



*Presence of Psychosocial Support (PSS) teams of the Youth Organization of the Iranian Red Crescent Society in Hamadan Province, in areas affected by airstrikes resulting from armed conflict. .*

Appeal No: <b>MDRIR018</b>	IFRC Funding requirements: <b>CHF 120 million<sup>1</sup></b>	
Glide No: <b>CE-2026-000026-IRN</b>	People [affected/at risk]: <b>60 million people</b>	People to be assisted: <b>10 million people TBD<sup>2</sup></b>
DREF allocation: <b>CHF 1,525,304 million</b>	Appeal launched: <b>06/03/2026</b>	Appeal ends: <b>31/12/2027<sup>3</sup></b>
Appeal Revision	Revision #: 1	Date: <b>08/04/2026</b>

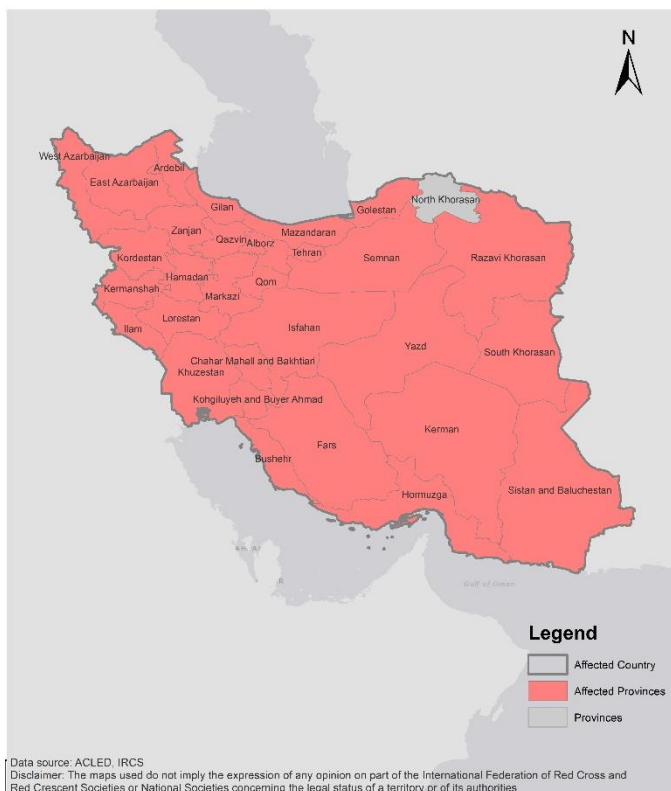
<sup>1</sup> Increased from CHF 40 million in the first appeal.

<sup>2</sup> Increased from five million people in the first appeal.

<sup>3</sup> Extended from 30 June 2027 in the first appeal.

# SITUATION OVERVIEW

**IFRC** Iran, Islamic Republic of: Complex Emergency  
April 2026



Since 28 February 2026, the Islamic Republic of Iran has experienced a sharp and sustained escalation in hostilities following reported US–Israeli strikes and subsequent retaliatory missile activity. The security situation remains highly volatile, with ongoing explosions and air defence activity reported across multiple urban centres, including Tehran and other major cities. As of 2 April, incidents have been reported across 30 provinces and at least 262 cities and counties, reflecting a significant geographic expansion from earlier assessments. What initially appeared as a localised escalation has evolved into a nationwide complex emergency, placing sustained pressure on emergency response systems, health services, and humanitarian access. While a ceasefire agreement was announced on 7 April, the situation continues to be monitored and humanitarian conditions remain fragile, with significant needs persisting across affected areas.

Casualty figures have risen sharply since the onset of the hostilities. Available reports indicate more than 2,000 fatalities and approximately 22,000 injuries nationwide, though figures remain subject to verification due to ongoing insecurity, connectivity

disruptions, and information constraints. The impact on vulnerable groups and essential service providers is particularly severe, with reported casualties including 216 children killed and 1,830 injured, two pregnant women killed, 24 medical personnel killed and 114 injured, and 290 education sector staff killed with 183 injured. These figures underscore the scale of harm to civilians and the direct impact on the systems required to sustain life-saving services.

The crisis has resulted in extensive damage to civilian infrastructure. As of 2 April, more than 158,469 civilian units have reportedly been damaged nationwide, including over 135,000 residential and commercial units, with particularly severe impacts in Tehran province. In addition, 316 healthcare facilities, 763 schools, and 18 Red Crescent centres have been damaged, representing a major escalation from earlier estimates and signalling widespread disruption to shelter, health, and education services in densely populated urban environments. Damage of this scale in urban settings is rapidly translating into secondary public health risks, service interruptions, and reduced access to care for millions of people.

The Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) has activated crisis management operations across all 30 affected provinces and mobilised approximately 23,773 personnel, including over 22,700 volunteers. As of early April, IRCS teams have conducted 693 search operations and 865 technical rescue operations, reaching nearly 2,000 people with first aid and medical services. However, the IRCS itself has suffered losses, with four volunteers killed and 18 injured in the line of duty, alongside damage to Red Crescent facilities and assets. The national mental health and psychosocial support hotline (4030) has received 138,157 calls, amounting to more than 676,000 minutes of counselling, indicating escalating psychological distress across the population.

Operational conditions are increasingly constrained by continued airspace restrictions, flight suspensions, and disruptions to regional transit routes, affecting logistics pipelines, humanitarian mobility, and commercial supply chains. Near-total internet and phone outages in several areas are limiting access to lifesaving information, disrupting ambulance dispatch and referral systems, and severely constraining remote assessments and coordination. Sanctions-related restrictions continue to complicate international banking, procurement, and the importation of humanitarian goods, requiring high levels of preparedness and operational experience to

navigate. Clear mitigation measures have been in place since the onset of the operation, ensuring that bank transfers can take place, as well as providing a sanctions analysis for all items being procured.

Given the scale, geographic spread, and likely protracted nature of this crisis, the IFRC Secretariat, in close coordination with the IRCS, is revising this Emergency Appeal to reflect evolving needs on the ground. The appeal's funding requirement is being scaled up to CHF 120 million, with a revised target of

approximately ten million people, to support life-saving assistance, protection, health, psychosocial support, emergency shelter, and operational capacity across affected provinces. This scale-up is essential to enable the IRCS to sustain and expand its response as humanitarian needs continue to rapidly evolve across Iran, as well as allow for recovery planning.

## **EMERGENCY APPEAL REVISION**

This revision is driven by the continued escalation in hostilities, the expansion of affected geographic areas, and a significant increase in the number of people impacted. As the primary humanitarian responder in Iran, the IRCS is operating at the forefront of this large-scale crisis, delivering critical life-saving assistance across the country under extremely challenging conditions. The magnitude of needs now far exceeds the initial response, requiring a significant scale-up not only to sustain immediate emergency operations, but also to prepare for the substantial recovery phase that will become clearer when the situation allows.

The revised appeal increases the funding requirement from CHF 40 million to CHF 120 million to enable a scale-up of the Iranian Red Crescent Society's humanitarian interventions and expands the target population from five million to approximately ten million people. In addition, the operational timeframe has been extended until the end of December 2027 to allow for sustained life-saving assistance and early recovery support. The revised operation will maintain and further scale up its focus on immediate life-saving interventions, particularly in the areas of health and relief. At the same time, it will expand health-related activities to include strengthened community-based health services and the rehabilitation of damaged health infrastructure. The operation will also incorporate an increased emphasis on cash assistance to support early recovery and address the evolving needs of the affected population. In addition, enhanced support will be provided to the IRCS for the rehabilitation and restoration of branches, facilities, and operational assets damaged or destroyed since 28 February, ensuring the continuity and sustainability of its response capacity. The detailed operational adjustments will be outlined in the upcoming revised Operational Strategy.

## **TARGETING**

Iran has an estimated 82 million people exposed to this crisis, with up to 60 million affected by the nationwide impacts of the escalation. Through the revision of the Emergency Appeal, the IFRC will support the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) in scaling up the delivery of humanitarian assistance to approximately 10 million affected people across 30 impacted provinces, prioritising those directly affected by hostilities, infrastructure damage, and disruptions to essential services. The IRCS's assistance will focus on heavily affected urban areas in the provinces where incidents have been reported, with particular attention to:

- Individuals injured or directly affected by airstrikes, explosive incidents, and other hostilities
- Communities experiencing infrastructure damage
- Households facing disruptions to essential services
- Populations displaced or at risk of displacement

- Vulnerable groups, including children, women and girls, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, and low-income households
- Communities exposed to secondary humanitarian impacts

Provided that operational access is maintained, assistance will be directed toward communities where humanitarian needs are most acute and where IRCS operational capacities are actively engaged in response operations. Given the complexity of the operational environment, the scope and scale of the response will continue to be reviewed as additional information becomes available.

