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# Revised Emergency Appeal Afghanistan: Drought and Flash Floods

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Revised Appeal n° MDRAF005

Glide n° [FF-2019-000018-AFG](#)  
[DR-2018-000052-AFG](#)

Up to 675,000 people to be assisted

400,000 Swiss francs First DREF  
allocated (reimbursed)  
375,000 Swiss francs Second DREF  
allocated

8 million Swiss francs current Appeal  
budget

4.6 million Swiss francs funding gap

Appeal launched 17 March 2019

Revision n° 1 issued 10 May 2019

Appeal ends 31 March 2020

This Revised Emergency Appeal seeks **8 million Swiss francs** to enable the **International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)** to support the **Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS)** in delivering assistance and support up to **675,000 people** (approximately 96,000 households) affected by flood and drought for **twelve months**. The operation focuses on the following sectors: shelter; health and care; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and livelihoods and basic needs; disaster risk reduction (DRR) and strengthening the capacity of the National Society. This revised Appeal results in a funding gap<sup>1</sup> of **4.6 million** Swiss francs based on an increased number of beneficiaries, an increase in activities and an enlarged geographic scope (to support four additional provinces affected by flash floods in late March 2019). The planned response reflects the current situation and information currently available. It is likely to be adjusted based on further developments and ongoing detailed assessments. Further information is available in the Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) [<click here>](#)

## The disaster and the Red Cross Red Crescent response to date

**April 2018:** The government of Afghanistan declared a drought in mid-April and requested the international community support to drought affected population in Afghanistan.

**May 2018:** The long dry spell exacerbated drought conditions, leading to reduced pasture land, water shortages, and deaths of livestock, increasing the number of acutely food insecure people to emergency levels, with 2.2 million people in need at this time. IFRC released Information bulletin no. 1 on the crisis and ARCS's response.

**November 2018:** The Afghan Government Chief Executive Officer stated that more than 3.6 million people were severely affected by drought in 22 out of 34 provinces of Afghanistan. Agriculture and related sectors are under threat from extreme weather events, as demonstrated by the current drought that leads to land



ARCS volunteers rescuing people affected by the floods. (Photo by: ARCS)

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/Active/MDRAF005.pdf>

degradation and desertification, causing lower production, food insecurity, economic degradation, displacement and loss of lives.

**November 2018:** Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated CHF265,185 to support ARCS's response to the drought through the provision of food assistance to 14,000 people (2,000 households) while an emergency need assessment, was being carried out. The DREF operation ended on 31 March 2019.

**December 2018:** IFRC Surge Capacity deployed to support ARCS for Emergency Need Assessment of drought affected areas.

**March 2019:** The climatic context changed with heavy precipitation and snow fall in about 16 provinces across the country, resulting in flash floods and affecting more than 250,000 people, resulting in damages in nine provinces, with additional floods anticipated in seven other provinces.

**March 2019:** The government of Afghanistan established a command and control center under the supervision of Minister of State for Disaster Management, for coordination and to assist flood affectees. The government included civil and military departments from the country and in order to better respond to the needs of the flood affected population in provinces, organized by the Chief Executive Officer.

**March 2019:** Emergency Appeal launched on 13 March 2019, with DREF allocation of CHF 400,000.

**May 2019:** Revised Emergency Appeal launched on 10 May 2019 to include four new provinces affected by spring floods in late March, with second DREF allocation of CHF 350,000. Total DREF allocated is now CHF 750,000.

## The operational strategy

### Background

Afghanistan is highly prone to intense and recurring natural hazards such as flooding, earthquakes, snow avalanches, landslides and droughts due to its geographical location and years of environmental degradation. Climate change is also posing a threat to the country's people and ecosystems. Climate change predictions such as changing temperature and precipitation pattern might lead to extreme weather events such as drought and flash floods. Changing weather is also affecting the productivity of agriculture, of which most Afghans depend on for their livelihoods, causing food security problems. Exacerbating this situation, decades of conflict and the current intensification of fighting and growing insecurity further hamper access to humanitarian aid and essential services. The protracted conflict is significantly impacting the civilian population lives and livelihoods.

### Drought

Most areas in Afghanistan have experienced between four to six consecutive seasons of far below average rainfall over the last three years and resulted in significant reductions in snow depths, river flows, water level in dams, water tables, and soil moistures. In July 2018, the Famine Early Warning System (FEWS) reported that its cumulative rain and snowfall during October 2017 to May 2018 in 22 provinces out of 34 was 30 to 60 per cent below average. These conditions have already negatively and irreversibly impacted the agricultural season in Afghanistan. In addition, due to four decades of war and lack of planned development and adequate management of natural resources, deforestation enhances the impact of dry spells and drought. Repeated cycles of drought currently verging on pre-famine conditions in many areas have increased vulnerabilities, linked to loss of crops, livelihoods and livestock, and weakened purchasing power. The worst affected provinces include Badghis, Daykundi and Badakhshan which will continue under Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 4 as Emergency until mid of 2019.

