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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

IRAN: Droughts

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF Operation n°	MDRIR005	Glide n°:	DR-2021-000089-IRN
Date of issue:	02 August 2021	Expected timeframe:	5 months
		Expected end date:	31 December 2021
Category allocated to the of the disaster or crisis: Orange			
DREF allocated: CHF 748,013			
Total number of people affected:	2,850,000 (712,500 HHs)	Number of people to be assisted:	83,200 (20,800 HHs)
Provinces affected:	Sistan and Baluchestan, South Khorasan, Kerman and Hormozgan.	Provinces targeted:	Sistan and Baluchestan, South Khorasan, Kerman and Hormozgan.
Operating National Society presence: The Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) as the largest humanitarian organization in the country has extended its humanitarian supports to the deprived, affected, and needy people in the last century. The National Society has committed its efforts towards the alleviation of human suffering, disaster risk reduction, and disaster response both within and outside the country. The IRCS has approximately 2,000,000 volunteers and 10,000 staff who have always played an effective and active role across the country in various events based on their various skills and expertise.			
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: The International Federation of Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).			
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government of Iran, Local NGOs, UN Agencies, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) – France.			

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

Overall Drought Situation in Iran:

The Iranian climate is mostly arid or semi-arid and it is heavily affected by depleting water resources, as a result of rising demand, salinization, groundwaters overexploitation, and increasing drought frequency. The country, where groundwater is the primary source of water, has a long history of inefficiency in its water distribution network, particularly in the agricultural sector. Despite not experiencing food insecurity, Iran faces paramount challenges in safeguarding long-term water access during the dry spell. All sectors that rely on the water are exposed, from agriculture to power production and public water supply. Currently, from 2 to 20 million people are at high to medium risk of drought-related impacts. On top of poor precipitation during the 2020-2021 winter, high temperatures have caused more snow to melt, reducing the amount of water stored for later use during the drier months (i.e., late spring and summer).

Since the beginning of the drought onset, research units, the media, and public authorities have been emphasizing the potential severity with time. On 10 July 2021, the First Vice President of Iran, Eshaq Jahangiri stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran requires national solidarity and integration to overcome challenges and to pass crises. He described

water as one of the biggest problems in Iran, saying “if we cannot deal with challenges in time, they can become complicated issues”.

While meteorological/hydrological droughts act as triggers and intensify the rate of depletion in country-wide groundwater storage, basin-scale groundwater depletion in Iran is primarily caused by extensive human water withdrawals. Continuation of unsustainable groundwater management in Iran can lead to potentially irreversible effects on land and the environment, threatening the country’s water, food, and socio-economic security.

Long-term records show that the entire area received no meaningful precipitation between June and October 2020, with very little variation around this figure. As a result, the accumulated deficit up to May 2021 will persist until the end of the year, potentially worsening and spreading drought impacts throughout the region in the coming months.



Figure 1: Iran affected by long-term drought. Credit: IRCS

Summary of the current response

Overview of Operating National Society

Over the last ten years, the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) has focused its efforts on providing more sustainable water resources for villagers through the establishment of water reservoirs, providing services and social support to vulnerable groups as well as distributing safe drinking water, health items, and livelihood packages among the vulnerable groups, especially the women-headed household and patients.

The IRCS is conducting a national initiative titled "Water Donation," which began three years ago. When the drought hit the country’s southern and south-eastern provinces, the IRCS decided to launch the project with the aim of providing drinking water in remote areas. The current DREF will address mainly the severity which triggered high vulnerability and scaled up basic needs like livelihoods, health, sustaining, and making water available at a fast pace. Water donation project is more of recovery and sustaining the infrastructure or rehabilitation, but DREF will contribute to meet the basic needs which (continuous) four years of drought (in the area) has disturbed, and the current situation further worsened.

The project is divided into three phases: providing livelihood assistance, medical services, and addressing water scarcity by putting efforts for the availability of water to communities, water purification systems, and plumbing in underdeveloped areas so that the population has access to safe drinking water. In four drought-affected provinces, like Sistan and Baluchestan, South Khorasan, Kerman, and Hormozgan, IRCS volunteers provided guidance, support, skills, and participation.

More services are to be provided by the IRCS, such as free home visits by volunteer physicians, distribution of livelihood packages, and cash and in-kind donations to drought-affected people.

