



**International Federation of Red Cross  
and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Geneva**

**Independent Auditor's Report**

To the Management of IFRC  
On the IFRC's Financial Statements for the  
Syria Complex Emergency Appeal  
(MDRSY003)  
for the year ended 31 December 2017



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Independent Auditor's Report on the IFRC's Financial Statements for the Syria Complex Emergency Appeal (MDRSY003) to the Management of

**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Geneva**

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**Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying grant financial statements for the Syria Complex Emergency Appeal (MDRSY003) of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies ("IFRC"), which comprise the income and expenditure statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies ('the financial statements') for the year ended 31 December 2017.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements for Syria Complex Emergency Appeal (MDRSY003) for the year ended 31 December 2017 are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the IFRC accounting policies as described in the notes to the financial statements.

**Basis of Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the IFRC in accordance with the requirements of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA) Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting**

We draw attention to Notes 2 and 3 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared to assist the IFRC to comply with the financial reporting provisions of the IFRC.

**Responsibilities of the Management for the Financial Statements**

The management of the IFRC is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting described in the notes and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.



*International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Geneva  
Independent Auditor's Report to the Management of IFRC on the IFRC's  
Financial Statements for the Syria Complex Emergency Appeal (MDRSY003)  
for the year ended 31 December 2017*

**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis of our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the IFRC's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.

We communicate with the management and those charged with governance of IFRC regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

KPMG SA

Karina Vartanova  
*Licensed Audit Expert*

Jérôme Glaus  
*Licensed Audit Expert*

Geneva, 28 August 2018

*Enclosure:*

Financial statements (income and expenditure statement and explanatory notes) for the year ended 31 December 2017

**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES  
EMERGENCY APPEAL (MDRSY003) – SYRIA: COMPLEX EMERGENCY**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER**

		<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>CHF</b>	<b>CHF</b>
Voluntary contributions	4	22,501,775	27,659,279
<b>Total INCOME</b>		<u>22,501,775</u>	<u>27,659,279</u>
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURE</b>			
<b>Programmes and coordination: Humanitarian Response</b>			
Employee benefits		2,313,566	1,984,449
Relief supplies, transportation and storage		11,434,680	21,015,530
Supplementary services cost recoveries		580,778	766,424
Other costs and allocations	5	1,636,764	1,565,942
Voluntary contributions returned to donors	6	317,769	117,618
<b>Total direct costs</b>		<u>16,283,557</u>	<u>25,449,963</u>
Indirect cost recovery		1,016,256	1,634,675
Pledge fees		161,035	210,784
<b>Total OPERATING EXPENDITURE</b>		<u>17,460,848</u>	<u>27,295,422</u>
<b>NET SURPLUS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		<u>5,040,927</u>	<u>363,857</u>
Finance expense, net		1,622	9,105
<b>NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>		<u>5,039,305</u>	<u>354,752</u>
<b>FUNDS HELD FOR OPERATIONS</b>			
Brought forward		14,793,633	14,438,881
Net surplus for the year		5,039,305	354,752
<b>FUNDS HELD FOR OPERATIONS</b>		<u>19,832,938</u>	<u>14,793,633</u>

The notes on pages 4 to 8 are an integral part of these Appeal Financial Statements.

**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES  
EMERGENCY APPEAL (MDRSY003) – SYRIA: COMPLEX EMERGENCY**

**NOTES TO THE APPEAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017**

**1. Activities**

Founded in 1919, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is a membership organisation comprising 191 member Red Cross and Red Crescent societies governed by a Governing Board and with management support provided by a Secretariat with more than 60 delegations strategically located to support activities around the world. The Secretariat headquarters' address is 1, Route de Pré-Bois, 1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland.

The IFRC's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. Working through its 191 member National Societies, the IFRC acts before, during and after disasters and health emergencies to meet the needs and improve the lives of vulnerable people. It does so with impartiality as to nationality, race, gender, religious beliefs, class and political opinions.

The IFRC coordinates international support for large-scale disasters and health crises, strengthens the capacities and leadership of its member National Societies, and acts at the international level to raise resources and persuade decision makers to act at all times in the interests of vulnerable people.

