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## Emergency Plan of Action Operation Final Report Iraq: Civil Unrest

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>DREF operation / Emergency Appeal</b>	<b>Operation n° MDRIQ010</b>
<b>Date of Issue: 30 July 2020</b>	<b>Glide number: <a href="#">OT-2019-000126-IRQ</a></b>
<b>Operation start date: 08 October 2019</b>	<b>Operation end date: 9 March 2020 including two months extension</b>
<b>Host National Society: Iraqi Red Crescent Society</b>	<b>Operation budget: CHF 151,922</b>
<b>Number of people affected: -</b>	<b>Number of people assisted: 25,000</b>
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation:</b> The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Partner National Societies (PNS): German Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, The Netherlands Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> Ministry of Health of Iraq	

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, on behalf of the national society, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.

## A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

### Description of the disaster

The Iraqi demonstrations erupted on 1 October 2019 in Baghdad and spread to the rest of the southern governorates of Iraq to protest mainly against the deteriorating economic conditions of the country, corruption, unemployment and inefficient public services. The demonstrators' demands resulted in the formation of an interim government and early elections.

The demonstrations were postponed due to the 40<sup>th</sup> visit of Imam Hussein, before commencing on Friday 25 October, the deadliest day of protests, when dozen of people were killed and wounded, especially in Dhi Qar Governorate which led to the Iraqi Prime Minister's declaring his intention to resign.

On 30 November, the High Commission for Human Rights in Iraq reported that the death toll during the demonstrations in October and November rose to 460 and more than 17 thousand wounded.

## Summary of current response

More than 500 volunteers and paramedics from Iraq Red Crescent society continue to be deployed to assist injured people during demonstrations in Baghdad and other cities, mainly in Iraq's south. The paramedics are providing first aid services, transporting injured people to hospitals, and supporting medical teams inside the hospitals.

### Overview of Host National Society

The Iraqi Red Crescent Society (IRCS) is an independent national humanitarian organization whose work is to alleviate the pain and suffering of members of communities without discrimination in times of peace and war during natural and non-natural disasters. The National Society is one of the active organisations of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Its work depends on the principle of voluntary service, which is the basic rule in the work of the Iraqi Red Crescent Society, one of the pillars of the Movement derives from the other Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

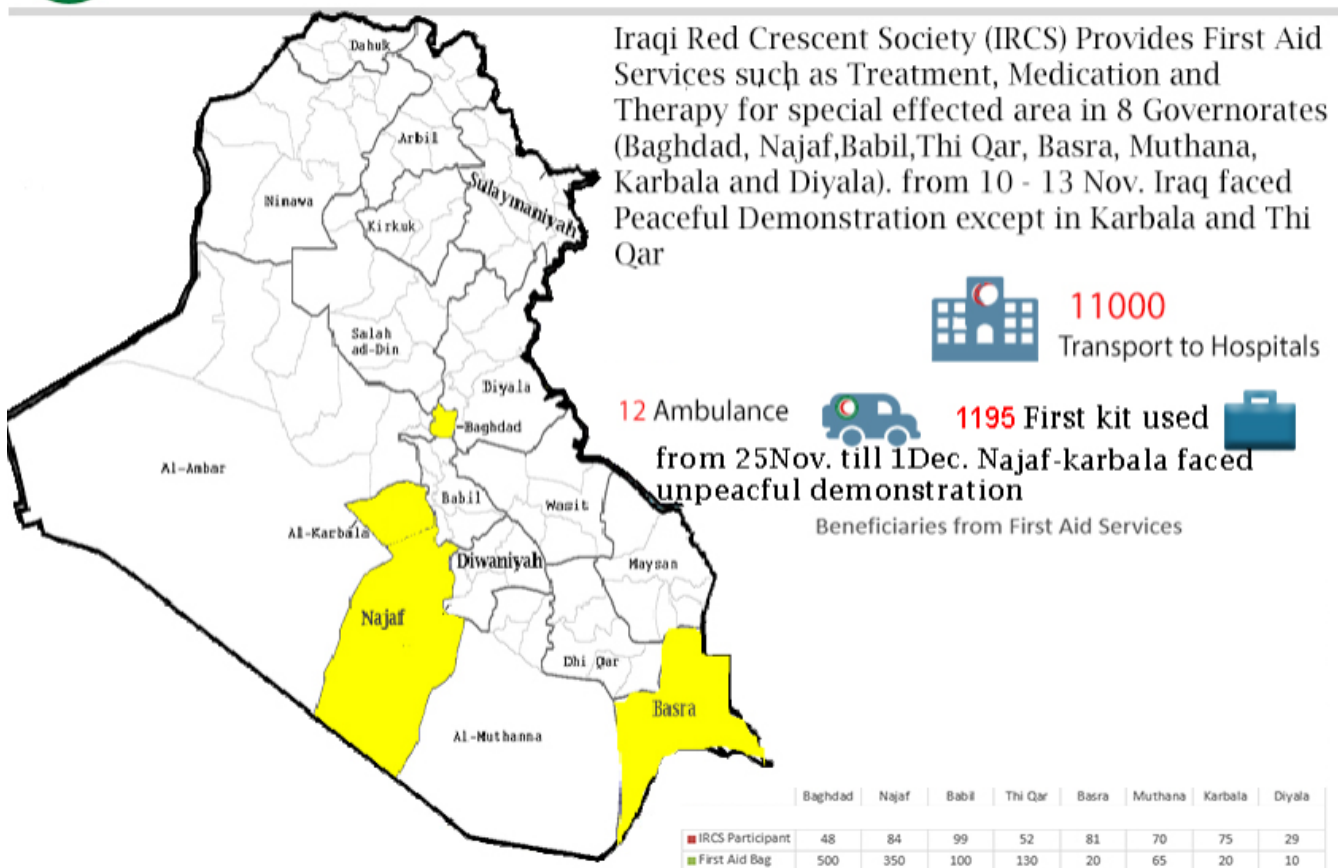
The Iraqi Red Crescent Society has been responding to the unrest since its onset in October 2019 relying on its capacities with the allocated support by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) through this DREF operation and with the financial and technical support of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

