

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives,
changing minds.

Operation Update Report

IRAN: Hormozgan Earthquake

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF Operation n°: MDRIR007	GLIDE n°: EQ-2021-000177-IRN
Operation update n° 1; Date of Issue: 30 May 2021	Timeframe covered by this update: 26 November 2021- 30 April 2022
Operation start date: 26 November 2021	Operation timeframe: 6 months (extended for 2 months) Operation end date: 31 May 2022 (extended from 31 March 2021)
Funding requirements: 499,996 CHF	
N° of people assisted: 36,484 (9,121 households)	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government of Iran, Local NGOs, UN Agencies	

Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

Despite the continuous delays in transferring funds to IRCS which are impeding timely implementations, this DREF operation has been extended for an additional two months, allowing for the transfer of the DREF funds and the continuation of the planned cash distributions once the money is deposited in their accounts. All other activities under the DREF have been completed. The IRCS responded to the affected people in the province and those in neighboring provinces by utilizing its resources.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the Disaster

According to the Iranian Seismological centre, a 6.4 magnitude earthquake hit Ghale' Ghazi district, near Fin city in Hormozgan province of South Iran at 15:37 local time. The affected area includes one city and 137 villages with a total population of approximately 9,121 households (34,394 people). Surrounding affected cities are Haji Abad, Bandar Abbas, and Roudan. A total number of 100 volunteers were



Figure 1: Effects of Hormozgan earthquake. Credit: IRCS

deployed to the affected areas to participate in the relief and rescue operation. According to the Emergency Medical Services (EMS), 104 individuals were injured, and one died as a result of the power pole collapse throughout the disaster. People in the affected areas were terrified and assumed to stay outside overnight. Slight cracks in the walls of buildings were seen in the villages near the epicenter, Fin district, Sarzeh, and Rezvan villages. The worst-affected villages are West Gishan, Aab Shirin, Zartoo Bala & Paen, Roodshoor, Gohareh Chelo, and Chahkal.

