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Emergency Plan of Action Final Report

Pakistan: Drought

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation MDRPK015	Operation n° MDRPK015
Date of Issue: 2 October 2019	Glide number: DR-2018-000428-PAK
Date of disaster: Slow onset since 2018	
Operation start date: 21 February 2019	Operation end date: 21 June 2019
Host National Society: Pakistan Red Crescent Society	Operation budget: CHF 315,347
Number of people affected: 4.4 million (in 2 provinces), 280,912 (in 2 targeted districts)	Number of people assisted: 15,000
N° of National Societies involved in the operation: Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) worked in collaboration with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and in-country Partner National Societies (PNS) i.e. Canadian Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross and Turkish Red Crescent Society to respond to drought affected population in Sindh and Baluchistan.	
N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation:	
(i) Government authorities/agencies: National/Provincial/District Disaster Management Authorities (NDMA/PDMA/DDMA), Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), Government of Sindh and Baluchistan/and provincial departments.	
(ii) UN agencies: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Children's Fund (UNFPA) and International Organization for Migration (IOM), etc.	
(iii) International/NGOs: ACTED International, Islamic Relief, Muslim Aid and Health and Nutrition Development Society (HANDS).	

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

Pakistan is experiencing an increase in the frequency and severity of drought due to a rise in temperatures caused by climate change. The yearly precipitation calculation revealed that the country received 24.4 percent lower rainfall than normal, even during the monsoon season in 2018. Sindh and Baluchistan remained the worst affected areas and received 69.5 and 45 percent below average rainfall respectively. In January 2019, Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) declared moderate to severe drought conditions in 8 districts of Sindh and 18 districts of Baluchistan, with a total of over 5 million people affected. Assessments are showing that indicators have crossed the humanitarian threshold with some 3 million people affected in Sindh and 1.8 million affected in Balochistan. To meet the drought response needs in Pakistan USD 96.3 million was required however, USD 39.3 million (41 per cent) had been secured, while a gap of USD 57 million still exists. Despite government relief efforts, a significant number of drought-affected communities remained unattended and resorted to coping approaches that severely compromised the wellbeing of women and children.¹

Contrary to the drought situation in January 2019, Balochistan province experienced heavy rains in February 2019, resulting in severe flash flooding affecting over 425,000 people and displacing over 9,800 people in the districts of

¹https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/drought_rp_20190305.pdf,
<http://humanitarianservice.info/droughtportal/>

Lasbela, Killa Abdullah, Turbat, Pishin and Khuzdar. On 2 March 2019, the health department of Government of Balochistan declared “Health Emergency” across the province, instructing all hospitals to be on high alert ensuring 24/7 medical relief services.² Additional heavy rains were reported in April resulting in further floods in Balochistan except in Nushki district in Balochistan and Tharparkar in Sindh. Nushki and Tharparkar district were still facing severe drought conditions affecting the lives and livelihoods of the local communities. Therefore, these two districts were targeted through the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) emergency response operation to address the needs of the communities and to improve their living conditions.

Summary of response

Overview of Host National Society

PRCS was formed in 1947 through an act of Parliament and has its provincial and district branches across the country. PRCS has seven provincial and 92 district branches with a large pool of trained volunteers. Since the 2005 earthquake, the national society has carried out more than 30 major response operations with technical and financial support of IFRC, ICRC and its Partner National Societies.

PRCS continuously monitored the overall situation through coordination with its provincial branches and relevant government agencies (NDMA and PMD). Additionally, PRCS with support of provincial branches Sindh and Balochistan deployed trained technical staff and volunteers to the target districts for a rapid assessment. The rapid assessment team in coordination with all relevant line departments and political leadership were able to assess the disaster affected areas and the needs of disaster victims. This was followed by an assessment of local markets for calculation of ‘Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)’. An amount of PKR 18,400 (approx. CHF 133) was the MEB that was decided as the amount to be disbursed for food & fodder per family.

