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Emergency Plan of Action Operation Update

Syria: Flood Response

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency Appeal n° MDRSY004	GLIDE n° FL-2019-000031-SYR
EPoA update n° 01: 21 May 2019	Timeframe covered by this update: 12 April – 12 May 2019
Operation start date: 12 April 2019	Operation timeframe: 6 months end date: 15 October 2019
Overall operation budget: CHF 3,500,000	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 500,000
N° of people being assisted: 45,000 (9,000 families)	
Host National Society Presence: Syrian Arab Red Crescent Society (SARC) Headquarters; Al-Hassakeh Branch (75 full time staff, 6 support staff, 120 volunteers which covers the Al-Hassakeh Governorate)	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: ICRC and Austrian, British Canadian, Danish, Finnish, German, Norwegian and Swiss Red Cross Societies	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: None outside of Al Hol Camp	

Summary:

The first Operation Update provides recent information on the situation and progress of the ongoing response operation. IFRC continues to appeal for funds to support the response activities of Syrian Arab Red Crescent Society (SARC) as spelt out in the operational strategy of the [Emergency Plan of Action \(EPoA\)](#)

31 March 2019: Heavy rains starting on 31 March, resulted in serious flooding in the Al Hassakeh Governorate of Syria leaving **235,000 people affected** in towns and villages in the North East of Syria.

1 April 2019: Rapid assessment, evacuations and basic relief provided by the SARC Al Hasakeh Branch.

12 April 2019: 500,000 Swiss francs allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) as an emergency operation start up.

15 April 2019: [Emergency Appeal](#) launched for 3,500,000 Swiss francs

6 May 2019: [Emergency Plan of Action](#) is published.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster



Al Hassakeh governorate heavily affected by rainfall

Heavy rains starting on 31 March, resulted in serious flooding in the Al Hassakeh Governorate of Syria and continued during all April, leaving 235,000 people affected in towns and villages in the North East of Syria. Two people died during the flooding including an 8 years' old child. Many of the affected families are living in camps for people internally displaced persons (IDP) as a result of recent military activity in the area. Serious damage to homes and agricultural lands has been reported in Quamishli, Jawadiyeh, Ta'robiyah, Tal Hamis, Qahtaniyyeh, Al Hassakeh and the IDP camp in Aresheeh, as well as the IDP camp of Al Hol Camp (Sector 5 and 7).

Schools in Tal Hamis, one of the worst affected areas, are being used as temporary shelters for more than 2,500 people that have been evacuated from the floods. These families have been in temporary shelters for more than three weeks, and recent rainfall means that they will be forced to remain until the weather stabilizes. IDP settlement in Areesheh has been moved due to acute flooding.

The new assessments undertaken by SARC at the end of April confirmed that over 7,000 houses have been damaged by the floods, and still 500 families have been displaced to five schools which are serving as temporary emergency shelters, and at least 1,000 families are sheltering with host families. Some 194,000 acres of agricultural land has been flooded, with significant loss of food crops including barley, wheat and lentils as well as loss of animals, including sheep, goats, cows and chickens. Damage to road infrastructure has led the destruction of 6 bridges making it difficult to access some of the most vulnerable areas.

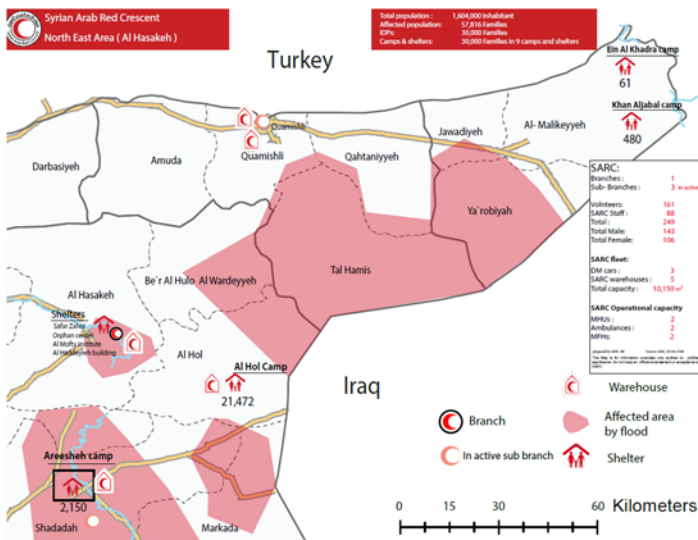
In the third week of April there was further destruction of house, farmlands and road infrastructure resulting from the high-water levels which submerged farmlands and causing overflows of rivers and contamination of the soil with oil particularly in Tal Hamis.

The extent of the needs remains uncertain due to inaccessibility in some areas; this is further compounded by the governorate being in a food insecure area which has exacerbated the food insecurity situation as a result of the recent flooding.

Summary of current response

Overview of Host National Society

Response efforts are underway and are being coordinated by the SARC Al-Hassakeh branch with support from SARC headquarters. Whilst the response activities are being implemented in Tal Hamis, Jazah, Rad Shakra, Al-ya'roubya, Tel Barak, Al-Jawadea, Mabada, Aresheeh, Al-Qahtaniyah, Al-shadada and Markada, SARC has prioritized Tal Hamis



as it is the most affected area and close to dams compounding its exposure to overflows from the dams. Almost 44 percent of the arable land has been destroyed in Tal Hamis and the area experienced the most damage in terms of houses.

The response is being led by SARC's Al Hassakeh branch with support from SARC headquarters. Al Hassakeh branch has mobilised 75 staff and 120 volunteers for this emergency response supported using two vehicles and five trucks. For this operation, SARC has set up distribution points in Al-Qameshli, Al-Hassakeh City and Aresheeh Camp. Support has also been provided by the SARC HQ to the branch with the deployment of a monitoring team to the flood affected areas. The team that is drawn from the disaster

management (DM), information management (IM) and monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning (MEAL) departments has been deployed to monitor response activities and to support the setup of the emergency response.

