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Final Report IRAN /MENA: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation	Operation n° MDRIR008
Date of Issue: 20 December 2023	Glide number: FL-2022-000002-IRN
Operation start date: 14 January 2022	Operation end date: 31 August 2022
Operating National Society: The Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS)	Operation budget: CHF 499,506
Number of people affected: 80,000	Number of people assisted: 67,272 (16,818 HHs)
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government of Iran, Local NGOs, UN Agencies, INGOs.	

The major donors and partners of the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Belgium, Britain, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland, as well as DG ECHO and Blizzard Entertainment, Mondelez International Foundation, and Fortive Corporation and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.

<click [here](#) for the final financial report and [here](#) for contacts>

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

According to the Iranian Meteorological Organization, heavy rainfalls with thunderstorms started on 1 January 2022 in most Iranian provinces and lasted four days. Over 80,000 people were affected in 20 provinces. The most affected provinces were Sistan Baluchestan (in the south), Hormozgan (in the east), Kerman and Fars, Bushehr, and Khuzestan. The floods resulted in damage to power supply, roads/access/infrastructure, agricultural lands, bridges, domestic animal husbandry, houses/residential buildings, and drinking water supply schemes.

The heavy flash flood resulted in the death of 10 people in the counties of Chabahar, and Mehrestan in Sistan and Baluchestan Province, Darab, Lamerd, and Beyram in Fars Province and Sirjan in Kerman Province. As a result of the floods, transportation had been halted, and relief supplies had been delivered to flood-affected cities by IRCS air rescue choppers. Affected people were evacuated to safe areas by IRCS rescuers. Outpatient services were provided to injured people, and those in need were transported to medical centers. In addition to rescue and relief efforts, aid workers pumped water out of 570 houses and recovered 290 vehicles. The worst-hit area was south of Sistan Baluchestan.

