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Emergency appeal IRAN: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Appeal n° MDRIR002

Glide n°: FL-2019-000022-IRN

30,000 households (150,000 people) to be assisted

499,751 Swiss francs DREF allocated

5.1 million Swiss francs funding requirement

Appeal launched: 07 April 2019

DREF issued: 29 March 2019

Appeal ends: December 2019

This Emergency Appeal seeks a total of 5,1 million Swiss Francs to enable the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to support the **Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS)** to deliver assistance and support to about **150,000 people for nine months**, with a focus on the following areas: **Shelter; Livelihoods and basic Needs; and Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI)**. The planned response reflects the current situation and information available at this time and will be adjusted based on further developments and more detailed assessments. Details will be available in the Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

The disaster and the Red Cross Red Crescent response to date

16 March 2019: Severe rainfalls and flash floods hit most of the Iranian provinces affecting thousands of people

29 March 2019: 499,751 Swiss francs is allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund ([DREF](#)) to enable 3,000 most vulnerable flood-affected households (15'000 people) to meet their basic needs through unconditional cash grants.

06 April 2019: IFRC issues Emergency Appeal for 5,1 million Swiss francs to deliver assistance to 150,000 people



Evacuation of a wounded person by IRCS volunteer in Lorestan. Source: IRCS

The operational strategy

Needs assessment and people targeted

As a result of unprecedented rainfall, on 16 March 2019, a widespread flooding began with flash floods and landslides in Golestan Province, subsequently spreading further north and east, causing extensive damage to people, livelihoods and infrastructure. At least 23 out of 31 provinces across Iran are affected. While the exact impact is still to be assessed, it is already apparent that the floods have caused extensive damages and suffering in villages, urban and rural areas. Further heavy rain is expected over the coming days which will likely worsen the situation.

To date, 1,905 cities, villages and mountainous roads have been affected by the disaster resulting in the death of 70 people. The estimated financial impact of damages to agriculture and infrastructure reaches millions of dollars.



Islamic Republic of Iran, Flash Floods Disaster Relief Emergency Fund

29 March 2019



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities. Map Data Sources: OCHA, Natural Earth, ICRC, IFRC.

0 100 200 300 km



The first needs assessment was conducted immediately after the onset of the disaster, assisted by IRCS helicopters and boats. IRCS evaluated at-risk communities, which are sheltered in public evacuation centres such as stadiums, halls and mosques. IRCS registered displaced families and distributed household items and emergency food packages. An IFRC assessment team will be deployed in the coming days to support the IRCS field teams to conduct detailed needs assessments and develop the EPOA with a detailed budget.

People targeted

By now, IRCS has reported 70 persons dead and at least 790 persons injured. The most affected areas are Golestan, Laurestan, Khozestan, and Fars. With technical support from the IFRC, the IRCS will select affected people based on the key principles of impartiality, neutrality and humanity. In addition, the selection process will follow the Code of Conduct guideline for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in disaster relief. The initial selection criteria presented below are common to all areas of work:

- ✓ Households headed by women, i.e. widows, divorced or separated women without income;
- ✓ Households that have not been benefitted or received any substantial assistance from the government and other organizations;
- ✓ Households with person(s) living with disabilities and other socially excluded groups;
- ✓ Households with no coping mechanisms and that are structurally vulnerable to shocks;
- ✓ Households from vulnerable occupational groups and marginalized populations.

Summary of the IRCS response to date

The IRCS Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) quickly started to disseminate early warnings based on meteorological alerts received. The IRCS started responding immediately, with dissemination of flood warnings, to the affected communities and contributed to the evacuation of at-risk communities to safe shelters.

Since the onset of the disaster, IRCS has provided relief services (shelter, basic needs, and protection) to more than 257,000 people, including safe shelter for 98,000 people. 1,138 people were transferred to safe areas and 89 people transferred to health facilities. In addition, 4,809 vehicles were released from snow, 189 vehicles were released from flood path and flood water was pumped out of 5,000 flooded houses.

With the flooding continuing to worsen, more damage is expected to people, livelihoods (especially agriculture) and infrastructure, overwhelming the capacity of IRCS to respond on its own. The prolonged disaster worsens the situation of already affected people with cumulative impact.

Coordination and partnerships

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Coordination

The IRCS was established 93 years ago. It has over 10,000 staff and some two million volunteers. IRCS has over 4,000 local branches across the country. The IRCS has a strong auxiliary link to the Government and is mandated to carry out humanitarian activities under law for emergency operations, relief and rescue activities. In addition, IRCS is also responsible for raising public trainings. IRCS is head of the Relief Committee in the National Disaster Management Organisation (NDMO) which creates a conducive environment to undertake actions stipulated in this appeal.