In April 2019, a detailed need assessment (DNA) was carried out by PRCS National Headquarters (NHQ) and Provincial Headquarters (PHQ) teams in Sindh and Balochistan which helped understand the severity of the emergency in vulnerable areas and priority needs of the affected communities. Initial findings of the assessment concluded that the current resources are insufficient to counter the implications of health and nutrition hazards, water and sanitary hygiene problems, and livelihood issues. The findings of the DNA were also shared and discussed with partners.

By the end of DREF Operation, PRCS has disbursed unconditional cash grants of PKR 18,400 (approx. CHF 133) to 1,357 drought affected households, to support them for basic food and fodder for their livestock. The Red Rose platform was utilized for beneficiary data collection, beneficiary database management and further distribution of cash and water filters to the targeted households in both districts. A total of 1,400 households received water filters along with awareness session on efficient and sustainable usage, and maintenance of sanitary hygiene. Four solar water pumps were installed for availability of clean drinking water to the local communities.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

Alongside the IFRC, other Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners in country including ICRC, Canadian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, and Turkish Red Crescent Society, are well connected and coordination and cooperation are ensured by the NS through frequent communication and information sharing.

A coordination meeting was held in January 2019, with all partner societies and IFRC regarding the drought situation in Sindh and Balochistan where PRCS shared their immediate plan including request for DREF. The Movement partners were cooperative and supported PRCS plan for response. PRCS was also well connected with regional partner through calls or meetings, coordinated by the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) for Afghanistan and Pakistan collectively.

IFRC has an active Country Office in Pakistan and it closely monitored the drought situation - providing technical support to PRCS before, during and post DREF response operation.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

In pursuance of the mandate, the first ever National Disaster Response Plan (NDRP) in the Country was developed in 2010 and named as NDRP-2010. NDRP was amongst the key document outlining the guidelines for responding to disasters in Pakistan. NDMA with technical assistance of Asia Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) and National Humanitarian Network (NHN), revised the NDRP (renamed as NDRP-2019), which was launched on 29 March 2019.

The purpose of NDRP 2019 was to:

- Outline the processes and mechanisms to facilitate a coordinated disaster response by the national and /or provincial departments.
- Incorporation of disaster management activities in preparedness and response plans.

²https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/who_situation_report_flood_balochistan_pakistan_mar_2019.pdf

- Increase clarity and enhance efficiency of all stakeholders for disaster response

Drought Update

Over 300,000 people have been reached with food and non-food items in Balochistan and Sindh through the interventions of Pakistan Government, PDMA, WFP and Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP). UNOCHA mobilized USD 10 million and launched its internal funding tool i.e. Central emergency Response Funds (CERF). Furthermore, USD 5.24 million has also been secured by Pakistan Humanitarian Pool Fund (PHPF) as a 'Pool Fund'. Government of Pakistan has mobilized USD 10 million, Department for International Development (DFID) has mobilized USD 8.4 million and USAID has mobilized USD 5.6 million for response actions. UN agencies and other humanitarian organisations present in the country were fully active in the drought affected areas and were in continuous contact with Government departments and other relevant stakeholders. Overall, USD 96.3 million was required to meet the drought response needs. However, only USD 39.3 million was secured while leaving a 59 per cent gap of around USD 57 million.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

A detailed need assessment was carried out by PRCS from 1 to 13 April 2019, to identify high risk and priority areas in Sindh and Balochistan. Based on the assessment results, PRCS explored possibilities of medium to long term interventions for addressing the major beneficiary needs identified. Following are some pertinent findings of the report.

Health

Malnutrition was high in the targeted areas; child mortality and postnatal issues were also at an alarming stage. According to assessment, 51 per cent of the assessed communities have access to tertiary level health care services i.e. District Headquarters Hospital (DHQ) and 48 per cent have access to primary level healthcare services i.e. village dispensary or Basic Health Unit (BHU). However, basic diagnostics and/or free medication facilities were missing at these tertiary and primary healthcare facilities. The DNA revealed that 82 per cent of pregnant women were being facilitated by Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) during child birth.

