

**Federation-wide National Society Revised
Response Plan**

Middle East Complex-Emergency Emergency Appeal



Photo: Syrian Arab Red Crescent

Emergency appeal No: MDRS5002

Timeframe of this response plan: 26 Months

Number of people to be assisted: 750,000

Federation-wide funding requirement: 24,000,000 CHF
IFRC Secretariat funding requirement: 20,000,000 CHF

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since October 2023, escalating hostilities across Gaza and the West Bank have resulted in over 42,000 deaths and more than 100,000 injuries, with the situation continuing to deteriorate, reaching unprecedented levels of severity.

From mid-September 2024, the situation in the region has significantly worsened due to the massive escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, with severe impact on neighbouring countries, especially Syria. These escalations have triggered internal displacement within Lebanon and a significant movement of people into Syria, involving both Syrian and Lebanese nationals. This movement adds to Syria's already severe humanitarian crisis, one of the most complex in the world. The country's strained resources and emergency response capacities are now under even greater pressure as it struggles to cope with the growing number of those affected, further exacerbating instability from neighbouring conflict zones. Humanitarian efforts in Syria are now facing unprecedented challenges in addressing these urgent needs.

The staff and volunteers of the Syrian Arab Red Crescent have been tirelessly responding to the influx of Syrian and Lebanese affected at the Syrian Lebanese border, where humanitarian needs are rapidly increasing due to the deterioration of security in Lebanon and the exacerbation of regional crises.

Syrian Arab Red Crescent teams are working around the clock at border crossing points to provide emergency services, including Emergency medical services, primary health care services, psychosocial support, legal assistance, and the distribution of essential relief items. Approximately 85% of the newly arrived people are Syrians, many of whom are vulnerable individuals suffering from chronic health conditions or disabilities. Additionally, 60% of them are children under the age of 18, which adds further strain on the response teams. From an initial assessment, 89% of the families are in urgent need of food assistance, 44% require shelter, 30% need healthcare, and 60% require psychosocial support to cope with the psychological trauma of displacement.

For updated figures regarding SARC's humanitarian response, please refer to [IFRC GO - Emergency](#)

Despite the protracted crisis Syria has been facing for the last 13 years, compounded by economic challenges, public service shortages, climate change and natural disasters, including the earthquake in 2023, Syrian Arab Red Crescent continues to provide essential support to meet the needs of the affected populations. The ongoing crisis continues to place additional pressure on the country's limited resources and humanitarian response.

Given that the situation remains extremely volatile, and countries are facing rapid changes in scenarios, this Country Response Plan (CRP) aims to outline the Syrian Red Crescent Society (SRCS) strategic priorities in responding to the Middle East Crisis and takes into account the response to the latest escalation in Lebanon. Further amendments to the CRP will be made as necessary, depending on the evolving situation and needs on the ground, and in alignment with the priorities and requirements of the National Society.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND TARGETING

In light of the current situation in Syria, the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) is actively responding and conducting ongoing assessments to better understand the demographics of those entering the country and their specific needs. Initial assessments indicate that 89% of families are in urgent need of food assistance, while 44% require shelter. Furthermore, 30% of families are in need of healthcare, and 60% require psychosocial support to address the psychological trauma caused by displacement.

As of mid-October 2024, more than 400,000 people had crossed into Syria through both official and unofficial crossings, illustrating the vast scale of the influx. Among these families, 89% are facing critical shortages of food, and 77% are in need of essential non-food items. The crisis has left 39% of families without adequate shelter, highlighting the severe housing shortages. Notably, 58% of the individuals crossing into Syria are children under the age of 18, emphasizing the heightened vulnerability of this population. Additionally, 30% of the displaced require healthcare,

with 2,805 persons identified as having disabilities, further demonstrating the diverse and urgent needs among the affected populations.¹

These ongoing assessments are vital as SARC continues to adapt its response to the evolving needs on the ground, ensuring that humanitarian assistance is targeted effectively. The dynamic nature of the crisis underscores the importance of timely, coordinated efforts to meet the urgent and varied needs of the affected populations, as both the scale and complexity of the influx into Syria grow.

SARC's preparedness strategy involves comprehensive response plans, logistical improvements, and bolstering operational capacity. This enables them to swiftly address the needs of both newly arriving populations and host communities. Among those arriving, vulnerable groups—such as children, women, unaccompanied minors, people with disabilities, survivors of gender-based violence, and individuals with chronic health conditions—will require specialized assistance. Host communities will also need support in healthcare, education, and livelihoods to maintain social cohesion and prevent tensions.

Regular assessments and feedback mechanisms are crucial to ensuring that SARC's humanitarian response adapts to the evolving needs of both arriving populations and host communities. This is also in order to prevent social tensions and maintain cultural sensitivity and cohesion. To facilitate this, SARC leadership has convened to outline potential scenarios, establish preparedness requirements, and assess the resources and capacities across its branches and departments.

SARC is also working closely with relevant stakeholders to coordinate and consolidate resources, ensuring efficient use of available assets. In alignment with these preparations, SARC's Country Response Plan initially targets 750,000 beneficiaries but is designed to expand depending on the evolving situation, with a worst-case scenario projection reaching up to 2.5 million beneficiaries directly and another 2.5 million indirectly.

