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## Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) Belarus: Population Movement

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>DREF n° MDRBY010</b>	<b>Glide n° OT-2021-000175-BLR</b>
<b>Date of issue: 16 November 2021</b>	<b>Expected timeframe: 5 months, Expected end date: 30 April 2022</b>
<b>Category allocated to the crisis: Yellow</b>	
<b>DREF allocated: CHF 321,362</b>	
<b>Total number of people affected: 2,300</b> (estimated, likely to be revised as the situation evolves)	<b>Number of people to be assisted: 2,300</b> (around 2,000 in the border area, 300 people in the cities of Belarus)
<b>Host National Society presence: involved in the Operation: 2 regional branches in Grodno and Brest regions, Belarus Red Cross HQ; 30 staff, 180 volunteers</b>	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: IFRC, ICRC, Danish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross</b>	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA, State Border Committee, the Council of the Republic</b>	
<i>The operational strategies between the countries impacted by the situation differs with the contexts. With Via this DREF, Belarus Red Cross is focusing on the current estimated 2,000 migrants at the border as priority, with a readiness for additional allocations or other tools for gathering support, if the situation evolves. Polish Red Cross in turn (MDRPL001) will do partial replenishments of material already distributed over the past months. In addition, targeting is based on estimates over four months, recognizing that there are migrants on the Polish side of the border to whom PRC is working with the authorities to get regular access to. There are also migrants on the move through Poland, who have managed to cross the border or possibly have entered from Lithuania, who seek assistance from humanitarian service points run by PRC and partners. Germany registered around 5,000 arrivals<sup>1</sup> from Poland in October alone, which is an indication of the scale of movement. For the overall context, as scenarios and response options exercise has been launched to inform planning.</i>	

## A. Situation analysis

### Description of the disaster

Since mid-May 2021, the number of people who enter Lithuania and Poland irregularly from Belarus has been increasing rapidly. Thousands of people have crossed from Belarus to Lithuania, Poland and neighboring countries in the last months. When Lithuania started to deter migrants by reinforcing the control at the border, neighboring countries became affected too. A significant increase of irregular entries from Belarus into the European Union (EU) has been observed, compared to the same period of 2020. The majority of migrants – amongst them a lot of women and children - are from Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Syria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Yemen, Sudan and other Middle East, African and Asian countries.

According to the migrants, the majority of them is aiming for Germany and other EU countries to seek protection there. Germany reported that in October alone, the number of migrants who came to Germany through Belarus reached more than 5,200. Lithuania has reported more than 4,200 migrants arriving since the beginning of 2021, while the usual average number of arrivals per year is 100. In July, the Government of Lithuania declared a state of emergency. In September, Poland has also declared the state of emergency in two regions bordering Belarus ([see map below](#)). Polish authorities have reported 17,000 “illegal” border crossings attempts since early October.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.euronews.com/2021/11/01/germany-says-more-than-5-000-migrants-arrived-from-belarus-in-october>

Earlier this year barbed wire was installed along the borders of Lithuania and Poland and Belarus. Lithuania has already started replacing the wire with a 3.4-metre-high steel wall. Poland is planning to start building a 5-metre-high fence by the end of this year.

The local authorities report that the migrants arriving in Belarus have Belarusian visas and stay on Belarusian territory legally. Since 19 October 2021, Belarus has ceased to issue tourist visas to citizens of Afghanistan, Yemen, Somalia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

According to the Department for Citizenship and Migration of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, 409 foreigners (209 in January – July, 200 in August - October) have applied for protection in the Republic of Belarus in 2021, most of them from African countries, Iraq, Yemen, and Iran. There are also at least 170 people in that list who are displaced from Ukraine and stay in Belarus after the conflict in the Donbass area. However, the majority of migrants try to cross the border with the EU - many of them planning to go to Germany – and do not want to ask for asylum in Belarus. IOM (in November 2021) and UNHCR (in September 2021 and November 2021) visited the border area between Belarus and Poland to explain the migrants the possibilities to apply for asylum and get support in Belarus, however, only a few people returned back to Belarus or asked for support for return back home.

Data available on the number of migrants in the country refers only to those who stay in the hotels or officially rented accommodation. Therefore, it is difficult to realistically estimate the number of the people heading to the Western borders.

On 8 November, hundreds of migrants were gathering in Belarusian territory along the borderline with Poland in organized groups. According to the media estimations, there are 2,000-4,000 migrants at the border (including 200-500 children). BRC's current own estimate at the launch of this DREF stands at 2,000 but will be continuously monitored and revised if needed. The migrants who want to cross the border and get to Poland started a camp in no-man's land and are currently situated close to the border not returning to Belarus or requesting asylum in Belarus. The Kuznica-Bruzgi border crossing, where most of the migrants had been attempting to enter Poland, has been closed by authorities on both sides. Polish authorities have deployed additional security forces to the area. The Polish government released footage of a large group of migrants congregating on the Belarusian side of the border fence and attempting cut through it using specialized tools. Local media reported the sound of gunfire in the area, the source of which remains unconfirmed. Although, the gathering of migrants in these numbers in an attempt to cross the borders was observed for the first time, further such incidents remain possible as the situation persists.

Since May 2021, at least ten migrants were found dead at the border between Poland and Belarus<sup>2</sup>. With the coming winter the condition of the migrants stranded at the border might worsen, and the impact on health will be even more severe.