Guided by *Strategy 2020* – a collective plan of action for the IFRC and its member National Societies to tackle the major humanitarian and development challenges of this decade – the IFRC is committed to 'saving lives and changing minds'.

During 2011 and 2012, ongoing civil strife and unrest was seen in Syria resulting in significant concerns relating to security, safety, protection and threats to livelihoods. Due to a worsening humanitarian situation in Syria and as a continuation and scaling up of activities initially undertaken as part of the Middle East & North Africa Civil Unrest Emergency Appeal (MDR82001) an Emergency Appeal was launched on 6 July 2012 seeking CHF 27.2 million in cash and/or in-kind goods and services to support the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) to assist over 200,000 beneficiaries for 12 months primarily in the areas of health, relief and livelihoods.

The Emergency Appeal budget was revised several times between 2012 and 2018 with increases in appeal budget and extensions of timeframes. In April 2018, the appeal budget was revised to CHF 185.1 million to support 3 million people until December 2018, focussing on live-saving emergency food assistance, shelter household items, and hygiene items; as well access to emergency and basic health services, community services and livelihood activities. It also includes continued support to further strengthen SARC's structural and operational capacities to deliver services and respond to emerging humanitarian needs.

The financial statements presented comprise the Income and Expenditure Statement and supporting notes of the Syria: Complex Emergency Appeal (MDRSY003) and are hereto referred to as the Appeal Financial Statements.

**2. Basis of accounting**

The Appeal Financial Statements are presented in Swiss Francs and have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting, under which, the effects of transactions and other events are recognised when they occur (and not as cash or its equivalent is received or paid) and they are recorded in the accounting records and reported in the financial statements of the periods to which they relate.

The information contained herein has been extracted from the Consolidated Financial Statements of the IFRC which are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

The Consolidated Financial Statements present operating expenditure by function (see note 3.3(a)). All operating expenditure included within the Syria: Complex Emergency Appeal is classified under the Humanitarian Response functional category. For information purposes, the Income and Expenditure Statement provides further analysis of operating expenditure.

**3. Significant accounting policies**

**3.1 Foreign currency transactions**

The presentation and functional currency of the IFRC is the Swiss Franc, as operating cash flows are primarily denominated in, and influenced by, the Swiss Franc. The IFRC's operations are not concentrated in any one economic environment, but appeals, including the Syria: Complex Emergency Appeal, are always launched in Swiss Francs and expenditure is budgeted and managed in Swiss Francs.

**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES  
EMERGENCY APPEAL (MDRSY003) – SYRIA: COMPLEX EMERGENCY**

**NOTES TO THE APPEAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017**

**3. Significant accounting policies (continued)**

Foreign currency transactions are translated into Swiss Francs using rates which approximate to the rates prevailing on the dates of the transactions.

**3.2 Income**

Income comprises Voluntary contributions in cash or in-kind from donors, Corporate donation fees and Reimbursement of Contributions to National Societies.

**(a) Voluntary contributions**

Voluntary contributions are identified according to the level of earmarking. Donors can earmark contributions for use in field operations at the appeal, programme, project or sub-project level. Such earmarked contributions are fully under the control of the IFRC, and, unless they are also subject to specific contractual obligations or earmarked for use in a future period (see paragraph below), are recognised in the Income and Expenditure Statement when pledged. At the end of the accounting period, unspent earmarked contributions are included in Funds held for operations.

Government grants and contributions that are based on contracts for specific projects, akin to government grants, are recognised as expenditure is incurred and contractual obligations are fulfilled. The IFRC typically receives such contributions from diplomatic missions, United Nations (UN) agencies, European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) and other government agencies such as the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Amounts received, but not recognised, are deferred for recognition in future periods as expenditure is incurred and contractual obligations are fulfilled. Government grants that are not for specific projects but are earmarked at appeal level are recognised when a confirmed written pledge has been received from the donor.

Contributions that are subject to specific contractual obligations or earmarked for use in a future period are not fully under control of the IFRC. Contributions subject to specific contractual obligations are recognised in income as expenditure is incurred and contractual obligations are fulfilled, similar to government grants. Amounts received, but not recognised, are deferred for recognition in future periods as expenditure is incurred and contractual obligations are fulfilled. Contributions which are earmarked for use in a future period are deferred for recognition in income in the future period for which they are earmarked.

