

DREF operation n° MDRMA005 16 August , 2012 Year

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

Summary: CHF 148,035 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 14 February, 2012 to support the national society in delivering assistance to some 7,500 beneficiaries, and to replenish disaster preparedness stocks.

A cold spell hit Morocco on February 2012 for several days and persisted until the end of the month with exceptional low records reaching as low as Minus 7 degrees Celsius in some areas.

The Moroccan Red Crescent Disaster Management department activated its disaster response teams and an assessment was conducted in the affected areas in order to respond accordingly. The MRC provided, in coordination with the Moroccan authorities, the affected people with the needed relief items, and assisted them in preserving their health during this cold wave.



Moroccan Red Crescent society (MRC) distributing relief items after cold wave struck Morocco. Photo courtesy of MRC

The major donors and partners of DREF include the Australian, American and Belgian governments, the Austrian Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross and government, Danish Red Cross and government, the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), the Irish and the Italian governments, the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Luxembourg government, the Monaco Red Cross and government, the Netherlands Red Cross and government, the Norwegian Red Cross and government, the Spanish Government, the Swedish Red Cross and government, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), the Medtronic and Z Zurich Foundations, and other corporate and private donors. The Belgian RC/Govt and Canadian RC/CIDA have replenished the DREF for the allocation made to this operation.

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

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The situation

Heavy snowfall completely isolated several villages, from the rest of the country for some days. Electricity was cut due to the harsh weather conditions, where snow levels reached nearly one meter in height. Affected people could not access their firewood nor feed their cattle. The situation was even worse in the mountains where were people could only be reached through military helicopters and police vehicles. These areas are the most vulnerable ones in Morocco, living mostly below the poverty line, and with high rate of

children per families. The heavy snowfall persisted more than 15 days in many parts of the regions of Azilal, Beni Mellal, Taza, Al-Hoceima, Taounate and East to the Algerian- Moroccan border.

Coordination and partnership

The Moroccan Red Crescent cooperated closely with the local authorities and requested support from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies through its North Africa regional representation, supported by the MENA zone office in order to meet the needs of the affected population, by providing relief in the form of food and non-food relief items.

an assistive distribution plan to benefit people affected by the cold wave took place was implemented by the government Wednesday, February 8 in the provinces of Beni Mellal and Azilal, and especially places hard to reach.

These operations benefitted 11.000 households spread over 154 douars (villages). Those households received blankets and appropriate food during the winter period. The assistance program was organized with the participation of the Royal Armed Forces, the police force and the Ministry of Interior who, on this occasion deployed its staff deployed for National Reconstruction, and with input from the Mohammed V Foundation for solidarity.

The MRC was in charge of 1,500 families (7,500 people) as mentioned above.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Achievements against outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Outcome: Providing emergency assistance (basic food and non-food items) to 1,500 families (approximately 7,500 people)
Output: The essential needs of 1,500 families are met.
Activities planned:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous cooperation with the local and national emergency committees • Mobilization of staff and volunteers in the 2 regions (4 localities) the most affected • Preparation of the distribution plan • Local procurement of emergency items • Distribution of emergency items by the Moroccan Red Crescent staff and volunteers according to beneficiaries' identification and targeted list • Monitoring and evaluation

The MRC, in coordination with the local and provincial authorities, mobilized technical and human resources to ensure the proper delivery of the mobilized aid estimated at more than 90 tons of food and non- food items and hygiene products to the concerned populations.

The distribution of this aid was made possible with the assistance of the local officials and volunteers and national leaders of the MRC as well as Volunteers who participated in the distribution and maintenance of distributed goods.

The MRC is part of the National Contingency Plan in place and working well in ensuring its role as auxiliary to the government with the local authorities, health services, emergency preparedness, and the Royal Armed Forces in the field of assessment, emergency delivery of food and non-food products, the provision of first aid, transport and psychosocial support.