In response to the rainfall and flooding, SARC has conducted various assessments in the flood affected areas and continues to assess the damage from the floods. The first assessment was conducted on the 30th of March to assess the effects of the floods which was immediately followed by another assessment on the 3rd of April to determine the needs of the affected populations. As of 22nd of April, assessments were on-going and by the 25th of April SARC had distributed relief items to affected communities.

A total of 11,000 blankets, 1,500 mattresses, 4,000 hygiene kits, 14,400 sanitary items (diapers) for people with disabilities, 21,600 diapers for children, 10,150 packs of canned food and 2,300 food parcels, as well as 900 plastic sheets had been distributed. However, as the stock of relief items at the branch ran out there was a slowdown in distributions in the third/fourth week of April, but replenishment has been mobilised from the SARC's central warehouse in Tartous. As funds continue to be received against the Emergency Appeal, further distributions will be able to continue to resume as per the plan.

The items distributed to date are shown in the table below.

Area	Relief Items Distributed					
	Canned Food	Food Parcel	Tarpaulins	Blankets	Mattresses	Hygiene Kits
Al-Hassakeh City	50					
Aresheeh Camp		2,300				
Tal-Brak	600		400	2,000		
Tal-Hamis	9,500		500	9,000	1,500	4,000
Total Households	10,150	2,300	900	11,000	1,500	4,000

SARC is also providing primary health care assistance with the deployment of two mobile health units (MHU) having already treated 200 patients supported by two ambulances for patient referrals. Affected areas like Tal Hamis and Aresheeh camp have no health facilities available leaving all the affected population with no access to any health support, therefore SARC increased the numbers of MHUs from one to two. The total number of people reached by emergency health services during the response is 2,170.

The table below shows the distribution of these beneficiaries by area.

People Reached by Emergency Health Services		
Area	Services	Number of people reached
Tal Hamis	Mobile Health Unit	200
Aresheeh Camp	Psychosocial support	1,970
Total		2,170

A high number of cases of children affected by diarrhoea have been treated as well as several cases of leishmaniosis.

The Al Hassakeh branch psychosocial support (PSS) mobile team has been providing psychosocial support to affected communities and has reached 1,970 people in Aresheeh camp with the provision of psychosocial support mostly children. These PSS sessions comprised of recreational activities and Psychological First Aid awareness sessions. The PSS team is also monitoring displacement sites for protection issues. No protection concerns or cases of children separated from their families were recorded during the reporting period.

A WASH assessment conducted has indicated that 80 boreholes have collapsed leaving an estimated number of 40,000 people with no access to safe drinking water. The situation is exacerbated by the damage to electrical transformers, submersible pumps and transfer pumps for water and the water purification system has also been affected. The assessment also revealed that people were drinking dirty water from rivers and ponds, posing a serious health risk. Supported by their communities, affected populations have received water through water trucking options. A total of 15 WASH volunteers have been mobilised to conduct hygiene promotion campaigns to prevent a possible out-break of water-borne diseases. A total of 64 sanitation facilities in Aresheeh camp have been replaced. Within the schools, families are using existing facilities which are sufficient.

SARC has also registered 2,735 people with disabilities affected by the floods, who are in urgent need of support and these have been provided with food assistance making that are included in the current emergency response. SARC has also held consultations with community leaders to discuss the proposed floods response. At this stage SARC is responding to the relief needs, with further assessments required for longer term recovery and livelihoods needs.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

- SARC is being supported by the IFRC office in Damascus and Danish, Finnish, Canadian, Norwegian, German and Swiss Red Cross Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as well as Movement partners outside of Damascus; including the British Red Cross.
- SARC has held four coordination meetings for the floods with partner national societies and the ICRC in Damascus.
- Technical meetings have occurred on a regular basis between SARC, IFRC and PNSs in Damascus in moving forward with implementation of technical aspects.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

- Outside Al Hol camp there is no or very limited UN or NGO presence and coordination for flood affected areas.
- SARC headquarters is in daily contact with government counterparts at the national level.
- SARC Al Hassakeh branch is holding coordination meetings with the Governor of Al Hassakeh to ensure alignment and coordination of the response with the public authorities.
- In addition, SARC Al Hassakeh branch is in regular contact with formal and informal community leaders, ensuring access and acceptance.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Needs analysis

Based on initial rapid assessments there are immediate needs for the flooded affected population to access safe drinking water, as well as for blankets, mattresses, jerry cans, plastic sheets, dignity kits, hygiene kits, food parcels and tinned food and basic health care; including psycho-social support. SARC teams are still assessing the level of damage to housing and have concluded a new targeted WASH assessment to review the status of the piped water infrastructure, contamination of wells and the quality of water. Further information will be provided in the next operations update on the initial outcome of the assessment. Sanitation facilities have also been damaged. While rapid assessments have been undertaken, continued rainfall in the second, third and fourth weeks of April has affected new areas, in addition to those previously affected.

During this emergency response there will be an assessment of recovery needs and livelihoods (planned for end of May) which have been seriously impacted by the recent floods, with close to 200,000 acres of agricultural land flooded leading to loss of barley, wheat and lentils, which could affect food supply in the months ahead. However, there still are on-going assessments to establish the extent of damage to livestock and agricultural land. Preliminary results from these assessments have indicated significant losses of sheep, goats, cows and chickens with Tal-Hamis and Jazaah being the most affected areas in terms of loss to agricultural land.

