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# Emergency Plan of Action Final Report

## Algeria: Cold Wave

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation	Operation n° MDRDZ004
Date of Issue: 25/02/2020	Glide number: <a href="#">CW-2019-000010-DZA</a>
Operation start date: 01/02/2019	Operation end date: 01/08/19
Host National Society(ies): Algerian Red Crescent (ARC)	Operation budget: CHF 265,004
Number of people affected: 125,000	Number of people assisted: 4,500 (900 families)
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: Algerian Red Crescent and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government of Algeria including Civil Protection and People's National Army of Algeria	

*The major donors and partners of the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Belgium, Britain, Canada, Denmark, German, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland, as well as DG ECHO and Blizzard Entertainment, Mondelez International Foundation, and Fortive Corporation and other corporate and private donors.*

**The IFRC, on behalf of the national society, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.**

## A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

### Description of the disaster

On 11 January 2019, Algeria was hit by a cold wave with heavy snow and rainfalls which further intensified. This natural disaster has resulted in the isolation of many villages and the destruction of homes as well as the vulnerable groups that have become homeless. Following the first cold wave, Algeria experienced successive cold waves which left to the magnitude of the disaster and call for interventions to assist vulnerable groups.

#### First wave:

From 11 - 13 January 2019, extreme weather conditions resulted in widespread chaos which left eight people dead and 25 people wounded. In addition, powerlines and infrastructure were damaged and more than 151 roads became blocked due to snow and flooding. More than 300 villages across the country lost shelter and livelihoods. In addition to that, most vulnerable (nomadic families) being severely affected. The size of those affected exceeded 25 thousand families, according to the Algerian Government.

#### Second Wave:

Extreme weather conditions continued with a second cold wave from 24 -26 January 2019, leaving more communities inaccessible, cut off from services and access to food and water. The same areas from the first cold wave has further complicated and intensified the situation for those affected.

### Third Wave:

The cold wave hit Algeria for a third time from 6 - 8 February 2019. The same areas were hit, which led to an increase in the number of people affected as well as the division of the affected groups changing according to an upward trend. The cold wave hit one more time from 21 - 22 March 2019, leading to increased needs of the affected people beyond the initial estimate.

Due to the limited response for the Algerian Red Crescent. Especially, the ARC does not have a response team capable of covering the deficit and there are limited capacities. Algerian Red Crescent requested an appeal in response to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

## Summary of response

### Overview of Host National Society

In response to the cold wave, ARC mobilized 17 out of 48 branches and 1,235 volunteers were involved. The first distribution of emergency food and household items to the communities started on 24 January 2019, 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 mobilizing its volunteers in the branches and staff in Headquarters for distribution of prepositioned relief items.

ARC relief efforts are targeting the 12 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. The ARC has supported 800 families (4,000 individuals) with food and household items. Additionally, 70 tents have been distributed in the areas without 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	0
29-31 January 2019	Oued Souf	750	150	150	20
01-02 February 2019	Tebessa	500	100	100	0
03-05 February 2019	Oum El Bouaghi	750	150	150	0
05-07 February 2019	Batna	750	150	150	0
24-26 February 2019	Naama	750	150	150	50
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,000</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>70</b>

### Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in the 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 the 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 the IFRC Country Cluster North Africa Office and ARC in the implementation and monitoring of the DREF operation.

### Overview of non-RCRC actors in the 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

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 have 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.

The Algerian Red Crescent has based its assessment on two levels:

1. Damage assessment
2. Needs assessment

### Level 1 - Damage Assessment

A set of field data and the significant presence of the Algerian Red Crescent have been relied on. In addition to that, the following indicators which have been adopted as benchmarks:

- Meteorological data
- Government Crisis Cell Data
- Civil defense data and security interests
- Media reports
- Field reports of the branches of the Algerian Red Crescent.

### Level 2 - Needs Assessment

The operation was carried out according to field work carried out by the Algerian Red Crescent through:

- Direct statistics of needs by identifying the affected cases
- Receiving needs from various municipal sources or neighborhood committees

On this basis, the requirements were divided into three categories:

**Category 1** – Majority of the affected families are category 1, which are predominantly poor and low to no income families residing in mountainous areas.

**Category 2** – fragile families

**Category 3** – least likely to be affected families

The requirements are formulated according to the following measurement tools:

- Geographic criterion.
- Job standard (e.g. widow, unemployed)
- Social criterion (e.g. poverty, Bedouin, mountain people, people with special needs)

Based on this preliminary and field assessment, the needs were formulated as follows:

- The need to distribute food including, substances that help to resist difficult natural conditions and allow resistance for a longer period - 65 KG.
- Distribution of covers (shelter)
- Distribution of mattresses
- Distribution of kitchen materials

### Risk Analysis

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 were 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 worked 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 weather conditions. ARC is also a member of the response committee which coordinates all activities so as to avoid duplication.