Water

Water scarcity was high in the assessed 10 villages; respondents also reported unavailability of safe drinking water. Risk of water borne diseases was seen to be high in these villages. Around 58 per cent of the total respondents reported that a complete trip for the collection of water usually takes several hours, while the water being unsafe for drinking. Women and children spend a lot of their time and effort to fetch water from far flung sources of water, which adds to their sufferings.

Agriculture

Agriculture is one of the main sources of livelihood of the communities living in the targeted villages. Around 58 per cent of the respondents reported that due to water scarcity, their agricultural activities have also come to a halt.

Livestock

Around 84 per cent of the respondents reported that they still own livestock for livelihood sustenance. However, 62 per cent of the households have limited resources to buy fodder and 48 per cent of the households are dealing with livestock diseases that affect the health and productivity of their livestock.

Risk Analysis

The risks identified during the implementation phase of the project as listed below:

- Identification of drought mapped areas.
- Coordination with state and line departments.
- Access to vulnerable and affected communities in targeted areas.
- Transportation and safe storage of food and non-food items.
- Availability of communication networks; mobile network signals.
- Nonfunctional sub branches at field level.

Despite the challenges, project activities like distribution of water filters and cash grant for livelihood and maintenance of livestock were accomplished within the project timeline.

PRCS teams remained in close coordination with provincial headquarters, state and line departments and other active bodies to monitor the situation and identify possible solutions. Volunteers and field officers were deployed in the field to continuously review the situation and devise strategies accordingly. For example, due to lack of network signals the beneficiaries in some areas were unreachable. As a result, volunteers carried out a door to door campaign to inform and coordinate with beneficiaries regarding the distribution of cash grants and water filters.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Proposed strategy

Collaboration with NDMA

PRCS planned interventions were aligned with the drought response plan operated by NDMA and UN agencies, and contributed into the overall response efforts of NDMA.

PRCS ensured close coordination with NDMA and other stakeholders to avoid duplication of resources. The target areas selected for DREF operation were Tharparkar district in Sindh province and Nushki district in Balochistan province, whereas, UN agencies targeted Qila Abdullah district in Baluchistan province.

Organizational Capacity and Response Analysis

PRCS has been implementing its cash preparedness program in the country since 2015. It is supported by IFRC, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross and the American Red Cross. The Cash Transfer Programme (CTP)/Cash Based Intervention (CBI) is included in PRCS's Strategic Plan (2016-2020) as one of its key priority areas. The emergency response to the 2015 earthquake led to the development of the first set of CTP contextualized tools. CTP toolbox, CTP and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Cash Based Interventions (CBI) were developed in the following year, 2016. Moreover, PRCS has also had agreements with a number of Financial Service Providers (FSPs) for smooth and transparent cash transfers.

Design and Support tools

Through this drought DREF operation, PRCS intended to provide assistance amounting to PKR 18,400 (approx. CHF 133) to 1,400 Households via a financial service provider. Red Rose platform was planned to be used as a data management tool. The cash grants intended to enable the affected communities to purchase essential items such as food and fodder for their livestock. During the need and market assessment survey, it was revealed that the local markets were fully functional and had the capacity to fulfil the local needs. As per focus group discussion and key informant interviews, the affected people prefer cash grants as compared to in-kind support.

Minimum Expenditure Basket Calculation

The national cash-working group was consulted to calculate the 'Minimum Expenditure Basket', i.e. required amount for assistance of targeted beneficiaries. The cash value was calculated to ensure that each person per household (seven members in a household) can consume at least 2,100 calories per day, and fodder for one livestock per day can be provided. The cash value was calculated based on commodity prices from local market. The grant was designed for one-month assistance only and further needs were to be addressed through longer-term strategy based on improvement in situation and/or rainfall in the coming months.

As part of the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) component, provision of clean drinking water to target districts was ensured. PRCS not only planned to rehabilitate the existing water resources but also planned to provide water filters to target communities, considering that the selected communities were restricted to groundwater to meet basic water consumption needs. The household members collect water from wells to meet their daily needs. This is a painstaking daily exercise of pulling out water manually from depths of about 150 to 250 feet, which not only takes a toll on their physical but also mental wellbeing resulting in high levels of hardship, diversion from normal routine activities and risk to their health.

