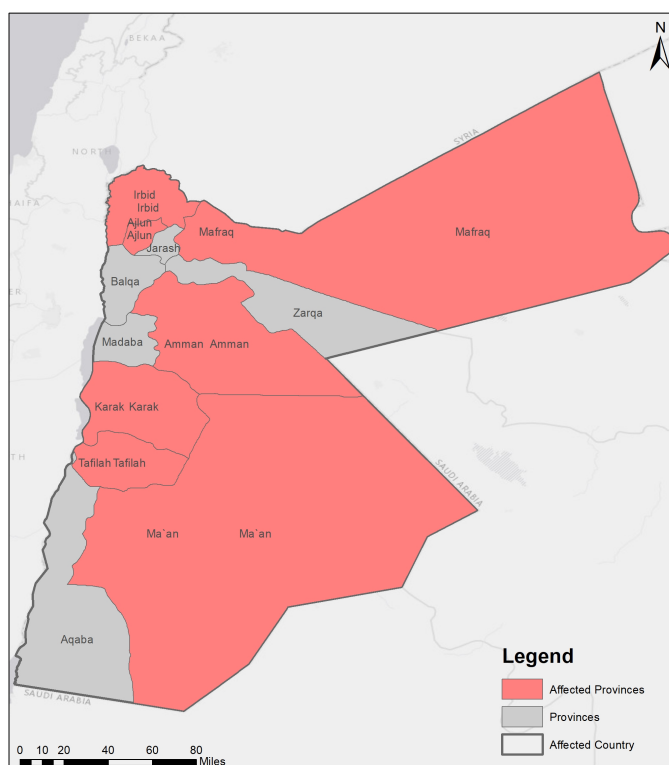


Appeal: MDRJO003	Country: Jordan	Hazard: Cold Wave	Type of DREF: Response
Crisis Category: Yellow	Event Onset: Sudden	DREF Allocation: CHF 291,629	
Glide Number: CW-2023-000242-JOR	People Affected: 2,000 people	People Targeted: 2,000 people	
Operation Start Date: 2023-11-30	Operation Timeframe: 4 months	Operation End Date: 2024-03-31	DREF Published: 2023-12-01
Targeted Areas: Ajloun, Karak, Mafraq, Amman, Tafileh, Irbid, Maan			

Description of the Event

Jordan: Cold Wave IFRC November 2023



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Cold Wave - Jordan

What happened, where and when?

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan's climate ranges from Mediterranean climate to desert climate but it is characterized by an overall arid climate. During Winter, the temperatures usually drop to an average of 7.5 degrees and can reach subzero degrees around January, with occasional snow and hailstorms, especially in open areas in eastern areas in the north and the south. Despite its overall dry climate, the kingdom also witnesses torrential rains during the winter season causing floods in different areas of the country.

Starting in the evening of Sunday, 19/11/2023, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan was exposed to a severe depression with the noon hours affecting all the kingdom's governorates dropping the temperatures to below 10 degrees. The Meteorological Agency issued warnings of strong winds exceeding in some areas the barrier of 65 km / h, which leads to rising dust and low horizontal visibility, especially in the Badia regions. The rate of rainfall fell greater than usual at this time of the year, which led to the formation of torrential rains in cities, valleys, and water catchment areas, according to the report of the Ministry of Water. The ministry reported around 4 million cubic meters were stored by dams from rain in 24 hours recording the highest amount of rainwater storage, bringing the total storage in the 15 main dams to 68,503 million cubic meters, representing 23.78 percent of their storage capacity of 288,128 million cubic meters.

These harsh winter conditions have impacted and continue to impact many community groups in the north and south of Jordan. Some households in Ma'an (South of Jordan) and Irbid (North of Jordan) governorates were raided by floodwaters causing damage to some of their household items with no injuries or deaths according to the official sources. Tented settlements in remote areas were heavily impacted with their tents flooded with water and were evacuated to emergency shelters by the civil defense. The civil defense teams also managed to rescue some of the families that lived close to the valleys and were trapped in their homes due to the overflow of the valleys. The affected families are from regions that are affected by harsh winter conditions every year as they suffer from poor livelihood and shelter conditions.

