

# Operations update



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Syria: Drought

Emergency appeal n° MDRSY001  
GLIDE n° DR-2009-000149-SYR  
Operations update n° 3  
1 September 2010

**Period covered by this Ops Update:** 26 August 2009 to 31 July 2010. This report acts as a cumulative report of the first 6 months progress.

**Appeal target (current):** 3,255,615 Swiss francs

**Appeal coverage:** 52 per cent [<click here to go directly to the financial report, or here to link to contact details >](#)

### Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on 26 August 2009 for CHF 3,255,615 for 12 months to assist 260,000 beneficiaries.
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF):** CHF 320,856 was initially allocated from the International Federation's DREF to support the National Society to respond. The allocation was returned to DREF.
- The International Federation's representation in Syria, in cooperation with Syrian Arab Red Crescent (Syrian Arab RC) has decided to extend the Emergency Appeal up to 31 December 2010. The decision was made after revising the work plan to include rehabilitation of water and sanitation in 45 schools. Partners and donors are encouraged to continue supporting the Appeal to ensure implementation of the expected results.

### Summary

With the second distribution of food parcels completed, almost 120,000 persons have received food supported by this Appeal. The need for more food support is expressed by the population during each visit to the villages of Al Hassakeh, Deir al Zor, Al Raqqa and the eastern parts of Homs governorate.

Following the donation of 26,000 hygiene parcels by Finnish Red Cross, a first pilot distribution was finalised in the area of Tadmur (Palmyra) with 1,982 hygiene parcels distributed to 13,874 beneficiaries. The distribution followed awareness sessions on household water treatment, safe water storage and health promotion. A lot of effort was made to prepare for an appropriate community based intervention that would contribute to enhanced resilience among the population. Training in hygiene promotion and health awareness using the WASH cluster curricula was organised for 30 women from the local community. The training was followed by sensitization visits to the relevant villages to identify and register beneficiaries to take part in the health awareness sessions and to receive a hygiene parcel. 15 awareness sessions and focus group discussions were organized jointly with the trained women and Syrian Arab RC volunteers in poor, rural Bedouin communities.

A Spanish RC water delegate arrived in Syria for almost one month mission to support Syrian Arab RC in strengthening its capacity in water emergencies. The mission included extensive preparedness training on the



Syrian Arab Red Crescent delivered hygiene parcels to affected populations as one of its responses to the drought. Photo: Syrian Arab RC.

deployment, use and maintenance of emergency water kits donated by Spanish RC and Finnish RC. 27 staff and volunteers were trained for almost one week. After the visit of the water delegate to a number of villages and rural schools in the governorates of Al Hassakeh and Deir al Zor, urgent needs in enhancing awareness related to water and health combined with providing children at school with access to water and latrines was identified as priorities. Based on this outcome, the International Federation and Syrian Arab RC has reviewed the work plan for this Appeal and decided to rehabilitate latrines and water points in 45 of the worst affected schools. Approximately 15,000 children will directly benefit from the rehabilitation.

Syrian Arab RC clinics and mobile health units in the affected area have been supplied with additional medication to cover diseases related to drought, mainly diarrhoea and skin diseases. Almost 70,000 patient consultations were provided in the six relevant clinics and mobile health units (MHUs) from the beginning of this Appeal up to the end of May 2010.

The International Federation wishes to thank the American Red Cross, the British Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross and government, the Danish Red Cross and government, the Finnish Red Cross and government, the Iranian Red Crescent, Italian government, Japanese Red Cross, the Libyan Red Crescent, Monaco Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross, the Swedish Red Cross and government for their contributions to this Appeal. The International Federation also sends its compliments to the Icelandic Red Cross for the deployment of a field assessment and coordination team (FACT) delegate to assist the representation in Syria and Syrian Arab RC with a water assessment. The compliments are extended to Spanish RC for supporting the National Society with a water delegate who assisted the Syrian Arab RC to enhance capacity to responding to water related emergencies and to finalise its plan of action. Appreciation is also extended to United Arab Emirates (UAE) Red Crescent, Turkish Red Crescent and Egypt Red Crescent for bilateral contributions to Syrian Arab RC's response to the drought affected populations.

