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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) Algeria: Cold Wave

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n° MDRDZ004	Glide n° CW-2019-00010-DZA
Date of issue: 31 January 2019	Expected timeframe: 3 months Expected end date: 30 April 2019
Category allocated to the disaster or crisis: Yellow	
DREF allocated: CHF 267,134	
Total number of people affected: 125,000	Number of people to be assisted: 4,000
Host National Society: Algerian Red Crescent (ARC)	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: IFRC	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government of Algeria including Civil Protection and People's National Army of Algeria, UN Agencies	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

On 11 January, Algeria was hit by a cold wave with heavy snow and rainfalls which further intensified on 13 January. Severe weather conditions were reported to have affected 25 out of 48 governorates of Algeria. Extreme weather has resulted in widespread chaos, leaving 8 people dead, 25 people wounded, damage to powerlines and other key infrastructure, more than 151 roads becoming unpassable due to snow and floods, and to the loss of shelter and livelihoods in more than 300 villages and communes across the country. Particularly the vulnerable families (nomads residing in tents) were affected.

Algerian RC relief efforts are targeting the twelve most affected areas, specifically in Tizi Ouzou, Medea, Setif, Bourdj Bouriridj, Batna, Bejaia Bouira, Boumerdes and Jijel northern governorates of Algeria; Oum El Bouaghi, El Bayedh and Khanchela in the high plateaus in the north-east of Algeria; and Naama governorate in the west of the country.

Extreme weather conditions continue, with a new spike on the 24 January, leaving more communities inaccessible, cut off from basic services and access to food and water. The Algerian Red Crescent (ARC) continues to monitor the situation and provide assistance through its network of active branches using its prepositioned stock.



ARC staff and volunteers undertake rapid needs assessments in response to the cold wave. Picture: Algerian Red Crescent

The Algerian Red Crescent (ARC) continues to monitor the situation and provide assistance through its network of active branches using its prepositioned stock.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society

In response to the cold wave, ARC mobilised 17 out of its 48 branches, involving about 1,235 volunteers alerted and on standby. The first distribution of emergency food and household items to the communities was done on 24 January, based on the rapid assessment results, using items prepositioned in ARC warehouse. The President of the ARC was on the ground visiting affected areas and overseeing ARC activities. Further distributions are planned based on needs and access to the affected areas.

The ARC cooperated closely with local and national authorities and partners aiming to support up to 4,000 people by mobilizing its volunteers in the branches and staff in Headquarters for distribution of prepositioned relief items.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in the country

The IFRC Country Cluster North Africa Office, in Tunis, and the DCPRR and PMER units at IFRC MENA Regional Office, in Lebanon, are supporting ARC and will continue to monitor the situation. The Country Cluster Office will provide support to the National Society, including project and financial management, facilitating implementation of the planned relief operation.

IFRC works in coordination with the ICRC, which has been present in Algeria since the 1954 war of independence. At that time, its focus was on visiting prisoners and helping refugees in Morocco and Tunisia. Today, the ICRC's main activity is visiting detainees. The ICRC cooperates with the ARC on several files like First Aid, dissemination of IHL/HP and Restoring Family Links (RFL). The ICRC is not providing support for this response operation.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

As per its National Emergency Plan, the Government of Algeria leads and coordinates relief activities in the country through a Crisis Committee established by the Ministry of Interior. Local authorities established their crisis committees in the affected governorates. At this stage, no external actors are responding to the cold wave; either UN or INGOs. The response is carried out by the Algerian authorities, the ARC and some small local NGOs that operate within the affected areas. The ARC forms part of the response committee and all activities are coordinated, so to avoid duplication. The Algerian Civil Protection and the People's National Army of Algeria have deployed all available personnel and equipment to facilitate road clearance.

Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

Needs analysis

According to the Government of Algeria, about 125,000 people are affected by the cold wave. ARC has been undertaking assessments in the affected areas and sharing findings with local authorities. ARC's rapid assessments highlighted the most affected governorates and helped to identify people in need for targeted assistance. The snow has isolated numerous communities and villages, particularly in the mountainous areas. In other areas heavy rains caused floods, and high winds damaged shelter, particularly tents, and destroyed household items and food stocks. The disaster damaged water and electric power lines and destroyed roads leaving communities vulnerable and isolated.

ARC has identified the most affected areas as Tizi Ouzou, Medea, Setif, Bourdj Bouriridj, Batna, Bejaia Bouira, Boumerdes and Jijel, in the north; Oum El Bouaghi, El Bayedh and Khanchela, in the high plateaus in the north-east of Algeria; and Naama governorate in the west of the country. ARC has branches in the affected areas.

