it has been decided that the tents will be replaced by additional food and household items for the newly affected families.

Meanwhile, the bad weather conditions have contributed to increased prices of fuel, which has increased the price of food items in hard to reach areas. These two factors have lowered substantially the capacity of poor families to purchase food, hence increasing the number of families requiring support. The budget has been revised as the initial estimated price for the food parcels per family is significantly lower than the actual price, therefore the cost of the food parcels was adjusted in the revised budget.

The latest assessments revealed that the remote communities are in dire need of health awareness sessions, therefore it is planned to train approximately 100 volunteers in the coming weeks to deliver health awareness sessions during the distributions.

The revised DREF plans to reach an additional 900 families (4,500 individuals) with the following assistance by family, with ARC reaching an additional 800 families (4,000 individuals) from their own budget.

ARC continues to reassess the needs in the newly affected areas and will re-start the next phase in the coming couple of weeks. Three months extension of the DREF operation would be necessary to complete the international procurement (by IFRC) and the distributions to the affected families. This operation will now end on 1 August 2019.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

On 11 January, Algeria was hit by a cold wave with heavy snow and rainfalls which further intensified on 13 January. Severe weather conditions were reported to have affected 25 out of 48 Departments of Algeria. Extreme weather has resulted in widespread chaos, leaving 8 people dead, 25 people wounded, damage to power lines and other key infrastructure, more than 151 roads becomes impassable due to snow and floods, and to the loss of shelter and livelihoods in more than 300 villages and communes across the country. Particularly the vulnerable families (nomads residing in tents) were affected.

According to the Government of Algeria, about 125,000 people are affected by the cold wave. Extreme weather conditions continue, with a new spike on the 24 January, leaving more communities inaccessible, cut off from basic services and access to food and water. The Algerian Red Crescent (ARC) continues to monitor the situation and provide assistance through its network of active branches using its prepositioned stock.

The cold wave hit Algeria again on 4 - 7 February and again between 21 - 22 March 2019, leading to increased needs of the affected people beyond the initial estimate.

Summary of current response

Overview of Host National Society

In response to the cold wave, ARC mobilised 17 out of its 48 branches, involving about 1,235 volunteers have been mobilised. The first distribution of emergency food and household items to the communities started on 24 January, based on the rapid assessment results, using items prepositioned in ARC warehouse. The President of the ARC was on the ground visiting affected areas and overseeing ARC activities. Further distributions have taken place based on needs and access to the affected areas.

The ARC cooperates closely with local and national authorities and partners aiming to support additional 4,500 individuals by mobilising its volunteers in the branches and staff in Headquarters for distribution of prepositioned relief items.

ARC relief efforts are targeting the twelve most affected areas, specifically in Tizi Ouzou, Medea, Setif, Bourdj Bouriridj, Batna, Bejaia Bouira, Boumerdes and Jijel northern Departments of Algeria; Oum El Bouaghi, El Bayedh, Oued Souf and Tebessa in the high plateaus in the north-east of Algeria; and Naama Department in the west of the country. To date the ARCS has supported 800 families (4,000 individuals) with food and household items. Additionally, 70 tents have been distributed in areas with no shelters. The breakdown of the distributions is as follows:

Date	Location	People reached	Food parcels	Household items	Tents
24 January 2019	Tizi Ouzou	500	100	100	
29-31 January 2019	Oued Souf	750	150	150	20
01-02 February 2019	Tebessa	500	100	100	
03-05 February 2019	Oum El Bouaghi	750	150	150	
05-07 February 2019	Batna	750	150	150	
24-26 February 2019	Naama	750	150	150	50
Total		4,000	800	800	70

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

IFRC works in coordination with the ICRC, which has been present in Algeria since the 1954 war of independence focusing mainly on detention visits. The ICRC cooperates with the ARC in the field of First Aid, dissemination of IHL/HP and Restoring Family Links (RFL). The ICRC is not providing support for this response operation.

The IFRC Country Cluster North Africa Office, in Tunis will provide support to the National Society, including project and financial management, facilitating implementation of the planned relief operation. A surge deployment of a DM specialist with logistics background will support ARC to ensure timely arrival and distribution of the relief items.

