

DREF Operation No. MDRMR014	GLIDE NUMBER: FL-2022-000286-MRT
Operations Update no. 2: 17 February 2023	Period covered by this mid-term report: 23 August to 8 February 2022
Date of launch of the operation: 23 August 2022	Estimated operation timeframe: 6 months End date: 28 February 2023
Additional allocation by DREF: CHF 53,486	Amount initially allocated by DREF: CHF 248,039 Updated total allocation by DREF: 301,525.20
N° of persons assisted: 3,600 persons (600 households)	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: IFRC, ICRC, French Red Cross	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Local administrative authorities (governors, hakems, technical and state services, mayors) and communal.	

Summary of adjustments made to the emergency plan of action:

This update aims to inform partners and stakeholders about the progress of implementation since the last update ([Operations Update no. 1](#)) published in December 2022, and the additional allocation from the DREF of CHF 53,486. The allocation has been increased because of volatile currency exchanges between the reporting currency (CHF) and the Mauritania Red Crescent implementation currency (MRU). Adjustment of rates has resulted in the need for this increase, however the objectives remain as planned in the DREF Plan of Action (PoA) and within the same timeframe.

The Mauritania Red Crescent is currently completing the closing of activities of the operation as follow:

- Finalization of all outstanding payments to local suppliers
- Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) surveys for NFI distributions (shelter and hygiene kits)
- Lessons Learned Workshop



Immediate assistance to basic needs through CVA. Guerou, Source: MRCS

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

From 25 July to 3 August 2022, heavy rains caused flooding in some parts of Mauritania, including Hodh El Gharbi, Assaba, and Tagant in southern and central Mauritania. Among other things, the floods caused extensive material damage to 4,351 households, i.e., 28,926 people. Fourteen (14) deaths were reported, most of them being children. Across the seven (7) **affected regions, 3,817 houses were destroyed** and a loss of 766 heads of cattle was recorded because of the severe rains¹.

Significant damage and loss of houses, food stocks, and household items were recorded across the affected regions, predominantly in N'beika, Siyassah and Ashram in Tagant region, Guerou and Boumidid in the Assaba region, and the municipality of Agjart and Sava in the Hodh El Gharbi region.

In general, there was extensive, large-scale damage to infrastructure, including roads, bridges, dams, and protective dikes, as well as roads and commercial complexes that were flooded. Communication and electricity services were also cut off in most areas for three or four days, most notably in the departments of Moudjéria and Guerou.

Most of the businesses in the cities were flooded, as was the arable land which had been sown. Food stocks and hut breeding were also impacted. In some areas, people's drinking water sources have been submerged with rainwater. Access to safe drinking water has become difficult. Hygiene items are also rare, exacerbating the risks of contamination and spread of waterborne diseases.

Faced with this situation, local elected officials (local authorities) have appealed to the government and all partners working in the regions to provide assistance to these affected households who are in difficult conditions.

For more details, see [MDRMR014](#)

Summary of the current response

Overview of the Host National Society's action

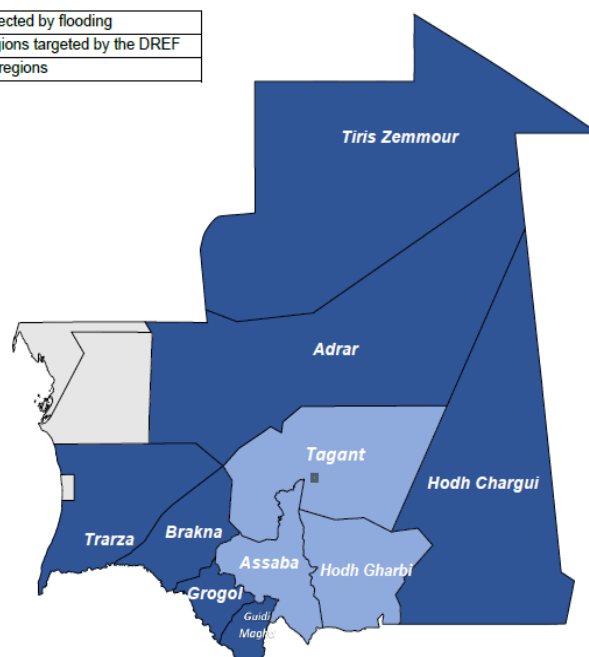
The Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC) launched the response to the flood disaster in August 2022, first with the setting up of a national monitoring unit, the Disaster Management Center Unit, to monitor the evolution of floods across the country.