## Summary of the current response

### Overview of Host National Society

Belarus Red Cross was in contact with the border Committee since August 2021. On 31 August, the Border Committee confirmed that Belarus Red Cross is granted access to provide support to one of the groups of migrants (32 people from Afghanistan) at the border of Belarus and Poland. On 1 and 13 September the representatives of Grodno regional BRCS branch together with representatives of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in the Republic of Belarus, with the assistance of the State Border Committee, visited the section of the Rusaki border outpost of Grodno border group and delivered humanitarian aid to a group of Afghan citizens (**32 people**). 32 food parcels were delivered twice. Each food parcel included canned meat and fish, a mixture of nuts and dried fruits, chocolate, gingerbread, cookies, oat bread, and disposable table wear. Along the food parcels, the following items have been delivered: 96 liters of drinking water (in 1 liter bottles); 5 kits for women which included personal women hygiene items. Clothes, including 8 men's and 7 women's jackets, 10 men's and 10 women's jumpers, 15 men's shirts, 8 men's and 10 women's T-shirts, 7 men's and 6 women's trousers, 18 units of children's clothing, 32 raincoats and 32 wool blankets.

On 19 and 22 September 2021, at the request of the Health Department of Grodno Regional Executive Committee the Grodno regional BRCS branch rendered humanitarian assistance to **6 (six) children** migrants (from 8 to 15 years old), who were transferred to the Grodno regional children's hospital.

In October, the Belarus Red Cross Society has combined its own resources, the resources of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Afghan community in the Republic of Belarus to once again provide support to migrants at the Belarusian-Polish border. On 21 October, 21 staff and volunteers of Grodno regional BRCS branch, with the assistance of the State Border Committee, visited the section of the Rusaki border outpost of the Grodno border section and delivered humanitarian aid to the migrants. Tents, sleeping bags, warm blankets, clothes, shoes, drinking water, food and hygiene kits, personal protective equipment were delivered for **15 Afghan** migrants, since the group split up already by then.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/36166/tenth-migrant-found-dead-on-belaruspolish-border>

After meetings with the Border Committee on 9 and 10 November and confirmation of access to provide humanitarian aid, staff of the Grodno regional branch of the Belarus Red Cross distributed humanitarian aid to migrants on the part of Belarus-Poland border. On 9-13 November with support of the representatives of the Council of the Republic BRC staff delivered the following items to **around 2,000 migrants**: food kits, which included bread and sausage products, stew, water, sweets and fruit, hygiene kits, warm clothes and socks, and blankets. As well as:

Items	Quantity
Drinking water	7 tons
Bread	5.5 tons
Meat products	2 tons
Tinned meat	2 tons
Tinned vegetables	0.8 tons
Beef stew	500 kg
Bakery products and confectionery	1.3 tons
Clothes, hosiery	3,200 pcs
Fruits	0.8 tons
Food kits	100
Wool blankets	760

Since the beginning of the migrant situation on the border, Belarus Red Cross **RFL service** has received 120 emails and processed requests regarding **87 persons** (18 Children, 11 Women, and 58 Men), of which 18 were specifically for RFL. All the requests were received directly from people in need (migrants on the border or their relatives abroad) via email, from ICRC Restoring Family Links website, NSs (Lithuania; Sri-Lanka; Belgium; Russia, Finland), from other organizations (Watch The Med - Alarm Phone). Migrants supported originated from the following countries: Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Yemen, Sri-Lanka, DRC Mali, Nigeria, Syria, Sudan and Ethiopia. In view of the present circumstances, no direct RFL needs assessment at the border site could be carried out, and provision of RFL services (namely Safe&Well messages and phone-calls) may be included in the response at a later stage. The BRCS continues to have access to administratively detained migrants for provision of phone-calls in places of detention under the Belarus State Border Committee and the Mol. Since the crisis started only a few migrants were detained, however, this aspect is monitored and RFL response may become relevant at a different stage of the crisis.

Belarus Red Cross works closely with government agencies and international organizations to coordinate efforts and further operational assistance. Belarus Red Cross has access to the migrants at the border and acts as a leading organization in provision of support to the migrants. Belarus Red Cross has previously been involved in supporting migrants in cooperation with the state agencies, IOM, UNHCR, IFRC and ICRC. The support covered refugees, asylum seekers, migrants in detention, survivors of human trafficking and displaced people from Ukraine.

A fundraising campaign was launched to collect funds to provide humanitarian aid to the migrants. The campaign was launched on 5 November and until 11 November around BYN 2,500 (around CHF 1,000) were raised. The funds will be used to purchase blankets and items needed to cover immediate basic needs (hygiene, clothes, food). In-kind donations from the general public are also being collected and will be distributed at the border. Belarus Red Cross is planning to mobilize other regional branches (not bordering Poland and Lithuania) to fundraise locally to cover the needs of migrants.

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

IFRC CCD for Russia and Belarus, including the IFRC programme coordinator stationed in Minsk, is cooperating closely with the National Society's leadership and disaster management team at headquarters level in assessing the needs and the response to the evolving situation. A Movement Coordination Agreement between the BRCS, the ICRC and the IFRC regarding their respective roles and responsibilities and Movement coordination in Belarus was signed in July 2017. Danish, Swiss, Bulgarian, Polish and Ukrainian Red Cross have joined this Agreement. Under BRC coordination, a One Movement approach will be used to respond the current situation in Belarus, meaning that all the partners' support to Belarus Red Cross will be coordinated and discussed during Movement meetings, the same approaches will be used, and there will be no duplication of efforts. Coordination with other National Societies (Polish RC, Lithuanian RC, Latvian RC) is provided through the Regional Office in Europe (ROE).