Overall, the current DREF is complementary to the activities and actions already being implemented by IRCS to respond to the needs of those populations most affected by the drought.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Actions in-country

The IFRC has a presence in Iran since 1991 and has been providing technical support in Capacity Building initiatives and supporting IRCS in Disaster Management, Shelter, Disaster Law, Youth, and volunteers as well as Health. There is no partner National Societies (PNS) present in the country; however, IRCS has a memorandum of understanding with the German Red Cross (search and rescue sniffer dogs action, peer-to-peer exchange). The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has a delegation based in Tehran with a various number of humanitarian activities in cooperation with the IRCS and is on standby to support the IRCS operation (e.g. through health support to migrants, Mine Risk Education and Restoring Family Links).

Overview of other actors' actions in-country

Governmental and Legal Actions to control drought and its impact: According to the act of parliament, IRCS is the national lead for any disaster/crisis response in the country. Once the situation needs crisis response, it is IRCS who is supported by law to lead, even concerned ministries are bound to cooperate with IRCS as the lead in specific crisis/disaster response modes. At the NDMO level, the convener of relief response is IRCS. All UN/INGOs/NGOs have to work under the IRCS role and mandate for initial response.

Water supply sustainability, storage capacity expansion, demand management, urban water waste reduction, water purification, facility resilience, and the number of people using sewage disposal services are among the actions taken by the government to control the drought. The government has put in place a plan to transport water from the Oman Sea and the Persian Gulf to the southern provinces including Yazd, Kerman, and Hormozgan. This project solely satisfies the needs of copper and iron factories; it cannot offer drinking water because desalination is a complicated process that necessitates expensive modern equipment. Another government initiative is the construction of stone and cement dams in cities such as Jiroot, Bam, and Nisa.

The Welfare Organization and the Imam Khomeini Relief Committee provide a variety of services including communities' social health and better living.

Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

Needs analysis

The effects of the drought in recent years have had a significant impact on various aspects of the province's development, people's lives, and basic resources. Water scarcity has resulted in a reduction in Minab, Jegin, and Shamil dams. Severe reduction in groundwater level in the province's main plains, salinization, and reduced quality of groundwater resources due to improper abstraction, is resulting in:

1. Decreasing the areas under cultivation and livestock and poultry population.
2. Reducing the number of agricultural products and depending on water import.
3. Reducing discharge and drying out water resources such as wells and flumes.
4. Decreasing food products and increasing the price of food items.
5. Decreasing employment, income, and its social and economic consequences.
6. Increasing and subsidence and soil erosion and its consequences.
7. Reducing the quality of life for border residents and problems of borders security maintain.
8. Putting family security, hygiene, and health at risk.
9. Increasing the negative impact on the COVID-19 situation and operation.
10. Increasing the migration from villages to towns.
11. Increasing tension among those who benefit from water resources.

Targeted provinces are going through serious multiple crises like red coding in COVID-19, droughts severity, and possible Afghan refugee's influx operations will take place in these eastern bordering provinces.

Due to depletion of resources (sanctions suffocation), the pressure of scaling up with agility and ensuring the continuation of mandated public services in crisis/natural disasters, expectations of stakeholders from IRCS in these dire multiple crisis times, the sensitivity of the bordering provinces with Pakistan/Afghanistan (IRCS access/acceptance being only biggest well-rooted national set up), all these domains are compelling to launch DREF progressing to Emergency Appeal. IFRC is expected to play the added value role by offering tools/resources to support the humanitarian action of IRCS.

The IRCS, in coordination with local authorities, conducted field assessments in the affected districts and branches in the affected provinces to identify the immediate needs and priorities. According to the preliminary assessments carried out in the areas, WASH, health, and livelihood packages are among the most pressing needs of the drought-affected people. Under this DREF operation, the IRCS aims to ensure the effective continuation of the humanitarian operations,

specifically for WASH, health, and livelihoods for the most vulnerable people. Unconditional cash grants will give dignified choice to the targeted population under DREF. The same modality might evolve differently under appeal.

Targeting

The four targeted provinces were identified as a priority due to the sensitivity of security at borders (Afghanistan/Pakistan), IRCS is the only well-established stakeholder who has system, structure, acceptance, access to these. Hence, they have a water donation program (multiyear) as well, so for the water sector/crisis response, it is mainly IRCS who is also seen in these bordering areas as a major actor.

Since IRCS is mandated as the lead convener for disaster response and rescue in the country, it is important to follow a sensitive approach and clear criteria in the selection of HHs. Almost 712,500 families in all four provinces are in dire need of basic assistance, yet no single humanitarian organization can serve on such a large scale. As a result, IRCS plans to support 20,800 HHs (extremely vulnerable). A set of criteria and a strong communication strategy will be chalked out to answer the justification for stakeholders about whom to select. IRCS is engaged in "water donation" multiyear recovery rehabilitation program, has systems and structures in place to gain stakeholders' endorsement and validation.

