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## Final Report

### Tunisia: Flash Floods



<b>DREF operation</b>	<b>Operation n° MDRTN009</b>
<b>Date of Issue: 05 November 2021</b>	<b>Glide number: <a href="#">FF-2020-000204-TUN</a></b>
<b>Operation start date: 06 October 2020</b>	<b>Operation end date: 31 May 2021</b>
<b>Operating National Society: Tunisian Red Crescent (TRC)</b>	<b>Operation budget: CHF 490,443</b>
<b>Number of people affected: 10,000 (2,000 Households)</b>	<b>Number of people assisted: 14,000 (2,800 Households)</b>
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation:</b> Tunisian Red Crescent, 700 volunteers mobilized in seven branches.	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> Tunisian authorities activated the National Disaster Management Team and dispatched police forces, civil defence, army, and rescue teams to some regions in response to the crisis.	

*The major donors and partners of the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Belgium, Britain, Canada, Denmark, Germany, 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 Tunisian Red Crescent (TRC), would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.*

<click [here](#) for the final financial report and [here](#) for contacts>

## A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

### Description of the disaster

Heavy rainfall began around 12 September 2020 when Monastir, capital of the Monastir Governorate, and many other towns around recorded 47.8 mm of rain in 24 hours, while Sidi Bouzid and many other surrounding towns of this governorate recorded 58 mm. During the same period, Mahdia and all belonging localities recorded more than 40 mm of rain in 24 hours during 3 separate days. Kairouan recorded 89 mm of rain. Kef governorate registered similar amounts of rain, especially in Sers locality.

Flooding and related fatalities were reported in the governorates of Monastir, Sousse, Mahdia, Sfax, and Tunis, according to the country's Civil Protection Agency. Floods struck several districts of the capital, Tunis. Some areas were under 1 meter of water, leaving roads impassable and buildings damaged. Orthopaedic hospital in the governorate of Manouba was flooded; water reaching archives and hospitalization rooms. Consequently, floodwater surged through many different districts damaging infrastructure, houses, properties, and livelihoods of the community members. During that period, media reports said at least 6 people died in floods after days of torrential rainfall in Tunisia, hundreds were rescued, and thousands of homes were damaged. More than 40,000 people were affected by the floods. Some of them fled their homes seeking shelter in neighbouring high-ground houses and communities, while others chose to stay in their damaged houses moving to rooftops rather than risking crossing flooded areas to reach evacuation points. Water supply through pipelines was limited, and the water available in some areas has been contaminated.

Electricity has been cut off in certain districts to avoid risk to people and electrical damage.

The affected communities have recovered from the disaster, rebuilt their houses for those who have lost theirs, and the electricity and water supply have been restored.

## Summary of the response

### Overview of Host National Society

The Tunisian Red Crescent (TRC) branches staff and volunteers conducted rapid needs assessment supported by National Disaster Response Team members (NDRT), together with the Local Disaster Response Team (LDRT). Altogether, seven branches coordinated the overall response, meetings, and interviews with communities' leaders and local authorities to identify the affected population and their urgent needs. The results of the needs assessment revealed that **2,000 affected households** required food, household items (HHIs), shelter, safe drinking water, health, sanitation, and hygiene.

Since the onset of the floods, TRC coordinated with all relevant stakeholders at national and regional levels to build the response plan and deliver relief services to the affected communities. Additionally, TRC volunteers supported the local authorities in cleaning the flooded area of debris, mud, and in draining the floodwaters in the affected areas. Besides, TRCS volunteers provided psychosocial support to the traumatized people as they witnessed the sudden inundation of water into their houses and surrounding land.

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

The IFRC provided technical and financial support to TRC through its North Africa Country Cluster Support Team (CCST) and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Regional Delegation based in Lebanon. IFRC worked closely with TRC on the implementation of the DREF operation activities providing support through the support services on the CCST and regional level. IFRC MENA Regional Office provided technical inputs in planning and implementation and undertook monitoring and evaluation of the operation. IFRC, through this DREF operation, supported TRC in their immediate emergency response to the needs of the flood-affected people.

### Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

Local authorities dispatched police forces, army, and rescue teams to some regions. Municipalities assisted the affected people by providing shelters in public places and providing some basic needs. Civil defence supported affected people to extract water from their houses. Other local organizations, in coordination with TRC, collected in-kind donations that were distributed to the affected people.

