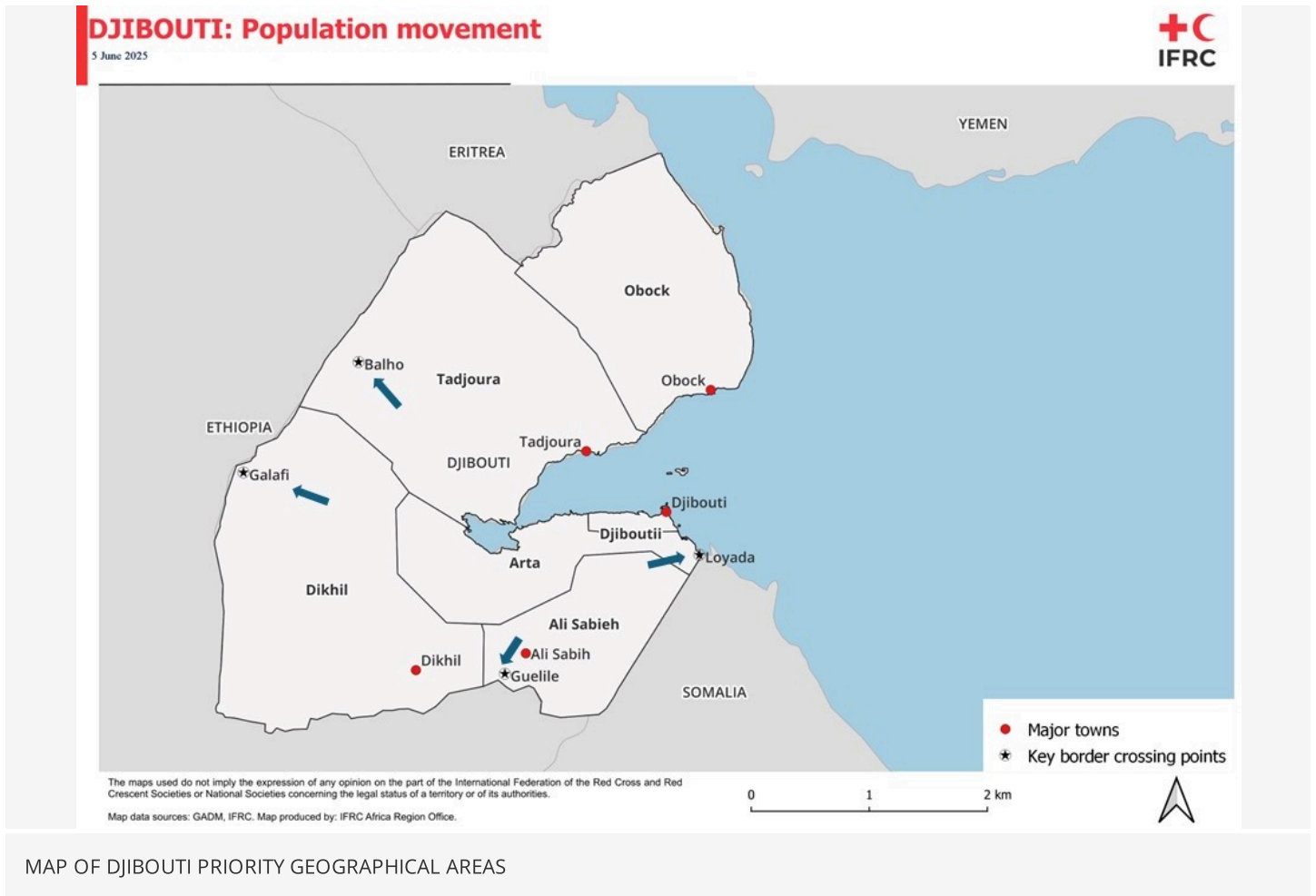




DRCS migration services, DREF Population movement 2025;photo credit to DRCS.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Appeal: MDRDJ007 | Total DREF Allocation: CHF 225,872 | Crisis Category: Yellow | Hazard: Population Movement |
| Glide Number: - | People Affected: 220,000 people | People Targeted: 33,000 people | People Assisted: 32,974 people |
| Event Onset: Slow | Operation Start Date: 04-06-2025 | Operational End Date: 30-11-2025 | Total Operating Timeframe: 5 months |
| Targeted Regions: Djibouti | | | |

Description of the Event



Date when the trigger was met

19-05-2025

What happened, where and when?

Following a public announcement by the Ministry of the Interior on 3 April 2025, the Government of Djibouti launched a one-month voluntary return initiative targeting irregular migrant populations. Beginning on 9 May 2025, daily operations were implemented in Djibouti City to identify and transfer irregular migrants to the competent authorities of their respective countries. While the initial focus was on the capital, similar return measures were subsequently extended to the Tadjourah and Arta regions.

In parallel with the official repatriation process, a notable increase in spontaneous voluntary departures was observed, with significant numbers of migrants opting to leave the country independently. These movements were particularly visible at major border crossing points, including Galilé, Balho, Loyada, and Galafi. During the initial phase of the operation, regular bus convoys were documented transporting migrants from urban areas to these border locations. Due to limited access to official data, it is estimated that more than 27,000 individuals were transported by the authorities from Djibouti City and other affected areas to border points between May and November 2025. While the exact figure could not be independently verified, available information suggests that return movements continued throughout the reporting period, albeit at a reduced scale during the latter months.

The humanitarian situation at the Nagad Transit Centre deteriorated rapidly due to the continuous daily arrival of approximately 200–400 individuals. Migrants were hosted at the center for a minimum of 48 hours prior to onward transportation, placing considerable pressure on the facility's already limited-service capacity. Access to Nagad remained restricted to authorized humanitarian actors throughout the period.