The identified families have approached community centers of multiple humanitarian organizations seeking assistance as they will continue to suffer during the winter season to secure adequate and warm living arrangements with their economic situation. The affected people include Jordanians and non-Jordanians, some with formal identification and some lacking proper identification to access service. These groups include vulnerable Jordanians, Syrian refugees (with different registration statuses),

Iraqi refugees, Pakistani daily workers, and Sudanese and Yemeni asylum seekers.

Even though the mentioned circumstances during winter are not new, however, the JNRCS and other actors were able to respond in previous years to these events with the available winterization funds. This year, there was a noticeable lack of sufficient humanitarian funding covering the basic needs of different community groups. This is mainly due to other funding priorities related to other humanitarian crises in the region and globally.

Scope and Scale

Jordan's economy was impacted heavily by the Covid19, and it is stretched to cover the needs of the population, especially with the continuous reduction of humanitarian funding due to new global and regional humanitarian priorities. Most of the humanitarian funding in Jordan is specific for the Syrian Refugees and focuses on specific needs with strict criteria which leaves many other vulnerable groups unnoticed with no access to assistance.

People living in the underserved areas face extreme conditions during the winter months when temperatures drop to an average of 7.5°C in January and can reach subzero degrees. Most of these families live in small, overcrowded spaces shared with up to 3 other families, and have extremely limited access to adequate winter clothing, blankets, and other household items. The majority of their shelters are rented spaces in the basements of buildings, where insulation is often non-existent and, without access to heat sources, families are at high risk of developing illnesses during the cold and damp winter months. The remaining families are living in tented settlements with even worse shelter conditions.

Looking back, we can see that in 2021 a family of 4 died after their tent caught fire, and the same happened in 2022 when 5 members of the same family died, the main reason for these incidents is that families who work informally in farms are using tents that lack the needed adequate and safe lighting and heating, even some time blankets available are not sufficient for the whole family. These families end up using unsafe heating measures including having an open fire in their tents.

The JNRCS was approached by humanitarian actors to support the affected people due to their mandate to respond solely based on needs and their ability to support them with no restriction to nationality or registration requirements.

Currently, the Jordan Red Crescent volunteer teams in the headquarters and across all branches assess the damage and needs of the affected areas. According to the report of the Jordanian Red Crescent branch of Ma'an Governorate, which includes the areas (Shoubak, the villages of Al-Nuaimat, Al-Sharah Al-Janoubia, Tasan, Al-Marigha, Qurrain, Ras Al-Naqab, the Southern Badia, Al-Mudawara-Al- Shidiyya) constituting one-third of the area of the Kingdom and one of the most neglected in terms of humanitarian support, there was noticeable damage to some buildings and residents of tented settlement living near the valleys due to the seasonal rains. Some buildings had cracks while others suffered from the collapse of some roofs (reported in the villages of Tasan, Shobak, and Al-Mudawara), as reported by their representative at the operations room of Ma'an Governorate. Also, after communicating with the relevant authorities and from other relevant sources and informing them that the heavy rainfall witnessed by Ma'an and its Badiha resulted in damage to twenty houses in each of the villages of Qurain and Al-Marigha, ten houses in the Al-Mudawara area. The impact of these damages to these families' shelters also includes their clothes, household items, and health conditions causing further implications to their expenditure rates to cover these emerging needs and to ensure they are ready to survive the winter.

JNRCS branches in other governorates are currently still conducting the assessments in their areas.

This year, the JNRCS has already identified 400 families most affected by the harsh winter conditions. These families reside in different governorates in the south and the north and even in the capital, Amman. These people have been impacted in different ways ranging from losing their shelter, losing their household items, inability to buy clothes for their children, or inability to secure means of heating. It is also worth noting that the MEB in Jordan increased from 462 JoD in 2019 to 726.84JoD in 2022 while the average salary in the private sector in the country is around 543 JoD according to the Ministry of Statistics meaning that most people in Jordan are suffering to secure their basic needs and this is even more the affected people who will be targeted under this operation as they are facing challenges in accessing services due to their legal status and also challenges in securing sustainable income sources being mainly informal daily workers. More families have been reported by other actors and will be verified during the operation.

