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## Emergency Action Plan (EPoA)

### Mauritania: Floods



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>DREF Operation</b>	<b>MDRMR014</b>	<b>Glide n°:</b>	<a href="#">FL-2022-000286-MRT</a>
<b>Date of issue:</b>	<b>23/08/2022</b>	<b>Estimated duration of the operation:</b>	<b>4 months</b>
		<b>Date of completion of the operation:</b>	<b>31 December 2022</b>
<b>Category allocated to the disaster: <span style="background-color: yellow;">Yellow</span></b>			
<b>Amount of DREF allocated: CHF 248,039</b>			
<b>Total number of people affected:</b>	<b>28,926 people (4,351 households)</b>	<b>Number of people to be assisted:</b>	<b>3600 people (600 households)</b>
<b>Provinces affected:</b>	<b>Néma, Aioun, Tintane, Kiffa, Boumdeid, Guerou, Barkéol, Moudjeria, M'bout, Monguel, Aoujeft, F'deirick, Rosso</b>	<b>Provinces/Regions targeted:</b>	<b>Hodh El Gharbi, Assaba, Tagant</b>
<b>Operating National Society presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches):</b> The Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC) has 20 employees, a network of about 6,000 volunteers and 56 local committees throughout the national territory.			
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation:</b> IFRC, ICRC, French Red Cross			
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> Local administrative authorities (governors, hakems, technical and state services, mayors) and communal.			

## A. Situation analysis

### Description of the Disaster

From 25 July to 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2022, heavy rains caused flooding in some parts of Mauritania, including Hodh El Gharbi, Assaba and Tagant in southern and central Mauritania. Among other things, the floods caused extensive material damage to 4,351 households, or 28,926 people. They also caused the deaths of 14 people, most of them are children. Across all the **7 affected regions, 3,817 houses were destroyed** and a loss of 766 head of cattle was recorded because of the severe rains.<sup>1</sup>

Significant damage and loss of houses, food stock and household items were recorded across affected regions, predominantly in the following locations: N'beika, Siyassah and Ashram in Tagant region, Guerou and Boumidid in the Assaba region, and the municipality of Agjart and Sava in the Hodh El Gharbi region.

Several roads in the country were damaged, paralyzing the free movement of people and goods for 3-4 days before field teams deployed by the Ministry of Transport and Equipment managed to restore traffic. At the time of writing this EPoA, traffic was restored in most areas, with alternate routes identified in areas that remained flooded.

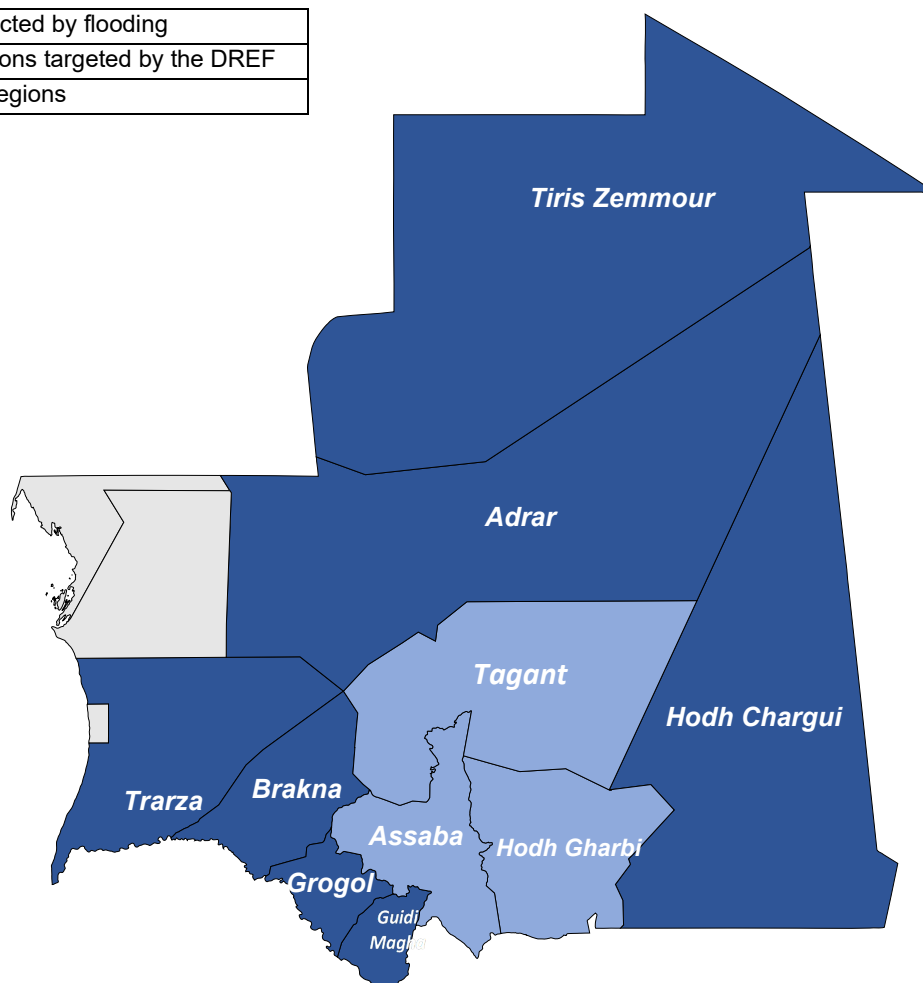


*Flooded street. @ MRCS.*

<sup>1</sup> The Department of Emergency Management technical commission's daily bulletin: <https://ami.mr/fr/index.php/category/7/>.

The heavy rains also caused interruptions to communication and electricity services, that were cut off in most areas for three or four days, most notably in the department of Moudjéria and Guerou. The Technical Commission responsible for monitoring the work of the Ministry Emergency Management Committee recorded large scale damages to infrastructure, including roads, bridges, dams, and protective dikes, as well as roads and commercial complexes. The infrastructure in impacted areas were completely flooded.

Regions affected by flooding
Flooded regions targeted by the DREF
Unaffected regions



Most of the businesses in the cities were flooded, as was the arable land which had been sown. Food stocks and hut breeding were also impacted, resulting in the loss of ruminant livestock. Hygiene conditions, access to potable water sources has become difficult for many families in the affected areas. The emergency level is stated high by the Government which has launched an appeal to all humanitarian actors in the regions on 25 July. By the time of this planning, there is still a high need of assistance among the affected population and rains continue in most of the regions. Details of amount of rain received on 18 August were shared by Le Réseau Administratif de Commandement (RAC) to the Mauritanian information agency with more than 900mm over the country in 24 hours. See the link to the article [here](#).

