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Emergency Plan of Action operation update

Djibouti: Population Movement

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF Operation n° MDRDJ002	Operations update n° 3
Date of issue: 29 October 2015	Timeframe covered by this update: 2 April – 20 October 2015
Operation start date: 28 April 2015	Operations timeframe: Six months (End date: 31 October 2015)
Overall budget allocation: Original allocation: CHF 66,180 Additional allocation n° 1: CHF 94,449 Total allocation: CHF 160,629	Total estimated Red Cross and Red Crescent response to date: CHF 160,629.
Host National Society presence (volunteers, staff, branches): Djibouti Red Crescent Society	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners a involved in the operation: British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, International Committee of Red Cross, and International Federation of Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies, Iranian Red Crescent, Qatar Red Crescent, Kuwait Red Crescent, Arab Red Crescent Organization	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government (Ministry of Public Health), Direction de l'Hydraulique Rurale, Office National de l'Eau et de l'Assainissement de Djibouti (ONEAD), Office National d'Assistance aux Refugier et aux Sinistrés(ONARS), UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, FAO, UNFPA, ACF, DRC, NRC, Johanniter	

Request to revise the activities planned in the EPoA to enable the distribution of items procured through the DREF to returnees as well as refugees and also beyond the end of the timeframe (31 October 2015) to continue to meet the needs of arrivals.

Description of the disaster

From 26 March 2015, an escalation in fighting between opposition groups in Yemen caused the displacement of thousands of people into neighbouring countries, including Djibouti, Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Oman and Saudi Arabia. As of 19 August 2015, 1,789,779 persons in Yemen had been affected, of which 1,439,118 persons have been internally displaced and 100,661 have left to seek refuge elsewhere (UNHCR). The situation in Yemen remains dire with 80 per cent of the population requiring humanitarian aid (approx. 21 million people) and there is limited to no access to clean drinking water, health care, sanitation facilities, or fuel. With no open passage to bring goods into Yemen, market prices are increasing which increases difficulties for the Yemen population. Several negotiations for ceasefires have been issued since the start of the crisis but each side has broken them within the first 24 hours. Wide ranges of nationalities have been affected by this crisis (American, Chinese, Djiboutian, Kenyan, Indian, Somalian, Tanzania and Yemen nationals). Djibouti continues to receive the most number of persons as one of the few neighbouring countries which has opened its borders to those fleeing Yemen.

On 29 May 2015, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) released CHF 66,180 from the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Djibouti Red Crescent (DRCS) respond to the needs of the 2,000 refugees/returnees, for a period of three months, specifically in the areas of first aid, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion services. The DREF operation intended to meet the survival and immediate needs of the targeted population through the provision of essential health, water, sanitation hygiene promotion services, targeting a total of 2,000 arrivals at Djibouti port and Al-Rahma and Omnisport Stadium sites in Obock. Following the outcome of a detailed assessment which was carried out at the beginning of the DREF operation, a revision of the

Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA), request for an additional allocation (CHF 94,449) and extension of timeframe (to five months) was submitted and approved in June 2015, including the following changes:

- Cancellation of activities: procurement of water testing kits, installation of an emergency first aid point at Djibouti port, and provision of emergency first aid services to arrivals
- Revised activities, including the solid waste management activities, the number of volunteers to receive a refresher training in hygiene promotion, the quantity of NFIs to be procured, location of the assistance given to the refugees following a relocation of the refugees by the government from Al-Rahma and Omnisport Stadium sites to Markasi camp, etc. The quantity and type of staff required for the implementation of the final activities was also revised
- Additional activities, mainly in terms of coordination and communication

On 9 July 2015, [Operations Update no.1](#) was issued, which incorporated these revisions to the EPoA. The revised EPoA intended to support additional 1,800 refugees, and the overall objective was adjusted as follows: The target population's survival and immediate needs are met through the provision of essential health, water, sanitation hygiene promotion services, targeting 3,800 arrivals at Djibouti port and at Markasi camp (in Obock). Unfortunately, the transfer of the second allocation to the DRCS took several weeks instead of a few days as expected, due to administrative reasons that could not have been foreseen. On 18 September 2015, [Operations Update no.2](#) was issued, which approved an extension of timeframe of one month (until 31 October 2015) to enable the implementation of the activities planned in the EPoA. In addition, Operations Update no.2 also advised that the following activities planned would now be cancelled: garbage burning, and the installation of visibility signs.

Operations Update no.3 requests the following minor changes to the activities planned in the EPoA:

- Since the number of asylum seekers and migrants from Yemen to Djibouti has been slightly lower than the expected rates (at the time the EPoA was issued), DRCS would like to extend the distribution of hygiene kits to migrants in Djibouti, and not only to registered refugees. These migrants have chosen not to be registered as refugees for a variety of reasons, however many of them require the same amount of assistance as registered refugees.
- While DRCS will continue to distribute the hygiene kits to all incoming refugees (and migrants, if approved), it is unlikely that all of the remaining kits will be distributed by 31 October 2015. Since asylum seekers and migrants will continue to travel from Yemen to Djibouti throughout the year, DRCS would like approval to retain the leftover kits, and then distribute them gradually to incoming refugees and migrants from Yemen on a needs related basis (as per the original intention of the DREF). Note that the implementation of these activities beyond the agreed timeframe of the DREF operation will not have any cost implication, however will enable the continued meeting of immediate needs of arrivals as per the original strategy.

The primary external actors in this operation include the Djiboutian Government, UN agencies (UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF, FAO, IOM, UNFPA, WHO) and several NGOs, with the majority of the responding organizations present in Djibouti prior to the crisis and continue with their on-going operations. The Office National d'Assistance aux Refugier et aux Sinistrés (ONARS) is the implementing agency for the government of Djibouti in the area of emergency management, and are working with UNHCR to ensure overall coordination in the area of protection and refugee management of the new Yemen arrivals. IOM is supporting UNHCR in the registration of refugees, housing for migrants, and protection.

This DREF has been replenished by DG ECHO and Netherlands Red Cross / Silent Emergencies Fund. The major donors and partners of the DREF include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the USA, as well as DG ECHO, the UK Department for International Development (DFID) the Medtronic and Zurich and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the Djibouti Red Crescent would like to extend its thanks to all partners for their generous contributions.

Contact Information

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 (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.