Linking Response to Recovery

In order to link the immediate response with medium to long term activities, Detailed Needs assessment was planned as one of the major interventions under the DREF. It was planned to see through community needs for medium and long term and also do the stakeholder analysis to know who is doing what and what is working well that can be taken forward while avoiding duplication.

Based on the finding of detailed needs assessment a recovery plan was proposed and presented to partners in Pakistan and funding for gender related issues and livelihoods support was secured from Kuwait RC and Chinese Red Cross respectively. And that is contributing greatly to the recovery plans or initiatives.

Beneficiary Communication and feedback Mechanism

In order to do the community consultation and to get feedback, a field unit was established in the target areas with combination of staff and volunteers. A group of volunteers was given a dedicated task to organize community meetings to socialize and get feedback on assessment results. Community complaint mechanism was also established to ensure transparency and accountability. Community visited the established set up by PRCS and shared their feedback also. Through involvement of local volunteers, PRC build their capacities on different components of response and it helped a great deal to build a local knowledge base.

Gender and Social inclusion

Gender and social inclusion aspect was specially taken into account and focus was given during assessment, planning and design phase to implementation. During assessment gender, ethnicity, age, disability factors were taken into account and given special consideration in the selection criteria.

Transparency, Accountability and M&E

PRCS has a multilayer monitoring & support system, where National Headquarter, Provincial Headquarters and district level teams extend support to operations and also provide technical back stopping to implementing teams. In country IFRC team also did their M&E and support visits to operational area to ensures transparency and accountability. Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) deployment also helped in ensuring compliance and she contributed through her guidelines.

Specific reporting formats also helped in getting information from field and information was injected into the system, lesson learn workshop was also conducted to review the actions and corrective measures for future operations were documented.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN



Livelihoods and basic needs

People reached: 9,499

Male: 4,845

Female: 4,654

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of drought affected people reached with livelihood and basic needs assistance	9,800	9,499
# of household reached with cash for basic needs (Target: 1,400 HH) in Sindh and Baluchistan assisted with cash provision @ PKR 18,400 per family)	1,400	1,357

Narrative description of achievements

A combination of poor precipitation during the last winter and early spring in mountainous regions of Hindu Kush and an underperforming monsoon season resulted in a drought situation in Pakistan, especially in the southern half of the country (Sindh and Balochistan). This drought is one of the worst in Pakistan since 2000. The situation is worsened by recurrent water scarcity problems, due to the rapid demographic growth, challenging natural water regimes and management issues. In the arid region of Thar (Sindh) and Balochistan, poverty and lack of coping capacity are the drivers for the severe impacts to the population; deaths linked to malnutrition were reported in some locations. In the rest of the country, endemic risk of water shortages is present.



Left - PRCS conducting assesment to assess the extent and impact of the damage caused by the drought and the capacity of the affected population to meet its immediate survival needs. Right – PRCS conducting household registration for cash transfer. **(Photo: PRCS)**

In February 2019, the PRCS requested the IFRC for a DREF allocation to support the affected population in high priority districts of Sindh and Balochistan. A Plan of Action (PoA) was developed by the PRCS for the DREF operation and a

detailed need assessment was planned in most affected districts to assess the extent and impact of the damage caused by the drought (the needs) and the capacity of the affected population to meet its immediate survival needs (the degree of vulnerability). PRCS conducted an initial assessment in January 2019 and according to the findings, moderate drought conditions were prevailing over many parts of Balochistan and Sindh provinces. Tharparkar in Sindh and Nushki in Baluchistan were the most effected districts as declared by NDMA³.

Although, a rapid assessment was done by PRCS in January 2019, a detailed need assessment was still needed to assess the changing situation and to collect more information for better planning and effective implementation of DREF operation in the areas. Following were the specific objectives of the detailed need assessment:

- To assess the impact of the drought on health, agriculture, livestock and access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities and hygiene practices of the households and communities in affected districts of Sindh and Baluchistan provinces.
- To make evidence-based recommendations for emergency appeal and resilience building programming in drought affected areas to address immediate needs of the local communities in Sindh and Balochistan.