In response to these needs, DREF funding was allocated to the Djibouti Red Crescent Society (DRCS) in June 2025 to support emergency assistance for migrants in transit. Over the course of the operation, DRCS provided lifesaving humanitarian assistance to more than 16,000 individuals through food support and reached over 32,000 individuals with safe drinking water and hygiene services. The intervention helped address critical humanitarian needs while ensuring the dignity, health, and well-being of migrants transiting through the Nagad Transit Centre



Dry food distribution to migrants in Nagad center, Djibouti, Photo credit DRCS



RFL at Nagad Center, Djibouti, photo credit DRCS



PSS services to migrants in Nagad Transit center, Djibouti. Photo credit DRCS



Installed Shelter at Nagad center, Djibouti. Photo credit DRCS

Scope and Scale

Djibouti has historically served as both a transit and destination country for migrants, particularly from the Horn of Africa and Yemen. However, the operation differed significantly from previous migration contexts where international actors typically coordinated their efforts, as it was characterized by limited inter-agency coordination, restricted humanitarian access to the transit center, and insufficient proactive data-sharing from the authorities. The situation was distinct in that it constituted a state-led, security-driven operation carried out in the absence of an established humanitarian coordination framework. The Italian Red Cross, as the only Participating National Society present, played a complementary operational role during the response, contributing in particular to food assistance and psychological first aid (PFA).

The government-led voluntary repatriation represented one of the largest and most prolonged population movement operations in the country's recent history and had substantial humanitarian implications. Between May and November, an estimated 27,000 individuals were transported to neighboring border points via the Nagad Transit Center, where migrants remained for approximately 24 to 48 hours before onward movement.

Before and throughout the operation, the Nagad Transit Center faced significant constraints in meeting the needs of vulnerable populations. Gaps were particularly evident in child protection, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), access to safe water and food, and protection from extreme heat. The groups most affected by these challenges included:

Unaccompanied and separated children, who were accommodated in inadequate conditions with limited child protection mechanisms in place.

Women and girls, who faced heightened protection risks related to dignity, safety, and insufficient access to appropriate hygiene supplies. Older persons and individuals with chronic health conditions who experienced significant barriers in accessing timely and appropriate healthcare.

Persons with disabilities, many of whom were unable to access essential services without direct assistance.

Source Information

| Source Name | Source Link |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Agence Djiboutienne d'information | https://adi.dj/index.php/site/Plus/10505 |

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

| | |
|---|---|
| Secretariat | <p>The IFRC Ethiopia and Djibouti Country Cluster Delegation closely coordinated with the National Society throughout the operation. The IFRC had one locally based staff member residing with the Djibouti Red Crescent Society (DRCS), who supported multiple IFRC-funded projects and facilitated coordination with partners.</p> <p>In response to the migrant deportation crisis, the IFRC provided the DRCS with strategic coordination support, technical guidance, and assistance in the preparation and revision of this DREF operation. This support included key Secretariat services such as PMER, finance, logistics, and National Society Development, aimed at strengthening the DRCS's capacity to respond effectively.</p> <p>The IFRC was actively engaged in daily coordination and provided ongoing technical and strategic guidance as the situation evolved, including support to the National Society in scaling up the DREF operation. IFRC support was critical in ensuring a timely, effective, and well-coordinated response, offering strategic direction to the National Society and partners on the ground as needs emerged and priorities shifted.</p> |
| Participating National Societies | <p>The Italian Red Cross was the only Participating National Society present in-country, providing critical support to internal and external communication and coordination efforts. Working in close collaboration with the Djibouti Red Crescent Society, the Italian Red Cross monitored the situation, provided operational guidance, and adapted response strategies in real time to meet evolving needs on the ground. It also provided remote technical support and shared information with Movement partners, ensuring alignment and coherence across the overall response.</p> <p>Under the ECHO-funded migration project, the Italian Red Cross supported selected activities targeting migrants transiting through the migration corridor. This included contributions to the provision of food assistance and support for Psychological First Aid (PFA) services, helping to address the immediate needs of vulnerable individuals along the route.</p> |

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

ICRC was also involved in coordination and advocacy for the assistance of the migrants. They supported in terms of disseminating the auxiliary role and humanitarian mandate of the National Society. In August, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) conducted dissemination sessions with local authorities, primarily targeting security forces, to raise awareness and understanding of the National Society's auxiliary role in humanitarian response.



Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Government has requested international assistance</p> | <p>No</p> |
| <p>National authorities</p> | <p>As the primary actor coordinating all repatriation operations, the Government of Djibouti provided logistical support to migrants from the onset of the process, operating at least three times per week with limited transport capacity to facilitate returns to countries of origin. The Nagad Transit Centre functioned as a temporary accommodation site, where migrants stayed for up to 48 hours and received essential services, including one hot meal, safe drinking water, and basic WASH support.</p> <p>Several coordination meetings and information-sharing sessions were held with the Djibouti Red Crescent Society (DRCS) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to reinforce the National Society’s auxiliary role and uphold the principles of neutrality and independence, ensuring the delivery of humanitarian assistance within the operational context. This collaboration strengthened relations between humanitarian actors and local authorities.</p> <p>Following DRCS communication regarding the planned closure of operations at the end of September, the local authorities formally requested an extension of DRCS support to continue providing humanitarian assistance at the Nagad Transit Centre. By the end of the DREF operation, most irregular migrants had been returned to their countries of origin. While deportation operations continued, they were conducted on a significantly reduced scale.</p> |
| <p>UN or other actors</p> | <p>Relevant United Nations agencies, including IOM and UNICEF, as well as other NGOs present in the country, were actively engaged in coordination and advocacy efforts with the Government of Djibouti to strengthen support for the ongoing operation. These efforts included regular coordination meetings with relevant government counterparts.</p> <p>According to their communications, advocacy efforts focused on promoting a more humanitarian and dignified approach, with particular emphasis on the respect, rights, and dignity of affected populations, especially vulnerable groups such as minors and women. At the time of reporting, no resources had yet been committed by these organizations to the operation.</p> |

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

In response to shelter-related needs at the Nagad Transit Center, the Djibouti Red Crescent Society (DRCS) constructed shaded shelter structures to provide immediate relief and protection from harsh weather conditions. These shelters were designed to prioritize vulnerable groups, including women and children. Additionally, sleeping mats were provided and distributed to ensure that migrants had a safe and dignified space to rest during their stay. With these urgent shelter and protection gaps addressed, no further expansion of shelter activities was required under the revised DREF plan.





Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Migrants arriving at the Nagad Transit Centre had been displaced abruptly, leaving behind their livelihoods, personal belongings, and support networks. Among them were highly vulnerable groups—including unaccompanied minors, persons with disabilities, older persons, and low-income workers such as undocumented laborers and domestic staff—many of whom were deported without prior notice or compensation. These vulnerabilities were consistently highlighted through DRCS's engagement with affected individuals.

Although the situation did not constitute a conventional natural disaster, its socio-economic and humanitarian impacts were significant. Migrants, particularly those previously employed in informal sectors, faced acute vulnerabilities due to sudden displacement and lack of financial means, leaving them unable to meet basic needs or support their families. While medium- to long-term economic consequences were beyond the scope of this DREF operation, the immediate humanitarian needs required urgent and sustained attention.

Over the five-month operation, thousands of migrants were hosted at the Nagad Transit Centre, with numbers rising steadily due to the ongoing government-led return program. DRCS provided essential support, including food and water, and scaled up assistance to respond to the growing needs of the population.

By the conclusion of the operation, a total of 16,487 individuals had received food assistance through DRCS's migration project. Food parcels were prioritized for the most vulnerable registered migrants at the Nagad site, ensuring that life-saving support reached those most in need.



Health

Situation at the onset of the operation

At the outset of the DREF operation, significant gaps were identified in healthcare services at the Nagad Transit Centre, including the absence of permanent medical support, limited first aid capacity, and a lack of psychosocial support services, particularly for women and children. Basic disease prevention measures were largely absent, while inadequate sanitation and hygiene conditions increased the risk of communicable disease outbreaks. Health promotion activities were also unavailable, highlighting the urgent need for preventive and curative interventions.

Situation at the closure of the operation

Throughout the operation, the Djibouti Red Crescent Society (DRCS) provided Basic First Aid (BFA), Psychological First Aid (PFA), psychosocial support, and health promotion services to more than 16,000 migrants in transit. Trained volunteers conducted regular health and hygiene awareness sessions, contributing to improved disease prevention practices and addressing immediate health and psychosocial needs. By the end of the operation, the most critical health service gaps had been addressed; however, the continued arrival of migrants meant that the need for ongoing first aid, psychosocial support, and health promotion services remained.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Situation at the onset of the operation

At the beginning of the operation, the Nagad Transit Centre faced significant WASH challenges, including limited access to safe drinking water, inadequate sanitation facilities, insufficient handwashing stations, and poor hygiene conditions. The increasing influx of migrants placed additional pressure on already overstretched services and heightened public health risks.

Situation at the closure of the operation

During the operation, DRCS installed water storage tanks, constructed emergency latrines and bathing facilities, established handwashing stations, conducted hygiene promotion sessions, distributed hygiene kits, and maintained water trucking services. These interventions provided safe water and hygiene services to 32,974 individuals and significantly improved overall WASH conditions at the transit centre. Nevertheless, due to the continued movement of migrants through the facility, sustained access to safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, and hygiene promotion activities remained necessary beyond the closure of the operation.





Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Situation at the onset of the operation

At the onset of the operation, several protection concerns were identified at the Nagad Transit Centre, including limited access to gender-sensitive services and safe spaces, inadequate arrangements for the separation of minors from adults, insufficient communication services to support family links, and the absence of designated spaces for vulnerable groups. Although no cases of gender-based violence (GBV) had been reported, preventive measures and protection monitoring were required to mitigate potential risks.

Situation at the closure of the operation

During the operation, DRCS strengthened protection services through the construction of separate shelter spaces for vulnerable groups, delivery of PGI awareness sessions, training of staff and volunteers, and provision of free communication services to help migrants maintain contact with family members. These interventions improved protection conditions and enhanced access to safe and dignified services for women, children, and other vulnerable groups. By the end of the operation, key protection gaps identified at the outset had been addressed; however, the continued presence and transit of vulnerable migrants underscored the need for ongoing PGI support, protection monitoring, and family-link restoration services.



Migration And Displacement

Displacement scenario:

The situation was marked by rapid population turnover and limited access, with only the DRCS allowed on-site. Approximately 200 to 300 individuals were arriving daily, staying for at least 48 hours was creating constant fluctuations in Nagad Transit Center. The lack of a centralized registration or real-time tracking system made getting precise data more difficult to determine exact numbers, and assistance was therefore designed for waves of arrivals rather than a fixed population. One of source available constituted the Djibouti's Voluntary National Report on the Global Compact for Migration, that estimated a "floating" migrant population of up to 220,000 individuals in Djibouti City. This was the projected population that could be potentially affected by the ongoing repatriation program.

On 19 May, available data showed that 2,095 individuals transited through the Nagad center between 8 and 16 May, with a similar number having departed by 19 May. Additionally, approximately 5,000 voluntary returns were registered at key border crossings—Galilé, Galafi, Balho, and Loyada—though unsure how many passed through the center.

Over the past months, the Djibouti Red Crescent Society (DRCS) delivered essential humanitarian services to migrants transiting through the Nagad Transit Center. Key interventions included the provision of dry food, safe water through installed storage tanks and water supplying by water truck, construction of shaded shelters, emergency latrines, and installation of handwashing stations. DRCS also distributed hygiene kits, conducted hygiene promotion sessions, and provided basic health services including first aid and psychosocial support. These efforts had reached tens of thousands of migrants, significantly improved living conditions despite the growing needs driven by continued arrivals.