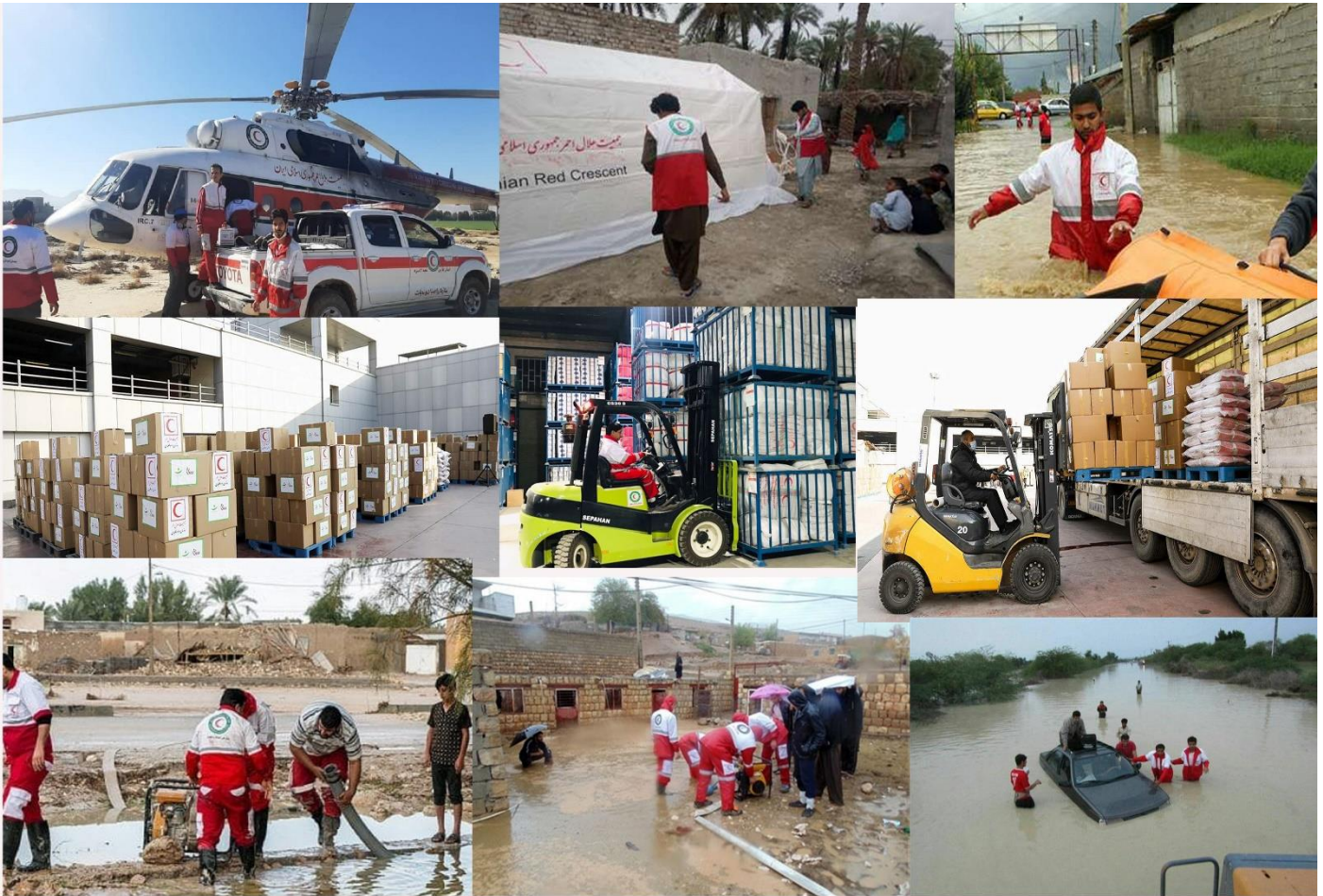


Figure 1: IRCS response to the flash floods in the southern provinces. **Credit: IRCS**

Summary of response

Overview of Host National Society

The IRCS was established in 1922 (as the 'Red Lion and Sun Society') and became affiliated with the IFRC in 1924. It has over 8,500 staff and some 1.5 million volunteers, being active through the Youth Organization, the Volunteers Organization, and the Relief & Rescue Organization. IRCS has 500 local branches across the country. The National Society has a strong auxiliary link to Government. It's mandated, under the Law on Crisis Management, to conduct search & rescue activities, relief services and to provide emergency shelter. In addition, the IRCS is responsible for raising public awareness on disasters preparedness, including the provision of related educational activities. Since the onset of the floods, the IRCS Relief and Rescue Organization Emergency Operations Center (EOC) had been activated to manage and coordinate the response operations at the Headquarters (HQ) level with the field support of provincial EOCs in the affected provinces, which were operational 24 hours a day, seven days a week (24/7).

The Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) had reached out to the flood-affected people across 20 provinces (126 counties - 62 cities - 470 villages - 35 nomadic lands - 75 mountainous areas) and provided emergency shelter to the affected people. Relief supplies, including emergency shelter, food, blankets and ground mats, plastic sheets, heaters, and mineral water, were delivered to the affected population. When the rain and floods hit, the IRCS aid workers provided a variety of relief and rescue services to people and households. People who were unable to return to their homes were accommodated in four emergency camps set up by IRCS throughout the operations. The relief aids distributed in 62 cities across the affected provinces.

Throughout the operation and disaster response, the IRCS had assisted 1396 individuals in South Khorasan, 8,000 people in Fars province, 5,500 people in Hormozgan, and 9,935 people in Sistan Baluchestan. Also, 138 villages in Kerman province received adequate assistance. Snow rescue teams assisted 516 individuals in Mazandaran. Teams from the IRCS provincial branches of Yazd, Qom, Isfahan, and Khorasan South were deployed to Sistan Baluchestan.