## PLANNED OPERATIONS

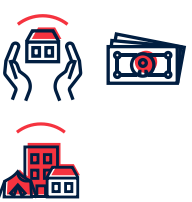
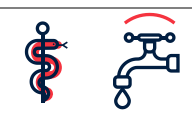
This Emergency Appeal is issued in direct support of the IRCS and its central role in the Movement response to the ongoing conflict. It is fully aligned with the IRCS Emergency Response Plan and is designed in complementarity with the ICRC's mandate and actions, in accordance with the Statutes of the Movement and the principles of the Seville Agreement 2.0. Through this Appeal, the IFRC aims to strengthen a coordinated and principled Movement response to address the urgent needs of affected communities in Iran.

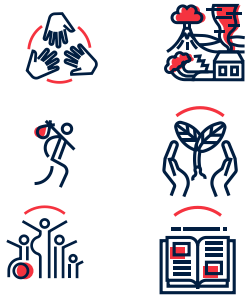
This Emergency Appeal was initially issued to address the immediate humanitarian needs in Iran and has since been revised in response to the evolving situation. This revision reflects updated humanitarian needs, including adjustments to the operational timeframe and funding requirement.

The IFRC continues to monitor developments in coordination with the IRCS and Movement partners and has updated the appeal accordingly. Continued coordination with all partners, including the ICRC, will be maintained to ensure complementarity should the situation further deteriorate or needs continue to expand.

The response strategy will support approximately ten million people affected over a 22-month period, focusing on lifesaving emergency services, preparedness for potential displacement scenarios, addressing emerging humanitarian needs, while maintaining flexibility to adapt to the evolving context, as well as incorporating a recovery component.

Through this operation, the response will focus on the following areas:

	<p><b>Integrated assistance (Shelter, Livelihoods and Basic Needs, and Cash)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistance will prioritise the provision of essential relief items, including essential household items, food packages, and emergency shelter support for households affected by infrastructure damage or displacement, including displaced and host communities.</li> <li>• Support to affected families may also include assistance to repair or rebuild damaged homes through cash, in-kind support, or technical assistance, in coordination with relevant national authorities and partners to ensure a complementary approach.</li> <li>• Support the recovery efforts of households affected by the conflict including through cash and voucher assistance.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Health and Care, including Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) (Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, Search and Rescue, Community Health)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the deployment and operational readiness of Iranian Red Crescent Society Search and Rescue (SAR) teams to conduct rescue operations, debris clearance, and immediate life-saving interventions in areas affected by strikes or structural damage.</li> <li>• Strengthen emergency medical services and ambulance operations, including pre-hospital care, triage, and referral of injured patients to appropriate medical facilities.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision and strengthening of the existing facilities of IRCS Physical rehabilitation services.</li> <li>• Provide first aid and emergency medical care through IRCS emergency response teams, health facilities, and mobile medical units.</li> <li>• Deliver mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services to individuals and families affected by the crisis, including psychological first aid and community-based psychosocial activities.</li> <li>• Support community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) activities to promote health awareness and strengthen community resilience.</li> <li>• Support the rehabilitation of essential health infrastructure.</li> <li>• Ensure the provision of safe water, and hygiene promotion services, including the distribution of hygiene kits to affected communities where needed.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Protection and Prevention</b>  <b>(Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), Community Engagement and Accountability, Migration, Environmental Sustainability, Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery, Education)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the IRCS in ensuring equitable access to basic services by integrating Protection and Prevention into the response using an evidence-based approach, and addressing the needs of affected communities, especially displaced populations with a focus on sex, age, and disability.</li> <li>• Support for dead body management.</li> <li>• Provision of information regarding services with established referral mechanisms, such as legal and health support in accordance with protection needs.</li> <li>• Strengthen community engagement components and ensure that CEA continues to play a vital role across all sectors and interventions implemented by the IRCS.  Support people on the move, including all returnees, IDPs, and newly displaced populations.</li> </ul>

## Enabling approaches



The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:

### Coordination and partnerships



- The IFRC will work closely with National Societies and the ICRC in coordinating international support for this operation; this will include coordination on advocacy efforts and harnessing the Movement's capacities to support the IRCS response plan.
- Support the IRCS and its branches through engagement in humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy work with local stakeholders, partners, and international actors.
- The IFRC will also support coordination on regional, cross-regional, and global levels to ensure smooth implementation to provide efficient and effective appeal management (through surge, etc.) as required and ensure complementarity of the actions of the different Movement actors involved.
- Strengthen coordination and partnerships within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and with relevant external actors, including the private sector, foundations, governments, and UN agencies.

