



DREF Operational Update

Libya Population Movement Libyan Tunisian Border

Appeal: MDRLY004	Total DREF Allocation: CHF 357,308	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Population Movement
Glide Number: OT-2023-000116-LBY	People Affected: 6,000 people	People Targeted: 3,000 people	
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 2023-07-29	New Operational End Date: 2024-01-31	Total Operating Timeframe: 6 months
Additional Allocation Requested: 0		Targeted Areas: Nuqat al Khams	

Description of the Event

Libya: Population Movement Tunisian Border IFRC July 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.

What happened, where and when?

On July 14th, the Libyan Red Crescent was informed by the local authorities that 1,100 migrants had been detected on the Libyan-Tunisian borders. The authorities requested the LRC to respond to the event. These migrants, originating from different African countries, were passing through Tunisia to cross to Europe and have been held by the Tunisian authorities and expelled at the Tunisian borders with other countries including Libya. The migrants had crossed the Tunisian territory and were hosted by the Libyan border guard forces.

The Libyan Red Crescent continued to provide support and humanitarian aid for over a month until both governments reached an agreement where the Tunisian government agreed to take responsibility for 126 migrants (76 men, 42 women, and 8 children) in mid-August.

The rest of the migrants were being managed by the Libyan authorities who intercepted them and detained them mainly in the Al-Assa center. Governments agreed that each would be responsible for the migrants intercepted on their respective territory. Libya has witnessed an influx of around 1,200 migrants in the second week of October and it continues to have an influx from Tunisia until this day. The influx is expected to continue in the coming months.



Scope and Scale

Since the second week of July, Libyan border guards have been coming to the rescue of sub-Saharan migrants expelled by the Tunisian authorities at the Libyan-Tunisian borders. According to the Libyan authorities, the migrants were found abandoned without water, food, or shelter in temperatures exceeding 50 degrees in an uninhabited area close to Al-Assah, which is about 15 kilometers (15 miles) inside Libyan territory and 150 kilometers (93 miles) west of Tripoli.

The Libyan government issued a statement on Tuesday 25 July announcing the discovery of five bodies of migrants who died in the desert in an area on the border with Tunisia. Libya has become home to at least 600,000 sub-Saharan migrants. The numbers are increasing, and the duration of the migrants' stay is prolonged until the voluntary return is coordinated by the International Organization for Migration. The program is currently running.

Rescued migrants have been found to suffer from physical injuries such as first-degree burns due to the heatwaves hitting the area and were in very critical conditions, health services, and personal hygiene materials were provided. The migrant numbers are expected to increase in the next six months, especially after the second wave of influx from the Tunisian borders at the end of October 2023.

Local authorities contacted the Libyan Red Crescent for help as the number of migrants has exceeded the shelters' capacities. The National Society responded to the humanitarian needs immediately and assisted the affected people by providing first aid services, drinking water, and snacks, and migrants were hosted by the local authorities inside the shelter.

Due to the absence of embassies for some nationalities, their deportation will be delayed in the long term and their presence will remain until intervention is made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the International Organization for Migration under the voluntary return program umbrella.

During the second week of October 2023, a second wave of influx of migrants arrived at the Tunisian-Libyan borders and they were detained by the Libyan government while waiting for sustainable solutions. Consequently, the Detention Center of Al-Assa is currently hosting around 1,200 migrants (1,090 men, 55 women, 40 children, and 15 babies). According to the rapid needs assessment by LRCS, there are two identified cases of Tuberculosis which due to the poor hygienic conditions could lead to an outbreak of TB in

the center. Additionally, there are 5 pregnant women at different stages of pregnancy. Children are suffering from the lack of appropriate food and clothing. Therefore, the need for support to migrants in the Tunisian-Libyan borders is even higher now and the response gaps are significant.

