

EMERGENCY APPEAL

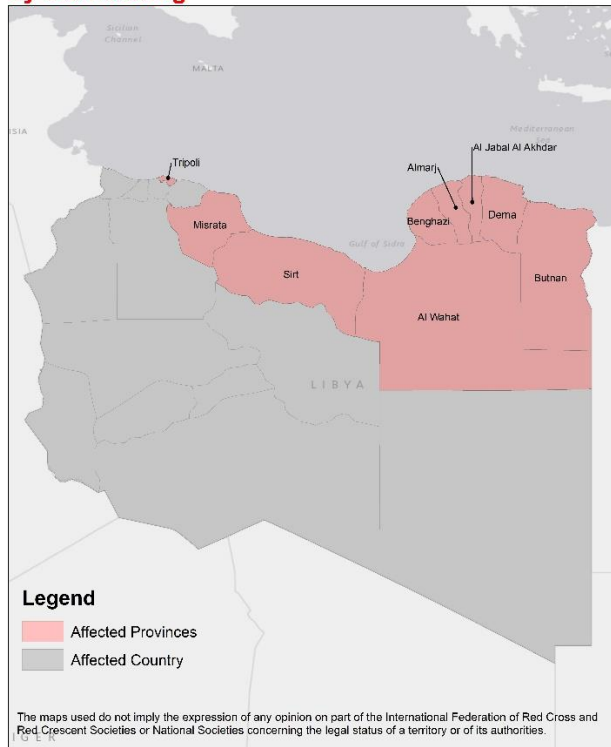
Libya, MENA region | Storm Daniel



Over 5,000 people have died in the flooding in north-eastern Libya and Libya Red Crescent Society teams are on the ground in communities providing support to the people affected. Photo: LRCS

Appeal №: MDRLY005	IFRC Secretariat funding requirements: CHF 7 million Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 10 million	
Glide №: FL-2023-000168-LBY	People [affected/at risk]: 1.6 million	People to be assisted: 200,000
DREF allocation: CHF 1 million	Appeal launched: 13/09/2023	Appeal ends: 31/12/2024

Large parts of northern Libya have been affected by the flooding



On the coast, the city of Derna has been severely affected. Dams have been heavily damaged, causing flooding that reached three metres in height, sweeping entire neighborhoods into the sea. Communication and power lines are down, and video shared by the Libya Red Crescent Society (LRCS) and other sources on social media show submerged cars, collapsed buildings, and torrents of water rushing through streets.

The head of Libya's government, Osama Hamad, has announced that the situation is catastrophic and unprecedented, and has called on medical personnel and medical assistants to go to Derna. The Libyan parliament has also appealed to the international community and all humanitarian actors in the country for support.

Since 2011, Libya has been experiencing a complex and dynamic population movement, driven by many factors. There are currently 706,062 total migrants in Libya, including refugees, asylum seekers, and other displaced people from over 40 countries, and at the end of 2022, the total number of IDPs stood at 135,000, the lowest since 2013.

Between 2008 and 2022, internal displacement linked to disasters accounted for an estimated 8,900 people, driven by three recorded disaster events, and according to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), at the end of 2021, 1,200 people were newly displaced due to disasters.

Thousands of these IDPs and migrants have now been affected by Daniel.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

On Sunday, September 10, storm Daniel hit north-eastern Libya, bringing high winds and sudden, heavy rainfall. The storm affected major population centres including Benghazi, Tobruk, Toukra, Talmeitha, Almarj, Taknes (Al Jabal Al Akhdar), Al Owailia, Bayada, Albayda, Shahhat, Sousa, and Derna. This led to massive flooding with roads and other vital transportation arteries blocked.

It is estimated that more than 5,000 people have died in these floods and at least 10,000 people are still missing. At least 30,000 people have been internally displaced, and 7,000 families stranded. Eastern Libya already hosts 46,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and hundreds of migrants.

TARGETING

The flash floods from Daniel have devastated north-eastern Libya, with complete or partial destruction of houses, public institutions, power networks, communication networks, water systems and sewage systems. Nearly 1.6 million people residing in the most affected areas have been directly affected, with over 5,000 people presumed dead and 10,000 still missing. In addition, over 7,000 families are reported to be stranded and nearly 30,000 people displaced.