The DCPRR and PMER units at IFRC MENA Regional Office, in Lebanon, will support IFRC Country Cluster North Africa Office and ARC in the implementation and monitoring of the DREF operation.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

As per its National Emergency Plan, the Government of Algeria leads and coordinates relief activities in the country through a Crisis Committee established by the Ministry of Interior. Local authorities established their crisis committees in the affected Departments. At this stage, no external actors are responding to the cold wave; either UN or INGOs. The response is carried out by the Algerian authorities, the ARC and some small local NGOs that operate within the affected areas. The ARC forms part of the response committee and all activities are coordinated, so to avoid duplication. The Algerian Civil Protection and the People's National Army of Algeria have deployed all available personnel and equipment to facilitate road clearance.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Needs analysis

ARC has identified the most affected areas as Tizi Ouzou, Medea, Setif, Bourdj Bouriridj, Batna, Bejaia Bouira, Boumerdes and Jijel, in the north; Oum El Bouaghi, El Bayedh and Khanchela, in the high plateaus in the north-east of Algeria; and Naama Department in the west of the country. ARC has branches in the affected areas.

ARC has been undertaking assessments in the affected areas and sharing findings with local authorities. ARC's rapid assessments highlighted the most affected Departments and helped to identify people in need for targeted assistance. The snow has isolated numerous communities and villages, particularly in the mountainous areas. In other areas heavy rains caused floods and high winds damaged and destroyed household items and food stocks. The disaster damaged water and electric power lines and destroyed roads leaving communities vulnerable and isolated.

Targeting

This DREF allocation will be used to support additional 4,500 individuals from the most vulnerable families affected by the cold weather. The DREF funds are intended for replenishment of the relief items already distributed by the National Society from its prepositioned stock, thereby ensuring that ARC is prepared to respond to future emergencies.

Community targeting was carried out by ARCS staff and volunteers in dialogue with local community leaders and elders. The ARC has targeted the families with low household income, as well as the families with elderly, sick family members, people with disabilities and those with babies and small children. Targeting will also prioritise families with single-headed households or those who have lost their livelihoods or means of production.

Operation Risk Assessment

On 25 January, the National Office of Meteorology (ONM) announced, in a special weather report, the snowfalls accompanied by heavy rain showers are expected to continue over the central and eastern Departments of the country. In addition, strong winds are expected to impact the Department of Tebessa, Khenchela, M'sila Ouragla, El Oued, Biskra, Jijel, Skikda, Annaba, Gulema, Batna, Oum El Bouaghi, El Tarf, Souk Ahras and Bejaia. The cold wave hit the same regions in February and March contributing to more needs.

ARC is working closely with local authorities, in coordination with the governmental Civil Protection Agency and the People's National Army of Algeria, sharing details of its planned distributions to help ensure physical access to the affected communities, despite the continuing severe weather conditions. ARC is also a member of the response committee which coordinates all activities, to avoid duplication.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion

ARC has a strong commitment to address gender inequalities in the ongoing response, which is grounded in experience acquired through its flagship gender and diversity programming. ARC staff and volunteers will monitor protection issues in the communities which they serve and will ensure that a referral pathway is established for all identified cases.

Community engagement and accountability

Community accountability and feedback mechanisms will be integrated into the operation to ensure that people have access to timely and accurate information on the nature and scope of the services provided by ARC. The ARC plans to undertake a beneficiary satisfaction survey leaning on its previous experience in this type of surveys. A DREF review and lessons learned workshop will be undertaken at the end of the operation. The IFRC regional PMER Unit will provide technical support, if required.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Proposed strategy

Overall Operational objective:

The overall objective is to ensure life-saving assistance to additional 4,500 cold wave affected individuals through the provision of food and household items meant to satisfy their immediate needs.

Proposed strategy

ARC plans to reach 900 families with this operation and to replenish the prepositioned stock of household items. This includes 2,700 blankets and 1,800 mattresses. Food will be procured locally and then distributed to 900 families.

