



ALGERIA

IFRC network mid-year report, January – June 2023

14 December 2023

IN SUPPORT OF THE ALGERIAN RED CRESCENT



62

National Society branches



100

National Society staff



24,000

National Society volunteers

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Total	Funding requirements	23.5M
IFRC	Emergency Operations Funding requirements	4.3M
	Longer-term Funding requirements	19.2M
	Income	402,000
Participating National Societies	Income	266,000

[Click here for more financial information](#)

Appeal numbers **MAADZ001**

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Humanitarian diplomacy

National Society is participating in IFRC-led communication campaigns

Applicable data not available

Accountability and agility

National Society has demonstrated progress in digital transformation according to the digital maturity model outlined in the IFRC Digital Transformation Strategy

Applicable data not available

PSEA policy is in place to enforce prevention and support survivors Yes

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

	Multilateral Support	Bilateral Support			
		Climate	Enabling Functions	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing
National Society					
British Red Cross	●				
Italian Red Cross				●	
Netherlands Red Cross	●				
Red Cross of Monaco	●				
Spanish Red Cross			●		

Planned
 Supported

OVERALL PROGRESS

Context

Algeria's economy relies heavily on hydrocarbon production and export revenues - these have constituted 19 percent of its GDP, 93 percent of its product exports, and 38 percent of its revenue from 2016 to 2021. To enhance economic diversification and address high unemployment rates, particularly among young people, Algeria aims to broaden its income sources. In 2021, the economy rebounded with a 3.4 percent GDP growth, recovering from the COVID-19 related recession in 2020. This recovery was largely due to increased hydrocarbon output, however, this slowed in 2022, due to declining crude oil and natural gas production, and non-hydrocarbon sectors like agriculture and consumer-oriented manufacturing grew. In 2022, favourable global hydrocarbon prices led to an improvement in Algeria's budget balance, leading to a surplus of 5.7 percent of GDP and a budget deficit reduction to 0.9 percent. However, public debt reached 50.9 percent in 2022 and inflation reached 9.3 percent – these two indicators primarily affected vulnerable populations in country. Algeria's past economic advances, including poverty reduction and improved human development indicators, were largely tied to the hydrocarbon boom and it is important that Algeria has initiated economic reforms to encourage investment and private sector growth, to diversify the economy, address youth unemployment, reduce poverty and improve development.

Tensions between Algeria and neighboring Morocco over the Western Sahara have been a longstanding and contentious matter in North African geopolitics. The prolonged conflict has had significant humanitarian consequences, with many Sahrawi refugees living in camps in Algeria for decades. The unresolved status of the Western Sahara and ongoing tensions have hindered efforts to address the humanitarian needs of these vulnerable populations.

Key achievements

In the first half of 2023, **the Algerian Red Crescent** collaborated extensively with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) on the implementation of the Saving Lives and Livelihoods (SLL) programme, as initiated by the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (AfCDC).

Furthermore, recognizing Algeria's vulnerability to natural hazards, particularly wildfires, the Algerian Red Crescent responded to intense wildfires in the country in the first half of 2023 and successfully executed its IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) funded operation (MDRDZ008). This operation, aimed at addressing the consequences of the wildfires and was effectively completed during the first half of the year. These two examples mark significant achievements in Algerian Red Crescent's ongoing commitment to enhancing health and disaster response capabilities in the country.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Significant efforts have been made under the climate and environment sector. The Algerian Red Crescent receives daily alerts from the IFRC on climate-related events, such as heatwaves, heavy rainfall, wildfires and other natural occurrences. These alerts are instrumental in keeping Algerian Red Crescent's staff and volunteers well-informed and up to date on constantly evolving environmental challenges and the real-time information equips the National Society to be able to respond promptly and to effectively deploy its resources and expertise. Addressing these critical issues in accordance with the unified plan's defined outcomes and outputs.

There is a strong commitment from the National Society to ensure the preparedness of its staff and volunteers to address evolving climate risks for the future. This includes work to:

- Conduct awareness campaigns on risks related to climate crises, including floods, wildfires, and their impact on natural resources in the targeted communities
- Promote the implementation of the IFRC's Green Response during relief operation and support the use of green logistics and supply chain guidelines
- Implementing eco-friendly solutions through using a solar system to support and enhance the generators and through starting recycling programmes within the National Society
- Build the capacities of volunteers on rapid assessment and knowledge management

While the objective of environmental sustainability and climate change mitigation is of interest to the National Society and is an intended focus for future actions, no tangible steps have been taken during the reporting period to realize the specific outputs in this area. However, efforts in this domain remain an area of potential development and action for subsequent reporting periods.

The IFRC also supports Algerian Red Crescent in providing it with regular updates on climate related weather events or potential hazards, to support its disaster and crisis readiness.