The MRC has supported monitoring and response since the beginning of the disaster, including:

- Collection of preliminary data and information on floods in the affected areas.
- Deployment of teams of volunteers to affected areas.
- Participation in the tasks of evacuation and assistance of affected families.
- Distribution of NFI items (200 mattresses, 400 jerry cans (10L and 20L), etc.).
- Conducting a rapid assessment.



Regions affected by flooding
Flooded regions targeted by the DREF
Unaffected regions



¹ Daily bulletin of the Technical Commission of the Department of Emergency Management: <https://ami.mr/fr/index.php/category/7/>

For more details, see [MDRMA014](#).

Within the framework of the DREF, the following actions have been carried out by the MRC to date:

- Rapid needs assessment (3 regions).
- Multi-sectoral needs assessment (3 regions).
- Cash Transfer Feasibility Study (3 regions).
- Deployment of 30 volunteers for 7 days to conduct a rapid needs assessment (3 regions).
- Deployment of 10 volunteers for 5 days to conduct a multi-sectoral needs assessment (3 regions).
- Training sessions for 60 volunteers on cash transfer and feasibility studies in the three areas.
- Deployment of 10 volunteers for 5 days to conduct the cash transfer feasibility study (3 regions).
- Beneficiary selection in the three regions (600 households).
- Setting up of the feedback mechanisms (3 regions).
- Providing immediate assistance with basic needs for 600 households through cash and voucher assistance (CVA) in the three target areas.
- Deployment of 10 volunteers for 5 days to support cash / CVA distribution (3 regions).
- CVA distribution (basic needs assistance) for 600 households (3 regions).
- PDM surveys (cash distributions).
- Training sessions for 60 volunteers on WASH in emergencies (3 regions).
- Refresher training on CEA (community engagement and accountability) and PGI for 50 volunteers (3 regions).
- Procurement of shelter and hygiene NFIs.
- Training sessions for volunteers on distribution and shelter techniques.
- Distribution of shelter and NFI kits (WASH, hygiene, and kitchen kits) (3 regions).
- Health and hygiene awareness sessions.
- Regular monitoring and coordination with partners.



MRC volunteer conducts post-distribution monitoring survey with smartphone.

ECHO field visit

As part of the follow-up to ECHO-funded activities in Mauritania, an ECHO mission visited the National Society (NS) on 15 November in the Assaba region (Geourou and Kammour). The objective of the visit was to follow up on DREF activities and meet with the target communities and the MRC implementation team. While in the field, the mission visited two CVA distribution sites in Geourou and Kammour, and a village targeted by the DREF intervention. The ECHO mission was received by the MRC's National President and the representative of the Regional Committee of Kiffa.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Actions in country

The MRC and the IFRC Dakar Cluster team closely coordinated the technical and financial support that has enabled the implementation of the activities of this PoA. The IFRC Cluster Delegation has transferred funds and deployed a Procurement Surge to Nouakchott, and a Surge Finance to Dakar for remote support.

At the beginning of the crisis, together with ICRC, as part of a joint intervention, the MRC distributed aid to 200 households (from the prepositioned stock of household items). Distribution activities reached the town of N'beika in the Northern part of Tagant. As part of the assistance to the affected populations during the 2022 floods, with the support of ICRC and the French Red Cross (FRC), the MRC is providing food and NFI assistance for 400 affected households in the Dar Naim department (Nouakchott Nord) which was among the most affected areas in Nouakchott.

