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# Emergency Plan of Action Operation Update

## Afghanistan: Drought

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>DREF n° MDRAF004</b>	<b>GLIDE n° <a href="#">DR-2018-000052-AFG</a></b>
<b>DREF operation update n° 2; 14 March 2019</b>	<b>Timeframe covered by this update:</b> 1 December 2018 to 28 February 2019
<b>Operation start date: 1 December 2018</b>	<b>Operation timeframe:</b> Revised 1 December 2018 to 1 April 2019 (5 months)
<b>Overall operation budget: CHF 265,185</b>	<b>DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 265,185</b>
<b>N° of people being assisted: 14,000 people (2,000 families)</b>	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation:</b> Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) is working with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Partner National Societies (PNS) with presence in Afghanistan (Canadian Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent Society and Turkish Red Crescent Society).	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> <b>(i) Government ministries and agencies,</b> Afghan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA), Ministry of Public Health (MOPH), Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), Provincial Disaster Management Committees (PDMCs), Department for Rural Rehabilitation and Development <b>(ii) UN agencies;</b> OCHA, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organisation (WHO), UNICEF, UN Children's Fund   UNMAS, UN <b>(iii) International NGOs;</b> Action Against Hunger, Afghan Aid, Community World Service Asia, Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees, Dutch Relief Alliance, Danish Refugee Council - Danish Demining Group, Handicap International, Human Resource Development Agency, International Medical Corps, International Rescue Committee, Norwegian Refugee Council, Organization for Humanitarian and Development, Organization of Human Welfare, Première Urgence-Aide Médicale Internationale, Relief International, Save the Children International, Solidarités International, Shanti Volunteer Association, Welthungerhilfe.	

### Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

*This operation update is issued to inform one month no cost extension of the operation due to the delay of the replenishment of food parcels.*

### Summary of current response context

Poor precipitation during the winter of 2017/2018 in the mountainous regions of Hindu-Kush is responsible for the severe drought that hit Afghanistan in the first half of 2018, particularly over the northwestern regions. These semi-arid/arid areas rely heavily on rain and melted snow flowing from the mountains for the majority of their water resources. As most of Western Afghanistan does not receive any precipitation between June and October, the lack of it in earlier months compromises water supply for the rest of the year<sup>1</sup>.

The drought caused losses to the rural communities (70 per cent of population live in rural areas) and forced people to move toward makeshift camps and cities, to avoid famine as many people have been left without enough food to feed their families. Helmand ANDMA reported about 1,400 individuals displaced from Khanshin to Lashkargah due to drought and lack of water. As part of the drought response in rural areas, WFP and its partners delivered 3,500 metric tons of food for more than 398,000 people in 13 provinces, in the last week of November (20-27 November). In the past month, more than 1.4 million people received food or cash from WFP as part of the ongoing full-scale drought response that plans to reach 2.5 million people by end of the year.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) – DG ECHO Daily Map, 22 November 2018.

<sup>2</sup> Afghanistan Weekly Field Report 26 November – 3 December 2018.

The Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) remains vigilant and have been monitoring the situation since the start of dry spell. ARCS is in close coordination with Afghan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA), Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) and Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC). ARCS Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) was activated to coordinate with relevant stakeholders and update on the situation on regular basis. ARCS started coordination meetings with in country movement partners since May 2018.

## Summary of current response

An update of ARCS drought response activities from 1 December to 28 February 2019 is given below:

Sector	Intervention	People reached
Food security	<p>The procurement process of 2,000 food parcels for Herat and Badghis provinces drought affected families will be completed within March. One food parcel for one family of average seven people.</p> <p>Samples of food items were collected, and lab tests have been done for all food items. Reports are shared with the regional team and country office is waiting for regional team approval to procure the food items.</p>	ARCS committed to distribute the food items for 2,000 families from their prepositioned stock, and IFRC CO will replenish. ARCS transported these food parcels from Kabul to Herat and Badghis. They have completed the distribution of food items for 500 families in Herat and 1,500 families in Badghis provinces (14,000 individuals) in the western region of the country.
Emergency Need Assessment (ENA) training and ENA exercise in 9 provinces	<p>Two-day Emergency Need Assessment (ENA) trainings have been conducted in nine provinces; Herat, Badghis, Nimroz, Kandahar, Sar-e-Pul, Samangan, Jowzjan, Faryab and Balkh in North, South and Western region of Afghanistan.</p> <p>The ENA training covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DREF operation orientation.</li> <li>• Briefing of participant on ENA.</li> <li>• Introduction to detail assessment tools/form, assessment reporting template and checklist.</li> <li>• Briefing on relief distribution process including beneficiary registration, selection and reporting.</li> <li>• Briefing on distribution point visual monitoring checklist, distribution point beneficiaries exit survey template.</li> <li>• Orientation on distribution beneficiary satisfaction survey template.</li> <li>• Stakeholder analysis etc.</li> <li>• Group exercises.</li> </ul>	<p>In nine provinces, ARCS branch staff, volunteers, disaster response unit (DRU) and branch disaster response team (BDRT) were trained on ENA in the northern, western and south western regions.</p> <p>A total of 200 participants (male: 187, female: 13) participated in the ENA training who came from the nine provinces.</p>
RDRT surge operational support deployment	One RDRT surge operational support has been deployed to provide technical support to NS for drought operation response.	

Reference documents



Click for:

- [DREF Operation](#)

**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.

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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**.

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