Aug 2018 – Oct 2018			Nov 2018 – Feb 2019		
<b>9.8 million</b> 43.6% of the rural population  People facing severe acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+) <b>IN NEED OF URGENT ACTION</b>	Phase 5	0 People in Catastrophe	<b>10.6 million</b> 47.1% of the rural population  People who will be facing severe acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+) <b>IN NEED OF URGENT ACTION</b>	Phase 5	0 People in Catastrophe
	Phase 4	2,583,371 People in Emergency		Phase 4	2,897,164 People in Emergency
	Phase 3	7,255,036 People in Crisis		Phase 3	7,731,348 People in Crisis
	Phase 2	6,877,624 People in Stress		Phase 2	6,785,308 People in Stress
	Phase 1	5,851,033 People minimally food insecure		Phase 1	5,153,244 People minimally food insecure

Afghanistan IPC acute food insecurity analysis projection from August 2018 until February 2019. (Source: Integrated Food Security Phase Classification)

According to IPC analysis, as of September 2018, 9.8 million people (43.6 per cent of the rural population) were estimated to be in Food Crisis and Emergency (IPC Phase 3 and Phase 4). An estimated 2.6 million are classified in IPC Phase 4 nationwide; these people require urgent action to reduce their food deficits and to protect their livelihoods. The current Phase 3 and 4 estimates correspond to a 17.4 per cent increase (from 26.2 to 43.6 per cent) compared to the previous analysis for the same time period last year (2017). FEWS NET January 2019 projections suggested that from November 2018 to February 2019, the total population in IPC Phase 3 and IPC Phase 4 increased to 10.6 million (47.1 per cent of the rural population).

The impact of drought has heavily influenced population movement within Afghanistan. According to OCHA, there is an estimated 287,000 people displaced due to drought, primarily from the north-western and western. The sudden influx of over a quarter million people into the outskirts of Herat City and Qala-e-Naw provincial capitals in just a few months has led to the emergence of 19 vast and sprawling informal settlements.<sup>2</sup> Displaced families living in temporary and poorly insulated shelters are facing the risk of harsh winters but also the risk of flash floods, especially those residing on dry-river beds.

The humanitarian response during the first half of the year has been hampered by underfunding and insecurity. Following revisions to the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan, a total of almost 3.5 million food insecure people in 20 provinces of Afghanistan were identified as having acute humanitarian food needs, health and WASH issues and their livelihoods.

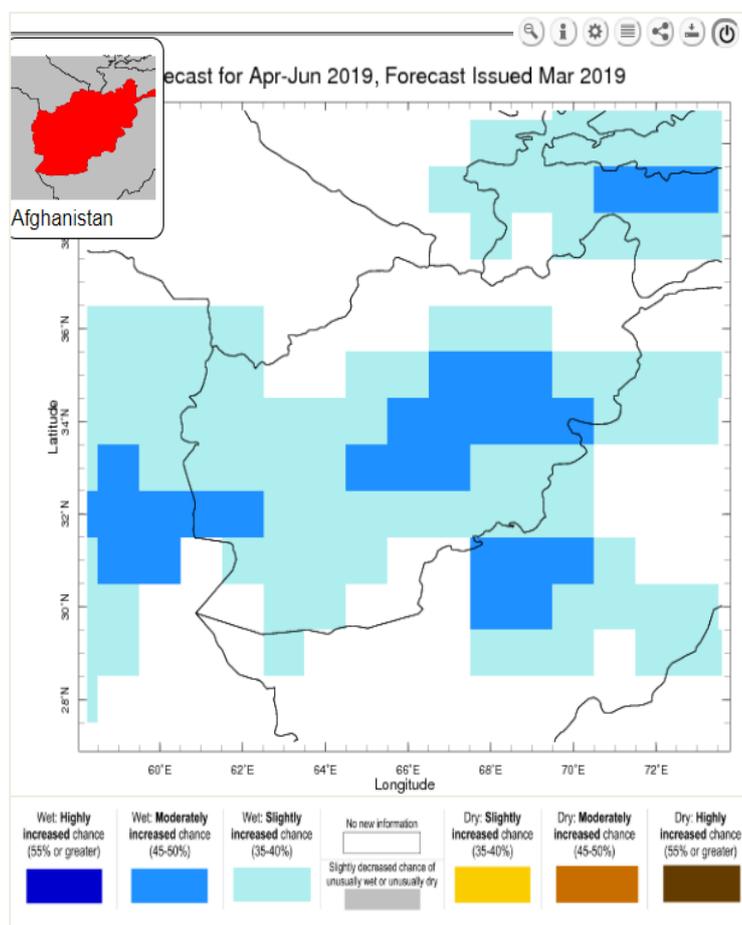
### Floods

While the drought situation has not yet alleviated, some of the drought affected provinces were hit by flash floods which occurred in March 2019, making them even more vulnerable.