## The situation



**People in the affected areas still live the consequences of the drought. Syrian Arab RC.**

Severe drought affecting an area of 1,3 million inhabitants resulted in many small farmers not being able to harvest for two consecutive years, while many medium and small herders lost over 80% of their livelihood due to lack of pasture and fodder. In the eastern governorates, particularly Al Hassakeh, Deir az Zor and Al Raqqah, the drought has had an impact on almost the entire rural population. This area used to be the granary for whole Syria. Out of a total of 1,3 million people affected by the drought, the government and UN in Syria estimated that some 800,000 people suffer from severe vulnerability. Over the past three years, their income decreased by 90% and their assets and sources of livelihood have been severely compromised.

Thousands of families from the east and north eastern parts of the country have migrated to urban centres. Some 60,000 families have left their villages with 35,000 families from Al Hassakeh alone.

Serious shortage of clean water supplies last summer resulted in an increase in the number of diarrhoeal diseases. The International Federation's water assessment indicated that appropriate measures were taken and the outbreak of water borne diseases was halted. However, access to potable water remains scarce and the quality is not consistent.

The government has taken several important initiatives to support the affected population. A national strategy has been developed with several initiatives aiming at improving the lives of those affected including food distributions, subsidies to support farmers and herders and the establishment of a new early warning system.

Optimism was created by the rains this winter but uneven and late rainfall caused crops failure and in some areas particularly around Raqqa the crops were infected by a swamp disease that removed all hope for a good harvest this year.

The population is still suffering from the consequences of the drought and in all villages visited by Syrian Arab RC and the International Federation, people ask for continued support.

## Coordination and partnerships

In coordination and cooperation with government authorities, Syrian Arab RC has the lead role in the implementation of the activities in this Emergency Appeal. Close contacts exist with government authorities at national, regional and local level. At local level, Syrian Arab RC branches also coordinate and cooperate with community members.

The International Federation supports Syrian Arab RC in areas of planning, technical assessments, resource mobilization, monitoring and reporting and adherence to International Federation procedures. It further supports the National Society in Red Cross and Red Crescent (RC/RC) Movement cooperation and coordination with UN agencies as required. The meetings held with Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA's) regional coordinator on climate change and World Food Programme's (WFP) regional drought coordinator during their missions to Syria can be mentioned as examples.

Technical support through disaster management structures of the International Federation, including the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) zone has been readily available. The technical departments in Geneva have generously contributed with advice and input to enhance quality of the interventions and trainings. The regional logistics unit (RLU) in Dubai provides logistics coordination and support.

The vast majority of partners who have responded to this Emergency Appeal have done so through multilateral mechanisms. Bilateral contributions include support received by the UAE Red Crescent, the Turkish RC and Egyptian RC. The UAE RC has provided a cash contribution to Syrian Arab RC following the launch of this Appeal. The Turkish RC finalized distribution of food parcels in Al Hassakeh governorate for 6,500 families and the Egyptian RC supported Syrian Arab RC with tents and blankets. British RC assists the disaster management capacity and disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities of Syrian Arab RC. This assistance is outside this Appeal but is strengthening the capacity of the National Society and has contributed to achievements in this intervention. In addition to its multilateral in kind support, the Spanish RC has provided Syrian Arab RC and the International Federation with a water delegate to strengthen the capacity of the host National Society.

Partner National Societies (PNSs) currently present in Syria are Danish Red Cross and French Red Cross. The Danish RC, which supports Syrian Arab RC psycho-social support programme at national level, also supports capacity building of all 14 National Society branches. The French RC is contributing to the displaced Iraqis programme by providing health care services.

Close cooperation is maintained between the International Federation and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to coordinate support and activities carried out by the National Society.

Among the 14 non-governmental organisations (NGOs) currently working in partnership with Syrian Arab RC in response to the Iraqi displaced, the International Federation maintain close cooperation with ACF Spain (Action Against Hunger) and recently, the Islamic Relief, both active in the areas of the drought.

In addition to this Emergency Appeal, the International Federation also supports Syrian Arab RC in its response to the Iraqi displaced. The support focuses on 10 basic health clinics located all over Syria and four MHUs to provide access to health to poor, rural communities. For further information, please refer to Syria: Population Displaced from Iraq Emergency Appeal (MDRSY002) at <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/09/MDRSY002ea.pdf>.

The International Federation also works closely with Syrian Arab RC leadership on issues related to institutional development and strategic planning.