## IFRC Secretariat services

- Provide technical support and human resources capacity.
  - Specific attention will be given to boost the IFRC's security management capacity in the region to ensure a proper foundation for at-scale operations together with the membership.
  - Facilitate collaboration and coordination for international support and regional response capacity.
  - Strengthen humanitarian diplomacy, advocacy efforts, and joint activities.
  - Support to scale-up information management and data analysis.
  - Develop a communications and visibility action plan that aligns with the priorities that will be identified in the upcoming Operational Strategy, including key messages that showcase the work of the National Society and the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.
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-  The operation will apply Results-Based Management (RBM) principles to ensure results-based planning, monitoring, and adaptive management throughout the response.
  - Finance support with risk mitigation, planning and budgeting, account bookkeeping, payables and receivables, review donor project proposals and financial compliance, pledge validation, audit support, finance coordination with procurement, HR, payroll, and administration, relationships with banks, internal controls, payments, treasury and finance coordination, finance reports and analysis.
  - Develop tailored guidance and a resource mobilisation plan for the IFRC Network to engage externally with strategic partners, including governments and donors of the IFRC as well as other humanitarian actors. This includes the development and coordination of the IFRC Mobilisation Table.
  - Ensure that strong and robust supply chain management is in place, and the management of the Mobilisation Table.

## National Society Strengthening

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- Provide support in disseminating the concept and implications of the IRCS's independence and its auxiliary role to the public authorities so that it is well understood, institutionalised, and used to strengthen partnerships with key national and international stakeholders.
  - Support the IRCS in advocacy efforts based on their priorities for amendments and the development of legal instruments to enhance the humanitarian response with reduced risks and losses.
  - Support the IRCS in continuing its positioning as the leading humanitarian actor in the country and partner of choice in Iran.
  - Enhance the capacity and development of IRCS branches, including support to IRCS headquarters and branches affected by the escalation.
  - Provide support to volunteers and volunteer management.
  - Provide support for fleet and logistics in the affected areas.
  - Enhance the IRCS's capacities in digital transformation, information, and data management to improve the quality of programming.
  - Ensure that PGI, PSEA, and Safeguarding are institutionalised within the IRCS, and that all staff and volunteers are trained.


*The revised planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the time of this Emergency Appeal revision. Details of the operation will be updated through a revised Operational Strategy to be released*

in the upcoming days. The Operational Strategy will also provide further details on the Federation-wide approach, which includes the response activities of all contributing Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies.







After 31 December 2027, the response activities to this disaster will continue under the [IFRC Network Iran Country Plan for 2028](#). The IFRC's Network Country Plans show an integrated view of the ongoing emergency responses and longer-term programming tailored to the needs in the country, as well as a Federation-wide view of the country's actions. This aims to streamline activities under one plan, while still ensuring that the needs of those affected by the disaster are met in an accountable and transparent way. Information will be shared in due time, should there be a need for an extension of the crisis-specific response beyond the above-mentioned timeframe.





## RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT IN COUNTRY

### Iranian Red Crescent Society



**Core areas of operation**

Number of staff:	<b>7,545</b>
Number of volunteers:	<b>3,199,625</b>
Number of branches	<b>579</b>
Number of local units	<b>7,897</b>

and access. The IRCS, as auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, plays a central role in national disaster management, working in structured coordination with the National Disaster Management Organisation (NDMO), the governmental body mandated to lead multi-sector disaster coordination. Within this framework, the IRCS leads relief and rescue operations while line ministries deliver sectoral services. With nationwide coverage through branches, volunteers, relief bases, and operational facilities, the IRCS is the primary humanitarian responder and maintains strong partnerships with national authorities and international actors, including UNICEF, WFP, WHO, UNHCR, UNPFA, and INGOs.

The National Society provides relief, basic emergency health care units during emergencies, field hospitals, medical equipment and supplies, procurement, and the production of both specialised and non-specialised medicines. The IRCS is mandated by Iranian law to lead national emergency operations, conduct search-and-rescue activities, provide relief services, and provide emergency health and shelter services. It is also responsible for raising public awareness around disasters and crises and organising related educational activities. The National Society plays a vital role in contingency planning at the national and local levels in cooperation with the authorities and other stakeholders.