Coordination and access

Previously active coordination mechanisms, such as the Mixed Migration Task Force and the Protection Working Group, played a critical role in aligning humanitarian efforts on migration-related challenges. However, their prolonged inactivity had created significant coordination gaps, weakening the effectiveness of field responses—particularly for vulnerable groups like displaced persons, the elderly, and people with disabilities. This had contributed to unmet needs in key sectors such as shelter, WASH, and health, further exacerbated by funding, staffing, and supply chain limitations.

On 14 May, a coordination meeting was convened at the Caritas office, bringing together key humanitarian partners to discuss the reactivation of structured coordination frameworks for migration response. Participants emphasized the urgent need to restore these platforms to enhance information sharing, resource alignment, and joint planning among actors. While this initiative marked a positive step forward, ongoing logistical and operational challenges, including restricted access to key sites and limited availability of reliable data—highlighted the need for sustained commitment and investment in coordinated response mechanisms.

Following this initial meeting, monthly coordination meetings had been established, bringing together international stakeholders based in Djibouti who are engaged in migration-related interventions. These meetings serve as a platform for sharing updates, exchanging data, and strengthening collaboration. The first coordination meeting was hosted by DRCS, with support from the Italian Red Cross and the



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). Since that meeting, 6 monthly coordination meetings have been held remotely to strengthen information sharing and coordination among international humanitarian agencies operating in Djibouti.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

This DREF operation aimed to provide life-saving assistance and protection services to foreign nationals in irregular situations affected by Djibouti's organized return operations, particularly those transiting through the Nagad Transit Centre, while also monitoring other relevant sites. The Djibouti Red Crescent Society (DRCS) upheld its humanitarian mandate by ensuring that support is directly targeted toward people on the move. Over the past 5 months, the operation focused on improving living conditions for migrants by delivering essential emergency assistance, including food, health care, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), and protection services—to safeguard dignity, prevent disease, and endorse protection standards.

Operation strategy rationale

Operation Strategy and Sectoral Response

The operation strategy was designed to respond to the specific emergency context by prioritizing the most urgent humanitarian needs and implementing scalable, life-saving interventions. The approach aimed to mitigate immediate suffering and support a dignified transit and departure process for migrants by providing emergency shelter, WASH, health services, and food assistance, while mainstreaming Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) across all sectors.

Emergency shelter:

Two emergency shelter structures were constructed to provide dignified accommodation for migrants in transit. Approximately 4,058 vulnerable individuals, primarily women and minors, were accommodated in these shelters and provided with 300 pre-positioned sleeping mats, enabling them to rest during the day and sleep safely at night while maintaining basic hygiene standards.

During the two-month scale-up period, hygiene management of sleeping mats was strictly maintained. Mats were disinfected and rotated after each convoy to ensure safe reuse. Hygiene and environmental health practices were actively promoted throughout the operation by DRCS volunteers deployed at the site, as further detailed in the WASH section.

Livelihoods and basic Needs:

The food assistance provided by the Djibouti Red Crescent Society (DRCS) delivered lifesaving support to migrants, addressing critical gaps in government provision. Field reports indicate that a total of 16,487 individuals accessed food assistance at the Nagad Transit Centre during the operation.

During the extended operational period, DRCS continued to provide a standardized food package—comprising bread, glucose biscuits, dates, peanuts, a tissue pack, and a 2L bottle of water—expanding the target population from the initially planned 10,000 to an additional 5,000 of the most vulnerable individuals transiting through the centre.

Disaggregated data shows that most beneficiaries were men (9,856), reflecting the predominantly male migration flow. Boys (3,685) also represented a significant proportion, while women (1,983) and girls (963), though fewer in number, were prioritized as highly vulnerable groups requiring targeted assistance.

Emergency Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:

At the onset of the operation, the Nagad Transit Centre had inadequate WASH infrastructure and limited access to safe water. In response, the Djibouti Red Crescent Society (DRCS) installed two water tanks (1 x 10,000L and 1 x 5,000L capacity) and ensured regular water trucking twice per week to maintain a consistent supply of safe drinking water.

To strengthen sanitation services, DRCS constructed four emergency latrines and bathrooms, ensuring access to safe and dignified hygiene facilities. Hygiene promotion and cleaning awareness sessions were conducted four times per week through active engagement with beneficiaries.



Complementing these interventions, hygiene kits were distributed to 14,184 of the most vulnerable individuals, including women, children, and older persons. These combined efforts ensured continuous access to safe water, sanitation, hygiene promotion, and infection prevention measures, thereby safeguarding the health and dignity of migrants at the transit centre.

Emergency Health:

Under this DREF operation, the Djibouti Red Crescent Society (DRCS) provided first aid and psychosocial support to address urgent pre-hospital care needs. Given the limited availability of health services at the Nagad Transit Centre, more than 15,000 individuals received Basic First Aid (BFA) and Psychosocial Support (PSS).

Trained DRCS volunteers were deployed throughout the operation to ensure continuity of pre-hospital care services. In addition, health awareness messages were integrated into hygiene promotion sessions to strengthen preventive health practices and reduce health risks among migrants in transit.

CEA:

Throughout the implementation period, DRCS actively engaged affected populations at the Nagad Transit Centre to promote participation, feedback, and accountability, while addressing community perceptions and concerns. CEA activities were integrated across the operation to ensure that migrant voices informed response delivery.

As part of these efforts, DRCS developed a self-protection booklet covering hygiene, health, and protection during migration. The booklet was translated into Amharic, Oromo, and Tigrinya and digitally shared with relevant stakeholders and partners to support awareness-raising and preparedness.

However, although printing and physical distribution were planned under the CEA budget, the booklet was not physically printed or distributed due to delays in obtaining the required approvals from transit centre authorities within the operational timeframe.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion:

TDRCS continued implementing PGI activities throughout the operation. Dignity kits—including sanitary pads, underwear, and soap—were distributed to 1,500 women and girls of reproductive age to support menstrual hygiene and dignity needs.

