


# Operations update

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Cameroon: Population Movement

Emergency appeal n° MDRCM006  
Operations update n° 1  
13 March, 2008

**Period covered by this Ops Update:** 13 February to 6 March, 2008;

Appeal target (current): CHF 2,600,000 (USD 2,363,636 or EUR 1,626,169);

**Appeal coverage:** 20%; [<click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details>](#)

### Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on 13 February 2008 for CHF 2,600,000 (USD 2,363,636 or EUR 1,626,169) for 6 months to assist 10,000 beneficiaries.
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF):** CHF 300,000 was initially allocated from the Federation's DREF to support the national society to respond.
- The Cameroon Red Cross Society (CRCS), supported by the Federation, has been requested to assume the role of refugee camp management. A memorandum of understanding is in development, and eventually an agreement on the services to be delivered. For this reason two new objectives are included in this Operations Update: emergency shelter and camp management.

**Summary:** The CRCS has been operational since the start of the refugee influx, and with the support of the International Federation, is managing to increase its responsibility and effectiveness to deliver the planned assistance. Red Cross staff and volunteers have distributed emergency relief materials including food and non-food items, and provided vital support in the transfer of refugees to the Maltam refugee camp (located some 30 kms from Koussari town and planned to operate at least until June) where some 8,000 refugees are currently accommodated. An estimated 30,000 refugees have reportedly decided to voluntarily return to N'Djamena. Maltam camp is regarded as prone to flooding and is



Photo above: Cameroon Red Cross volunteers distributing emergency relief items to refugees.

Photo below: mothers and children in the French Red Cross Basic Health care Emergency Response Unit



therefore not seen as a durable site. Recent discussions with UNHCR have focused on a move to an alternative site, or possibly returning to Chad.

This Operations Update focuses on the vital assistance delivered by the French Red Cross Basic Health Care (BHC) Emergency Response Unit (ERU). Activities within the sectors of shelter and camp management were not initially envisaged in the Emergency Appeal, and the Federation office in Yaounde is currently negotiating with UNHCR to conclude a formal agreement and related funding for the management of the Maltam camp as well as to cover services provided to refugees in the camp. The appeal budget will be revised accordingly to reflect these additional costs, and included in the next Operations Update.

## The situation

The conflict that erupted between Government and rebel forces in Chad in January 2008 provoked a massive population movement across the border to Cameroon, with thousands seeking assistance, shelter and protection. The Cameroon Red Cross Society (CRCS), supported by the International Federation's, mounted an initial response, and an Emergency Appeal was launched to deliver assistance to a population initially estimated at some 59,000 people located at the Cameroon border town of Kousseri. The situation in Chad has subsequently returned to relative stability (although security operations in N'Djamena provoked further displacement into Cameroon estimated at around 3,000 persons which is still continuing at a rate of around 80 persons per day), Since the launch of the Federation's Appeal further assessments indicate that approximately 30,000 people have returned to Chad (N'djamena), some 6,000 refugees are installed in the temporary site of Madana, and a further 30,000 people are temporarily accommodated in various small sites and with host families in the town. The vast majority of these people are considered by UNHCR as prima facie refugees.

Informal interviews conducted with the refugee population suggest that a core group wish to remain in Cameroon due to a fear of further violence or persecution in case of a return to Chad. Interviews also indicate that refugees located in Kousseri Town were willing to relocate to a camp known as Maltam, located some 33 kilometers south of Kousseri Town. Under the auspices of UNHCR, relocation started on February 16 and close to 8,000 people have been transferred. Maltam camp is regarded as being a provisional site mainly because it is prone to flooding during the rainy season which is due to begin end June. Consultations are currently underway with beneficiaries to garner their views on a move to other sites – two alternative sites are under consideration, both further south and more distant from the Chad border than the existing site. It is possible that part of the current refugee caseload may choose to return to Chad instead of moving further from the N'Djamena. Under current planning those refugees wishing to remain in Cameroon will be relocated to another camp before end June.