**National Society Capacity Building:** The last operations update focused on the good example of Syrian Arab RC's DRR capacity and the planting of 37,500 shrubs to prevent desertification and provide herders with pasture; thus contributing to resilience and community awareness. During this reporting period, focus on enhanced

community involvement and increased gender focus has resulted in increasing numbers of female volunteers and women from the affected communities participating in the actual activities - in particular the health/hygiene awareness - to ensure sustainability of the intervention.

The vulnerability and capacity assessments (VCA) performed prior to every intervention have been developed to ensure an enhanced focus on climate change. The National Society is becoming increasingly aware of the consequences for the rural population and is striving to find ways and means to increasingly support climate change adaptation.

The drought response has developed capacities within the National Society on water related interventions - a new area for Syrian Arab RC. A national emergency team of 27 staff and volunteers now exists within the National Society that has been trained on the use of emergency water kits. Household water treatment and safe water storage have been included in the health/hygiene promotion curricula and a whole set of promotion material has been developed together with the translation to Arabic of the International Federation manual on household water treatment.

One of Syrian Arab RC's female hygiene promotion trainers participated in the United Nations Children Fund's (UNICEF) regional training of trainers (ToT) hygiene promotion training in Jordan this July. Syrian Arab RC/International Federation drought project coordinator was selected to become a facilitator for IMPACT training courses (the introduction course for International Federation delegates and others).

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

### Progress towards outcomes

Relief distributions (food items)	
Outcome: Food parcels for 20,000 families (140,000 persons) are distributed in the affected areas of Deir az Zor and Al Hasakeh according to the ongoing detailed assessment and selection criteria.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Drought affected families are provided with food parcels to maintain their living.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate with local authorities and government to ensure the effective distribution to the most vulnerable and avoid overlapping.</li> <li>Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.</li> <li>Identify families in need in cooperation with the local authorities.</li> <li>Set up distribution points in coordination with local authorities and UN agencies.</li> <li>Mobilize branch distribution teams.</li> <li>Procure 40,000 food parcels (delivered to 20,000 families two times).</li> <li>Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.</li> <li>Continue ongoing detailed assessment for emerging needs.</li> <li>Develop an exit strategy in cooperation with the Syrian government.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** During the first months after the launch of the Emergency Appeal, 6,500 food parcels were distributed to 46,994 beneficiaries. A second food distribution carried out in spring this year, reached 71,300 persons. Please refer to the tables below for more detailed information.

**Table 1: Total quantity of delivered food parcels**

Syrian Arab RC Branch	Quantity	
	First distribution	Second distribution
Al Hassakeh	3,000	3,000
Raqqa	500	2,500
Homs	2,000	1,500
Deir al Zor	1,000	3,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>10,000</b>

Table 2: Gender aggregated data covering the two distributions

SARC branch	No of villages	Beneficiaries			Total families
		Female Total	Male Total	> 18*	
Al Hassakeh	51	56,792	41,538	19,964	6,000
Raqqa	40				3,000
Homs	32				3,500
Deir al Zor	18				3,997
<b>Total</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>118,294</b>			<b>16,497</b>

\*Figures for children below 18 include only the second distribution

Needs assessment and identification of families based on Syrian Arab RC's vulnerability criteria was reinforced prior to the second distribution. In close cooperation and coordination with government officials and village leaders, Syrian Arab RC volunteers are reaching out to the female headed households, disabled, elderly and sick people and to families with many children. Syrian Arab RC headquarters and the International Federation have attended several coordination meetings with Syrian Arab RC branches to enhance the complementary role of the National Society compared to government and UN efforts, mainly WFP.



**Almost 120,000 persons have received food assistance to cope with the effects of the drought. Syrian Arab RC.**

Similar to the earlier distribution, the distribution points were established in coordination with government officials and village leaders who also attended the distribution. Each family head received the food assistance and signed the beneficiary list. For very vulnerable families and female headed households, Syrian Arab RC branch representatives delivered the food assistance directly to the house.

The contents of the food parcels were based on Syrian Arab RC and Syrian government standards. The content of the food parcels are rice (seven kilos), sugar (five kilos), tea (one kilo), beans (two kilos), lentils (two kilos), vegetable oil (two litres), and tomato paste (one kilo).

partners in the field are different. The planned activity to sign a memorandum of understanding with WFP has therefore been removed.