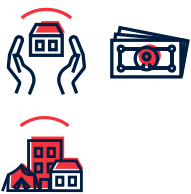
This Emergency Appeal seeks to aid the people most affected by the disaster, including those whose home was completely or partially destroyed, people whose livelihoods were affected and those who evacuated their homes and are now displaced. Targeting will be based on assessments of household vulnerabilities and assistance will be based on the identified needs of the population, taking into consideration age, gender and disability.

PLANNED OPERATIONS

Through this Emergency Appeal, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) aims to support the Libya Red Crescent Society (LRCS) in the response to Storm Daniel and its impact. The strategy of the IFRC response will be to contribute to supporting 200,000 individuals and will focus on the following areas:

Integrated assistance

- Providing the affected people, including IDPs and host communities, with essential assistance through cash and/or the distribution of in-kind relief items such as food, household essentials and shelter support.
- Enhancing community resilience and coping mechanisms through the provision of cash assistance and, when required, essential in-kind resources like seeds, tools and materials. These interventions will be guided by active community engagement and consultation.
- Engaging communities/local first responders to strengthen their preparedness in the response.
- Developing risk reduction activities such as early warning and early action, and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).
- Assisting in the initial recovery phase and recovery activities, including the strengthening of disrupted livelihoods among the affected population. These efforts will be based on the outcomes of assessments of food security and employment prospects conducted throughout both the response and recovery stages, while adhering to environmental considerations.



Health & Care including Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- This will include addressing the urgent health needs of the affected communities by providing essential healthcare services including emergency medical services (EMS), Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), First Aid, as well as other health-related services to be available at both mobile and stationary health facilities operated by LRCS.

- Offering mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) to those who have lost loved ones or who are displaced and enduring stress, anxiety or sleep disorders.
- Providing comprehensive WASH services, including targeted efforts to ensure access to clean and safe water, the provision of sanitation facilities and the restoration of infrastructure where necessary. This also includes hygiene promotion services and distribution of essential hygiene-related materials, with special consideration given to culturally appropriate feminine hygiene products for women and girls.

Protection and Prevention

- Conducting multi-sector needs assessments with Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI), to ensure safe and equitable access to basic services, taking into consideration different needs based on gender and other diversity factors, such as disability and impairment.
- Mainstreaming the PGI approach across the intervention and supporting LRCS to disaggregate data accordingly.
- Providing specialized protection services to vulnerable people affected including pregnant women and unaccompanied children.
- Embedding safe referral and feedback mechanisms into all activities, especially during the immediate, post-disaster recovery phase.
- Actively engaging affected communities to ensure Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) early in the response.
- Strengthening the Restoring Family Links (RFL) services, and community-based care and protection activities for unaccompanied and separated children, and for other persons with special needs.
- Ensuring that IDPs and migrants affected by the flooding are fully included in all service provision.
- Conducting regular, rapid community needs assessments to ensure adequate and updated response modality.
- Supporting LRCS in establishing and operating Humanitarian Service Points aiding the affected population.



Enabling approaches

The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:

Coordination and partnerships



- There will be a comprehensive, Federation-wide strategy for the response covering reporting, administration, and technical services.
- Collaboration and alliances within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement will be reinforced, as there will be collaboration with external stakeholders, including the private sector, foundations, governments, International Financial Institutions, and United Nations agencies.

IFRC Secretariat services



- IFRC and LRCS will work together to coordinate international support for operations.
- IFRC will assist LRCS with finance, administration, human resources, legal, Information Technology and Digital Transformation, supply chain, procurement, business continuity, and security.
- Operations will promote collaboration on humanitarian diplomacy efforts and joint activities.

- Staff will establish a comprehensive monitoring and reporting system to be overseen by IFRC, to capture all work done by the IFRC network, with LRCS at the centre.
- Coordination will be enhanced at different levels, from local to global, and facilitated by IFRC.

National Society Strengthening

- The response will support LRCS capacity strengthening in emergency response.
- There will be support for LRCS' development plan with a focus on enhancing preparedness for effective response.
- LRCS' community preparedness and response for natural disasters will be enhanced, including for floods, and LRCS will be encouraged to establish skills for longer-term recovery and resilience for affected communities, by restoring livelihoods and implementing Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) measures to minimize the impact of future floods.
- Provide support for fleet and logistics in the affected areas.
- There will be support for reinforcing the capacities of the affected branches and strategically located branches.
- Operations will provide support in strengthening the risk management framework, incorporating the capabilities of National Societies at both the Headquarters and branch levels.
- Management of volunteers will be strengthened with a special focus on volunteering in Emergencies and the Solidarity Fund mechanism.



The planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the time of this Emergency Appeal launch. Details will be updated through the Operational Strategy, to be released in the coming days. The Operational Strategy will also provide further detail on the Federation-wide approach, which includes all contributing Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and the Federation-wide funding requirement.

RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT IN COUNTRY



Libya Red Crescent Society (LRCS)

Core areas of operation	
Number of staff:	1,000
Number of volunteers:	3,000

Number of branches	38
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The Libya Red Crescent Society (LRCS) was established in 1957 and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1958, with a mandate to provide assistance to the most vulnerable segments of society. LRCS is the main national humanitarian organization present in Libya. It responds to emergencies and provides services to vulnerable populations all across the country, through a network of 38 branches, 1,000 staff, and 3,000 volunteers. The National Society has

maintained its unity and continued its work in Libya despite political divisions in the country, although it has had to amend some programmes that were implemented before the political crisis, such as First Aid, road safety and hygiene promotion for children. It has also developed additional programmes to respond to the humanitarian needs resulting from armed conflict.

In 2017, IFRC conducted an Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process and the following year the recommendations were integrated into the current strategy, which focuses on healthcare,

risk reduction and promoting volunteerism and humanitarian values. The National Society's capacity to implement its humanitarian programmes has been undermined by damage to infrastructure and looting, since the beginning of the political conflict. In addition, financial support from the State, which used to comprise the bulk of the National Society's funding, has disappeared. With limited local financial resources, the National Society currently relies on the support of its partners in order to alleviate the suffering caused by armed conflict through the implementation of health and relief programs targeting migrants and the most vulnerable communities.

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC has established methods for coordinating membership at all levels to facilitate the exchange of information about the flood response. This is done through meetings and briefings aimed at providing updates on the situation. Additionally, IFRC plays a role in coordinating the identification of high-priority needs in alignment with the LRCS response. Partner National Societies (PNSs) contribute to the emergency response by providing support through in-kind contributions and available funding. Many PNSs from the MENA region, as with other regions, have demonstrated their solidarity by offering support on human resources, material assistance, as well as financial and technical aid.

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination

ICRC has expressed its readiness to support LRCS with whatever they might need for their response and will continue to closely coordinate with all Movement partners to ensure close alignment in support of LRCS. A Country Strategic Platform will be utilized to regularly share updates and strategic guidance among the heads of LRCS, ICRC and IFRC, and the Country Technical Platform will be used to share the updates and coordinate among the three organizations at the technical level.

The membership platform will provide the space for regular meetings among all participating and interested members, to share updates and plans, and to coordinate to avoid duplication and ensure maximum benefit to beneficiaries.

External coordination

The Libyan government is coordinating humanitarian assistance for this disaster while LRCS maintains close relations with different government departments, ministries, security authorities and other relevant agencies as and when required, while IFRC is well connected with UN agencies and other key stakeholders.

Contact Information

For further information please contact:

At LRCS:

- **Secretary General:** Omer Budabous, Libyan Red Crescent Society, email: libyan.rc1957@gmail.com

At IFRC:

- **IFRC Regional Office for Health, Disasters, Climate & Crises (HDCC) Unit:** Dr Hosam Faysal, Regional Head of Health, Disasters, Climate & Crises (HDCC) Unit - MENA, email: hosam.faysal@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Regional Office for Operations Coordinator:** Nader Bin Shamlan, Operations Coordination-MENA, Nader.Binshamlan@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Country Delegation:** Dr. Tamer Ramadan, Head of IFRC country Delegation, email: tamer.ramadan@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and pledge support:

- **IFRC Regional Office for MENA** Francesco Volpe, Regional Head, Strategic Engagement and Partnerships, email: francesco.volpe@ifrc.org

For In-Kind donations and mobilization table support:

- **Global Humanitarian Services and Supply Chain Management Unit, MENA Regional Office** Goran Boljanovic, Regional Manager, email: Goran.BOLJANOVIC@ifrc.org
- **Global Humanitarian Services and Supply Chain Management Unit, Geneva** Nikola Jovanovic, Global Coordinator Supply Chain in Emergencies, email: nikola.JOVANOVIC@ifrc.org

Reference



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