Free phone services were also provided to support family tracing and communication, reaching 812 individuals during the operation. This service was particularly important for unaccompanied minors, individuals with health conditions, and those separated from their families.

PGI and Restoring Family Links (RFL) activities were consistently integrated into service delivery, ensuring vulnerable migrants had access to essential protection support throughout the response period.

NS Strengthening:

Throughout the operation, the Djibouti Red Crescent Society (DRCS) strengthened its institutional and operational capacity through staff and volunteer deployment and on-the-job learning during implementation, including the extended operational period.

A Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) assessment was conducted, and a PGI roadmap was developed to guide the development of key policies and tools for systematic mainstreaming across all interventions.

In addition, 30 staff and volunteers completed DREF training, enhancing DRCS capacity to manage emergency funding and comply with updated DREF procedures. Migration-focused coordination was supported by the deployment of a dedicated coordinator and volunteers, with additional staff contributing to ensure timely and effective implementation.

Exit Strategy and Transition Plan:

A phased exit and transition approach was implemented to ensure a responsible and orderly closure of the operation.

Gradual phase-out of services: Activities were progressively reduced during the extension period, with continuous communication maintained with government counterparts and stakeholders to ensure shared understanding of timelines and operational constraints.

Coordination with authorities: DRCS maintained coordination with the Ministry of the Interior and relevant government entities to explore transition options and integration of certain humanitarian support elements into national systems where feasible.



Advocacy for partner engagement: DRCS advocated for broader humanitarian engagement and reduced operational burden on the National Society by encouraging the participation of additional actors. Following approval from transit centre authorities, DRCS facilitated a joint visit with an ECHO delegation in November to assess remaining humanitarian gaps and support transition planning.

Documentation and handover: Operational data, lessons learned, and recommendations were documented and shared with relevant stakeholders to inform future responses. Where possible, remaining assets and infrastructure were prepared for handover to local authorities or potential partners.

Post-operation monitoring: A short-term monitoring mechanism was established to track conditions at the Nagad Transit Centre after closure, ensuring that any emerging urgent needs could be identified and referred through appropriate channels.

Targeting Strategy

Who was targeted by this operation?

The operation had reached its target population that is 33,000 migrants transited at the Nagad Transit Centre. Assistance prioritized the most vulnerable individuals through the provision of targeted support, including food assistance, emergency shelter, and Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) services, alongside general services such as WASH and health.

Priority groups included pregnant and lactating women, unaccompanied and separated children, older persons, and individuals with specific health or medical needs, ensuring that life-saving assistance reached those at greatest risk during their stay at the transit centre.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The targeting strategy focused on individuals at the Nagad Transit Centre who were most at risk due to heightened vulnerability, limited access to services, and exposure to protection threats in the operational context. DRCS established a Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) desk at the site, where beneficiaries were screened and referred for appropriate services.

Special attention was given to unaccompanied and separated children, pregnant and lactating women, older persons, and individuals with medical conditions, recognizing their increased susceptibility to physical and health complications during transit.

Total Assisted Population

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|------|
| Assisted Women | 3,966 | Rural | 0.2% |
| Assisted Girls (under 18) | 1,926 | Urban | 0.8% |
| Assisted Men | 19,712 | People with disabilities (estimated) | 0.2% |
| Assisted Boys (under 18) | 7,370 | | |
| Total Assisted Population | 32,974 | | |
| Total Targeted Population | 33,000 | | |



Risk and Security Considerations (including "management")

| | |
|---|-----|
| Does your National Society have anti-fraud and corruption policy? | No |
| Does your National Society have prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse policy? | Yes |
| Does your National Society have child protection/child safeguarding policy? | Yes |
| Does your National Society have whistleblower protection policy? | No |
| Does your National Society have anti-sexual harassment policy? | No |

Please analyse and indicate potential risks for this operation, its root causes and mitigation actions.

| Risk | Mitigation action |
|---|---|
| Safeguarding Risks: | The NS has PSEA and Child safeguarding policies, but they are under revision. There is need of following on the Policies revision and key specific actions identified to mitigate the risks of safeguarding cases, in coordination with government authorities |
| Risk of perception that does not align with Red Cross and Red Crescent principle, especially association of RCRC as endorsing or facilitating any non-voluntary return operation of migrants. | Clearly communicate DRCS's neutral, independent, and impartial humanitarian role, align all interventions to ensure dignified humanitarian support to the migrants on transit, transparently engagement with stakeholders. The feedback process will also be used to collect and analyze the community perception, feedback and trust. |
| Delayed of integration of returnees to their host countries due to lack of documentation, which may cause congestions at the exit points which may lead to disease outbreak. | Health and hygiene awareness and will be provided and engage the beneficiaries in implementation and management. |
| Protection risk due to limited shelter at the Nagad Centre. | SGBV and Child protection dissemination and NS has constructed additional shelter to support in segregation of migrants by gender and age. |

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation:

No security risk is forecasted in this operation, however, to make the volunteers aware, they will be briefed, on the Stay Safe Personal Security, Volunteer Security, Road travel often presents a considerable safety hazard, which must be addressed appropriately as well.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed? | Yes |
|---|-----|



Implementation



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 12,793

Targeted Persons: 6,000

Assisted Persons: 4,058

Targeted Male: 1,545

Targeted Female: 2,513

Indicators

| Title | Target | Actual |
|--|--------|--------|
| # of emergency shelter shades constructed | 2 | 2 |
| #of people provided shelter on transit | 6,000 | 4,058 |
| #of mats procured to be used in the transition shelters. | 300 | 300 |

Narrative description of achievements

During the reporting period, two emergency shelter structures were constructed and operationalized at the Nagad Transit Centre, providing safe, dignified, and temporary accommodation for migrants in irregular situations transiting through the site.