The affected people include vulnerable Jordanians, Syrian refugees (with different registration statuses), Iraqi refugees, Pakistani workers, and Sudanese and Yemeni asylum seekers. These groups either live in very poor conditions in households that need renovation or are living in informal tented settlements. Even though these groups are identified by the different humanitarian actors in the field, their ability to intervene to support them is still very limited.

Every year, the JNRCS responds to about 4,000 people during the winter season and provides support for these families in terms of household items, warm clothes, and means of heating. However, due to a lack of adequate support, the JNRCS needed support to be able to address the needs of the affected population. Noting that the winter season is still at its start, the number of affected families may increase during the response and a revision would be needed then.

Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	Yes
Did it affect the same population group?	Yes
Did the National Society respond?	Yes
Did the National Society request funding form DREF for that event(s)	No
If yes, please specify which operation	-

If you have answered yes to all questions above, justify why the use of DREF for a recurrent event, or how this event should not be considered recurrent:

-

Lessons learned:

The JNRCS will coordinate with the basic needs working group to make sure no duplication of support is provided to the target people.

In past operations, the JNRCS had utilized cash assistance to assist people in need to cover their basic needs as per what they prioritize. However, it was noticed in many instances that the head of household uses the cash for other purposes instead of supporting the family's needs. The JNRCS now does not favor cash interventions to avoid this issue and other monitoring challenges. In this operation, the JNRCS will use vouchers that can be exchanged with commodities in service providers available in the target areas.

Current National Society Actions

National Society EOC	Based on the official request of the national authorities, the JNRCS and other national actors participating in the national crises cell, activated its EOC for the event of exceptional weather conditions on November 18. The JNRCS activated its EOC structure including connecting with the EOCs on the branch level and the deployment of trained volunteers to collect information to feed into their response.
Assessment	The JNRCS teams continue to monitor and assess the situation and are in direct contact with the affected communities and the national authorities including the municipalities and governorates. Collecting information and reports on the extent of damage and requesting assistance to be provided to those affected.
National Society Readiness	The JNRCS was in direct communication with the branches to mobilize the volunteers and participate in the national EOC on the governorate level in anticipation of the event. The JNRCS also made sure their available stocks are ready to respond.
Activation Of Contingency Plans	The JNRCS has a contingency plan for flash floods not specific to cold waves. The contingency plan was activated on November 18. It entails communication with the different branches, putting volunteers on standby, checking the available stocks, communicating with the relevant stakeholders, and testing communication equipment.
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery	The JNRCS published awareness messages and safety instructions to deal with weather conditions on the pages of the Jordanian Red Crescent on social

networking sites.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	An alert was shared by IFRC with the NS before the onset of the event. The Federation is in constant contact with the National Society to keep abreast of the developments of the situation and is ready to provide support as needed.
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Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	<p>The National authorities issued warnings of the expected exceptional weather conditions and advised citizens to stay away from the sides of valleys and places where floods were expected.</p> <p>They also warned of low horizontal visibility on external roads in case of strong storms.</p> <p>The Public Security Directorate called on citizens not to hesitate to call the unified emergency number (911) if the need arises.</p> <p>The Electricity Distribution Company announced raising its readiness in preparation for the winter conditions to be prepared to restore service as soon as possible in the event of any outage.</p> <p>The Meteorological Department warned of the formation of torrential rains and high-water levels in valleys and low-lying areas, due to the chances of heavy rain accompanied by hail showers along with lightning and thunder, in some areas of Jordan.</p> <p>Several municipalities, in addition to the Greater Amman Municipality, declared a state of emergency to deal with the depression and the expected weather situation. The Ministry of Local Administration has allocated emergency numbers at the Ministry's center in Amman to receive comments from all over the Kingdom on the phone number (4641393 06 extended, or 4622372 06 direct, or 4631987 06 direct, or fax number 4652269 06)</p> <p>Civil defense managed to evacuate some of the affected families especially those living in proximity to flood areas (for example valleys) and relocated them to emergency shelters temporarily.</p>
UN or other actors	The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is in contact with JNRCS to identify the people in need and are visiting their community centers seeking assistance. a cooperation agreement is under discussion with the organization to establish a referral system between the two parties and data sharing is in accordance with data protection standards for both parties.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The affected population is suffering from poor livelihood conditions. They are mostly informal seasonal workers in addition to some families with unemployed heads of households. The affected areas have very limited services, and the targeted families reside in remote locations with no access to basic services or with access that requires extra transportation expenses.