A summary of the whole response is as follows:

- 192 shelter provision teams.
- 42 inundation rescue teams.
- 6,230 relief workers (volunteers).
- 1,286 operational staff.
- 215 rescue and relief vehicles.
- 98 ambulances.
- 47 light and heavy fleet.
- 4 air rescue choppers.
- 664 districts covered by response operation.
- 126 people evacuated to safe areas.
- 15 injured transferred to medical centers.
- 96,000 people assisted (direct and indirect beneficiaries).
- 23,653 people received emergency shelter.
- 300 vehicles were trapped in snowfall.
- 1,300 houses were de-pumped from water.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The IFRC has a presence in Iran since 1991 and has been providing technical support in Capacity Building initiatives and supporting IRCS in Disaster Management, Shelter, Migration, Youth, and Health. There is no partner National Societies (PNS) present in the country. However, IRCS has a memorandum of understanding with several PNSs. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has a delegation based in Tehran with a various number of humanitarian activities in cooperation with the IRCS and is on standby to support the IRCS operation (e.g., through health support to migrants, mine risk education (MRE), restoring family links (RFL).

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

Efforts of Ministries, local authorities, national Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and the IRCS are coordinated by the National Disaster Management Organization (NDMO). IRCS delivers relief, rescue, and emergency shelter. Sectoral services are led and implemented by line ministries. Governmental bodies and institutions are engaged in the ongoing operation. UN agencies are present in-country, including WHO, FAO, UNOCHA, UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNHCR, and UNICEF. INGOs have a limited presence in the country, with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and Relief International (RI) present in the country.

IRCS was mandated by the Public Authorities to fully respond to this flash flood. To fulfil the mandated role of crisis response, the IRCS utilized all of its resources from the center and neighboring provinces.

NRC and RI supported the IRCS response by providing 4,000 food packages (one month ration), WFP provided 5,000 food packages (one month ration), and UNHCR assisted the IRCS operation.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Needs Analysis

The initial assessments carried out in the affected areas identified lifesaving needs in search and rescue, food security, and shelter, as well as essential household items. On-site immediate emergency medical services were provided. Massive floods were observed, and people needed to be safe in transit for several days. Since most of the area was quite remote in southern Sistan Baluchestan, Kerman, and Hormozgan, access was very challenging, and harsh winters exacerbated the already vulnerable situation of the affected population.



Figure 6: IRCS conducting needs assessment. **Credit: IRCS**

COVID-19 repercussions resulted in the loss of livelihoods and continued to affect the affected communities. Since the scale of flooding was massive, almost all people who were affected by the flooding needed rapid shelter, emergency food, basic health services and water. IRCS coordinated with multiple actors to seek support; IFRC contributed part of the operational support as stock replenishment through this DREF.

Targeting

This DREF operation contributed to IRCS stock replenishment in four provinces. Due to recurring crises, the IRCS stocks were being depleted rapidly. The DREF supported 28 percent of the total affected population: **13,152** people (3,288 HHs) with food packages for one month and **9,200** individuals (2,300 HHs) with household items. The following criteria were looked into as benchmark for targeting:

- People with severely or partly damaged houses;
- Households headed by women, i.e., widows, divorced or separated women without income;
- Households with person(s) living with disabilities and other socially excluded/marginalized groups;
- Households with insufficient coping mechanisms; and
- Households from vulnerable occupational groups.

Scenario Planning

Scenario	Humanitarian Consequence	Potential Response
Recurrence of floods	Increased damage, effects on poverty/loss of livelihoods, effects on mental health, and potential displacement	IRCS scaled up assistance efforts with available resources, and DREF can be extended and adapted. IFRC/IRCS engaged on Forecast-Based Financing (FbF) by the DREF and early warning, early action (EWEA) tools application in Iran
Burden of IRCS stocks/resources	Since February 2021, IRCS had been continuously consuming relief stocks to cater needs of populations and fulfill its mandate. Recurrent crises/disasters (Sisakht Earthquake, Droughts, Afghan Population Movement, Hormozgan Earthquake)	The DREF Tool for progression to appeal was one of the resources that IRCS could use with the support of the IFRC. Under Operational Plan 2022, the IFRC/IRCS were focusing on the community based DRR (Disaster Risk

	had placed a significant burden on IRCS in addition to COVID-19 response. Due to restrictions in mobilizing financial/technical resources because of sanctions, the demand for action did not correspond to the mobilization of resources.	Reduction) approach and domain as a key niche to enhance preparedness aspects. Continuous advocacy/lobbying efforts were being made by all IFRC/IRCS to keep banking channels open and to obtain visas for experts.
Increase in COVID-19 community transmission / Omicron.	The spread of the infection could be sparked by displacement.	IRCS continued risk awareness education activities while adhering to safety protocols and scaling up response with preparedness actions to limit spread.
Sanctions.	The operational pace was slowed, international procurement and funds transfers were hampered, and replenishment and financial resources were delayed in reaching IRCS.	Local procurement, reimbursement to IRCS for the use of their emergency stocks.
Injury to relief workers.	If people on the front lines suffered physical harm.	IRCS had social/medical insurance for staff and volunteers. Most of the field locations had a health service delivery structure from IRCS as well.