Disasters and crises

The Algerian Red Crescent has had support from the IFRC to receive and implement a DREF funded operation aimed at mitigating the impact of forest wildfires in Algeria (MDRDZ008). Initiated in September 2022, all activities in this DREF operation were completed in the first half of 2023, demonstrating the Algerian Red Crescent's commitment to timely and efficient crisis management in the face of forest wildfires in Algeria. This operation included DREF funded training by the IFRC, to support the National Society in similar future responses.

The Algerian Red Crescent is committed to building its readiness to respond to a range of crises and disasters, whether sudden-onset, slow-onset, time-bound, or protracted (Output 2.3.1). In this regard, the National Society took a significant step towards enhancing its preparedness and response capabilities by hosting a DREF training workshop in February 2023, conducted by the Operations team from IFRC. This comprehensive training programme was specifically tailored to equip Algerian Red Crescent staff with the essential knowledge and skills needed to enhance preparedness for future operations. A key result of this training was the enhanced ability to facilitate the prompt and effective application for DREF funding and the efficient implementation and reporting on future DREF-funded operations, to ensure the needs of those people affected by disasters are addressed in a timely and effective way. This included work to:

- Promote the usage of CVA across all thematic and sectoral areas
- Support from the IFRC to conduct the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) process to identify National Societies' strengths and gaps in terms of institutional preparedness for response
- Develop a plan of action to systematically increase Algerian Red Crescent's capacities to respond to multiple hazards, to improve response procedures and systems, and to provide adequate equipment to support the response to emergencies (e.g. special clothes, PPE)
- Engage with communities to anticipate and prepare for upcoming emergencies

The Algerian Red Crescent receives daily alerts directly from the IFRC, containing information about climate-related events and natural hazards, which enable staff and volunteers to be well-informed and ready to respond across the country.

Work on ensuring that people affected by crises and disasters have access to timely, adequate, and flexible assistance that empowers them, specifically targeting the provision of cash and voucher assistance (CVA), which is still to be actioned in a response.

The Algerian Red Crescent has a bilateral partnership with the Spanish Red Cross targeted at "Providing Relief Assistance to Sahrawis in Tindouf".



Health and wellbeing

The Algerian Red Crescent's commitment to health and well-being is evident through its engagement in disseminating the COVID-19 vaccination-related health messages through the Saving Lives and Livelihoods (SLL) programme in collaboration with the AfCDC. This programme is based on a good cooperation between the Algerian Red Crescent, AfCDC and the IFRC, to develop and disseminate essential health messages related to the COVID-19 vaccination programme and helped to sensitize communities, particularly those in underserved or vulnerable areas in Sahrawi, to the significance of the vaccination. The messages stressed the advantages of vaccination and addressed vaccine hesitancy and misinformation within communities.

To amplify their impact, diverse communication channels, including local media, community outreach programmes, and digital platforms, were used to ensure widespread dissemination of critical information and to promote vaccine uptake. These efforts aim to support delivery of evidence-based health promotion, disease prevention, and community engagement that contribute to the wellbeing of vulnerable populations and enhance community-based health risk reduction strategies.

The National Society has also worked in partnership with the AfCDC and in year one planning has focused on the following areas:

- Hosting a risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) strategy workshop
- Development, design, translation, publication and dissemination of its RCCE Strategy
- Training for Algerian Red Crescent teams – staff and volunteers - on RCCE
- Training of Ministry of Health (MoH) staff and community health workers (CHWs) on RCCE
- Training on RCCE and other topics for community influencers and leaders

As part of their work to deliver against these health and care outcomes and outputs on evidence-based health promotion and disease prevention, the Algerian Red Crescent also:

- Provided mental Health and psychological support services (MHPSS) to people affected by the wildfires, including women and children
- Delivered safe drinking water to enable communities in the areas affected by the wildfires to meet their water needs and to prevent water borne diseases
- Distributed hygiene kits to affected populations
- Ran health awareness campaigns on pandemics, non-communicable diseases (NCDs), and mother and child health (MCH) and worked to develop its skills and knowledge around community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) and epidemic control for volunteers (ECV)
- Started the process of accreditation for the National Society's first aid course (IFAA) through the Global First Aid Centre.

The IFRC has also provided support and training around the health and care component, both in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and for ongoing health programming around non-communicable diseases, mother and child health and through training or guidance for community-based health and epidemic control for volunteers. There has been a strong focus on developing Risk Communication and Community engagement skills to support this work.