In the winter, the priorities of the families change to increase the coverage of health needs, especially with seasonal illnesses and

poor living conditions. This directly impacts their ability to secure their basic needs and has implications for their spending on the food security of these families.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

As mentioned under the livelihoods and basic needs section, since the families prioritize their needs under health among other needs, the hygiene needs become less important exposing them to further health implications.

Hygiene kits would help prevent the spread of diseases and also provide families with the basic WASH items they need.



Shelter Housing And Settlements

People living in the underserved areas face extreme conditions during the winter months, when temperatures drop to an average of 7.5°C in January and can reach subzero degrees. Most of these families live in small, overcrowded spaces shared with up to 3 other families, and have extremely limited access to adequate winter clothing, blankets, and other household items. The majority of their shelters are rented spaces in the basements of buildings, where insulation is often non-existent and, without access to heat sources, families are at high risk of developing illnesses during the cold and damp winter months. The remaining families are living in tented settlements with even worse shelter conditions.

The priority needs under shelter as reported by the affected families include the need for warm clothes, blankets and means of heating are a priority to support these families and cover their needs for the winter and reduce their exposure to respiratory illnesses. The families have other shelter needs that will not be covered under this operation, however, JNRCS will continue to coordinate with other actors to secure the needed assistance.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

This DREF allocation aims at providing the 2,000 people most affected by the cold waves in remote vulnerable areas across 7 governorates in Jordan (Ajloun, Karak, Mafraq, Amman, Tafileh, Irbid, Maan) with Shelter, WASH, and livelihoods assistance for 4 months.

Operation strategy rationale

To achieve the objective of the operation, the JNRCS will provide the identified people in need through their branch teams and through referrals from coordination with other humanitarian actors with:

- Shelter support:

The JNRCS will provide the 2,000 people with blankets, each family will also be provided with a heater and a voucher for heating. The JNRCS will also provide vouchers to cover clothes for families.

- Livelihood and basic needs support:

The JNRCS will provide the 400 families with food parcels to cover their food needs for 3 months

- WASH support:

The JNRCS will provide the 400 families with hygiene kits to cover their needs for 3 months.

This assistance is intended to cover the minimal needs of the families in accordance with the MEB for Jordan, during the time of harsh winter conditions to avoid the families attempting to cover their basic needs through negative coping mechanisms. The MEB per capita for 2022 was 145.37 JoD. For a family of 5 it is 726.84 JoD according to UNHCR (Basic needs working group chair) which is high compared to the average salaries in Jordan and constitutes a challenge for families to cover their basic needs on normal days let alone under the harsh winter conditions and the extra expenses associated with it.

This DREF allocation is requested to enable the JNRCS response to the families impacted by the winter conditions under the current lack of sufficient winterization funding in country.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

up to 2,000 people of the most affected by the cold wave in the different governorates including Jordanians and non-Jordanians.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The JNRCS will target the people most affected by the winter conditions around Jordan. The identification will be through JNRCS teams and referrals from other humanitarian actors. The selection will be based on needs with special emphasis on highly vulnerable groups including:

- Female-headed households
- Families whose households were partially or completely destroyed
- Families with persons with disabilities
- Families with elderly people or children

Total Targeted Population

Women	1,000	Rural	-
Girls (under 18)	-	Urban	-
Men	1,000	People with disabilities (estimated)	-
Boys (under 18)	-		
Total targeted population	2,000		

Risk and Security Considerations

Please indicate about potential operation risk for this operations and mitigation actions