Risk Analysis

There were constraints in the affected areas due to existing prevailing flooding and pandemic. It was expected that the operational teams would have difficulty in reaching out to the remote villages due to the damaged roads. In such cases, the initial assessment by the local Helal Houses volunteers reported to the professional rescuers to focus on the most affected districts and accessibility of the roads. To mitigate access risks, the IRCS deployed its air rescue choppers and requested the military forces to deploy and send the relief items and relief workers. The whole operation was under the IRCS coordination to decrease the duplication of efforts risks.

Also, the health of staff/volunteers could be expected to be at risk if the scale of operation demanded more workload. By strict adherence to the awareness protocols, observing social distance, and mapping alternative routes and modes of transportation had been followed to cope with the constraints. In addition, local procurement was carried out since international procurement took longer due to COVID-19 and sanctions. IRCS anticipated depleting stocks in winters at a fast pace, rather than waiting for lengthy periods of international procurement.

The below table indicates the potential impact of the pandemic on this DREF operation and how IRCS had responded to the situation in the event of COVID-19 mitigation measures being implemented in Iran.

COVID-19 measures	Standard epidemic control measures	Temporary lockdown of society (schools, shops, public functions)	Sustained lockdown and restriction of movement during the implementation period
Likelihood	LOW IRCS was mandated actor for relief/rescue, hence their operations were not impacted by Government lockdown measures, Government was supportive of COVID-19 compliant humanitarian interventions. They had divided provinces/cities into red, orange, yellow, and blue zones, strict	MEDIUM Four targeted provinces were categorized under yellow/blue color on the COVID-19 scale at the time of the operation.	

	adherence was applied across the country.		
Impact on operation	LOW On high alert. Could keep monitoring.	LOW The operation needed to be sure to adhere to the epidemic control measures. Could keep monitoring and adjusting appropriately.	HIGH The operation could speed up implementation from kick-off, taking advantage of the pre-lockdown window of opportunity.
Mitigating measures	IRCS, with the support of IFRC, was implementing its COVID-19 Plan. This operation was sensitive to this approach.	Same as under standard epidemic control measures. In addition, some delays might be experienced with procurements for replenishments. If this happened, a timeframe extension could be considered.	Same as under standard epidemic control measures. In addition, some delays might be experienced with procurements for replenishments. If this happened, a timeframe extension could be considered.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Overall Operational objective

The overall objective of this operation was to ensure appropriate assistance to the affected population in the provinces of Fars, Sistan Baluchestan, Kerman, and Hormozgan in the areas of food aid and household items as well as to replenish consumed stocks from IRCS' main warehouses that have already been distributed. IRCS/IFRC delivered trainings encompassing topics of emergency needs assessment, IFRC disaster management tools application, sphere minimum standards, and finance reporting for emergency operations.

Livelihoods and Basic Needs

The IRCS has been mandated by the government to respond to the emergency needs of the affected populations by providing relief assistance. Since day one, IRCS teams and branches had been responding in all affected areas, with a focus on the most vulnerable districts hit by flooding.

This DREF aimed to replenish IRCS stocks of food and household commodities to complement IRCS contingency stocks for current operations and future responses. Food and household items were distributed and included: rice, canned beans, tuna cans, lentils, pinto beans, sugar cubes, powdered sugar, edible oil, tea, salt, in addition to blankets, groundsheets, plastic sheets, and heaters. This DREF replenished the stocks of 27,600 blankets, 4,600 ground mats, 27,600 kgs plastic sheeting, and 2,300 heaters, as well as monthly food packages for 3,288 HHs. The IRCS conducted a rapid market assessment to ensure that markets are operational and essential items are available.