Migration and displacement

While there is a recognition of the importance of addressing the needs of migrants and displaced persons, there is no specific action to report for the current period. This remains an area of potential development and action for the future. Key areas being targeted for the future include:

- Assessments of the specific local needs of migrants and of the capacity of Algerian Red Crescent branch to work on an evidence-based approach to plan activities for migrants
- Opportunities to provide food aid and non-food items (NFIs) for migrants and displaced persons
- Capacities to respond to increased needs for assistance for migrants, particularly through the delivery of first aids, psychological first aid (PFA) and via protection/migration training



Values, power and inclusion

The Algerian Red Crescent has committed its efforts in a number of areas related to promoting humanitarian values, fundamental principles, and youth engagement. This has included:

- Support for social programmes for older people with disabilities and other socially challenged or excluded groups within the country
- Steps to verify the inclusion of women and increase gender representation across all its activities
- Ensuring tailor-made, gender-specific support to women in emergencies, through data disaggregation to inform the response and by providing specific support when needed
- Involvement in community engagement and accountability (CEA) related coordination meetings aiming to improve understanding and share experience around CEA. The National Society is still to define its objective around CEA and to develop its priority outputs and outcomes
- Raising awareness on non-discrimination, respect for diversity, gender and social inclusion, violence prevention, a culture of peace, and intercultural dialogue
- Development of youth behaviours and skills, including empathy, active listening, critical thinking, dropping bias / non-judgement, non-violent communication, peaceful resolution of tensions, mediation, and reconciliation

As part of its ongoing commitments to its planned outcomes and outputs on Education, the Algerian Red Crescent ensures the distribution of essential school materials to students at the beginning of the academic year. By doing so, the Algerian Red Crescent supports educational access and ensures that this is available to a more diverse and inclusive range of students. This is a practical manifestation of the values and principles emphasized within Outcome 5.1, which focus on the engagement and well-being of young people. Through these efforts, Algerian Red Crescent actively contributes to the positive transformation of its communities, by reinforcing humanitarian values and principles, fostering youth participation, and promoting a more inclusive access to education.

The Algerian Red Crescent has taken significant steps in creating a safe and inclusive organizations within the IFRC. The National Society has updated the Algerian Red Crescent Manual for its teams in February 2023, to reinforce the emphasis on the Code of Conduct and on protocols for safeguarding and reporting incidents of sexual abuse, underscoring its commitment to addressing these critical issues. Furthermore, the Algerian Red Crescent closely collaborates with IFRC's Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) department to ensure that protection, gender and inclusion principles are deeply integrated into all our activities, from disaster response to community services. The Algerian Red Crescent is committed to these objectives and to fostering diverse representation within our teams, and actively involving community members in disaster risk management decisions.

There has also been a good cooperation with the IFRC Protection, Gender and Inclusion team to develop approaches to improve inclusion of different community groups in disaster response and other programming and to improve the representation and engagement of women.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

Work in this area has included:

- Increasing literacy about Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination and the benefits, at every level, of coordinating in all situations with all relevant Movement components under One Unified Plan



National Society development

The Algerian Red Cross is building its network with communities and partners, to become a more agile organization, able to rapidly respond to disasters and crises and deliver more relevant and targeted programming. Importantly, it is also working to become a more trusted destination for donations. Work has included:

- Developing a One Country Plan, which includes bilateral contributions from participating National Societies
- Working on Algerian Red Crescent's Strategy and related Plan of Action
- Identifying potential resource mobilization and income generation activities, to help diversify the National Society's income and build up more sustainable financial resources
- Reviewing its planning, monitoring, evaluating and reporting (PMER), human resources and logistics systems, identifying the priorities and the most appropriate methods to support institutional strengthening and development



Humanitarian diplomacy

No activities reported during this reporting period.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Algerian Red Crescent is working to deliver against its commitment to be a more community centered institution, through building its capacities and developing its tools to strengthen its work at community level. Work in this area includes:

- Using the risk analysis matrix on Child Safeguarding and Child Safeguarding policy to be utilized in all its programmes in view of the mandatory implementation of risk analysis on Safeguarding as of 2022
- Developing its Code of Conduct and protocols on safeguarding and prevention or response to sexual abuse
- Developing its community-based tools and approaches to ensure its positive engagement at community level

Additionally, work in this areas has included engaging digitally in high-level meetings, especially those with the IFRC, such as the Governing Board meetings, and in other meetings with partners, through the "enhancing global digital engagement initiative". The National Society is also developing its own digital system, by supporting work on its basic infrastructure and its digital equipment, to improve and guarantee the connectivity capacity embedded in the National Society. This has been done through and with support from the "Strengthening the National Society Digital Engagement Capabilities" programme, with funding from the IFRC, which has financed these IT equipment and capacity building projects.



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 15 million volunteers. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- **Timeframe and alignment:** The reporting timeframe for this overview is covering the period from 1 January to 30 June 2023. However, due to the diversity of the IFRC and differences in fiscal years, this coverage may not fully align for some National Societies. Mid-year reporting data may have been based on estimations, with plans to submit more robust numbers at the annual reporting stage.
- **Missing data and breakdowns:** National Societies have diverse data collection systems and processes that may not align with the standardized indicators. Data may not be available for some indicators, for some National Societies. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under or over-estimation of the efforts led by all.
- **Reporting bias:** The data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) and which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [IFRC Global Plan and Country Plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Donor response](#) on IFRC website
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\) data](#)
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)

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Algerian Red Crescent

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