Through this intervention, 4,058 individuals accessed shaded spaces for daytime rest and nighttime sleep, significantly reducing exposure to heat and other environmental risks. Additionally, 300 pre-positioned sleeping mats were distributed, enabling beneficiaries to rest in safe and dignified conditions.

The lower-than-targeted reach (4,058 compared to the planned 6,000 beneficiaries) was primarily attributed to the highly dynamic nature of population movements at the transit centre, including short stay durations (24–48 hours), rapid onward movement, and fluctuations in convoy arrivals. In addition, some individuals were temporarily counted more than once when they returned to the transit centre after being moved to border points and subsequently re-entered the site during different convoy cycles.

To mitigate the risk of double-counting and strengthen data integrity, DRCS volunteers and supervisors implemented improved beneficiary tracking measures, including convoy-based registration, daily reconciliation of shelter lists, and cross-checking of entries prior to reporting. These measures helped reduce duplication and improve the accuracy of reporting despite the fluid operational environment.

The operation was supported by trained and deployed volunteers who managed daily shelter activities, coordinated WASH-related support within the shelter area, and ensured proper crowd management. Hygiene promotion and environmental sanitation practices were continuously reinforced, contributing to improved cleanliness, reduced health risks, and enhanced wellbeing of beneficiaries.

Overall, the shelter intervention played a critical role in addressing urgent humanitarian needs while promoting dignity, protection, and safety for migrants transiting through the Nagad Transit Centre.

Lessons Learnt

Timely construction of simple, shaded shelter solutions effectively addressed immediate protection and dignity needs in a high-turnover transit setting, demonstrating the importance of rapid, low-cost shelter interventions tailored to short-term stays and prioritized for the most vulnerable groups.



Challenges

The rapid turnover of beneficiaries limited the duration of shelter use, increasing the frequency of cleaning and disinfection of sleeping mats and placing additional pressure on volunteer capacity and operational time.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Budget: CHF 97,004

Targeted Persons: 15,000

Assisted Persons: 16,487

Targeted Male: 13,541

Targeted Female: 2,946

Indicators

| Title | Target | Actual |
|--|--------|--------|
| # of people assisted with food parcels and water | 15,000 | 16,487 |
| # of volunteers deployed to support stock management | 2 | 2 |

Narrative description of achievements

During the reporting period, the operation successfully addressed the immediate basic needs of people on the move transiting through Nagad center by providing essential food contributing to the reduction of vulnerability and negative coping mechanisms.

A total of 16,487 migrants accessed emergency food assistance, exceeding the overall target of 15,000 people. Beneficiaries consistently received a standardized food package comprising bread, glucose biscuits, dates, peanuts, tissue packs, and a 2-litre bottle of water, ensuring equitable and timely support.

The distribution was carried out through trained and deployed volunteers, who ensured orderly, safe, and dignified delivery of assistance to most vulnerable people at transit center filling gaps in government services.

This intervention contributed to meeting immediate survival needs, supporting energy intake during transit, and strengthening the overall humanitarian response for migrants passing through Nagad.

Lessons Learnt

The food parcel distribution demonstrated the importance of pre-positioning sufficient food stocks to respond to sudden increases in the number of migrants transiting through the center. The use of a standardized food package facilitated rapid and equitable distribution and helped maintain consistency throughout the operation.

Challenges

Some migrants expressed expectations for an expanded food package, including the provision of hot meals, which was beyond the scope of the current assistance. Additionally, during the second phase of the operation, it was observed that several beneficiaries who had received support at the Nagad Transit Centre had returned from the border, highlighting the fluidity of the population and complicating planning and distribution of resources.



Health

Budget: CHF 6,505



Targeted Persons: 33,000

Assisted Persons: 32,974

Targeted Male: 27,082

Targeted Female: 5,892

Indicators

| Title | Target | Actual |
|--|--------|--------|
| # of people provided with BFA | 300 | 228 |
| # of people sensitized on health promotion activities # key messages developed | 33,000 | 32,974 |
| # people who have received Psychological FA services | 15,000 | 16,487 |

Narrative description of achievements

During the reporting period, the operation ensured continued access to essential health services for people transiting through the Nagad Transit Centre, contributing to reduced health risks and timely response to urgent medical needs.

Through the deployment of trained first aid volunteers, Basic First Aid (BFA) services were provided to migrants presenting with injuries and other immediate health conditions. A total of 228 individuals received BFA support against a target of 300 (76% achievement). The shortfall was primarily due to the highly transient nature of the population and fluctuating caseloads at the transit centre, where many migrants remained for only 24–48 hours, limiting opportunities for systematic identification and follow-up of cases requiring BFA services before onward movement.

In addition, psychological support services were provided to all individuals at the centre, addressing emotional distress, anxiety, and depression experienced during transit. A total of 16,487 individuals received Psychological First Aid (PFA), exceeding the original target of 15,000 due to increased demand during peak convoy movements.

Health promotion and awareness activities were also conducted, reaching 32,974 individuals against a target of 33,000 (99.9% achievement). These sessions focused on preventive health practices, hygiene, and risk reduction behaviors.

Lessons Learnt

The health component highlighted the critical importance of having qualified health personnel and essential medicines available in the center to adequately respond to the health needs of the migrants in the transit center. Reliance solely on volunteers for basic first aid limited the ability to manage medical emergencies and more complex health cases.