## Coordination and partnerships

Within the Movement, daily coordination meetings are held between the CRCS and the International Federation team in Kousseri Town and with the head of the French Red Cross Basic Health Care (BHC) Emergency Response Unit (ERU) in Maltam refugee camp. Coordination meetings with ICRC are held in Yaoundé. For the moment ICRC is primarily focused on tracing family members. UNCHR has taken the lead in organizing a coordination meeting every day for the humanitarian community. UNHCR is also overseeing sector-based coordination meetings.

Action by the Government: The Government of Cameroun has provided food and non-food items to Kousseri Town for distribution. The Senior Divisional Officer of the Region has provided no-cost warehousing to the Red Cross in Kousseri Town.

Action taken by others:

- Food: WFP provided 400 MT of emergency dry rations.
- NFI: UNHCR has ordered items for 50,000 persons; UNICEF and French Red Cross also provided NFI.
- Health: UNICEF carried out an initial vaccination campaign targeting 250,000 persons, vaccines have been ordered; surgery kits are in stock with MSF-France; MSF-France supports public health structures in the camp and MSF-Swiss supports screening for health in Kousseri Town.
- Water and sanitation: MSF-France and UNICEF international transport is in process.

## National Society Capacity Building

The CRCS's field team is composed of experienced staff and volunteers, skilled in relief operations, water and sanitation, restoring family links, health and logistics. This team received support from two Regional Disaster

Response Team (RDRT) members (one for water and sanitation and the other for population movement management).

The CRCS and Federation coordinating team prepared a course for two training sessions on relief assistance that started on 25 February and will be carried out on an ongoing basis with the training of CRCS volunteers on the promotion of reproductive health. CRCS volunteers have been retrained on disaster effects prevention and reduction. An early alert plan has been put in place, especially in the Maltam camp. Caritas indicated an interest in working with the CRCS and the Federation within the framework of social and community-based activities.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview:

- The CRCS initially mobilized 120 volunteers to receive and count the number of refugees arriving.
- Red Cross volunteers conducted a vulnerability assessment at Madana transit camp and CETIC sites to identify beneficiaries and facilitate the distribution of relief items. Initial water, sanitation and health assessments served as the basis for the initial plan of action.
- Food distribution for 38,000 beneficiaries (food provided by WFP) has been implemented.
- With the support of ICRC, restoring family links activities have been carried out, and as a result 62 persons were reunited to date.
- As from 2nd February, sanitation activities enabling refugees to settle at Madana transit site – digging of basic latrines and trenches for waste disposal
- NFIs have been distributed for 15,000 persons.
- Basic health care is being provided in Maltam Camp, as well as vaccination support in Kousseri Town.
- Water services and hygiene promotion in Maltam.
- Community development projects conducted in Maltam.
- Further outstanding needs including health in Kousseri Town and Madana transit camp, water in Maltam camp, hygiene in Kousseri Town and Madana camp, food, nutrition, protection in Maltam, Kousseri Town and Madana transit camp will be met by other partners according to current planning.

### Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)	
Objective: To contribute to reducing the vulnerability of 15,000 refugees in Kousseri.	
Expected results	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15,000 refugees have benefited from NFIs to meet basic needs.</li> <li>• Beneficiaries have adequate bedding.</li> <li>• Well trained volunteers provide effective relief and first-aid services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of 3,000 sleeping mats and blankets respectively.</li> <li>• Distribution of 500 Kitchen sets.</li> <li>• Provision of first-aid services with additional 25 first-aid kits.</li> <li>• Contribute to distribution activities of food provided by WFP.</li> <li>• Multidisciplinary training of volunteers on relief, water and health in accordance to Sphere standards.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** Red Cross volunteers distributed an initial food ration in Kousseri, including sorghum, rice, beans and oil, and non-food items in the form of blankets, mats, 20 litres jerry cans, mosquito nets and soap.

In Maltam, Red Cross volunteers registered 5,526 refugees. A joint team composed of the Federation, CRCS and the French Red Cross organized five distribution campaigns in the camp and distributed food and non-food items provided by WFP and UNHCR. According to UNHCR, 25% of the refugees in Maltam are men, 22% are women, and 52% are children below 18 years.

