

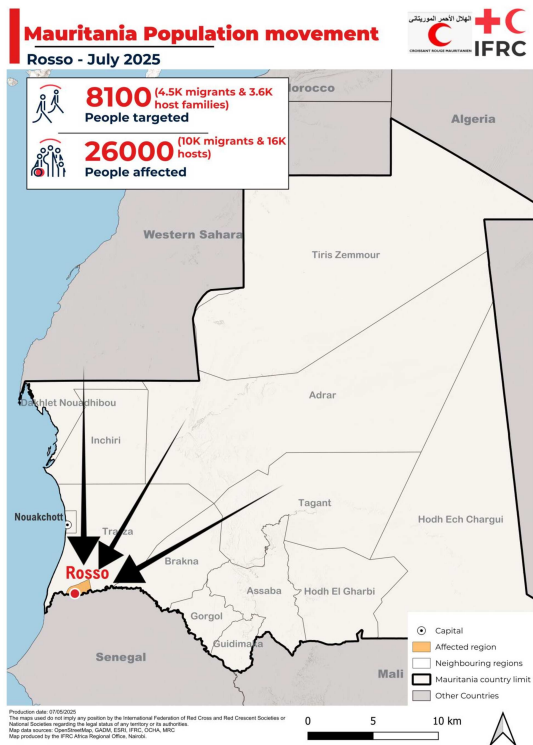


Humanitarian assistance to migrants in Rosso, June 25

Appeal: MDRMR019	Country: Mauritania	Hazard: Population Movement	Type of DREF: Response
Crisis Category: Yellow	Event Onset: Slow	DREF Allocation: CHF 375,000	
Glide Number: -	People at Risk: 8,100 people	People Targeted: 8,100 people	
Operation Start Date: 08-08-2025	Operation Timeframe: 3 months	Operation End Date: 30-11-2025	DREF Published: 20-08-2025
Targeted Regions: Trarza			

Date when the trigger was met

28-07-2025



Map of the Trarza region with a focus on population movements toward Rosso.

What happened, where and when?

On 25 July 2025, the Mayor of Rosso sent a letter to the Local Comity of the Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC) thanking them for its ongoing support to migrants in the area and asking for continuous support to the deteriorating population movement situation.

Indeed, since January 2025, the MRC has reported a growing humanitarian crisis at the Rosso border crossing with Senegal. Migrants intercepted inside Mauritania over 30 000 between January and April are expelled to Rosso and refused onward passage. Local reports observer up to two buses of 60–70 people arriving each day, some of which are left stranded with irregular administrative situation. The caseload includes mainly young men but also some unaccompanied minors and women (numerous pregnant or caring for infants). Humanitarian Service Point (HSP) teams have already documented 1700 protection and basic-needs cases. The recent MSF assessment confirmed no international actors on-site and found that the few local organisations, including the MRC, are overstretched.

This continuous influx has plunged the migrant population into a situation of acute humanitarian distress. Many lack access to clean water, food, essential medicines, and adequate shelter. A significant number are forced to sleep outdoors or in makeshift facilities, exposed to harsh weather conditions, particularly during Ramadan and periods of extreme heat.

The ongoing project Global Route Based Programme funded by the Italian Red Cross has ended in July, and MRC will require additional support to deal with the deteriorating situation.

The crisis is concentrated in and around Rosso, a critical border town located on the southern bank of the Senegal River, Trarza Region, south-western Mauritania. Rosso has become a central transit and expulsion point for migrants forcibly returned by Mauritanian authorities.

Limited services in Rosso mean that those stranded quickly spill over into informal sites along the riverbank and nearby roads.

On 25 July 2025, the Mayor of Rosso thanked the local Mauritanian Red Crescent committee for its migrant assistance and urged it to



maintain support as the population movement situation worsens. Large-scale expulsions were first reported in early February 2025 (TBC) and have continued daily, averaging 140 people per day. The influx is ongoing, numbers continue to rise, and authorities have signalled no change in policy.

