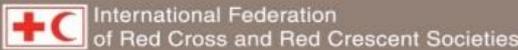




Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

Algeria: Forest Wildfires



| | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| DREF Operation n° | MDRDZ007 | Glide n°: | WF-2021-000115-DZA |
| Date of issue: | 18 August 2021 | Expected timeframe: | 4 months |
| | | Expected end date: | 31 December 2021 |
| Category allocated to the of the disaster or crisis: Yellow | | | |
| DREF allocated: CHF 265,510 | | | |
| Total number of people affected: | Thousands of households¹ | Number of people to be assisted: | 25,000 people (5,000 households) |
| Provinces affected: | 18 governorates (Wilayas) | Provinces/Regions targeted: | Bejaia, Tizi-Ouzou, Jijel and Setif |
| Operating National Society: Algerian Red Crescent (ARC) has 48 local units (National Society sub-divisions that work directly with the community – this includes local chapters, branches, regional and intermediate offices, and headquarters) which covers all the country's 48 wilayas (districts) and have access to 24,000 volunteers. The Algerian Red Crescent (ARC) has mobilized 300 volunteers and three staff members for immediate intervention and initial assessments. | | | |
| Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). | | | |
| Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: National Algerian Army and National Civil Protection authorities. | | | |

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Fires raged in north and north-east of Algeria overnight on Monday 9 August 2021, and throughout Tuesday 10 August 2021, killing at least 69 people including 28 members of the People's National Army deployed as firefighters, rescuing over 100 people in Bejaia and Tizi Ouzou. The governorates of Tizi-Ouzou, Bouira, Sétif, Khenchela, Guelma, Bejaia, Bordj Bou Arreridj, Boumerdes, Tiaret, Medea, Tebessa, Annaba, Souk Ahras, Ain Defla, Jijel, Batna, Blida and Skikda were affected by the fires.

Algeria's National Meteorology Office forecasted extremely hot weather through 12 August in nearly a dozen *wilayas* (governorates), including Tizi-Ouzou. The temperature was expected to reach 47 degrees Celsius in those wilayas, which are already suffering from severe water shortages. The Algerian Government mobilized the People's National Army, dispatched 12 fire engines, and mobilized more than 900 firefighters to put out the fires and protect people and property.

The Algerian government requested international assistance in response to the fires, including two Canadair aircrafts to respond to fires in the Tizi Ouzou and Bejaia regions through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism on 11 August.

¹ Reflection of the full number of people affected is not available yet.



Figure 1: Forest Fires erupted in Kabyle region in Algeria. Credit: ARC

Summary of the current response

Overview of Operating National Society Response Action

Since the onset of the disaster, the Algerian Red Crescent (ARC) activated its response protocol including establishing a crisis cell. To support the affected families, ARC mobilized 30 psychosocial teams, 12 medical personnel, and 300 volunteers to date.

ARC, in coordination with the Civil Protection Authority, set up 200 tents from their own stock to house the most affected households and distributed 340 tons of food, household items, and COVID-19 personal protection equipment (PPE). In addition, private donors supported the crisis response by availing additional ambulance cars to be managed by ARC in the affected areas. The field assessment is still ongoing, and a preliminary report has been published on [IFRC GO Platform](#).

ARC has plans to scale up support beyond the scope of this DREF, as they have supported in the preparation of emergency shelters for 8,000 families via shelter centres.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Actions in-country

The IFRC Country Cluster North Africa Delegation in Tunis and the IFRC MENA Regional Office in Lebanon are both supporting ARC and will continue to monitor the situation. The Country Cluster Delegation will provide technical support to the National Society to facilitate the implementation of the planned relief operation.



Figure 2: ARC is providing initial relief and first aid to the affected population in Algeria. Credit: ARC

IFRC works in coordination with the ICRC, which has been present in Algeria since the country's independence in 1954. ICRC's main mandate in Algeria is to support monitoring prisons conditions and supports ARC on several files, such as first aid, the dissemination of International Humanitarian Law/Humanitarian Principles, and Restoring Family Links (RFL).