The IFRC has a presence in Iran since 1991 and has been providing technical support in capacity building initiatives and disaster management, shelter, disaster law, youth and health. There are no partner National Societies in country, however IRCS has a memorandum of understanding with a number of partners such as German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Turkish Red Crescent and Japanese Red Cross on general cooperation related to humanitarian issues.

The International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) has a delegation based in Tehran, however, is not actively involved in this current response. Regular coordination meetings are held between the three Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners and updates are shared on the response to date.

Coordination with other actors

A wide range of UN agencies are present in-country, including Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), International Organisation of Migration (IOM), United Nations Organisation of Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), UN-Habitat, United Nation Development Program (UNDP), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations International Children's Emergency Funds (UNICEF), and World Health Organisation (WHO). While the cluster system is not operational, there are approximately 20 committees that are responsible for addressing various sectors related to the response. The IRCS is mandated to lead the 14-member relief committee which involves government departments and National NGOs. The UN is not part of these committees. IRCS is active in a number of committees, including the health committee.

Proposed Areas for intervention

Overall objective:

The overall objective of this operation is to ensure that at least 150,000 people (30,000 households) affected by floods receive appropriate assistance in a timely, effective, and efficient manner; and that they are provided with the necessary support in order to meet their basic needs. The immediate response efforts will focus on the provision of shelter support and basic non-food items through unconditional cash grants, with specific attention to protection, gender and inclusion issues. The timeframe of the operation is of nine months, from April until December 2019.

Areas of Focus



Shelter

People targeted: 50,000 (10,000 households)

Male: TBD

Female: TBD

Requirements (CHF): 2,000,000

Needs Analysis

The flooding has led to the destruction of entire villages resulting in displacement of large communities. So far, thousands of people have been displaced in different parts of the country and are hosted in temporary shelters or by relatives. The floods affected people lost most of their household items and means to cover their basic needs, in addition to full or partial damage of their houses.

IRCS supported people affected by providing temporary shelters and distributing emergency shelter and household items from its prepositioned emergency stocks. As of today, 14,238 units of tents, 58,494 pcs of blankets, 32,961 pcs of ground sheets, 43,509 kgs of plastic sheets, 3,083 pcs of heaters, 2,851 health sets, 1355 kitchen sets have been distributed to identified families.

Proposed intervention

This appeal aims to replenish partially the IRCS stocks of tents, blankets and kitchen sets being distributed to the targeted population¹. Details will be included in the plan of action.



Livelihoods and basic needs

People targeted: 150,000 (30,000 households)

Male: TBD

Female: TBD

Requirements (CHF): 3,000,000

Needs Analysis

In rural areas, damage of houses, agriculture, and livestock was the main impact in addition to household items. Households in urban areas are also impacted by damages to their houses and household items, as well as damages on infrastructure, markets, public and private transportation. Despite support provided by the government and NGOs, vulnerable households will require additional assistance to meet their basic needs.

¹ The IFRC 2019 Iran Country Office Plan includes shelter improvement activities for which funding has been secured.

Proposed intervention

The population is used to receive assistance through cash, and IRCS has long experience with cash-based assistance. Markets are functional, and the government is in full support of the mechanism. Cash transfers will be implemented through the well-established banking system. Unconditional Cash Grants of CHF100 per household (based on the average price of a food basket and basic items) will be implemented, with a target of 30,000 households.



Protection, Gender and Inclusion

People targeted: 200,000

Male: TBD

Female: TBD

Requirements (CHF): 32,000

Needs analysis:

Children, people living with disabilities and older people are at risk of being left behind as people move to higher grounds. Displacement poses an increased risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and violence against children especially due to inadequate shelter and separation from family members.

Proposed intervention

IRCS provides support in restoring family links to displaced people and monitors protection issues in evacuation centres. Vulnerable groups including women, children, persons with disabilities and older people will also be provided with support in evacuations, safe referrals to protection services, measures to ensure privacy, and access for persons with disabilities.

Strategies for Implementation

Requirements (CHF): 68,000

A detailed assessment will be conducted by a team comprised by IFRC, IRCS and other Red Cross Red Crescent partners. Based on the needs for technical and coordination support required to deliver effectively in this operation, the following programme support functions will be put in place: **human resources, logistics and supply chain; information technology support (IT); communications; security; planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER); partnerships and resource development; finance and administration.** Further support will be provided by the IFRC regional office for Middle East and North Africa (MENA), in particular for information sharing with partners and donors. More details will be shared in the Emergency Plan of Action.

Funding Requirements

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

EMERGENCY APPEAL

MDRIR002 - IRAN - FLOODS

Funding requirements - summary

Area of Intervention	Needs in CHF
SHELTER	2,000,000
LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS	3,000,000
PROTECTION, GENDER AND INCLUSION	32,000
EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT	41,000
INFLUENCE OTHERS AS LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNERS	16,000
ENSURE A STRONG IFRC	11,000
TOTAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS	5,100,000

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Secretary General

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**.