

DREF operation final report



Lebanon: Plane Crash

DREF operation n° MDRLB002
GLIDE n° OT-2010-000017-LBN
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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 23,701 (USD 22,815 or EUR 17,795) was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 2 February 2010 to support the Lebanese Red Cross (Lebanese RC) in delivering assistance to some 450 beneficiaries (90 families).

An Ethiopian aircraft crashed into the Mediterranean Sea shortly after takeoff from Beirut International Airport on 25 January 2010. The Boeing 737-800 aircraft was carrying 82 passengers and eight crew members from different nationalities, 51 of whom were Lebanese.

Lebanese RC emergency medical services (EMS) workers as well as ambulances were mobilized as of 3.00 AM local time on 25 January to the Beirut International Airport, the Military Naval Base, the Rafic Hariri University Hospital as well as to the coastal road along the shore. 100 volunteers and 25 ambulances were involved in the early operation.

The EMS teams have conducted field survey operations, and ensured the transportation of dead bodies from Beirut International Airport and the Beirut Naval Base to Rafic Hariri University Hospital. They also transported some people from the grieving families, who were suffering from unconsciousness and heart problems, to the American University of Beirut Hospital.

The daily deployment of EMS teams continued depending on the acceleration of operations which were conducted in the Mediterranean sea until 8 March 2010. 22 bodies and 82 body bags containing remains were transported to the Rafic University Hospital. The DREF allocation supported the Lebanese RC with emergency response items (gloves, masks, body bags, blankets, disinfectant liquids and disinfectant hand gels.); generators, telecommunication equipment (VHF), food items for EMS volunteers, and assisted in covering the fuel expenses of the ambulances as a result of the missions. Some items procured were also used to replenish the stocks of the EMS stations.

The small remaining balance will be reimbursed to the DREF.

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>

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Emergency medical services volunteers transported bodies from Beirut International Airport and the Naval Base to Rafic Hariri University Hospital. **Lebanese Red Cross.**

The situation

On 25 January, at 2.35 AM local time, an aircraft of Ethiopian Airlines (flight ET409) disappeared from radar five minutes after take off and crashed into the Mediterranean Sea. The aircraft left the Rafic Hariri International Airport of Beirut, the Lebanese capital, and was heading to Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa. The Boeing 737-800 was carrying 82 passengers and eight crew members. Among the passengers were 51 Lebanese, 23 Ethiopians, two Britons and citizens from Canada, France, Iraq, Russia, Syria, and Turkey. The plane crashed approximately 3.5 kms west of the town of Na'ameh, which is located 15 kms south of Beirut.

According to the officials, the cause of the crash is not known, but is probably due to the extreme weather conditions caused by heavy rain and thunderstorms. During the first week after the crash, the Ministry of Health deployed a team of psychologists to the airport where family members were gathered to get information about their missing family members.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Lebanese RC is part of the national committee for disaster management of the Lebanese government, and has two coordination lines. The first one is external with the government operation room which includes the army, the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), and the entire rescue and emergency providers.

The second one is internal, where the EMS stations and ambulances report to the Lebanese RC operation room which provides updates and information to the headquarters of the National Society. From the first day of the disaster, the headquarters issued daily situation updates and closely cooperated and shared information with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) and the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC).

During the field operations, the Lebanese RC EMS teams were mandated to provide first aid services to the grieving families gathered at the airport and the hospitals as well as to transport the bodies of the victims from the airport and the navy base to the hospitals. Lebanese RC volunteers and ambulances were the only first aiders allowed into the navy base.

Mobilization

Since the first hours after the disaster, the Lebanese RC proved full readiness to respond to the disaster, rescue any possible survivors and transport the bodies that were found. The EMS mobilized its stations, volunteers and ambulances in the first 72 hours as the following:

Day	Number of stations	Number of first aid workers	Number of ambulances
1	15	100	25
2	11	70	14
3	7	30	6

In the days that followed, and since the search was taking time with no results, the EMS decided to keep the teams inside the stations and deploy them based on the updated information. The mobilization included eight stations, and one to two additional teams a day.