## Summary of current intervention

### Overview of Operating National Society

In response to widespread flooding, the Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC) set up a national monitoring unit, the Disaster Management Centre Cell, to monitor the evolution of floods across the country. Since its activation, the MRC Disaster Management Centre Cell has collected preliminary data and information related to flooding in the affected areas from the local authorities, the Technical Committee responsible for monitoring the work of the Ministry Emergency Management Committee, media sources, and local MRC committees, comprised of local volunteers from the impacted regions.

From the onset of the disaster, teams of MRC volunteers were deployed to the affected areas, participating in response operations and in evacuating affected families from flooded zones. The local volunteer teams also initiated rapid needs assessments to collect preliminary information on the flood situation.

The main actions of the MRC in the aftermath of the disaster are:

- 1) Timely information sharing with key stakeholders on the flood situation in the country:
  - IFRC GO Platform, with regular updates on the evolving situations
  - Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) Movement partners in Mauritania
  - External partners, including humanitarian actors
  - Local Committees
  - Administrative authorities
  - Municipalities.
- 2) Immediate release of supports to 200 households from the stock of prepositioned household Items in a joint intervention with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in the town of N'beika in the Northern part of Tagant region, separate from the municipalities targeted by this DREF.
- 3) Distribution of household items to the households in the town of N'beika which was informed by a preliminary assessment conducted by MRC field teams and coordinated by the Ministerial Emergency Management Committee, along with other response actors.
- 4) Drafting and finalizing a detailed needs assessment for use by local volunteer teams to assess the impacts of the floods in affected regions.

**Table 1: item distributed by MRCS as of 12/08/2022**

No	Household Items	Quantity distributed
1	Sleeping mats	200
2	Blankets	200
3	Buckets with lid (15L)	200
4	Jerrycans (20L)	200
5	Jerrycans (10L)	200
6	Soap	1,000
7	Bottles of bleach	200

### Overview of Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement actions in the country

At the onset of the heavy rains, the MRC activated the Disaster Management Centre Cell to ensure a coordinated humanitarian response by Movement partners in country. Movement partners in Mauritania have ensured coordination throughout the ongoing flood response with discussions, information sharing, and regular correspondence on the flood situation.

The first significant action by partners involved responding to a request for an emergency assistance mission targeting 200 affected households in N'beika, Tagant region. This joint response was led by the MRC, the ICRC, and the French Red Cross (FRC) delegations in Mauritania. The ICRC responded immediately by subsidizing the remaining balance of the request to share. For its part, the FRC contributed to the response with the provision of logistical support, one driver and a vehicle, to lead the assessment and implementation monitoring mission in N'beika.

The MRC has regularly appealed to the IFRC for funds to support emergency operations in country. Prior to the beginning of the 2022 rainy season and subsequent floods caused by heavy rains, the MRC had received support from the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) to assist 820 food insecure households in the municipality of N'beika through the [DREF Food Security](#) operation. This operation began in July 2022, with a focus on supporting 820 vulnerable households through the provision of food and basic needs and activities for prevention of malnutrition. Among other things, the distribution of cash and enriched flour for the benefit of children aged 6 to 24 months and pregnant and lactating women are planned as part of this intervention.

### Overview of other actors in the country

The Mauritanian Government deployed a delegation to the affected area to assess the impact of the floods and ensure delivery of immediate humanitarian assistance to 500 households in the N'beika area via the Food Security Commission (CSA). Government assistance per family consisted of one tent, two blankets, and one food kit (50 kg of rice, 25 kg of sugar, 5 liters of oil, and 10 kg of dates).

Further to the government assistance provided to households in N'beika, the Armed Forces deployed a disaster response team and a special unit to repair flood-damaged bridges and protective dikes in collaboration with the Ministry of Equipment and Transport teams.

The National Sanitation Office has mobilized reinforcement tanks in some affected regions to evacuate water from the main roads of flooded cities to facilitate movement between cities. The authorities have set up a damage assessment commission in each region. The commissions' work is still ongoing.

### Coordination

The coordination of the global response is led by the State's technical services present in the affected regions, in collaboration with humanitarian partners on the ground, including the MRC. The response in the affected areas is led

by the partner agencies, in accordance with their varying levels of presence and activity in these regions prior to the August 2022 floods.

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

### **Needs analysis**

The torrential rains of this year have caused flooding in seven regions across the country, with various level of impact. Among the seven (7) regions hit by the torrential rains, three (3) regions are targeted by the MRC intervention through this EPoA, given the absence of other humanitarian actors in these areas. The operation led by the MRC fits into the broader coordinated response by the Mauritanian Government in the regions of Hodh El Gharbi, Assaba and Tagant.

Preliminary assessments in those regions indicate that around 3,817 residences are completely or partially damaged due to the heavy rains. Some of the affected households have been relocated to schools and government buildings that have not been reached by the floodwaters. Exact numbers are still uncertain for the moment, as an assessment of the affected areas is ongoing.

Many families who have been displaced by the floods and whose homes have been destroyed cannot meet their basic needs, given the widespread impact of the floods on their livelihoods and sources of income. Furthermore, access to health services have been limited for these households, due to damaged infrastructure, exacerbating the health risks those living in flood zones are exposed to. The presence of stagnant water increases the risk and spread of hydric diseases and vector-borne diseases, such as malaria.

The sources of livelihoods for the communities living in the three (3) targeted regions are agriculture, livestock, and trade. The floods affecting these regions had a direct impact on the sources of income of the population due to the damage to the infrastructure (road, and markets), which made it more difficult to supply the basic needs of the inhabitants. Added to this is the loss of household food stocks, loss of a significant number of livestock, and damage to arable land.

In some areas, the potable water sources have been submerged in floodwater, thus contaminating the source. Consequently, access to safe drinking water become difficult for many families in the affected areas. Hygiene products are scarce, exacerbating the risks of contamination and the potential for spread of waterborne and vector borne diseases, such as diarrheal diseases and malaria.

Faced with this situation, local elected officials (mayor and deputies) launched an appeal to the Government of Mauritania and to all humanitarian actors in the regions on 25 July, pleaded for support with the provision of assistance to the most affected households.

Since 2020, Mauritania has been fighting the Covid-19 pandemic, which has exacerbated the country's fragile economic situation. The economic stability is subject to the devastating impact of climate change and its repercussions on the basic sources of income of the most vulnerable families. Mauritania is among the countries most exposed to climate change<sup>2</sup>, the consequences of which are becoming increasingly complex and difficult to manage. Repetitive droughts since 1970, expansion of the desert to the South, the sharp fluctuation of rainfall and the erosion of the coastline have serious consequences on ecosystems<sup>3</sup>. Temperature rises, droughts, and increased heavy rainfall are exacerbating the continuing trend of degradation of agricultural, forest, and pastoral ecosystems. The most frequent disasters in Mauritania are drought and floods.