One ICRC RFL specialist has been deployed to Minsk in support to the BRCS RFL team, and coordination with NS tracing services of other affected border countries is ongoing. Focus at present is on managing and processing incoming requests, prioritize access to vulnerable population (unaccompanied and separated children, sick and elderly) and to design appropriate RFL response depending on the needs and access to migrants, including connectivity, RFL in detention and for the most vulnerable (UASC, sick in medical care). The ICRC will complement and bridge with resources, including skilled technical staff, complementary to the DREF. ICRC will deploy logistics and economic security specialist capacities to support BRC in procurement and distribution until the DREF is issued.

Swiss Red Cross is ready to reallocate funds (up to CHF 5,000) from the existing projects in case BRC requires additional funds.

Danish Red Cross allocated approx. EUR 30,000 through emergency request mechanism for the replenishment of 500 sleeping bags, 1,000 rugs and 1,000 blankets and fuel used by BRC to deliver assistance to migrants.

### Overview of other actors in country

**The local authorities in Grodno** established an Emergency response group to provide immediate support to migrants at the border. Grodno water utility is responsible for provision of water for the migrants. State medical units provide immediate medical support to the migrants.

**UNHCR** is providing assistance to the stranded people within its mandate and delivery of humanitarian aid to meet the most urgent needs. **IOM** already provided food items, hygiene items, clothes. **UNICEF** will cover immediate needs of migrant children (basic emergency supplies). **UNFPA** covered some essential of the needs of women (including pregnant women) through Belarus Red Cross. IFRC conducted meetings with all these agencies and agreed to stay in contact supporting Belarus Red Cross in delivery of humanitarian aid. BRC remains to be in close contact with these UN agencies. UN agencies support is provided through or in close cooperation with Belarus Red Cross.

### Consideration of COVID-19

An operation to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak is being implemented by BRC. The provision of assistance to migrants will be done in accordance with COVID-19 safety recommendations. The migrants do not use masks all the time. BRC will be reminding them to use hygiene masks at all times if social distancing is not possible.

*The BRC response to COVID-19 are supported through the IFRC global appeal, which will facilitate supporting the National Society to maintain critical service provision, while adapting to COVID-19. This DREF operation is aligned with and will contribute to the current global strategy and [regional Emergency Plan of Action for COVID-19](#) developed by the IFRC Regional Office for Europe, in coordination with global and regional partners. IFRC continues to assess how emergency operations in response to disasters and crisis should adapt to this crisis and provide necessary guidance to its membership on the same. The NS will keep monitoring the situation closely, focusing on the health risks, and revise accordingly if needed taking into consideration the evolving COVID-19 situation and the operational risks that might develop, including operational challenges related to access to the affected population, availability of relief items and procurement issues, movement of NS volunteers and staff as well as international staff (if needed). For more information please consult the [COVID-19 operation page](#) on the IFRC GO platform.*

## Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

### Needs analysis

After its visits to the border in September-November, BRC has conducted an initial assessment, based on secondary data from authorities, partners, and direct observation/data collection during the delivery of humanitarian aid. The overall needs of the migrants include the following:

- 1) For migrants who are at the border:
  - Food and water
  - Hygiene kits
  - Warm clothes and footwear
  - Raincoats
  - Blankets
  - Nutrition for children
  - Humanitarian service points
  - RFL services
  - Sleeping bags
  - PPE
  - Garbage plastic bags
  - Disposable tableware
  - Interpretation services (Farsi, Kurdish, Arabic, French, etc. into Russian) - male and female interpreters
  - Mental Health and Psycho-social support (MHPSS)
  - First aid, including first aid kits distribution
  - Leaflets with information about services for migrants and COVID-19 measures in Farsi, Kurdish, Arabic, French

## 2) For migrants who are on the territory of Belarus

- Food parcels
- Hygiene kits
- PPE
- Support of accommodation in hostels (funds for accommodation in hostels, referral to the hostels)
- Support of accommodation in BRC and state crisis rooms (equipment, disposable materials, bedding items, kitchen sets)
- Warm clothes and footwear
- Interpretation services (Farsi, Kurdish, Arabic, French, etc. into Russian) – male and female interpreters
- Leaflets with information about services for migrants and COVID-19 measures in Farsi, Kurdish, Arabic, French
- RFL
- Mental Health and Psycho-social support

**Targeting**

Belarus Red Cross will provide support to the migrants at the border, as well as migrants who are in Minsk and other cities of Belarus:

- 2,000 migrants at the border
- 300 migrants on the territory of Belarus

**Scenario planning**

Scenario	Humanitarian consequence	Potential Response
<p><b><u>LEVEL 1</u></b></p> <p>1. Number of migrants on the border of Belarus and Poland increases.</p> <p>2. Limited attempts by migrants to cross border</p> <p>(Trigger 5,000 people)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overcrowded sites where migrants are stranded, with no shelter, food, or access to medical care.</li> <li>• Migrants are afraid of push-back from border security forces.</li> <li>• Deaths of migrants due to hypothermia, lack of food / water, access to medical care.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Humanitarian Diplomacy (HD) by BRCS &amp; Movement Partners to local and state authorities for access to migrants for humanitarian purposes. (HoD IFRC to MOFA Belarus, Border Committee).</li> <li>• HD Meeting (Regional Director IFRC ROE) with Permanent Mission to Belarus, Geneva.</li> <li>• Key Messages (KMs) developed for Movement Partners.</li> <li>• Food and Household items Relief Distributions by BRCS, MHPSS, provision of basic humanitarian support</li> <li>• COVID-19 self-protection materials distributed (masks, disinfectants).</li> <li>• Coordination of Humanitarian actors by BRCS/IFRC.</li> <li>• RFL services</li> <li>• Deployment IFRC Regional Operations Manager.</li> <li>• Increased capacity strengthening of RC/RC staff and volunteers involved in humanitarian action</li> <li>• Continued resource mobilization. DREF Operation Update and increase of allocation.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>LEVEL 2</u></b></p> <p>1. Number of migrants on the border of Belarus and Poland continues to increase.</p> <p>2. Increased forced attempts by migrants to cross border.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overcrowded sites where migrants are stranded, with limited shelter, food, or access to medical care.</li> <li>• Migrants stranded in woods as they are afraid of continued push-back.</li> <li>• Number of migrants seriously ill increases.</li> <li>• Number of deaths of migrants increases</li> <li>• Increased risk of COVID-19 infection with migrants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HD continues by BRCS &amp; Movement Partners to local and state authorities for access to migrants for humanitarian purposes.</li> <li>• High level IFRC HD Meeting with MOFA/Border Committee Belarus</li> <li>• KMs updated for Movement Partners.</li> <li>• Food and Household items Relief Distributions continue by BRCS, MHPSS, extension of humanitarian support.</li> <li>• Humanitarian assistance provided to hospitals, COVID-19 self-protection materials distributed (masks, disinfectants).</li> <li>• RFL services commence.</li> <li>• Continued Coordination of Humanitarian actors by BRCS/IFRC.</li> </ul>

<p>3. Tensions increase between border security forces.</p> <p>4. Weather deteriorates, i.e., snow etc</p> <p>(Trigger 10,000 people)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased capacity strengthening of RC/RC staff and volunteers involved in humanitarian action.</li> <li>• MHPSS for RC/RC staff and volunteers.</li> <li>• Continued resource mobilization with decisions on the use of appropriate tools to gather and channel support</li> </ul>
<p><b>LEVEL 3</b></p> <p>1. Number of migrants on the border of Belarus and Poland continues to increase.</p> <p>2. Increased forced attempts by migrants to cross border become increasingly violent.</p> <p>3. Tensions increase between border security forces with sporadic clashes.</p> <p>4. Weather continues to deteriorate, i.e., snow / minus 0 temperatures</p> <p>5. COVID-19 Outbreak amongst all migrants &amp; border security forces.</p> <p>(Trigger 15-20,000 people)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overcrowded sites where migrants are stranded, with limited shelter, food, or access to medical care.</li> <li>• Outbreak of diarrheal / respiratory illnesses.</li> <li>• Migrants stranded in woods are subject to continued violent push-back from Border Security Forces.</li> <li>• Number of migrants seriously ill increases.</li> <li>• Number of deaths of migrants increases</li> <li>• Increased risk of COVID19 infection amongst migrants &amp; border security forces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HD continues by BRCS &amp; Movement Partners to local and state authorities for access to migrants for humanitarian purposes.</li> <li>• High level IFRC (President, SG) HD Meeting with EU, MOFA Belarus, Border Committee</li> <li>• KMs updated for Movement Partners.</li> <li>• Media campaign</li> <li>• Food and Household items Relief Distributions, humanitarian services, MHPSS provision continue by BRCS.</li> <li>• Continued humanitarian assistance provided to hospitals, COVID-19 self-protection materials distributed (masks, disinfectants).</li> <li>• RFL services continue.</li> <li>• Continued Coordination of Humanitarian actors by BRCS/IFRC.</li> <li>• Increased capacity strengthening of RC/RC staff and volunteers involved in humanitarian action.</li> <li>• MHPSS for RC/RC staff and volunteers.</li> <li>• Continued resource mobilization with decisions on the use of appropriate tools to gather and channel support</li> </ul>

### Operation Risk Assessment

Risks	Mitigation plan
Needs and humanitarian assessments for migrants limited due to lack of information and access to the border.	Operation managed from BRCS HQ and relevant BRCS branches next to the border, cooperation increased with the MOFA and Belarus Border Committee. Active cooperation and information sharing within the Movement, with the UN agencies and other stakeholders involved in response. Development of the joint response plan.
Weak coordination amongst humanitarian actors.	BRCS given clear mandate by Belarus Border Committee to coordinate humanitarian response supported by IFRC.
Reputation risks, negative media coverage on inadequate response of the Belarus Red Cross to migrants at the border.	Crisis communication plan, KMs created with the IFRC's support and implemented in the whole NS.
Local communities concerned about increasing number of migrants illegally crossing the border and hiding in woods from push-backs	Awareness-raising campaign conducted.

Sexual exploitation and abuse of migrants.	Police alerted. Briefings for volunteers and staff. Methods of reporting the cases.
COVID-19 spread in the country.	Awareness raising campaign on COVID-19 continued, increased number of PPE gathered and distributed.
Difficulty to manage a crowd of migrants while distributing humanitarian aid.	Cooperation with the local authorities, registration of migrants, organized distribution of aid to the registered migrants from the established tent following established crowd-control measures.

## B. Operational strategy

The overall operational objective is to provide support to Belarus Red Cross while assisting migrants at the border with the EU countries and migrants who are in Belarus with an uncertain status through provision of food, shelter, MHPSS, information and temporary accommodation.

2,300 people are planned to be reached in the framework of the operation (2,000 people who are at the border and 300 people who apply for support in Minsk and other cities<sup>3</sup>).