The number of resources allocated to each geographic area will be determined by the population density of the provinces and the severity of the drought. The targeting criteria includes: Villagers' family information, deprived families (widows, women-headed households, physically disabled people, people with special needs, single parents, minors) are among the targeting criteria, which are collected and validated by the Imam Khomani Relief Committee and Welfare Organization and Ministry of Education.

Scenario planning

To alleviate the suffering of drought-affected people, a massive water delivery project was launched by IRCS in the targeted provinces over the previous three years, where we witnessed the tolerance (not resilience) of these people in unusual drought conditions. Due to the size of the country and the existence of water-rich areas, wealthier people in the region have migrated as the drought has progressed, leaving the remaining people without the resources to migrate, making them the most deserving of humanitarian aid.

Innovations and three years of experience by the IRCS in conducting drinking water supply programs (offering relief items and water for rural communities) to alleviate human suffering caused by deprivation, drought, and water fluctuations.

On the other hand, IRCS is working on a disaster risk reduction program focusing on the development of rural "Helal Houses", humanitarian hotspots on the bridges of poverty alleviation programs, as well as the ability to plan these houses upstream and local demand downstream, with the possibility of using appropriate and local tools to reduce the human suffering caused by drought. The combination of the "Drinking Water Supply Project" and the " Helal Houses" under national and international support can bring better results in service and drought tolerance by the deprived communities.

Scenario	Humanitarian consequence	Potential Response
Increase in COVID-19 community transmission	Possible displacement might trigger the infection spread.	IRCS to continue risk awareness education action, following safety protocols, scaling up response including vaccination advocacy and promotion with preparedness actions to limit spread.
Sanctions	Operational pace reduced, international procurement and funds transfers will be impacted and hence replenishment and financial resources will be delayed reaching IRCS.	IFRC striving for OFAC clearance for specific banking channel (funds transfer) or finding makeshift solutions to support operational costs/funds channelling. IRCS utilizing their own resources (depending on their coping capacity of putting forward financial resources till IFRC is able to transfer funds). IFRC is looking into an interim solution till OFAC clearance is sought, of cash transfer. IRCS/IFRC will look into international procurement if Local procurement will be hindered due to lack of cash transfer,

Afghan migrants influx from eastern southern borders	Increasing the needs of the local communities and migrants, resulting in depletion of resources and slow pace of operation.	IRCS will activate SOPs for high scale regional response by utilizing their HR and logistic systems and structures via RARO, Youth Org., Volunteer Org, etc.
Force majeure	A natural disaster like an earthquake impacts more IDPs in need of basic assistance. IRCS will not only respond to those who are at their base locations but also to possible IDPs.	IRCS will seek the possibility of progressing the DREF to EA and external assistance.
Most likely scenario Drought	The expected rainfall is significantly below average with Iran receiving below-average rainfall like last years. Needs coverage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in a number of communities under Emergency in need of immediate food, water, and health services. • Low resource mobilization in the short-term leading to delayed humanitarian response to needs. Short-term action not sufficiently meeting sustainable needs of the affected population. 	IRCS/IFRC launching DREF to cater to the needs of the affected population (20,800 HHs) for five months. IRCS Youth organization's recovery/rehab program is supported by DREF in terms of meeting immediate needs. IRCS in close coordination with the local community-based stakeholder system, selecting extremely vulnerable under strict selection criteria as DREF will support only 20,800 HHs from almost a million of the affected HHs. Clear communication media strategy for dissemination of selection criteria to avoid conflict as need is very high and resources are stretched.
Worst case scenario droughts	Drought: Rains fail, crop failure, and elevated livestock death are expected, depleting completely livelihoods, and public authorities seeking Humanitarian actions support to respond at mega-scale. Needs coverage: IRCS being the main actor in the country and needs long-term support to continue meeting health, food/livelihoods, water sanitation needs. COVID-19 cases surge the damage of alternative livelihoods even, IRCS mandate to keep scaled-up operation continued.	IRCS seeks bigger scale intervention and seeks more international support, adapting DREF to Emergency Appeal for 18-24 months with early recovery, rehabilitation action in fields of water sanitation, food security, livelihoods, and Health. Clear selection criteria for HH selection, clear advocacy media communication strategy to be answerable to concerns of "who is selected/how", to avoid conflicts as need is to cater for 712,500 HHs. A very strong coordination mechanism needs to be led by IRCS to engage with other Humanitarian actors for dividing the geographical areas with UN or any other acting agencies.