Overview of other actors' actions in-country

The Algerian Government dispatched the National Army to the affected areas to support in the evacuation, and search and rescue of people, while the Civil Protection Authority dispatched 12 fire engines and more than 900 firefighters to put out the fires and protect people and property. Private donors provided ARC with 20 ambulances to assist them in their temporary response to this emergency. The Kuwaiti government has supported Algeria with firefighting trucks. ARC continues to work with authorities to coordinate their response to the wildfires and to provide assistance as needed.

Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning, and risk assessment

Needs analysis

The Algerian Red Crescent in coordination with the local authorities conducted an initial needs assessment and identification of the estimated number of the affected population. The fires burnt a large area of the land, and many people lost their houses, hot and dry conditions may hamper firefighting efforts over the coming days. Additional wildfire growth is possible. As per the United Nations Satellite centre UNOSAT map published on 17 August, in Tizi-Ouzou, Bouira, Jijel, Sétif and Boumerdes potentially affected area 125,000ha and the number of the affected people potentially affected 210,000 people who were living near the fires. Also, as the United Nations Satellite centre UNOSAT map published on 16 August, 2,500ha of vegetation/forest cover appear to be burnt in Ain Defla.

Communities living near the fires were forced to flee their homes and to take shelter either in the government emergency shelter identified or in different areas. Expected 8,000 families will be affected by the disaster. Needs for household items and shelter are expected to increase as the fires continue to spread in different areas. The livestock of these communities was also impacted by the disaster, farms are burnt, animals died, and many lost their food and income. Heatwaves also threaten vulnerable groups - such as the elderly, children, pregnant women, and those with respiratory illnesses - due to the increased possibility of heat stroke or heat exhaustion during prolonged exposure to high temperatures. These health risks could also extend to relatively healthy individuals during significant heatwave events. Also, with an increase in the number of cases since epi week 26-2021 in Algeria, COVID-19 cases might raise because of the disaster and different measures to prevent the spread of the disease need to be in place.

These needs are not reflected in the actual needs as the actual figures might vary when the situation allows for more data to be clear, and the fires contained.

Targeting

Following the initial needs assessment, ARC provided immediate relief aid to 25,000 people (5,000 households) including shelter, households items, and food parcels. Bejaia, Tizi-Ouzou, Jijel, and Setif governorates as the most affected governorates by the wildfires, and many people impacted will be targeted through this replenishment operation. During this operation, the Algerian Red Crescent will provide affected people with the additional psychosocial support needed, and PPE for the volunteers will be distributed to protect them from the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

ARC is conducting an additional detailed assessment in collaboration with local authorities to determine the exact number of people affected by the disaster. The final disaggregated data of the targeted population will be shared in an Ops Update in the coming weeks.

Scenario planning

| Scenario | Humanitarian consequence | Potential Response |
|--|--|--|
| The best-case scenario will be if the fires are contained, and further spread is impacting other areas | The affected area will be accessible to authorities and humanitarian work to give a clear idea on the impact of the disaster and families will be able to access their homes if it is not damaged. | The Algerian Red Crescent will continue to support and will be able to capture the actual needs and the impact of this disaster, assistance will be mobilized to be delivered to the affected communities. Also, the ARC will be launching an Emergency Appeal for their response to this disaster. |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Worst case scenario, the fires will continue to spread to other areas. | The needs will be increased because of the spread to other areas; the affected communities might not be accessible due to the damage of the infrastructure and the blockage of roads, assistance and support will not be sufficient to address all the needs. | The ARC will be supporting as much as possible where more support will be required from the partners, all the resources will be mobilized to support the affected governorates. The ARC will launch an Emergency Appeal to demonstrate the needs and request for support. |
|--|---|--|

Operation Risk Assessment

The operation faces a variety of risks considering the current situation, including the continuation of flames in most of the affected areas and the occurrence of new fires in other areas, which may make access to the affected areas and support for affected families more difficult. This may also impact distributions of assistance to the targeted families. ARC will closely monitor the situation and coordinate with the National Army and the civil protection authorities throughout the operation to ensure that volunteers are kept up to date on the evolving situation during the response in the affected areas.