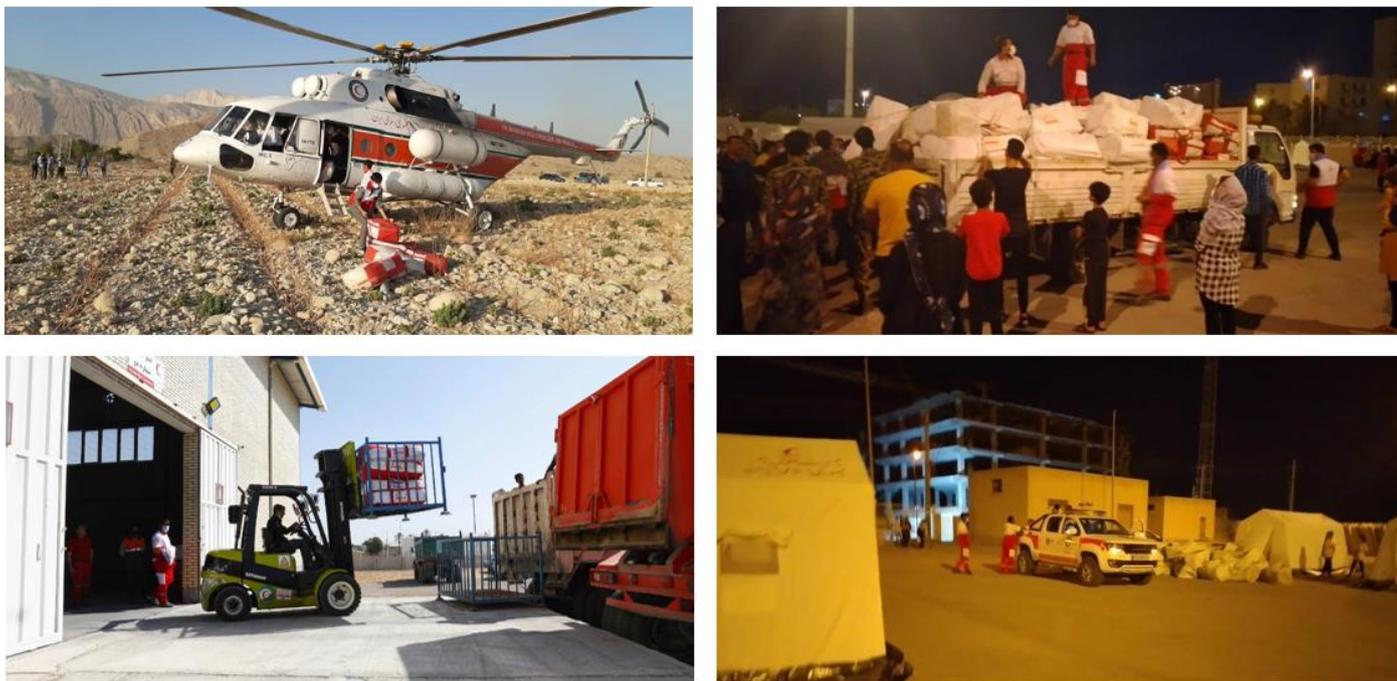


Figure 2: IRCS response to the earthquake in Hormozgan. **Credit: IRCS**

Summary of Current Response

As soon as the seismological center reported the event, the emergency operations center (EOC) at the provincial and headquarters levels were activated. The EOC in the relief and rescue organization was managing and coordinating the operation with the EOCs in Hormozgan, Fars, Kerman, and Bousher provinces. Local assessment teams from Roudan, Haji Abad and Bandar Abbas were immediately deployed to the field.



Figure 3: Activation of emergency operations center (EOC) at the provincial and headquarters levels. **Credit: IRCS**

The video connection by the EOCs was set to have a close connection with the field. At the community level, Helal House public teams, (9 teams from Kerman, 10 teams from Bousher and 24 teams from Hormozgan) activated and started the rapid assessment process, making it easier for the operational teams to focus on the most affected areas. Two rescue helicopters remained on alert.

Two emergency shelter rapid response teams (15 persons) were deployed from Fars and Kerman provinces. A number of 21 rescue and operational vehicles were also deployed to support the operation for 15 days. More

than 90 patients were transported to hospitals and children, adolescents, and the elderly received psychosocial support in order to prevent the negative effects of the disaster.



Figure 4: IRCS distributed relief tents to the earthquake-affected population. **Credit: IRCS**

Overview of Operating National Society Response Action

The IRCS which has a strong auxiliary link to Government and is mandated, under the Law on Crisis Management, to conduct search & rescue activities, relief services and to provide emergency shelter has reached the affected people at the earliest through Relief and Rescue organization, the Volunteers Organization, and the Youth Organization making use of its own resources primarily within the province and then the certain surrounding provinces.

A summary of the IRCS response is provided in the table below:

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY
Relief tent	6,000
Moquette/mat	1,538
72-hour food parcel	1,413
Heater	1,658
Canned food	44,520
Nylon sheet	1,680
20 litres Gallon	328
Health kit	1,850

In addition to relief assistance, the IRCS provided MHPSS services to those in need.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Actions in-country

The IFRC has a presence in Iran since 1991 and has been providing technical support in Capacity Building initiatives and supporting IRCS in Disaster Management, Shelter, Disaster Law, Youth, and Health. There is no partner National Societies (PNS) present in the country, however, IRCS has a memorandum of understanding with a number of Participating National Societies. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has a delegation based in Tehran with a various number of humanitarian activities in cooperation with the IRCS and is on standby to support the IRCS operation (e.g., through health support to migrants, mine risk education (MRE), restoring family links (RFL)).

Overview of other actors' actions in-country

Efforts of Ministries, local authorities, national Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), and the IRCS are coordinated by the National Disaster Management Organization (NDMO). IRCS delivers relief, rescue, and emergency shelter. Sectoral services are led and implemented by line ministries. The governmental bodies and institutions are engaged in the operation. UN agencies are present in-country, including WHO, FAO, UNOCHA, UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNHCR, and UNICEF. INGOs have a limited presence in the country, with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and Relief International (RI) present in the country. The IRCS is mandated by the Public Authorities to fully respond to this earthquake. To fulfil the mandated role of crisis response, the IRCS utilized all of its resources from the centre and neighboring provinces.

Needs Analysis and Scenario Planning

Needs Analysis

Following rapid assessments in the affected districts, IRCS identified the immediate needs and priorities and responded accordingly. The initial assessments carried out in the affected areas identified lifesaving needs in search and rescue, emergency first aid, food security, and emergency sheltering. Many houses were damaged and power was cut off in the early hours. People were evacuated to safety while their houses have been completely damaged or partially damaged and at risk of collapsing. These displaced people would require emergency sheltering and imminent basic in response to the aftermath of the earthquake. Some families would not be able to return to their houses until repaired/reconstructed.

Because the affected area is quite remote, the harsh winters will aggravate the already precarious situation of the affected population. The effects of COVID-19-induced livelihood loss are also being experienced by the affected population.

Operation Risk Assessment

There are constraints in the affected areas due to existing prevailing droughts and pandemic. Also health of staff/volunteers can be at risk if the scale of operation is demanding more workload.

