

# Appeal 2008-2009



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## North Africa

Appeal No. MAA82001

Date: 14/12/2007

This appeal seeks 5,285,703 Swiss francs (USD 4,727,820 or EUR 3,203,456) to fund the planned programmes that are to be implemented in 2008-2009.

In a world of global challenges, continued poverty, inequity, and increasing vulnerability to disasters and disease, the International Federation with its global network, works to accomplish its Global Agenda, partnering with local community and civil society to prevent and alleviate human suffering from disasters, diseases and public health emergencies.



**The emergency information and telecommunications unit in action during the Al Hoceima earthquake. Photo: Moroccan Red Crescent.**

## Current context

The North Africa region has a rich cultural and religious heritage, endowed with human, natural and financial resources and a well developed infrastructure. Extreme poverty in the region is quite low, although measured by non-income indicators such as health, education and gender equity, significant challenges, especially to Egypt, Libya and Morocco, remain. With human development index rankings ranging from 64 to 123, the North African countries are achieving medium development. This is largely down to government transfers, supplemented by remittances and widely shared traditions of family and social responsibility among the population.

Integration into the world economy is bringing new opportunities, but at the same time new sources of risk and constraint. The current social protection systems are not yet sufficiently adapted to the socio-economic environment, increasing the risk of new pockets of vulnerability emerging. While over the last few decades noticeable progress has been made by all countries in social development, the region still faces challenges to integrate the youth, women and vulnerable groups better into the societies.

Floods, drought, cold-waves and tornadoes, all down to climatic conditions, are having a large impact on agricultural outputs and livelihoods. The region is prone to natural and environmental disasters - particularly earthquakes - high mortality rates due to road accidents and is also facing health challenges related to HIV and AIDS, avian influenza and tuberculosis.

With North Africa being at the crossroads of Africa and Europe, it has always been an important theatre for migratory fluxes. This has left the region with a rich tapestry of diverse minority social groups. However, increasingly, there are issues around the access to the benefits of development

for migrants, as well as the persistent gender-based inequalities for women. Other vulnerable groups, such as people with disabilities, children at risk, and people living with AIDS also find themselves excluded. Both urban and rural communities need strengthening to foster greater social cohesion and inclusion thereby reducing the risk of tension and unrest. Such conflicts and tension, in addition to the cost on ordinary people, make the region less attractive to investors, thereby retarding national development.

The North African Red Crescent Societies of Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia are the longest established humanitarian organizations in each country. They have relatively strong infrastructures and are represented nationally through their branches and volunteers. With the mission of *improving the lives of the vulnerable*, the societies, as auxiliaries to the public authorities, play a major role in addressing and reducing the vulnerabilities that result from the current socio-political, economic and natural context.

## Programme summary

The regional support plan 2008-2009, in line with the Global Agenda of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, focuses on facilitating the development of the five societies by building their capacities and providing technical support to the four core areas of disaster management, health and care, promotion of the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values as well as organizational development. To help the Red Crescent Societies of North Africa, the regional representation will adopt a flexible approach to meet the diverse needs, while supporting a country-tailored approach. It will ensure continuity, knowledge sharing and provide a regional platform by promoting active networks, pools of experts and exchange programmes.

Traditionally, the National Societies in North Africa focus on curative health and social welfare services. However, over the past few years, a gradual shift has been made towards education, prevention and communication programmes at community level using integrated health and disaster preparedness approaches. The vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) tool is being used to promote and enhance individual community capacity and resilience to cope with existing risks and to address emerging challenges. Specific focus is put on community based risk reduction programmes which actively involve communities, empowering women and youth.

## Disaster Management

**Target population: 493,700**

Disaster management remains the highest priority of the North African National Societies. Compared to the traditional and well established health and social systems, disaster management is a new domain in which they wish to increase their experience and expertise. This increased interest is led by the multiplication of new types of disasters that affect the region. Recent years have seen natural disasters resulting from extreme weather and climate change, pandemic outbreaks such as avian influenza and an increase in road accidents.

The societies have shown they are willing to meet these challenges by adapting their structures and repositioning their roles to address the needs of the communities affected. Cooperation with the public authorities to support national strategies is vital. In 2008-2009, all National Societies will continue building their disaster management capacity by strengthening their structures at field level and developing new tools. However, greater focus will be put on disaster risk reduction and migration programmes in Algeria, Egypt, Morocco and Libya.

The regional programme will strive to be more integrated and adapt current disaster response and preparedness strategies to future challenges.

## Health and Care

**Target population: 1,989,000**

The regional programme addresses the two priority components identified by the Red Crescent Societies in the region - HIV and AIDS, and first aid/community based first aid (CBFA) including psychological support and social/educational projects. Focus will be placed on scaling up the National Societies' prevention work, strengthening existing networks, increasing advocacy and developing new partnerships. The fight against exclusion and discrimination needs to continue, in close cooperation with the Principles and humanitarian values programme.

