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Emergency Plan of Action Operation Update

Yemen: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n° MDRYE007	GLIDE n° FF-2019-000054-YEM
EPoA update n° 003; 30 January 2020	Timeframe covered by this update: June - January 2020
Operation start date: 11 June 2019	Operation timeframe: 9 months / 31 st March 2020 Extension 2 month included (from 31 st January 2020)
Overall operation budget: CHF 227,910	
N° of people being assisted: 14,000 people (approx. 2,000 households)	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: ICRC and IFRC	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: SCHMCHA, Local Authorities	

Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

The current operation has gone through operational constraints and it is at the final stage for distributions in the targeted governorates. Household items have been distributed to 700 families in Aden and Lahj. Final distributions are prepared for the coming days in Hajjah and Saada. YRCS management and volunteers in both northern branches are ready for immediate distribution of the household items once delivered on site. This operation is closely coordinated with ICRC in facilitation of necessary customs clearance for the mobilization of the relief items.

The present Operation Update plans an extended timeframe of two months to ensure the final implementation of household distributions in the targeted areas.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

Since the mid of May, Yemen experienced heavy rainfall in different parts of the country, causing widespread floods, which were reported since the second week of June and required immediate assistance. According to the needs assessments conducted from 11 June, at least twelve governorates have been affected: Aden, Marib, Taiz, Hajja, Ibb, Al Bayda, Al Jawf, Dahmer, Rhymah, Lahj Hadramaut and Sa'ada.

According to the preliminary information, on 17 June, from the National Authority for the Management and Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Recovery (now called SCHMCHA), 80,000 people, including Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and the host families, have been affected by the flash floods. Among them, Hajja, Aden, Lahj and Marib were the main areas with IDPs camps being affected along with the local communities.

The population in the affected areas have lost their livelihoods, essential assets and belongings. The areas were also impacted by subsequent floods during August especially in Hajjah. The humanitarian actors have serious concerns about the possible deterioration of the health situation due to the current cholera outbreak or recently with other potential evolving situations like dengue fever in Hajjah.

Summary of current response

Overview of Host National Society

Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS) immediately activated their volunteers to support relief and evacuation activities in support to the affected communities. Over 100 volunteers were deployed for activities related as well with first aid, psychosocial support and distributions of food, water and essential non-food items.

The YRCS branches have been in close coordination with the local authorities and delivering support whilst the procurement of the items would take place in order to ensure essential household packages to meet the basic needs of affected population.

In the initial response, people were assisted with first aid through the YRCS volunteers in the respected branches.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

YRCS activated its disaster management mechanisms since the onset of the emergency. YRCS organized three Emergency Task Forces to mobilize support and resources from Movement partners in-country. The ICRC released emergency stock prepositioned, and was initially supported communities affected in Marib, Sa'ada, mobilizing essential NFI and Food for more than 1,195 households.

Given the ongoing conflict in the country since 2014, there is a limited but solid presence of Movement partners in Yemen. IFRC has a legal status in Yemen and has been present since 2003. Key areas of support from IFRC are Disaster Management, Health, WASH and National Society Development (NSD).

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

At the national level, the respective authorities in Yemen have been active in conducting assessments and sharing situation reports to humanitarian actors, including national and international NGOs, UN actors and other response stakeholders.

The CCCM Cluster initiated an assessment to identify the needs and coordinate response at the IDP sites as referred in previous reports.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Needs analysis

Heavy rains in the last weeks of May caused major flash floods in 12 governorates in Yemen, forcing the displacement of people who have lost their properties and livelihoods. YRCS deployed volunteers in the branches to support immediate relief assistance and conduct needs assessments in the most affected communities. Many people have lost houses and assets. The main priorities identified were related to shelter, essential non-food items and livelihoods.

The needs were exacerbated by different factors. Among those affected, there was a major presence of internal displaced persons in Hajja and Aden are IDPs, who were living in poor housing conditions that were completely damaged.

The current operation combined the efforts from YRCS with support from other stakeholders and does not increase the number of people to be assisted with DREF funding.

Operation Risk Assessment

During the first weeks of the emergency the authorities were working on facilitating the restoration of the main roads to grant access to all affected areas. The volatility of the security situation continued to be a major risk factor for this emergency operation.

Whilst YRCS maintain a good level of acceptance in the communities nationwide the limited access to the affected areas has been one of the main risks. The highly volatile situation was exacerbated by major attacks in Aden during the second half of August which caused important constraints and delays on the reception of household items that IFRC and YRCS had shipped to Aden port from the strategic warehouse in Dubai. This situation required an important effort to guarantee the safety of personnel and assets and renting premises to ensure safe custody of household items in the governorate of Aden whilst preparing the clearance for road transport to Sana'a and to the locations in the north of the country.

At this stage the situation is still complex and Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, similar to other humanitarian actors, are facing some operational constraints to mobilize humanitarian assets.