Results from the preliminary assessments conducted by both government authorities and MRC volunteers deployed to the field, indicate that the needs of those communities impacted by the floods were:

- Livelihoods and basic needs;
- Emergency shelter and NFIs;
- Health and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH).

To date, a detailed needs assessment has not been undertaken by MRC. This EPoA has been drafted based on preliminary information gathered by government authorities and MRC volunteers deployed in the field. Summary of the preliminary data is in the table below. Ongoing rapid needs assessment and a multi-sector needs assessment are planned and budgeted for in this DREF.

<sup>2</sup> [Climate Change and Resilience](#), Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development in Mauritania

<sup>3</sup> [Mauritania Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2011-2022](#)

Table 2: preliminary data of Affected regions @MRCS

Régions	Actors	Localities			Damages							
		localities	commun es	Departm ent	infrastructures		Househol ds affected	detai ls	Destroye d Houses	People		
					Numbers	Types				Injured	Death	
Hodh Ech Chargui	CSA,CICR/CRM/CRF, HCR,PAM,UNICEF,OI	Various	5	4	12	0	216	716	180	0	0	
Gorgol	CSA,CRM/CRF,ACF,OXFAM,PAM ect	Various	6	4	9	0	1829	0	1829	0	6	
Brakna	CSA,CRM,WORLD VISION,MEDICOS DEL MONDU ,ONGs locaux ect	Various	9	8	8	0	40	0	40	0	2	
Trarza	CSA,CRM,ACF,GRDR, ect	Various	2	2	0	0	8	0	8	0	2	
Adrar	CSA,CRM ONGs locaux ect,	Various	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	
Guidimakha	CSA,CRM,ACF,OIM,GRDR,SAVE CHILDREN ONGs LOCAUX ect	Various	Ajar	wempou							1	
Tiris Zemmour	CSA,CRM ONGs locaux ect,	Various	F'deirik	F'deirik							1	
Inchiri	CSA,CRM ONGs locaux ect,	Various	benichab	benichab			79		79			
Hodh El Gharbi	CSA,CRM,GIZ,ONGs Locaux ect,	kebenoimir	Saffa, Gatie teydouma	Tamchiket			46		46			
		Tichilit	Akjerit	Aioun			18		18			
		Tichilit	Akjerit	Aioun			45		35			
		El wasaa	Radhi	Tamchiket	1	Pont	60		30			
		Zreiga	Devea	Tintane			10		10			
		Tintane	Tintane	Tintane							1	
			Tamchiket	Tamchiket			27		27			
		Akjerit	Akjerit	Aioun			70		70			
		mesiel bata	Agargar	Tintane							5	1
			Agargar	Tintane			100		100			
berbouchiya	Akjerit	Aioun			109		85					
Nimel	Devea	Tintane			75		75		4	1		
Hodh El Gharbi	CSA,CRM,GIZ,ONGs Locaux ect,	TOTAL	11	6	1	0	560	0	496	9	3	
Assaba	CSA,CRM,WORLD VISION,TERRE DES HOMMES, PAM ONGs LOCAUX ect,	Boubagja	El Gaebra	Barkeol			2	10	2			
		Guéro	Guéro	Guéro			65				1	
		Legleib Sgair	Boumdeid	Boumdeid			4		4			
		Boumdeid	Boumdeid	Boumdeid	5	boteaux de l'electricité						
			Dagfag	Barkeol							1	
		Hsey Ayara Hassi Sid'Ahmed	Guelére	Barkeol				15				
			Lebheir	Barkeol			10		10			
		Aguirj, Wamrira	Boulehrath	Barkeol	2	Barrage détruit						
		Hsey Tin	Hsey Tin	Boumdeid			4		4			
		Broudda	Dagfag	Barkeol	1	Barrage détruit					1	
		legleib Sgair	Boumdeid	Boumdeid	5	boteaux de l'electricité	9		4			
		Guéro	Guéro	Guéro			465	25	300			
Boubatha	Guéro	Guéro	1	Barrage détruit								
kammour el ghayra	kammour ghayra	Guéro			76		44					
		Guéro			85		38					
Assaba	CSA,CRM,WORLD VISION,TERRE DES HOMMES, PAM ONGs LOCAUX ect,	TOTAL	12	3	14	0	720	50	406	0	3	
Tagant	CSA,CRM,PAM ONGs locaux ect	Lehweitat	El Wahat	Tidjikja			9		9			
		achram	achram	Moudjeria			45		45			
		siyasa	siyasa	Moudjeria			75		33			
		Ikreya	Ikreya	Moudjeria			67		28			
		N'beika	N'beika	Moudjeria			575		575			
		Rachid	Rachid	Tidjikja							1	
		N'beika	N'beika	Moudjeria			127		127			
Tagant	CSA,CRM,PAM ONGs locaux ect	TOTAL	7	3	0	0	898	0	817	0	1	
11	various actor presence	TOTAL	57	34	44	-	4,351	766	3,856	9	19	

### Targeting

This DREF operation will focus on the three (3) regions where no other humanitarian actors are responding despite the presence of some of them in the regions: Hodh El Gharbi; Assaba; and Tagant.

These regions share a main axis, and road that will facilitate the MRC response by adjusting the scope of intervention to match local response capacities and reached some of the most affected areas<sup>4</sup>. Six hundred (600) identified households (3,600 people) will be targeted with this response. These 600 households will be selected among impacted households based on set criteria, to target the most vulnerable and in need of assistance.

The following criteria have been identified as prerequisites for receiving support through this DREF:

- 600 households whose houses (living quarters) were completely destroyed by the floods will be prioritized for shelter supplies and household items;
- 600 households whose water supplies have been affected and/or contaminated will be the prioritized for WASH activities;
- 600 households who have lost all or part of their food stocks to meet their basic needs will be prioritized for unrestricted cash transfers for 1 month, according to the allocations for an average household size of 6 people.

Selection of flooded neighborhoods and villages in remote areas, peripheral to larger centers, will be in accordance with the classification of the departmental committee (CODEP). Identification of households in need of support will be conducted in consultation with local authorities, and with information gathered through in-depth and multi-sector assessments. Furthermore, households with specific vulnerabilities will also be targeted with this DREF: the elderly, people living with disabilities, pregnant and lactating women, widows, children, and families that lost loved ones because of the flood situation. **Potential adjustments to areas and households targeted for humanitarian assistance through this DREF will be made prior to distribution based on the assessment results.**

### **Scenario planning**

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<sup>4</sup> Comparison can be made on the table above of damages and affected regions.