Following coordination meeting with WFP, the understanding between the agencies is that there is no duplication of efforts. The areas, the content of the parcels, the timing for distribution and the

**Challenges:** The population has not recovered from the effects of the drought and they are still asking for food. Syrian Arab RC/International Federation will organise training on food security and nutrition for all 14 Syrian Arab RC branches in late July, with a majority of participants from the eastern branches. After the training, the needs will again be studied to decide how the population could be best assisted.

#### Emergency health and care

<b>Outcome: The health risks of the emergency on the affected population is monitored and reduced through the provision of preventive, community-level and curative services to 70,000 beneficiaries in Deir az Zor and Al Hasakeh.</b>	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Health status of the affected population is maintained through adequate curative and preventive basic health care services ensured through	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess the health situation in the affected areas and analyse the information gathered by Syrian Arab RC health clinics.</li> <li>Reinforce the capacity of the existing five Syrian Arab RC basic health care clinics in the affected areas with the provision of additional medical supplies.</li> </ul>

SARC health clinics and mobile health clinics in coordination with the local health authorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen and mobilise the two Syrian Arab RC mobile health clinics to conduct screening of patients.</li> <li>• Distribute 26,000 family hygiene kits (delivered to 13,000 families two times).</li> <li>• Conduct training workshops for 75 volunteers of Syrian Arab RC in community based health and first aid.</li> <li>• Train 28 volunteers on nutrition and food security assessment, and on supplementary and therapeutic feeding.</li> <li>• Develop a monitoring system for malnutrition of children in coordination with the local health authorities.</li> <li>• Monitor and coordinate with local health authorities the immunisation status of children below the age of five, mainly for polio and measles.</li> </ul>
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**Progress:** 69,741 patient consultations were provided in the six clinics and MHUs located in the area of this Appeal from the beginning of this Appeal up to the end of May 2010.

The International Federation continues to support 10 Syrian Arab RC health clinics under the Appeal, *Syria: Population displaced from Iraq (MDRSY002)*. Six of these clinics are located in the areas relevant to this Appeal: Deir al Zor, Al Hassakeh, Al Raqqa, Homs, Al Bokamal and Qamishly. The clinics in Qamishly and Al Bokamal has drought in its catchment area although not in the immediate surroundings. Four MHUs are reaching out to poor rural populations with limited access to other health services. They have been supplied with additional medication to cover diseases related to drought, mainly diarrhoea and skin diseases.

The health situation in the Syrian Arab RC clinics is followed through Syrian Arab RC's health information system (SCIS), which provides an excellent monitoring tool. Any report on the public health situation may be retrieved from the system. Malnutrition is monitored through SCIS. Every child under five is followed by the clinics with immediate intervention if needed. ACF (Action Against Hunger) has provided staff in Syrian Arab RC clinics in the affected area with on the job training to enhance knowledge in detection of malnutrition. Necessary equipment has also been provided by ACF.

Syrian Arab RC clinic staff regularly follows up and controls vaccination. It is however the responsibility of the Ministry of Health (MoH) to provide vaccination, which is free of charge. The role of Syrian Arab RC clinic staff is to encourage patients with children to approach MoH for vaccination.

Following the donation of 26,000 hygiene parcels by Finnish RC, a first pilot distribution was finalised with 1,982 hygiene parcels distributed to 13,874 persons in poor rural Bedouin communities. The distribution followed awareness sessions on household water treatment, safe water storage and health/hygiene promotion.

**Challenges:** The expected result related to psycho-social support in the Appeal has been revised. Syrian Arab RC, in cooperation with Danish RC and NGOs is currently running community centres in 11 locations, including the drought affected area. Hundreds of volunteers have been trained as part of the Danish RC support. The capacity of the National Society to enhance outreach in psycho-social support is currently not feasible and assessed not to be the most needed intervention at this stage. This expected result has therefore been cancelled.

The initial plan in the Appeal was to deliver 26,000 hygiene parcels to the same family twice. Having realised the immense needs of health/hygiene awareness, including household water treatment and safe water storage, it has been decided to reach out to an even larger number of families.

### Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

<b>Outcome: The risk of waterborne and water related diseases has been reduced through the provision of safe water, adequate sanitation in line with WHO/SPHERE standards as well as hygiene promotion to 40,000 beneficiaries.</b>	
<b>Outputs (expected results)</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key hygiene messages are disseminated effectively at household and community level to enhance resilience through better awareness, knowledge and behaviour.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct an ongoing water/sanitation assessment and agree on a plan of action with the government.</li> <li>• Design and procure 50 school tap purification units to be distributed to the selected 50 schools in line with the technical procedures agreed with the Ministry of Education.</li> <li>• Procure 13,000 jerry cans.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rehabilitation of latrines and water points in 45 schools are completed.</li> <li>• Pupils have access to safe drinking water in 45 schools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on ongoing assessment, consider the potential deployment of emergency response units (ERUs).</li> <li>• Deploy a water sanitation specialist.</li> <li>• Mobilize a water/sanitation team to support the response operation.</li> <li>• Train Syrian Arab RC staff and volunteers in water supply, sanitation and hygiene interventions.</li> <li>• Design and conduct hygiene promotion campaigns at the most affected areas.</li> <li>• Organize hygiene promotion sessions targeting 50 schools</li> <li>• Repair all the latrines out of use, in the selected schools.</li> <li>• Ensure that all the latrines have enough water points for washing and flushing</li> <li>• Supply soap for hand washing</li> <li>• Ensure coordination with Ministry of Education for sustainable maintenance of the rehabilitated latrines and water points</li> <li>• Carry out maintenance training of relevant staff in school and Syrian Arab RC branches</li> <li>• Coordinate with relevant authorities to advocate for water supply to schools without any access to water</li> <li>• Change water tanks in schools with water supply but with non maintained tanks</li> <li>• Train and involve teachers in the maintenance of the tanks and chlorination</li> <li>• Ensure water analysis is carried out by relevant authorities</li> <li>• Increase water quality in the schools without drinking water from local treatment plants through the connection of Reverse Osmosis Units.</li> <li>• Supply all pupils with water vessels to prevent drinking directly from the tap.</li> <li>• Recruit 2-3 water engineers to lead the rehabilitation project</li> </ul>
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**Syrian Arab RC staff and volunteers were trained to deploy emergency water kits targeting 12,000 persons with clean water in case of a new emergency. Syrian Arab RC.**

National Society branches. The water delegate confirmed the needs from earlier visits. Urgent needs in enhancing awareness related to water and health combined with providing children at school with access to water and latrines was identified as priorities. Based on this outcome, the International Federation and Syrian Arab RC has reviewed the work plan for this Appeal and decided to rehabilitate latrines and water points in 45 of the worst affected schools. Approximately 15,000 children will directly benefit from the rehabilitation.

**Progress:** During the reporting period, a Spanish RC water delegate arrived in Syria for almost one month mission to support Syrian Arab RC in strengthening its capacity in water emergencies. The mission included extensive preparedness training on the deployment, use and maintenance of emergency water kits (available for 2,000 and 10,000 persons) donated by Spanish RC and Finnish RC. 27 staff and volunteers were trained for almost one week. This group will be deployed as the national emergency group in case of a new emergency on water. To support the National Society to ensure that the objectives on water and sanitation were still relevant and to make priorities in the plan of action, the water delegate visited a number of villages and rural schools during two weeks in the governorates of Al Hassakeh and Deir al Zor together with the International Federation/Syrian Arab RC to assess the most urgent needs and priorities of intervention for the National Society. The selection of schools and villages were based on data received from local authorities and the local



**Syrian Arab RC focused on community based health awareness among women in communities affected by the drought. Syrian Arab RC.**

In relation to the first distribution of hygiene parcels in Tadmur and its surroundings, a lot of effort was made to prepare for an appropriate community based intervention that would contribute to increasing resilience among the population. Following the hygiene promotion workshop organised for 29 Syrian Arab RC volunteers earlier this year, focus turned to members from the affected community. Training in hygiene promotion and health awareness using the WASH cluster curricula was organised for 30 women from the local community - with the objective to sustain the knowledge in their local community - and the local Syrian Arab RC branch. The training was followed by sensitization visits to the relevant villages to identify and register beneficiaries to take part in the health awareness sessions and to receive a hygiene parcel. 15 awareness sessions and focus group discussions were organized jointly with the trained women and Syrian Arab RC volunteers for more than 2,000 participants in poor, rural Bedouin communities.

From the active discussions and comments among the target groups, the understanding is that the sessions achieved its prime objectives to increase awareness on the relation between safe water treatment and decreasing occurrence of water borne diseases and how minor changes of habit may improve the health of children and other family members. Long term impact of the sessions will be evaluated later during the year. The intervention was supported by the relevant authority, the Badia Commission. The distributions and awareness sessions are now continuing in the other affected governorates relevant to this Appeal.