The current availability of household items is enabling the continuity of the distributions in the targeted locations, which will ensure the complementarity of actions from YRCS branches in the onset of the disaster with the household present needs.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Proposed strategy

Overall Operational objective

The overall objective of this DREF operation is to meet the immediate needs of 2,000 households (14,000 people) affected by the heavy rain and floods in Aden, Hajjah, Lahj and Sa'ada through the distribution of essential household items.


The YRCS with the support of IFRC has conducted verification of the most affected people in the four targeted governorates of Aden, Lahj, Hajja and Sa'ada and identified in coordination with the authorities the more vulnerable groups affected by the floods. At the branches level coordination took place with the local authorities and the other organization for the response that YRCS will be providing to the affected families. At the national level, coordination has been taking place with the Shelter/CCCM cluster on the response and the type of intervention.

IFRC supported YRCS in the procurement of the materials stated in the EPoA, the procurement was made locally due to the challenges of import procedures in-country. Items were procured and delivered to YRCS warehouses.

Also, 3-days DREF training and lesson learnt workshop was conducted at YRCS HQ having participation from both HQ and the targeted branches in addition to other branches who are involved in different emergency response.

The operation has been exceptionally extended for two months to ensure final delivery and distributions to the people in need in Hajjah and Sa'ada governorates.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

	<p>Shelter</p> <p>People planned: 2,000 households (14,000 people)</p> <p>Male: 7,140 people</p> <p>Female: 6,860 people</p>						
<p>Outcome 1: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions</p>							
Indicators:	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 70%;"></th> <th style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">Target</th> <th style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td># of households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">700</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Target	Actual	# of households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance	2,000	700
	Target	Actual					
# of households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance	2,000	700					
<p>Output 1.1: Short- term settlement assistance is provided to affected households</p>							
Indicators:	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 70%;"></th> <th style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">Target</th> <th style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td># of households assisted</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">700</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Target	Actual	# of households assisted	2,000	700
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# of households assisted	2,000	700					
<p>Progress towards outcomes</p>							
<p>YRCS branches deployed volunteers to the affected areas to ensure first emergency response including first aid, evacuation and psychosocial support. Needs assessments and coordination with authorities and humanitarian stakeholders has been maintained.</p> <p>The YRCS selected branches for this operation-initiated distribution from other Movement components such as ICRC. Currently YRCS branches in Aden, Lahj, Hajjah and Saada have reassessed the needs of the affected communities in their respective governorates and listed the distribution plan to be conducted in the coming weeks.</p> <p>Operational challenges in the transportation of items are currently being solved to ensure prompt distributions to the remaining communities in need in Hajjah and Sa'ada governorates. The distributions in Aden and Lahj governorates to support 700 HHs took place earlier in January through the respective branches.</p>							



Water, sanitation and hygiene

People planned: 2,000 households (14,000 people)

Male: 7,140 people

Female: 6,860 people

Outcome 1: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# households/persons provided with safe water services that meet agreed standards according to specific operational and programmatic context	2,000	700

Output 1.1:

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Hygiene-related goods (NFIs) which meet Sphere standards and training on how to use those goods is provided to the target population	2,000	700

Progress towards outcomes

The implementation of the activities within this Area of Focus have experimented the same operational constraints as explained above in Shelter.

The activities implemented by the branches were nevertheless important and critical for responding to the needs of the affected people, especially in Hajjah which was one of the governorates most affected.

These activities included the coordination with local actors, evacuation and rescue activities as well as distributions conducted with support from other Movement components such as ICRC.

Strengthen National Society

Outcome 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

Indicators:	Target	Actual
NS will adopt standard procedures for logistics and financial management.	See below	

Output 1.1: Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# volunteers deployed for emergency response	80	80

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.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
The IFRC and the YRCS advocate for the needs of the most vulnerable population to be addressed in the disaster response.	See below	

Output S3.1.2: IFRC produces high-quality research and evaluation that informs advocacy, resource mobilization and programming.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
The Lessons Learnt report, with recommendations, is shared with relevant partners after the Lessons Learnt Workshop.	See below	

Progress towards outcomes

IFRC and YRCS follow and comply with standardized procurement processes to enable highest quality in the elements we deliver.

A lesson learnt workshop on the emergency operation was conducted in Sana'a during 6 – 8 November with presence of YRCS staff at headquarter and branches level and IFRC. Among the most relevant lessons discussed the following ones were identified as critical:

- Emergency response fund available at NS level would enable a quicker response to the floods by ensuring adequate financial resources to branches in timely manner.
- Stock prepositioned at branch level would enable a timely humanitarian delivery. Stock replenishment strategy would then ensure YRCS readiness for response.
- Regular contingency planning exercises and scenario planning at governorate and national level would increase effectiveness of response to situations of emergency.

D. Budget

The budget approved for this operation remains the same and has not required any major changes or additional disbursement.

Reference documents



Click here 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 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**.