Area	Land Size in Acres	Number of Houses Damaged
Tal Hamis	85,300	2,000
Rad Shakra	20,000	500
Jazaah	30,000	400
Al-ya'roubya	10,000	1,500
Tel Barak	5,000	100
Al-Jawadea	6,000	200
Mabada	1,500	100
Aresheeh	2,000	400
Al-Qahtaniyah	500	300
Al-Shadada	4,000	300
Rural Al-Hassakeh	24,000	1,358
Marked	6,000	400
Total	194,300	7,558

The table shows the updated extent of the destruction to farmlands and damage to houses as a result of the floods. Over 7,000 houses and close to 200,000 acres of arable land have been destroyed.

Targeting

Of the 235,000 people affected by the floods, 73,000 were living in the Al Hol camp which has been badly affected. Due to the large presence and interest of the United Nations and NGOs in the Al Hol camp, this population is not included in the SARC response strategy for this Emergency Appeal. SARC will keep focusing on the 45,000 people in other IDP camps and towns and villages that are not receiving assistance from other organisations. Targeting criteria is based on those families who have lost their shelters, their livelihoods and their personal possessions and according to the vulnerability criteria such as people recently displaced and displaced several times, people with disabilities, sick people, elderly people, women headed households and single headed households and families with young children including those who lack access to safe water and those who are traumatised by the impact the floods.

The operation will target areas that have been flood damaged base on the initial rapid assessments, which include; Tal Hamis, Al-ya'roubya, Al-Jawadea, Rural Al-Hassakeh (East and West), Tal Brak, Aresheeh. In addition, SARC will also respond to the newly affected areas affected by heavy rainfall occurring in the second and third week of April resulting in further flooding which include; Rad Shakra, Jazaah, Mabada, Al-Qahtaniyah, Al-Shadada, Markada

Scenario planning

Heavy rains continued in the fourth week of April affecting some of the already targeted areas and delaying the return of displaced populations to their homes. New affected areas were assessed by SARC teams in response to renewed rainfall, increasing the estimated number of affected populations from 45,000 to 162,000 people outside of Al Hol camp (235,000 people affected including Al Hol camp). The newly areas assessed by SARC are Markada, Rad Shakra, Jazaah, Mabada, Al-Qahtaniyah and Al- Shadada.

Worst case scenario: If heavy rainfall continues and flooding worsens, then the number of people affected will rise. The number of damaged houses constructed with mud will rise, as they become saturated and waterlogged, causing further population displacement. Heavy rainfall would prevent the repair of boreholes and sanitation facilities, resulting in an increase in the risk of water borne diseases. Access to hard to reach areas would also be hampered, and there could be further damage to roads and bridges.

Most likely scenario: According to the meteorological forecasts, heavier than normal rainfall is not expected for Syria. If this is the case, families should be able to return to their homes and start the clean-up process once the flood waters recede.

Operation Risk Assessment:

A full risk register is completed and will be a live/evolving document and below are the top risks or risks being considered with extra attention. From this risk register, the implementation of the Plan of Action assumes that the following factors would have a further negative impact on the delivery of aid to those in need:

Assumptions	Support Measures
<p>A1. SARC continues to have access working in accordance to the Fundamental Principles.</p> <p>A2. Access to quality information from the field is constant.</p>	<p>A1. SARC will continue active dialogue and coordination with the Al Hassakeh governorate and local community leaders, which has thus far proved effective in guaranteeing and mitigating security concerns regarding movements of SARC staff and volunteers and enabling access to hard to reach locations. The Movement partners continue to support the position of SARC as a neutral and impartial national society adhering to the Fundamental Principles.</p> <p>A2. SARC established Information Management unit that is responsible for timely collection, analysis and reporting of operational information, while IFRC continues to enhance monitoring, evaluation and information management systems of SARC.</p>
Risks	Mitigation Measures
<p>R1. Volatile security contexts impact safety of SARC staff/volunteers, IFRC staff, and ability of SARC to conduct emergency relief and programmes.</p> <p>R3. Logistics risk: Supply chain of procured relief items is disrupted.</p> <p>R4. Financial related risks: funds not allocated to the grant's agreed purpose.</p>	<p>R1.1. SARC and IFRC as applicable routinely assesses programme risk before implementing in specific areas.</p> <p>R1.2. SARC operations room monitors on-going activities in coordination with Al Hassakeh branch.</p> <p>R1.3. SARC volunteers and staff are properly identified and follow security procedures.</p> <p>R3.1. IFRC adapts plans accordingly to the changing context, and alternative measures are implemented when possible.</p> <p>R3.2. Donors are notified of the possible delays and challenges in the implementation of the funds.</p> <p>R3.3. SARC and IFRC participates in the Logistics Cluster in Syria where main logistics issues are discussed.</p> <p>R4.1. Funds are transferred to SARC per the IFRC/SARC Project Agreement and operational budgets. SARC follows the IFRC finance and procurement procedures.</p> <p>R4.2. IFRC Fraud and corruption prevention control policy is disseminated in SARC.</p> <p>R4.3. SARC and IFRC has an annual internal and external audit process.</p> <p>R4.4. IFRC Syria operation has a fully dedicated finance delegate to ensure funds are implemented in line with donor requirements, both working closely with SARC.</p>

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Proposed strategy

The **overall goal** of the response is to meet the basic needs of at least 45,000 people (9,000 families) most affected by the floods with basic household relief items, food parcels (ready to eat and food for cooking), Should the funding be available, SARC has the capacity to scale up the current intervention to able to support all the 162,000 affected people.

The operational timeframe is set at six months, the minimum timeframe for an IFRC emergency operation, however SARC will endeavor to undertake the planned relief activities as soon as possible (ideally within three months), in proportion to the magnitude of the need underscored by the humanitarian imperative. The operational plan will be revised based on the outcome of more detailed assessments, particularly for recovery and livelihood needs.