Operation Risk Assessment

There are constraints in the affected areas due to cold waves, snow, and rainfalls. Some areas are still hard to reach due to road damages. Also, the health of staff/volunteers can be at risk if the scale of operation is demanding more workload.

RISK AREA	CONTROLS MANAGEMENT
Staff and volunteer health: risk of contracting COVID-19 through community-based activities in the response.	The IRCS has stated the vaccination of all staff and relief workers involved in this operation since 03 July 2021 Strict adherence to IRCS COVID-19 awareness protocols, Refreshing the risk awareness communication aspects by utilizing existing COVID-19 protection audio/visual learning platforms for staff/volunteers. Relief operations manager prioritizing the monitoring of adherence.

Increase in COVID-19 community transmission if displacement occurs due to not only aftershocks but also from harsh weather. In possible shelters, the COVID-19 transmission can scale up.	IRCS will choose places for IDPs where social distancing can be observed meaning an increasing number of places and the design of IDP transit setting could be less populated.
Disruption on the access to deliver support such as road cut-off access routes affected due to force majeure.	Mapping alternative routes and transportation.
Negative media coverage related to the handling of the response operation.	Proactive communication with media and stakeholders. Community Engagement and Accountability.
Procurement delays of replenishment stocks.	Local procurement as due to COVID-19 and sanctions international procurement will take longer. IRCS is anticipating depleting stocks in winters at a faster pace, not to wait for a long time of international procurement.
Pressure on local natural/market resources.	In case the market is not able to tackle the load of food commodities, the DREF might be adapted to food baskets provision.

B. Operational strategy

Overall Operational objective:

Continuity of the Iranian Red Crescent Society's field activities in response to the drought crisis for the next months, that serves the following sectorial interventions:

1. WASH: Water supply and sanitation, including the renovation of flumes and wells, the improvement of the state of water tanks, the purification of water, and the repair of water tanks.
2. Health: Improving the level of health including public health, mental health, and PSS (MHPSS). Deployment of volunteer physicians as health units to visit patients in need.
3. Livelihood and Basic Needs: Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA), social damage reduction, and basic needs fulfilment.

The overall objective of this DREF operation is to protect and save lives, dignity and to mitigate adverse effects on the deteriorating livelihoods, trying to organize safe drinking water access and personal hygiene.

Most notably, over the coming five months, to support the provision of basic health care and MHPSS to communities affected by the ongoing drought.

The Iranian Red Crescent Society seeks to act in the direction of sustainable development and offer sustainable facilities in regions plagued by water shortages, in addition to providing support services.

During the initial phase of the project, a working group comprised of local provincial officials from several disciplines identifies needs, methods of action, and duties of each person and system in accordance with the project's timetable. They are in charge of purchasing, distributing, and providing needed items. All responsible and local agencies will support the activities based on previous similar efforts. Local authorities consist of villagers and local councils.

Human resources

The International Operation Division of the IRCS will serve as the liaison between international support and operational response. All trained/field professionals working for the IRCS Volunteer Organization will be on the front lines. This operation does not require significant HR recruitment because the IRCS has a large pool of experienced HR personnel to deploy to the field. COVID- 19 SOPs will be strictly followed by all HR personnel. The communication unit will support promotional/reporting and Farsi to English translations for operations updates. IRCS is in the phase of several years of the "water donation" project, the existing staff and trained volunteers under the volunteers' organization will be performing DREF operation and in parallel, the recovery aspects will be under the same file.

The IFRC MENA Regional Office and the Iran Country Delegation will provide additional technical support services, coordination, and technical assistance with an available pool of HR experts (if needed by IRCS).

Logistics and procurement

IRCS will try to make most of the procurements locally, aligned with the IFRC procurement regulations and standards (with support of Global Humanitarian Services and Supply Chain (GHS & SCM) MENA team). The rationale being the sanctions limitations in terms of international procurements. Unless some specific items are needed from abroad, IFRC will support via the MENA procurement supply chain unit. Most of the required items are available and IRCS is well experienced with a strong compliance accountability procurement system. For all procurement with a total value equivalent or more than CHF 50,000, and or any procurement involving drugs, medical supplies, and PPE, the complete file will be validated by IFRC (GHS & SCM) before placing the order or signing the contract. IRCS fleet is one of the biggest in the region. As this operation requires operational costs to be covered for staff, warehouses, vehicles, etc. in addition, further ensuring quality of supply DREF budget will be used for coverage of warehousing services provided by IRCS. The DREF will cover the costs of fuel and vehicle rental required for transport of aid assistance and personnel to and from the operational area. For long-term response, water tanks are needed but that will be catered under a long-term emergency plan of action, not DREF. For cash grants, an already existing banking and social protection system will be utilized. IRCS is well experienced in this domain after being a seasoned stakeholder in this field (previous crisis responses experiences).