El Nino Phenomenon, declared in early February this year, brings above-normal snowfall/ rainfall to Afghanistan and also warmer temperatures across the country. With poor soil absorption and limited vegetation in many mountainous areas due to the drought, the current rainfall in recent weeks and projections indicate the likelihood of increased and worsening spring floods to come. The problem of flash flooding is accentuated by the narrow valleys, often causing flood waters to pass through villages destroying many houses. Waters also cover farm land and irrigation facilities, damaging or destroying intakes and structures.

In first week of March, heavy rains and snow struck many provinces. According to the OCHA and government report through its Command and Control Centre for Flood Emergency, thirteen provinces have been affected by heavy rains and flooding. A further seven have been affected by snowfall and avalanches. Flash floods triggered by the heavy rain have reportedly killed 74 people, when their homes collapsed or the vehicles they were traveling in were swept away. The flood damaged infrastructure including equipment and amenities which led to the disruption of the routine functioning of these facilities in the affected areas. Several of the public buildings which were damaged during the disaster are also inaccessible due to damage to roads and bridges.

As the response to the earlier flooding was taking shape, on 25 March a fresh round of heavy rainfall again triggered flooding in seven provinces namely Herat, Jowzjan, Badghis, Sar-e-Pul, Faryab, Balkh and Kabul. This has exacerbated humanitarian needs. Kabul, Balkh, Faryab and Sar-e-Pul are newly-affected. Based on the rapid



Source: International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)

<sup>2</sup> OCHA – Humanitarian Overview 2019

need assessment conducted by ARCS on 11 April 2019, it is estimated that nearly 60,000 people have been affected and urgently need food items, shelter and safe drinking water. In view of the humanitarian needs, these affected provinces are now included for this operation and ARCS will be providing assistance to these areas.

Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) shared updates on interagency assessments, comprised of ANDMA, International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Danish Committee for Aid Afghan Refugee (DACAAR) and World Food Programme (WFP). Initial reports suggest that approximately 3,668 households have been affected by the flash floods, while detailed assessments are still ongoing in affected areas. Flood waters and mud flows have reportedly closed some roads, cutting off affected villages hampering the ability of assessment teams to reach all areas. Initial reports from assessment teams have noted that many houses in affected areas have been completely washed away by the flash floods, others have been partially damaged. This new flooding adds to the impact of the overall drought and flood emergency. According to OCHA report, more than 163,000 people have now been affected by floods, and more than 42,000 people have been displaced, while ANDMA estimates the overall affected population could be more than 350,000. The most affected provinces are Farah, Helmand, Kandahar, Zabul, Herat, Nangarhar and Badghis.

### Needs assessment and selection of people to be reached

ARCS conducted emergency needs assessments in nine<sup>3</sup> drought affected provinces in December 2018 and January 2019. The needs assessments indicated that the priority needs of the affected population, who are staying in rural areas and IDP camps, are food, water, health care and livelihood. Almost 60 to 70 per cent of the water points, respectively, are dry. Poor hygiene practices, including consumption of unsafe water, low latrine coverage and poor health seeking behaviour have been cited as some of the underlying factors for the high levels of malnutrition in the country. In addition, most of the affected communities in province of the country have very low latrine coverage. The water treatment is equally low, at less than 10 per cent and hand washing practices are also poor.

Additionally, ARCS teams carried out rapid needs assessments of flood-affected areas on 1-9 March, and 10-14 April respectively which showed mass destructions of houses and shelters, loss of lives, public facilities, mosques and displacements of people from their homes and IDPs camps due to the floods. It is anticipated that more rains shall fall in the coming months with little resources on the ground to respond to the needs of people in different provinces. The resilience of people in most of the provinces is already weak because of earlier protracted drought. There is a huge need in emergency shelter on the ground. Besides, there is continuous population movement from the rural villages to safer places with available humanitarian assistance and better basic services.

Most of the provinces are already affected by the protracted conflict and recently drought, people are living in poor shelter without enough basic services. Some affected households have been accommodated in schools and other public buildings. An estimated 3,000 people who have lost all their belongings and are in immediate need of emergency shelter, household items such as blankets, kitchen sets, cooking stoves and water containers.

### Target population

The ARCS response will focus on emergency shelter, food distribution and cash transfers to meet basic needs, health and WASH interventions in thirteen provinces, which are affected by floods and drought. In total, up to 675,000 affected people in 13 provinces, affected by the recent floods and protracted drought, are targeted.