Content of family package:

Category	Items	Quantities
Food	Rice	5 kg
	Farina	10 kg
	Oil	5 litres
	Tinned tomatoes	3 kg
	Lentils	5 kg
	Semolina	25 kg
	Sugar	5 kg
	White bean	1 kg
	Pasta	5 kg
	Chickpea	1 kg
	Coffee	1 kg
	Milk	2 kg
	Tea	500 gr
	Margarine	500 gr
Jam	1 kg	
Household	Kitchen set	1 per family
	Mattresses	2 per family
	Blankets	3 per family

During the first phase of the cold wave response, a number of operational issues were identified, and ARC has identified some lessons learned:

1. **No winter clothes for volunteers.** Volunteers were equipped only with the Red Crescent vest. This has led to extremely difficult working conditions in remote locations with snow, mud and floods.

2. **The initial response focused mainly on the distributions.** The latest assessments revealed that the remote communities are in dire need of health awareness sessions, therefore it is planned to train approximately 100 volunteers in the coming weeks to deliver health awareness sessions during the future distributions.
3. **Insufficient DM capacity among the volunteers in the field,** which leads to errors in delays in the distributions. The “lessons learnt workshop” will be utilised as forum to identify the gaps and suggest future steps to improve the DM capacity among ARC volunteers.

Human resources

ARC has mobilised 1,235 trained and experienced volunteers to carry out assessment and relief activities. In each of the 17 affected branches, trained and equipped volunteer teams are mobilised to operate under the guidance of HQ and the branches coordinators.

ARC undertakes regular monitoring of distributions and post-distribution phases. IFRC will deploy a DM specialist as surge capacity to support the ARC implementation of this DREF operation.

Logistics and procurement

All logistics services will follow IFRC logistics procedures and systems. IFRC will support the ARC in this DREF operation to strengthen the capacity of the National Society in fleet management, procurement, warehousing and import/export processes.

- a) Procurement plans: local procurement for food 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 costing. International procurement will be undertaken for kitchen sets, blankets and mattresses via the Global Logistics Services.
- b) Transport and fleet needs: local transportation means (trucks for NFI transfer, potentially donkeys in extreme cases) will be used when the normally used NS vehicle fleet is unable to access the areas of this DREF operation.

Communications

ARC, with support from the IFRC MENA Regional Office, will promote the work undertaken within this DREF operation in the local, national and international media with the production of news, stories and tweets.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

The ARC will oversee the monitoring of this operation in the cold wave affected areas through its network of volunteers. IFRC, through its North Africa Country Cluster and the MENA Regional Office, will provide technical assistance to ensure the effective implementation of this DREF operation. Lessons learned workshop and beneficiary satisfaction survey will be conducted at the end of the DREF operation

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN



Shelter

People reached: 4,500
 Male: 2,250
 Female: 2,250

Outcome 1: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer term recovery through shelter and settlement solution

Output 1.1: Short, medium and long-term shelter and settlement assistance is provided to affected household

Indicators: # of people targeted/reached with safe and adequate shelter and settlement	Target	Actual
# households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance	4,500	

Progress towards outcomes

To date, ARC using its own resources have reached 4,000 cold wave people with household items. ARC plan to meet the needs of household items for 4,500 families. Families will receive 3 blankets, two mattresses and 1 kitchen set. Tents which were planned as part of this DREF operation have been removed as families that lost their shelter were supported by the communities and their relatives.




Livelihoods and basic needs

People reached: 4,500
 Male:2,250
 Female:2,250

Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people targeted/reached		
#/% of targeted households that have enough food to meet their survival threshold	4,000	

Output 1.1: Basic needs assistance for livelihoods security including food is provided to the most affected communities		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of targeted households that have enough food to meet their survival threshold	900	
Progress towards outcomes		
To date, ARC have reached 900 families with food parcels using their own resources. As part of this DREF operation, ARC will commence distributions in early April to cover needs of 900 families (4,500 individuals) with the DREF funding.		



Health
People reached: 4,500
 Male: 2,250
 Female: 2,250

P&B Output Code	Health Output 1.5: Health awareness is provided to the target population	# of people reached by health awareness																				
		Activities planned Week						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
AP011	Train 100 CBHFA volunteers			x	x																	
AP011	Deploy CBHFA volunteers in the affected communities during food and household items distribution				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x									
AP022	Monitor the health situation in communities					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x									

Progress towards outcomes

Health awareness sessions were not planned earlier, they have been introduced into the revised DREF plan of action as one of the identified gaps was the low health awareness of the affected communities.

