

Migration Emergency Response Fund (MERF)

Alert 08 – Morocco (Essential needs for migrants)

Doctors of the World Final Report Summary | 06
November 2017



- 🕒 **Implementing agency:** Doctors of the World/ Medecins du Monde
- 🕒 **110 days:** June 26th – October 14th 2017
- 🕒 **Budget:** £144,246
- 🕒 **Beneficiaries reached:** 3,419
- 🕒 **Locations:** Camps in Tanger-Tetuan and Nador in Northern Morocco and displacement zones/cities in Central and Southern Morocco
- 🕒 **Start of activities:** July 1st 2017

Context and Project Summary

This intervention was designed to respond to two parallel dynamics progressively worsening the living conditions of migrants in Morocco over the summer period: a) due to favourable weather conditions facilitating sea crossing, the number of migrants gathering at the northern borders in the forests around Tangier and Nador increases over the summer and living conditions in camps became precarious; b) due to the combination of higher number of migrants and the aggressive 'decongesting' strategies implemented by national authorities, high number of regular and irregular migrants are pushed back to displacement cities in the Centre and South of the country.

A comprehensive response aimed at improving the living conditions and ability to access basic services of the most vulnerable migrant populations in border camps and displacement areas. This has had a substantial added value to the very limited capacity of the current response system to cover the increasing humanitarian needs of the migrant population in Morocco.

The response centred around the combination of two delivery models to maximize reach and impact of the intervention:

1) Deploying two mobile teams to the camps in the north and displacement areas according to the needs. One team was made of 3 permanent staff (health referent/doctor + logistics referent + driver) and was based in Rabat and the other team, based in Oujda, had a support function in the north and was made of a logistics referent and a driver.

2) Support to existing local partners in the border camps around Nador and Tangier and in displacement zones in Casablanca, Rabat, Fez, Agadir and Laayoune to improve their capacity to meet increasing needs resulting from increasing numbers of migrants. DOTW worked with 12 partners, providing medical assistance, disease sensitisation & screening, NFI & food distributions as well as supporting a response to a scabies outbreak in an urban migrant camp in Fez.

Beneficiaries Reached & Outputs

Beneficiaries and Outputs (planned versus actuals)

Planned outputs	Actual outputs	%/# planned	Report on Performance	Total female planned	Total female actual	Total male planned	Total male actual	Overall total planned	Overall total actual
1200 consultations in 4 months	1214 consultations between 1/07/2017 and the 14/10/2017	1200	Target achieved	250	184	950	1,030	1,200	1,214
3000 sensitisation activities embedded in medical consultations & during distributions	2126 screening & sensitisations embedded in medical consultations & during distributions	3000	Changing context meant a large distribution/sensitization/medical campaign in the Casablanca camp wasn't possible → smaller-scale distribution instead.	600	464	2,400	1,662	3,000	2,126
1200 plastics 1200 blankets 3000 hygiene kits 300 kitchen sets (1 per tent)	170 plastics; 520 blankets; 3419 hygiene kits & underwear; 70 kitchen sets; 1180 sandals	3000	Target achieved	600	704	2,400	2,715	3,000	3,419
1300 units of transport money and telephone recharges distributed	1 unit of transport money and 21 telephone recharges in displacement areas	1300	Transport was expected to be needs based requests from some migrants in displacement areas to return North. This didn't reflect a regular trend & 1 transport covered for a woman wanting to leave the Fez camp + distributed telephone recharges in Fez.	250	1	1,050	21	1,300	22
3000 food baskets distributed	1416 food baskets distributed	3000	200 food basket=200 people; 1216 (bigger) food baskets=3648 people; total of people benefiting from a food basket= 3848 people	600	839	2,400	3,009	3,000	3,848
Detection and support of pregnant women and unaccompanied minors	85 pregnant women and 208 unaccompanied minors detected. None supported with protection measures.	250	After the project began it was discovered that project partners offered some protection measures (from the reduced options available in Morocco) so this need was covered	125	0	125	0	250	0
Psychosocial support, asylum orientation as detected	No outputs as explained in report on performance	250	Some psychosocial needs were detected, women and minors were referred to our partners in	125	0	125	0	250	0

			the field but no psychosocial support was given in the field						
200 extremely vulnerable people detected and orientated to a safe shelter	No outputs as explained in report on performance	200	Shelter was already offered by other organisations in the zones affected by the project so there was no extra need for shelter.	90	0	110	0	200	0

Beneficiaries (planned versus actuals)					
Total female planned	Total female actual	Total male planned	Total male actual	Overall total planned	Overall total actual
600	704	2,400	2,715	3,000	3,419

Variance from targets

The initial needs assessment did not identify that shelter & protection were covered by partners in the targeted area and telephone recharges/transport costs were not needed. The MERF's flexibility allowed activities to be modified to meet the needs and reach more people than planned.

Learning & Successes

Coordinating with and implementing through local actors

Coordination has been at the core of the project particularly putting in place an effective alert mechanism to identify and address needs resulting from displacement episodes. DOTW team has worked in coordination with partners, most of which are part of the network "Plateforme Nationale Protection Migrants" - made of international and local organisations working with migrants - to detect raids, forced displacements, or any other rights violation, verify information and coordinate a rapid response. This existing system enhanced the effectiveness of the project as it helped reach affected zones and people outside of DOTW's range of action in a short timeframe. The partners already have the local expertise and the affected population's trust. Without local partners, it would not have been possible to cover 8 cities, reaching over 3,000 people in less than 4 months.

Working with affected populations

The migrant camps in Morocco, both rural and urban, have an internal organisation system where several communities cohabit in the same space but in separate zones and a board of community leaders speak on behalf of and represent their entire community. Considering these social dynamics, the project involved community leaders from the beginning so that they could give a voice to the population's needs. In addition, their involvement played a key role in promoting acceptance of DOTW and partners' work. For example, during the scabies campaign in Fez, community leaders encouraged the target population to properly use the anti-scabies treatment.

Managing number of items procured

Some of the delays during the projects implementation were caused by DOTW procurement procedures. DOTW are now having an internal learning exercise to identify strategies to speed up procedures in emergency interventions even if purchasing such a large amount of goods is always complicated as distributors, managing stocks and transportation are also involved.

Remaining/Outstanding Needs

During the summer period this project could cover part of the needs coming from the overcrowded camps and their consequences, i.e. the push backs to displacement areas. But with the winter period coming after the end of the project, there will be a large need of a winterization campaign not covered by other programs. In general, no program or funding stream in Morocco funds emergency actions as DOTW and partners' projects focus on covering developing actions (e.g. institutionalization, migrants' integration, etc.). Even if some projects contain some budget lines for NFI/FI distributions, they can't cover what the MERF project has helped cover.

Financial Management

Procurement was done in country, primarily centrally, then distributed to partners. The exception was Sakia Al Hamra in Laayoune as they were too far to deliver NFIs and food. They did their own procurement with the guidance of DOTW. 6.7% of the funding was sub-granted to 6 partners: Delegation Diocésaine et Migration (DDM), Manos Solidarias, SAM (Caritas Casablanca), Caritas Tanger, Sakia El Hamra and Caritas Fes. An underspend of £15,140 will be returned to the pot.