The detailed need assessment results, suggested the following interventions as part of recovery cum resilience programming in district Tharparkar and Nushki;

- Health.
- WASH.
- Agriculture and Livelihood.
- Livestock.

Through the DREF operation 1,400 households were targeted and registered as beneficiaries for cash transfer. For a transparent mechanism, cash was transferred to the service provider Telenor for further disbursement of cash to the community members in Sindh and Balochistan. PRCS disbursed unconditional cash grants of PKR 18,400 (approximately CHF 133) to 1,357 drought affected households, to support them for basic food and fodder for their livestock. The Red Rose platform was utilized for beneficiary data collection, beneficiary database management and further distribution of cash and water filters to the targeted households in both districts. Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) was completed in April using Red Rose **ONE SOLUTION** and a comprehensive report was prepared.

Cash distribution was done in locations where Telenor customer services shops were available. Those locations were considered safe for both the beneficiaries and the staff. During cash collection, some beneficiaries had to cover longer distances than others did. About 95 per cent of the beneficiaries used vehicle to reach the distribution site (Telenor Easy Paisa) shop to receive cash whereas, another 5 per cent walked. The PDM revealed that about 90 per cent of beneficiaries indicated that they were informed in advance about the amount of cash at the time of assessment, while 10 per cent shared that they did not know the amount of cash they were going to receive. Some challenges are mentioned below that were gathered from the PDM and lessons learned exercise.



A volunteer assisting an elderly man completing his registration (**Photo: PRCS**)

Challenges

The following are some of the main challenges faced during the operation:

- Beneficiary selection in Tharparkar and Nushki was a challenge because of the political influence of certain political parties in these areas. In both districts, affluent political party representatives tried to push PRCS staff to register beneficiaries from their area or select their family/friends for the project interventions rather than the actual deserving beneficiaries.

³ Advisory reports Government of PAK, NDMA and UN Agencies

- Constraint of budget and resources in comparison to the demand in the drought inflicted areas becomes challenging. It is tough to handle the communities that have not been selected for the aid for any reason, and neither can they be chosen at any later stage due to limited resources.
- Extremely vulnerable families had already migrated out of the target districts to tackle water and food scarcity. Therefore, many of the deserving families could not be targeted under DREF.
- Many families did not have Computerised National Identity Cards (CNICs), while for some individual's, verification via biometric system was almost impossible due to faded finger prints owing to the labor-intensive activities that these community members must do.
- Some of the beneficiaries have never owned a phone or a phone SIM card, which is why they had to register with their family member's, relative's or neighbor's phone numbers.
- Outreach to far flung areas, was a challenge mainly due to poor roads and infrastructure that connect with the main cities.
- The internal conflict in Sindh due to multi-ethnic and multi religious communities was a source of pressure for the PRCS teams and a cause for delays.
- The beneficiaries developed an understanding with the easy paisa shopkeepers to facilitate them by providing them the cash payment at their doorstep, for a small amount of PKR 100 to PKR 300 per person. The beneficiaries reported that, this way it saved them a couple of thousand rupees which they would have paid otherwise for travelling to the easy paisa shops.
- Some beneficiaries were unable to recognize the short message service (SMS) from the Financial Service Provider (FSP) and deleted the messages or did not pay attention to the messages and complained about not being informed about the payments.
- The beneficiary feedback from Balochistan revealed that some of them did not receive the registration and cash collection SMS from the FSP as per our agreement with them, owing to the low network coverage. There were several remote locations where the coverage was weak and caused hinderance for the SMS delivery. But it is important to know that these were the most deserving recipients who could not be reached, therefore this was an impeding challenge that must be addressed in future.