The targeting criteria for household level assistance to floods and drought-affected communities will be defined based on further assessment and in consultation with local ARCS branches and leaders of community-based organisations. ARCS will invest in strong community-based targeting mechanisms to avoid potential selection biases and to meet the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's global standards on community engagement and accountability (CEA).

The ARCS is working closely with the government, stakeholders and other agencies to ensure that there will be no duplication of intervention activities. The Government early warning and response analysis indicates the need for close monitoring of the evolving nutrition situation and further strengthening of the emergency food and nutrition responses required for target thirteen provinces affected by floods and drought.

### Provincial targets

Province	Disaster	Sectors	Target population
Nangarhar	Flood	DRR, livelihoods, PGI, WASH, shelter	56,734
Farha	Flood	DRR, livelihoods, PGI, WASH, health, shelter	88,793

<sup>3</sup> Balkh, Faryab, Jawzjan, Samangan, Sar-e-Pul, Kandahar, Nimroz, Badghis and Herat provinces.

Province	Disaster	Sectors	Target population
Kunhar	Flood	DRR, livelihoods, PGI, WASH, shelter	57,492
Helmand	Flood	DRR, livelihoods, PGI, WASH, health, shelter	87,689
Herat	Flood & Drought	DRR, livelihoods, PGI, WASH, health, shelter	91,798
Kandahar	Flood & Drought	DRR, livelihoods, PGI, WASH, health, shelter	69,722
Jowzjan	Flood & Drought	DRR, livelihoods, PGI, WASH	51,789
Nimroz	Flood & Drought	DRR, livelihoods, PGI, WASH	53,487
Badghis	Flood & Drought	DRR, livelihoods, PGI, WASH	89,756
Sar-e-Pul	Flood & Drought	DRR, livelihoods, PGI, WASH, health, shelter	4,200
Faryab	Flood & Drought	DRR, PGI, WASH, health, shelter	15,386
Balkh	Flood & Drought	DRR, livelihoods, PGI, WASH, health, shelter	5,600
Kabul	Flood	DRR, PGI, WASH, health	2,240
<b>Total</b>			<b>674,686</b>

### Coordination and partnerships

The IFRC's Afghan country office is supporting ARCS in implementing health programmes including Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) in northern, north-eastern, central northern, central southern and western regions. Similarly, WASH activities are also being carried out in five provinces: Parwan, Nangarhar, Balkh, Samangan and Baghlan. ARCS partners with Canadian Red Cross together with IFRC in supporting health in emergencies, mobile health teams (MHTs) in 11 provinces including youth health and routine immunisation in Paktika, Kunduz, Kandahar, Kunar, Nooristan, Nangarhar and Laghman.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), in its role of lead agency, is present in Afghanistan since 1986 and engages in dialogue with all parties to the conflict having a direct or indirect influence on the humanitarian situation in the country. The key operating areas in responding to the Afghanistan protracted conflict include: promote and respect of IHL, health services, in particular for the wounded and sick, physical rehabilitation and social reintegration, monitoring the treatment of detainees across the country and maintaining contact with their families, as well as their health and water sanitation conditions. ICRC provides support to the civilian population in improving livelihood and water and sanitation, health, Restoring Family Links (RFL) and tracing activities. The ICRC supports the ARCS, as its primary partner in its development and operations with focus on "Safer Access" approach that promotes safer access to persons affected by conflict and other situations of violence, whilst minimising risks for staff and volunteers.

The Norwegian Red Cross has in-country presence supporting ARCS with health interventions, WASH and CBHFA activities in the provinces. The Danish Red Cross extends their support to ARCS in psychosocial support (PSS) together with the ICRC, volunteer management and youth mobilization activities in Afghanistan.

The Government of Afghanistan through ANDMA coordinates all interventions by NGO and UN agencies with support from UNOCHA. ARCS is participating regularly in Command and Control Centre for Flood Emergency under the Minister of State for Disaster Management in Kabul. They are sharing and collecting updates with ANDMA and other authorities. ARCS also participate in all coordination meetings in clusters, technical working groups health, WASH, Cash-Based Intervention (CBI) etc., including in government-led or other humanitarian organizations meetings. Other agencies implementing humanitarian activities related to the floods and drought response includes UN Agencies: WFP, UNDP, UNOCHA, FAO, WHO, UNICEF, IOM and other INGOs implementing water and sanitation activities while Save the Children, OXFAM, ACF, ACTED, Norwegian and Danish Refugee Councils are providing emergency shelter and household items, and nutritional support project through health centres and immediate food assistance for floods and cash based initiatives are already taken for drought affected people through their cash programmes. ARCS and IFRC held meetings with mobile money service providers to develop an overview of the capacity of the mobile operators. The meetings highlighted the widespread use of mobile money platforms by the communities in Afghanistan for food purchases etc. The mobile money platform is widespread with sufficient network coverage in targeted areas under the operation. Mobile operators indicated that they are able to support the operation through registration of beneficiaries who are not on the mobile money platform and will orient on how the systems work.