The original plan to target 45,000 people has drastically changed following the new assessment and food insecurity resulted in reaching new affected population. SARC has already increased food parcels distributions reaching up to 95,487 people aiming to scale up the response according to funding availability. Beneficiaries will be selected based on those families who have lost their shelters, their livelihoods and their personal possessions and according to vulnerability criteria such as people recently displaced and displaced several times, people with disabilities, sick people, elderly people, women headed households and single headed households and families with young children. The original plan to also have only 1 MHU has changed with the deployment of 2 MHUs since some health facilities in Tal Hamis, Aresheeh camp were affected by the floods leaving affected population with no access to any health service.

Shelter

SARC has initially targeted 1,500 families with household item support. Once these needs have been met, SARC will distribute household items to vulnerable families who have lost household items in the floods, while applying SARC's vulnerability selection criteria. In total, SARC plans to distribute 5,000 tarpaulins, 15,000 mattresses and 30,000 blankets. SARC will also distribute one cleaning kit per family for 9,000 families, enabling them to clean water and mud from damaged houses. This kit includes a bucket, brush and broom. In addition, the 500 families displaced in schools

will receive shelter repair assistance, enabling them to return home as soon as possible. Longer term shelter needs will be assessed by SARC WASH and Reconstruction team.



SARC volunteers assess damaged houses in Tal-Hamis.

Livelihoods and basic needs

Following the current food insecurity situation of affected population – especially in Al-Tamis areas, SARC plans to increase the initial 9,000 families with food parcels and ready to eat food parcels - one parcel per family per month for three months. The updated plan is to distribute 9,000 food parcels to affected families and 2,000 ready-to-eat food parcels for those who have no access to cooking facilities. Moving forward, SARC will undertake further assessments focusing on the damage to livelihoods, to assess the loss of livestock and damage to agricultural land.

Health

The flooding has caused injury and sickness in the affected areas where health care is virtually non-existent. In response, SARC has deployed two mobile health units to provide medical treatment as well as two ambulances to assist with patient referrals to the mobile health units. In addition, SARC has also deployed their mobile PSS unit, based in Al Hassakeh branch, to provide psychosocial support to affected communities, with a focus on children and those experiencing multiple displacements caused by the conflict and the recent floods. The health teams will also undertake surveillance to monitor cases of disease outbreaks; including vector and water borne diseases. The mobile health units, the ambulances and the PSS unit are already operational.

Water, sanitation and hygiene

A WASH assessment has just been completed and the needs are currently being analyzed, however needs related to water, sanitation and hygiene are already evident. As part of this response, SARC will contribute to families having better access to safe drinking water through distributing aqua tabs and one 10 ltr and one 20 ltr jerry cans per family. SARC will distribute family hygiene kits to 9,000 families and 15 WASH volunteers have been mobilized for community-based hygiene promotion activities in the affected communities. SARC will continue to assess the situation as it develops, and the plan will be revised to cover longer term recovery needs in relation to WASH.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion

The SARC's PSS team (28 volunteers) will continue to respond to basic protection needs for families displaced in schools as provision of basic PSS, directing vulnerable cases to existing services, in addition to identify potential child protection concerns. The mobile PSS team are trained and equipped to handle potential protections cases through safe referral mechanisms. The PSS team will also provide bespoke PSS sessions for people with disabilities affected by the floods. The PSS mobile team will be operational for the duration of the emergency response. SARC plans to distribute dignity kits to 9,000 families, each kit contains clothing and underwear suitable for families.



Floods displaced people in Hassekeh collecting water from swamps. Photo: SARC

Human Resources

The operation is being supported by 75 Al Hassakeh branch staff and 120 volunteers with support from SARC Headquarters. Mobile medical units are staffed by one doctor, one nurse and one driver. The Al Hassakeh branch has a trained and equipped a mobile PSS team which has been deployed to support affected communities. Al Hassakeh branch will be responsible for undertaking distributions and logistics. Monitoring and reporting will be supervised by SARC headquarters via a special team comprised of staff from Disaster Management, Information Management and Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning departments.

Existing human resources within the IFRC country office and wider Movement partners have been drawn upon to complement SARC existing capacity as required. Ongoing discussions in the coming days and weeks ahead between SARC, IFRC and partners will be focused on identifying any additional human resource capacity that may be required to be scaled up in areas such as resource mobilization, reporting, monitoring and technical support to ensure operational effectiveness.

Security

SARC is the lead agency for the Movement partners in Syria with regards to security. The operation will be based in the remote Governorate of Al Hassakeh. However, the operation will be closely monitored on a daily basis by the branch and SARC headquarters for security issues and risk for staff and volunteers. SARC has significant experience in security and draws upon updates from a number of sources, while upholding the Red Cross Red Crescent Fundamental Principles to gain access to affected communities. For the most part, staff and volunteers working on this operation will be used from the local branch, having been trained and prepared to respond in complex settings. International staff will not be deployed for this operation.

Communication

IFRC regional and Secretariat staff will support SARC in social media and in drafting of key messages for the response. Pictures and videos of the current situation and SARC response can be found here:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1nCN7b2PyU8mglRgOqmm60Q9zR1y3o5js>
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1xDH-b71aTlxERse8tQLMNRYzBk4WbwG>

Logistics and Supply Chain

It is important to note that Al Hassakeh is a remote, isolated region with complicated logistic chain challenges. Logistics aim to effectively manage the supply chain, including mobilization, procurement, customs clearance, fleet, storage and transport to distribution sites, in accordance with the operation needs and aligned to IFRC's logistics standards, processes and procedures. In support of the flood response, it is required to expand the logistics capacity through the rental of 10 vehicles for the duration of the response to mobilize volunteer teams for further assessments, for PSS, for distributions and for monitoring. In addition, 10 trucks will be rented for an initial three months to assist with distribution of food and household items. Also budgeted are provisions for the procurement of fuel, vehicle maintenance, warehouse rental for three warehouses to accommodate the shelter, food and household items and the set up of three distribution points.

