

EMERGENCY APPEAL



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: STORMS & FLOODS

Appeal no:35/2001
12 November 2001

***THIS PRELIMINARY APPEAL SEEKS CHF 2,034,000
IN CASH, KIND AND SERVICES
TO ASSIST 6,000 FAMILIES (24,000 INDIVIDUALS)
FOR UP TO THREE MONTHS***

The Situation

The Algerian capital Algiers and several of the country's coastal areas were severely hit by torrential rains and storms over the weekend. Approximately 350 people were killed and another 1.000 were injured. Substantial damage to infrastructure was also caused. According to information from the Algerian Red Crescent Society (ARCS), 6.000 families - including 4.000 in Algiers - have been made homeless. The most affected communities in the capital are Oued-Kouraich, Bab El-Oued and Priolet. There were reports of at least five people being killed in the Tipaza area and in the western city of Oran. More rain is expected in the coming days.

Infrastructure has been heavily affected by the deluge, mud and debris that continue to pour down to Algiers from the surrounding hills. Many roads are blocked, further hampering rescue operations. Utility provider Sonelgaz is said to have cut power to a number of neighbourhoods to reduce the risk of shortcuts after electricity cables were torn down by the wind. Communication from the ARCS is also hampered by poor infrastructure and the current emergency.

Evacuations from the most affected areas have continued. The homeless are being temporarily accommodated with neighbours, in schools and other public buildings. The majority of the wounded have been hospitalised. However local hospitals have struggled to cope with the huge increase in the number of patients. There is also concern over the vulnerability of the homeless because of the extreme cold weather.

The Government of Algeria has already allocated 5 million Algerian dinars (CHF 23,000) to meet the most urgent humanitarian requirements and in addition Interior Minister Yazid Zerhouni has officially appealed for international aid. The prime minister has nominated the Governor of Algiers to coordinate rescue and relief operations.

The Needs

Immediate Needs

The state authorities have evoked the national disaster relief plan (ORSEC) and the role of the ARCS within that will be set. A plan of action to rehabilitate schools and other public buildings is being developed. Food to the homeless, and other affected populations, has been provided by the municipalities.

The National Society's assistance has been complementary to the rescue and relief operations undertaken by the civil defence and local authorities. The ARCS has mobilised its volunteers, who are responding to the immediate needs, specifically in providing first aid. The National Society has deployed three assessment teams, which have been collecting information on the human and physical losses as well as assessing the most urgent needs.

Preliminary assessment of the disaster by the authorities and the National Society indicates that there will be an urgent need for temporary shelter, large tents, food, kitchen utensils, clothes, heaters, water purification means and power supply units. ARCS today started to distribute food and milk and blankets.

The International Federation has released CHF 100,000 from its disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) to support the National Society's relief operation. The Federation also assigned a field assessment coordination team (FACT) to Algeria, which will arrive in Algiers tomorrow (Tuesday). The mission will facilitate communication, information gathering and sharing in regard to the needs of the people affected by the storms. The Federation will support the Society in coordinating the response to the disaster, taking into account the humanitarian imperative, the rules and principles of disaster response and the policies agreed by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

The Proposed Operation

Relief distributions

Objective: To provide 6,000 families with essential domestic items.

Activity 1: 24,000 items of warm clothing procured and distributed.

Activity 2: Utensils and fuel for cooking procured and distributed to 6,000 households.

Activity 3: 40,000 blankets procured and distributed.

Verifiable relief distributions indicators

- *Blankets and clothing are appropriate, in terms of size and gender .*
- *Blankets and clothes are sufficiently insulated.*
- *Blankets are bought within the Federation framework agreement .*
- *Cooking utensils are appropriate and familiar to the population and local conditions.*

Shelter

Objective: To provide shelter materials for 6,000 homeless families.

Activity 1: Procurement and distribution of shelter materials to each of the 6,000 families.

Verifiable shelter indicators

- *Shelter materials meet Federation specifications.*

Health

Objective: To procure and distribute medical supplies, basic drugs and equipment to health institutions.

Activity 1: first aid kits

Water and sanitation w

Objective 1: To minimise the risk of outbreak of waterborne disease.

Activity 1: distribute water purification tablets to 6,000 households.

Activity 2: 6,000 water containers procured and distributed.

Verifiable water and sanitation indicators

- *Water for 6,000 families for 3 months is safe to drink and be used for personal and domestic hygiene.*
- *Clear instructions for using water purification tablets are provided to each household.*
- *Each target household has two water collecting containers of 10-20 litres.*

National Society Capacity Building

This relief operation will build on the existing capacities of the National Society. Local staff and volunteers at national and branch level will be involved in all stages of the operation including planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The initial assessments by the National Society were also capacity building processes.