Operational risk assessment and risk mitigation measures:

In response to the influx of Syrian and Lebanese-affected populations, SARC has implemented a series of mitigation measures to address the operational risks faced by its teams.

To prevent **outbreaks in shelters**, SARC is raising awareness about proper water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) practices, distributing hygiene kits and Aqua tabs, and equipping health centres with essential medical supplies. The installation of gender-segregated and accessible latrines, proper waste management systems, and the treatment of wastewater are key actions to minimize health risks in overcrowded areas.

As the **seasons** change, SARC is providing blankets, winter clothing, and mattresses to those in shelters. Awareness sessions are being conducted to help communities adapt to seasonal changes and anticipate climate variability.

To ensure access to affected areas, SARC is working closely with local actors, maintaining community engagement, and reinforcing its operational capacity to deliver impartial humanitarian aid. Limited access to resources, such as fuel and electricity, is being mitigated by engaging local volunteers, optimizing existing funds, and securing fuel for generators to support communication needs.

SARC is also addressing **security constraints** by continuously monitoring the situation and maintaining coordination with ICRC security focal points, ensuring the safety of its staff and volunteers through updated security protocols and providing personal protective equipment (PPE).

To combat supply **chain disruptions**, contingency plans have been established, with pre-positioned stocks in safer locations, while collaborating with local actors to minimize delays. SARC is also preparing for potential conflict

¹ SARC Emergency Response for the Influx from Lebanon to Syria Infographic (24 Sep to 26 Oct – 2024)

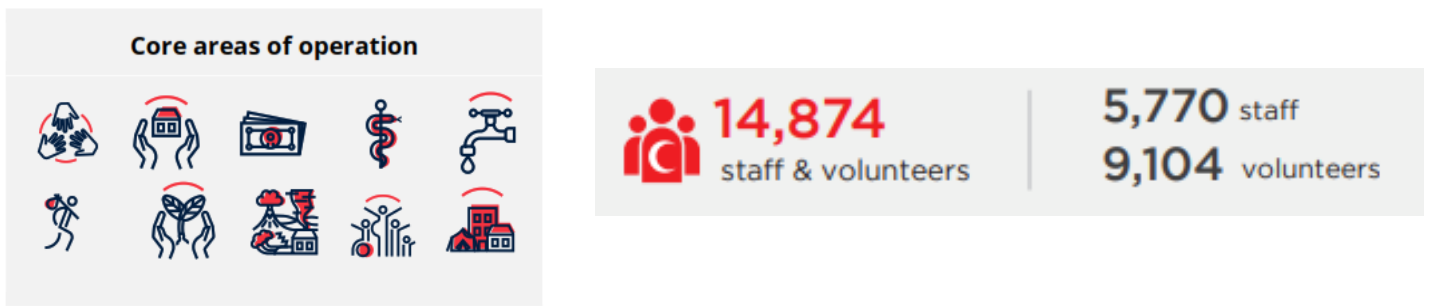
escalation by strengthening security measures and enhancing early warning systems to protect humanitarian workers and beneficiaries.

Given the overwhelming number of affected people, SARC is expanding capacity at border and shelter levels, working with host communities, and coordinating with stakeholders to establish temporary settlements. To prevent tensions with host communities, SARC is fostering dialogue and ensuring equitable distribution of resources while implementing community-based projects. In response to rising costs and inflation, cash-based interventions are being scaled up, with strengthened partnerships to stabilize supply chains and mitigate price increases.

CAPACITIES AND RESPONSE

National Society capacity

For details on the National Society's ongoing response to the crisis, please refer to [IFRC GO](#).



SARC's emergency response, aligned with its 2023-2027 Strategic Plan, focuses on addressing the challenges posed by natural disasters, geopolitical instability, and economic upheavals. The organization prioritizes shelter preparation and the distribution of essential non-food items such as hygiene kits, blankets, and dignity kits. Immediate food distribution and nutritional support are critical, especially for vulnerable groups like children and pregnant women. To prevent disease outbreaks, SARC ensures access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities, particularly at border points.

Medical assistance is prioritized, with mobile health units and teams deployed to offer emergency healthcare, addressing injuries, chronic conditions, and maternal health needs. Restoring family links is another essential service, with teams helping reconnect separated families. Additionally, SARC provides legal assistance, psychological support, and protection, especially for women and children, while also facilitating access to education for affected children by setting up temporary learning spaces.

The organization also implements cash-based assistance programs to help families meet immediate needs and boost local economies. Coordination with local authorities and international partners is central to avoiding duplication of efforts. As the situation stabilizes, SARC begins long-term planning, focusing on integrating affected people into local communities and providing access to education, livelihoods, and permanent housing. Strengthening its branches and ensuring business continuity is crucial to maintaining effective operations, with a focus on climate change mitigation and adopting green response practices. This approach is based on an initial rapid assessment, followed by a multisectoral needs evaluation to ensure an efficient and targeted response to the identified needs.

National Society role in the national response

The Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) plays a crucial and pivotal role in responding to the escalating humanitarian crisis in Syria following the recent events in Gaza and the deterioration of the regional situation. The fallout from the conflicts in Palestine and Lebanon has led to a significant influx of Syrian and Lebanese affected across the border, adding new pressures to an already strained humanitarian system in Syria after more than 12 years of conflict.