The mobilization table is currently up and posted on the GO platform and has also been shared with PNS. A combination of local procurement and drawing on existing regional relief supplies will be drawn upon for the initial response, which will be supplemented by central stocks from the Tartous warehouse. Urgent restocking of the Tartous stocks will be required to ensure adequate stock is available for new and ongoing emergencies in Syria.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER)


A SARC "Emergency Floods Monitoring and Evaluation Team" from SARC headquarters conducted a monitoring visit to the flood affected area from 21 to 24 April 2019. The team was composed of two MEAL staff, one disaster management and two information management members. The team was able to support the setup of the emergency response and formalize structures for programmatic integration at branch level. The next monitoring visit is planned for 18 to 21 May 2019.

The monitoring team observed the distribution that took place in Tal Hamis on the 24th of April. From these observations, the team reported community involvement and participation in the distribution process enhancing accountability to the operation. The other observation made by the monitoring team was that key information on the SARC response was shared with the communities prior to the distribution. The team also noted that SARC employed a participatory methodology combined with verification by the Al Hassakeh branch through regular consultation and involvement of the community in identifying the most vulnerable beneficiaries.

Information Management (IM) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)

Focal points for IM and CEA have already been identified within the National Society for this operation. For IM this will include support for assessments and reports based on analysis of the humanitarian situation. The IM focal point will also work with IFRC MENA Regional Office to support data collection and management and, in coordination with CEA colleagues to support the design and set up of a feedback mechanism to improve and adjust the response.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

	<p>Shelter</p> <p>People reached: 38,919 (5,000 households)</p> <p>Male:17,513</p> <p>Female:21,406</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:	Target	Actual
# of households reached with safe and adequate shelter and settlement	9,000	5,000
<p>Output 1.1: Short, medium and long-term shelter and settlement assistance is provided to affected households</p>		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance	9,000	450
# of households provided with shelter repair assistance	500	0
# of households provided with tarpaulins	9,000	450
# of households provided with blankets	9,000	5,000
# of households provided with mattresses	9,000	500
# of households provided with cleaning kits	9,000	0
# of households provided with jerry cans 10 L	9,000	0
# of households provided with jerry cans 20 L	9,000	0
<p>Progress towards outcomes</p>		
<p>The devastating impact of the heavy rains has damaged over 7,000 houses causing family displacements or without adequate shelter and essential needs. In Areesheh camp, 50% of the camp was destroyed. The operation prioritized provision of shelter to enhance family dignity, privacy and mitigate possible protection concerns. In the reporting period SARC distributed 11,000 blankets- 9,000 in Tal-Hamis and 2,000 in Tal-Brak, 1,500 mattresses in Tal-Hamis, 500 tarpaulins in Tal-Hamis and 400 tarpaulins in Tal-Brak. A total of 5,000 families (38,919 people) benefitted from this distribution with each family having an average household size of 7 people per household.</p>		
<p>Current Assessment: The Al Hassakeh branch of SARC conducted a rapid assessment immediately following the floods and determined the needs for blankets, mattresses, jerry cans, dignity kits (clothing) and plastic sheets. SARC has registered 1,500 families displaced by floods (500 families displaced in five schools and 1,000 displaced by their relatives). SARC will initially target these 1,500 families with household items support. Once these needs have been met, SARC will distribute household items to vulnerable families who have lost household items in the floods. Community initiatives in accessing clean water will require additional support and cleaning kits to enable them to clean mud from damaged houses. In addition, the 500 families displaced in schools will receive shelter repair assistance, enabling them to return home as soon as possible. In addition, the 500 families displaced in schools will receive shelter assistance to make their temporary shelter more comfortable. This includes assistance for minor repairs such as broken windows and doors and constructing partitions for privacy. Longer term shelter needs will be assessed by SARC WASH and Reconstruction team.</p>		
<p>Challenges: There are challenges in accessing some of the affected communities due to the destruction of the road infrastructure.</p>		



Livelihoods and basic needs

People reached: 95,487 (12,450 households)

Male:42,969

Female:54,518

Livelihoods and basic needs Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods

Indicators:	Target	Actual
#/ of people targeted/reached	45,000	95,487

Output 1.1: Basic needs assistance for livelihoods security including food is provided to the most affected communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with food assistance for basic needs	45,000	95,487
# of household reached with canned food parcels – ready to eat food	4,000	10,150
# of households reached with food parcels (food for cooking)	5,000	2,300

Progress towards outcomes



SARC assisted **10,150 families** with food parcels (ready to eat canned foods) and 2,300 households with standard food parcels. In total 12,450 families (households) were supported with some food items with 600 families receiving canned food in Tal-Brak, 9,500 in Tal-Hamis, 50 in Al-Hassakeh City and 2,300 IDP families in Aresheeh camp reached with ready-to-eat food parcels. A total of 95,487 people benefited from the food distributions. The prevailing average household size was 7.7 which is higher than the average household size of 5 used in the planning for this response. All the targeted households received only one

food parcel except for one case observed during the monitoring visit where a household received two food parcels as the household had 14 household members.