## B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

### Overall objective

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

### Proposed strategy

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

The IFRC responded to the appeal of the Algerian Red Crescent to include **900** targeted families, which included:

- Distribution of 900 food parcels
- Distribution of 2700 covers
- Distribution of 2700 mattresses
- Distribution of 900 kitchen items
- Volunteer insurance
- Motivating volunteers
- Transportation expenses
- Support for the process supervisors
- Allocation of a training course in CBHFA

Algerian Red Crescent followed several steps related to the activation of a contingency plan according to the available possibilities:

- Identify needs
- Damage assessment
- Research to mobilize capacity and resources
- Mobilization of 2,000 volunteers across the states to provide assistance, psychological support and health education
- Relying on what is available at the Algerian Red Crescent of blankets, mattresses, food and kitchen utensils

The implementation of the contingency plan was divided into three phases:

**Phase 1** – focused on high priority areas and a timely and quick response. This response was carried outside the DREF process. This response was launched at the beginning of the second wave on 24 January 2019 and had to end on 26 February 2019 due to the depletion of stock in the warehouse. The first phase reached 750 families.

**Phase 2** – this phase was part of the DREF response and assisted 900 families. This response was carried out in one month despite some difficulties and other factors. During this phase of the response, the response had to be extended to the Adrar region due to a disaster and providing humanitarian assistance to 150 families.

**Phase 3** – focused on supporting the humanitarian needs of those who were classified as Category 2. This third phase reached 1,650 families.

ARC has assisted 800 families from their own resources. This DREF operation supported 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.

### Lessons learned

- **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.
- **The initial response focused mainly on the distributions.** The latest assessments revealed that the remote communities are in extreme 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.

- **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.
- **Delayed DREF and remittances**, which may have caused volunteers to be harassed by beneficiaries who were reporting a delay in the response.

## **Revisions**

Assessments revealed that remote communities were in extreme need of health awareness sessions, therefore the revision of the EPoA included the training of approximately 100 volunteers in delivering health awareness sessions during distributions.

The revised DREF planned 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 continued to reassess the needs in the affected areas.

## **Protection, Gender and Inclusion**

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

## **Community engagement and accountability**

Community accountability and feedback mechanisms were 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. 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.

## **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 ARC staff and volunteers in dialogue with local community leaders and elders. The ARC targeted families with low household income, as well as families with elderly, sick family members, people with disabilities and those with babies and small children. Targeting prioritised families with single-headed households or those who have lost their livelihoods or means of production.

## **Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)**

ARC oversaw 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, provided 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. ARC undertook regular monitoring of distributions and post-distribution phases.

## **Human resources**

ARC mobilized 2,000 trained and experienced volunteers to carry out assessment and relief activities. In each of the 17 affected branches, trained and equipped volunteer teams were mobilized to operate under the guidance of HQ and the branch coordinators.


## **Logistics and procurement**


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

- Procurement plans: local procurement for food 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 costings. International procurement was undertaken for kitchen sets, blankets and mattresses via the Global Logistics Services.

- 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.

## C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

<b>Shelter</b>		
	<b>People reached: 4,500</b>	
	Male: 2,250	
	Female: 2,250	
<b>Indicators: # of people targeted/reached with safe and adequate shelter and settlement</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<b># households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance</b>	900	900
<b>Narrative description of achievements</b>		
Each family received three covers and three mattresses. 70 tents were distributed, It was decided in revisions made in the EPoA that the tents will be replaced by additional food and household items for the newly affected families.		
<b>Challenges</b>		
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. The families who lost their shelter were hosted by relatives or the community supported them to purchase tents.		
<b>Lessons Learned</b>		

<b>Livelihoods and basic needs</b>		
	<b>People reached: 4,500</b>	
	Male: 2,250	
	Female: 2,250	
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<b>#/% of targeted households that have enough food to meet their survival threshold</b>	900	900
<b># of targeted households that have enough food to meet their survival threshold</b>	900	900
<b>Narrative description of achievements</b>		
ARC has reached 900 families with food parcels using their own resources. As part of this DREF operation, ARC commenced distributions in early April 2019 to cover needs of 900 families (4,500 individuals) with the DREF funding.		
<b>Challenges</b>		
Bad weather conditions contributed to increased prices of fuel, which has increased the price of food items in hard to reach areas, this lowered substantially the capacity of poor families to purchase food, hence increasing the number of families requiring support. The budget was 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.		
<b>Lessons Learned</b>		



## Health

People reached: 4,500

Male: 2,250

Female: 2,250

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached by health awareness	4,500	4,500

### Narrative description of achievements

Algerian Red Crescent mobilized 1,235 volunteers across the affected states to provide psychological support to affected individuals and also health education and awareness. Allocation was also made for a training in CBHFA.