With a widespread presence through 14 local branches and 73 active sub-branches, SARC remains the most prominent humanitarian actor on the ground, enabling it to be among the first responders in the border areas. This field presence allows SARC to provide immediate assistance, including medical care, psychosocial support, and the distribution of food and non-food items to vulnerable families. As the crisis continues to unfold, mobilizing resources and attracting international support has become more critical than ever to ensure that the basic needs of the affected families are met. SARC supports Syrian individuals through a vast network of local community volunteers, enabling it to act as a first responder in emergencies.

The organization's strong acceptance within Syrian communities enhances its ability to deliver services effectively and extend its reach. Additionally, SARC's membership in the High Relief Committee and collaboration with various humanitarian actors across Syria ensures coordinated efforts, maximizing its impact in addressing the needs of vulnerable populations. The recent influx of affected from Lebanon, coupled with severe shortages of essential resources such as fuel, water, and electricity in Syria, highlights the growing importance of SARC's ability to deliver immediate and effective aid to those in need.

Key areas of scale-up and strength

Since 2011, SARC has scaled up its work considerably in response to the protracted crisis and maintains a presence across most of the country. SARC remains the largest humanitarian actor, providing services and humanitarian assistance to more than six million internally displaced persons, affected host communities, and returnees annually.

In the first half of 2023 alone, 5.7 million people benefitted from at least one service provided by SARC. This includes five million reached with food assistance, 857'000 with non-food items, 140,000 who received protection services from psychosocial teams and in community centres, and 2.3 million reached with medical services through SARC's mobile and static health facilities. Furthermore, the water and rehabilitation undertakings by SARC over the last years mean that today around 80% of the Syrian population benefits from improved access to water and sanitation. SARC's network of more than 160 mobile and static health facilities has become a lifeline for hundreds of thousands of people.

Moreover, SARC is still responding to the affected population from the massive earthquake that hit Syria on February 6th and provided 16.4 million services till the end of September 2023.

This country plan focuses on scaling up SARC's response readiness and preparedness for the provision of emergency medical services, first aid, and health care in addition to the repositioning of food and non-food items. In the immediate readiness phase, logistics capacity and safety and security of staff and volunteers are strengthened. These 'no-regret' activities will not only strengthen SARC's response readiness for imminent crises

	<p>but also other response operations. In the response phase contingent upon the developments of the crisis, the focus will be on delivering lifesaving humanitarian assistance and basic services to the population affected including displaced populations and host communities.</p>
Areas of new/additional capacities developed	<p>Due to the ongoing and multiple crises and subsequent responses by SARC, the National Society formulated emergency preparedness measures and a plan, to support readiness for a range of scenarios such as displacement and migration or escalation of the conflict in the region.</p> <p>SARC will work on the prepositioning of emergency stocks, boost its logistics capacities, and improve the safety and security of staff and volunteers including telecommunications to ensure the readiness and continuation of its activities, particularly the operation of emergency medical services, first aid, and health and care centres and hospitals.</p> <p>In addition to coordinating with Movement partners, SARC is coordinating closely with UN agencies, INGOs, and the governmental authorities on all the updates for the ongoing preparedness process.</p>

National Society partners

Name of Partner	Health & Care	Integrated Assistance	Protection & Prevention	NS Capacity Building	Details
<i>IFRC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Disaster Management, health and care, livelihoods, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), National Society Development (NSD), Planning Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting (PMER), Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), Membership coordination, humanitarian diplomacy.</i>
<i>American Red Cross</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Health and Care.</i>
<i>Austrian Red Cross</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>WASH rehabilitation and hygiene promotion.</i>
<i>British Red Cross</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Humanitarian aid with a focus on Cash and Voucher assistance including technical support, NSD Monitoring Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL), and CEA.</i>

<i>Canadian Red Cross</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Health and care and mobile medical response readiness, Protection, gender and inclusion in Emergencies, nutrition, NSD</i>
<i>Danish Red Cross</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Health, livelihoods, Mental Health, and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), and Youth, NSD, Disaster Management, medical procurement.</i>
<i>French Red Cross</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>WASH rehabilitation and hygiene promotion.</i>
<i>German Red Cross</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Health and Care, Disaster Management and response, IT and Telecommunications, logistics including fleet, warehousing (medical).</i>
<i>Norwegian Red Cross</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>WASH and rehabilitation, Disaster Management and Response, Health, and care, NSD including finance development</i>
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Health and WASH, Mental Health and PSS, community services, Humanitarian Diplomacy, NSD including CEA</i>
<i>Swiss Red Cross</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>WASH, livelihoods, Cash and voucher assistance, Health, and Emergency Medical Services.</i>
<i>ICRC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Water and Rehabilitation, Disaster Management, Economic Security, International Humanitarian Law/Prevention, Protection of Family Links, Emergency Medical Services, Health, and Care, MHPSS, Protection, NSD, and Weapon Contamination.</i>

OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Scenario Planning

The scenarios outlined consider a range of potential incidents, focusing on the impacts and corresponding mitigating actions in an escalating order of severity. Common mitigating actions that apply to multiple scenarios are mentioned only once to avoid redundancy. Currently we are facing the 3rd scenario which contains the impact of the 1st and 2nd scenario.