## Needs analysis and scenario planning

### Needs analysis:

TRC relied on data collected from the rapid assessment conducted by TRC branches, National Disaster Response Team (NDRT), Local Disaster Response Team (LDRT), and local committee members.

**Based on their findings, the following needs were identified:**

### *Detailed needs assessment:*

Based on information gathered through the needs assessment in coordination with the local authorities and the municipalities, the identified needs were related to food, household items (HHIs), shelter, safe drinking water, health, sanitation, and hygiene items.

TRC provided support to the most vulnerable where specific needs were identified in line with the findings of their assessments to ensure the community engagement at the activities design level based on their perspectives, priorities, and needs, and to fulfil their mandate.

### **Shelter and household items:**

Many homes were damaged, and household items and assets were washed away. The needs assessment conducted by TRC provided affected households with emergency shelter options, but also enabled them to

protect their remaining possessions. There was also a need for mattresses, blankets, clothes, food stocks, hygiene materials, schoolbooks. All affected houses needed clean-up and sanitation to be habitable again. Many houses needed prompt repair especially damaged roofs and inside the electric network.

Shelter and household items protected the affected population's privacy and dignity and avoided the spread of water-borne diseases and respiratory illnesses.

#### ***Health and care:***

The health minister provided emergency health services to the affected population, in the seven-targeted governorates, through existing health facilities. Whereas health and hygiene promotion campaigns were vital for the prevention of water-borne diseases, those activities were conducted through individual households visits due to the COVID-19 restriction.

The health and hygiene promotion activities improved and promoted health-seeking behaviours, while vector control activities prevented diseases outbreaks, such as dysentery and insects and little rodents transmitted diseases.

#### ***Water, Hygiene and Sanitation (WASH):***

The safe water supply through pipelines was contaminated and affected families were at health risks due to flooded pit latrines, water wells, and contaminated surrounding areas. . Therefore, TRC implemented vector control actions such as clean-up campaigns and spraying, with the supervision and support of municipalities and civil defence. The activities in this operation were designed to complement the response activities to cover the gaps in emergency shelter/ HHIs, health education, and environmental sanitation in the most-affected areas.

#### ***Targeting:***

This DREF operation targeted **2,000 affected families (10,000 people)** in seven governorates (**Tunis, Sousse, Monastir, Kairouan, Sfax, Mehdia and Sidi Bouzid**), as per the coordination agreement with the local authorities and other internal actors. Affected people were identified through the assessments conducted by the TRC with the support of branches and local authorities.

Women, children, the elderly, and peasants were identified as the most vulnerable. Villagers who were affected were given priority in terms of response.

#### ***Operation Risk Assessment:***

During the response operation, the country witnessed some civil unrest events along with COVID-19 restrictions, which led to some delays in the implementation especially in procurement and distribution. During the lessons learnt exercise in the 2018 floods, local procurement has been identified as one of the biggest challenges to the timely implementation of the operation, the IFRC MENA Regional Office and the North Africa Country Cluster Delegation worked closely with the National Society to facilitate the procurement process and provide the necessary support.

This DREF operation and its operational strategy considered the risks related to the current COVID-19 pandemic and were aligned with the IFRC global emergency appeal that supports National Societies to deliver assistance and support to communities affected or at risk of being affected by the COVID-19 (novel Coronavirus) outbreak.

TRC referred to the country guideline for preparedness and response to COVID-19 to communicate risks during the winter season and eventual floods. TRC disseminated COVID-19 messages to the communities through local media, influential people, and social mobilization structures.

All staff and volunteers engaged in floods response were oriented on COVID-19 preventive measures and provided with PPE for their safety.

## B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY


### Proposed Strategy:

This DREF operation delivered emergency assistance and humanitarian relief to **2,000 flood-affected households in seven governorates for six months**. In addition to providing food baskets and household items, the National Society carried out psychosocial support and environmental sanitation campaigns. The strategy was conducted based on the needs assessment of the affected people. The following activities were implemented.