Risk	Mitigation action
- access might be limited to remote areas in case of severe weather conditions	- JNRCS prepositioned available stocks in the nearby branches

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

N/A

Planned Intervention



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Budget: CHF 47,542

Targeted Persons: 2,000

Indicators

Title	Target
#of families supported with 3-month food parcels	400

Priority Actions

- Distribution of 400 3-month food parcels
- The JNRCS will continue to raise awareness on their social media platforms and during their distributions on the best practices during the current winter season



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 31,694

Targeted Persons: 2,000

Indicators

Title	Target
#of families supported with 3-month hygiene kits	400

Priority Actions

- Distribution of 400 3-month Hygiene kits
- The JNRCS will continue to raise awareness on their social media platforms and during their distributions on the best practices during the current winter season



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 6,284

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
#of finance in emergencies advisors supporting the operation	1

Priority Actions

- Finance in emergencies support for 1 month



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 50,278

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
#of lessons learned workshops conducted	1
% of people reporting satisfaction of the assistance received	70
# of volunteers supported with per diem	50
# of emergency needs assessment trainings held	1
#of PDM trainings held	1

Priority Actions

- Cover the NS core cost contribution, 6.5%
- Conduct lessons learned workshop
- Cover the transportation cost for relief items
- Cover the salary of a programme officer (dedicated for this response) for 2 months
- conduct a PDM
- Cover the volunteer per diem for 50 volunteer for 6 days
- Conduct a PDM training
- Conduct an emergency needs assessment training
- Cover the transportation of volunteers
- Procure winter jackets for response teams



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 155,831

Targeted Persons: 2,000

Indicators

Title	Target
#of people supported with blankets	2,000
#of families supported with heaters	400
#of families supported with 3-month voucher for heating	400
#of families supported with vouchers for winter clothes	400

Priority Actions

- Distribution of 2,000 blankets, 1 per person
- Distribution of 400 heaters, 1 per family
- Distribution of 400 3-month voucher for heating(Fuel).
- Distribution of 400 vouchers for winter clothes.
- The JNRCS will continue to raise awareness on their social media platforms and during their distributions on the best practices during the current winter season

About Support Services

How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

8 staff and 50 volunteers, the volunteers will be engaged for 6 days in the operation covering preparation activities (assessments, registration of beneficiary information, packaging, transportation and distribution, and PDM)

If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?

All procurement will be done through the national society in accordance with the JNRCS and IFRC procurement procedures.

How will this operation be monitored?

The JNRCS will monitor the operation as per its standard SOPs. The NS will also dedicate a programme officer for the implementation of this operation who will be covered for 2 months under this DREF budget. For the vouchers distribution, the JNRCS preserves adequate documentation of the recipient information including taking photos of the family book along with the ID of the recipient (or any available identification depending on the legal status of the recipient) with the voucher that has unique serial numbers. A monitoring staff is also assigned to accompany the distribution process and monitor the registration of people receiving the assistance.

The IFRC will assist the JNRCS in establishing the M&E plan and the PDM and will hold regular meetings with the NS on the progress of the operation to ensure progress according to the submitted plan.

Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRJO003 - Jordan Red Crescent Society Cold Wave 2023

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	235,067
Shelter and Basic Household Items	155,831
Livelihoods	47,542
Multi-purpose Cash	0
Health	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	31,694
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	0
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	0
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	56,562
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	6,284
National Society Strengthening	50,278
TOTAL BUDGET	291,629

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

Contact Information

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

National Society contact: Mutlaq AL-Hadid, Head of programs and Operations - JNRCS, Mutlaq.melhadid@jnracs.org

IFRC Appeal Manager:

Hosam Faysal, Regional Head of Health, Disasters, Climate & Crises (HDCC) Unit - MENA, hosam.faysal@ifrc.org

IFRC Project Manager: Ibrahim Al Ajlouni, Programme Coordinator-Delegation IFRC Jordan, ibrahim.al-ajlouni@ifrc.org

IFRC focal point for the emergency: Nader Bin Shamlan, Operations Coordinator-MENA, nader.binshamlan@ifrc.org

[Click here for the reference](#)