With the support from the Qatari Red Crescent, the MRC assisted 1,685 affected families in the regions of Nouakchott Nord (Dar Naim and Teyarett departments) and in the Inchri region (Akjoujt Department). Each household received 25kg of rice, 10kg of sugar, five (5) litres of oil, and five (5) pieces of soap of 250g).

Overview of non-RCRC action in country

In response to the floods in several regions, the government has provided urgent assistance to the affected populations in the different flooded regions through the distribution of food and non-food items via the Food Security Commission (CSA) and the cash distribution of the Taazur agency. The government's technical services remain mobilized and are implementing response activities in their areas of intervention.

To respond to the floods that have affected several regions, including Hodh el Gharbi, Assaba, and Tagant, the government has set up a unit in charge of monitoring the floods hosted by the Ministry of Interior. This unit plays a key role in coordinating emergency situations and collecting information related to the flood damage recorded in each area, in addition to publishing a weekly information bulletin to update information throughout the country.

The Mauritanian government participated in the response by providing immediate humanitarian assistance (tent, two blankets, and a food kit) to 500 households in the N'beika region, and repairing bridges and protective dikes damaged by floods, in collaboration with the Ministry of Equipment and Transport teams. The authorities have set up a damage assessment commission in each region.

(For more details, see [MDRMA014](#)).

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Needs analysis

The torrential rains of 2022 have caused flooding in seven regions across the country, with various level of impact.

(For more details, see [MDRMR014](#)).

Preliminary assessments in those regions indicate that around 3,817 houses were completely or partially damaged due to the heavy rains. The impacts to the families have resulted in the needs detailed in the [EPoA](#) and [Ops Update no. 1](#). Needs Analysis section.

Summary of needs:

- Several families displaced by the floods and whose homes have been destroyed cannot meet their basic needs, given the widespread impact of the floods on their livelihoods and sources of income. Six hundred (600) households had shelter-related needs.
- Impacts on infrastructure have led to limited access to health services.
- Deterioration of the WASH context with stagnant water on the one hand, and the difficulty of access to drinking water on the other, increasing the risk of water-borne diseases and vector-borne diseases like malaria.
- Communities' sources of income, including those dependent on agriculture, livestock, and trade, have also been affected. The floods have had a direct impact on people's sources of income (loss of crops and livestock, damage to arable land and agricultural infrastructure, etc.) and on market links and supply opportunities, particularly to meet people's basic needs. Added to this is the loss of household food stocks.

For more information, please see the [EPoA](#) and [Ops Update no. 1](#).

Operation risk assessment

With respect to security risks, the situation in Mauritania remains stable, notably in the targeted areas (south and centre-east of the country) accessible by road. The MRC has local committees with a network of trained and available volunteers, but coverage in the regions targeted by this DREF will be strengthened by this operation.

The intervention area is a low-risk area in terms of security, but the MRC has included security measures to ensure smooth implementation. As part of the implementation of the DREF's activities, the MRC strengthened the security system by respecting the rules and safeguards of their implementation teams and partners to conduct the planned activities in a timely and secure manner.

Road access: On the main axis that connects the capital to the extreme region of the country and that crosses several regions targeted by the DREF intervention, there are some road works causing access difficulties that are not hampering the circulation of people and goods.

In addition to the risks previously identified, the financial management of this DREF operation has revealed an important loss due to currency exchange, which necessitated an additional allocation from the DREF to complete this operation. Close monitoring of financial transactions and updating the budget when necessary is the best approach to mitigate this risk. It was necessary to increase the allocation from the DREF to enable the NS to meet its financial obligations to local suppliers and mitigate any reputational risk for the MRC and IFRC.

All other risks identified previously are included in the [Emergency Action Plan](#) and remain valid.

B. OPERATION STRATEGY

Proposed strategy

The strategy of this DREF Operation remains as described in the Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA). For more details, see Section B of the initial plan [MDRMA014](#).

Objective: Provide emergency assistance to affected households in flooded areas, following a detailed needs assessment, in three (3) identified regions of intervention: Hodh El Gharbi, Assaba and Tagant.