1. **Household Items:** (Target: 10,000 people (2,000 HH)). The DREF operation ensured the distribution of household items for 2,000 HHs/10,000 people who were residing with host families or in temporary shelters in public spaces provided by the authorities. Items included 2 mattresses and 2 blankets per household in the seven governorates.
2. **Food Security:** (Target: 10,000 people (2,000 HHs)). Food baskets containing essential food ingredients in Tunisian culture were purchased and distributed to 2,000 HHs. Items included 5L of vegetal oil, 5 Kg of Pastries, 4 kg tomato paste, 5 kg of rice, 5 kg of couscous, 2 kg of sugar, 2 kg of salt, 1 kg of coffee, 0.5 kg of tea, 0.8 kg of canned Tuna, 0.8 kg of margarine and 0.94 kg of quince jam.
3. **Health and care:** (Target: 10,000 people (2,000 HHs)). TRC volunteers provided psychosocial first aid (PFA) as part of their response to the affected population. Another 100 volunteers were trained on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS). TRC Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) teams carried on health awareness sessions on the various potential health risks, such as water-borne diseases due to polluted water (diarrhoea), acute respiratory infections (including COVID-19). For each household, 2 cloth facemasks were distributed by TRC volunteers.
4. **Water, Hygiene and Sanitation:** (Target: 10,000 people (2,000 HHs)). Hygiene kits: procurement and distribution for 2,000 HHs. Each kit included 4 soda soap bars, 4 perfumed soap bars, 4 toothbrushes, 4 toothpaste, 4 shampoos, 4 shower gel, 4 liquid soap, 4 razor blades, 4 hair combs, and 4 nail cutters. In addition, 1,200 kg of chlorine powder tablets have been distributed.

Please refer to the original DREF plan of action for details on the intervention strategy, available [here](#).

## C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

	<p><b>Shelter</b></p> <p><b>People reached: 10,000</b></p> <p>Male: 5,000</p> <p>Female: 5,000</p>	
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of families that received shelter NFIs	2,000	2,000
# of NFIs procured and distributed	4,000	4,000
<b>Narrative description of achievements</b>		
<p><b>- Identification of target and the appropriate modalities to support the affected families:</b></p> <p>Since the inception of the DREF, the TRC team coordinated with local authorities to conduct a field assessment and identify those most impacted by the floods.</p> <p>TRC identified 2,000 Households (10,000 people) that have been targeted by the DREF operation at the end of the assessment phase.</p> <p><b>- Procurement of household items to be distributed to the affected population:</b> Tenders for the procurement</p>		

of the household items (4,000 mattresses and 4,000 blankets) were carried out and finalized, according to IFRC standards.

**- Distribution of Household items:**

Once procured, the household items were distributed to the 2,000 affected families across the seven governorates.

**Challenges**

Due to the low number of manufacturers in Tunisia, only a few providers participated in the tenders, most notably in the Blankets tender, where only one supplier participated, being the local monopole; the matter was clarified with the IFRC team, and TRC obtained Technical Approvals.

**Lessons Learned**

The availability of a contingency stock would have saved time in the implementation of relief emergency activities.



**Livelihoods and basic needs**

**People reached: 10,000**

Male: 5,000

Female: 5,000

**Indicators:**

# of people provided with basics needs assistance including food

**Target**

10,000

**Actual**

10,000

**Narrative description of achievements**

**- Identification of target and the appropriate modalities to support the affected families:**

Since the inception of the DREF operation, the TRC team coordinated with local authorities to conduct a field assessment and identify those most impacted by the floods.

At the end of the assessment phase, TRCS identified 2,000 Households (10,000 people) that have been targeted by the DREF operation.

**- Procurement of food parcels to be distributed to the affected population:**

Tenders for household items were conducted and finalized in accordance with IFRC standards. 2,000 Food Parcels were procured, and those items were inspected prior to delivery to ensure the quality of the items that would be distributed to the affected people.

**- Distribution of Food Parcels:**

Following the completion of the procurement process, which was delayed, the parcels were distributed to the 2,000 affected families in the seven governorates targeted in this operation.

**Challenges**

The procurement, technical specifications, and tender terms regarding food quality and necessary inspections presented some challenges, particularly in terms of the repetitions and numbers of tests to be performed while suppliers waited and pressed for the purchase order.

**Lessons Learned**

The TRC reviewed the files and established guidelines for future projects to ensure greater efficiency and time management. However, due to the long standards imposed by the IFRC in terms of procuring food items, it is preferable to choose food vouchers over food baskets from a practical standpoint, for future operations.