### Advocacy and humanitarian diplomacy

The combination of disasters (flash floods worsened by droughts) and the pre-existing conflict situation in Afghanistan has further weakened the resilience of individuals and communities and humanitarian advocacy with Afghan authorities and international organisations needs to address the criticality of this combination for communities. Humanitarian diplomacy with Afghan authorities and other actors will be undertaken in consultation with ARCS and the ICRC. This aims to mobilize public and governmental support and resources for humanitarian

operations and programmes, and to facilitate effective partnerships for responding to the needs of vulnerable people. ARCS regional branches are collaborating with local authorities and humanitarian actors in floods and drought affected provinces. Information and situation updates are being shared regularly with ARCS National Headquarters. The IFRC Afghan country office will be strengthened with a team member to support these efforts for advocacy, negotiation, communication, formal agreements, and other measures with many players, including governments, international organisations, UN agencies and the public and private sectors.

## Proposed Areas for intervention

The overall objective of this Emergency Appeal is to respond to the immediate humanitarian needs of the population affected by the floods and complex drought emergency in Afghanistan through the provision of emergency shelter, health care and nutritional interventions, the promotion of access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene and supporting food security and livelihood through cash transfers until March 2020.

## Areas of Focus



### Shelter

**People targeted: 21,000**

Male: 10,647

Female: 10,353

**Requirements (CHF): 1,895,500**

### Proposed intervention

**Needs analysis and population to be assisted:** The flood damaged the infrastructure including equipment and amenities which led to the disruption of the routine functioning of these facilities in the affected areas. Several of the public buildings which were damaged during the disaster, have also lost connectivity and are inaccessible due to damages to roads and bridges. Most of the provinces already affected by the protracted and recently drought affected and live in poor shelter without sufficient basic services. Together with many public buildings, thousands of houses in the flood affected areas have been completely or partially damaged and leaving people homeless. These homeless people have been accommodated in schools and other public buildings which survived this disaster in and around their villages. These people have lost all their belongings and are in immediate need of emergency shelter, household items such as blankets, kitchen sets, cooking stoves, water containers and water purification tablets to survive.

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

Activities planned to be carried out include:

- Identification, registering and verification of beneficiaries.
- Procurement of emergency shelter and household items.
- Mobilization of volunteers and provide orientation on distribution protocols.
- Transportation of emergency shelter and household items.
- Distribution of emergency shelter and household items to 3,000 households.
- Undertake post-distribution monitoring and satisfaction survey.

**Shelter Output 1.2: Technical support, guidance and awareness raising in safe shelter design and settlement planning and improved building techniques are provided to affected households.**

Activities planned to be carried out:

- Site selection and installation of emergency shelter with safer shelter techniques and appropriate use of shelter assistance.
- Training on safer shelter techniques to volunteers and staff.
- Orientation of HHs on safer shelter techniques and appropriate use of provided shelter assistance.



## Livelihoods and basic needs

**People targeted: 105,000**

Male: 53,235

Female: 51,765

**Requirements (CHF): 1,448,000**

### Proposed intervention

**Needs analysis and population to be assisted:** The floods and drought affected population in Afghanistan, mostly rural community's livelihoods, particularly small-scale agricultural producers, whose limited production negatively impacted their access and the availability of resources to cover their basic needs. Overall, ARCS's assessments revealed that the current floods and drought hampered affected people's ability, these complex disasters also increased the need of affected people including shelter and food rations. The affected population do not have the necessary resources to purchase agricultural inputs, which affected their ability to earn a living. Households and communities need support to recover their livelihoods with dignity.

**Output 1.1: Vocational skills training and/or productive assets to improve income sources are provided to target population.**

Activities planned to be carried out:

- Restoration of livelihood of 1,500 households through conditional cash grant.
- Training in vegetable gardening including climate smart practices, soil and water conservation.
- Monitoring of progress and activities throughout the planting season.

**Output 1.2: Basic needs assistance for livelihoods security including food is provided to the most affected communities.**

Activities planned to be carried out:

- Identification, registration and verification of people to be assisted.
- Contracting with Financial Service Providers (FSP).
- Food security training for staff and volunteers.
- Distribution of food package among 9,000 households (in two phases).
- Post distribution monitoring, including regular measurement of Food Security indicators.

