

DREF operation final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Tunisia: Flash Floods

DREF operation n° MDRTN003
GLIDE n° FF-2009-000204-TUN
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The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

Summary: CHF 160,749 (USD 154,585 or EUR 120,700) was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 29 September 2009 to support the Tunisian Red Crescent Society (Tunisian RC) in delivering assistance to some 5,100 beneficiaries.

Heavy rains in south and east Tunisia caused floods in several cities in the end of September 2009, forcing approximately 5,000 people to leave their houses and be sheltered in temporary shelters. This final report gives the complete details of the relief activities carried out during the emergency phase and the social and psycho-social support activities undertaken in the rehabilitation period supported through the DREF allocation.

The small remaining balance of CHF 57 will be reimbursed to the DREF.



Teams from Tunisian Red Crescent visited the affected families and conducted field assessments.
Tunisian RC.

DG ECHO contributed EUR 85,000 (CHF 128,375) to the DREF in replenishment of the allocation made for this operation. The major donors to the DREF are the Irish, Italian, Netherlands and Norwegian governments and ECHO. Details of all donors can be found on <http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp>

[<click here for the final financial report, or here to view contact details>](#)

The situation

On 22 September 2009 flash floods triggered by torrential rains killed 17 people in south and east Tunisia. The coastal cities of Monastir, Sousse and Mahdia were among the first to be affected, followed by the region of Tozeur, Gafsa, Gabes, and Tataouine.

According to the government statements, around 5,000 people were affected by the floods and more than thousand of houses were flooded. Buildings were submerged and several roads were cut off leading to the mobilization of air force planes and helicopters. According to the meteorological services, the volume of

rainfall which exceeded 150 mm within one hour was accompanied by stormy winds of more than 100 km per hour in some locations.

The situation in the affected regions returned to normal after a few weeks. The drinking water distribution system, sanitary sewers, power grid, the gas as well damaged roads were quickly repaired by different services.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Achievements against outcomes

The government of Tunisia managed the overall response to the floods. The head of state called for the mobilisation of all means available to reduce the scale of the damage and to provide first aid supplies to the disaster victims.

A national task force was immediately formed by the local authorities. Tunisian RC, being part of the emergency cell under the umbrella of the Ministry of Health, closely coordinated its emergency plan with the authorities. The disaster management department of the National Society mobilised its trained volunteers. Five evaluation teams were deployed in Kassrine, Gafsa and Sfax, in order to evaluate damages, identify needs and work with local authorities on the selection of beneficiaries.

During the emergency phase, Tunisian RC delivered the following services:

- Search and rescue (assisting the civil defence)
- Registration of the affected population on the list of beneficiaries (in coordination with local authorities)
- Field needs assessments
- Distribution of food and non-food items (NFIs), serving 850 families in six regions
- Provision of health and care services including first aid, basic care, and psycho-social support
- Provision of disaster risk awareness and environmental programmes (i.e. risk of water-borne diseases)

The North Africa regional representation was immediately informed and maintained continuous contact with the National Society through its secretary general and disaster management coordinator. The National Society and the regional representation agreed on the support needed and requested a DREF allocation of CHF 160,749 (USD 154,585 or EUR 120,700).

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: The specific quantity and quality of goods are distributed to the 850 families/5,100 people, according to assessment and selection criteria that identified actual needs and vulnerable people.

Activities planned:

- Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments
- Procure and distribute relief supplies (food parcels, blankets, mattresses, camp beds, hygiene kits)
- Replenish the National Society's local emergency stocks used during the emergency phase
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions

The Tunisian RC team in the field conducted rapid needs assessment, identified the needs and selected the beneficiaries in close collaboration with the authorities. In the initial emergency phase, the National Society used its own stocks to cover the needs of the affected population. Transport of goods was organised from the central warehouse of the Tunisian RC headquarters.

The DREF contribution was received after the emergency phase and was used to procure blankets, mattresses, camp beds, food parcels, hygiene kits and to re-furbish the central stock. Procurement of additional quantities to support the work of the disaster management unit was made possible following effective price negotiations on some items.

The quantities procured were as follows:

Item	Quantity
Blankets	9,456
Mattresses	1,205
Food parcels	467
Camp beds	200
Hygiene kits	200

Emergency health

Objective: Basic health care is provided to the affected people as well as psycho-social support when needed. The risk of waterborne and water related diseases has been reduced through hygiene promotion to 850 families/5,100 beneficiaries in the six governorates affected by the floods for six months.

Activities planned:

- Provide basic health care and psycho-social support to people in need and ensure restoring family links (RFL) services.
- Conduct training/information programmes for Red Crescent volunteers and beneficiaries, in particular regional hygiene promotion, disease identification and referral advice
- Manage and conduct community awareness activities focusing on good hygiene practices and floods preparedness and readiness

The Tunisian RC volunteers were immediately mobilised on the several sites to provide the first aid services at community level, and to promote and disseminate the hygiene messages of the Ministry of Health through the camps.