Targeting

This DREF allocation will be used to support 4,000 people from the most vulnerable families affected by the cold weather. The DREF funds are intended for replenishment of the relief items already distributed by the national society from its prepositioned stock, thereby ensuring that ARC is prepared to respond to future emergencies. The beneficiary identification was carried out by ARC staff and volunteers in dialogue with local community leaders and elders. The ARC has targeted the families whose shelter has been damaged by the heavy snow fall as well as the families with elderly, sick family members, people with disabilities and those with babies and small children. Targeting will also prioritise the families with low household income, single-headed households or those who have lost their livelihoods or means of production.

Operation Risk Assessment

On 25 January, the National Office of Meteorology (ONM) announced, in a special weather report, the snowfalls accompanied by heavy rain showers are expected to continue over the central and eastern governorates of the country. In addition, strong winds are expected to impact the governorates of Tebessa, Khenchela, M'sila Ouragla, El Oued, Biskra, Jijel, Skikda, Annaba, Gulema, Batna, Um El Bouaghi, El Tarf, Souk Ahras and Bejaia.

ARC is working closely with local authorities, in coordination with the governmental Civil Protection agency and the People's National Army of Algeria, sharing details of its planned distributions to help ensure physical access to the affected communities, in spite of the continuing severe weather conditions. ARC is also a member of the response committee which coordinates all activities, so as to avoid duplication.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion

ARC has a strong commitment to address gender inequalities in the ongoing response, which is grounded in experience acquired through its flagship gender and diversity programming. ARC staff and volunteers will monitor protection issues in the communities which they serve and will ensure that a referral pathway is established for all identified cases.

Community engagement and accountability

Community accountability and feedback mechanisms will be integrated into the operation to ensure that people have access to timely and accurate information on the nature and scope of the services provided by ARC, specifically the shelter assistance. The ARC plans to undertake a beneficiary satisfaction survey leaning on its previous experience in this type of surveys. A DREF review and lessons learned workshop will be undertaken at the end of the operation. The IFRC regional PMER Unit will provide technical support, if required.

B. Operational strategy

Overall Operational objective:

The overall objective is to ensure life-saving assistance to up to 4,000 cold wave affected persons through the provision of food and household items meant to satisfy their immediate needs.

Proposed strategy

The ARC has mobilized stock from their warehouse and have planned emergency distributions for up to 800 families from their prepositioned stock of household items. This includes 2,400 blankets, 1,600 mattresses, 800 kitchen sets and 250 tents. Food will be procured locally and then distributed to 800 families.

Distributions started on 24 January, targeting 400 families in Tizi Ouzou, Ouacif, Bounaaman, Azazga and Likouran. Families received food parcels containing rations for two months. In addition, each family received one kitchen set, two mattresses and three blankets.

On 28 January, the second distributions targeted 400 families in El Oued, Douar el Maa, Ben Guecha, Bir el Ther and Debila governorates. Each family received a food parcel, three blankets, two mattresses and a kitchen set. Families were selected based on the rapid needs assessment results and in accordance with ARC's vulnerability criteria.

Content of a food parcel:

Category	Items	Quantities
Food	Rice	5 kg
	Oil	5 litres
	Tinned tomatoes	3 kg
	Lentils	3 kg
	Semolina	25 kg
	Sugar	5 kg
	White bean	3 kg
	Pasta	5 kg
	Chickpea	1 kg
	Coffee	2 kg
	Milk	2 kg
	Tea	500 grs
	Jam	1 kg
Household	Kitchen set	1 per family
	Mattresses	2 per family
	Blankets	3 per family
	Tents	1 per family for 250 families



On 24 January, ARC volunteers undertake emergency distribution to the communities affected by the cold wave.
Picture: Algerian Red Crescent

Human resources

ARC has mobilised 1,235 trained and experienced volunteers to carry out assessment and relief activities. In each of the 17 affected branches, trained and equipped volunteer teams are mobilised to operate under the guidance of HQ and the branch coordinators. ARC will undertake regular monitoring of distributions and post-distribution phases. IFRC will deploy surge capacity to support the ARC implementation of this DREF operation.

Logistics and procurement

All logistics services will follow IFRC logistics procedures and systems. IFRC will support the ARC in this DREF operation to strengthen the capacity of the National Society in fleet management, procurement, warehousing and import/export processes.

- a) Procurement plans: local procurement for food 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 undertaken for kitchen sets, blankets and mattresses via the Global Logistics Services.
- b) Transport and fleet needs: local transportation means (trucks for NFI transfer, potentially donkeys in extreme cases) will be used when the normally used NS vehicle fleet is unable to access the areas of this DREF operation.