The following table summarises the distribution conducted on 3 March, 2008 to about 1,700 families in Maltam.

Items	Distribution date	Comments
Family hygiene Kits	3 March 2008 (general)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• About 1,700 families</li> </ul>

1 kit / family of 6. 933 hygiene kits in stock.	distribution). Distribution of food and hygiene kits to all beneficiaries in Maltam (some 8,500 persons, or 1,700 families).	targeted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kits for families of four to six people.</li> <li>• Coordination between other partners, including CARITAS, Secours Islamique France, FNUAP to fill the gaps for families of more than six persons.</li> </ul>
Jerry cans (20 litre)	29 February 2008 and 1 March 2008.	
Blankets (2 per person)	February 29, 2008 and 1 March 2008.	

**Challenges:** UNHCR announced that available stocks are very limited, particularly mats, soap, hygiene kits, lamps, stoves and tents. Reacting to this, some organizations (World Vision, UNICEF), promised to fill the gap. The Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (CRCS, French and Swiss Red Cross Societies, and the Federation) complemented the supplies to fill the gap by distributing 933 hygiene kits; 5,000 blankets (including 2,500 from French Red Cross); 196 plastic buckets (15 litres each); 8,500 pieces of 400g soap, 1,768 impregnated mosquito nets; 1,997 mats, 727 pails (20 litres each); 1,860 plastic jerry cans (20 litres each), and 1,430 pieces of 6mx4m plastic sheeting (French Red Cross).

### Emergency health and care

<b>Objective: Provide health services to the refugee population to ensure an adequate state of health.</b>	
<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMR is maintained at, or reduced to, less than 1/10,000/day.</li> <li>• Potential epidemic outbreaks are prevented or identified and controlled early.</li> <li>• Cases of malaria are prevented by ITN among children under five and pregnant women.</li> <li>• Serious cases receive adequate treatment following referral.</li> <li>• Provision of safe water to BHC (at least five litres/outpatient).</li> <li>• Campaign coverage rate &gt;90%.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deployment of an ERU BHC in the Maltam refugee camp targeting 10,000 persons for six months in coordination with other partners.</li> <li>• Implementation of an epidemiological surveillance for the camp's beneficiaries.</li> <li>• Provision of 4,000 ITN to the most vulnerable.</li> <li>• Referral of patients from the BHC to Kousseri Town Public Hospital in cooperation with health authorities.</li> <li>• Provision of safe water to the BHC.</li> <li>• Mobilization of a support team (six volunteers and RDRT) for the running of the BHC together with the BHC Team.</li> <li>• Social mobilization by 60 Red Cross volunteers for a vaccination campaign in collaboration with UNICEF and MSF-CH in Kousseri Town.</li> <li>• Community outreach activities and health education implemented by Red Cross volunteers.</li> </ul>

### Overview of progress:

- The BHC ERU has been running efficiently and effectively, assisted by a timely deliver of the expected consignment of drugs and medical equipment.
- The ERU team has had over 4,000 consultations.
- Severe cases of malnutrition have been referred them to the local district hospital.
- The team has started antenatal consultations and the systematic follow-up of pregnant women.
- To date there has been 4 births in the camp (delivery facilitated by the ERU BHC).
- The most recurrent pathologies include respiratory infections, diarrhoeal diseases and malnutrition see table below).
- The BHC team has set up a water supply unit with a storage capacity of 10 m<sup>3</sup>.

**Challenges:** An anti-meningitis immunization campaign is scheduled to take place shortly, with the involvement of 20 Red Cross volunteers. In addition, routine immunization will be included in the duties of the ERU BHC team, to be conducted in close collaboration with other partners such as UNICEF and MSF.

The main challenges are to:

- Reduce the number of cases of disease and malnutrition.
- Arrange the setting-up of an obstetrical unit.
- Ensure ante and postnatal consultations.
- Arrange the setting-up a laboratory for analysis.
- Train CRCS staff and health authorities on the functioning of the BHC unit
- Train volunteers on community-based health (this will be done by the Federation, Swiss Red Cross and FNUAP).