Standard Food Parcel Content

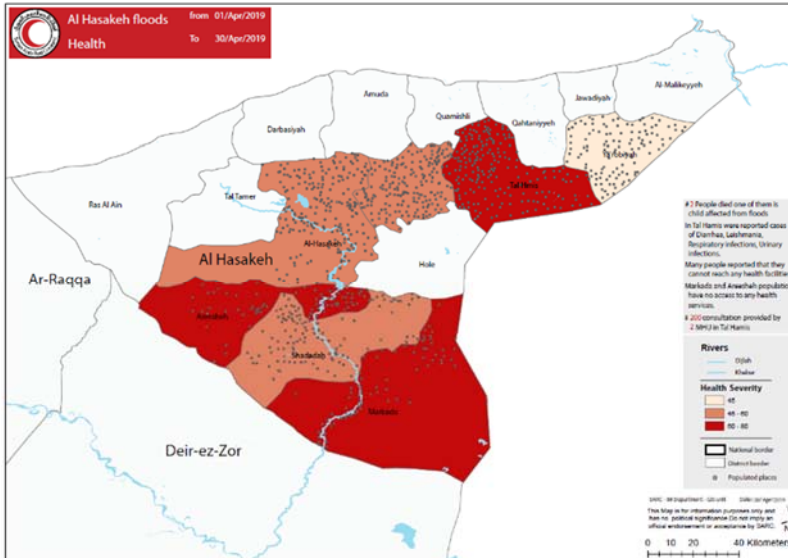
1. Fava Beans – 5 Cans of 500 grams each
2. Tuna – 6 cans of 160 grams each
3. Dates – 1 pack of 1Kg
4. Apricot jam – 2 bottles of 400 grams each
5. Olive Oil – 1 bottle of 1 L
6. Luncheon Meat – 5 cans of 200 grams each
7. Za'atar – 1 pack of 1 Kg each

The canned food parcels are ready-cooked meal, processed and canned and designed for the first phase of emergency response. This is particularly important, because due to the of the content, weight and availability of the parcels, they meet the practical requirements during short windows of access to hard-to-reach or besieged areas, and the needs of the beneficiaries facing sudden displacements.

Current Assessment: An initial needs assessment found out that the affected population was in need of food assistance over a period of three months. However, livelihoods and recovery needs will be accurately determined during the current operation of the response with preliminary assessments indicating that the heavy rains and resultant flooding caused a devastating erosion of livelihoods as it flooded close to 200,000 acres of agricultural land causing the loss of barley, wheat and lentils crops. The flooding also caused oil contamination of the soil particularly in Tal Hamis. Significant losses of livestock including sheep, goats, cattle and chickens were also recorded.

Output 1.2: Household livelihoods security is enhanced through food production and income generating activities		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of assessments carried out by SARC in relation to livelihoods	1	0
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>During this reporting period, SARC opted to wait until mid-May to conduct a Livelihood assessment to understand;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • loss of harvest • market destructions and food insecurity and vulnerability. <p>SARC will deploy a Livelihood team to support Al-Hassakeh Branch in this process. Results and recommendation of the Livelihood assessment will be shared in the next reporting period.</p>		

Health		
 <p>Health People reached: 2,170 Male: Female:</p>		
Outcome 1: Vulnerable people's health and dignity are improved through increased access to appropriate health services.		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people targeted/reached	10,000	2,170
# of Red Cross Red Crescent volunteers mobilised by National Societies for health activities of the Al Hassakeh flood response	30	30
Output 1.1: Communities are provided with services to identify and reduce risks		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached by SARC with services to reduce relevant health risk factors	10,000	2,000
# of cases disease outbreaks including vector and water borne diseases reported		N/A
# of mobile health units (MHU) deployed	2	2
# of people reached by mobile health unit (MHU)	10,000	200
# of ambulances deployed	2	2
# of patients referred to higher level health facilities	10,000	N/A
# of assessments conducted by SARC in relation to Health	1	1
Progress towards outcomes		



In the reporting period and based on the needs presented in Tal Hamis, Aresheeh camp, and Markada, SARC deployed **2 mobile health units** to provide assistance to people seeking basic emergency basic health care and **2 ambulances** for managing patient referrals to MHU or SARC clinics, public clinics and hospitals. **A total of 200 people were reached by SARC mobile health units.**

SARC has also deployed its mobile PSS unit, based in Al Hassakeh branch, to provide psychosocial support to affected communities, with a focus on children and those affected by multiple displacements

caused by conflict and foods. The mobile health unit, ambulances and PSS unit will continue to provide services for the duration of the response operation. This intervention is targeting those who are sick as a result of the floods, those who have lost their medication and the people who are suffering from psychological distress in a context where health services are critically under resourced, if they exist at all.

Current Assessment: A rapid needs assessment carried out by SARC indicated the need for basic health care for the flood affected population. The assessment has highlighted the presence typhoid cases as well as increasing cases of diarrhea particularly amongst children. The initial target to reach 10,000 included population living in the floods affected areas, where health care is virtually non-existent. During this reporting period, SARC primarily focused to provide services to people directly affected by the floods. From the onset of the floods, SARC deployed a mobile medical unit staffed by a driver, doctor and nurse and equipped with medicines and consumables. The two Mobile Health Units are being supported by two ambulances for patient referrals.

Output 1.2: Communities are supported by NS to effectively respond to health and psychological needs during an emergency

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached by psychosocial support (PSS)	10,000	1,970
# of PSS mobile teams deployed	1	1

Progress towards outcomes



PSS session for children in Hassakeh. Photo: SARC

SARC has deployed a mobile PSS team from Al Hassakeh branch to provide psychosocial support to affected communities, with a focus on children and those experiencing multiple displacements caused by conflict and the recent floods. In Aresheeh camp, **1,970 beneficiaries were reached with psychosocial activities** comprising of recreation activities, Psychological First Aid awareness sessions and informal education for children provided by SARC volunteers.