Health education in the schools will be carried out when the schools open again after summer and the rehabilitation of latrines and water points have progressed further.

**Challenges:** A lot of time was spent to prepare for sustainable community based health education sessions; identification of community participants; training of the participants and development of promotion materials. With this in place, it is expected that future session will benefit from the lessons learned.

Logistically, the intervention required long time consuming travels to reach Bedouin communities scattered over a large geographical area.

### Capacity Building for Preparedness and Response

**Outcome 1: The disaster response capacity of the three Syrian Arab RC branches – Deir az Zor, Al Hasakeh and Al Raqqa – is improved.**

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The disaster management teams at branch level have trained volunteers which are ready to respond to the emergency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organize disaster management workshops (number to be decided by SARC based on the ongoing assessment).</li> <li>• Establish DRR working groups from two branches.</li> <li>• Mobilize national DRR working group to support DRR and community based plans and activities.</li> <li>• Provide necessary office equipments to branches.</li> </ul>

<b>Outcome 2: The capacities of selected communities exposed to drought risks in Deir az Zor, Al Hassakeh, Al Raqqa and parts of Homs governorate are improved.</b>	
<b>Outputs (expected results)</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
The resilience of the community is improved through better awareness, knowledge and behaviour.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a VCA study at local communities' level to identify DRR micro projects.</li> <li>• Support the establishment of local community committees to design DRR projects.</li> <li>• Establish working groups per branch for community intervention activities with clear roles and responsibilities.</li> </ul>
Public education is improved through community participation and involvement of national and local media.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organize drought information meetings for the public and the media.</li> <li>• Organize workshops (number to be decided by SARC based on the ongoing assessment) on drought-related topics.</li> <li>• Develop training materials.</li> <li>• Establish community committees at local level and train them in project management.</li> </ul>



**Syrian Arab RC volunteers enhanced their capacities to carry out thorough assessments of the needs. Syrian Arab RC.**

Local media has at several occasions published information about the activities related to Syrian Arab RC drought response. Syrian Arab RC drought project coordinator was interviewed to describe the health awareness sessions and distribution of hygiene parcels in Tadmur.

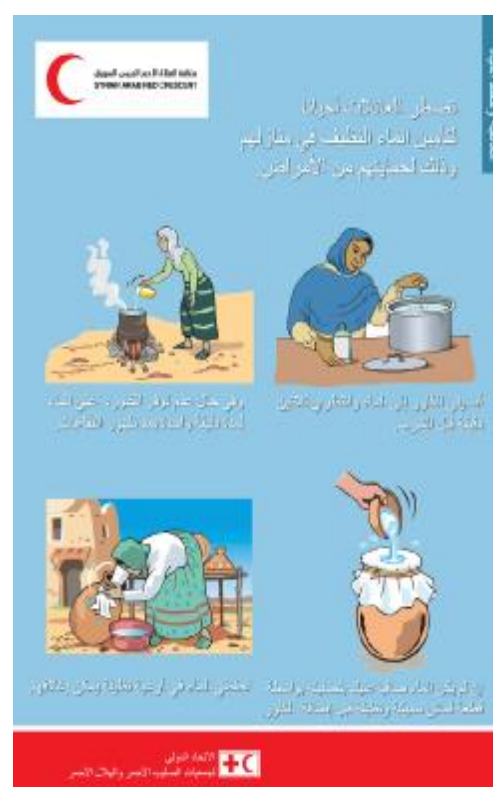
In relation to the community awareness sessions on health and hygiene (see above), Syrian Arab RC volunteers from the health/hygiene promotion task force developed promotion materials relevant to the region to support the awareness sessions. The items developed were:

- Health promotion posters and stickers
- Household water treatment poster (100 X 70 cm)
- International Federation's household water treatment guide was translated to Arabic. Computerized CD contained all products

There is now a whole set of promotion materials in Arabic that have been shared with the International Federation's headquarters in Geneva and the MENA zone office to be used by other National Societies as needed.

**Progress:** The national DRR working group has been actively involved to support DRR and community based plans and activities. All branches relevant to this Appeal have DRR working groups, whose volunteers constitute the base for the drought response. Together with the national DRR working group, assessment to develop micro projects is ongoing and quality control of the interventions is jointly performed.