Based on the most recent ERU BHC field report (10 March), the situation in Maltam 1 camp (currently jointly-managed by UNHCR and the Red Cross with some 8,100 refugees) is relatively stable. The following points provide a summary of technical areas:

- Food and non-food item distribution: the last food distribution (conducted by the CRCS) resulted in some 120 mt of food being delivered (for a one month ration). The non-food time distribution was planned for 8 March.
- Education: UNICEF has expressed the need to begin education activities as soon as possible. For the moment, 40 teacher and children education kits have been distributed, covering the needs of some 3,200 children.
- Water and sanitation: the Federation reinforced its watsan activities in the camp, including the management of the current 4 distribution points, follow-up on water quality, and building 150 new latrines.



The main BHC ERU tasks during this period (4-7 March) consisted of:

- Over 4,000 consultations (total since the ERU deployment) revealing a stable health pattern in the refugee population with the following trends: stabilization of acute respiratory infection, or ARI (about 20 a day); decrease of pneumonia; stabilization of bloody diarrhoea (less than 10 a day) and watery diarrhoea (about 15 a day); limited number of cases of malaria and chickenpox (to be monitored); some evidence of potentially serious pathologies (tuberculosis and meningitis) to be monitored.

#### Overview of the pathologies (up to 7 March)

PATHOLOGIES	Total 16 February-7 March
Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI)	443
Pneumonia	209
Watery Diarrhoea	292
Bloody diarrhoea	115
Fever, suspected malaria	41
Fever, others	47
Malnutrition	86
Measles	0
HIV / Aids	28
Meningitis	1

Dermatology	238
Other infections	561
Trauma	277
Gynae / Obst	233
Deliveries	4
Others	1,413

- **Malnutrition:** the BHC ERU is integrally involved in the management of moderate malnutrition, from distributing supplementary (resourced by UNICEF) to developing the malnutrition protocols and following-up with monitoring the children in the camp. All severe malnutrition cases are automatically referred to Kousseri hospital. From the beginning of the refugee influx, MSF-France has recorded 4 deaths (children) from severe malnutrition. Relations and collaboration with MSF is excellent.
- **Mother and child health care:** the obstetric activity is lead by a local woman doctor and 2 nurses (one a local midwife). In total, there have been 4 deliveries in the BHC.
- **AIDS prevention:** in line with our mandate and procedures, the BHC ERU is working on AIDS prevention by collaborating with an association of refugees who carry out information dissemination and sensitizing activities. They have carried out an initial count of HIV-positive refugees, arriving at a figure of 500 persons (this figure has to be confirmed by UNICEF).
- **The BHC ERU is working closely with the CRCS and the Chadian refugees.** In fact, 18 persons are employed by the ERU BHC on the camp, and in particular for the health activities with one Chadian doctor, one doctor from Cameroon, two Chadian nurses (one with nutrition experience), two CRCS nurse assistants and one CRCS midwife. Moreover, the Cameroun Red Cross has expressed a desire to integrate their volunteers soon as possible in the ERU BHC in order to benefit and gain knowledge of this basic Federation emergency tool. The French Red Cross supports this initiative, and is ready to consider an appropriate handover as soon as possible, after discussing with the stakeholders.
- **Co-ordination with other agencies and NGOs:** The ERU BHC takes part in all health coordination meetings, and enjoys effective and good relations with the other agencies (UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDSS, and HCR) and NGOs (MSF France, MSF Suisse, and ADRA) and in particular UNHCR Health coordinator.

### Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

**Objective: Provide sufficient water and sanitation to the refugee and host populations in Kousseri and Maltam Camp.**

Expected results	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 500 latrines (1 per 20 people) are provided for the camp population.</li> <li>• Good hygiene practices are understood and applied by the camp population.</li> <li>• The population of Kousseri receives sufficient water (15 litres/person/day).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction of 500 latrines in the camp of Maltam.</li> <li>• Maintenance of the toilettes.</li> <li>• Management of the toilettes in collaboration with the camp population.</li> <li>• Environmental sanitation with supply of 50 sanitation kits (wheelbarrows, rakes and shovels), 20 sprayers, 600 bottles of chemicals for disinfecting latrines.</li> <li>• Training of 30 CRC volunteers and 60 community volunteers in PHAST methodology.</li> <li>• Sensitization in PHAST by volunteers.</li> <li>• Creation of community organizations for sanitation and water management in the camp.</li> <li>• Provision of water bladders and adequate water supply in selected areas of Kousseri town in collaboration with specialized partners (including UNICEF, Oxfam and MSF CH).</li> <li>• Provision of potable water recipients, water treatment chemicals (7,500 boxes of chlorine tablets and 10 jars of chlorine) and distribution system: 1,500 Jerry cans (20 litres), 200 buckets, flexible pipes and tank connections.</li> </ul>

**Progress:**

## Madana (transit camp):

- Red Cross volunteers distributed 10 sanitation kits composed of one wheelbarrow, two racks, and four traditional brooms.
- 60 pit latrines were built.
- 14 refuse containers were made available.
- A PH team composed of 30 refugees has been set up.
- Nine holes for refuse have been dug.
- Sanitation and hygiene promotion activities have been carried out.

## Maltam:

- 239 latrines have been built.
- 13 refuse pits have been dug.
- A team composed of six CRCS volunteers and 18 refugees carried out hygiene sensitization activities
- Materials for 50 sanitation kits have been purchased.

The Federation and CRCS have so far built 308 latrines (103% of the initial objective which was 300 latrines). Ten additional refuse containers have been purchased. However, this number of latrines is not enough for the current refugee camp population (over 8,000). Negotiations are underway with UNICEF for the funding of the remaining latrines, based on a budget produced by the CRCS and Federation watsan team.

Based on the Federation contribution, Sphere standards for the provision of were followed as from 23 February 2008 (over 18 litres per person per day). A watsan technician provided by UNHCR advised that the equipment in the pipeline will satisfy all water needs of the camp once installed. Meanwhile, the Federation, UNICEF, UNHCR and ERU watsan technicians recommended that part of the material that was initially planned for water supply in Kousseri are used for the camp, as the population of the town has decreased substantially following the departure of refugees. The national water supply company is capable of handling the situation in the town in the present circumstances. Moreover, water trucking is not considered appropriate for Kousseri.

**Challenges:** further funds are needed to be able to provide 20 litres per person per day according to standard. Another major preoccupation is the transfer of responsibilities from the ERU to the Federation watsan team. There will be the need to train the Federation team on the use of ERU equipment (laboratory). So far, only two out of the eight potential water points are operational (one was rehabilitated by MSF and the other by ERU). A third point is currently being rehabilitated in the area of extension of the camp.

**Transition support and early recovery**

<b>Objective: Early recovery and transition support activities conducted in Maltam to enhance food security and encourage fuel efficiency.</b>	
<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilot projects indicate enhanced nutritional status in selected households.</li> <li>• Requirement for fuel has decreased substantially and relations with neighbouring communities have improved.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Micro agricultural projects designed to further enhance food security within the population of Maltam.</li> <li>• Training of refugees in Maltam on the construction of fuel efficient stoves using locally available materials favouring single headed households, the elderly and other vulnerable groups.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** Progress in this area is pending the implementation of the activities outlined above and the elaboration of an effective recovery plan.

**Emergency shelter**

<b>Objective: All the refugees are accommodated in the Maltam final camp.</b>	
<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
Tents are installed in the camp to provide refugees shelter.	Installation of tents.

**Progress:** This activity was not initially planned in the Appeal, but is now included since the CRCS and the Federation have been requested (and provisionally accepted pending a formal agreement) to lead the camp management. So far, the following activities have been carried out: Red Cross volunteers, assisted by refugees installed 1,063 tents (4mx6m each) for 5,523 beneficiaries, with the support of UNHCR (this has been conducted in line with Sphere standards). Given that some families were composed of a single person, Red Cross volunteers protected by the security team of UNHCR conducted a door-to-door sensitization to convince those single-person families to stay in the same tents with others so as to create space for families with a greater number of people. The volunteers succeeded but more tents need to be brought to the camp. UNHCR is expecting 700 more tents.