### Challenges

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

### Lessons Learned

The latest assessments revealed that the remote communities are in extreme need of health awareness sessions, therefore 100 volunteers were trained to deliver health awareness sessions during distributions. The training was done for three groups of volunteers (30 each). During the first and second trainings, volunteers with exceptional performance were guided and encouraged to deliver part of the sessions of the following trainings. ARC appointed CBHFA focal point after the trainings.

## D. Financial Report

*Please see the attached final financial report at the end of the report.*

## Contact information

Reference documents



Click here for:

- Previous Appeals and updates
- Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

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

### In the Algerian Red Crescent

- **President:** Madame Saïda Benhabyles, phone: +21321633956/633155; email: [info@cra-algerie.org](mailto:info@cra-algerie.org)
- **Secretary General:** Mr Ahmed Mizab, phone: +213660642789; email: [sg.mizab@gmail.com](mailto:sg.mizab@gmail.com)

### In the IFRC

- **IFRC North Africa office:** Dr. Iliana Mourad, Head of Country Cluster; phone: +216 58 51 08 07; email: [iliana.mourad@ifrc.org](mailto:iliana.mourad@ifrc.org)
- **IFRC Regional Office:** Dr. Hosam Faysal, Head of Disaster and Crisis (Prevention, Response and Recovery) – MENA; phone +961 71 802 916; email [hosam.faysal@ifrc.org](mailto:hosam.faysal@ifrc.org)

### For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- **IFRC Regional Office:** Anca Zaharia, MENA Regional Head of Partnership and Resource Development, phone: +961 813 11 918; email: [anca.zaharia@ifrc.org](mailto:anca.zaharia@ifrc.org)

### For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

- **IFRC Regional Office:** Dharmin Thacker, Acting Head of Logistics, Procurement and Supply Chain Management, phone: +961 5 428 505, email: [dharmin.thacker@ifrc.org](mailto:dharmin.thacker@ifrc.org)

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

- **IFRC MENA Regional Office, Beirut:** Nadine Haddad, Regional PMER Manager, phone: +961 71 802 775; email: [nadine.haddad@ifrc.org](mailto: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.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace



# DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2019/2-2019/12	Operation	MDRDZ004
Budget Timeframe	2019/1-2019/8	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 31/Jan/2020

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## MDRDZ004 - Algeria - Cold Wave

Operating Timeframe: 01 Feb 2019 to 01 Aug 2019

### I. Summary

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Funds &amp; Other Income</b>	<b>265,004</b>
DREF Allocations	265,004
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>-239,732</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>25,272</b>

### II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction			<b>0</b>
AOF2 - Shelter	105,329	233,260	<b>-127,932</b>
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	76,680		<b>76,680</b>
AOF4 - Health	15,975		<b>15,975</b>
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene			<b>0</b>
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			<b>0</b>
AOF7 - Migration			<b>0</b>
<b>Area of focus Total</b>	<b>197,984</b>	<b>233,260</b>	<b>-35,277</b>
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	3,195		<b>3,195</b>
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	52,526	5,412	<b>47,114</b>
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	6,923		<b>6,923</b>
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	4,377	1,060	<b>3,317</b>
<b>Strategy for implementation Total</b>	<b>67,020</b>	<b>6,472</b>	<b>60,549</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>265,004</b>	<b>239,732</b>	<b>25,272</b>

# DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2019/2-2019/12	Operation	MDRDZ004
Budget Timeframe	2019/1-2019/8	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 31/Jan/2020

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## MDRDZ004 - Algeria - Cold Wave

Operating Timeframe: 01 Feb 2019 to 01 Aug 2019

### III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>	<b>140,400</b>	<b>181,805</b>	<b>-41,405</b>
Clothing & Textiles	49,500	56,530	-7,030
Food	72,000	76,363	-4,363
Teaching Materials		31,556	-31,556
Utensils & Tools	18,900	17,355	1,545
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>34,320</b>	<b>14,846</b>	<b>19,474</b>
Distribution & Monitoring	34,320	1,974	32,346
Transport & Vehicles Costs		9,085	-9,085
Logistics Services		3,788	-3,788
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>48,500</b>	<b>3,079</b>	<b>45,421</b>
National Society Staff	15,500	500	15,000
Volunteers	33,000	2,579	30,421
<b>Consultants &amp; Professional Fees</b>		<b>48</b>	<b>-48</b>
Professional Fees		48	-48
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>21,500</b>	<b>18,196</b>	<b>3,304</b>
Workshops & Training	21,500	18,196	3,304
<b>General Expenditure</b>	<b>4,110</b>	<b>7,128</b>	<b>-3,018</b>
Travel	4,000	6,310	-2,310
Financial Charges	110	818	-708
Other General Expenses		0	0
<b>Indirect Costs</b>	<b>16,174</b>	<b>14,632</b>	<b>1,542</b>
Programme & Services Support Recover	16,174	14,632	1,542
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>265,004</b>	<b>239,732</b>	<b>25,272</b>