Scenario	Humanitarian consequence	Response from the Red Cross
<p><b>Best case scenario:</b> Despite their importance, the quantity of rainfall received in the neighborhoods are quickly evacuated a few hours later by the device set up by the state and its partners. Through strong resource mobilization, most people affected by the floods receive adequate humanitarian assistance to cover their immediate basic needs.</p>	<p>No further destruction is recorded, and livelihoods can be restored. The WASH situation is improving with the cessation of rains and the rapid evacuation of water.</p>	<p>An emergency humanitarian response is being initiated by the MRC through this DREF operation. The funds obtained can cover part of the basic needs of the affected populations.</p> <p>Proper coverage of the needs of affected populations allows affected families to rebuild their lives. The MRC continues to monitor the situation and coordinate with partners.</p>
<p><b>Most likely scenario:</b> Rain continues to fall on the country, especially in the areas already affected. Beyond the houses already affected, more homes, schools, roads, and health posts are declared damaged, worsening the situation especially for households that have taken refuge in schools. Limited coverage of immediate humanitarian assistance will increase vulnerability and degrade the livelihoods of affected populations.</p>	<p>Internal displacement of affected persons. Continued destruction of infrastructure, property, and livelihoods. Presence of waterborne diseases. Water, sanitation, and hygiene problems are worsening.</p>	<p>Further assessments are required and carried out to better understand the situation with a view to meeting the additional vital needs.</p> <p>A revision of the current DREF operation is envisaged to scale up the response, with a possible change of strategy, an extension of the implementation timeframe and a possible request for a second allocation to the grant.</p>
<p><b>Worst-case scenario:</b> Rain continues to fall on the country, especially in the areas already affected. Very limited coverage of immediate humanitarian assistance for flood relief.</p>	<p>Massive internal displacement of people with the potential that some find themselves forced to move to host communities or to sites of displaced people. Continued destruction of infrastructure, property, and livelihoods. Epidemic of disease due to poor water, sanitation, and hygiene conditions.</p>	<p>Revision of the current DREF operation by publishing an update of the operation, to scale up the response, with a possible change of strategy, an extension of the implementation timeframe and a possible request for a second allocation to the grant.</p> <p>Possibility also to launch a large-scale operation through an emergency appeal if the situation deteriorates.</p> <p>The MRC commits its partners to long-term support through flood preparedness actions that are implemented across the country. The pre-positioning of response articles, resilience, and preparation projects by the anticipatory pillar of the DREF are envisaged.</p>

## Operational risk assessment

The security situation in Mauritania is relatively stable. The areas of the intervention are located in the South and in the Central Eastern part of the country. The MRC has local committees with a network of trained and available volunteers, although coverage in the regions targeted by this DREF will be reinforced by this operation. As part of the implementation of the DREF's activities, the MRC will strengthen the security system by respecting the rules and protection measures of their implementation teams and their partners to carry out the planned activities in a timely manner and in safe conditions. This operation may involve the following risks and will integrate measures to mitigate these risks accordingly:

**Limited road access:** Access to targeted areas may be impacted by inconstant road conditions foreseen throughout the rainy season, as unpaved roads, and some infrastructures (bridges, etc.) may deteriorate due to precipitation.



*The main road of l'Espoir in the town of Sivasa, Moudjeria department.*

These factors could temporarily slow down the evolution of the implementation of activities in some areas. Ongoing communication with local authorities regarding road conditions and identification of alternate routes for safe travel to affected zones will be identified prior to travel.

**Exposure to COVID-19:** This DREF operation and its operational strategy take into account risks related to the current COVID-19 pandemic. To date, measures have been put in place by the MRC to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including mandatory vaccination for staff from the national team. This is also in accordance with the national vaccine mandate, which varies according to age group. The MRC will ensure, even in response to disasters, that COVID-19 prevention measures are followed in accordance with the country's national action plan.

**Exposure to contact with hazardous products, including bleach:** During the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mauritians became accustomed to the daily use of hygiene and disinfection materials, particularly soap and bleach, as several awareness campaigns were organized by various actors, in particular the Ministry of Health, the MRC and civil society organizations. Bleach is one of the key materials always asked by communities. However, it is a corrosive product that can be harmful to the environment and humans if used without precaution and in the wrong way; its use requires some precautions, which stem from a better knowledge of the product. Awareness campaigns will properly disseminate to the beneficiaries' messages on the use of soap and bleach. The National Society (NS) will undertake door-to-door visits and make use of loudspeakers, and traditional media to educate a large majority of the population on the appropriate use of bleach for home water treatment and disinfection, as this is a readily available product on local markets throughout the country.

The MRC will continue to closely monitor the situation and revise the plan as necessary, taking into account the evolution of the COVID-19 situation and operational risks that may arise, including operational challenges related to access to the affected population, availability of relief items, procurement, movement of volunteers and staff of the MRC and international staff directly involved in the implementation of the DREF.

## B. Operations Strategy

### Overall operational objective

The objective is to provide **emergency assistance to affected households in flooded areas, following a detailed assessment of needs in three (3) identified regions of intervention: Hodh El Gharbi, Assaba and Tagant.**

As a start, 600 households will be targeted based on needs, according to selection criteria and in collaboration with local authorities. This DREF will aim to offer aid to families whose homes, water sources, and/or food stocks were destroyed during the floods. They will be supported with:

- 1) Livelihoods and basic needs through distribution of unrestricted cash for one month;
- 2) Emergency shelter and household items through distribution of shelter supplies and household items;
- 3) Health and WASH activities and supplies over four months.

### Proposed strategy

#### Lesson learnt considered on this operation

Over the last three years, the MRC have received two DREF allocations from FRC to respond to floods in various parts of the country. Feedback gathered from the field and lessons learned from the ongoing DREF Food Security and previous response operations to floods in Guidimakha in 2019-2020, and in Hodh Chargui in 2020-2021, will inform the proposed EPoA.

Type	Year	Regions	Target	Response	Main Lessons Learnt
MDRMR010 Floods DREF	2019- 2020	Guidimakha	7,122 people	NFI through CVA Shelter Food distribution	MRC capacity needs to be improved so support technical aspect of the response. Indeed, the deployment of Surge personnel has enhanced the NS response in various EA and DREFs.
MDRMR012 Bassiknou Floods DREF	2020- 2021	Hodh Chargui	9,282 people	Shelter Livelihood through CVA	MRC requires a quick start of activities in coordination with other partners to provide response in a timely and relevant manner to meet the needs of beneficiaries, avoiding

				Health and WASH	duplication of efforts. Activities should account for targeted communities' cultural and religious context to facilitate acceptance. MRC would benefit from further training on IFRC tools, particularly assessment and funding tools.
From different operations	various	various	-	various	Late start of previous operation will need to be considered with 4 months' timeframe that usually cover the implementation for multisectoral assistance. This timeframe also considers the needed time for financial transfer to the country and the capacity of the NS.