Specific objectives:

- Provide emergency shelter kits, NFIs, and household items to 600 affected families.
- Distribute unconditional cash to 600 households (2,400 MRU/household) to help the beneficiaries meet their basic needs for one month.
- Strengthen the capacity of the volunteers' network and the National Society by training 60 volunteers in safe shelter, hygiene promotion, water, sanitation, and cash as well as conducting assessments and awareness campaigns.
- Ensure complementarity, coordination, and synergies with planned interventions by the government, and humanitarian actors.

All field-level activities have now been conducted, including the training of volunteers, distribution of cash assistance, and distribution of shelter and NFI items. Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) and a Lessons Learned Workshop will allow the MRC to gather insights from the communities on the humanitarian support provided by the NS and the impact of the operation's chosen strategy and priorities.

C.DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN



Shelter

People targeted: 3,600 (600 households)

Male: 1,764

Women: 1,836

Shelter 1 outcome: Affected communities in affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being, and long-term recovery by addressing shelter and habitat issues

Indicators:	Targets	Real
Number of households receiving housing assistance	600	600
Number of households receiving non-food items	600	600

Shelter Output 1.1: Affected households receive short-, medium- and long-term shelter and habitat assistance.

Indicators:	Targets	Real
Number of rapid needs assessments completed	1	1
Number of multi-sectoral detailed evaluations completed	1	1
Number of rented storage units	3	3
Number of trained volunteers	60	60
Number of PDM conducted	1	0

Progress towards outcomes

As indicated in the EPoA, the needs remain unchanged and the MRC has assisted 600 households (3,600 people, 1,836 women and 1,764 men) whose houses were completely destroyed by the floods, through the provision of emergency shelter, non-food items and hygiene kits.

The activities already conducted, at the time of preparation of this report, are the following:

- Deployment of 30 volunteers for 7 days to conduct a rapid needs assessment (3 regions)
- Deployment of 10 volunteers for 5 days to conduct a multi-sectoral needs assessment (3 regions)
- Launch of the shelter and NFI procurement process with support from the Procurement Surge deployed to Nouakchott and the IFRC Dakar Cluster Logistics team.
- Training sessions for 60 volunteers on distribution and shelter techniques.
- Procurement and distribution of shelter and NFI kits to beneficiary families (3 regions).

Challenges

One of the main challenges was the procurement process, which together with the delay in receiving DREF funds in the field caused a delay in the implementation.

The following activities will be completed before the end of the implementation period:

- Payment of final invoices to the vendors of the NFIs.
- Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) surveys for the shelter and NFI distribution.



Livelihoods and basic needs

People targeted: 3,600 (600 households)

Male: 1,764

Women: 1,836

Livelihoods and basic needs Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore, and strengthen their livelihoods.

Indicators:	Targets	Actual
Percentage of households that received money for food	100 (600)	99 (599)
Percentage of households confirming the use of cash for their livelihoods/food needs	80 %	100%
Livelihoods and basic needs Output 1.2: Basic needs assistance for livelihoods security including food is provided to the most affected communities.		
Indicators:	Targets	Real
Number of cash assessment conducted, include cash risk	1	1
Number of market assessments conducted	1	1
Number of households receiving cash assistance	600	599
Number of sage committee's consultation held (2 per region).	2	2
Number of feedback mechanisms in place (1 per region).	1	1
Number of volunteers and staff trained on cash	60	60
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>MRC targeted 600 households (3,600 people) who lost all or most of their food stock. These households received unconditional cash assistance (CVA) to meet basic needs, after validation and following the modality identified through an initial feasibility assessment.</p> <p>To this end, the following activities have been carried out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training sessions for 60 volunteers on cash transfer and feasibility studies in the three target areas. • Deployment of 10 volunteers for 5 days to conduct the cash transfer feasibility study (3 regions). • Beneficiary selection (600 households). • Refresher training on Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) and Protection Gender and Inclusion (PGI) for 50 volunteers (3 regions). • Set up a feedback mechanism. • Cash distribution to 600 households (3 regions). • Deployment of 10 volunteers for 5 days to support cash distribution activities (3 regions). • Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) surveys for the cash distribution (3 regions). A total of 120 households were surveyed (20% of the households targeted by the operation). The surveys were conducted by volunteers with expertise in mobile data collection (Kobo). The selection of the beneficiaries to be surveyed was random; 78% of the heads of household surveyed were female and 22% were male. <p>Note that 599 households were reached with cash assistance, rather than the target of 600. This is because during the cash distribution process, the financial provider in charge of cash distribution noticed a duplicate on the beneficiary list in the department of Guerou. For this reason, the financial excluded the duplicate name, and as a result, the total number of beneficiaries became 599 instead of 600.</p>		