Operational support services

IRCS covered all operational costs and expenses such as logistics, human resources, and volunteer-related expenses.

Human resources

IRCS mobilized about 6,230 relief workers (volunteers) and 1,286 operational staff to support the disaster response. The volunteers were insured under a national scheme.

Administration and Finance

Operational expenses such as volunteer accommodation, transportation, communication and coordination activities, and field monitoring were covered by the IRCS. Finance and administration support to the operation was provided by IRCS Headquarters.

Logistics and Supply chain

IRCS had attempted to make most of the procurements locally, in accordance with the IFRC procurement regulations and standards (with support of Global Humanitarian Services and Supply Chain (GHS & SCM) MENA team). The rationale being the sanctions limitations in terms of international procurements. Unless some specific items were required from abroad, IFRC provided support through the MENA procurement supply chain unit. Most of the required items were available and IRCS had extensive experience with a strong compliance accountability procurement system and with one of the largest fleets in the region. Before placing the order or signing the contract, the complete file had been validated by IFRC (GHS & SCM) for all procurements with a total value equal to or greater than CHF 50,000, as well as any procurement involving drugs, medical supplies, and PPE.

Communication

The IRCS has a strong Public Relations Department which leads the communications in this operation. Since the onset of the floods, IRCS had been disseminating daily information for public awareness and information via their social media platforms (Twitter, Instagram, and the official website). The National Society owns a TV studio and a newspaper, both disseminated nationwide. The IFRC MENA regional head of communications provided additional support throughout the operation whenever required.

Security

While there were some safety and security risks posed to operational staff and volunteers, exposure to such risks was reduced through the implementation of effective mitigation measures in line with Movement security frameworks. Furthermore, and importantly, IRCS was very well accepted by the communities in the affected regions.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER)


The IRCS PMER unit is embedded in the IRCS Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). IRCS Branches were responsible for daily monitoring visits of this emergency operation's implementation during the first two weeks. Monitoring visits continued as per request by the local communities in case of urgent needs and for detailed check-ups, receiving the complaints or feedback from the target population. Reporting on the operation carried out according to the IFRC DREF reporting standards. A final report will be issued within three months after the end of the operation. There was not a standard PDM (Post Distribution Monitoring) survey since the geographic scope of the operation required professional field researchers. Hence, the research division of the IRCS conducted lessons learnt sessions to discuss and review the strengths and the areas to be improved among the involved units.


Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)

Starting from the rapid needs assessment, the community was engaged to report the priority needs that help draw the intervention in an evidence-based and community-driven approach. In addition, a community feedback mechanism was set up by IRCS and enhanced through this operation with support from the IFRC. The IRCS Audit and Investigation Department handled community feedback through different proactive and reactive channels, as well as the complaints received through the complaint's mechanism (via hotline 112 and social media access). For the shelter distribution and identifying the camp locations, the community leaders and members were consulted to make proper decisions according to the needs of the affected population and ease of access and availability to the services. The CEA framework helped prevent and address misinformation and rumors especially

in relation to the distribution of relief items and cash assistance through the development of appropriate feedback systems.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

 <p>Shelter People reached: 9,200 (2,300 HHs) Male: 4,692 Female: 4,508</p>		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of targeted people with safe and adequate shelter and settlements.	9,200	9,200
# of shelter items distributed replenished	27,600 blankets, 4,600 pieces of ground mats, 27,600 kg of plastic sheeting, 2,300 heaters	27,600 blankets, 4,600 pieces of ground mats, 27,600 kg of plastic sheeting, 2,300 heaters
Narrative description of achievements		
The IRCS has reached the target community or the affected people with the mentioned relief items using its own stocks from the relief warehouses which had been replenished later using the DREF funding. In addition, the government has provided financial assistance to the affected population too in the form of allocating long-term loans for constructing new houses.		
Challenges		
NA.		
Lessons Learned		
NA.		