In-kind contributions of goods (comprising relief supplies) and services (in the form of staff or transport) are recognised on the date of receipt of the goods or service and are recognised equally as both contributions and expenses in the Income and Expenditure Statement. In-kind goods and services received in response to the Appeal are measured at fair value.

The fair value of in-kind goods is based on the donor indication of the value. This value is tested for reasonableness by comparing it to the cost that the IFRC would incur if it were to buy in the open market similar goods for the same intended use. If the market value is found to be significantly different to the value indicated by the donor, the value is revised to the market value. The fair value of in-kind staff is taken as the average cost that would be incurred by the IFRC, if it were to employ a person in a similar position.

The IFRC sometimes agrees with a donor that the value of a confirmed written pledge previously received shall be changed - either increased or decreased. Such changes are recognised as additions to, or reductions of, income, during the period in which the change was agreed. The IFRC is not able to evaluate the potential impact of such changes on voluntary income reported in these Appeal Financial Statements.

**3.3 Expenditure**

**(a) Functional expenditure categories**

All IFRC expenditure is classified under functional expense categories that aggregate costs related to each category. Expenditure incurred as part of the Syria: Complex Emergency Appeal activities is classified under the Programmes and coordination: Humanitarian response functional expense category. This functional expense category comprises: Coordination during the immediate response phase of disasters and crises which require international assistance, in order to ensure adequate resources are available to meet the needs of disaster affected people. Within this functional expense category, the classification of operational expenditures by nature has been aligned with the Consolidated Financial Statements of the IFRC.

**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES  
EMERGENCY APPEAL (MDRSY003) – SYRIA: COMPLEX EMERGENCY**

**NOTES TO THE APPEAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017**

**3. Significant accounting policies (continued)**

*(b) Costing principles*

The costing principle of the IFRC is one of full cost recovery, therefore each appeal, including the Syria: Complex Emergency Appeal, includes all associated direct costs, indirect costs and pledge fees.

*Direct costs*

Direct costs are those costs that can be readily and specifically identified with a particular project or service. Direct costs include the following:

Employee benefits including salary and benefit costs of international delegates and national staff.

In keeping with the IFRC's principle of full cost recovery, costs are recovered from operations for specific services provided in addition to the essential services funded by indirect cost recovery (below). Such recoveries include specific logistics services recoveries based on the value of procurement services provided, global fleet services including provision of the vehicle rental scheme and country level services related to the basic costs of having a presence (an IFRC office) in a given country.

*Indirect costs*

The direct costs of programmes and services are subject to 6.5% indirect cost recovery to fund the costs of providing indirect support services, essential to the success of operations. Such indirect support services include management and leadership, information and communication technology and professional and services functions in the areas of programme quality, reporting, resource mobilisation, finance, information technology and human resources.

*Pledge fees*

Costs are incurred to meet specific donor requirements. These requirements may include the tracking of expenses where a donation has been given for a specific activity or needs to be spent within a specific timeframe or requires customised financial and / or narrative reports. Pledge fees are charged to donations to cover the costs associated with meeting these specific donor requirements.

*(c) Working with National Society partners*

In implementing its activities in the ordinary course of its business, the IFRC advances funds to member Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies. Two mechanisms are used to advance funds to member National Societies for the implementation of activities – cash working advances and cash contributions.

*Working advances to National Societies*

The IFRC provides cash working advances to National Societies for them to implement activities on behalf of the IFRC. An expense is recognised for the value of working advances which has not been reported on by the recipient National Societies and is recorded in Operating expenditure – Other costs & allocations. When recipient National Societies report on their use of the funds, this expense is reclassified according to its nature.

*Contributions to National Societies*

There are no contributions to National Societies for these appeal financial statements.

**3.4 Finance expense, net**

Exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of foreign currency transactions and from translation are included under Finance expense, net, in the Income and Expenditure Statement, with the exception of realised exchange gains and losses on voluntary contributions, which are included under Voluntary contributions.