Lessons Learned

The following are some of the main lessons learned from the operation:

- Set an explicit beneficiary selection criterion, which is then defined and disseminated in a timely way. The criteria must ensure that the most deserving and underprivileged communities are targeted for response interventions.
- FSP selection should be an inclusive process, involving all concerned branches and NHQ.
- Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP), including Gantt Chart should be prepared and made part of emergency plan of action (EPoA) for micro planning. This exercise should be done in consultation with the concerned branches.
- Enhance internal coordination and communication at all tiers of programme planning and implementation. Engage all relevant branches before, after and during the planning process for smooth distribution at field level.
- A fixed amount for beneficiary travel to FSP outlets or easy paisa shops, should be included in the beneficiary cash payment amount, with an understanding with the FSP.
- Develop strategies to deal with political and social pressures during planning and implementation phase.
- Collection methodology for e-data worked well and should be mainstreamed for future assessments and surveys.
- Capacity building of branches must be ensured on carrying out Emergency Need Assessments (ENA), with a focus on data analysis and secondary data review.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

People reached: 14,000

Male: 7,140

Female: 6,860

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people directly provided with safe water services that meet agreed standards according to specific operational and programmatic context.	15,000	14,000
# of people reached through provision of clean drinking water	15,000	14,000
# of people reached through hygiene promotion activities	15,000	14,000

Narrative description of achievements

The findings of rapid assessment suggested that a moderate drought conditions is prevailing over many parts of Balochistan and Sindh provinces in the coming months. In January 2019 in Sindh province, National Disaster Consortium (NDC) assessed the impact of the drought on agriculture (crop cultivation, production, water availability and livestock), livelihoods and food security, access to water and sanitation and hygiene practices of the households and communities and to provide recommendations to the Government of Sindh, NDC partners, and other decision/policy makers to prioritize actions (short, medium and long term) in relevant sectors and geographic areas to address immediate needs, build back better and increase future resilience to drought⁴.



PRCS distributing water filters to affected communities . (Photo: PRCS)

During the detailed need assessment, the respondents in Nushki and Tharparkar reported that drought can affect their communities and environment in many ways. As open water sources dry up, the pressure on permanent sources, such as boreholes increases, leading to longer waiting times and the risk of breakdown. There is a decrease in water availability and quality in the livelihood zones due to poor or no-recharge of water bodies. 'Penney Appeal' have installed some solar water pumps in different locations in surveyed union councils are the good example of water scarcity solution in District Tharparkar, while in Nushki 'Islamic Relief' had installed some of the tube well but they are not sufficient to fulfill the required needs.

As access to safe drinking water is further exacerbated by the drought, therefore this is a real challenge for the communities living in these areas. During the assessment, when asked about access to drinking water, 56 per cent of surveyed households in Nushki and 26 per cent surveyed households in Tharparkar responded that they have no access to safe drinking water. They are mainly collecting water from open ponds in their surrounding which are not safe for drinking. While access to an improved water source is not a measure of water safety, improved sources are more protected, offering an increased likelihood that water is safe for consumption.

Therefore, through the DREF operation a total of 1,400 households received water filters along with awareness session on efficient and sustainable usage, and maintenance of sanitary hygiene. In addition, four solar water pumps were installed, two in each district, for availability of clean drinking water to the local communities. As part of the WASH component, provision of clean drinking water to target districts was ensured. PRCS not only rehabilitated the existing water resources but also provided water filters to target communities, considering that the selected communities are restricted to groundwater to meet basic water consumption needs. The existing boreholes were rehabilitated through repair work for the ones that have too low flow rate, back to its initial state and further improving them through reconstruction treatments/methods. The household members collect water from wells to meet their daily needs. This is a painstaking daily exercise of pulling out water manually from depths of about 150 to 250 feet, which not only takes a toll on their physical but also mental wellbeing resulting in high levels of hardship, diversion from normal routine activities and risk to their health. Further, orientation and maintenance trainings for the solar water pumps were conducted. The

⁴ Sindh Drought Needs Assessment (SDNA) Report, January 2019

Red Rose ONE SOLUTION electronic Cash Transfer system has been used as a platform to implement this cash-based assistance project as well as for the data management of water filter distribution.