## Health

**People reached: 14,000**

Male: 7,000

Female: 7,000

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people provided with clinical health care services during emergencies	10,000	10,000
# of people reached by community-based health activities	10,000	8,000
# of people reached by psychosocial support	10,000	7,600
# of people reached with health promotion messaging	10,000	14,000
<b>Narrative description of achievements</b>		
<p><b>- Deployment of mobile clinics in communities.</b></p> <p><b>- Training of 100 volunteers on CBHFA:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TRC conducted an online CBHFA training session for 100 volunteers with the support of the Regional Branches.</li><li>• CBHFA volunteers were deployed in the affected communities to conduct individual household visits or community campaigns for the prevention of waterborne diseases and the promotion of health-seeking behaviours.</li></ul> <p><b>- Training of 100 volunteers on MHPSS:</b> The trainings were held online to assist those who had lost their homes as a result of the disaster.</p> <p><b>- Monitoring the health situation in shelters and communities and notifying health officials of any outbreaks.</b></p> <p>Throughout the DREF operation, TRCS volunteers and the community were kept alert and informed through constant visibility and training sessions. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, TRC organized health hygiene and promotion activities through individual visits to affected households, which are critical for the promotion of water-borne diseases and diarrhoea, as well as providing hygiene promotion awareness sessions. These activities were carried out in conjunction with community clean-up and draining campaigns. TRC volunteers received health promotion training on the theme "Response to Natural Disasters (FLOODS)." The workshop covered topics such as first aid, PSS, shelter operation, water hygiene, handling human remains after a disaster, and COVID-19 prevention.</p>		
<b>Challenges</b>		
COVID-19 cases among the National Society staff slowed down the implementation of the DREF operation. TRC had to rent conference rooms and equipment due to a lack of video conference equipment, which proved insufficient for the current needs.		
<b>Lessons Learned</b>		
Based on the response to this operation, technical trainings and sessions are required to further strengthen NS's emergency response capacities.		



## Water, sanitation, and hygiene

**People reached: 14,000**

Male: 7,000

Female: 7,000

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached by NS with services to reduce relevant health risk factors	10,000	10,000
# of assessments conducted based on standard IFRC and/or WHO assessment guidelines	1	1
# households reached with key messages to promote personal and community hygiene	2,000	2,800
# households reached with awareness-raising activities on improved treatment and safe use of wastewater	2,000	2,800
# of cleaning campaigns carried (3 per province)	21	21
<b>Narrative description of achievements</b>		
<p>- <b>Procurement of hygiene kits for 2,000 HHs</b></p> <p><i>2,000 hygiene kits:</i> The procurement was successful, and the 2,000 hygiene kits were distributed to families who had fled their homes as a result of the floods. The communities targeted were linked to the awareness sensitization session to raise their awareness.</p> <p>The kit included: 4 soda soap bars, 4 perfumed soap bars, 4 toothbrushes, 4 tubes of toothpaste, 4 shampoos, 4 shower gels, 4 liquid soaps, 4 razor blades, 4 hair combs, and 4 nail cutters. In addition, 1200 kg of chlorine powder tablets were distributed.</p> <p>- <b>Procurement of cleaning kits for 2,000 HHs</b></p> <p><i>2,000 cleaning kits:</i> The procurement was completed, and the 2,000 cleaning kits were distributed to the families.</p> <p>- <b>Cleaning campaigns:</b></p> <p>TRC volunteers carried out 21 clean-up and sanitation campaigns (three for each flood-affected region) as well as in the seven targeted districts to contribute to a clean and safe environment for flood-affected people and to reduce mosquito breeding grounds and disease risks.</p> <p>The TRC provided hygiene and cleaning supplies. To ensure access to safe drinking water, 1,200 kg (4,800 tablets) of water purification powder was purchased and distributed to all affected households. TRC supplied two packs of chlorine powder to each affected household (a total of 2,000 HHs) (250 gr each).</p> <p>- <b>Sanitary Cabins:</b></p> <p>Due to the high cost of implementing Turkish latrines, it was decided to purchase sanitary cabins instead. The initial assessment was for a total of 28 cabins (04 for each affected region), but this was later revised to only 12 cabins for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Budget revisions: The cabin's prices changed and were thus underestimated in the primary budget, resulting in a quantity reduction from 28 to 12, in order to stay within budget.</li> <li>-TRC distributed the 12 purchased cabins based on the needs of the regions: Sfax, Monastir, Tunis, Sidi Bouzid, Sousse, Kairouan, and Mahdia.</li> </ul>		
<b>Challenges</b>		

Cleaning kit packaging and transportation posed some challenges due to the volume of the items and the difficulty of packing entire kits in a single box. TRC chose to transport items in bulk, which were later sorted by volunteers in each locality and distributed to families.

#### **Lessons Learned**

The packaging and distribution of hygiene and cleaning kits on site was done in such a way that the maximum number of affected HHs were reached, but more organization and records were required. TRC intends to delegate distribution to a specialized warehousing employee in future operations.