Communications

ARC, with support from the IFRC MENA Regional Office, will promote the work undertaken within this DREF operation in the local, national and international media with the production of news stories and tweets.

Security

The security focal point of IFRC MENA Regional Office will continue working closely with the ARC to monitor and support on security related matters if required.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

The ARC will oversee the monitoring of this operation in the cold wave affected areas through its network of volunteers. IFRC, through its North Africa Country Cluster and the MENA Regional Office, will provide technical assistance to ensure the effective implementation of this DREF operation, and will support the respective final review and lessons learned workshop.

Lessons learned from previous operation, including the cold wave in 2017 (MDRDZ003) and the floods response in 2016 (MDRDZ002):

- in future DREF operations, deployment of an RDRT will be considered the default operating modality: a surge person (a French or Arabic speaker) will be deployed for the duration of the operation and a procurement surge will provide support for one month to establish sound procurement processes;
- In the shelter aspect of the operation, the major challenge was associated with procurement of nonstandard emergency shelter items, which resulted in significant delays due to the need to source, quality check and transport these. Based on this experience, in future DREF and emergency operations, the use of non-standard shelter items should only be considered following a thorough risk and logistical analysis and balanced against emergency needs and timeliness. Following this lesson, ARC will engage discussions on the most suitable shelter assistance options, based on cultural and climatic conditions and cost-benefit analysis, before deciding on the type and quantity of tents and shelter items for ARC stock replenishment.
- As its own lesson learned from previous operations, ARC has procured and prepositioned household items in three strategic locations across Algeria. Prepositioning has started fairly recently and is based on challenges encountered in terms of timely responses to emergencies.

Strategies for Implementation

Requirements (CHF) 75,590

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																	
	Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected																	
	Activities planned Week / Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP040	Ensure that volunteers are insured	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						
P&B Output Code	Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured																	
	Output S2.1.1: Effective response preparedness and NS surge capacity mechanism is maintained																	
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP046	Initial operational start up support (RDRT support)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						
AP046	Surge support/training in procurement and logistics			x	x	x	x											
P&B Output Code	Outcome S3.1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable																	
	Output S3.2.1: Resource generation and related accountability models are developed and improved																	
	Activities planned Week / Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP055	DREF review and lessons learned workshop										x	x						
AP055	Assessment and beneficiary satisfaction survey for shelter (including training for volunteers)		x	x					x	x	x	x						
P&B Output Code	Output S4.1.3: Financial resources are safeguarded; quality financial and administrative support is provided contributing to efficient operations and ensuring effective use of assets; timely quality financial reporting to stakeholders																	
	<i>Please include an indicator from the Key Data Sheet with a target</i>																	
	Activities planned Week / Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP064	Finance work	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						

Budget

Please see attached below

Contact information

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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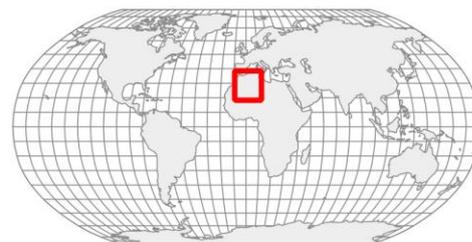


The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
 Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
 Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
 الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر



Algeria, Cold Wave: Disaster Relief Emergency Fund

25 January 2019 • CW-2019-000010-DZA



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: OCHA, OSM Contributors, ICRC, IFRC.

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DREF OPERATION

1/29/2019

MDRDZ004

Algeria - Cold
waves

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	85,000
Shelter - Transitional	
Construction - Housing	
Construction - Facilities	
Construction - Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	53,840
Food	12,000
Seeds & Plants	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	
Medical & First Aid	
Teaching Materials	
Utensils & Tools	22,400
Other Supplies & Services	
Cash Disbursements	
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	173,240
Land & Buildings	
Vehicles	
Computer & Telecom Equipment	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	
Medical Equipment	
Other Machinery & Equipment	
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	
Distribution & Monitoring	10,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	
Logistics Services	
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	10,000
International Staff	
National Staff	
National Society Staff	26,500
Volunteers	23,000
Total PERSONNEL	49,500
Consultants	
Professional Fees	
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	12,000
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	12,000
Travel	6,000
Information & Public Relations	
Office Costs	
Communications	
Financial Charges	90
Other General Expenses	
Shared Office and Services Costs	
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	6,090
Partner National Societies	
Other Partners (NGOs, UN, other)	

Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS	0
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	16,304
Total INDIRECT COSTS	16,304
TOTAL BUDGET	267,134