From the first days of the protests that began in Baghdad on 1 October 2019, the staff members and the volunteers of IRCS have been daily monitoring the situation on the sites to assist the victims.

The IRCS established a strong Coordination System with the Ministry of Health and deployed IRCS trained volunteers in the hospitals to offer assistance to the Medical staff due to the high number of injured referred to Hospitals. The IRCS teams carried out extensive outreach activity on the use of the emblem of the Red Cross/Red Crescent and the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.



## First Aid Services for Protesters from 25 Oct to 1 Dec



The first aid teams of the IRCS were regularly monitoring the situation and providing first aid and psychological support to the affected people where necessary (14,564 person received first aid in the field, as well as 11,000 affected individual were moved to the nearest ambulance service points and from there to hospitals).

The National Society has immediately mobilized its entire first aid rapid response teams to assist the affected population. The IRCS used its warehouse emergency stocks to supply the volunteers with first aid kits (1,195 First Aid Kits). Currently, the IRCS has first aid teams operating in challenging operational context in different regions of the country.

Iraqi Red Crescent Society provided first aid services such as: treatment, medications and therapy for target affected areas in eight governorates (Baghdad, Najaf, Babel, Thi Qar, Basra, Muthanna, Karbala and Diyala) from 10 to 13 November. All these activities contributed to supporting the response of the Ministry of Health.

Since the humanitarian needs in this complex setting exceed the IRCS capacities significantly, the priority was given to enhancing the effectiveness of the first aid rapid response teams in furnishing them with first aid kits and in preparing and training additional volunteers for emergency response activities.

This DREF supported the equipment of the first aid teams with necessary materials enabling them to undertake and successfully implement the relief activities.

### **Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country**

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies office in Iraq continues to observe and monitor the situation. IFRC coordinated Movement partners and IRCS on 20 November 2019 to share and exchange information regarding the demonstrations in Iraq and to discuss the scope of IRCS response and to enhance the support provided to its current response operations.

### **Overview of non-RCRC actors in country**

The Ministry of Health is active in Iraq. Its primary task is to provide health and medical services to every Iraqi citizen during normal and emergency circumstances in the country. The ministry also administrates the affairs of health and medical cadres in Iraq. The IRCS is closely coordinating with the Ministry of Health.