Health

People targeted: 3,600 (600 households)

Male: 1,764

Women: 1,836

Outcome 1:

Health Outcome 1.3: Target population benefits from community-based disease prevention and health promotion.

Indicators:	Targets	Real
Number of people sensitized to health prevention	3,600	72,000
Number of households receiving sufficient mosquito nets	600	600

Progress towards outcomes

Affected populations are exposed to health problems due to precarious conditions, including stagnant water, mosquito proliferation, poor access to latrines, and restricted access to health facilities.

For health activities, the MRC response focuses on the distribution of NFIs (specifically mosquito nets) and awareness raising.

The following activities have been carried out:

- Procurement and distribution of mosquito nets (3 regions).
- Awareness sessions conducted by MRC volunteers related to prevention (use of mosquito nets). These awareness sessions were carried out by 45 volunteers over a period of 16 days, reaching 14,400 households.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

People targeted: 3,600 (600 households)

Male: 1,764

Women: 1,836

WASH Result 1: Immediate reduction of risk of waterborne diseases in targeted communities (benefiting 6,000 people)

WASH 1.1: Detailed assessment of the water, hygiene and sanitation situation is conducted in targeted communities.

Indicators:	Targets	Real
Number of volunteers trained on WASH in emergencies and key thematic messages	60	60
Number of people reached with hygiene promotion	3,600	72,000
Number of hygiene kits, containers and buckets distributed	600	600
Percentage of households acknowledging that household items received were useful to them (100)	600	0
Percentage of feedback processed (100)	100	0

Progress towards outcomes

MRC targeted 600 families with the provision of WASH materials and information sessions to promote good hygiene and sanitation practices and reduce the risk of disease.

The following activities have been implemented:

- Training of 60 volunteers (from the three target regions) on the WASH in emergencies and key messages.
- Procurement and distribution of hygiene kits, containers, and buckets.
- Hygiene promotion sessions conducted with beneficiary communities during the distributions. These sessions focused on household water treatment, water storage, mitigating risks associated with open defecation, and waterborne and vector-borne diseases, while promoting proper handwashing. These sessions were conducted in the three regions between November 29 and December 14, 2022, by 45 volunteers (15 per region) and reached a total of 14,400 households.

The following activity will be completed before the end of the implementation period:

- Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) survey for the NFI distribution.

National Society Capacity building

S1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated so that National Societies have the legal, ethical, and financial foundations, systems and structures, skills and capacities required to plan and implement activities.

Output S1.1.7: Strengthened capacities of NS to support disaster risk reduction, response and preparedness at the local level		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
Number of insured volunteers	60	60
Number of visibility items purchased	60	60
Number of staff deployed to support implementation and monitoring at the section level	7	7
Number of monitoring visits by MRC headquarters	4	2
Number of lessons learned workshops organized	1	0
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>The DREF operation was implemented in an area that is often the most difficult to access and the most isolated, especially during the rainy period. The NS was able to mobilize volunteers at the community level to support the implementation of activities.</p> <p>The following activities have been conducted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The deployment of the MRC team. • Purchase of insurance for the volunteers. • Procurement of visibility equipment for volunteers. • Two (2) monitoring missions from MRC headquarters. <p>As mentioned, there was also a visit from ECHO (15 November) that was interesting in terms of conducting a visit to the target communities and following up on the DREF activities.</p> <p>The following activity will be conducted before the end of the implementation period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lessons Learned Workshop 		

International Emergency Response		
Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured.		
Output S2.1.1: Effective and respected surge capacity mechanism is maintained.		
Indicators:	Targets	Real
Number of surges deployed	1	1
Progress towards outcomes		
With the support of the IFRC Cluster Office in Dakar, the NS received technical support from a Procurement Surge and the support of a (remote) Finance Surge.		