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)

CEA will be streamlined throughout the implementation of the project. Branch officers and volunteers will ensure timely feedback and response is provided and the response is effective. The project will be concerned with people's safety, dignity, and rights, and avoid exposing people to further harm by ensuring selection of people in need, project activities, and objectives are transparent. Affected persons will receive support based on the need to ensure people receive appropriate assistance and are protected. This will ensure active and meaningful participation of the affected communities from the very beginning of the response to the transition phase into a longer-term programme.

A feedback and complaints desk will be set up to collect any complaints or feedback which may come up. In addition, IFRC will ensure monitoring of this activity through its CVA Regional Coordinator. Feedback on this specific aspect during the first distribution will inform any eventual change of strategy to ensure that the people in need receive the cash disbursements. IRCS EOC centres, a hotline for the response, Helal Houses rooted into deep communities are also two-way communication channels. IRCS news/social media (in Farsi) is also one of the strongest tools which are functioning very well in the operational context of the country.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER)

The IRCS with the support of the IFRC country delegation and regional office will lead on reporting, monitoring, and evaluation of this operation. Reporting on the operation will be carried out in accordance with the IFRC DREF reporting standards. Regular updates will be issued during the operation's timeframe with a final report issued within three months after the end of the operation.

Technical PMER capacity and technical support will be provided through IFRC MENA Regional office PMER team. This will help identify and, where possible and necessary, resolve any issues. An end-of-operation lessons learned exercise will take place to capture the relevance, efficiency, and effectiveness of the operation. It will also be used to measure qualitative outcome indicators and to ensure that the best practices are captured to inform the planning and designing of the long-term projects towards improved ways of working and increasing effectiveness and efficiency to the communities.

Security

The IRCS has good access and acceptance throughout the country due to its strong historical performance in line with its mandate. All four affected provinces are for the most part categorized by the government as a Red Zone (For COVID-19 reasons) in addition to Sistan Balochistan and South Khorasan which are bordering Afghanistan and Pakistan. In these regions, and throughout Iran, IFRC colleagues are obliged to comply with the IFRC Minimum Security Requirements which outline a strong security framework within which the IFRC operates in both regular and emergency operations. IRCS will facilitate field monitoring operational visits which will assist with and ensure access. IRCS will seek all security clearances for delegates to have access to the operational sites. IRCS colleagues will accompany IFRC delegates during any field visits. The Country delegation will closely monitor the security environment with support from the Regional Security Coordinator. All Red Cross Red Crescent personnel actively involved in the operations must have completed the respective IFRC security e-learning courses (i.e. Stay Safe Personal Security, Security Management, and/or Volunteer Security). Road travel also presents a risk, and mitigation measures are in place to reduce the likelihood and impact of these risks. Contingency plans are in place to manage any critical incident that may occur during this operation. For the most part, access to these areas will be via air (except South Khorasan).

Exit Strategy

The IRCS water donation project is in its fourth year in the same areas. This rehabilitation project is renewed annually and some local institutional donors contribute on a regular basis. The severe dry season and lack of rains have put enormous strain on local resources; additionally, the severity of the drought is impacting lack of water access, mental health and access to health service and access to food for humans and livestock, has compelled to respond via DREF under the meeting basic needs criteria.

Droughts cannot be addressed locally without international assistance (available resources depleting). Sanctions have a significant impact on access to resources (financial/technical/material). As a result, one exit strategy is to combine the DREF operation with a parallel ongoing water donation initiative. However, for the long-term continuation of humanitarian action, IRCS/IFRC will continue the response to the droughts under a planned emergency appeal for 18-24 months to cater the needs and build some recovery strengthening networks for the affected communities. Also, under the current situation, exiting the drought operation after five months will not be sufficient to meet the context's needs.

C. Detailed Operational Plan



Livelihoods and basic needs

People targeted: 13,200 people (3,300 households)

Male: 6,732

Female: 6,468

Requirements (CHF): 351,450 CHF

Operational Support:

Needs analysis: Food security and livelihoods assistance are identified based on the IRCS field assessments as one of the critical needs of the drought-affected population. 3,300 households were identified as in dire need of food assistance (basic or cash/monthly). Roughly, 16.5 CHF / family will be disbursed via the banking system. The IRCS Finance Department will calculate the exact amount based on the Iranian Rials exchange rate while transferring the fund to the beneficiaries' account numbers. COVID-19 impacted livelihoods. The capital Tehran and 232 other cities and towns have been classified as high-risk "red" zones in terms of COVID fresh wave spread. All four targeted provinces are coded RED as well, but IRCS has field structure and set up functional. Lockdowns are not impacting IRCS's humanitarian action. The support will cover existing basic and diverse needs at the household level, have a positive effect on the local economy and contribute to the support of local market dynamics. IRCS is experienced to manage CVA. Under current agreements and protocols between the IRCS and the banking industry, existing banking channel systems will be used.