The following tables show localities benefitted and items distributed:

Region	Localities	Number of families
Oriental Taza Taounate Al Hoceima	Figuig	250
	Taza	500
	Al Hoceima	500
	Taounate	250
Total		1500

Composition of the distributed Kits per family

Category	Items	Quantities
Food	Flour	25 Kg
	Sugar	5 kg
	Soybean oil	5 L
	Tea	½ Kg
	Rice	2 Kg
	Chickpeas	2 Kg
	Lens	2 Kg
	Fava beans	2 Kg
Non-food	Mattresses	
	Blankets	
Hygienic Kit	Liquid soap (dishes)	2 X 75 ml
	Bar of soap	8
	Razor	5
	Toothbrush	5
	Toothpaste	2
	Towel	3
	Detergent	2
	Bowl	1
	Sanitary napkin	4

More than 80 trained volunteers participated in this operation. These volunteers were mobilized in the affected branches or branches nearby. They were supervised by regional and national executives of the National Society.

Needs were assessed according to certain vulnerabilities criteria and access difficulties especially in altitudes. The most vulnerable groups were: the homeless, people living below the poverty line, unemployed and the elderly. The persistent cold snap made their situation more critical and unable to meet their immediate survival needs.

Based on this assessment, and through close coordination with stakeholders, the MRC was able to operate in areas where government assistance is limited.

After the emergency phase in late March, local authorities helped the victims to recover, while MRC supported the most vulnerable to gradually regain normal living conditions in the affected communities.

Meanwhile, volunteers resumed to raising awareness of the affected people on precautions and measures to be taken during severe weather conditions.

An evaluation of the operation was conducted by the MRC 3 months after and deduced the following points:

Impact: MRC has managed to fulfill its role as auxiliary to support the government, namely in the disaster response and saving lives. MRC has managed to come to the rescue of 1,500 families, or 7,500 people and partly cover the basic needs in the areas most affected. The beneficiaries expressed their satisfaction of MRC's coordinated operations with representatives of local authorities and the impartial target of the beneficiaries.

Challenges:

Although this operation was a success (it raised the foreseen objectives of distribution of food and non-food items for 1500 families), it faced some coordination problems in the field, between the two parts (MRC and authorities), regarding the distribution of roles.

Some of the problems encountered were: lack of understanding on which geographical areas should take each of the partners and different criteria to assess beneficiaries needs, among others. This situation is due to the lack of a National Disaster Plan.

These constraints constituted a challenge for the whole operation, but the partners involved were able to overcome the situation and agree on the task to be done in order to facilitate the work and achieve their common goal.

For the future it would be advisable as part of preparations and management of disaster response at national, regional and local level to continue working on the harmonization of national and regional disasters plans by focusing primarily on improving the system of coordination between the RC and the Moroccan authorities.

The Moroccan ORSEC has not been revised for many years, which it should be in order to better define the roles and responsibilities of each agency and to improve the mechanisms of coordination in a context of a SPE (Strategic Plan of Emergency).

Contact information

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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.

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Saving lives, changing minds.



strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:
 floods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
 living.
 and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2012/2-2012/6
Budget Timeframe	2012/2-2012/6
Appeal	mdrma005
Budget	APPROVED

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Funding

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
A. Budget	148,035					148,035	
B. Opening Balance	0					0	
Income							
<u>Other Income</u>							
DREF Allocations	148,035					148,035	
C4. Other Income	148,035					148,035	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)	148,035					148,035	
D. Total Funding = B +C	148,035					148,035	
Coverage = D/A	100%					100%	

II. Movement of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	Deferred Income
B. Opening Balance	0					0	
C. Income	148,035					148,035	
E. Expenditure	-146,663					-146,663	
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	1,372					1,372	

III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance A - B
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
	A					B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)		148,035				148,035		
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Clothing & Textiles	66,000	64,166				64,166	1,834	
Food	52,500	57,688				57,688	-5,188	
Total Relief items, Construction, Supplies	118,500	121,854				121,854	-3,354	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage		8				8	-8	
Distribution & Monitoring	2,000						2,000	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	3,000	2,858				2,858	142	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	5,000	2,866				2,866	2,134	
Personnel								
National Society Staff		2,998				2,998	-2,998	
Volunteers	10,000	6,970				6,970	3,030	
Total Personnel	10,000	9,968				9,968	33	
General Expenditure								
Information & Public Relations		275				275	-275	
Office Costs	3,000	143				143	2,857	
Communications	2,000	1,731				1,731	269	
Financial Charges	500	875				875	-375	
Total General Expenditure	5,500	3,024				3,024	2,476	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recov	9,035	8,951				8,951	84	
Total Indirect Costs	9,035	8,951				8,951	84	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	148,035	146,663				146,663	1,372	
VARIANCE (C - D)		1,372				1,372		