Challenges

The delivery of health services at the Nagad Transit Centre was significantly constrained by the absence of emergency medical care and the limited availability of essential medicines, which restricted the ability to respond effectively to acute health needs and medical emergencies among people in transit. Additionally, the lack of permanently stationed qualified health personnel on site limited the scope of interventions, resulting in heavy reliance on trained volunteers for basic first aid and health awareness. The absence of a formal emergency referral system further compounded challenges in addressing urgent medical needs, with coordination difficulties noted with Center authorities.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 55,048

Targeted Persons: 33,000

Assisted Persons: 32,974



Targeted Male: 27,082
Targeted Female: 5,892

Indicators

| Title | Target | Actual |
|---|--------|--------|
| #of tanks procured and installed | 2 | 2 |
| #of emergency latrines and bathrooms constructed | 4 | 4 |
| # of hygiene kits procured and distributed | 10,000 | 14,184 |
| #of hand washing stations installed | 5 | 5 |
| # of Hygiene awareness events and Environmental cleaning activities conducted | 96 | 82 |
| # of people reached with hygiene awareness messages | 33,000 | 32,974 |
| # of people have accessed safe water | 33,000 | 32,974 |

Narrative description of achievements

During the reporting period, WASH interventions at the Nagad Transit Centre significantly improved access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene services for migrants, contributing to disease prevention and improved living conditions in a high-transit and high-density environment.

To strengthen water availability, two water tanks were procured and installed, ensuring a more reliable supply of safe drinking water at the site. In addition, four emergency latrines and bathrooms were constructed, improving access to sanitation facilities while enhancing privacy and dignity for beneficiaries.

The operation exceeded its hygiene kit distribution target, with 14,184 kits distributed against an initial target of 10,000 (142% achievement). This overachievement was due to increased demand during peak influx periods and the extension of support to additional vulnerable individuals identified during ongoing vulnerability assessments. The kits reached men (8,394), women (1,787), boys (3,159), and girls (844), ensuring inclusive coverage and addressing essential hygiene needs during transit.

Furthermore, five handwashing stations were installed, achieving 100% of the planned target and supporting improved hygiene practices at key locations within the transit centre.

In terms of hygiene promotion, 82 awareness and environmental cleaning sessions were conducted out of a planned 96 (85% achievement), strengthening knowledge and promoting safe hygiene behaviors among migrants despite operational constraints linked to rapid population movement and limited time for structured group sessions.

Overall, 32,974 individuals accessed hygiene awareness messages and safe water services, reaching nearly the full planned target of 33,000. This included men (19,712), women (3,966), boys (7,370), and girls (1,926), ensuring a gender- and age-sensitive approach throughout the intervention.

All WASH activities were implemented with the support of trained volunteers, contributing to improved environmental hygiene, reduced public health risks, and enhanced dignity for people transiting through the Nagad Transit Centre.



Lessons Learnt

The WASH intervention demonstrated the importance of early installation of water and sanitation infrastructure to cope with high fluctuating transit flows. Pre-positioning hygiene kits and WASH materials proved essential to avoid service interruptions caused by procurement delays.

Challenges

The implementation of WASH activities faced operational and logistical constraints, including high and continuous migrant influx, short stays, temporary stock shortages of hygiene kits, delays in latrine construction, and restricted access imposed by authorities, which affected timely service delivery and monitoring.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 10,116

Targeted Persons: 8,000

Assisted Persons: 6,461

Targeted Male: 3,819

Targeted Female: 2,642

Indicators

| Title | Target | Actual |
|---|--------|--------|
| # of Dignity kit distributed | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| PGI assessment conducted | 1 | 1 |
| # of People reached with PGI awareness | 8,000 | 6,461 |
| # of people accessed free phone call services | 500 | 812 |
| # of advocacy session conducted | 15 | 15 |

Narrative description of achievements

During the reporting period, the operation strengthened protection, dignity, and inclusion for vulnerable migrants transiting through the Nagad Transit Centre through targeted PGI interventions.

Dignity kits were distributed to women and girls with specific needs, enabling them to manage personal hygiene safely and with dignity during transit, while also reducing protection risks associated with limited access to essential items. Distributions were carried out in a safe, respectful, and confidential manner, with careful attention to gender- and age-sensitive considerations.

Additionally, phone call services were provided at the transit centre, allowing migrants to re-establish contact with family members, reduce anxiety, and support psychosocial well-being. This intervention contributed to restoring a sense of safety and dignity for individuals separated from their families during migration. The Restoring Family Links (RFL) department also reported that several unaccompanied children were successfully reconnected with their families through these services.

PGI awareness activities reached 6,461 individuals against a target of 8,000 (81% achievement). The shortfall was mainly due to operational constraints, including restrictions on structured group sessions within the transit centre and the prioritization of urgent service delivery during peak convoy movements, which limited the time available for planned awareness sessions.



All PGI activities were implemented by trained volunteers, ensuring adherence to “do no harm” principles, accountability, and inclusion of vulnerable groups, and contributing to a safer and more dignified transit environment at Nagad.

Lessons Learnt

The PGI activities highlighted the importance of early advocacy and continuous engagement with authorities to facilitate access to protection services, particularly phone call services for migrants wishing to contact their families and preserve the dignity of women and girl.

Challenges

- Restricted access and limited call time imposed by transit center authorities delayed the implementation of phone call services, preventing the activity from reaching its target; only 812 of 3,000 intended beneficiaries were able to use the service.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 2,891

Targeted Persons: 33,000

Assisted Persons: 32,975

Targeted Male: 27,082

Targeted Female: 5,892

Indicators

| Title | Target | Actual |
|--|--------|--------|
| # of staff and volunteers oriented on PGI and CEA, data collection | 30 | 30 |
| types informative sign/posters | 3 | 3 |
| # of people participated in the inception meeting | 30 | 30 |
| # of people participate in lesson learned | 35 | 35 |
| # of lessons learnt conducted and reported | 1 | 1 |

Narrative description of achievements

Throughout the implementation period, the Djibouti Red Crescent Society (DRCS) actively engaged the affected population at the Nagad Transit Centre, focusing on participation, acceptance, and monitoring community perceptions, while addressing any potential misunderstandings. CEA activities were integrated throughout the five-month operation to ensure that the needs and concerns of migrants were considered in the response.