This operation will focus on the immediate needs in the thematic sections below, but they are based on the overall needs detailed in the needs assessment section.

### Proposed strategy

The operation will be coordinated by Belarus Red Cross HQ disaster management department and branch chairpersons in their areas of responsibility. The Secretary General is supervising the overall operation. Red Cross volunteers will implement the delivery of the emergency assistance whenever receive permission to be at the border. 30 staff (HQ and branches) and at least 180 volunteers will be involved in the operation (currently only RC staff have access to the border). Support to the migrants at the border will be provided during the visits to the border, but for some activities covered structures will be needed. Therefore, BRC plans to install pneumatic tents, which will be heated with generators, will have folding furniture, lightning equipment, water heaters, thermo pots, folding beds). The tents, some of which can be provided by the authorities, will each have its own purpose: 1 – HQ, 2 – Registration and RFL, 3 – First aid, 4 – distribution of humanitarian aid, 5, 6 – heating and distribution of hot tea and meals, 7 – PSS.

The proposed strategies are:

#### 1) Delivery of food items:

- food parcels for at least five days for one person:

Items	Quantity
Tinned meat (338 g)	2 pcs
Tinned fish (250 g)	2 pcs
Instant soup (150 g)	2 pcs
Instant cereals (120 g)	2 pcs
Tea (100 g)	1 pc
Crisp bread (100 g)	1 pc
Sugar (5 g)	20 pcs
Disposable tableware	3 pcs <sup>4</sup>

#### 2) Delivery and distribution of household items and PPE:

- hygiene kits:

Items	Quantity
Toilet paper	2 pcs
Toothpaste	1 pc
Toothbrush	1 pc
Wet wipes (20 pcs)	1 package
Anti-septic gel at least 65% alcohol (100 g)	1 bottle
Soap	1 pc
Masks	10 pcs
Women hygiene items	1 package
Shaving set	1 pc

<sup>3</sup> The number might change as the situation evolves

<sup>4</sup> Each including: *plate – 3 pcs, spoon – 3 pcs, fork – 3 pcs, cup – 3 pcs*

- Blankets and sleeping bags
  - Raincoats
  - clothes and footwear (clothing, shoes, underwear)
  - first aid kits (bandages and first aid kits to provide first aid. One first aid kit includes bandage 50mm x5 m (10 pcs), bandage 100 mm x5 m (10 pcs), bandage 140 mm x7 m (10 pcs), adhesive plaster 4x7.2 mm (2 pcs), elastic bandage 3m x80 mm (2 pcs), mask (10), sterile napkins 10x10 cm (5 pcs), sterile napkins 5x5 cm (5 pcs), cooling spray (1 pcs), gloves (1 pair), disinfectant (2 pcs), scissors (1 pair), hemostatic sponge (1 pcs), thermal blanket (1 pcs), water (1 l), chlorhexidine 0,05% 100 ml (1 pcs).
  - procurement of COVID-19 rapid tests
- 3) Establishment and maintenance of Humanitarian Service Point in close vicinity to the border and the location of the migrants.
- 4) MHPSS, including PFA provided by RC staff at the border, PFA provided by staff and volunteers to the migrants who come to the RC offices. Additionally, volunteers working at the telephone helpline 201 will be equipped with information and skills to provide PSS over the phone. PSS kits for volunteers working with children will be made and used in the created Child Friendly Space, in case there is a possibility to designate a special tent for that. Kits will include:
- Bag with compartment for paper and large section for small expendable supplies. External section for a bottle of water.
  - Notebook and pen. Spring hardcover notebook.
  - 10 small notebooks
  - 10 pens
  - A set of markers - 3 sets
  - Wax chalk - 10 sets
  - Sculpturing paste - 10 boxes
  - Wax plasticine - 10 boxes
  - Colouring book - 10 pcs. (Printed in the languages used by migrants or no text)
  - Anti-stress ball - 10 pcs.
  - Anti-stress toy - 10 pcs.
  - Balloons - 20 pcs.
  - Thermal blanket - 10 pcs.
  - Folding water cup - 3 pcs.
  - Paper wipes - 4 pack.
  - Wet wipes - 2 pack. - 100 pieces.
  - Water bottle of 0.5 liter - 2 pcs.
  - Thermos bottle of 0.5 liter - 1 pcs.
  - Sanitizer – 2 pcs.
- 5) Crisis communication – support to the NS in building crisis communication strategy, messages, reactive/proactive lines, etc. Communication materials like infographics, pictograms presenting the NS role, mandate, activities, rules and procedures in a simple, well understood way for different responders including public opinion, media, authorities but also the migrants perspective.
- 6) Technical support to BRC by IFRC different technical areas is planned within the operation as well.
- 7) Logistics, procurement and stock management. BRC will rent a warehouse to be able to properly store, sort and prepare for distribution the items needed for DREF implementation. Two vehicles (minibuses) will be procured for BRC to ensure that the delivery of goods and transportation of volunteers is done timely.

Surge deployment of IFRC migration/logistics and procurement/communication/health staff might be necessary upon BRC request. Key staff of Belarus RC will be providing assistance to the affected population, thus technical support is needed to develop contingency plans, SOPs and business continuity plan.

A Lessons learned workshop will be organized in the end of the operation, to document success and challenges and develop contingency recommendations.