Scenario	Impact	Mitigating actions
The existing complex situation in Syria persists, with potential change in the foreseeable future i.e., ongoing sporadic clashes in	The supply chain is disrupted because of the heightened tensions in the Mediterranean Sea. Furthermore, the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To establish a contingency stock of essential food, non-food, and medical supplies as a contingency measure.

<p>the Northeast and Northwest, Earthquake recovery, wildfires recovery, drought in the south, economic deterioration, tension in the southern Governorates and occasional Israeli air strikes. The region faces additional challenges due to a broader crisis related to the conflict in Gaza. This scenario envisions a continuation and/or escalation of the current status quo in Syria, characterized by ongoing conflict and political gridlock.</p>	<p>repeated targeting and subsequent closure of Damascus and Aleppo airports have severely impacted their functionality in the supply chain and economic situation overall, increase in humanitarian needs and wider scale of severity with reduction of funds and resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the security situation with RCRC movement partners to ensure the safety of staff and volunteers and strengthen the NS capacities. • Advocate for the needs of those affected in all scenarios through humanitarian diplomacy in different international forums. • Develop proper response plans and coordinate with all stakeholders.
<p>Influx of Affected and Forced Displacement from Neighboring Countries (Lebanon and Jordan)</p>	<p>The public services (healthcare, Water, and electricity sources ...etc.) and limited humanitarian aid infrastructure and the existing, constrained supplies in Syria will be overwhelmed even further, exacerbating the existing strains caused by the complex situation in Syria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activate proper plans. • Enhance the preparedness in terms of pre-positioning and operational capacity and coordination within all sectors and teams (Disaster Management and Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and healthcare facilities, including hospitals, clinics, mobile health units (MHUs), and emergency health points (EHPs), WASH and Shelter). Additionally, strengthen coordination and collaboration with all stakeholders including active organizations on the ground (Movement partners, UN agencies and INGOs) in addition to the governmental authorities as long as SARC is an HRC member.
<p>Deliberate Targeting of Syrian Cities and Essential Infrastructure</p>	<p>Severe humanitarian crisis causing widespread displacement, casualties, and a dire need for emergency aid. Access to vital services like healthcare, food, and clean water would be severely disrupted, intensifying the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the needed response plan by efficiently delivering humanitarian aid across sectors (Food security, health, WASH, protection, and shelter), prioritize the swift restoration of essential infrastructure, provide psychosocial support, and

	suffering of the affected population.	coordinate with all humanitarian actors to assist the most vulnerable populations.
Conflict escalates within the region with Syria becoming part of the conflict after ongoing tensions in other areas. The deliberate targeting of cities and vital infrastructure occurs, resulting in both internal displacement within Syria and an influx of affected from neighboring nations. This complex regional crisis necessitates a robust international response, while security and coordination challenges persist.	Widespread displacement and a humanitarian crisis in Syria, driven by deliberate targeting and regional tensions. The supply chain is disrupted because of the conflict. Urgent need for aid, infrastructure repair, and international cooperation. Coordination and security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid deployment of humanitarian aid across sectors to assist affected areas. • Urgent repair and restoration of damaged infrastructure, particularly healthcare and essential services. • The establishment of safe zones to protect civilians and support affected populations. • Enhancing coordination and collaboration with all active organizations on the ground within the MENA region.

People to be assisted

Profiles, sex, and age breakdown of people targeted.

The target groups for SARC's ongoing humanitarian response would primarily include:

- The Syrian, Lebanese, and any other nationals who have been affected due to the current situation in Lebanon and are seeking refuge in Syria.
- Host Communities: Vulnerable communities in Syria that are impacted by the influx of affected, requiring support in absorbing the affected populations.
- SARC Volunteers and Staff: As frontline responders, they require mental health and operational support to effectively carry out their duties.
- Vulnerable Groups: Particularly those identified through Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) assessments, including women, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities, who may require specialized care and protection.
- Local Communities: Communities that are directly affected by the displacement may need resources such as water, shelter, and healthcare to cope with the increased demand.

These groups would be prioritized based on the needs assessments and the availability of resources.

Cumulative overall targets since the beginning of the operation, Federation-wide

Sex-age group	Total
Males Over 18 years of age	1,040,000
Males Under 18 years old	1,400,000
Females Over 18 years old	1,100,000
Females Under 18 years of age	1,460,000

Total number of people to be assisted *direct and indirect* 5,000,000

Direct & Indirect group	Total
Syrian returnees (Refugees in Lebanon" UNHCR")	800,000
Syrian returnees (Not registered as refugees)	200,000
Lebanese Refugees	500,000
Internally displaced people	1,000,000
Indirect affected population	2,500,000
Total number of people to be assisted	5,000,000

Cumulative overall targets since the beginning of the operation, Secretariat

Sex-age group	Total
Males Over 18 years of age	156,000
Males Under 18 years old	210,000
Females Over 18 years old	165,000
Females Under 18 years of age	219,000
Total number of people to be assisted <i>direct and indirect</i>	750,000

Direct & Indirect group	Total
Syrian returnees (refugees in Lebanon" UNHCR")	120,000
Syrian returnees (not registered as refugees)	30,000
Lebanese/Jordanian Refugees	75,000
Internally displaced people	150,000
Indirectly affected population	375,000
Total number of people to be assisted	750,000