**3.5 Funds held for operations**

The cumulative excess of income received over operating expenditure incurred is recorded as Funds held for operations. In the event that the funds cannot be spent, the IFRC obtains agreement from the donors to reallocate the unspent funds for a different use or reimburses them to the donors.

**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES  
EMERGENCY APPEAL (MDRSY003) – SYRIA: COMPLEX EMERGENCY**

**NOTES TO THE APPEAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017**

**4. Voluntary contributions**

	<b>Cash</b>	<b>Goods</b>	<b>Services</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
	<b>CHF</b>	<b>In-Kind</b>	<b>In-Kind</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
	<b>CHF</b>	<b>CHF</b>	<b>CHF</b>	<b>CHF</b>	<b>CHF</b>
Australian Red Cross	360,789	-	-	360,789	125,556
Austrian Red Cross (from Austrian Government)	2,059,545	-	-	2,059,545	-
British Red Cross	491,762	-	10,857	502,619	309,624
British Red Cross (from British Government)	-	-	-	-	1,887,623
Canadian Red Cross	50,619	-	33,097	83,716	155,903
Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian private donors)	54,400	-	-	54,400	-
Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)	712,690	-	-	712,690	1,311,345
Danish Red Cross	9,573	147,271	2,580	159,424	86,000
Danish Red Cross (from European Commission - DG ECHO)	1,008,250	-	-	1,008,250	2,685,611
Danish Red Cross (from Ramboll Group A/S)	-	-	-	-	137,922
Finnish Red Cross	56,655	-	67,387	124,042	129,088
Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government)	1,352,082	-	-	1,352,082	986,742
Irish Government	-	-	-	-	1,096,394
Irish Red Cross Society	116,425	-	-	116,425	153,800
Italian Red Cross	4,038	-	-	4,038	257,287
Japanese Government	1,205,991	-	-	1,205,991	584,673
Japanese Red Cross Society	439,842	-	-	439,842	470,910
New Zealand Red Cross	128,593	-	-	128,593	-
Norwegian Red Cross	-	-	-	-	1,557,834
Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government)	3,966,594	-	-	3,966,594	4,045,439
Online donations	44,283	-	-	44,283	177,380
Other donors (including those with contributions less than CHF10,000)	2,203	-	-	2,203	5,006
OPEC Fund For International Development-OFID	389,667	-	-	389,667	-
Procter & Gamble	48,964	-	-	48,964	-
Spanish Red Cross	1,814	27,914	-	29,728	116,677
Swedish Red Cross	-	-	64,655	64,655	3,181,857
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)	2,254,621	-	-	2,254,621	1,683,358
Netherlands Red Cross (from Nederlandse Publieke Omroep (NPO))	97,597	-	-	97,597	2,175,430
Government)	4,362,000	-	-	4,362,000	4,383,880
United States Government - USAID	2,929,017	-	-	2,929,017	(46,060)
	<b>22,148,014</b>	<b>175,185</b>	<b>178,576</b>	<b>22,501,775</b>	<b>27,659,279</b>

The Cash column includes movements in outstanding pledges in 2017, and revaluation of outstanding foreign currency pledges, which includes foreign exchange gains and losses on pledges as at 31 December 2017 (see note 3.4).

**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES  
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**NOTES TO THE APPEAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**5. Other costs and allocations**

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
	<b>CHF</b>	<b>CHF</b>
Administration, office and general	410,182	404,605
Consultancy fees	2,200	14,203
Information	43,967	14,300
Travel	84,699	63,683
Vehicles and equipment	287,197	99,431
Workshops & training	196,514	237,299
Other costs and allocations	<u>612,005</u>	<u>732,421</u>
	<u>1,636,764</u>	<u>1,565,942</u>

Included within Other Costs and allocations is a provision of working advances not yet reported by National Societies amounting to CHF 366,173 (2016: CHF 711,049).

**6. Voluntary contributions returned to donors**

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
	<b>CHF</b>	<b>CHF</b>
British Red Cross	410,231	-
Swedish Red Cross	25,156	-
European Commission - DGECHO	<u>(117,618)</u>	<u>117,618</u>
	<u>317,769</u>	<u>117,618</u>