Since epi week 26 2021, Algeria is facing a surge of cases of COVID-19 lead to deteriorating of the situation, where 185,042 cases registered in the country as of 13 August 2021, with 4,695 deaths, according to WHO. The Government is continuing to take measures to combat the pandemic and limit its spread. ARC is providing COVID-19 related support in Algeria through intervening in risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) response, distribution of personal and family hygiene kits, disinfection campaigns, and vaccination roll-out with the help of the IFRC COVID -19 appeal. ARC is also an active member of the national response plan. The IFRC, through the North Africa Cluster Delegation and the Regional Office in MENA, continues to provide support to ARC with their response to the COVID-19.

ARC will ensure that the volunteers are well protected during their response and support to affected communities as part of this operation. Measures will also be considered during the distribution and assessment of the affected population. The National Society will continue to closely monitor the situation and revise the plan as necessary, taking into consideration the evolving COVID-19 situation and operational risks that might develop, such as operational challenges related to access to the affected population, availability of relief items, procurement issues, and movement of National Society volunteers and staff.

B. Operational strategy

Overall Operational objective:

The overall objective of this operation is to provide life-saving assistance to 5,000 affected families (25,000 people) in the affected governorates Bejaia, Tizi-Ouzou, Jijel, and Setif, through the distribution of emergency shelter items, food parcels, and psychosocial support.

Proposed strategy

The ARC, through the support of this operation, will replenish the food parcel stock that has already been distributed to the fire-affected families. In addition, the ARC will conduct a needs assessment in the targeted governorates to identify the exact needs of the affected families on the ground. The needs assessment will inform any possible revisions to the plan that may be required during the timeframe of this operation.

Human Resources

ARC has mobilized three staff members, 300 volunteers, and 12 medical personnel in the targeted regions for this DREF Operation. These personnel and volunteers are already trained and experienced in carrying out relief activities. The volunteers will be insured through the IFRC SOS insurance scheme and protected with visibility materials and required PPEs.

Logistics and procurement

IFRC regional Global Humanitarian Service and Supply Chain Management (GHS&SCM) unit will support ARC in this DREF operation to strengthen the capacity of the National Society in fleet management, procurement, warehousing, and import/export processes. Local procurement will be carried out via the ARC logistics unit, with support from the IFRC regional office in Beirut to ensure compliance with the IFRC agreed procurement procedures (and costings). International procurement will be carried out via Global Logistics Services.

Communications

ARC with the support of the IFRC Cluster Delegation and the IFRC MENA Regional Office will ensure the availability of the information related to this operation to the public.

Security

ARC will ensure visibility of volunteers and staff through availing ARC branded vests. In addition, ARC will coordinate with the national authorities at central and wilaya's levels to make sure their volunteers have movement clearance. ARC will provide its volunteers with PPE for infection prevention.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

The ARC will oversee all operational, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting aspects of the present operation in the affected areas through its country-wide network of branches and volunteers along with Central Committee PMER unit. IFRC, through its MENA Regional Office and North Africa Country Cluster Delegation, will provide technical support to ensure the operational objectives are met. Reporting on the operation will be carried out in accordance with the IFRC DREF minimum reporting standards. Operation Update will be issued in the first month and a final report will be issued within three months from the end of the operation. Regular updates will be conducted between the Cluster Delegation and the ARC. An end-of-operation lessons learned workshop will be organized by IFRC and ARC to reflect on the DREF implementation and to take stock of that for future responses and to inform response preparedness planning efforts.

Information Management (IM)

The IFRC MENA regional IM will be supporting the North Africa Country Cluster Delegation as well as ARC in reporting through the IFRC GO platform to share updated field reports. Also, the regional IM team will work closely with ARC to develop information products, visualizations, and maps for their response and activities.

Community engagement and accountability (CEA)

ARC is committed to integrating CEA in its response operation. Community accountability and feedback/response mechanisms will be integrated into the operation to ensure that people to be assisted have access to timely and accurate information on the nature and scope of services provided by ARC.

Protection Gender and Inclusion (PGI)

Acknowledging that women, girls, men, and boys with diverse ages, disabilities, and backgrounds have very different needs, risks, and coping strategies, the operation will pay particular attention to the protection and inclusion of vulnerable groups. The ARC staff and volunteers will monitor protection issues and will ensure referral pathways to existing national protection mandated agencies for the identified cases.