ONGOING AND PLANNED OPERATIONS

HEALTH & CARE INCLUDING WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

 Health & Care	Overall target: 750,000	
	Female > 18: 165,000	Female < 18: 219,000
	Male > 18: 156,000	Male < 18: 210,000
Objective:	The targeted populations are provided with quality health and care services.	
Priority Actions:	Activities:	

<p>Emergency Medical Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the readiness of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) vehicles by performing regular maintenance, stocking them with essential medical consumables, maintaining communication equipment, and keeping them fuelled. • Provide on-site paramedical services to the displaced and host communities through ambulance teams in collective centers, crossing points, and among host communities. • Transport the injured (to and among hospitals) • Support to mobile health clinics (MHUs) & mobile medical teams (MMTs) including storage of reserve fuel, routine maintenance of vehicles, and prepositioning of medical supplies for easy access. • Support to Disaster Management (DM) teams (convoys, evacuations, search, and rescue, crossing points) by jointly deploying medical teams to the locations of the operations. • Ensure continuity of EMS regular services.
<p>Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Health Care</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a well-stocked inventory of essential medical supplies, pharmaceuticals, and medical equipment necessary for Primary, secondary, and tertiary healthcare facilities. • Provide primary health care services through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clinics, including nutrition ○ MHUs ○ MMTs ○ Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) teams ○ Mental health teams ○ Prosthesis centres. ○ Physiotherapy Mobile Teams and centres • Establish EHPs based on the needs in (shelters, crossing points affected host communities) • Activate and deploy SARC's Medical Emergency Response Unit (ERU) • Provide secondary and Tertiary health care through SARC hospitals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Al Zaheraa Hospital ○ Aleppo Hospital ○ Homs hospital
<p>Enhance the auxiliary role of SARC for health in emergencies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide assistance in alignment with the capacity and resources to the broader healthcare system, including logistics and human resources.


<p>Psychosocial Support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide PFA, basic and focused psychosocial services to maintain the well-being of refugees affected by trauma and displacement and to make the needed referrals to mental health specialists. • Provide men, women, boys, and girls with case management. • Provide structured PSS & protection services e.g. Resilience, life skills manual, caregivers' positive parenting, etc. • Provide awareness raising in protection and mental health and psychosocial well-being. • Provide recreational and recreational activities. • Provide education services through informal education • Distribute MHPSS kits for children. • Build the capacity of CSP team to provide all the services • PFA with first phase • Basic and focused psychosocial services in the 2nd phase through SARC CSP team • Referral services through case managers for different services within SARC and to external partners.
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 <p>WASH</p>	<p>Overall target: 750,000</p>	
<p>Objective:</p>	<p>Communities have increased access to appropriate and environmentally sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene services in emergency settings</p>	
<p>Priority Actions:</p>	<p>Activities: SARC's activities under the WASH sector will aim to safeguard health by ensuring the availability of clean water, sanitation, and hygiene to prevent disease and restore dignity.</p>	
<p>Ensure safe and clean water for the affected population and essential related infrastructure within and outside the shelters in the anticipated hosting communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Infrastructure and Resource Readiness: Maintain an inventory of essential water-related resources and establish pre-positioned supplies. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pre-arrange contracts and resources for the rapid rehabilitation of water facilities, ensuring they can be quickly restored in the event of damage or breakdown. ○ Install water tanks and distribute water bottles to ensure access to clean water. 	


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stockpile Aqua Tabs and Water Tanks ○ Water Trucking Preparedness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ensure the availability of water sources, and response immediately to any shortage in clean water in many ways as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Support for the rehabilitation and/or light repairs and improvement of water and sanitation facilities including in collective centers hosting displaced. ○ Provide aqua tabs, water tanks and jerrycans as needed to shelter, and host communities. ○ Provide water trucking when needed. ○ Monitor the effective use of water through household surveys and perform required water quality tests. ● Ensure the readiness of the shelter and do the necessary rehabilitation and maintenance if needed for all the shelter infrastructure
<p>Promote improved hygiene practices among the affected community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Distribute hygiene materials to address the WASH needs of affected individuals, including hygiene/MHM kits, personal protective supplies ● Maintain a well-stocked inventory of hygiene kits and Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits to supply hygiene kits. ● Conduct educational sessions to encourage hygienic practices among both shelter residents and the local host communities, aiming to mitigate the transmission of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) related diseases.


INTEGRATED ASSISTANCE

(SHELTER, HOUSING AND SETTLEMENTS, MULTI-PURPOSE CASH)

 <p>Shelter, Housing and Settlements</p>	Overall target: 450,000	
	Female > 18: 99,000	Female < 18: 131,400
	Male > 18: 93,600	Male < 18: 126,000
<p>Objective:</p>	<p>Communities in crisis-affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions.</p>	
<p>Priority Actions:</p>	<p>Activities: Pre-positioning of relief items is essential for the timely and adequate provision of humanitarian relief for situations of displacement. SARC has framework agreements in place for a number of relief items that will be used for prepositioning.</p>	

Relief assistance for basic needs in host communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement Rapid needs assessment. • Preposition of core relief items • Distribute core relief items • Conduct community awareness and mitigation measures. • Ensure adequate storage capacity to accommodate pre-positioned items.
Temporary collective shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a stock of core relief items. • Distribute core relief items. • Collective shelter management. • Coordinate with the shelter sector and other stakeholders • Coordinate with the relevant stakeholders to ensure the safety and security of the shelters.