Response

The EMS distributed its teams between the Rafic Hariri International Airport, the Military Naval Base, Rafic Hariri Hospital and the Lebanese shore. As mentioned above, the EMS provided on spot first aid mainly at the international airport to the grieving families, and during the first three days transported two urgent cases to the hospitals. In addition, the teams have transported 22 dead bodies and 82 body bags containing remains to the Rafic Hariri University Hospital.

Psycho-social support and restoring family links (RFL)

Since the name of dead and missing people were clear as per the statement of the airlines, the government, along with the governments of other countries, were coordinating in order to conduct the needed DNA tests to identify the bodies and deliver them to their families. Lebanese RC psycho-social support teams and RFL group were alerted and ready to start their work if needed.

Achievements against outcomes

Human Remains Management

Objective: The volunteers from EMS stations of Lebanese RC have transferred the victims of the disaster to the hospitals.

Activities planned:

- Procure 16,000 gloves, 8,000 masks, 160 body bags, 270 blankets, 20 gallons of disinfectant liquids (five litres), and 20 gallons of disinfectant hand gels (five litres) for the EMS stations to support their response to the disaster and replenish their emergency stocks.
- Procure three generators to increase the capacity of the EMS to establish field posts.
- Procure six VHF radios and six VHF handy for the involved stations.
- Procure food for an average of 25 EMS volunteers involved in daily operations for 15 days.
- Provide daily 20 litres of fuel for eight ambulances involved in the operation for a period of 15 days.
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on the operation.

The operation was implemented as planned. The equipment necessary for the removal and transport of dead bodies (gloves, masks, body bags, blankets, disinfectant liquids, disinfectant hand gels) were procured for the response as well as the replenishment of the emergency stocks. Electrical generators and telecommunication equipments were also procured to enable Lebanese RC to establish field posts.

Food was provided for an average of 30 EMS volunteers involved in daily operations. Additional fuel to cover the costs for ambulances involved in the operation was also provided from the DREF allocation.

The Lebanese RC achieved what was expected from a well trained and prepared response organisation. The EMS volunteers took the lead in handling the transport of the dead bodies, and the feedback from the government was extremely positive. The cooperation between the Lebanese government, the Lebanese Navy and the Lebanese RC was excellent; as well as was the coordination between the Red Cross/Red Crescent (RC/RC) Movement partners (Lebanese RC, International Federation and ICRC).

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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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRLB002 - Lebanon - Plane Crash

Final Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/01-2010/07
Budget Timeframe	2010/02-2010/05
Appeal	MDRLB002
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	23,701					23,701
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	23,701					23,701
C6. Other Income	23,701					23,701
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	23,701					23,701
D. Total Funding = B + C	23,701					23,701
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	23,701					23,701
E. Expenditure	-23,700					-23,700
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	1					1

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/01-2010/07
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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)		23,701					23,701	
Supplies								
Clothing & textiles	1,985	1,920				1,920	64	
Medical & First Aid	4,922	5,190				5,190	-269	
Other Supplies & Services	378						378	
Total Supplies	7,284	7,111				7,111	173	
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	3,570	3,312				3,312	258	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.	3,465	3,239				3,239	226	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	7,035	6,551				6,551	484	
Transport & Storage								
Transport & Vehicle Costs	2,722						2,722	
Total Transport & Storage	2,722						2,722	
Personnel								
National Society Staff	5,119						5,119	
Total Personnel	5,119						5,119	
General Expenditure								
Information & Public Relation		358				358	-358	
Office Costs		36				36	-36	
Communications		630				630	-630	
Financial Charges		22				22	-22	
Total General Expenditure		1,047				1,047	-1,047	
Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societies		7,545				7,545	-7,545	
Total Contributions & Transfers		7,545				7,545	-7,545	
Programme Support								
Program Support	1,541	1,446				1,446	94	
Total Programme Support	1,541	1,446				1,446	94	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	23,701	23,700				23,700	1	
VARIANCE (C - D)		1				1		