**Output 1.5: Households are provided with multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs.**

Activities planned to be carried out include:

- Consultation with service providers in the country.
- Capacity building of branch staff and volunteers on Cash Voucher Assistance (CVA) (4 days).
- Identification, registration, verification and orientation of people to be provided with cash grants.
- Preparation of baseline assessment for CVA.
- Orientation on the selection of people to be assisted and use of mobile money transfer system for target population.
- Preparation and piloting of mobile phone cash transfer.
- Distribution of multipurpose cash grants to 4,500 households (CHF 70).
- Establishment of the CEA activities such as setting up targeting committees as well as feedback and complaints mechanism and training of volunteers.
- Conduct price and market capacity, post distribution monitoring and endline surveys.



## Health

**People targeted: 405,159**

Male: 205,416

Female: 199,743

**Requirements (CHF): 479,000**

## Proposed intervention

**Needs analysis and population to be assisted:** Across the provinces, flood waters destroyed thousands of houses, public infrastructure and agriculture land. The high risks of consequent health emergencies are high and serious damage to the health service infrastructure, and lack of medical supplies, leave millions vulnerable to diseases. A priority of the ARCS is to immediately deploy medical health teams in severely flood affected provinces. Furthermore, as the ARCS continues to care for those left vulnerable by these floods, it is critical that the emergency disaster preparedness stocks are replenished to allow the National Society to rapidly respond to the continuation of this operation as well as new emergencies. This Emergency Appeal seeks to provide the ARCS, and thus vulnerable populations, with essential medical supplies as well as provide hygiene promotion and health education to prevent the further spread of disease in the aftermath of these floods.

The needs related to health have been clearly outlined by the analysis of monitoring data from UN agencies, including WHO, OCHA, FEWS and the Ministry of Public Health in Afghanistan. The Humanitarian Needs Overview for 2019 has been released. 6.3 million people will be in need of humanitarian assistance. Of those, 1.9 million people will be in need of emergency health services due to conflict, natural disasters and a lack of basic services.<sup>4</sup> WHO as lead agency for health cluster will continue to complement and support the drought response. Working with the Ministry of Public Health and partners implementing the Basic Package of Health Services for Afghanistan and sustainable solutions need to be introduced to provide vulnerable population access to health care. UNICEF and partners in the nutrition cluster estimates also show that between July and December 2018, some 121,000 acutely malnourished children under five and 33,000 pregnant and lactating women could need life-saving nutrition services. During the reporting period in December 2018, 479 cases and 59 deaths due to Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever have been reported. Though the majority of the cases are reported from Herat and Kabul provinces, the spread of the disease to 31 provinces is concerning. Prevention and control measures are already in place to enhance coordination among relevant actors and ministries, increased public awareness, capacity building, enhanced surveillance, and timely distribution of medication and supplies.<sup>5</sup>

### Output 1.2: Target population is provided with rapid medical management of injuries and diseases.

Activities planned to be carried out:

- Deploy six MHTs in Herat, Kandahar, Faryab & Jawzjan (Flood and Drought affected) and in Helmand and Farah (heavily flood affected). Procurement and supply of medicines to health facilities.
- Provide refresher training for nurses and midwives to improve in case management and disease surveillance skills – 5 days.

### Output 2: Community-based disease prevention and health promotion is provided to the target population.

Activities planned to be carried out include:

- Establishment of twelve community health committees.
- Community mobilization for vaccination and especially during National immunization Days (NIDs).
- Identification of pregnant and lactating women and under 5 children for nutrition support.
- Distribution of food supplements to pregnant and lactating women.
- Conduct nutrition promotion sessions.
- Provide first aid services for the affected communities.
- Print and supply information, education and communication (IEC) materials for health volunteers with more focus on health promotion and acute watery diarrhoea/cholera prevention.
- Procure first aid kits and supply to volunteers for case management.
- Conduct community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) training to volunteers using Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV) Toolkit.
- Volunteer mobilization for health education.
- Field monitoring by ARCS HQ - jointly by IFRC.

<sup>4</sup> Afghanistan: Health Cluster Bulletin December 2018

<sup>5</sup> Afghanistan: Health Cluster Bulletin December 2018



## Water, sanitation and hygiene

People targeted: 674,686

Male: 342,066

Female: 332,620

Requirements (CHF): 969,500

### Proposed intervention

**Needs analysis and population to be assisted:** Access to safe water is an immediate need in floods and protracted drought affected communities of Afghanistan, as a significant proportion of households do not have access to sufficient and drinkable water to meet emergency standards. Even in areas where recent rains caused flooding and water contamination, the reliance on uncovered sources for drinking, and the limited use of water treatment either at source or at the household level means that water quality is of serious concern. The knock-on effect of low-quality drinking water is likely to affect nutrition and health in the medium to long term. In Afghanistan water which comes from wells and open streams more than 90 per cent of which are contaminated to one degree or another due to current floods and drought in past years. The local community is mainly relying on unimproved water sources, primarily borehole and/or unprotected wells and sometime springs and streams water.