 Cash and Voucher Assistance	Overall target: 10,000	
	Female > 18: 2,200	Female > 18: 2,920
	Male > 18: 2,080	Male > 18: 2,800
Objective:	The most vulnerable displaced communities have their needs addressed with cash assistance.	
Priority Actions:	Activities:	
Multipurpose cash and voucher assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct Rapid needs assessment and market assessment. • Establish registration system for people non-Syrian nationals for cash or voucher assistance. • Provide Cash assistance (Full MEB – minimum expenditure basket) to 10,000 conflict-affected people for 3 months. • Regular monitoring (post-distribution monitoring & endline) 	


 Food Security and livelihoods	Overall target: 375,000	
	Female > 18: 82,500	Female < 18: 109,500
	Male > 18: 78,000	Male < 18: 105,000
Objective:	Establish a contingency stock of essential food items to meet the needs of the population in case of conflict escalation.	
Priority Actions:	Activities: Enhanced efficiency and effectiveness in meeting critical food needs through timely pre-positioning, distribution, coordination, and robust monitoring and evaluation processes.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-position standard and ready-to-eat food parcels to maintain response readiness. 	

Provision of fundamental food aid to individuals in both shelters and host communities.

- Distribute water and bread for displaced people during the immediate response phase to meet critical food needs for people on the move.
- Distribute food parcels to the most affected population.
- Coordinate with Food Security and Agriculture Cluster, Movement, and non-movement partners, and IFRC Livelihoods Resource Centre.
- Conduct monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning actions that ensure the effectiveness and relevance of the interventions such as baselines, post-distribution monitoring, and end lines.

PROTECTION AND PREVENTION

(PROTECTION, GENDER, AND INCLUSION (PGI), COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CEA), MIGRATION)

 Protection, Gender, and Inclusion	Overall target: 750,000	
	Female > 18: 165,000	Female < 18: 219,000
	Male > 18: 156,000	Male < 18: 210,000
Objective:	The different people impacted, displaced by, or fleeing the crisis are safe from harm including violence, abuse and exploitation, discrimination and exclusion, and their needs and rights are met.	
Priority Actions:	Activities:	
Legal Aid and Documentation and restoring family links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide legal assistance to help refugees obtain identification and documentation, which is critical for accessing services and protection through SARC legal teams. • Coordinate with relevant authorities and organizations to trace and locate missing relatives. 	
Child Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish and support child-friendly spaces; ensure children's access to education and psychosocial support; and prevent child labor and recruitment into armed groups, early marriage, dropout of schools, unaccompanied and separated children, through awareness sessions, referrals, targeted psychosocial support (PSS) and protection services. • Conduct training and refresher on dealing with children in high-intensity contexts. 	
Disability Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritize the needs of affected people with disabilities by ensuring physical access, communication, and support services. Inclusion in PSS & protection services and support services and referral to other services depending on their needs and work with their caregivers on stress management. 	



Community Engagement and Accountability

Overall target: 750,000

Female > 18: 165,000

Female < 18: 219,000

Male > 18: 156,000

Male < 18: 210,000

Objective:

The diverse needs, priorities and preferences of the affected communities guide the response ensuring a people-centered approach through meaningful community participation.

Priority Actions:

The SARC CEA team collaborates with program departments to integrate community engagement and accountability into emergency responses. They develop selection criteria with affected communities and establish transparent communication channels to understand their needs and priorities. An assessment tool has been created to evaluate the immediate requirements of individuals entering Syria, ensuring community involvement in identifying needs and fostering empowerment. Key elements of SARC's CEA approach include:

Establishing NS feedback mechanisms

- Establish feedback desks, boxes, and hotlines within the shelters and the host communities in consultation with all stakeholders.
- Disseminate Information and share methods and channels about the response with the communities.

Collecting community feedback and using it

- Analyze, respond, and act on community feedback and take corrective actions by adjusting and improving our activities toward the beneficiaries.
- Share feedback outcomes with communities to validate findings and actions taken.
- Collaborate with communities on aid distribution processes and update procedures for effective feedback management.
- Analyze feedback monthly and implement improvements.

Integrate CEA approach across SARC whole operations


- Make sure that all SARC staff and volunteers are aware about the effective engagement of affected people and improve their capacity to respond to the community feedback and needs, and make sure that the communities are involved properly in all phases of the response, which will start from the assessments till provision of the service.
- Train staff for effective engagement.
- Proactively address the needs of at-risk groups to provide appropriate support.

Migration and Displacement

Overall target: 500,000

Female > 18: 110,000

Female < 18: 146,000

	Male > 18: 104,000	Male < 18: 140,000
Objective:	Specific vulnerabilities of migrants, displaced, refugees, and returnees are analyzed, and their needs and rights are met with dedicated humanitarian assistance, protection, and humanitarian diplomacy interventions, in coordination with relevant stakeholders.	
Priority Actions:	Activities:	
Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) providing services and protection to vulnerable population (refugees, displaced) people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with all stakeholders to ensure the readiness of all needed items, equipment, and capacities to be able to provide the following services in the case of emergency provided through HSP to ensure a holistic response. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Registration. ○ Legal services (documents/ consultations). ○ MHUs (Primary health care). ○ EMS. ○ Urgent Relief item distribution. ○ Secure safe transportation to collective shelter if needed. ○ Psychosocial support (PSS) ○ Access to services 	
Collective Shelter/ Host Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish Help Desks for services such as registration/ Restoring Family Links (RFL) / Legal Services follow up / PSS. • Initiate the contracting process to ensure we have solutions for safe and secure transportation. 	