Strategies for Implementation

Requirements (CHF)

P&B Output Code	S1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform																	
	Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected																	
	Activities planned Week / Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP040	Ensure that volunteers are insured	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
P&B Output Code	Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured																	
	Output S2.1.1: Effective response preparedness and NS surge capacity mechanism is maintained																	
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP046	Initial operational start up support (RDRT support)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						
AP046	Surge support/training in procurement and logistics			x	x	x	x											
P&B Output Code	Outcome S3.1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable																	
	Output S3.2.1: Resource generation and related accountability models are developed and improved																	
	Activities planned Week / Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP055	DREF review and lessons learned workshop														x	x		
AP055	Assessment and beneficiary satisfaction survey (including assessment training for volunteers)		x	x					x	x	x	x						
P&B Output Code	Output S4.1.3: Financial resources are safeguarded; quality financial and administrative support is provided contributing to efficient operations and ensuring effective use of assets; timely quality financial reporting to stakeholders																	
	<i>Please include an indicator from the Key Data Sheet with a target</i>																	
	Activities planned Week / Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP064	Finance work	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		

D. BUDGET

Please see attached below

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

In the Algerian Red Crescent Society

- President: Madame Saïda Benhabyles, phone: +21321633956/633155; E-mail: info@cra-algerie.org
- Mr Ahmed Mizab, Secretary General, phone: +213660642789; E-mail: sg.mizab@gmail.com

In the IFRC:

- **IFRC North Africa office:** Iliana Mourad, Head of Country Cluster, E-mail: Iliana.mourad@ifrc.org
- **IFRC regional office:** Pitambar Aryal, Acting Head of Disaster and Crisis Prevention, Response and Recovery; phone: +961 70538233; E-mail: Pitambar.aryal@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- **IFRC regional office:** Sami Fakhouri, Head, Partnerships and Resource Development; phone: +961 81 311 918; E-mail: Sami.Fakhouri@ifrc.org

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

- **IFRC Regional Office:** Nadine Haddad, Acting PMER Coordinator – PMER; phone: +961 71 802 775; E-mail: Nadine.Haddad@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**.

DREF OPERATION

MDRDZ004, Algeria Cold Wave

28/03/2019

Budget by Resource

Budget Group	Budget
Shelter - Relief	0
Shelter - Transitional	0
Construction - Housing	0
Construction - Facilities	0
Construction Materials	0
Clothing & Textiles	49,500
Food	72,000
Seeds & Plants	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	0
Medical & First Aid	0
Teaching Materials	0
Utensils & Tools	18,900
Other Supplies & Services	0
Emergency Response Units	0
Cash Disbursement	0
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	140,400
Land & Buildings	0
Vehicles	0
Computers & Telecom	0
Office & Household Equipment	0
Medical Equipment	0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0
Land, vehicles & equipment	0
Storage	0
Distribution & Monitoring	34,320
Transport & Vehicles Costs	0
Logistics Services	0
Logistics, Transport & Storage	34,320
International Staff	0
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	15,500
Volunteers	33,000
Personnel	48,500
Consultants	0
Professional Fees	0
Consultants & Professional Fees	0
Workshops & Training	21,500
Workshops & Training	21,500
Travel	4,000
Information & Public Relations	0
Office Costs	0
Communications	0
Financial Charges	110
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Office and Services Costs	0
General Expenditure	4,110
Assets Depreciation	0
Depreciation	0
Cash Transfers National Societies	0
Cash Transfers to 3rd Parties	0
Contributions and Transfers	0
DIRECT COSTS	248,830
INDIRECT COSTS	16,174
TOTAL BUDGET	265,004

DREF OPERATION

MDRDZ004, Algeria Cold Wave

28/03/2019

Budget by Area of Intervention

AOF1	Disaster Risk Reduction	
AOF2	Shelter	105,329
AOF3	Livelihoods and Basic Needs	76,680
AOF4	Health	15,975
AOF5	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	
AOF6	Protection, Gender and Inclusion	
AOF7	Migration	
SF11	Strengthen National Societies	3,195
SF12	Effective International Disaster Management	52,526
SF13	Influence others as leading strategic partners	6,923
SF14	Ensure a strong IFRC	4,377
TOTAL		265,004