The situation continues to develop, and the humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate with more people arriving at the Tunisian-Libyan borders in addition to the heatwaves experienced during the summer period. Different sources reported that several bodies were recovered from the area. As the migrant influx continues through the desert routes, and the temperature drops, it is expected that the affected population will need winterization material. LRCS is one of the main responders on the ground. As accessibility is a challenge for many organizations, LRCS has collaborated with multiple organizations such as UNICEF to distribute water and food to the affected migrants in the detention center. ICRC has also collaborated with LRCS to provide Protection of Family Links services through the provision of calling services. LRCS's response to the emergency was minimized upon the Derna floods as all resources were dispersed to provide support to the affected population in Derna. However, upon the second influx of migrants, the LRCS prioritized scope of work has re-included the response to the migrants at the Tunisian-Libyan borders, especially with the second wave of migrants influx in October 2023.

Summary of Changes

Are you changing the timeframe of the operation	Yes
Are you changing the operational strategy	Yes
Are you changing the target population of the operation	No
Are you changing the geographical location	No
Are you making changes to the budget	No
Is this a request for a second allocation	No
Has the forecasted event materialize?	No

Please explain the summary of changes and justification:

The National Society has been going through structural changes that affected all the programmes implementation. In fact, the Secretary General of LRCS was changed twice within less than two months – 28/08/2023 and 24/10/2023-. Hence, implementation of the activities according to the timeline faced challenges as such changes imply technical focal points turnover and discontinuation of processes. Additionally, on Sunday, September 10 -a few weeks after the approval of the DREF-, storm Daniel hit Libya’s north-eastern part of the country causing one of the biggest catastrophes in the modern history of the country with 10,000 dead. All the resources and the personnel of the National Society have been diverted to the response to the Derna Crisis for over two months. Therefore, the response to the migration crisis at the Libyan-Tunisian borders was minimized.

The overall budget has not changed. However, some activities funds were reallocated in order to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of the resources used in light of the Daniel Storm flood response. In fact, the capacity building funds were reallocated to the procurement for a longer sustainable response to the influx of migrants with the second influx wave.

Current National Society Actions

Migration	Serving emergency food parcels including 200 food parcels and 3,600 dry meals. A family communication program was offered for 26 migrants to contact their families.
Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	Installation of a water platform in Al-Assa shelter center with 4000 Liters capacity Installation of a water tank at the rescue point in the Libyan-Tunisian border with 2000 Liters Capacity Distribution of 112,000 Liters of drinking water Distribution of 1,300 cleaning kits
Shelter, Housing And Settlements	Distribution of 100 kitchen utensils packages Distribution of 20-night lightening lamps
Health	Providing first aid to more than 479 migrants who were suffering from different injuries. 110 migrants were detected with deteriorating health and were in critical condition. Provision of medical services to 537 migrants 39 pregnant women received appropriate medical care and counseling

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat

The IFRC through the country delegation is providing the technical support needed and will support through the procurement of the items under this operation. The IFRC Regional Office will extend all the support needed throughout the operation timeframe technically and through GHS and SCM unit. IFRC proceeded with the procurement operations in the framework of the DREF. The Country Delegation, in close coordination with IFRC MENA RO Procurement Unit, has proceeded and completed the Logistics Requests, finalized the items specifications and identified the lists of suppliers. Due to the disruption of over two months for the Derna Emergency response, the procurement was suspended until last week of October.

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

ICRC supports the National Society to provide PFL services in the detention center including calls.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	Yes
National authorities	The Libyan Red Crescent works in close coordination with the national authorities and was officially requested to respond to the humanitarian situation on the Libyan-Tunisian borders. The national authorities are providing shelter to the rescued migrants in addition to limited relief items.
UN or other actors	The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) have provided drinking water, food and hygiene kits for about 600 stranded migrants on the Libyan-Tunisian border, quarter of them are children in urgent need. UNICEF has no presence on the ground and works through the Libyan Red Crescent. Additionally, IOM is providing weekly medical services in the detention center.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

The rescued migrants need to develop awareness of the challenges expected and the reporting mechanisms in place. There's also a need to raise awareness of human trafficking and the protection of women and children due to the presence of many children and women and due to the nature of the situation in the shelter. Protection services are absent in the shelters and the national society seeks to fill this gap by raising the awareness of the target people and providing protection services to migrants in detention centers.