Mauritanian regions are comprised of several departments. The departments targeted by this operation (Aioun, Guerou and Moudjéria) have not been targeted by previous DREF or Emergency Appeal flood operations.

## Strategy

The operation strategy outlined in this EPoA will ensure that activities of the MRC contribute to supporting those most affected by the floods who are not otherwise receiving support from humanitarian actors present throughout other impacted regions. This operation will then start with a detailed assessment to be completed within the first 3 weeks to inform the response planned to support shelter, food access, hygiene promotion and sanitation and health prevention.

### 1- In-depth assessment

A thorough detailed multi-sectoral assessment is planned prior to distribution of assistance to the affected populations, to measure the scope of the intervention and to assess the real impact of flooding on shelter, water, sanitation, and hygiene. Given the evolving nature of the context and the ongoing rainy season, results from this assessment will provide crucial information to enhance the accountability and transparency of the intervention, thus safeguarding the credibility of the MRC. The assessment will also serve as the basis for an eventual revision of the EPoA and targeted localities within the regions or some others depending on the evolution and coordination of the assistance with the other partners.

The assessment will entail:

- Deployment of 40 volunteers and 2 staff members for 12 days to conduct rapid needs assessments in 3 targeted regions, with support from regional focal point (1 per region);
- For the implementation of the evaluation volunteers will be trained on data collection technique to ensure the quality of the information provided.
- This assessment will also include an assessment of the feasibility of cash transfers to assess the risks and acceptance of the use of the money but also a market assessment.
- This assessment will determine whether the markets are functioning properly to meet the needs of the affected populations and, if all the conditions are met, this feasibility study will then determine which modality of cash transfer can be used (direct cash, via a financial service provider, vouchers, etc.).

This evaluation will be carried out by the MRC with the support of the IFRC in collaboration with the local authorities.

#### 1) Shelter and Households Items (Target: 3,600 people or 600 HH)

As indicated in the targeting strategy, MRC will target 600 households (3,600 people) whose homes were completely destroyed by the floods with shelter supplies and NFIs to help with repairs and reconstruction of destroyed houses.

- Volunteer capacity strengthening for effective implementation of shelter activities through training sessions (1 per region) on shelter distribution and techniques;
- Provision of temporary shelter assistance to the 600 most affected families, including emergency tent kits with accessories to strengthen the capacity of the host communities;
- Procurement and distribution of 600 batches of Households Items to replace lost items, including sleeping mats (2 per HH), blankets (2 per HH), and kitchen sets (1 per HH);
- Deployment of 10 volunteers for 5 days per area (3 regions) for distribution of shelter materials and NFIs;
- Transportation of shelter items and NFIs from MRC headquarters in Nouakchott (more than 600km away);

- Deployment of 9 volunteers for 2 days to conduct post-distribution monitoring (PDM) for shelter and NFI distributions in all regions, within 2 weeks of distribution end date to ensure that data is collected on the use of items by supported households.

Distribution of these items will be ensured by a group of volunteers in each targeted area managed by a supervision team.

## 2) Livelihoods and basic needs (Target: 3,600 people or 600 HH)

As outlined in the targeting strategy, the MRC will target 600 households (3,600 people) who lost all or most of their food stocks during the floods. These households will be assisted with unrestricted cash, based on the cash distribution modality identified through an initial feasibility assessment. This modality will be taken into account to meet the basic needs of households in disaster.

The total allocation of cash per household has been determined based on the following categorization:

- Category A from 1 to 3 persons receiving the amount for 2 persons i.e.,  $450 \times 2 = 900$  MRU
- Category B from 4 to 6 people receiving the amount for 5 people i.e.,  $450 \times 5 = 2,250$  MRU
- Category C from 7 to 9 persons receiving the amount for 8 persons i.e.,  $450 \times 8 = 3,600$  MRU
- Category D of 10 persons and more receiving the amount for 12 persons i.e.,  $450 \times 12 =$  MRU 5 400.

Distribution of unrestricted cash will provide the targeted households with an amount of **2,400 MRU** which is around CHF 51 based on the average household size in Mauritania. Unrestricted cash is the preferred modality to support communities in making religiously and culturally appropriate choices based on their needs. This will facilitate acceptance of the MRC in rural and remote communities where they may not be present. The CHF 51 (MRU 2,400) are the average amount used considering that at this planning stage. The NS does not have the exact number of persons per targeted household but the data shows that average is between 5-6 people per household. The calculation of the amount per person is based on cash alliance and the national plan.

## 3) Health and WASH (Target: 3,600 people or 600 HH)

The affected populations are exposed to health issues due to precarious conditions including stagnation of water, proliferation of mosquitoes, difficulties of access to latrines and restricted access to health facilities due to infrastructure damage. The MRC will place particular emphasis on malaria prevention through:

- Volunteer capacity strengthening for effective implementation of health and WASH promotion activities (1 per region) on water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion targeting 60 volunteers;
- Procurement and distribution of 1,200 impregnated mosquito nets (2 per HH) to 600 targeted families receiving shelter and livelihoods and basic needs assistance;
- Procurement and distribution of 600 buckets (15 litres) with lids for household water collection and storage (1 per HH);
- Procurement and distribution of 600 hygiene kits (1 per HH);
- Procurement and distribution of 1,200 containers of bleach to 600 families for home water treatment and disinfection (2 per HH);
- Health and hygiene sensitization sessions for a total of 2 sessions per month (8 sessions) across regions based on need. These sessions will focus on household water treatment, water storage, mitigating risks associated with open defecation and waterborne and vector-borne diseases, while promoting good hand washing techniques.

**Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) & Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI):** The proposed strategy for the implementation of the response will involve a participatory approach through community engagement and the involvement of community members, administrative authorities, and community leaders at all stages of implementation of activities. This will include participation of vulnerable people with specific needs, accounting for gender, diversity, disability, and other characteristics of their households.

The MRC will ensure that the operation meets the immediate needs of the most vulnerable people through the creation of village committees, which will ensure responsibility for the operation by dealing with any complaints from populations in the targeted areas. All volunteers involved in this operation will have to participate in EA and PGI training sessions to equip them with practices and standards in these areas.

A community feedback mechanism will be set up to collect complaints and claims from communities for which solutions will be provided. The feedback mechanism is done through two channels of communication with communities to ensure the engagement and participation of communities in its activities:

- Establishment of “comités des sages” proposed by the communities that ensure the follow-up of activities and the sharing of claims throughout the duration of the DREF.
- A team of two (2) volunteers per region trained in CEA approach and the management of complaints will receive complaints via the semi-free telephone hotlines and enter them into a tracking sheet for processing. For the complaint management mechanism, the following two tools are proposed:
  - ✓ Complaint/feedback form: registration of complaints/feedback from beneficiaries/communities;
  - ✓ Complaint tracking tool: Follow up by MRC volunteers responsible for receiving complaints and/or CEA focal point and/or DREF manager on grievances through an Excel tracking document.