### **Strengthen National Society**

<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of volunteers that are protected and insured	700	700
Final DREF review and lessons learned workshop	1	0
# of Financial reports submitted in due time	2	2

#### **Narrative description of achievements**

Periodic Ops updates were shared with the IFRC CCST in Tunis throughout the disaster response to report on implementation progress. TRC also ensured that all volunteers were insured and protected with PPEs during the operation, in accordance with the EPoA. Additionally, TRC trained 100 volunteers on relief distribution and warehousing prior to the distribution of items to ensure that the volunteers are well prepared to respond during this operation.

The National Society submitted two financial reports: one interim and one final, along with supporting documents.

#### **Challenges**

Despite the lengthy tendering processes for purchasing food and NFI, TRC was diligent in ensuring full compliance with IFRC standards. The technical approvals come easily, but the financing of the operation is delayed. As a result, an additional extension of the timeframe was required to meet the various requirements and complete the implementation, noting that the distribution of many items occurred after the operation ended.

Moreover, due to the delays in implementation imposed by the COVID-19 restrictions, the National Society was unable to organize the lessons learned workshop within the timeframe of this DREF operation. The granted extension was intended to allow for the completion of the remaining distributions, planned activities, and financial clearance.

#### **Lessons Learned**

Despite the emergency nature of a DREF operation, lengthy procurement procedures and late financing hampered the efficiency of the response to assist vulnerable people in a timely manner. TRC should ensure the availability of food and NFI safety stock in the event of a disaster in order to respond more effectively and urgently to the most affected areas while humanitarian aid is being delivered.

## **D. Financial Report**

The total operating budget is CHF 490,443 out of which CHF 445,584 was spent. The balance amount of CHF 44,859 will be returned to the DREF pot.

The deference reported under Livelihood is due to an incorrect unit cost budgeted during the initial phase of drafting the EPoA, where the actual unit cost is higher, causing the budget under AP008 to increase; additionally, the cost includes item inspection. The WASH hygiene kits cost less than the budgeted amount, resulting in the variance.

**The detailed financial report is available below.**

# DREF Operation

## FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

### MDRTN009 - Tunisia - Flash Floods

Operating Timeframe: 05 Oct 2020 to 30 Apr 2021

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2020/10-2021/07	Operation	MDRTN009
Budget Timeframe	2020/10-2021/04	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 27/Oct/2021

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## I. Summary

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Funds &amp; Other Income</b>	<b>490,443</b>
DREF Allocations	490,443
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>-445,584</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>44,859</b>

## II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction			0
AOF2 - Shelter	149,100	130,720	18,380
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	25,560	78,471	-52,911
AOF4 - Health	12,780	26,890	-14,110
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	214,172	122,074	92,098
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			0
AOF7 - Migration			0
<b>Area of focus Total</b>	<b>401,612</b>	<b>358,155</b>	<b>43,457</b>
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	54,528	55,507	-979
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	21,087	26,549	-5,462
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	8,424	2,636	5,788
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	4,792	2,738	2,055
<b>Strategy for implementation Total</b>	<b>88,832</b>	<b>87,429</b>	<b>1,402</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>490,443</b>	<b>445,584</b>	<b>44,859</b>

### III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>	<b>365,100</b>	<b>311,047</b>	<b>54,053</b>
Clothing & Textiles	140,000	122,742	17,258
Food	24,000	73,682	-49,682
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	201,100	114,623	86,477
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>19,500</b>	<b>42,707</b>	<b>-23,207</b>
Storage	9,000	18,952	-9,952
Transport & Vehicles Costs	10,500	23,755	-13,255
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>55,700</b>	<b>54,690</b>	<b>1,010</b>
National Society Staff	16,200	15,527	673
Volunteers	39,500	39,163	337
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>7,610</b>	<b>2,819</b>	<b>4,791</b>
Workshops & Training	7,610	2,819	4,791
<b>General Expenditure</b>	<b>12,600</b>	<b>7,126</b>	<b>5,474</b>
Travel	3,000		3,000
Office Costs	7,500	5,538	1,962
Communications	2,100	1,589	511
<b>Indirect Costs</b>	<b>29,933</b>	<b>27,195</b>	<b>2,738</b>
Programme & Services Support Recover	29,933	27,195	2,738
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>490,443</b>	<b>445,584</b>	<b>44,859</b>

## Contact information

Reference documents



Click here for:

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

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

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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.