D. Financial Report

The original budget was **CHF 248,038**. The initial budget is extended by **CHF 53,486**, for a new total allocation of **CHF 301,525.20**. No changes were made to the activities; the difference is related to the currency exchange rate which was adjusted for the whole budget. Details of revised budget per cost category reflect as follow.

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies					Accounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)	in Swiss Francs (CHF)	
DREF OPERATION							
MDRMR014 - MAURITANIA - FLOODS					04/08/2022	07/02/2023	
Budget by Resource							
Budget Group					Initial budget approved	Revised with good rate	Variance
Shelter - Relief					57,424	69,807	12,383
Clothing & Textiles					31,902	38,782	6,879
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene					9,060	11,014	1,954
Teaching Materials					638	776	138
Utensils & Tools					6,380	7,756	1,376
Cash Disbursement					32,158	39,092	6,934
Relief items, Construction, Supplies					137,563	167,226	29,664
Storage					766	931	165
Transport & Vehicles Costs					20,205	24,562	4,357
Logistics, Transport & Storage					20,970	25,492	4,522
International Staff					13,612	16,547	2,935
National Society Staff					17,100	20,787	3,687
Volunteers					9,761	11,866	2,105
Personnel					40,472	49,199	8,727
Professional Fees					1,063	1,293	229
Consultants & Professional Fees					1,063	1,293	229
Workshops & Training					18,716	22,752	4,036
Workshops & Training					18,716	22,752	4,036
Travel					5,189	6,308	1,119
Information & Public Relations					2,552	3,103	550
Office Costs					1,999	2,430	431
Communications					2,212	2,689	477
Financial Charges					2,163	2,629	466
General Expenditure					14,116	17,160	3,044
							0
DIRECT COSTS					232,900	283,122	50,222
INDIRECT COSTS					15,139	18,403	3,264
TOTAL BUDGET					248,039	301,525	53,486
Budget by Area of							
		Initial budget approved	Revised with good rate	Variance			
AOF2	Shelter	108,954	124,364.8	15,411			
AOF3	Livelihoods & NFI	40,730	46,491.4	5,761			
AOF4	Health	5,436	6,205.1	769			
AOF5	Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	20,521	23,424.1	2,903			
AOF6	Protection, Community & Disaster Preparedness		0.0				
SFI1	Strengthen National Society	51,769	59,091.3	7,322			
SFI2	Effective International Relations	19,344	41,948.5	22,605			
TOTAL		248,039	301,525.2	53,486			

Reference documents

Click here to view:

- Previous calls and updates
- Emergency Action Plans (EPoA)

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For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

- IFRC Africa Regional Office for Logistics Unit: Rishi Ramrakha, Head of Africa Regional Logistics Unit, email: rishi.ramrakha@ifrc.org; phone: +254 733 888 022

For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting enquiries)

- **IFRC Africa Regional Office: IFRC Africa Regional Office:** Lilian Kinuthia, Regional Head a.i, PMER and Quality Assurance Unit; email: lilian.kinuthia.@ifrc.org; phone: +254 011 916 966

How we work

The International Federation strives to implement the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief Operations and is committed to complying with the **Humanitarian Charter and the Minimum Standards for Disaster Response (Sphere Project)**. as part of its assistance activities for the most vulnerable people. The overall purpose of the International Federation is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and advance at all times and in all its forms the humanitarian action** of National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering** and thus 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:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace**.