Health

The migrants stranded at the borders are found to suffer different health issues including injuries, chronic illnesses, first-degree sunburns in the summer, and expected hypothermia in the winter. Many injuries have not been dealt with quickly due to the distance or the lack of knowledge of migrants' first aid, and there is a clear need for psychological support services, especially for women and children. The area at the border lacks basic health care services and IOM has secured the provision of basic.

health services in the center. Psycho-social support is needed especially with the presence of a high number of pregnant women and a significant number of children. The risk of TB is also high as few cases are identified in the center of Al-Assa.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

There's a severe need for drinking water and hygiene kits to cover the needs of the migrants at the border and the shelters. The detention centers are suffering from over-crowdedness with a high risk of communicable and non-communicable diseases. Therefore, ensuring hygiene and security in the shelter is essential.

The centers have WASH facilities, but they need rehabilitation which the national society will seek to cover through the support of different funding.



Migration

As the migrants have been left at the borders with no means of communicating with their families, there's a need to facilitate their access to phones to contact their families and the embassies of their countries which is secured through the support of ICRC.



Shelter Housing And Settlements

The migrants are found in open areas in very difficult weather conditions. The authorities have provided shelter in mainly Al-Assa detention centers. However, with the limited relief items available from the government and the winter approaching, winterization items (especially thermal blankets) are needed.

As the health risks are high, cleaning kits are also important to maintain minimum hygienic conditions within the centers which are suffering from limited space and an increasing number of migrants.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Migrants at the border are left with no means of survival, no food or water. There's a clear need for ready food parcels and dry food parcels to cover the immediate needs and needs of the migrants during their stay in the shelters until they return to their home countries. Given the temperature drop especially since the migration route is across the desert, dry high-caloric food items are needed for immediate response.

The national society provided the rescued migrants with small individual emergency food packages and will continue providing the affected population in the shelter with dry food as the shelters have kitchens.

As IOM is providing weekly medical checkups for migrants, basic health services are secured for the population in need.

Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

The Libyan Red Crescent conducts continuous Rapid assessments upon their visits to the detention center. The team identified the updated numbers of migrants including children, women, and pregnant women, as well as the emerging needs and risks.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

This DREF operation aims to provide support to 3,000 migrants left at the Tunisian-Libyan borders in dire humanitarian conditions by providing them with health, shelter, basic needs, migration, and protection essential services for six months.

Operation strategy rationale

To achieve the objective of this operation and address the needs of the affected population that still exist, this operation is planned to provide:

- Health services including first aid.

WASH services include the distribution of hygiene kits to the affected people, cleaning kits in the shelter, and hygiene promotion.

- Shelter services and distribution of NFIs by providing medium-thermal blankets for people in shelters.
- Emergency food parcels and drinking water.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

The target group of this operation's activities are migrants who have been rescued at the Libyan-Tunisian borders mainly placed at Al-Assa detention center. However, given the relocation of some migrants to nearby detention centers upon the shelter saturation, other detention centers will also be targeted to provide relief items and support to the affected migrants.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The operation will target all the migrants rescued at the Tunisian-Libyan borders with an emphasis on:

- People with health conditions that need immediate action
- People with injuries who need first aid
- Unaccompanied women and children
- Elderly people and people with disabilities
- Pregnant women

Total Targeted Population

Women	500	Rural	-
Girls (under 18)	300	Urban	-
Men	2,000	People with disabilities (estimated)	-
Boys (under 18)	200		
Total targeted population	3,000		

Risk and Security Considerations

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

Risk	Mitigation action
Access to the affected population in the shelter	LRC will continue to coordinate the access with the authorities, and they can implement the activities in the shelters

Planned Intervention



Budget: CHF 99,045

Targeted Persons: 3,000

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of body bags procured	500	-
# of first aid kits distributed	300	

Progress Towards Outcome

As the number of migrants has increased, the planned quantity for procurement of First Aid Kits and body bags has increased to 300 and 500 as the provision of health services from LRCS is centered around First Aid. LRCS is often the governmental main partner in Dead Body Management. As the influx is expected to continue, and as the migration route is expected to be harder and more deadly with the temperature drop, increasing the number of procured body bags is following needs at the field level.