As part of these efforts, DRCS developed a self-protection booklet covering hygiene, health, and protection during migration. The booklet was disseminated to migrants and designed for printing and distribution, helping to promote awareness and reinforce safe practices throughout their transit. The self-protection booklet was made available in the main languages of the migrants—Amharic, Oromo, and Tigrinya. While it had been planned for printing and distribution under the CEA budget during the extended period, it was ultimately not disseminated due to insufficient time to secure the necessary approvals and advocacy with the transit center authorities.



Lessons Learnt

Early and continuous advocacy with authorities is critical to ensure timely approval and distribution of CEA materials, particularly in restricted-access settings, to maximize community engagement and the effectiveness of risk communication.

Challenges

Limited time and restricted access to the transit center authorities delayed approvals for printing and distributing CEA materials, resulting in the self-protection booklet not being disseminated as planned during the extended period.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 13,269

Targeted Persons: 33,000

Assisted Persons: 32,975

Targeted Male: 27,082

Targeted Female: 5,892

Indicators

| Title | Target | Actual |
|--|--------|--------|
| Operation monitoring sessions | 3 | 3 |
| # of NS staff attend the DREF process training | 20 | 20 |

Narrative description of achievements

During the operation, IFRC Ethiopia and Djibouti Country Cluster Delegation closely supported the Djibouti Red Crescent Society (DRCS) in responding to the migrant deportation crisis. One IFRC local staff member was based at DRCS to provide strategic coordination and technical guidance across multiple projects, including this DREF operation.

IFRC support encompassed key Secretariat services such as PMER, finance, logistics, and National Society development, strengthening DRCS's capacity to respond effectively. The delegation actively participated in daily coordination, guided operational decision-making, and assisted in scaling up the DREF response as needs evolved.

This engagement ensured a timely, well-coordinated, and effective response, providing strategic direction to the National Society and partners while adapting to emerging priorities on the ground.

Lessons Learnt

Embedding IFRC staff within the National Society strengthens operational coordination, facilitates timely decision-making, and enhances the National Society's capacity to implement and scale up emergency responses effectively.

Challenges

Coordinating technical support and guidance while adapting to rapidly evolving operational needs required continuous engagement and resource allocation, which placed demands on both IFRC and National Society staff.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 28,246



Targeted Persons: 33,000

Assisted Persons: 32,974

Targeted Male: 27,082

Targeted Female: 5,892

Indicators

| Title | Target | Actual |
|---|--------|--------|
| # of volunteers insured | 30 | 30 |
| # volunteers equipped with PPE | 30 | 30 |
| # of NS staff deployed to support operation | 1 | 1 |
| # of supportive supervision conducted | 10 | 10 |

Narrative description of achievements

Throughout the operation, the Djibouti Red Crescent Society (DRCS) continued to strengthen its institutional capacity and maintained the deployment of staff and volunteers to support implementation as planned, including coverage of the extended operational period.

Through the DREF operation, DRCS conducted a Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) assessment and developed a roadmap to guide the development of key policies and tools, ensuring the systematic mainstreaming of PGI across all interventions.

In addition, 30 National Society staff and volunteers completed DREF training, enhancing DRCS's capacity to access emergency funding and complying with updated DREF guidelines and procedures. The migration coordinator and 30 volunteers were directly supported under this operation, while additional support staff contributed their time to ensure timely and effective implementation.

Lessons Learnt

Investing in staff and volunteer capacity building, including DREF-specific training and PGI assessments, strengthens the National Society's ability to implement emergency operations effectively, comply with donor requirements, and mainstream protection across all interventions.

Challenges

Ensuring adequate availability of trained staff and volunteers throughout both the initial and extended operational periods required intensive coordination, with volunteer management posing an additional challenge for the project focal person during the prolonged emergency response.



Financial Report



DREF Operation Final Report (CHF)

Date from: 1 May 2025 to 4 Jun 2026

MDRDJ007 - Djibouti - Population Movement

Operating timeframe: *Start date: 04-Jun-2025 End date: 30-Nov-2025*

Appeal launch date: *05-Jun-2025*

I. Summary

| | Actual (CHF) |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Opening Balance | 0 |
| Funds & Other Income | 225,872 |
| DREF Response Pillar | 225,872 |
| Expenditure | -215,944 |
| Closing Balance | 9,928 |

II. Expenditure by planned operations / enabling approaches

| Description | Budget | Expenditure | Variance |
|--|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships | | | |
| EA02 - Secretariat Services | 12,459 | 7,493 | 4,966 |
| EA03 - National Society Strengthening | 26,351 | 25,638 | 713 |
| PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items | 12,012 | 11,791 | 221 |
| PO02 - Livelihoods | 91,083 | 89,770 | 1,313 |
| PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash | | | |
| PO04 - Health | 6,108 | 5,740 | 368 |
| PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene | 51,689 | 50,920 | 769 |
| PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion | 9,499 | 9,577 | -78 |
| PO07 - Education | | | |
| PO08 - Migration | | | |
| PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery | 13,956 | 12,969 | 987 |
| PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability | 2,714 | 2,045 | 669 |
| PO11 - Environmental Sustainability | | | |
| Planned Operations Total | 187,061 | 182,813 | 4,249 |
| Total | 225,872 | 215,944 | 9,928 |

III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Prepared on 04-Jun-2026

Page 1 of 2

[Click here for the complete financial report](#)

Please explain variances (if any)

The variance between budget and expenditure is mainly driven by operational adjustments during implementation. An allocation was made for two DREF facilitators; however, only one was deployed, as the second facilitator was covered at Geneva level. This resulted in an underrun under the facilitator budget line. For field monitoring, funds were initially planned, but activities remained confined to the city. As a result, travel-related costs were significantly reduced, with the National Society covering most of the transport expenses.



Under the CEA, the remaining balance is primarily associated with printing and visibility materials. The scale of operational activities was adjusted in line with the context on the ground, which resulted in a reduced need for the extensive production and distribution of these materials.



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[Click here for reference](#)