## **Needs analysis and scenario planning**

### **Needs analysis**

The widespread protests and high level of violence led to increased level of services provided at the pre-hospital care of the Iraqi Red Crescent.

The expansion of the operational capacities of the National Society was a necessary to ensure continuity of IRCS services as one of the sole independent and neutral humanitarian service providers in the current situation.

### **Operation Risk Assessment**

The situation in Iraq remains unpredictable and the violence might flare up again as the political and economic background does not favor the significant change expected by the people.


This situation of alternation of violent and calm phases could last months which implies a more complicated decision-making process for all actors involved in the humanitarian response in the country.

Despite the current COVID-19 over shadowing the other humanitarian challenges, the Anti-Government demonstrations are still ongoing although not to the level seen before COVID-19 was detected in Iraq on 24 February.

## B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

The main objectives of the operation are to guarantee continuity of the first aid and pre-hospital services provided by the Iraqi Red Crescent, continuous coordination, and qualitative information management.

The current DREF operation provided the Iraqi Red Crescent Society with necessary capacities to maintain the mobilization of the crisis management team, to continue preparedness activities in Headquarters and branches, and with the contingency capacities to respond to the current and future potential events. The DREF has also provided support to the Iraqi Red Crescent through provision and replenishment of first aid kits, mobilization, and support of deployed volunteers as well as increased capacity to coordinate, communicate and respond to local humanitarian needs are ongoing.

	<p><b>Health</b></p> <p><b>People reached: 25,564</b></p> <p>Male: 13,094</p> <p>Female: 12,470</p>	
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of people reached by NS with services to reduce relevant health risk factors	25,000	25,564
<b>Narrative description of achievements</b>		
<p>The following activities and services were provided by the Iraqi Red Crescent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On-site injuries treatment at the First Aid centers installed at the protests assemblies' points in the governorates experiencing demonstrations.</li> <li>- IRCS has mobilized 12 ambulances from its own ambulance service to provide first aid and transport to the injured during the protests. A total of 538 volunteers and staff were activated by teams during the events to work within the ambulance service. teams were insured and properly equipped to aid the injured. These teams assisted 11,000 people with first aid services and with transport to hospitals during the period 25 October to 1 December 2019.</li> <li>- During all actions in the field, first aid was provided during demonstrations to 14,564 affected on-site</li> <li>- First Aid Equipment was provided to some hospitals for emergency treatment of the injured.</li> <li>- First Aid Kits provided to the field civil defense teams to treat the injured in the field.</li> <li>- The field medical services provided were: first aid, psychosocial support, and evacuation by ambulances. 75% of the injuries were asphyxia and 25% of injuries were mild to moderate)</li> <li>- The activity of delivering and replenishing 600 team FA kit and individual 1,500 FA kit was 100% fulfilled.</li> </ul> <p>By the end of the operational timeframe, the IRCS were able to procure the first aid team kits (individual, teams and their replenishment) following to several challenges</p>		
<b>Challenges</b>		
<p>The initial DREF allocation was planned for three months, to be completed by January 2020. However, due to logistics difficulties to procure the items according to the rules and standard procedures, as well as challenges in procuring the team first aid kits with lack of availability with the shadowing of the COVID-19 impact, two months extension was requested until 9 March 2020 to allow the completion of the outstanding procurement activities. The extension was approved, and the procurement process was finalized in 2 March 2020.</p>		
<b>Lessons Learned</b>		
<p>As per the findings of the lessons learned workshop, several challenges with proposed recommendations have been highlighted to be facilitated with IRCS with the support of the IFRC Iraq country office to mitigate future delays in procurement processes, and flow of approvals in emergency contexts.</p> <p>Other findings were related to lack of knowledge on the DREF tool in general and specifically for the Civil Unrest context. A DREF training in Arabic has been conducted for 20 IRCS staff and volunteers introducing the methodology of requesting a DREF and guidance on the phases including assessments, analysis, planning, budgeting, and reporting for emergency operations utilising tools.</p>		