 <p>Livelihoods and basic needs People reached: 13,152 (3,288 HHs) Male: 6,576 Female: 6,576</p>		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of people reached and satisfied with the food assistance provided	80%	92%
# of households provided with one-month food ration	3,288	3,288
Narrative description of achievements		
According to the face-to-face survey conducted and the positive feedback received from local councils and heads of selected households, Satisfaction was observed among the target communities with the food assistance provided.		
Challenges		
Lack of a suitable tool/method for collecting/recording survey data as far as the PDM is concerned. Lack of electronic devices to collect/transfer data without the need for the Internet.		
Lessons Learned		
Updating the mechanisms, tools and methods of monitoring and evaluation using the standard tools and procedures of the IFRC and localizing the same in the country context so that the standard can be used in the future plannings and operations in the standard and appropriate way.		

Strengthen National Society		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of NS providing an audited financial statement	1	1
DM trainings for 4 provinces (needs assessments, DM IFRC Tools application, sphere, financial DREF reporting)	2	0
Narrative description of achievements		
Nothing to be reported.		
Challenges		
Due to several disasters happened at the same time, huge workload and less human resources both at the IFRC delegation and the IRCS concerned divisions for following up the budgeted activities, unfortunately the DM trainings were not conducted, and the allocated amount was reimbursed to the IFRC.		
Lessons Learned		
The requested budget and planned activities must be followed up by a planning, monitoring, and reporting committee so that the timeframe, type of activities, the involved units, allocated funds to each activity could be properly implemented, monitored, and reported. This committee or working group can work under the coordination of the IRCS International Operations Department as the entry point and main coordinator for the international assistance.		

International Disaster Response		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
IFRC support to launch a DREF to raise financial and human resources	Yes	YES
Surge support provided to the operation.	Yes	Not Required
Narrative description of achievements		
No expert or surge capacity deployed during the reporting period as there was no need for such missions.		
Challenges		
NA		
Lessons Learned		
NA		

Effective, credible and accountable IFRC		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues.	Yes	YES
# of lessons learned workshop conducted	1	-
Narrative description of achievements		
The Lessons learnt workshop was cancelled due to time constraints, overload and profusion caused by the occurrence of numerous operations and responses within the country.		
Challenges		
NA		
Lessons Learned		
NA		

D. Financial Report

The Financial Report is shared below.

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2022/01-2023/11	Operation	MDRIR008
Budget Timeframe	2022/01-2023/11	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 08/Dec/2023

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRIR008 - Iran - Floods

Operating Timeframe: 14 Jan 2022 to 31 Aug 2022

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	499,506
DREF Response Pillar	499,506
Expenditure	-488,644
Closing Balance	10,862

II. Expenditure by planned operations / enabling approaches

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items	278,753	278,773	-20
PO02 - Livelihoods			0
PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash	210,103	210,092	12
PO04 - Health			0
PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene			0
PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion			0
PO07 - Education			0
PO08 - Migration			0
PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery			0
PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability			0
PO11 - Environmental Sustainability			0
Planned Operations Total	488,856	488,865	-8
EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships			0
EA02 - Secretariat Services	10,650	-221	10,871
EA03 - National Society Strengthening			0
Enabling Approaches Total	10,650	-221	10,871
Grand Total	499,506	488,644	10,862

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

MDRIR008 - Iran - Floods

Operating Timeframe: 14 Jan 2022 to 31 Aug 2022

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2022/01-2023/11	Operation	MDRIR008
Budget Timeframe	2022/01-2023/11	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 08/Dec/2023

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Relief Items, Construction, Supplies	459,020	459,028	-8
Shelter - Relief	261,740	38,640	223,100
Clothing & Textiles		193,214	-193,214
Food	197,280	197,269	11
Utensils & Tools		29,904	-29,904
Workshops & Training	10,000		10,000
Workshops & Training	10,000		10,000
General Expenditure		-208	208
Financial Charges		-208	208
Indirect Costs	30,486	29,823	663
Programme & Services Support Recover	30,486	29,823	663
Grand Total	499,506	488,644	10,863

Contact information

Reference documents

Click [here](#) for:

- Previous Appeals and updates
- Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

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

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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 Humanitarian 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.