C. Detailed Operational Plan



Shelter

People targeted: 1,000 people

Male:

Female:

Requirements (CHF):40,204

Needs analysis: Emergency shelters, such as tents, and household items, are among the initial needs identified following the disaster's impact (blankets, mattresses, and kitchen sets). As a result of the disaster, people fled their affected homes; authorities designated the location for emergency shelter for the affected families, and ARC assisted in preparing these shelters to receive the affected families.

Risk analysis: The risk is associated with the distribution and the safety of volunteers particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, The Algerian Red Crescent is coordinating with local authorities to secure the distribution process and will provide the necessary PPEs to the volunteers involved in this operation.

Population to be assisted: ARC has been responding since day one, assisting public authorities in preparing shelters. During this operation, 1,000 mattresses, 1,000 blankets, and 500 kitchen sets will be replenished.

| P&B Output Code | Shelter Outcome 1: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions | # of people targeted/reached with safe and adequate shelter and settlement. Target: 1,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | Shelter Output 1.1: Shelter and settlements and basic household items assistance is provided to the affected families. | # households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance. Target: TBD | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Activities planned/ Week | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| AP005 | Conduct needs assessment of the targeted communities. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AP005 | Coordination with government and other stakeholders | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AP005 | Analysis of the local market to identify availability/access to shelter and household items | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AP005 | Replenishment of household items including mattresses, blankets, and kitchen sets | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AP005 | Evaluation of the shelter support provided | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |



Livelihoods and basic needs

People targeted: 16,000 people

Male:

Female:

Requirements (CHF): 187,973

Needs analysis: The disaster caused significant losses to the affected people, including homes and livelihoods, as many people took shelter in the locations identified by the authorities. Urgent needs for displaced families include food that was already provided to disaster-affected families by ARC from their available stock to respond to emergencies.

Risk analysis: The major risk is that fires will spread in many locations, preventing the ARC from delivering food to the affected people, but the ARC will continue to coordinate with the Civil Protection Authority and closely monitor the situation. Another risk is the scarcity of supplies, however, with the assistance of the IFRC, the ARC will conduct a market analysis of the available stock, and international procurement may be one of the solutions.

Population to be assisted: through the support of this operation, 3,200 food parcels will be replenished as ARC has already distributed food to the affected families.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| P&B Output Code | Livelihoods and basic needs Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods | <i># of people targeted/reached with food assistance. Target: 16,000</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| P&B Output Code | Livelihoods and basic needs Output 1.2: Basic needs assistance for livelihoods security including food is provided to the most affected communities | <i>% of targeted households that have enough food to meet their survival threshold. Target: 100</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Activities planned Week | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| AP008 | Replenishment of food parcels | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AP008 | Monitoring the distribution | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AP008 | Evaluation of the livelihoods support provided | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |



Health

People targeted: 25,000 people

Male:

Female:

Requirements (CHF): 0

Needs analysis: As a result of losing their homes and properties, as well as fleeing their homes, affected families are in deep need of psychosocial support. ARC is providing the needed psychosocial support to the affected families in the shelter locations, as well as supporting them while providing the necessary assistance.

Risk analysis: Access to the targeted locations and the spread of fires are the major risks for which ARC is coordinating with authorities and monitoring the situation.

Population to be assisted: affected people by the disaster in the targeted governorates in the locations of the shelters identified by the authorities.

| P&B Output Code | Health Outcome 6: The psychosocial impacts of the emergency are lessened | # of PSS workshop conducted. Target: TBD | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | Health Output 6.1: Psychosocial support provided to the target population as well as to RCRC volunteers and staff | # of people provided with psychosocial support (disaggregated by gender and age). Target: 25,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Activities planned Week | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| AP023 | Assessment of PSS needs and resources available in the community | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AP023 | Provide PSS to people affected by the crisis/disaster | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Strategies for Implementation

