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Information bulletin Libya: Civil Unrest

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Information Bulletin n° 2 June 12th, 2014

This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Tunisian Red Crescent, with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and other partners, has determined that external assistance is not required, at this time and is therefore not seeking funding or other assistance from donors.



TRC has gained considerable capacity after recent response operations

The situation

The recent events in Libya are quite sobering. The country has been going through a state of constant unrest, political and security instability leaving dozens of military personnel and civilian dead and hundreds injured.

On Wednesday June the 4th the RC/RC Movement and the Humanitarian world have suffered the loss of the head of the ICRC sub-delegation in Misrata, Michael Greub, who was shot while leaving a meeting and fatally wounded. The ICRC, IFRC, TRCS, LRCS and their partners strongly condemned this attack.

The political and civil scene in Libya is extremely unstable and unpredictable. The situation can escalate anytime now which may lead to humanitarian crisis.

The situation in several areas led to disruption of the public services such as water and electricity with areas more affected in Benghazi like Haouari, Kanfouda, Sidi Faradj, Bnina and Abu Etni.

The Libyan Red Crescent is taking part in the negotiations conducted by the Crisis Committee which meets regularly in order to find a solution to the situation.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Libyan Red Crescent continues to provide humanitarian response where is needed, the LRC deployed so far around 150 staff and volunteers to provide first aid and other emergency services in the following branches Nalout, Tripoli, Benghazi, Al-Marj, Toukra and Al-Abiar, Ejdaybia. The LRC and IFRC are monitoring the situation closely to ensure timely scaling up if the situation evolves dramatically.

In Tunisia, The IFRC is fully supporting the Tunisian Red Crescent (TRCS) in its role as a government auxiliary and as a the Lead humanitarian Agency, in order to strengthen its institutional, as well as, its response capacity with the support of the funding made available from the Japanese Government. Possible and potential escalation has been foreseen by the IFRC and TRCS since January 2014 TRCS with the help of IFRC has created a disaster preparedness plan. This plan includes the procurement of relief stocks for the cover of 5,000 thousand persons. A Mobile Health Clinic is being procured and will be operational in October/November this year, in order to strengthen the TRCS emergency response capacity.



Mobile Health Unit to be procured by IFRC to TRC. Photo: IFRC

The plan also includes preparedness to respond to emergency food aid, joint training and simulations with Libyan Red Crescent in possible joint response to any possible population movement, response to migrants urgent needs and support to host families and host communities. All three components of the RC/RC Movement are active partakers in the joint contingency plan being discussed within the International Humanitarian organizations based in Tunis coordinated by the UNHCR office in Tunis, regrouping the main actors in the field of Humanitarian work. This joint effort will allow for a stronger and more coordinated response to any potential influx of migrants to the Tunisian territory.

The TRC has 2,000 of trained volunteers on emergency response across 24 branches. The TRC is ready to mobilize up to 300 volunteers to the operation areas should situation escalates.

The IFRC Regional Office, in Tunisia, maintains constant communication with the Libyan Red crescent and Tunisian Red Crescent National societies, the ICRC and other humanitarian organizations in the surrounding countries, most importantly, in Libya in order to ensure prompt and proper preparation to any emergency situations.

Contact information

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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 Disaster 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.