Left - registration of community members for water filter distribution. Right - health and hygiene sessions being imparted to community members. (Photo: PRCS)

The PDM revealed that this support will help all living in this area to maintain their health by decreasing the vulnerability to catch water borne diseases. Altogether, beneficiaries have benefitted with this project. The locals were very glad to receive this support and know the consequences of drinking impurified water. They also had the opportunity to learn about alternate method to purify water.



Left – installation of solar water pump by workers. Right – completed solar water pump station. (Photo: PRCS)

The water filters and solar water pumps were installed in order to increase access to improved sources of water for the highly vulnerable communities and priority affected villages through rehabilitation of dysfunctional water supply schemes and water treatment plants. The awareness sessions focused on health and hygiene messages, including the importance of hand washing at critical times, water management and the use of various household water treatment options that can be made part of health and nutrition interventions in affected areas. The sessions also stressed on the access to drinking water facilities through installation of solar water pumps. Village level cleaning campaigns for community waste and installation of waste bins was also completed in the target districts. They were also informed about conserving rainwater by checking surface run off through structural mitigation measures and introduction of micro-irrigation systems.

Challenges

The following are some of the main challenges faced during the operation:

- Mobilizing the pool of trained volunteers was a challenge, mainly due to the low per-diem rate and delay in payment.
- The selection process of districts should have been more stringent in order to reach out to the most vulnerable and marginalized areas.
- Post installation services for water filters and solar powered water pumps has been identified as a critical challenge, for the sustainability of these services.

- Procurement at the provincial level causes delays for the goods to reach the beneficiary on time, owing to the long distances and at times unforeseen reasons.
- Security situation for district staff and volunteers is quite volatile in remote areas. Working at the community level in sensitive areas can turn out to be security hazard for the staff.

Lessons Learned

The following are some of the main lessons learned from the operation:

- Solar powered water pumps are an innovative and most beneficial intervention. There is need for many more initiatives of this sort in Nushki and Tharparkar districts, where bare minimum necessities such as drinking water is not available to the local people.
- To create a sense of ownership and self-reliance among the community it is crucial to engage them as key stakeholders. Develop Water Committees, that can be trained on Operations and Maintenance (O&M) for the long-term upkeep of solar powered water pumps.
- Develop and implement security guidelines for staff and volunteers in the field, particularly hard areas. Until then IFRC Safety and Security guidelines should be strictly adhered to.
- A follow up recovery plan post emergency response operation should be made part of the EPoA.
- Trained volunteers are indispensable, and their retention is possible through special compensations and per-diem rates for hard areas, as well as District Disaster Response Trainings (DDRTs) for furthering capacitating them.
- Develop and integrate Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) mechanism in the implementation process, for responsible and transparent communication with beneficiaries.
- Local level procurement should be adopted for cost saving, improved post installation services and strengthening of local markets, whilst ensuring quality, and a thorough market analysis. Local level procurement not only contributes to the economic activity of the district, but also removes the chances of delays/interruptions in the delivery since time is of essence during an emergency.

International Disaster Response

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Effective and coordinated international disaster response ensured.	Yes	Yes
# of RDRT deployed to support operation for one month	1	1
# of cluster coordination meetings PRCS and IFRC participated	-	3

Narrative description of achievements

A Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) member was deployed on 10 April 2019 for operational support in the target district for a period of 1 month. RDRT deployment is a cost-effective regional disaster response support system that is entirely staffed by members of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. The aim of RDRTs is to actively promote building of regional capacities in disaster management. The RDRT member deployed was able to support national disaster response teams and help enhance their capacities by working alongside them.

IFRC and PRCS participated in three Strategic Coordination Forum (SCF) meetings in order to ensure effective expert input and oversight on strategic and operational issues of the emergency response operation planned in Nushki and Tharparkar. The Steering Committee Meeting which was held on Thursday 11 April 2019 was also attended by Chairman NDMA, UN OCHA, UN/INGOs head and discussions on 'Drought Response Overview by OCHA', 'Seasonal outlook summer 2019 –by PMD' and 'Monsoon preparedness' etc. took place.