Risk Area	Controls Management
Staff and volunteer health: risk of contracting COVID-19 through community-based activities in the response.	Strict adherence to IRCS COVID-19 awareness protocols. Refreshing the risk awareness communication aspects by utilizing existing COVID-19 protection audio/visual learning platforms for staff/volunteers. Relief operations manager prioritizing the monitoring of adherence.
The IRCS is involved in and responding to a number of crises (COVID-19, Droughts DREF Operation, Afghanistan Population Movement, and winterization). IRCS is fully immersed in responding to winters floods in 11 northern provinces / country-wide.	If the operation is scaling up, the DREF will be adjusted to include short-term HR support. Clear roles and responsibilities within engaged departments for open files.
Increase in COVID-19 community transmission if displacement occurs as a result of both aftershocks and harsh weather. COVID-19 transmission may increase in potential shelters.	IRCS will select locations for IDPs (if they are displaced in large numbers) where social distancing can be observed, implying an increase in the number of places and a less populated design of IDP transit settings.
Disruptions in access to deliver assistance, such as road closures caused by inclement weather	Mapping alternative routes and modes of transportation.
Negative media coverage related to handling of the response operation.	Proactive communication with the media and stakeholders. Application of Community Engagement and Accountability.

Aftershocks	Active communication about what to do in the event of an earthquake. Set up evacuation centres in case of displacement in the safe zone.
Procurement delays for replenishment stocks	Local procurement will be carried out because international procurement will take longer due to COVID-19 and sanctions. IRCS anticipates depleting stocks in winters at a fast pace, rather than waiting for long periods of international procurement.
Blockage of Funds Transfers	IFRC legal/finance/treasury/management circles at different levels are putting efforts to unblock the banking transfers. At Country /MENA Regional /GVA levels is in full swing, communicating regularly with concerned stakeholders to meet the needs so that funds transfers can occur urgently. Banking channels and related compliance protocols are regularly consciously looked into.

The National Society's response to COVID-19 is supported through the IFRC [global appeal](#), which will facilitate supporting them to maintain critical service provision while adapting to the COVID-19 situation. 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 Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region, in coordination with global and regional partners. IFRC continues to assess how emergency operations in response to disasters and crises should adapt to this crisis and provide necessary guidance to its membership on the same. The National Society will continue to closely monitor the situation, focusing on health risks, and revise accordingly if necessary, taking into account the evolving COVID-19 situation and operational risks that may arise, including operational challenges related to access to the affected population, availability of relief items and procurement issues, and movement of NS volunteers and staff as well as international staff. For more information, please consult the [Covid-19 operation page](#) on the IFRC Go platform.

Iran has one of the high numbers of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases in the world and is the hardest-hit country in the Middle East.

The below table indicates the potential impact of the pandemic on this DREF operation and how IRCS will respond to the situation in the event of COVID-19 mitigation measures being implemented in Iran.

COVID-19 measures	Standard epidemic control measures	Temporary lockdown of society (schools, shops, public functions)	Sustained lockdown and restriction of movement during the implementation period
Likelihood	LOW IRCS is mandated actor for relief/rescue, hence their operations are not impacted by Government lockdown measures, Government is currently very supportive of COVID-19 compliant humanitarian interventions. They have divided provinces/cities into red, orange, yellow, and blue zones,	MEDIUM Hormozgan is rated yellow for time being on the COVID scale. However, because DREF is doing local procurement of tents, suppliers/markets supplies may be at low risk for making tents available in IRCS warehouses, the cash support banking system is not affected as much, and	

	strict adherence is applied across the country.	the government is also performing conditional grants through the system.	
Impact on operation	LOW On high alert. Will keep monitoring.	LOW The operation needs to be sure to adhere to the epidemic control measures. Will keep monitoring and adjusting appropriately.	HIGH The operation will speed up implementation from kick-off, taking advantage of the pre-lockdown window of opportunity.
Mitigating measures	IRCS with the support of IFRC is implementing its COVID-19 Plan. This operation is sensitive to this approach.	Same as under standard epidemic control measures. In addition, some delays might be experienced with procurements for replenishments. If this happens, a timeframe extension will be considered.	Same as under standard epidemic control measures. In addition, some delays might be experienced with procurements for replenishments. If this happens, a timeframe extension will be considered.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Overall Operational objective:

The overall objective of this operation was to ensure appropriate assistance for the affected population in the province of Hormozgan in the areas of food aid, cash support, and emergency shelters in a timely, effective, and efficient manner, providing them with support to meet their basic livelihood needs through unconditional cash grants. In parallel, material preparedness for the ongoing operation was reinforced by replenishing depleted shelter emergency stocks, specifically tents and monthly food provision (one time).

Proposed Strategy

Shelter:

The IRCS has been mandated by the government to respond to the emergency needs of the affected populations in providing rescue and relief support. With IRCS teams and branches responding in all affected areas since day one, the focus has been on the most vulnerable districts hit by the earthquake in Hormozgan. IRCS distributed shelter items including tents (6,000 pcs), blankets (5,288 pcs), groundsheets (1,680 kg), and heaters (1,658 pcs).