Community people are not much aware on water purification system and are unaware of water purification methods for safe drinking. The solid waste management system is also weak, with indiscriminate household garbage disposal. Due to this practice/behaviour, communities suffer from WASH related diseases such as diarrhea which is one of the major diseases affecting mostly children below 5 years of age. Hygiene promotion and solid waste management need to be the major focus area. Open defecation is the common practice in affected areas and it has been observed that animal and human feces contaminate the drinking water sources which can create hazard of water borne disease and stagnant water contributes to the increase in incidences of vector borne diseases.

#### **Output 1.2: Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere and WHO standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population.**

Activities planned to be carried out include:

- Establish WASH committees in twelve provinces.
- Repair/rehabilitation of 50 water points (boreholes/wells/water reservoir/spring) for 17,500 people.
- Installation of new 20 handpumps/boreholes in affected communities/schools for 4,200 people from communities and 20,000 people in schools.
- Procurement and distribution of 50 water tanks/tap stands in schools for 50,000 people.
- Procurement and distribution of 6,000 households water filters for 42,000 people.
- Procurement of 6,000 jerry cans and distribution among target communities for 3,000 families.
- Procurement and distribution of 50,000 Aquatabs.
- Orientation sessions for solid waste management, safe water storage and use of water treatment products (Aqua tabs).
- Monitor treatment and storage of water through household/school surveys.

#### **Output 2.2: Improved access to and use of adequate sanitation provided to target population.**

Activities planned to be carried out:

- Construct 60 latrines in affected schools/communities.

#### **Output 2.3: Hygiene promotion activities are provided to the entire affected population.**

Activities planned to be carried out include:

- Training on participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation (PHAST) methodology for branch staff and volunteers (ToT).
- Conduct child hygiene and sanitation training (CHAST) training for teachers and volunteers (ToT).
- Support WASH and community health and hygiene promotion and awareness sessions along with distribution of ORS, households water treatment (HHWT), soaps and IEC materials during social mobilization campaigns.

- Develop, print and distribution of IEC materials through volunteers in relation to WASH promotion.
- Post distribution monitoring.



## Disaster Risk Reduction

**People targeted: 674,686**

Male: 342,066

Female: 332,620

**Requirements (CHF): 593,000**

### Proposed intervention

**Needs analysis and population to be assisted:** The underlying vulnerability and poverty of the people affected by floods and drought in Afghanistan cannot be underestimated. In many regions of Afghanistan, people's lives and their livelihoods are affected from periodic weather-related stress, particularly from below-normal rainfall and sudden onset of flash floods in the country.

Community-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) and climate change adaption (CCA) program will enhance community capacity to address adverse effects of disasters due to climate change. Community preparedness and risk reduction measures will be implemented alongside relief and recovery interventions. As part of protecting and restoring community resilience to disasters, CBDRR activities will be undertaken by having early warning early action agents to identify local risks, vulnerabilities and capacities to strengthen resilience of communities. The DRR activities will also strengthen the response and coordination capacity of local government authorities (regional/district disaster management agencies) in the targeted areas and will complement ongoing and longer-term initiatives supported by the IFRC country acceleration plan.

**Output 1.1 Communities take active steps to strengthen their preparedness for timely and effective response to disasters.**

Activities planned to be carried out include:

- Training of staff and volunteers on DRR/CCA and early warning system – 3 days (12 provinces).
- Mobilization of volunteers for disseminating early warning messages.
- Formation of community-based disaster risk management committees in disaster prone areas (12 committees).
- Train and equip community-based disaster risk management committees.
- Conduct CBDRR programming, including risk assessment, planning and implementation of DRR measures
- Support awareness raising of risks of drought and floods and conduct mitigation measures.
- Plantation for climate change mitigation and to protect soil erosion on river banks in 12 provinces.
- Work with local actors to enhance their capacities and resilience.



## Protection, Gender and Inclusion

**People targeted: 674,686**

Male: 342,066

Female: 332,620

**Requirements (CHF): 182,000**

### Proposed intervention

**Needs analysis and population to be assisted:** During disasters, affected people are becoming more vulnerable due to lack of housing and economic insecurity. In Afghanistan, the multi-faceted protection crisis continues to negatively impact upon the civilian population. Vulnerable populations such as women, children, elderly, persons with disabilities and people with illnesses are at higher risk of violence, including sexual gender-based violence. Based on the findings through assessment, there is a need to protect these groups and incorporate their different needs into the programming. Limited accountability, insufficient humanitarian access, and uneven coverage of national protection frameworks and institutions - especially outside of urban centres - further affects the protection environment, while chronic poverty and underdevelopment renders large segments

of the population susceptible to shocks. The protection impact of the existing crisis is often aggravated due to limited options for positive coping strategies, low awareness of basic rights, and existing discriminatory and harmful socio-cultural practices.