56 volunteers were trained in VCA; working with communities and community mobilisation. Almost all Syrian Arab RC trainings are combining theory with practical field work. Part of this training was to perform a VCA in the drought affected area that later has resulted in development of the plan of action for the drought response.



**Promotion materials have been developed by Syrian Arab RC volunteers to fit the local context**

## Logistics

Outcome: The logistics capacity of the Syrian Arab Red Crescent is reinforced.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The incoming goods are received, recorded and efficiently dispatched to the final distribution points.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the establishment of logistics systems in two branches.</li> <li>• Support SARC in establishing and maintaining an adequate resource mobilisation table and relief system.</li> <li>• Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.</li> <li>• Coordinate actions with the local authorities.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** The food parcels were purchased, dispatched and distributed according to International Federation policy and procedures. The logistics unit in Syrian Arab RC headquarters has developed immense experience following the National Society's response to the Lebanese crisis in 2006 and the assistance programme to Iraqi displaced carried out since 2007. The National Society supports several UN agencies in relief programmes to Iraqi displaced and is handling thousands of tons of relief each year.

A rapid assessment was carried out to identify needs to enhance logistics support in the three branches relevant to this Appeal. Implementation of the recommendations is ongoing.

The activities related to distribution of relief supplies are already in force.

## Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

It is a priority for the National Society to develop communication and public information and a communication officer has recently been recruited by the National Society with support of ICRC.

The drought and its consequences continue to receive frequent coverage in national media, mainly with reference to UN reports or actions taken by the government. IRIN [www.irin.com](http://www.irin.com) has published several articles on the situation in Syria.

The monthly magazine Syria Today [www.syriatoday.com](http://www.syriatoday.com) continues to follow the situation in the affected areas. Syrian Arab RC President is one of the key persons who appear in the magazine almost on a monthly basis.

*The World Red Cross Red Crescent Day on 8 May* was extensively celebrated in Syria and became an opportunity to disseminate the humanitarian situation along with National Society achievements. The official celebrations took place at Al Azem palace with speeches by the Movement partners; high quality music performances (including an Iraqi children's group) and videos describing RC/RC work worldwide. On 13 May, a family day was organized in the old citadel with a lot of activities for children. The day ended with a rock concert for the elderly youth. Around 2,000 persons attended the events. A joint Syrian Arab RC/International Federation/ICRC press release was issued in relation to the event and the celebrations were highlighted in all media at several occasions.

Photos from the planting of 37,500 shrubs are published on the International Federation's Gallery <http://www.ifrc.org/photo/index.asp?navid=08>

A case study is currently being developed for the Movement website on <http://ourworld-yourmove.org>

## 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.

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.

## Contact information

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

- In Syria: Mr. Marwan Abdallah, Executive Director, Syrian Arab Red Crescent Society, Damascus; phone: +963 11 5355873/5356462/5356291; fax: +963 11 5357171; email: [sarc@net.sy](mailto:sarc@net.sy)
- In Syria: Ms. Asa Erika Jansson, Federation Representative, Damascus; mobile: +963 95 6543075; fax: +963 11 5357171; email: [asaerika.jansson@ifrc.org](mailto:asaerika.jansson@ifrc.org)
- In Jordan: Martin Faller, Head of Operations, Middle East and North Africa Zone Office, Amman (temporary); phone: +962 6 5694911; fax: + 962 6 5694556; email: [martin.faller@ifrc.org](mailto:martin.faller@ifrc.org)
- In Geneva: Pablo Medina, Operations Advisor, Operations Support Department; phone: +41 22 730 4381; fax: +41 22 730 0395; email: [pablo.medina@ifrc.org](mailto:pablo.medina@ifrc.org)