The feedback mechanism will be put in place before the detailed evaluation is conducted to ensure a transparent process, committed to ensuring the privacy and dignity of those who wish to share their concerns and/or feedback, through a confidential and free service. A sensitive and non-biased approach will be used.

### **Operations Support Services**

**Human resources:** To ensure the smooth running of this DREF operation, the MRC will mobilize 60 volunteers who will be trained for the implementation of the outlined activities supported by MRC staff and support staff members:

- Disaster Management Manager (DM) from HQ;
- National volunteer manager (1) and 3 local focal points;
- 2 drivers;
- 3 security guards for storage facilities.

The IFRC will also provide technical assistance to the operation through support missions, and the deployment of an Operations Manager with a background and/or experience in the field of WASH, through the surge mechanism for 2 months.

**Logistics and purchase procedures:** The MRC budgeted for the rental and maintenance of two vehicles, one vehicle will be rented from the NS. The second vehicle will be rented via the IFRC, as an all-terrain vehicle is required to reach some of the affected areas. The operation has budgeted fuel and vehicle maintenance costs to ensure transport needs are met. The procurement procedures applied will be based on the MRC's manual of administrative and financial procedures in accordance with the IFRC standards and rules.

**Project monitoring and evaluation (PMER):** The National Society will ensure monitoring and reporting during all stages of implementation of DREF activities. To ensure the smooth implementation and running of the activities outlined in this DREF, the CRM will mobilize the technical staff directly involved in this plan: Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER), Communication, Logistics, Finance, Food Security and Livelihood (FSL) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA). Field visits by these technical staff members are included in the budget.

The IFRC will conduct two monitoring visits, to support with launching of the response operation, detailed assessments, and reporting.

At the end of the operation, a lesson learnt workshop will be organized by MRC with the support of IFRC. This workshop will allow for informed planning in future operations and will allow the MRC to reflect the status of its disaster readiness. Beneficiaries, government partners, local authorities, and other relevant stakeholders will participate in the lesson learnt workshop. This activity has also been accounted for in the budget.

**Communication:** Communication materials will be developed to ensure the visibility of the action of the MRC and its partners at all stages of implementation (leaflets, photos, videos, etc.). Social media will also be used to increase the visibility of the operation and reach other audiences than those targeted by traditional media outlets.

**Administration and Finance:** The MRC has an accounting and financial department that will facilitate and ensure a fiscally sound use of financial resources, in accordance with the memorandum of understanding between the MRC and the IFRC. Financial management will follow the MRC procedures and regulations specified by the DREF. The finance colleagues of the Dakar Cluster Delegation will work with their MRC counterparts during the operation.

## Security and Operating Situation Review

The crime rates are moderate but rising in Mauritania. Petty crime such as pickpocketing poses the greatest risk. Burglaries, robberies, and assaults, though infrequent, have also been reported. Violent crime remains rare. There is a credible risk of attacks by Islamist extremists against government or foreign assets and/or personnel. Militants or bandits may also kidnap foreigners in border areas with Algeria and Mali, where banditry – in particular carjackings – is also a risk. Socio-political protests can descend into violence. Infrastructure is poor, including in the capital Nouakchott. Landmines pose a risk along the border with the disputed territory of Western Sahara (Morocco), where a heightened security presence is also typically maintained.

Eastern desert areas: Risk level is HIGH - Bandits and affiliates of the Sahel-based branch of the Islamist extremist al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) are present in the region, where they take advantage of weak government control and porous borders. Staff of an international organization constitute attractive targets for both militants and armed bandits involved in illegal activities in border areas. International staff face a credible risk of being kidnapped or attacked by AQIM or groups acting on its behalf near the borders with Mali and Algeria.

Any deployment will have to closely coordinate with the RSU with profile specific requirements and self-dependent experience in security management with.

The IFRC security plans will apply to all IFRC staff throughout the duty station and its operational areas. Area specific Security Risk Assessment will be conducted for any operational area should any IFRC personnel be deployed there; risk mitigation measures will be identified and implemented. All IFRC must, and RC/RC staff and volunteers are encouraged, to complete the IFRC NEW Stay Safe 2.0 e-learning courses, i.e., Stay Safe Personal Security, Stay Safe Security Management and Stay Safe Volunteer Security online training. Minimum Security Requirements (MSR) is in place for Mauritania. Mission and travel approval process is according to the established Regional Regulations.

## C. Detailed operational plan



### Shelter

People targeted: 3,600 (600 households)

Male: 1234

Female: 1286

Requirements (CHF): 108,954

**Needs analysis:** immediate shelter needs revolve around local tents and props

**Population to be assisted:** 3,600 people or 600 families whose homes are completely or partially destroyed and whose water source is destroyed and/or contaminated

**Implementation standards:** a (1) local tent with accessories, 2 sleeping mats, 2 blankets, 1 kitchen set per family.

P&B Code of the Product	Shelter 1 outcome: Affected communities in affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being, and long-term recovery by addressing shelter and habitat issues	# of households receiving accommodation assistance (Target: 100% or 600HH) # of households receiving NFIs (Target: 100% or 600HH)															
	Shelter Output 1.1: Affected households receive short-, medium- and long-term shelter and habitat assistance	# rapid needs assessment conducted (Target: 01) # of multisectoral assessment conducted (Target: 01) # storage units rented (Target: 03) # of volunteers trained (Target: 60) # of PDMs conducted (Target: 01)															
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP005	Deployment of 30 volunteers for 7 days to conduct rapid needs assessment (3 regions)																
AP005	Deployment of 10 volunteers for 5 days to conduct multi-sector needs assessment (3 regions)																
AP005	Deployment of 10 volunteers for 5 days to support with distribution of shelter materials and NFIs (3 regions)																
AP005	Procurement of 600 Khaima 4x6m tents and accessories, distributed to 600 HH																
AP005	Procurement and distribution of 1,200 sleeping mats, distributed to 600 HH (2 per HH)																
AP005	Procurement and distribution of 1,200 blankets, distributed to 600 HH (2 per HH)																
AP005	Procurement and distribution of kitchen sets (1 per HH)																
AP005	Transportation of shelter items and NFIs (1 trip per region)																



AP008	Deployment of 9 volunteers for 2 days to conduct PDM for cash distribution (3 regions)																	
AP084	Establishment of sage committees proposed by the communities that ensure the follow-up of activities and the sharing of claims throughout the duration of the DREF.																	
AP084	Develop and ensure de use of feedback tools for volunteers include a complaint tracking tools																	
AP084	Ensure briefing of volunteers on Feedback tools and feedback management																	