This DREF aims to partially replenish IRCS stocks for tents (394) to complement IRCS contingency stocks for the ongoing operation and future responses.

Livelihoods and Basic Needs:

The Iranian Red Crescent distributed food and non-food items to the affected population, including 72-hour food packages (1,413 packages), canned food (44,520 pcs), and 20 litres gallon (328 pcs).

The IRCS will provide a one-time unconditional, unrestricted cash grant to the most vulnerable families, which they will be able to use as they see fit. Cash will be transferred to the recipient's bank accounts, as all Iranian citizens have identification and bank accounts.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

	<p>Shelter</p> <p>People reached: 1,600 (400 HHs) Male: 800 Female: 800</p>	
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		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of targeted people with safe and adequate shelter and settlements	1,576	1,600
Output 1.1: Shelter and settlements and basic household items assistance is provided to the affected families		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance	394	400
Progress Towards Outcomes		
<p>Non-food items such as 5,288 blankets, 5,889 family tents, and 5,000 ground sheets have been delivered to the IRCS Hormozgan branch from neighboring provinces. In Bandar Abbas city, an emergency camp with 400 family tents has been set up in the Khalije Fars gym. Under this DREF, 394 tents from the total number of distributed tents have been replenished using the IFRC's DREF funding.</p> <p>Challenges: Sanctions caused a long delay in transferring funds, which had a direct impact on the entire operation, leaving the National Society with no choice but to allocate tents from its resources within the provinces and certain neighbouring provinces.</p>		

	<p>Livelihoods and basic needs</p> <p>People reached: 1,413 (353 HHs) Male: 707 Female: 706</p>	
Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis-affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of beneficiaries satisfied with the cash assistance provided	TBD	
% of beneficiaries satisfied with the food assistance provided	TBD	
Output 1.2: Basic needs assistance for livelihoods security including food is provided to the most affected communities		
# of households provided with one-month food ration	938	925
Output 1.5: Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants	2,000	---
Progress Towards Outcomes		

The IRCS fulfilled the immediate needs of the affected people through its emergency response operations. They do, however, require a variety of basic goods, such as stocks, home appliances, and working equipment.

Challenges: Sanctions caused a delay in transferring funds, which had a direct impact on the operation, and cash transfer and financial transactions were difficult under the current bank system sanctions. As a result, the IRCS's response under the DREF was limited, as of the end of April, to the distribution of food packages and the allocation of relief tents.

International Disaster Response

Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured

Indicators:		Target	Actual
IFRC support to launch a DREF to raise financial and human resources		Yes	Yes

Output S2.1.1: Effective response preparedness and NS surge capacity mechanism is maintained

Indicators:		Target	Actual
# of surge deployments in support of the operation		TBD	0

Progress towards outcomes

Until now, there has been no need for a surge deployment.

D. Financial Report

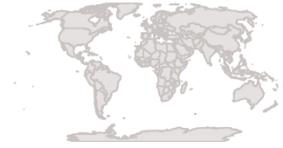
The operating budget and response activities remain unchanged. The financial report will be included in the final report.



+C IFRC

19 November 2021
MDRIR007
EQ-2021-000177-IRN

Iran : Hormozgan Earthquake Disaster Relief Emergency Funds



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.





Click here for:

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

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

In the Iranian Red Crescent Society

- Ms. Mansooreh Bagheri IRCS Under Secretary General, International Affairs & IHL; phone: +98-21 88662618; email: intdep@rcs.ir
- Operational Coordinator: Hasan Esfandiar; phone: +98 21-88201082; email: intdep@rcs.ir

IFRC Country Delegation:

- Atta Durrani, Program Coordination & Cooperation Manager; email: atta.durrani@ifrc.org

IFRC Geneva:

- Karla Morizzo, DREF Senior Officer; phone: +41 22 730 4295; email: karla.morizzo@ifrc.org

In the IFRC Regional Delegation:

- Hosam Faysal, Head of Disasters, Climate and Crises (Prevention, Response and Recovery); phone: +961 71 802219; email: Hosam.faysal@ifrc.org
- Raja Assaf, Senior Response Officer; phone: +961 71 910896; email: raja.assaf@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- Michaela PICHLER, MENA Regional Head, Strategic Engagement and Partnerships; phone: +961 813 11 918; email: michaela.pichler@ifrc.org

For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

- Goran Boljanovic, Regional Head of Supply Chain- MENA; phone: +961 5 428 505; email: goran.boljanovic@ifrc.org

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

- Nadine Haddad, Regional PMER Manager; phone: +961 71 802 775; email: nadine.haddad@ifrc.org

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.