Current Assessment: Assessments indicated the need for psychosocial support (PSS) for the affected population. Most of the affected experienced traumatic events and the risk of psychological problems such as stress which can affect the recovery and adjustment of affected persons especially in a context where health services are critically under resourced. The risk is much higher is in children.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

People reached: 30,901 (4,000 households)

Male: 13,905

Female: 16,996

Outcome 1: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related is reduced in target communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people targeted/reached	45,000	30,901

Output 1.1: Continuous assessment of water, sanitation, and hygiene situation is carried out in targeted communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of assessments carried out by SARC in relation to WASH	2	2

Output 1.1: Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere and WHO standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people provided with safe water according to WHO standards	45,000	0
# of households provided with aqua tabs	9,000	0

Output 1.2: Hygiene-related goods (NFIs) which meet Sphere standards and training on how to use those goods is provided to the target population

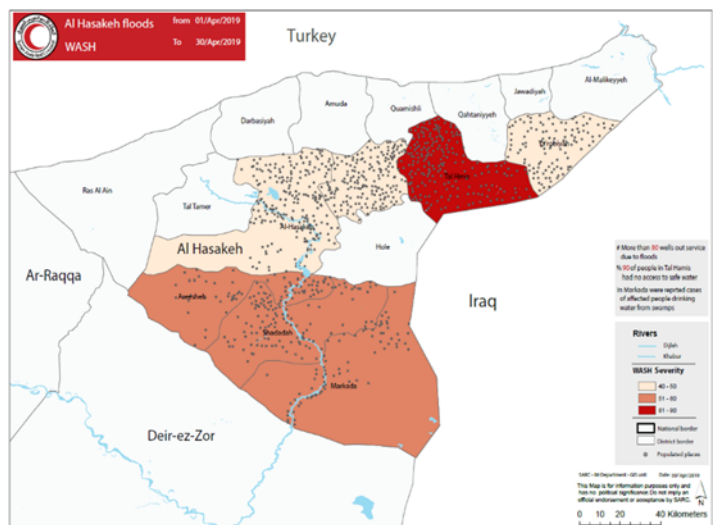
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households with a set of essential hygiene items	9,000	4,000
# of households provided with hygiene kits	9,000	4,000

Output 1.3: NS promote positive behavioural change in personal and community hygiene among targeted communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households reached with key messages to promote personal and community hygiene	9,000	0
# of volunteers involved in hygiene promotion activities	24	15

Progress towards outcomes

In the reporting period, SARC mobilized 15 WASH volunteers to carry out community-based hygiene promotion in affected communities. The number of people reached through hygiene promotion will be reported on in the next reporting period. SARC also provided WASH NFIs (hygiene kits) comprising of **4,000 hygiene kits to 4,000 families in Tal Hamis reaching 30,901 people** (13,905 males and 16,996 females). The average household size of people benefitting from hygiene kits was 7.72. Each hygiene kit comprises the following items: soap, detergent, shampoo, toothbrushes and paste, combs and brushes. A total of **64 sanitation facilities** in Aresheeh camp have been replaced. Within the schools, families are using existing facilities which are sufficient.



Current Analysis: A just completed WASH assessment is undergoing analysis, however, needs related to water, sanitation and hygiene are already evident. As part of this response, SARC will ensure that families have access to safe water (specifically aqua tabs, noting that jerry cans are included under household items in Shelter). Initial rapid assessments indicated the need for hygiene promotion as well as family hygiene kits. Behaviours, attitudes and practices for sanitation needs to be enhanced through dissemination of health and hygiene promotion messages. Scores of people are surviving on unsafe water sources heightening secondary risks of epidemics. Considering the above, the distribution of aqua tabs and sanitation emergency supplies will mitigate this risk.

Challenges: The incessant rain which fell during the second and third weeks of April has been challenging to assess the full magnitude of the impact of floods on boreholes and sanitation facilities. SARC will continue to assess the situation as it develops, and the plan will be revised to cover off on longer term recovery needs in relation to WASH. The lack of funding slowed the procurement process to provide aqua-tabs and hygiene items.



Protection, Gender and Inclusion

People reached: 0

Male:0

Female:0

Outcome 1: Communities become more peaceful, safe and inclusive through meeting the needs and rights of the most vulnerable.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people targeted/reached	45,000	0
Output 1.1: NS Programmes and operations prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence and other forms of violence especially against children		
# of households with personal items that maintain dignity	9,000	0
# of dignity kits distributed to flood-affected population	9,000	0
# of household satisfied with the quality of items in the dignity kits they received	9,000	0
# of households satisfied with the quantity of items in the dignity kits they received	9,000	0

Progress towards outcomes

To date, SARC has registered 2,735 people with disabilities within flood affected communities. SARC has prioritized people with disabilities and their families for access to food and household items. In addition, SARC plans to provide special assistance such as latrines designed with disability access, tailored PSS sessions and sanitation materials.

Current Assessment: SARC volunteers continue to monitor for protection issues particularly for those displaced in schools. SARC and local authorities have constructed partitions in the schools to allow for privacy. No security issues have been reported, however, SARC's PSS mobile team, who are trained and equipped to handle potential protection cases through safe referrals, will continue to monitor the situation. The PSS mobile team will be operational for the duration of the response. To date, no family separations have been reported, however SARC and ICRC are collaborating on restoring family links as needed. *Under this response*, SARC plans to distribute 9,000 family dignity kits, which include t-shirts and underwear for women, men and children. SARC has distributed dignity kits in other emergency responses, and the items are well received by the affected communities.

Challenges: Due the lack of funding, the procurement of Dignity Kits has been delayed.