The IRCS, established in 1922, is the only local organisation in Iran with nationwide community reach

#### IFRC Membership coordination

The IFRC maintains a strong presence in Iran through its Country Delegation in Tehran, which works closely with the IRCS and coordinates with the IFRC MENA Regional Office to provide technical, financial, and operational support during this operation. The IFRC MENA Regional Office supports the delegation through regional strategic and operational coordination, direct operational and technical guidance, surge capacity, and supply chain support, enabling effective engagement with Movement partners.

The IFRC is also ensuring strategic and operational coordination with Participating National Societies (PNSs) across the region and beyond to support the IRCS in a coherent and aligned manner, through regular information sharing and operational coordination meetings that enhance visibility on interventions, promote complementarity of support, and contribute to a unified and effective Movement response to maximise collective impact.

### **Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination**

The IRCS maintains regular coordination with the IFRC and ICRC to ensure alignment of support and action among Movement partners.

A platform for strategic coordination between the senior leadership of the IRCS, IFRC, and ICRC has been established to facilitate regular exchanges and joint decision-making. The ICRC, which maintains a presence in Iran, is supporting the IRCS as needed in the response.

To support the immediate response, the IFRC has already allocated CHF 1,525,304 million from the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) as a loan to support IRCS operations. Further details on additional support and coordination will be outlined as the response evolves.

### **External coordination**

With a nationwide presence across all provinces and an extensive network of volunteers, branches, relief bases, and operational facilities, the IRCS represents the primary humanitarian responder in the country. The National Society maintains strong operational partnerships with national authorities, including the NDMO, and international humanitarian actors present in Iran and regularly collaborates with United Nations agencies and international organisations, including UNICEF, WFP, WHO, UNHCR and UNFPA, as well as several international NGOs, in the delivery of humanitarian programmes and services. This extensive operational footprint and established coordination mechanisms position the Iranian Red Crescent Society as the key national actor supporting affected communities and facilitating humanitarian action during large-scale emergencies. The IRCS leads relief and rescue operations and provides humanitarian assistance during emergencies, while line ministries are responsible for sectoral services, often supported by United Nations agencies operating in Iran.

Iranian national authorities have implemented a series of emergency and protective measures to manage the evolving humanitarian impact and maintain public order following the reported strikes across multiple locations. Civil defence protocols have been activated, with emergency services deployed in affected urban centres. Coordination between the national authorities and the IRCS is ongoing to support the medical response, search and rescue efforts, the provision of first aid, and assistance to affected families through relief and MHPSS.

Coordination with international organisations and humanitarian actors will continue to ensure that assistance is complementary, avoids duplication, and aligns with national response priorities. At the regional level, the IFRC will coordinate closely with key regional and international stakeholders to ensure complementarity of the response efforts. Through its regional structures, the IFRC will engage with relevant UN agencies, regional bodies, and international NGOs, to facilitate information exchange and support coordinated efforts.

## Contact information

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

### At the Iranian Red Crescent National Society:

- **Head of International Operations:** Dr. Danial Tabatabaee; email: [int\\_operations@rcs.ir](mailto:int_operations@rcs.ir), phone: +989121820042

### At the IFRC:

- **IFRC Regional Office for Disasters, Climate & Crises (DCC) Unit:** Raja Assaf, acting Regional Head of Disasters, Climate & Crises (DCC) Unit – MENA; email: [raja.assaf@ifrc.org](mailto:raja.assaf@ifrc.org), phone: +961 71 910896
- **IFRC Country Delegation – Iran:** Maria Mercedes Martinez; email: [maria.martinez@ifrc.org](mailto:maria.martinez@ifrc.org)
- **IFRC Geneva:** Lea Christensen Nielsen, Senior Officer Operations Coordination; email: [lea.nielsen@ifrc.org](mailto:lea.nielsen@ifrc.org)

### For IFRC Resource Mobilisation and Pledges support:

- **IFRC Regional Office for MENA:** Yara Yassine, Regional Head of Strategic Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation; email: [yara.yassine@ifrc.org](mailto:yara.yassine@ifrc.org)

### For In-Kind donations and Mobilisation table support:

- **Global Humanitarian Services and Supply Chain Management Unit, MENA Regional Office:** Cornelis Jan Dees, Regional Head of GHS & SCM; email: [cornelis.dees@ifrc.org](mailto:cornelis.dees@ifrc.org)

#### Reference



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