In addition to the physical safety risks to civilians living in conflict, floods and drought affected areas and the increasing pressures facing those living in displacement, people have had to endure significant interruptions to vital services as a result of the closure of healthcare facilities and attacks on education facilities. ARCS and IFRC will coordinate with protection and gender-based violence clusters in western, central, northern and eastern regions. Stronger linkages with protection clusters are also sought on relevant issues of common interest, such as the development of a comprehensive disability and survivor support strategy and response; enhanced operational and planning integration around protection and GBV prevention and response.

**Output 1.1: NS programmes improve equitable access to basic services, considering different needs based on gender and other diversity factors.**

Activities planned to be carried out:

- Trainings of Trainers (ToT) session on Minimum standards for protection, gender and inclusion in emergencies (NHQ and regional/provincial staff).
- Follow up and provide technical support in compliance with IFRC minimum standards for protection, gender and inclusion in emergency programming, closely linked with a CEA approach.
- Support sectoral teams to ensure collection and analysis of sex-age and disability-disaggregated data.
- Develop content and support procurement and distribution of 5,000 dignity kits.

**Output 1.2: Emergency response operations prevent and respond to sexual- and gender-based violence and all forms of violence against children.**

Activities planned to be carried out:

- Establish and operate women/child friendly spaces in four provinces.

## Strategies for Implementation

### Strengthening National Society

**Budget (CHF): 779,000**

Since the country is frequently affected by complex emergencies and natural disasters, ARCS aims to be better prepared and provide early warning to communities who are prone to disasters.

#### Preparedness for Effective Response

- Support on enhancing fleet (vehicles) for operations.
- Preposition of stock (non-food relief items).
- Improve contingency planning capacities in at least nine ARCS branches.
- Support for implementing priorities outlined in branch organizational capacity assessment (BOCA) plans / branch development plans.
- Training for branch staff and volunteers on CBI, DRR/CCA, early warning system, Disaster Response, PHAST and CHAST.
- Awareness raising on the Movement Policy on Displacement, and best practices of RCRC in addressing displacement.

#### National Society Development

- Volunteer development and management.
- Logistics capacity strengthening.
- Information management and reporting.
- Finance management.
- IT & telecommunications capacity enhancement.

### Ensure Effective International Disaster Management

**Budget (CHF): 1,487,000**

The following program support functions will be put in place to ensure an effective and efficient technical

coordination: **surge support, logistics and supply chain, inter-agency coordination and information technology support (IT)**. More details will be provided in the Emergency Plan of Action.

### **Influence others as leading strategic partner**

**Budget (CHF): 151,000**

IFRC will support ARCS to develop a work plan and reporting approach for this operation. Furthermore, ARCS and IFRC will maintain close coordination with ICRC and other humanitarian agencies throughout the operation timeframe.

The following program support functions will be put in place to ensure that IFRC influences others as a leading strategic partner: **communications and media relations; planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER) and partnerships and resource development**. More details will be provided in the Emergency Plan of Action.

### **Ensure a strong IFRC**

**Budget (CHF): 16,000**

Based on the demand for the technical and coordination support required to deliver in this operation, the following programme support functions will be put in place to ensure an effective and efficient technical coordination: **human resources, logistics and supply chain; information technology support (IT); communications; security and finance and administration**. More details will be provided in the Emergency Plan of Action.

## **Budget**

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## **EMERGENCY APPEAL**

### ***Afghanistan: Floods & Drought***

#### ***Funding requirements***

<b>DISASTER RISK REDUCTION</b>	<b>593,000</b>
<b>SHELTER</b>	<b>1,895,500</b>
<b>LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS</b>	<b>1,448,000</b>
<b>HEALTH</b>	<b>479,000</b>
<b>WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE</b>	<b>969,500</b>
<b>PROTECTION, GENDER AND INCLUSION,</b>	<b>182,000</b>
<b>STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETY CAPACITIES</b>	<b>779,000</b>
<b>ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTER'L DISASTER MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>1,487,000</b>
<b>INFLUENCE OTHERS AS LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNERS</b>	<b>151,000</b>
<b>ENSURE A STRONG IFRC</b>	<b>16,000</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>8,000,000</b>

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**Elhadj As Sy**  
Secretary General

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Reference documents



Click for:

- [Previous Appeals and updates](#)
- [Emergency Plan of Action \(EPoA\)](#)

**For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:**

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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 Organisations (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**.