Any kind of cash assistance depends on a functioning market. As per a rapid check, IRCS did with local authorities in Kerman, Hormozgan, and South Khorasan provinces, markets are functioning with households accessing markets. All key food commodities are readily available in the market and the indication is that supply is constant and stable.

Risk analysis: Malnutrition and health problems will worsen if families do not receive cash assistance for food. At this time, the IFRC is unable to channel funds to Iran. At the highest level, efforts are being made to develop a banking channel (sanctions impacted).

Population to be assisted: 3,300 households (13,200 individuals) will receive unconditional five-month grants to meet basic needs. The recipients will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Displaced people by drought,
- People with severe disabilities,
- Women-headed households, widows, divorcees, separated, single parents with no income,
- Households with insufficient coping mechanisms,
- Households form vulnerable occupational groups,
- Households with socially excluded/marginalized members,
- Unaccompanied children.

Programme standards/benchmarks: The activities will seek to meet Sphere standards.

P&B Output Code	Livelihoods and basic needs Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods	# of households provided with unconditional /multipurpose cash grants and able to cover their monthly basic needs (Target: 3,300 HHs)																			
	Livelihoods and basic needs Output 1.5: Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs																				
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
AP081	Rapid Assessment and market assessment																				
AP081	Unconditional/multipurpose cash distributions for 3,300 HHs in target provinces via bank transfer																				
AP081	Post Distribution Monitoring after distribution																				



Health

People targeted: 40,000 Individuals (10,000 households)

Male: 19,000

Female: 21,000

Requirements (CHF): 109,599 CHF

Needs analysis: Remoteness of targeted areas and vulnerability of communities have shown in assessments that basic health needs are to be looked into, by providing medical care basic health teams, nurseries, elderlies, disabled and mother and neonatal child health, lactating mothers support, and PSS aspects.

Water scarcity will dent the health aspects and skin issues, chronic diseases enhancement, dehydration, loss of livelihood triggered depression and cardiac issues. All of these factors must be taken into consideration.

Risk analysis: Due to the fact that the targeted areas are classified as high-risk "red" zones on Iran's coronavirus risk scale, extremely strict SOPs will be followed. The influx of Afghan refugees/migrants has the potential to bring COVID-19 variants, hence strong coordination and management elements with public authorities and relevant stakeholders are required.

Population to be assisted: Based on the IRCS field assessments by provincial branches, the planned activities, and deployment of the mobile clinics to meet the health needs of the affected population will principally target the women and children and ultimately the larger community. Ten thousands households will be assisted with this plan. Mostly women and children, lactating and pregnant women, minors, malnourished children, physically disable, deprived groups, child-bearing age women, elderly, widows, single headed households. Basic health care will be provided on both a curative and preventative basis. The services will be provided mostly at targeted areas rather than in static Basic Health Units, 300 technical (health) professionals will be deployed for this operation. IRCS Provincial branches have updated their database to reflect chronic patients (nationally), as they support 500,000 chronic patients regularly through well-established health systems and institutions.

Programme standards/benchmarks: The activities will seek to meet Sphere standards.

The IRCS will channel support through existing mandated role-related responses in health, as well as provincial, municipal, and village-level structures. This intervention will also be supported by the IRCS Water Donation Project (recovery rehab developmental). Sessions to raise awareness and promote hygiene will be held on a regular basis. The hygiene promotion workshops will benefit at least 54,000 people.

P&B Output Code	Health Outcome 2: The immediate risks to the health of the affected populations are reduced through improved access to critical health and nutrition services.	<i>% of people assisted over the total number of people affected (target: 100%)</i>																			
	Health Output 2.1: Improved access to basic and emergency health care for the targeted population and communities.	<i># of deployed mobile medical clinics (target: 20) # of days the mobile medical clinics are deployed (target: 180)</i>																			
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
AP022	Assessment by IRCS provincial branches																				
AP022	Deployment of Health Mobile Units																				
AP022	Monitor the impact of mobile medical services on the target population																				



Water, sanitation, and hygiene

People targeted: 30,000 people (7,500 households) – directly for WASH intervention programmes

Male: 15,300

Female: 14,700

Requirements (CHF): 270,989 CHF

Needs analysis:

Dire need is for access to water by people, livestock and for cooking, washing, cleaning, personal hygiene. IRCS will provide according to the context of the topography and needs, two ways of access to safe drinking water: basic water needs (15L/Ind/Day-sphere) and will consume efforts to keep water provision pure by utilizing purification efforts in parallel. On top of these two approaches, the hygiene promotion awareness will be on daily basis to 54,000 Individuals in total. Hygiene parcels will be provided to 7,500 HHs as well. IRCS Water donation project’s recovery/rehabilitation action will ensure to get communities maximum access to water. Hygiene kits will be distributed to complement not only water donation inputs but also DREF inputs will support as reciprocal action. A total of 30,000 people has access to water through two different methods. IRCS has connected the water supply to 3,000 litres 75 water tanks. Second, existing underground wells and aqueducts can be renovated or repaired.

Furthermore, the filtration component will ensure that the water is safe to drink for these 30,000 people for the next five months.

Every day, 300 people will benefit from hygiene awareness training (54,000 people). The hygiene parcels will be delivered to 7,500 families as well, based on a need-based selection process. The IRCS will serve as the lead coordinator for water supply, purification, transportation, repairs, and continuity in all topographic areas. IRCS will connect its multi-year water donation project with these areas.

The IRCS already has a multi-year water donation project in place and there is a need for training water committees in the management of water supplies and operation and maintenance of infrastructure. this DREF action will only seek to ensure that 7,500 HHs have access to safe drinking and drinkable water. The approaches have been used and adopted by IRCS and communities in the targeted provinces for the past four years.

The distance to water access for settlements is based on 500 meters. By renovating the aqueducts, certain locations will be able to provide available groundwater access. This will also support 7,500 HHs by small interventions.

The third most important aspect is to keep the water clean and pure, for this purpose some small procurements will be done to keep water safe for utilization of people and livestock.

Risk analysis:

Water shortages in reservoirs, wells, and canals are major issues in these areas. Additionally, the cost of purchasing and transporting water to residences will be exceedingly high. Water is life, and all four provinces have the most limited access to it. The supply of safe drinking water is being hampered by current droughts. It has a direct impact on people's and livestock's health and livelihoods. Communities have no place to move as they lack resources, hence the operation is focused to meet the needs at the HH level. Hygiene and sanitation are difficult to access. If people are not having access to water, they will have serious health effects, dehydration, mental health deterioration, agriculture, and livestock is also at stake. Wrong social practices and dilemmas can creep in and protection issues will be higher in the areas. Since the areas of intervention are bordering areas with Afghanistan and Pakistan, hence security and access are mostly only granted to IRCS due to their credibility and history of engagement with communities. Hence few actors are present but according to the auxiliary role assigned to IRCS, they have to work very closely with the IRCS system and structures.

Additionally, the influx of Afghan migrants through Kerman, Sistan, and Balochistan, and South Khorasan will place extra strain on natural resources. As a result, not only is the population vulnerable to drought, but also the red zone of COVID-19 and the possibility of an influx of Afghan migrants, making humanitarian assistance more in demand. At this time, the IFRC is unable to channel funds to Iran. At the highest level, efforts are being made to develop a banking channel (sanctions impacted).

Population to be assisted: Reduce the drought's impact on 7,500 households by providing water storage, purification, and quality control, as well as access to clean drinking water, awareness, and hygiene sanitation kits.

Prioritization will be given to communities with the most severe water shortages but who may have access to water.

Programme standards/benchmarks: The activities will seek to meet Sphere standards.

WASH Outcome1: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities											# of WASH assessments conducted in the targeted areas (target:3)									
WASH Output 1.1: Continuous assessment of water, sanitation, and hygiene situation is carried out in targeted communities											# of monitoring visits in the targeted areas (target: 3)									
Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Conduct an initial assessment of the water, sanitation, and hygiene situation in targeted communities																				
Continuously monitor the water, sanitation and hygiene situation in targeted communities																				
WASH Output 1.2: Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere and WHO standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population											% of target population with access to an improved water source (target: 100%)									
Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