## **Operational Support Services**

### **Human resources**

Around 30 staff in HQ, regional and district branches and at least 150 volunteers will be involved in provision of support. Head of Disaster Response and Training Department of Belarus Red Cross, as well as regional specialists on disaster response will be coordinating the operation. The Secretary General will provide the overall supervision and ensure dialogue with the authorities. The volunteers will be provided with the insurance, protection and visibility. Four staff will



be recruited to support the operation: Operations coordinator, logistic officer, translator and finance officer. The IFRC will make available its staff to support Belarus Red Cross through CCD for Russia and Belarus and Regional Office for Europe, who will maintain close coordination with the BRCS Secretary General and staff.

### **Logistics and supply chain**

Belarus Red Cross has a well-developed logistics and procurement system, which is in full compliance with IFRC standards and local requirements. The procurement will be organized by Belarus Red Cross and approved by the IFRC. All purchase files that are equal to or exceed CHF 50,000 will be confirmed by the IFRC Logistics unit. The procurement will be organized locally, based on the availability on the markets. All accompanying documentation will be properly stored and archived.

### **Communications**

Belarus Red Cross will appoint a communications focal point to manage all media requests and channel them to leadership. BRC Communications focal point will be supported by IFRC's Communications Senior Officer in Moscow CCD. NS will post photos, videos and infographics on its social media channels, to inform the public on their work. IFRC will also post materials on its regional channels (Twitter and Instagram) and share key messages and audiovisual materials with other NS communication focal points. IFRC Moscow office Communications Senior Officer is ready to be deployed in the field if the situation escalates and international travel is allowed. She will provide guidance and training for volunteers and staff on what to do if approached by media, will accompany teams of volunteers into the field to take photos and videos, and manage international media requests.

### **Information technologies (IT)**

Belarus Red Cross continues to maintain regular communication with its field branches through electronic means of communication, mobile network, and via internet. In case there are challenges in accessing internet, mobile network, telephones and faxes will be used to remain the communication with the fields.

### **Security**

All the conducted activities will be done in accordance with the safety recommendations and safer access framework. The volunteers will be briefed before field work. All staff and volunteers will avoid unnecessary movements around the cities.

### **Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER)**

There is a regular reporting scheme in place, with the Belarus RC regional branches submitting a weekly report each Monday to HQ in Minsk about the activities implemented and the situation in their respective region. The BRC will provide regular updates on the implementation of the operation to the IFRC, as well as a final report on the operation. IFRC ROE PMER will initiate dialogue within the first two weeks of the operation, to engage with BRC on key monitoring and reporting issues. A Lessons Learned Workshop will be organized to evaluate the results of the operation, share the challenges and best practices and develop recommendations for future similar operations.

### **Community Engagement and Accountability**

In the current situation it will be important that the communications focal point and operations staff work closely together to ensure that people have access to information on available services through a wide range of formal and informal communication channels trusted by different affected groups (mapping of the trusted channels will be done), while ensuring that the mandate and neutrality of the RC is clear. Capturing and analysing evolving community perceptions, needs and feedback through different channels (social media, meetings with the media, meetings with the general public and face-to-face communication with the migrants (with the help of translator) will be necessary to adapt communication approaches and services provided accordingly.

### **Protection, gender and inclusion**

Protection, gender and inclusion [minimum standards](#) should be applied throughout the operation, based on an assessment and analysis of specific risks, needs and vulnerabilities of those affected by the protests. The first aid and mh and psychosocial support provided should be adapted as much as possible to specific needs of those affected – e.g. having both male and female first aid / psychological first aid-trained volunteers available.

### **Administration and Finance**

Belarus Red Cross will ensure proper use of financial resources in accordance with the IFRC procedures and national legislation. The IFRC will ensure that all allocated financial resources are managed in full compliance with respective IFRC standards and DREF guidelines.

**Health**

Due to the lack of Health and care capacity in IFRC office in Minsk and taking into account that DREF actions include are First Aid and PSS; Europe Regional Health Team will continue to provide necessary technical support to IFRC office in Minsk and Belarus RC.



**Belarus, Population Movement  
Emergency Relief Disaster Fund**

MDRBY010  
OT-2021-000175-BLR

2021/11/15  
Map data source: ICRC, GADM  
DCC | IM | BUD



## C. Detailed Operational Plan



### Shelter

**People targeted: 2,300**

Male: 60% (estimated)

Female: 40% (estimated)

**Requirements (CHF): 119,761**

**Needs analysis:** The group of people who stay at the border is quite large, thus BRC will establish its Humanitarian Service Point (HSP)<sup>5</sup> in the migrant informal camps and will manage HSP needed for provision of support. Seven pneumatic tents need to be installed which will be heated with generators, will have folding furniture, lightning equipment, water heaters, thermo pots, folding beds). The tents will each have its own purpose: 1 – HQ, 2 – Registration and RFL, 3 – First aid, 4 – distribution of humanitarian aid, 5, 6 – heating and distribution of hot tea and meals, 7 – PSS. The purpose of the tents might be reorganized. Two tents will be purchased within the DREF, other tents should be supported from other sources of funding. BRC will also use the available winter tent and summer tents which will be heated by the generators (fuel is required for heating and electricity). Blankets, sleeping bags, clothes, raincoats, will be procured, 2,000 items each. The migrants who are in Minsk and need temporary accommodation can be referred to partner organizations.

**Population to be assisted:** *at least 2,300 migrants who are situated on the border between Belarus and Poland.*

**Programme standards/benchmarks:** In providing assistance, the Belarus Red Cross will adhere to the international Sphere standards and IFRC assessment guidance and tools.