Challenges

A small-scale operation for a bigger emergency, assisting 15,000 people out of 5 million affected population (approximately). It adds the challenge of managing communities that have not been selected for the aid.

Lessons Learned

Improve external communication mainly with public authorities, for smooth response operations and development interventions to take place.

Influence others as leading strategic partner

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies, uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable</i>	Yes	Yes
<i># lessons learned workshop conducted</i>	1	1

Narrative description of achievements

DREF operation lessons learned workshop was conducted during the month of June 2019. The lesson learnt workshop was led by the IFRC representative from APRO KL with the support of Deputy Director Disaster Response and PMER NHQ. The timeline review and group work approach were utilized to extract more accurate information collection and documentation for lessons learnt. A total of 24 participants including 8 from branches, 9 from NHQ, 2 from PNs and 5 from IFRC attended the one-day workshop. This workshop provided an opportunity to share experiences from different perspectives PNSs, PRCS (HQ, branches and volunteers). A SWOT analysis exercise was conducted to identifying the strengths, challenges in the operation, what was done to address the challenges and the way forward for future disaster. The findings of this workshop and recommendations for future corrective action has been recorded in the DREF lessons learned report prepared by IFRC.



Lessons learned workshop in progress. (Photo: PRCS)

Challenges

NA

Lessons Learned

NA

D. THE BUDGET

CHF 315,347 was allocated to respond to the drought in Nushki district in Balochistan and Tharparkar in Sindh. The operation utilized **CHF 299,643** (95 per cent of the allocation). The balance of **CHF 15,704** will be returned to the DREF pot.

The variation was mainly due to the cash disbursement in which only 1,357 households out of 1,400 targeted received their cash amount - 43 households failed to collect their amounts within DREF time line Click [here](#) to view the financial report at the end of this report.

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

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 Disaster 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**.

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2019/2-2019/8	Operation	MDRPK015
Budget Timeframe	2019/2-2019/6	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 01/Oct/2019

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRPK015 - Pakistan - Drought

Operating Timeframe: 21 Feb 2019 to 21 Jun 2019

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	315,347
DREF Allocations	315,347
Expenditure	-299,643
Closing Balance	15,704

II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction			0
AOF2 - Shelter			0
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	202,472	245,543	-43,071
AOF4 - Health			0
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene			0
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			0
AOF7 - Migration			0
Area of focus Total	202,472	245,543	-43,071
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	5,325	4,272	1,053
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	90,023	40,686	49,337
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	17,526	9,141	8,385
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC			0
Strategy for implementation Total	112,874	54,100	58,774
Grand Total	315,347	299,643	15,704

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2019/2-2019/8	Operation	MDRPK015
Budget Timeframe	2019/2-2019/6	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 01/Oct/2019

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRPK015 - Pakistan - Drought

Operating Timeframe: 21 Feb 2019 to 21 Jun 2019

III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	257,750	246,653	11,097
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	41,838	35,566	6,272
Other Supplies & Services	28,656	26,929	1,727
Cash Disbursement	187,255	184,158	3,097
Logistics, Transport & Storage	6,012	5,801	211
Distribution & Monitoring	2,860	1,481	1,379
Transport & Vehicles Costs	3,152	4,321	-1,169
Personnel	8,769	7,110	1,659
International Staff		1,892	-1,892
National Staff		1,565	-1,565
National Society Staff	4,298		4,298
Volunteers	4,470	3,654	817
Consultants & Professional Fees		3,019	-3,019
Professional Fees		3,019	-3,019
Workshops & Training	5,724	4,771	953
Workshops & Training	5,724	4,771	953
General Expenditure	17,846	14,000	3,846
Travel	17,158	13,426	3,733
Information & Public Relations	358	87	271
Office Costs	143	77	66
Communications	186	65	122
Financial Charges		346	-346
Indirect Costs	19,247	18,288	958
Programme & Services Support Recover	19,247	18,288	958
Grand Total	315,347	299,643	15,704