With regard to AIDS the low prevalence represents a unique window of opportunity to act decisively and in a timely manner. Conversely, there is a risk that complacency may lead to inaction and to increased vulnerability, especially among groups at higher risk. The context, characterized by stigma, lack of information, fear and denial make this all the more possible. Support is also required for community led programmes that empower women and community leaders to respond to the changing or emerging needs of their families and communities. Investment is needed in a more efficient, sustainable and safe development model that enhances the performance and builds the resilience of the communities.

The region is also at risk from emerging diseases such as the highly pathogenic avian influenza in the bird population. Since 2006, the North African societies have initiated preventive work with the communities. To support them in this work, the Egyptian and the Moroccan Red Crescent Societies launched appeals in 2007, while the Algerian Red Crescent will be launching one in early 2008. Pandemic preparedness will be a priority area in 2008-2009, and will require close interaction with the disaster management programme.

## Organizational Development

The five National Societies have strong potential at national and branch level in terms of human capacities, partnerships and resource mobilization. However, investment in institutional development is crucial to enable them to perform better, to scale up their programmes and to respond to the new humanitarian challenges. The regional programme aims to contribute to the development of well functioning National Societies in North Africa; societies that are able to reinforce their position in civil society through efficient service delivery and advocacy, based on a clear vision of their role. This process is sensitive, long and costly requiring a mid to long term commitment from donors. It implies support from the National Society's governance, headquarters, branches and local committees to improve the human resources and managerial systems.

Organizational development is, together with disaster management, one of the key priorities in the region and remains a challenge in terms of identifying adequate funding for the planned activities.

## Principles and Humanitarian Values

Year after year, the National Societies have improved their communication skills, increasing their visibility in programmes, raising their profiles and adding value through better advocacy. Dissemination of the Fundamental Principles of the Movement and its values across the spectrum of Red Crescent activities influences behaviour at the community level and contributes to building healthy civil societies. Increased focus needs to be placed on vulnerability resulting from disasters, on non-discrimination towards people living with HIV and AIDS, the handicapped and the elderly. The empowerment of women and increasing appropriate advocacy for migrants are also key themes.

## Needs

Financial support is mainly sought for areas in which the North African National Societies face difficulties attracting funding. These are primarily in disaster management, which is not a traditional area for the Red Crescent Societies, but where they are increasingly positioning themselves by investing in their structures and scaling up their risk reduction programmes. Also, the programmes addressing new challenges such as migration require support through this appeal and the work done in organizational development. Health and social welfare programmes are better covered through available local funding and partnerships.

Programmes	2008 budget in CHF	2009 budget in CHF	Total budget in CHF
	Total Required Budget	Total Required Budget	Total Required Budget
Disaster Management	999,495	957,250	<b>1,956,746</b>
Health and Care	222,994	354,545	<b>577,540</b>
Organizational Development	331,228	448,875	<b>780,102</b>
Principles and Humanitarian Values	854,204	990,951	<b>1,845,155</b>
Coordination	59,337	66,824	<b>126,160</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,467,258</b>	<b>2,818,445</b>	<b>5,285,703</b>

## Working in partnership

With an increased number of partners willing to engage in cooperation with the National Societies, the regional representation has a key role to play in promoting better advocacy and coordination of support. Increased National Society participation and ownership will be promoted through the process of building strategies, priorities and needs. The regional representation will continue to develop its contacts with the regional development institutions, development banks, donor missions, the European Union (EU) and United Nations agencies and key non-governmental organizations to investigate the potential for cooperation and future partnerships. On the basis of recent successful approaches, it will also encourage direct contact between the societies and the corporate sector to increase and build partnerships.

Within the Movement, the main objective is to strengthen the cooperation and coordination processes with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and participating National Societies (PNS) in the region. New cooperation models are being explored with the PNS present in the region. A network is to be established in North Africa, providing a regional platform for National Societies to participate and strengthen the relationships between themselves. The objective is to build confidence in working as a Federation, capitalizing on the expertise and resources of the National Societies in the region to the benefit of the hosting National Society, and presenting partners with a coherent, efficient and strong Movement image. This would involve harmonized planning, developing common and complementary approaches and the concept of lead National Society in sectoral programmes.

<b>How we work</b>	
<p><i>All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the <a href="#">Code of Conduct</a> and is committed to the <a href="#">Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere)</a> in delivering quality and accountable assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <a href="http://www.ifrc.org">http://www.ifrc.org</a></i></p>	
<p>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".</p>	<p><b>Global Agenda Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.</li><li>• Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.</li><li>• Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.</li><li>• Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.</li></ul>
<b>Contact information</b>	
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[Click to access the detailed 2008-2009 plan; planning and resource summary matrix; budget summary](#)



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Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

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