Requirements (CHF): 37,334

| P&B Output 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 motivated volunteers who are protected and Insured. Target: 170 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected | # of volunteers insured and geared with protective equipment. Target: 170 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Activities planned Week | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| AP040 | Ensure that volunteers are insured | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AP040 | Ensure volunteers are aware of their rights and responsibilities through pre-deployment briefings | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|
| AP040 | Ensure volunteers' safety and wellbeing (accommodation and visibility) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| P&B Output Code | Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured | <i>International support has been coordinated and provided. Target: yes</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Output S2.1.1: Effective and respected surge capacity mechanism is maintained. | <i># of surge deployments to the operation through Rapid Response. Target: 1</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Activities planned Week | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | | |
| AP046 | Initial operational start-up and implementation support provided by IFRC for the host national society through Rapid Response | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| P&B Output Code | Outcome S3.2: The programmatic reach of the National Societies and the IFRC is expanded. | <i># of Lessons Learned workshop. Target: 1</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Output S3.2.1: Resource generation and related accountability models are developed and improved | <i>M&E plan produced. Target: Yes</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Activities planned Week | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | | |
| AP058 | M&E work for the NS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AP058 | M&E work for the IFRC | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AP058 | Translation of document | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AP058 | Lessons learnt workshop | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Funding Requirements

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF OPERATION

MDRDZ007 - ALGERIA - FOREST WILDFIRES

*all amounts in
Swiss Francs
(CHF)*

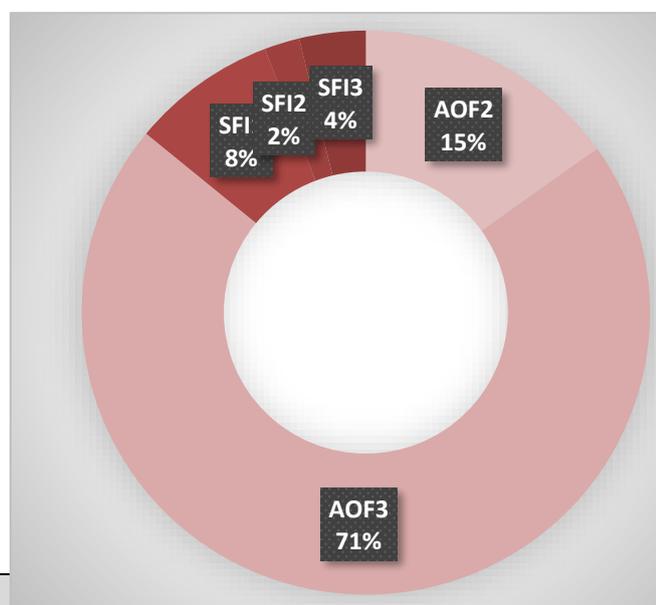
8/12/2021

Budget by Resource

| Budget Group | Budget |
|---|----------------|
| Clothing & Textiles | 25,000 |
| Food | 112,000 |
| Medical & First Aid | 8,500 |
| Utensils & Tools | 7,500 |
| Relief items, Construction, Supplies | 153,000 |
| Transport & Vehicles Costs | 1,500 |
| Logistics, Transport & Storage | 1,500 |
| International Staff | 5,000 |
| Volunteers | 80,405 |
| Personnel | 85,405 |
| Travel | 3,900 |
| General Expenditure | 5,400 |
| DIRECT COSTS | 249,305 |
| INDIRECT COSTS | 16,205 |
| TOTAL BUDGET | 265,510 |

Budget by Area of Intervention

| | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| AOF1 | Disaster Risk Reduction | |
| AOF2 | Shelter | 40,204 |
| AOF3 | Livelihoods and Basic Needs | 187,973 |
| AOF4 | Health | |
| AOF5 | Water, Sanitation and Hygiene | |
| AOF6 | Protection, Gender and Inclusion | |
| AOF7 | Migration | |
| SFI1 | Strengthen National Societies | 21,998 |
| | Effective International Disaster | |
| SFI2 | Management | 5,325 |
| | Influence others as leading strategic | |
| SFI3 | partners | 10,011 |
| SFI4 | Ensure a strong IFRC | |
| TOTAL | | 265,510 |



Reference documents



Click here for:

- Previous Appeals and updates
- Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

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

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How we work

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

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives.
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion
and a culture of
non-violence and peace.