Determine the appropriate method of household water treatment for each community based on effectiveness and user preference.																					
Distribute water treatment products																					
Monitor treatment and storage of water through household surveys and household water quality tests																					
WASH Output 1.5: Hygiene-related goods (NFIs) which meet Sphere standards and training on how to use those goods is provided to the target population	<i># of households provided with a set of essential hygiene items (target: 7,500)</i>																				
Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Develop a hygiene communication plan. Train volunteers to implement activities from the communication plan.																					
Distribute 7,500 hygiene kits for children's and women's health kits including menstrual hygiene items																					
Train population of targeted communities in use of distributed hygiene kits.																					
Monitor use of hygiene kits and water treatment products																					
WASH Outcome 2: Sustainable reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities in the recovery phase	<i># of people provided with safe water in targeted areas (target: 30,000)</i>																				
WASH Output 2.2: Community managed water sources giving access to safe water is provided to target population	<i># of people reached with awareness sessions (target: 54,000)</i>																				
Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Monitor use of water																					
Train water committees in management of water supplies and operation and maintenance of infrastructure																					

Strategies for Implementation
Requirements (CHF): 15,975 CHF

P&B Output Code	S1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform	# of volunteers deployed to this response (target: 500)																			
	Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected	# of volunteers briefed (target: TBD) # of volunteers that are trained (target: TBD)																			
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
AP040	Provide complete briefings on volunteers' roles and the risks they face																				
AP040	Provide psychosocial support to volunteers																				
AP040	Ensure volunteers are properly trained																				
P&B Output Code	Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured	Effective and coordinated international disaster response ensured. (Target: Yes)																			
	Output S2.1.1: Effective and respected surge capacity mechanism is maintained.	# of expert members deployed (Target: 2) # of surge missions (Target: 2)																			
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
AP046	Field's deployments to support the DREF operation																				
P&B Output Code	Output S3.1.2: IFRC produces high-quality research and evaluation that informs advocacy, resource mobilization and programming.	# of PMER monitoring visits (Target: 8) # of Lessons Learned Workshop (Target: 1)																			
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	AP055	Needs assessment, MEAL related activities																			
AP055	End-of-Operation Lessons Learned Workshop																				
P&B Output Code	Output S4.1.3: Financial resources are safeguarded; quality financial and administrative support is provided contributing to efficient operations and ensuring effective use of assets; timely quality financial reporting to stakeholders	# of narrative and financial reports (Target: 3)																			
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	AP064	Finance work																			
AP065	Administration work																				

Funding Requirements

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

all amounts in
Swiss Francs
(CHF)

DREF OPERATION

MDRIR005- Iran Droughts

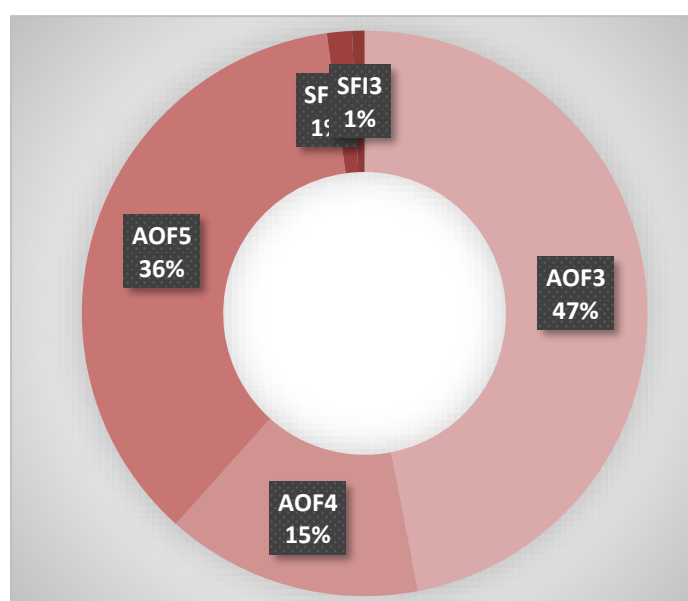
24/07/2021

Budget by Resource

Budget Group	Budget
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	240,650
Medical & First Aid	86,910
Cash Disbursement	330,000
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	667,560
Transport & Vehicles Costs	19,800
Logistics, Transport & Storage	19,800
Workshops & Training	5,000
Workshops & Training	5,000
Travel	10,000
General Expenditure	10,000
DIRECT COSTS	702,360
INDIRECT COSTS	45,653
TOTAL BUDGET	748,013

Budget by Area of Intervention

AOF1	Disaster Risk Reduction	
AOF2	Shelter	
AOF3	Livelihoods and Basic Needs	351,450
AOF4	Health	109,599
AOF5	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	270,989
AOF6	Protection, Gender and Inclusion	
AOF7	Migration	
SFI1	Strengthen National Societies	
SFI2	Effective International Disaster Management	10,650
SFI3	Influence others as leading strategic partners	5,325
SFI4	Ensure a strong IFRC	
TOTAL		748,013





**Iran-Drought
Disaster Relief Emergency Funds**
July - 2021



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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.**