P&B Output Code	Shelter Outcome 1: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions	# of people reached with essential relief support through established humanitarian service points (Target: 2,000)															
	Shelter Output 1.1: Short, medium and long-term shelter and settlement assistance is provided to affected households	# of humanitarian service points established (Target: 1) # of people receiving emergency shelter and household items (Target: 500)															
	Activities planned / Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP005	Assessment of shelter needs, capacities and gaps	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP005	Establishment and maintenance of the HSP	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP005	Identification of caseloads and verification of beneficiaries in different target groups – inclusion factors integrate gender, diversity and disability in the response	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP005	Identification of the appropriate modality of support for each caseload	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

<sup>5</sup> The IFRC concept of Humanitarian Service Points refers to initiatives aiming to provide essential services to vulnerable migrants during their journeys – irrespective of status - without fear of arrest or being reported to the authorities. A humanitarian service point is a neutral space along migratory routes that provides a welcoming and safe environment for migrants to access essential services.

AP005	Identification of community participation modalities in program design and implementation	x	x	x	x	x	x											
AP005	Coordination with other relevant sectors for integrated programming	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP005	Coordination with government and other stakeholders	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP005	Analysis of the local market to identify availability/access to shelter and household items	x	x	x	x	x	x											
AP005	Distribution of the shelter and household items to the affected population	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP005	Monitoring of the use of distributed household items	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP005	Evaluation of the shelter support provided													x	x	x	x	x
P&B Output Code	<b>Shelter Output 1.2: Technical support, guidance and awareness raising in safe shelter design and settlement planning and improved building techniques are provided to affected households</b>	# of volunteers mobilized for shelter intervention (Target: 180)																
	Activities planned / Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP006	Identification and mobilization of volunteers for shelter intervention	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP006	Development of appropriate training material for awareness raising/training of volunteers	x	x	x	x	x												
AP006	Awareness raising/training of shelter volunteers			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP006	Identification, assessment and analysis of appropriate and safe local building techniques/practices	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x



## Livelihoods and basic needs

People targeted: 1,000

Male: 60%

Female: 40%

Requirements (CHF): 63,900

**Needs analysis:** Food provision for the migrants is essential. BRC will distribute at least 500 food parcels for one person for five days each (food parcels for at least five days for one person: Tinned meat (338 g) – 2 pcs, Tinned fish (250 g) – 2 pcs, Instant soup (150 g) – 2 pcs, Instant cereals(120 g) – 2 pcs, Tea (100 g) – 1 pc, Crisp bread (100 g) – 1 pc, Disposable tableware (plate – 3 pcs, spoon – 3 pcs, fork – 3 pcs, cup – 3 pcs) – 3 pcs, Sugar (5 g) – 20 pcs) at least 5 times

**Population to be assisted:** at least 1,000 migrants who are situated on the border between Belarus and Poland.

**Programme standards/benchmarks:** In providing assistance, the Belarus Red Cross will adhere to international Sphere standards and IFRC assessment guidance and tools.

P&B Output Code	Livelihoods and basic needs Output 1.2: Basic needs assistance for livelihoods security including food is provided to the most affected communities	# of targeted people reached with food parcels (Target: 1,000)																				
		Activities planned / Week						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
AP008	Basic food distributions	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP008	Procurement of food parcels	x	x	x	x	x	x															
AP008	Monitoring of the distribution, and assessment of the news	x			x						x					x						x



## Health

**People targeted: 2,300**

Male: 60%

Female: 40%

**Requirements (CHF): 22,365**

**Needs analysis:** Migrants in the camp are in need of first aid. To support ambulances, Red Cross teams will be on duty and ready to assist people affected. To provide first aid, the teams will need first aid kits. One first aid kit includes bandage 50mm x5 m (10 pcs), bandage 100 mm x5 m (10 pcs), bandage 140 mm x7 m (10 pcs), adhesive plaster 4x7.2 mm (2 pcs), elastic bandage 3m x80 mm (2 pcs), mask (10), sterile napkins 10x10 cm (5 pcs), sterile napkins 5x5 cm (5 pcs), cooling spray (1 pcs), gloves (1 pair), disinfectant (2 pcs), scissors (1 pair), hemostatic sponge (1 pcs), thermal blanket (1 pcs), water (1 l), chlorhexidine 0,05% 100 ml (1 pcs). It is planned that 180 full kits can be purchased within the operation.

MHPSS will be provided to the migrants. To provide MHPSS, BRC will use already trained staff and volunteers. Briefings and debriefings will be organized daily or weekly, depending on the situation. Activities for kids will be organized. Child Friendly Space will be organized in the informal camp where migrants stay, in case the situation allows.

PPE will be distributed to migrants and staff.

**Population to be assisted:** *at least 2,300 migrants who are situated on the border between Belarus and Poland.*

**Programme standards/benchmarks:** In providing assistance, the Belarus Red Cross will adhere to international Sphere standards and IFRC assessment guidance and tools

P&B Output Code	Health Output 1.2: Target population is provided with rapid medical management of injuries and diseases	# of first aid kits procured (Target: 180)																				
		Activities planned / Week						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
AP022	Procurement of First Aid kits	x	x	x	x	x																
AP022	Provision of first aid to people injured	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

AP022	Set up of interaction, coordination and referral system between FA teams and ambulance services and hospitals to ensure continued support to the affected people	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>P&amp;B Output Code</b>	<b>Health Output 1.5: Psychosocial support provided to the target population</b>	# of PSS sessions provided (Target: 2,300)																	
	Activities planned / Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
AP023	Provide PSS to people affected by the events	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP023	Provide PSS to staff and volunteers through briefings/debriefings	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>P&amp;B Output Code</b>	<b>Health Output 2.4: Epidemic prevention measures carried out</b>	# of PPE procured and distributed (Target: 1,000 sets)																	
	Activities planned / Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
AP021	PPE procurement and distribution to migrants and staff to prevent COVID-19 (masks, disinfection, gloves)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x