Strategies for Implementation

Outcome 1: SARC capacity building and organisational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that the Nation Society has the necessary legal, ethical and financial systems and structures, competencies and capacities to plan and perform

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of SARC staff deployed for the response	75	75
# of SARC volunteers deployed for the response	120	120

Output 1.1: SARC has effective and motivated volunteers who are protected

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers working on the operation who are insured	120	120

Output 1.1: SARC has the necessary corporate infrastructure and systems in place

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of SARC branch staff who are supported for with appropriate tools to deliver the Emergency Operation	75	75
# of SARC branch volunteers who are supported for with appropriate tools to deliver the Emergency Operation	120	120

Output 1.1: Supply chain and fleet services meet recognized quality and accountability

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of vehicles mobilised for use by volunteers	10	2
# of trucks mobilised for the operation	10	5
# of distribution points used for the operation	3	3

Outcome 2: The programmatic reach of SARC and the IFRC us expanded

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Number of reports submitted on time to donors on the Emergency Appeal		

Output 1.1: Resource generation and related accountability models are developed and improved

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of joint monitoring visits undertaken by SARC staff (DM/IM/MEAL) to ensure quality of operation	3	1
# of lessons learnt workshops conducted	2	0
# of evaluations conducted related to the operation	1	0

Progress towards outcomes


The number of staff and volunteers to support the operation stands at 75 Al Hassakeh branch staff and 120 volunteers with support from SARC Headquarters. Mobile medical units are staffed by one doctor, one nurse and one driver. The Al Hassakeh branch has a trained and equipped a mobile PSS team which has been deployed to support affected communities. Al Hassakeh branch has been responsible for undertaking distributions and logistics. A monitoring and reporting visit from SARC headquarters was conducted from 21 to 24 April by a special team comprised of staff from Disaster Management, Information Management and Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning departments.

There are ongoing discussions between SARC, IFRC and partners to identify any additional human resource capacity that may be required to be scaled up in areas such as resource mobilization, reporting, monitoring and technical support to ensure operational effectiveness.

Currently there a plans to increase the vehicles for volunteer mobilisation from the current two to 10 and trucks for distribution from the current five to 10 as the number of affected persons increases. A operational review meeting as part of capturing real time lessons to be learnt for future was conducted with the monitoring team on the 30 April and there are also plans to conduct two Lessons Learned Workshops at Al Hassakeh branch and SARC headquarters to review the implementation and a report will be produced for future learning. In addition, continued assessments and monitoring will also be an integral part of the operation and will be used to ensure that the operation is in line with the evolving situation on the ground.



A project by the

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies



Syria, Floods: Response Activities

29 April 2019 · Glide No. FL-2019-000031-SYR



3.5M

CHF Funding Requirement

Sector-specific Funding Allocations:



Shelter

728,000 CHF



Livelihoods and Basic Needs

1,116,000 CHF



Health

64,000 CHF



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

596,000 CHF



Protection, Gender and Inclusion

202,000 CHF

Situation Overview



235,000 people affected



45,000 people targeted



2,500 people displaced



2,800 people with disabilities affected



40,000 without safe drinking water



6,000 houses damaged

Response Activities



300 people treated by the mobile health unit



1,500 people reached with psychosocial support



70 volunteers deployed



64 latrines replaced in the Areesheh Camp



400 m3 of solid waste removed from the Areesheh Camp



Distributions



11,000 blankets



1,500 mattresses



4,000 hygiene kits



10,150 packs of canned food



2,300 food parcels



21,600 diapers for children



900 rolls of plastic sheeting

D. BUDGET

Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

Operation name: Syria Floods

MDRSY004

Budget Group	Multilateral Response	Appeal Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	264,000	264,000
Shelter - Transitional	0	0
Construction - Housing	0	0
Construction - Facilities	0	0
Construction - Materials	0	0
Clothing & Textiles	495,000	495,000
Food	1,047,000	1,047,000
Seeds & Plants	0	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	558,900	558,900
Medical & First Aid	30,000	30,000
Teaching Materials	7,000	7,000
Ustensils & Tools	81,000	81,000
Other Supplies & Services	0	0
Emergency Response Units	0	0
Cash Disbursements	0	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	2,482,900	2,482,900
Land & Buildings	0	0
Vehicles	0	0
Computer & Telecom Equipment	9,600	9,600
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	80,000	80,000
Medical Equipment	9,000	9,000
Other Machinery & Equipment	0	0
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	98,600	98,600
Storage, Warehousing	27,000	27,000
Distribution & Monitoring	189,900	189,900
Transport & Vehicle Costs	112,450	112,450
Logistics Services	0	0
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	329,350	329,350
International Staff	0	0
National Staff	0	0
National Society Staff	128,925	128,925
Volunteers	204,000	204,000
Other Staff Benefits	0	0
Total PERSONNEL	332,925	332,925
Consultants	0	0
Professional Fees	0	0
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0	0
Workshops & Training	8,000	8,000
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	8,000	8,000

Travel	0	0
Information & Public Relations	0	0
Office Costs	29,980	29,980
Communications	0	0
Financial Charges	0	0
Other General Expenses	0	0
Shared Office and Services Costs	0	0
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	29,980	29,980
	0	0
Partner National Societies	0	0
Other Partners (NGOs, UN, other)	0	0
Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS	0	0
Programme and Services Support Recovery	213,314	213,314
Total INDIRECT COSTS	213,314	213,314
TOTAL BUDGET	3,495,069	3,495,069
Available Resources		
Multilateral Contributions		0
Bilateral Contributions		0
TOTAL AVAILABLE RESOURCES	0	0
NET EMERGENCY APPEAL NEEDS	3,495,069	3,495,069

Reference documents



Click here for:

- [Previous Appeals and updates](#)
- [Emergency Plan of Action \(EPoA\)](#)

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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**.