**[<Interim financial report attached below; click here to return to the title page>](#)**

# International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRSY001 - Syria - Drought

Interim Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/8-2010/7
Budget Timeframe	2009/8-2010/12
Appeal	MDRSY001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>A. Budget</b>	1,415,508	1,840,107				3,255,615
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	0	0				0
<b>Income</b>						
<b>Cash contributions</b>						
<i>American Red Cross</i>	92,585					92,585
<i>British Red Cross</i>		38,992				38,992
<i>Canadian Red Cross (from Canadian Government)</i>	49,525					49,525
<i>Danish Red Cross (from Danish Government)</i>	66,187					66,187
<i>Finnish Red Cross</i>		42,841				42,841
<i>Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government)</i>		4,693				4,693
<i>Iranian Red Crescent</i>	51,500					51,500
<i>Italian Government Bilateral Emergency Fund</i>	75,540	75,540				151,080
<i>Japanese Red Cross</i>	107,400					107,400
<i>Libyan Red Crescent</i>		2,940				2,940
<i>Monaco Red Cross</i>	30,221					30,221
<i>Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Red Cross Silent Emergency Fund)</i>	75,882					75,882
<i>Spanish Red Cross</i>		1,245				1,245
<i>Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)</i>	321,733	121,733				443,466
<i>Unidentified donor</i>	-0					-0
<b>C1. Cash contributions</b>	<b>870,572</b>	<b>287,984</b>				<b>1,158,556</b>
<b>Inkind Goods &amp; Transport</b>						
<i>Finnish Red Cross</i>		512,863				512,863
<i>Spanish Red Cross</i>		19,711				19,711
<b>C4. Inkind Goods &amp; Transport</b>		<b>532,574</b>				<b>532,574</b>
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)</b>	<b>870,572</b>	<b>820,558</b>				<b>1,691,130</b>
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>	<b>870,572</b>	<b>820,558</b>				<b>1,691,130</b>
<b>Appeal Coverage</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>45%</b>				<b>52%</b>

## II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	0	0				0
<b>C. Income</b>	870,572	820,558				1,691,130
<b>E. Expenditure</b>	-685,064	-785,596				-1,470,660
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>	185,508	34,962				220,471

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRSY001 - Syria - Drought

Interim Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/8-2010/7
Budget Timeframe	2009/8-2010/12
Appeal	MDRSY001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		<b>1,415,508</b>	<b>1,840,107</b>				<b>3,255,615</b>	
<b>Supplies</b>								
Food	1,205,721	548,476	103				548,579	657,142
Water & Sanitation	917,195		157,641				157,641	759,554
Medical & First Aid	70,000		6,548				6,548	63,452
Teaching Materials	4,000							4,000
Utensils & Tools	10,000		9,212				9,212	788
Other Supplies & Services	380,000		374,189				374,189	5,811
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>2,586,916</b>	<b>548,476</b>	<b>547,693</b>				<b>1,096,169</b>	<b>1,490,746</b>
<b>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>								
Computers & Telecom	11,000							11,000
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.	8,500							8,500
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>	<b>19,500</b>							<b>19,500</b>
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage	16,000	466	7,680				8,145	7,855
Distribution & Monitoring	65,000	4,375	904				5,279	59,721
Transport & Vehicle Costs	56,000		503				503	55,497
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>137,000</b>	<b>4,841</b>	<b>9,086</b>				<b>13,928</b>	<b>123,072</b>
<b>Personnel</b>								
National Staff	8,000	100	2,997				3,096	4,904
National Society Staff	92,000		4,646				4,646	87,354
Consultants	5,000							5,000
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>105,000</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>7,643</b>				<b>7,743</b>	<b>97,257</b>
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	115,000		35,678				35,678	79,322
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>115,000</b>		<b>35,678</b>				<b>35,678</b>	<b>79,322</b>
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	15,000	600	99				698	14,302
Information & Public Relation	29,500	526	7,133				7,659	21,841
Office Costs	12,000							12,000
Communications	12,000	135	101				236	11,764
Financial Charges	20,000	3,276	7,608				10,884	9,116
Other General Expenses	5,000							5,000
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>93,500</b>	<b>4,537</b>	<b>14,940</b>				<b>19,477</b>	<b>74,023</b>
<b>Programme Support</b>								
Program Support	198,699	46,264	48,213				94,477	104,222
<b>Total Programme Support</b>	<b>198,699</b>	<b>46,264</b>	<b>48,213</b>				<b>94,477</b>	<b>104,222</b>
<b>Operational Provisions</b>								
Operational Provisions		80,846	122,341				203,188	-203,188
<b>Total Operational Provisions</b>		<b>80,846</b>	<b>122,341</b>				<b>203,188</b>	<b>-203,188</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>3,255,615</b>	<b>685,064</b>	<b>785,596</b>				<b>1,470,660</b>	<b>1,784,955</b>
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>		<b>730,444</b>	<b>1,054,511</b>				<b>1,784,955</b>	