Although the national society started responding since the onset of the disaster, the response was not covered by the allocation from this operation but through other partners. The operation will utilize the allocation of this DREF during the coming months. In terms of procurement, the First Aid Kits are ordered and waiting to be shipped, while the body bags are to be ordered by the beginning of December from the Global Services Center.

However, since other partners are providing medical and PSS services, the mobile clinics and PSS activities have been removed.



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 19,170

Targeted Persons: 3,000

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of blankets distributed	3,000	-

Progress Towards Outcome

Although the national society started responding since the onset of the disaster, the response was not covered by the allocation from this operation but through other partners. The operation will utilize the allocation of this DREF during the coming months. The thermal blankets have been ordered from the Global Storage Center of IFRC and are shipped to Benghazi. They are expected to arrive to Libya by the first week of December 2023.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 43,133

Targeted Persons: 120

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of lessons learned workshops conducted	1	-
# of volunteers insured	200	-
# of volunteers provided with uniforms	200	-

Progress Towards Outcome

IFRC has proceeded with the procurement of the volunteers' uniforms.

As the Storm Daniel Emergency Appeal includes a large capacity building and preparedness component, the training have been removed since much of the training will be delivered under such frame, and the needs for relief items is high.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 24,495

Targeted Persons: 0

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Finance advisor	Yes	Yes



Migration

Budget: CHF 26,625

Targeted Persons: 3,000

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of food parcels distributed	3,000	
# functional Humanitarian Service Points	3	-

Progress Towards Outcome

Humanitarian Services Points were conducted by LRCS with the support of different partners. The HSPs under the DREF framework will be mainly focused on the distribution of relief items as some basic services are covered by other partners to avoid duplication.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 144,840

Targeted Persons: 3,000

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of cleaning kits distributed	1,000	-
# of individuals who benefitted from water distribution	3,000	-
# of hygiene kits distributed	4,000	-

Progress Towards Outcome

LRCS provided 112,000 Liters of drinkable Water and a drinking water station in Al Assa detention center through UNICEF support. Another distribution of 9000 Liters is planned by the end of November.

Although the national society started responding since the onset of the disaster, the response was not covered by the allocation from this operation but through other partners. The operation will utilize the allocation of this DREF during the coming months. Therefore, IFRC has initiated the drinking water procurement process to distribute by the first half of December 2023 to ensure continuity of aid.

Due to the overcrowded center and the high risk of TB and Rabies, IFRC increased the number of Hygiene Kits and cleaning kits to distribute. In terms of the procurement process, the Hygiene kits have been evaluated and a local supplier is identified. The order is to be placed end of November and the procurement is planned to be delivered by the end of December to the LRCS warehouse. As per the cleaning kits, the tender has ended, and the samples evaluation is to take place by the first week of December. The cleaning kits delivery timeframe is beginning in January.

About Support Services

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

200 volunteers from LRCS are involved in these operations supported by the staff in HQ.

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

The procurement is managed through IFRC Delegation with the support of the MENA RO as per the financial regulations applied to the current DREF. IFRC has already launched all the procurement procedures for the items. The thermal blankets are in transit, hygiene kits and First Aid kits are ordered upon completion of the selection process, and cleaning kit samples are to be evaluated upon the end of the tender. For body bags, uniforms, food, and water supplies, the LRs have been finalized.

How will this operation be monitored?

Through bi-weekly reports that provide an update on activities and conditions every two weeks. In addition to monitoring the progress and quality of activities.

Contact Information

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

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IFRC Appeal Manager: Hosam Faysal, Head of HDCC, hosam.faysal@ifrc.org

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