The psycho-social support programme was highly praised by the population and by the authorities. It was perceived as an essential programme in these situations of distress and highlighted the added value of the Tunisian RC. The presence and role of the volunteers within the communities was deeply appreciated and helped in the identification of people's needs.

An awareness campaign was organised for the population of the five affected regions and conducted simultaneously with the distribution of goods/relief supplies. The Tunisian RC volunteers distributed 20,000 leaflets designed and printed for the awareness campaign on the risks of the floods.



Awareness materials and leaflets on floods were printed and distributed to families.
International Federation.

Impact

The awareness campaign continued in several Tunisian RC branches and was replicated within the National Society's disaster risk reduction programme in other branches than the one initially affected. Specific focus was given to targeted school children.

Logistics

Objective: The Tunisian RC is supported in the procurement process and the distribution of the goods.

Activities planned:

- Procure goods
- Store and transport relief goods
- Print floods awareness material
- Organise a refresher logistics course for Tunisian RC volunteers

The primary tasks of the volunteers were to liaise and coordinate their efforts with the local authorities ensuring a good coordination of the aid delivery. A logistics training course was held with the support of the logistic coordinator from Amman for the volunteers and programme managers of the six provinces affected.

The Tunisian RC benefited from its strong experience in responding to floods-related disasters, relief operations and social mobilisation through its network of volunteers, managing community distribution and sensitisation activities.

To capitalise on this experience, the regional representation organized an evaluation workshop with the participation of the Tunisian RC coordinators and volunteers involved in the operation, in order to appraise the operation, and reflect on the lessons learnt and steps to be taken to reinforce the response capacity of the National Society.

A field monitoring visit was organized by the regional representation for the representative of the ECHO office in Algiers. This joint visit with the International Federation's regional representation was meant to provide the opportunity to assess the extent of damage caused by the floods, to meet a few people affected, to discuss with the Tunisian RC officials both at headquarters and branch level, as well as to review the work performed by the National Society.

Other meetings with Tunisian RC partners (civil protection, the Mediterranean centre for risk reduction, the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment and other stakeholders) were also conducted, which allowed a better understanding of the overall operation.

Lessons learned:

- The visibility and recognition of the National Society's role in the civil society increased. This operation reinforced the role of the Tunisian RC as an auxiliary to the government.
- The necessity to understand the consequences of climate change and to develop/strengthen Tunisian RC's disaster risk reduction programme (vulnerability and capacity assessment, public awareness programmes) was underlined.
- The dedication and motivation of Tunisian RC volunteers increased. The enthusiasm and commitment of Red Crescent volunteers were much appreciated by the beneficiaries of affected communities, as well as the local authorities.
- Good cooperation was noted between Tunisian RC and local authorities. This cooperation could be reinforced through a stronger preparedness/readiness programme as well as through the development of a contingency planning process.

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:

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

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRTN003 - Tunisia - Floods

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/09-2010/03
Budget Timeframe	2009/09-2010/06
Appeal	MDRTN003
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
A. Budget	160,749					160,749
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	160,749					160,749
C6. Other Income	160,749					160,749
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	160,749					160,749
D. Total Funding = B + C	160,749					160,749
Appeal Coverage	100%					100%

II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	160,749					160,749
E. Expenditure	-160,692					-160,692
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	57					57

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/09-2010/03
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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	
BUDGET (C)		160,749					160,749	
Supplies								
Clothing & textiles	84,800	81,690				81,690	3,110	
Food	22,000	22,531				22,531	-531	
Other Supplies & Services	11,000	13,669				13,669	-2,669	
Total Supplies	117,800	117,890				117,890	-90	
Transport & Storage								
Storage	500	142				142	358	
Distribution & Monitoring	2,000						2,000	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	2,000						2,000	
Total Transport & Storage	4,500	142				142	4,358	
Personnel								
National Staff	1,000	4,924				4,924	-3,924	
National Society Staff	5,000						5,000	
Total Personnel	6,000	4,924				4,924	1,076	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	15,000	10,380				10,380	4,620	
Total Workshops & Training	15,000	10,380				10,380	4,620	
General Expenditure								
Travel		255				255	-255	
Information & Public Relation	4,000	11,848				11,848	-7,848	
Office Costs	2,000	1,298				1,298	702	
Communications	500	2,871				2,871	-2,371	
Financial Charges	500	829				829	-329	
Total General Expenditure	7,000	17,101				17,101	-10,101	
Programme Support								
Program Support	10,449	10,254				10,254	194	
Total Programme Support	10,449	10,254				10,254	194	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	160,749	160,692				160,692	57	
VARIANCE (C - D)		57				57		