### Health

**People targeted: 3,600 (600 households)**

Male: 1,688

Women: 1,912

**Requirements (CHF): 5,436**

**Needs analysis:** *the health needs are focused on waterborne and vector-borne disease sensitization and prevention*

**Population to be rescued:** *600 households affected by flooding in targeted areas*

**Implementation standards:** *Sphere standard*

P&B Product Code	Health Outcome 1.3: Target population benefits from community-based disease prevention and health promotion	# of people reached with health prevention awareness (Target: 100% or 3,600) # of households receiving sufficient mosquito nets (Target: 100% or 600HH)																
		Activities planned Week / Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP011	Procurement and distribution of 1,200 long-lasting impregnated mosquito nets for 600 HH (2 per HH)																	
AP011	Health risk prevention for waterborne diseases and sensitization on the use of mosquito nets for malaria prevention																	



## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

People targeted: 3,600 persons (600 households)

Male: 1,688

Women: 1,912

Requirements (CHF): 20,521

**Needs analysis:** WASH needs are focused hygiene promotion, sanitation, and access to safe water for communities.

**Population to be rescued:** 600 households affected by flooding in targeted areas

**Implementation standards:** Sphere standard

P&B Product Code	WASH Result 1: Immediate reduction of risk of waterborne diseases in targeted communities (benefiting 6,000 people)	#of volunteers that received training on WASH in emergencies and key thematic messages (60) #of people reached with Hygiene promotion (3,600) #of kit distributed with hygiene, containers, and buckets (600 kits) %of households agreeing the Households items received has been benefit for them (100%) %of feedback collected treated (100%)															
	WASH 1.1: Detailed assessment of the water, hygiene and sanitation situation is conducted in targeted communities	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Activities planned Week / Month																
AP029	Training sessions (3) for 60 volunteers on WASH in emergency settings																
AP029	Procurement and distribution of 600 buckets with lids for household water collection and storage (15litres) for 600 HH (1 set per HH)																
AP029	Procurement and distribution of 600 hygiene kits for 600 HH (1 per HH)																
AP029	Procurement and distribution of 1,200 containers of bleach for 600 HH (2 per HH)																
AP030	Conduct 8 hygiene and health sensitization sessions on hygiene promotion including hand washing demonstration sessions (2 sessions per month over 3 regions)																
AP084	Ensure collection and treatment of communities' feedbacks																

## Strategies for Implementation

Requirements (CHF): 71,113

P&B Product Code	S1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical, and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences, and capacities to plan and perform	#of volunteers insured (Target: 60) # of visibility items purchased # of staff deployed to support the implementation and monitoring at branch level (Target: 07) #of monitoring visit conducted by MRC HQ (Target: 04) #of Lesson learnt workshop organized (Target: 01)															
		Output 1.1.7: Strengthened capacity of NSs to support disaster risk reduction, response, and preparedness at the local level															
Activities planned		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP042	Volunteer insurance																
AP042	Fuel for field supervision, coordination, monitoring etc. costs																
AP042	Vehicle service/maintenance (2 vehicles for 4 months)																
AP042	Ensure appropriate RCRC visibility items for volunteers (vests, t-shirts)																
AP042	Ensure appropriate briefing are conducted for volunteers and staff in the branch on PGI, CEA and operation risk																
AP042	Communication costs (internet and phone cost)																
AP042	Ensure general administration of the operation- provide Office supplies for general duty																
AP042	Deployment of 2 staff from HQ (DM and Volunteer Coordinator) for 3 months of response implementation (90 days)																
AP042	Store security staff (1 per region)																
AP042	Ensure monitoring from NS Operation management to the field- Field Mission Expenses																
AP055	Organized Lesson learned workshop for operational learning by the end of the operation																
AP049	Ensure monitoring from IFRC Operation management to the field- Monitoring Mission																
P&B Output Code	Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured		#Of surge deployed (01)														
	Output S2.1.1: Effective and respected surge capacity mechanism is maintained.																
Activities planned		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP046	Ops coordinator Surge deployment																

## Budget

Total budget for this DREF operation is CHF 248,039 for 4 months implementation. Summary is as follows:

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### DREF OPERATION

MDRMR014 - MAURITANIA - FLOODS

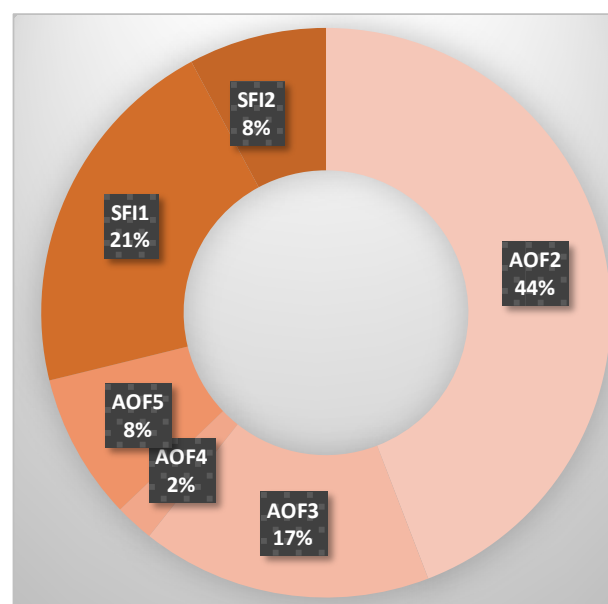
04/08/2022

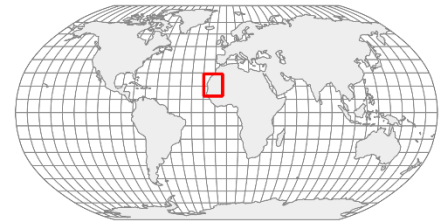
#### Budget by Resource

Budget Group	Budget
Shelter - Relief	57,424
Clothing & Textiles	31,902
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	9,060
Teaching Materials	638
Utensils & Tools	6,380
Cash Disbursement	32,158
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>	<b>137,563</b>
Storage	766
Transport & Vehicles Costs	20,205
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>20,970</b>
International Staff	13,612
National Society Staff	17,100
Volunteers	9,761
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>40,472</b>
Professional Fees	1,063
<b>Consultants &amp; Professional Fees</b>	<b>1,063</b>
Workshops & Training	18,716
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>18,716</b>
Travel	5,189
Information & Public Relations	2,552
Office Costs	1,999
Communications	2,212
Financial Charges	2,163
<b>General Expenditure</b>	<b>14,116</b>
DIRECT COSTS	232,900
INDIRECT COSTS	15,139
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>248,039</b>