## Strengthen National Society

Indicators:	Target	Actual
National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected	Yes	Yes
# of insured volunteers	200	200
<b>Narrative description of achievements</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The procurement of 200 vests and caps with the IRCS logo were procured to ensure recognition and visibility of the IRCS staff and volunteers.</li> <li>- 200 IRCS volunteers responding in the field have been ensured under IFRC scheme.</li> </ul>		
<b>Challenges</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some findings from the lessons learned workshop were related to lack of information sharing on the DREF operation details to the level of the implementing branches.</li> </ul>		
<b>Lessons Learned</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enhanced informative approach between departments and personnel will be adopted by IRCS with the support of the IFRC CO.</li> </ul>		

## International Disaster Response

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Effective response preparedness and surge capacity mechanism is maintained	Yes	Yes
# of surge deployments maintained	-	1 (remote)
# of volunteers trained on DREF	-	20
<b>Narrative description of achievements</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One surge operation coordinator has been deployed remotely to support the IRCS in implementing the DERF activities.</li> <li>- One DREF training was delivered in Arabic to the staff and volunteers (20) of the IRCS aiming to enhance the response capacity through the DREF procedures and guidelines in all operational response phase.</li> </ul>		
<b>Challenges</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of knowledge on the DREF tool and procedures.</li> </ul>		
<b>Lessons Learned</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure IRCS are well informed on the DREF procedures, guidelines, and minimum requirements between IRCS different operational and support units.</li> </ul>		

## Effective, credible and accountable IFRC

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Lessons Learned report produced.	1	1
<b>Narrative description of achievements</b>		
A lessons learned workshop has been conducted including key operational people from IRCS and IFRC to highlight and document the major challenges aiming to mitigate for future operations		

## D. Budget

Please find the budget below. Note that there is a final balance of CHF 17,607 that will be returned to the global DREF fund.

# DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2019/10-2020/06	Operation	MDRIQ010
Budget Timeframe	2019/10-2020/03	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 17/Sep/2020

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## MDRIQ010 - Iraq - Civil Unrest

Operating Timeframe: 09 Oct 2019 to 09 Mar 2020

### I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
<b>Funds &amp; Other Income</b>	<b>151,922</b>
DREF Allocations	151,922
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>-134,316</b>
Closing Balance	17,606

### 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			0
AOF4 - Health	55,913	36,730	19,183
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene			0
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			0
AOF7 - Migration			0
Area of focus Total	55,913	36,730	19,183
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	85,360	79,449	5,911
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management		7,505	-7,505
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	10,650	10,047	603
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC		586	-586
Strategy for implementation Total	96,010	97,586	-1,576
Grand Total	151,922	134,316	17,607

# DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2019/10-2020/08	Operation	MDRI0010
Budget Timeframe	2019/10-2020/03	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 17/Sep/2020

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## MDRIQ010 - Iraq - Civil Unrest

Operating Timeframe: 09 Oct 2019 to 09 Mar 2020

### III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>	<b>52,500</b>	<b>34,843</b>	<b>17,657</b>
Medical & First Aid	52,500	34,843	17,657
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>80,150</b>	<b>77,440</b>	<b>2,710</b>
International Staff	10,000		10,000
National Staff	70,150		70,150
National Society Staff		77,440	-77,440
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>1,277</b>	<b>8,723</b>
Workshops & Training	10,000	1,277	8,723
<b>General Expenditure</b>		<b>12,558</b>	<b>-12,558</b>
Travel		7,095	-7,095
Communications		30	-30
Financial Charges		-2,427	2,427
Other General Expenses		7,860	-7,860
<b>Indirect Costs</b>	<b>9,272</b>	<b>8,198</b>	<b>1,075</b>
Programme & Services Support Recover	9,272	8,198	1,075
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>151,922</b>	<b>134,316</b>	<b>17,607</b>

## Contact information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

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### For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- IFRC Regional Office: Anca Zaharia, MENA Regional Head of Partnership and Resource Development, phone: +961 813 11 918; email: [anca.zaharia@ifrc.org](mailto:anca.zaharia@ifrc.org)

### For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

- **Logistics Coordinator,** Dharmin Thacker, Procurement Unit manager, email: [Dharmin.Thacker@ifrc.org](mailto:Dharmin.Thacker@ifrc.org) phone: +961 81314135

### For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting)

- **IFRC Regional Office:** Nadine Haddad, PMER Manager; phone: +961 71 802 775; e-mail: [Nadine.Haddad@ifrc.org](mailto:Nadine.Haddad@ifrc.org)

## 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.

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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.**

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