ENABLING APPROACHES

NATIONAL SOCIETY STRENGTHENING, COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

 National Society Strengthening		
Objective:	National Societies respond effectively to the wide spectrum of evolving crises and their auxiliary role in disaster risk management is well defined and recognized.	
Priority Actions:	Activities:	
Branch Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support to reassess needs and gaps related to logistics, equipment, safety and protection, visibility, crisis communication, 	

	<p>etc., across sectors at SARC headquarters (HQ) and branch levels as the crisis evolves.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support and strengthen the logistics capacity for warehousing, fleet, procurement, and supply chain management. • Enhance readiness of SARC facilities including DM buildings, health buildings and SARC border facilities. • Provide support to enhance the SARC readiness and response to the crisis. • Support strong connections between branches and headquarters structures
Volunteer Management Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance the national society preparedness through effective volunteering management focusing on enhancing regular communication and sessions/training on the Code of Conduct, Safety and Security regulations, PFA, PSS, PSEA, etc. • Strengthen the SARC volunteer management system to track data from the volunteer database on their mobility and flexibility to manage their availability and involvement in operations. • Ensure duty of care for volunteers with insurance coverage, provision of protective equipment and clothing, and visibility materials, etc.
Humanitarian Diplomacy and Strengthening Auxiliary Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activate engagement of SARC in international dialogue and humanitarian diplomacy with movement partners and donor organizations (UN agencies, INGOs, foundations, embassies, etc.)
Logistic Development Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen fleet capacity through maintenance of vehicles and preposition fuel for security and operational needs.
Human Resource Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect and review the volunteers and staff database including the addresses, phone numbers, trainings, and experience. • New volunteers onboarding process development. • Provide support to staff and volunteers to receive targeted PSS services to reduce the risk of negative social and mental health impacts of the work they carry out. • Develop personnel wellbeing approaches to provide ongoing support to frontline personnel and other responders.
PMER Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support to SARC HQ and branches to ensure contingency planning, business continuity, and scenario planning are reviewed/updated as needed and relevant to the operational context. • Support SARC to produce accurate and timely analyses and reporting through the production of maps, charts, infographics, etc.
Risk Management Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support SARC in security and operational risk management for the preparedness and response

Promote staff and volunteers' psychosocial well-being & protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide volunteers/staff with PFA, Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), Gender-based Violence (GBV) induction training for all SARC teams in all departments. • Provide volunteers/staff with peer-to-peer support sessions through two modules (cumulative sessions by PSS volunteers, and individual self-care sessions by a psychologist).
Disaster Management and Operations development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broaden preparedness initiatives to include community readiness, ensuring both the local communities and SARC are well-prepared for potential responses. This will be accomplished through various modalities and activities, with some already in progress and others that can be initiated (Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment, Multisectoral Needs Assessments, focus groups, awareness sessions, etc.). • Enhance support to SARC in alignment with Minimum Security Framework Agreement. • Strengthen the national society's capacity to establish the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) by assisting in acquiring assets, along with offering necessary technical support as required. • Integrate Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (EVCA) into initiatives to fortify community resilience and improve the efficiency of SARC's response endeavors.



IFRC Secretariat Services

Objective:	The IFRC is working as one organization, delivering what it promises to National Societies and volunteers, and leveraging the strength of the communities with which they work as effectively and efficiently as possible.
Priority Actions:	Activities:
Coordinated and Enhanced Response Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support provided to SARC and the membership to work together to coordinate international support for operations and an enhanced regional response capacity. • Promote collaborations on humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy efforts, in support of SARC's operations. • Ensure that available personnel are in place to provide efficient and effective appeal and pledge management in collaboration with the National Society. • Enhance security management and risk management capacity in support of the Membership to enable the scale-up of operations.



Coordination and Partnerships

Objective:	Technical and operational complementarity is enhanced through cooperation among IFRC membership.
Priority Actions:	Activities:
Movement coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify and orient all parties about Movement role and International Humanitarian Law (IHL).• Ensure strategic and operational coordination meetings guide the focus of the preparedness and response.• Coordinate contingency plans and preparedness plans developed jointly and based on agreed scenarios.• Implement Security Management in line with the Movement Security Framework and according to defined roles of respective Movement component.• Technical coordination led by SARC with the support of best positioned in-country membership partner including Partner National Societies.• Federation-wide resource mobilization strategy for the response covering fundraising initiatives, reporting, grant management, and technical support.
External Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As SARC is HRC member, coordinate with stakeholders.• Coordinate among Humanitarian actors (UN agencies, and INGOs).• Participate in interagency coordination mechanism including HCT meetings and sectoral coordination meetings.