#### Budget by Area of Intervention

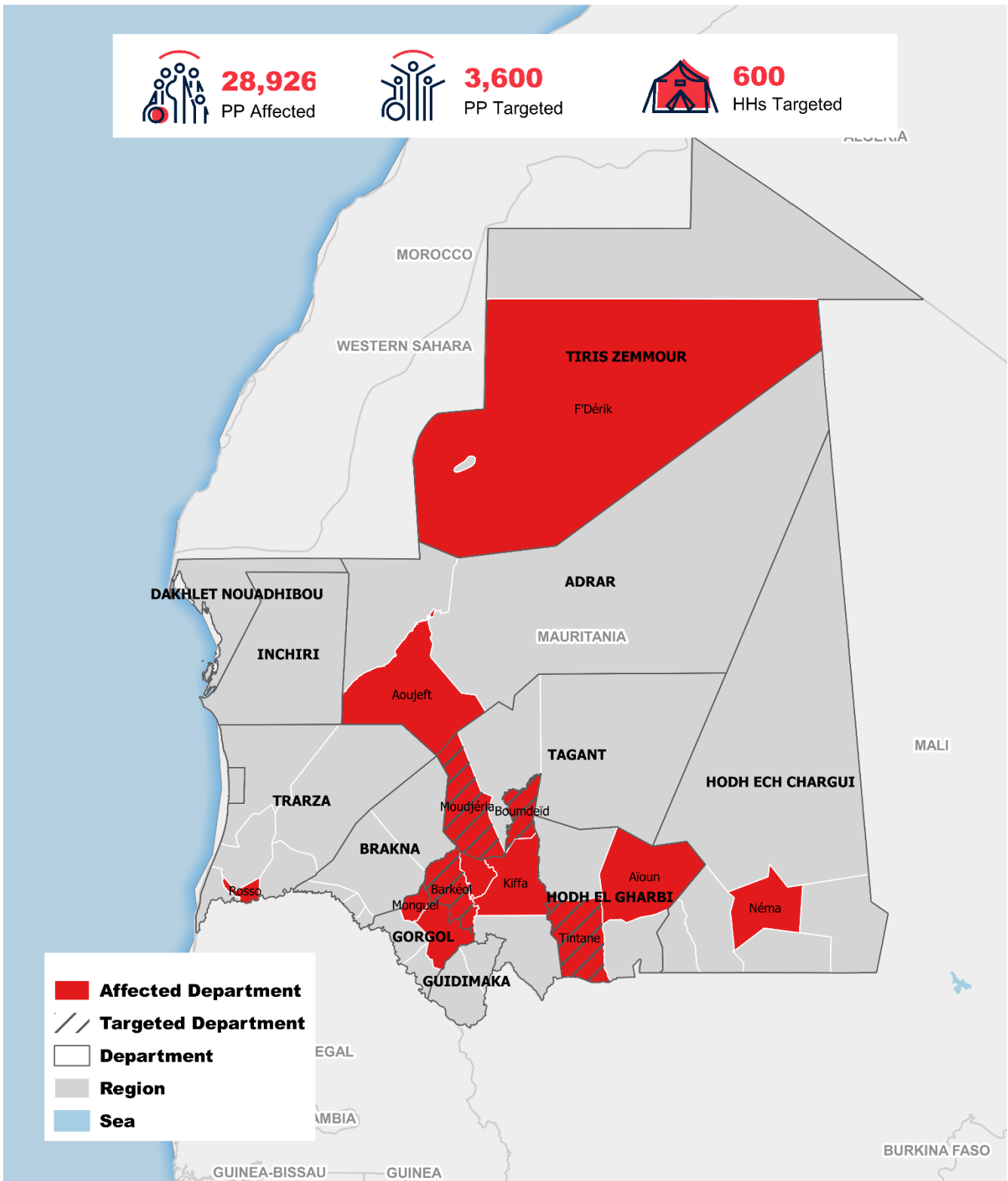
AOF2 Shelter	108,954
AOF3 Livelihoods and Basic Needs	40,730
AOF4 Health	5,436
AOF5 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	20,521
AOF6 Protection, Gender and Inclusion	
SFI1 Strengthen National Societies	51,769
SFI2 Effective International Disaster Management	19,344
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>248,039</b>



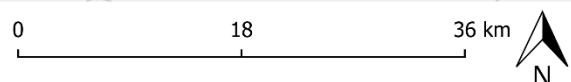


# Mauritania : Floods

21 August 2022 • FL-2022-000286-MRT



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.  
 Map data sources: GADM, Mauritania RC, IFRC. Map produced by: IFRC Africa Regional Office, Nairobi



## Contact information

### Reference documents

Click here for:  
Operation Update  
Emergency Plan of  
Action (EPoA)

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

**For Mauritania Red Crescent:**

Mohamedou Raby, Secretary General, Mauritania Red Crescent phone: +222 43 42 41 01 /+222 22 49 12 49; e-mail: [m.raby14@gmail.com](mailto:m.raby14@gmail.com)

**IFRC Country Cluster Office, Sahel:**

Sarah Parisio, Operation manager, email: [sarah.parisio@ifrc.org](mailto:sarah.parisio@ifrc.org)  
Daniel Bolaños, Head of Sahel Country Cluster; email: [daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org](mailto:daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org);

**IFRC office for Africa Region:**

Rui Alberto Oliveira, Head of DCPRR Department a.i, Nairobi, Kenya; email: [rui.oliveira@ifrc.org](mailto:rui.oliveira@ifrc.org)

**In IFRC Geneva:**

Nicolas Boyrie, DREF lead, DCPRR Unit Geneva; email: [nicolas.boyrie@ifrc.org](mailto:nicolas.boyrie@ifrc.org)  
Eszter Matyeka, DREF Senior Officer, DCPRR Unit Geneva; email: [eszter.matyeka@ifrc.org](mailto:eszter.matyeka@ifrc.org);

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

IFRC Africa Regional Office for resource Mobilization and Pledge: Louise Daintrey Head of Unit, Partnerships & Resource Development; email: [louise.daintrey@ifrc.org](mailto:louise.daintrey@ifrc.org); phone: +254 110 843978

**For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:**

IFRC Africa Regional Office for Logistics Unit: Rishi Ramrakha, Head of Africa Regional Logistics Unit, email: [rishi.ramrakha@ifrc.org](mailto:rishi.ramrakha@ifrc.org); phone: +254 733 888 022

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

**IFRC Africa Regional Office:** Philip Komo Kahuho, Regional PMER Manager; email: [philip.kahuho@ifrc.org](mailto:philip.kahuho@ifrc.org); phone: +254 732 203 081

## 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.

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