### Water, sanitation and hygiene

**People targeted: 1,000**

Male: 60%

Female: 40%

**Requirements (CHF): 20,235**

**Needs analysis:** Hygiene kits for migrants will be distributed. One kit consists of Toilet paper – 2 pcs, Toothpaste – 1 pc, Toothbrush – 1 pc, Wet wipes (20 pcs) – 1 package, Anti-septic gel at least 65% alcohol (100 g) – 1 bottle, Soap – 1 pc, Masks – 10 pcs, Women hygiene items – 1 package, Shaving set – 1 pc.

**Population to be assisted:** at least 1,000 migrants who are situated on the border between Belarus and Poland.

**Programme standards/benchmarks:** In providing assistance, the Belarus Red Cross will adhere to international Sphere standards and IFRC assessment guidance and tools.

<b>P&amp;B Output Code</b>	<b>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</b>	# of hygiene kits distributed (Target: 1,000)																	
	Activities planned / Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
AP030	Distribute 1,000 hygiene kits, sufficient for 1 month to 1,000 people.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x								
AP030	Procurement of 1,000 hygiene kits	x	x	x	x	x	x												
AP030	Monitoring - Determine whether additional distributions are required and whether changes should be made.				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

## Strategies for Implementation

Requirements (CHF): 58,476

P&B Output Code	<b>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</b>	<i>% of volunteers involved in response who are insured (target: 100%)</i>															
	<b>Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected</b>																
	Activities planned / Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP040	Ensure that volunteers are insured	x	x	x	x	x	x	x									
AP040	Provide complete briefings on volunteers' roles and the risks they face	x	x	x	x	x	x	x									
AP040	Provide psychosocial support to volunteers	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP040	Ensure volunteers are aware of their rights and responsibilities	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP040	Ensure volunteers' safety and wellbeing	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP040	Ensure volunteers are properly trained	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP040	Ensure volunteers' engagement in decision-making processes of respective projects they implement	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
P&B Output Code	<b>Output S2.1.3: NS compliance with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance is improved</b>																
	Activities planned / Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Ensure that the Principles and Rules, and DREF procedures are well understood and applied	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
P&B Output Code	<b>Outcome S2.2: The complementarity and strengths of the Movement are enhanced</b>	<i>Movement coordination mechanism is described and active (Target: Yes)</i>															
	<b>Output S2.2.1: In the context of large-scale emergencies the IFRC, ICRC and NS enhance their operational reach and effectiveness through new means of coordination.</b>																
	Activities planned / Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP051	SMCC and movement coordination	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
P&B Output Code	<b>Outcome S3.1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable.</b>	<i># of Lessons Learned Workshop organized (Target: 1)</i>															
	<b>Output S3.1.1: IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues</b>																
	Activities planned / Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16



AP053	Communications work	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP055	Lessons learned workshop														x	x	x	x
P&B Output Code	<b>Outcome S4.1: The IFRC enhances its effectiveness, credibility and accountability</b>																	
	<b>Output S4.1.2: IFRC staff shows good level of engagement and performance</b>																	
	Activities planned / Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP063	HR work	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
P&B Output Code	<b>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</b>																	
	Activities planned / Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP064	Finance work	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
AP065	Administration work	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
P&B Output Code	<b>Output S4.1.4: Staff security is prioritised in all IFRC activities</b>																	
	Activities planned / Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP066	Security	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

## D. Budget

The budget of this DREF operation is **CHF 321,362**. [Please click here to see the budget.](#)

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

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#### In IFRC Geneva

- **Programme and Operations focal point:** Antoine Belair, Senior Officer, Ops Coordination, [antoine.belair@ifrc.org](mailto:antoine.belair@ifrc.org),
- **DREF focal point:** Karla Morizzo, Senior Officer, DREF – Disaster and Crisis Department; email: [karla.morizzo@ifrc.org](mailto:karla.morizzo@ifrc.org)

#### For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- **Andrej Naricyn**, Head of Partnerships and Resource Development, email: [andrej.naricyn@ifrc.org](mailto:andrej.naricyn@ifrc.org)

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

- **David Kohlmann**, PMER Manager a.i., [david.kohlmann@ifrc.org](mailto:david.kohlmann@ifrc.org)
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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.

**DREF OPERATION**

MDRBY010 - BELARUS - POPULATION MOVEMENT

16/11/2021

**Budget by Resource**

<b>Budget Group</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Shelter - Relief	30,000
Clothing & Textiles	53,500
Food	60,000
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	19,000
Medical & First Aid	19,000
Other Supplies & Services	19,700
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>	<b>201,200</b>
Storage	10,000
Transport & Vehicles Costs	17,000
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>27,000</b>
International Staff	7,300
National Staff	10,000
National Society Staff	20,178
Volunteers	13,770
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>51,248</b>
Consultants	5,000
<b>Consultants &amp; Professional Fees</b>	<b>5,000</b>
Workshops & Training	10,800
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>10,800</b>
Office Costs	2,000
Communications	1,500
Financial Charges	3,000
<b>General Expenditure</b>	<b>6,500</b>
<b>DIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>301,748</b>
<b>INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>19,614</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>321,362</b>