**Challenges:** The main challenge will be to accommodate the remaining refugees (3000) until more tents arrive, since all the tents that were installed are already occupied. There is also an urgent need to create schools and playgrounds within the camp (this will be done in partnership with UNICEF and ACTION AID).

### Camp Management

<b>Objective: To ensure adequate means for the implementation of the emergency response activities.</b>	
<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
§ Timely and quality response has been provided to the affected population § The Federation staff have effectively participated in sector-based (Health, Watsan, Shelter, Food) and general coordination in the camp § Plan of action is closely monitored.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobilization of appropriate emergency items through coordination</li> <li>• Provision of adequate fleet (four vehicles) for activities of implementation, coordination and monitoring.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** the CRCS and Federation camp management team mobilized food and non-food items needed for the operation, in partnership with all the partners involved and local Government authorities in Kousseri. Concretely, the following was carried out:

- Preparation of the distribution centre.
- Organization of distributions in Kousseri and in the Maltam camp.
- Mobilization and training of volunteers to ensure the success of planned activities.
- Putting logistics standards in place in the warehouse.
- Recruitment and training of drivers.
- Developing the fleet management procedures.
- Evaluating the needs and shortcomings of the camp and proposing solutions.
- Improving the living environment of both Federation and CRCS personnel in the field (accommodation and cooking).
- Installation of offices for operations and administration.

Challenges:

- Organizing upcoming general distributions within the camp.
- Organizing handover with UNHCR's logistics team.
- Management of stocks at the Maltam camp (food, non-food items and watsan materials).
- Organizing handover with BHC's logistics team.
- Putting in place a refuse disposal system.
- Planning and installation of refugees in the Maltam camp.

The Federation and movement partners are currently providing services in the Maltam refugee camps on a provisional basis while an MOU is negotiated and signed with UNHCR Yaoundé. The MOU will clarify respective roles and responsibilities in Maltam camp, and increase the effectiveness of the delivery of humanitarian assistance to the refugees.

### Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

Two articles have appeared on the Federation web site (5 and 10 February). International media have responded to contacts and have produced numerous articles promoting the CRCS and Federation response to the refugee crisis. The Regional Representation in Yaoundé is producing a special issue of "La Tribune du Volontaire"

concerning the refugee operation. Two press releases have been produced on the same subject and an eight minute video covering the Red Cross response to the refugee operation will be produced with external technical support for visibility and advocacy towards the Government of Cameroon, external partners and other national societies. Dissemination will be conducted towards the Refugee population.

### Capacity of the National Society

The CRCS has 8,100 active volunteers registered in 54 branches in the 10 provinces in Cameroon. The CRCS has a well-established structure consisting of four operational departments including a relief department which has been fully active and widely recognized as extremely efficient in the initial emergency phase of the refugee operation. The CRCS has substantial experience of refugee operations in Banyo, in Yaoundé and in the east. The CRCS has now deployed 100 trained volunteers and two disaster managers in Kousseri Town and a logistics officer in Maroua for onward dispatch of relief goods. The current refugee operation constitutes an excellent opportunity to further develop capacity within the CRCS and specifically its disaster management services.

### Capacity of the Federation

The Federation has a Regional Representation in Yaoundé, with a disaster management department which comprises a regional disaster management delegate and a regional disaster management officer. A Federation team was deployed in the field in Kousseri immediately after the start of the disaster. The team included the health coordinator, a watsan delegate, the communications officer, the disaster management officer and the disaster management delegate. At the Zone level, the Federation has a strong disaster management team based in Dakar, as well as watsan and health teams, with Regional Disaster Response Teams (RDRT) able to intervene. The operation is now coordinated in the field by the Regional disaster management delegate for Central Africa.

### How we work

**All International Federation 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 is committed to the *Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere)* in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.**

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

#### Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

### Contact information

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