Coordination

The National Society and Federation have had initial contacts with the authorities and UN agencies, such as OCHA, and other organisations in Algeria to coordinate the response effort. The Federation Secretariat in Geneva has had discussions with OCHA staff in Geneva.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The objectives, activities and verifiable indicators outlined will provide a base for monitoring, reporting and evaluating this operation. The Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) will also be used to develop key indicators for monitoring and evaluation.

Monitoring activities will include: Federation delegates attending distributions; at least six beneficiary interviews (women and men) at each distribution site visited; at least 10 shelter visits; observation during field visits; and meetings/interviews with Government representatives and Red Cross staff and volunteers.

The Federation will support the Algerian Red Crescent to promote community participation in planning, implementation and evaluation of operation activities. A post implementation evaluation will take place within three months of the end of the operation. It will be evaluated with reference to stated objectives and agreed minimum standards to measure overall effectiveness and impact on the affected population.

Capacity of the National Society

Prior to the disaster, the Algerian Red Crescent had already identified the expansion of assistance to the victims of natural disasters and conflicts as a priority. Another priority, which has already been vindicated in this disaster, has been the expansion of first aid services. The National Society has been focusing on training and upgrading the technical knowledge of its volunteers and staff. Expansion of social services to needy people and more involvement in health care and HIV/AIDS have been other priorities.

Present Capacity of the Federation

The Federation has a sub-regional office in Tunis as well as a Middle East and North Africa department at its Geneva secretariat that provides continuous support to the Algerian Red Crescent. A six-person field assessment team (FACT) will arrive tomorrow (Tuesday). During 2001, the Federation operated a North Africa regional programme budget (Appeal 01.71/01), which has a budget of CHF 1,103,396.

Critical Assumptions

- Donors respond to this Appeal
- Access will be provided to operational areas covered by this Appeal for monitoring and post implementation evaluation
- End use monitoring will be possible
- The relief operation will not be delayed

Budget summary

See Annex 1 for details.

For further details please contact: Cynthia Petrigh, Federation Desk Officer, Phone: 41 22 730 4312; Fax: 41 22 733 0395; email:petrigh@ifrc.org.

Evgeni Parfenov, Federation Desk Officer, Phone: 41 22 730 4325; Fax: 41 22 733 0395; email:parfenov@ifrc.org.

All International Federation Assistance Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

In line with the Minimum Reporting Standards, the first operations update on this appeal will be issued within 30-days of the launch and the second will be issued over the course of the operation; a final narrative and financial report will be issued no later than 90 days after the end of the operation.

This operation seeks to administer to the immediate requirements of the victims of this disaster. Subsequent operations to promote sustainable development or longer-term capacity building will require additional support and these programmes are outlined on the Federation website.

For support to or for further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Jean Ayoub
Director
Disaster Management and Coordination

Didier J. Cherpitel
Secretary General

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 35/2001

BUDGET SUMMARY (Preliminary)**Algeria - storms and floods**

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
<u>RELIEF NEEDS</u>	<u>IN CHF</u>
<u>Shelter & constructions</u>	<u>500,000</u>
<u>Clothing & textiles</u>	<u>200,000</u>
<u>Water and sanitation</u>	<u>150,000</u>
<u>Medical & first aid</u>	<u>60,000</u>
<u>Utensils & tools</u>	<u>250,000</u>
<u>Other relief supplies</u>	<u>350,000</u>
<u>TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS</u>	<u>1,510,000</u>
<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>	
<u>Telecom. equipment</u>	<u>10,000</u>
<u>Generators & lighting</u>	<u>40,000</u>
<u>Other equipment</u>	<u>20,000</u>
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>	
<u>Programme management</u>	<u>137,000</u>
<u>Technical support</u>	<u>41,000</u>
<u>Professional services</u>	<u>46,000</u>
<u>TRANSPORT STORAGE & VEHICLE COSTS</u>	<u>100,000</u>
<u>PERSONNEL</u>	
<u>Expatriate staff</u>	<u>20,000</u>
<u>National staff</u>	<u>60,000</u>
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE & GENERAL SERVICES</u>	
<u>Travel & related expenses</u>	<u>20,000</u>
<u>Information expenses</u>	<u>10,000</u>
<u>Administrative & general expenses</u>	<u>20,000</u>
<u>TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS</u>	<u>524,000</u>
<u>TOTAL APPEAL CASH, KIND, SERVICES</u>	<u>2,034,000</u>
<u>LESS AVAILABLE RESOURCES (-)</u>	<u>Nil</u>
<u>NET REQUEST</u>	<u>2,034,000</u>