Quality and accountability

As part of the IFRC mandate to ensure quality and accountability, measures are in place at the national level. With the rise of emergencies in MENA, the IFRC has tailored its strategy globally, regionally, and at the country level for a more quality and accountability-focused approach by creating a coherent, complementary, and context-relevant system as a fundamental and critical requirement for National Societies. Several priorities have surfaced for this response:

Performance and Quality Assurance

This will be mainstreamed throughout all operations. Complementarity among information management, results monitoring, evaluation, reporting, risk management, and community engagement will be ensured to achieve quality programming and accountability toward the communities.

1. Creating an efficient monitoring system

The IFRC and Federation partners will support National Societies in creating an efficient, effective, and feasible monitoring system to make sure that the indicators in the table below are measured, verified, documented, and shared publicly when relevant. Relevant technical units will ensure that proper steps are taken for post-distribution

monitoring (PDM) and that these are followed up together with input from the Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting and Quality Assurance Unit at the IFRC MENA Regional Office. Internal reports will be acted upon according to the defined timeline.

2. Federation-wide Approach

The Appeal is an opportunity to reaffirm the need for a collective picture of the Federation and its membership's contributions in response to the acute crisis and the need to regularly have coherent, consistent, and quality data on agreed indicators.

Sector/Area	Federation Wide Indicators	Syria code
Health and Care	Number of SARC health facilities equipped with prepositioned medical consumables	S4.1
	Number of individuals receiving secondary and tertiary health services, disaggregated by sex	S4.7
	Number of people transported by NS ambulances / medical transport to health facilities during the response phase, disaggregated by sex	S4.2
	Number of people (F/M) trained in Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (including Psychological First Aid and other MHPSS related trainings)	S4.3
	Number of mobile Medical Unit (MMU) teams deployed to respond to primary healthcare needs in conflict-affected areas	S4.4
	Number of medical consultations provided through MMUs	S4.5
	Number of people reached with MHPSS services, disaggregated by sex	S4.6
WASH	Number of people reached with WASH assistance in the response phase, disaggregated by sex	S5.1
	# of HH's reached with drinking water	S5.4
	Number of prepositioned hygiene kits	S5.2
	Number of women and girls within reproductive age that received dignity kits	S5.3
Shelter, Housing and Settlements	Number of NFI (mattresses, blankets, kitchen sets and shelter kits, solar lights) prepositioned	S1.1
	Number of people reached with NFI (mattresses, blankets, kitchen sets and shelter kits, solar lights), disaggregated by sex	S1.2
Cash and Voucher Assistance	Number of households assisted with unconditional cash to meet their basic needs	S11.1
	Number of post distribution monitoring conducted to ensure the effectiveness of cash and voucher assistance programs	S11.2
Food security and livelihood	Number of prepositioned standard food parcels and canned food parcels	S2.1
	Number of Families that received food parcels	S2.2
	Number of people that received ready meals, disaggregated by sex	
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	Number of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion services during the response phase, disaggregated by sex	S6.1
	Number of child friendly/safe spaces supported by the RCRC during the response phase	S6.2
	Number of children accessing the child friendly spaces, disaggregated by sex	S6.3
Migration	Number of displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection through community centers, disaggregated by sex	S7.1
	Number of community centers that provided services to refugees/displaced people	S7.2

	Number of service points established for registration, legal services, and psychosocial support	S7.3
	Number of RFL services provided	S7.4
Community Engagement and Accountability	Number of reports produced containing community feedback information during the response phase	S8.2
National Society Strengthening	Number of branches preparing and responding	S9.1
	National Society has successfully articulated short-term emergency and NSD objectives with long-term NSD ones	S9.2
	National Society has revised or developed its contingency plan	S9.3
	Number of volunteers provided with equipment for protection, safety and support (e.g. PSS) appropriate to the emergency, disaggregated by sex	S9.4
	Number and % of volunteers involved in response who are insured, disaggregated by sex	S9.5
	Number of Volunteers and staff provided with PSS services, disaggregated by sex	S9.10
Coordination and Partnership	Number of Movement coordination meetings organized, and updates are provided to the Movement partners.	S10.1

ANNEX 1: NATIONAL SOCIETY RESPONSE PLAN – FEDERATION-WIDE FUNDING REQUIREMENT THROUGH VARIOUS CHANNELS

Activities described under the respective Sector and Enabling Approach in the Plan describe the overall actions to be taken in the preparedness phase and response phase with the collective contributions from SARC partners including the Movement, UN agencies and INGOs. The budget detailed below includes the estimated costs for activities that will be supported by the IFRC Secretariat.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS	Total	NS Fundraising	Through IFRC
Planned Operations	17,348,000		17,348,000
Shelter and Basic Household Items	3,586,000		3,586,000
Livelihoods	5,580,000		5,580,000
Multi-purpose Cash	1,278,000		1,278,000
Health	315,000		315,000
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	4,589,000		4,589,000
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	0		0
Education	0		0
Migration	0		0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	2,000,000		2,000,000
Community Engagement and Accountability	0		0
Environmental Sustainability	0		0
Enabling Approaches	2,652,000		2,652,000
Coordination and Partnerships	0		0
Secretariat Services	923,000		923,000
National Society Strengthening	1,729,000		1,729,000
Total	20,000,000		20,000,000

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Reference



Click here for:

- [Link](#) to the Emergency Appeal and updates
- [Link](#) to the Mobilization Table