This continuous influx has plunged the migrant population into a situation of acute humanitarian distress. Many lack access to clean water, food, essential medicines, and adequate shelter. A significant number are forced to sleep outdoors or in makeshift facilities, exposed to harsh weather conditions, particularly during Ramadan and periods of extreme heat.

Red Cross reception centers have reached saturation: by March 2025, they were already overwhelmed due to insufficient funding and limited capacity. Local associations and residents of Rosso have attempted to fill the gap, but their resources remain inadequate. This situation therefore calls for a coordinated, multi-sector emergency response to ensure protection and essential assistance for the affected population.



Migrants receiving food and hygiene kits assistance in Rosso, July 25

Scope and Scale

On 25 July 2025, the Mayor of Rosso thanked the local Mauritanian Red Crescent committee for its migrant assistance and urged it to maintain support as the population movement situation worsens. Since January 2025 Mauritania's intensified migration controls have pushed more than 30,000 migrants mainly from Mali, Senegal, Guinea, The Gambia and Côte d'Ivoire to the Rosso border with Senegal. Two buses with approximately 150 people still arrive most days, leaving hundreds stranded without papers, unable to cross legally. The influx is overwhelming Rosso's fragile water, sanitation and health networks, eroding host community livelihoods and heightening social tension.

1. Humanitarian impact

Health threats range from dehydration, acute malnutrition and heatstroke to a heightened risk of communicable disease outbreaks in crowded, unsanitary river-bank sites. Protection concerns are acute: women, unaccompanied minors and other vulnerable travellers report violence, abuse and exploitation during arrest, transit and expulsion. Undocumented status blocks legal onward movement prolongs exposure to danger, and fuels negative coping strategies; meanwhile local residents face rising service loads and reduced access to already limited care.

2. Extent of damage

Humanitarian organisations note “limited real-time reporting on humanitarian conditions, service availability, and needs” at Rosso, making it difficult to quantify infrastructure damage or service disruption precisely. Confirmed observations are that hundreds remain in makeshift river-bank sites, reliant on ad-hoc support, while the scale of arrivals suggests significant pressure on water, sanitation and health facilities that were already modest in capacity.

3. Comparative analysis

The current flow is more than double the expulsion rate recorded in early 2024, suggesting a steeper and more prolonged crisis curve. Past rainy seasons have seen water-borne disease outbreaks in the same low-lying areas; with larger numbers now sleeping outdoors and no surge capacity in place, the likelihood and potential scale of such epidemics are significantly higher.

From 1,200 in March (source AMDH), arrivals increased to an estimated peak of 3,000 to 10,000 in June (source UN), indicating a steadily escalating migration crisis in Rosso.

The data from May to July mentioned come from CRM mission reports (within the framework of the routes-based finance project by the Italian Red Cross), as well as evaluations by organizations such as MSF and the United Nations. The new intervention in Rosso is located 1,300 km from Hodh El Chargui, the area of the current Emergency Appeal, with a desert separating the two regions, making it necessary to have two separate teams and field offices.

Hodh El Chargui hosts people fleeing interethnic conflict in Mali, requiring MRCS to maintain a medium-term operational presence and work on durable solutions. Rosso is a transit point for migrants, where MRCS must provide basic assistance through Humanitarian Service Points.

4. Sources and validation

Figures and trends draw on the Mauritanian Red Crescent rapid assessment (May 2025), UNHCR/IOM flow-monitoring updates (Jan–Jun 2025) and the analytical brief “Senegal–Mauritania Population Movement, 10 July 2025”. Data are triangulated across government bulletins, UN agency dashboards and field reports to ensure consistency; any remaining gaps including real-time protection caseloads are flagged for immediate joint verification by humanitarian actors on both sides of the border.

Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	Yes
Did it affect the same population group?	Yes
Did the National Society respond?	Yes
Did the National Society request funding form DREF for that event(s)	No
If yes, please specify which operation	-

If you have answered yes to all questions above, justify why the use of DREF for a recurrent event, or how this event should not be considered recurrent:

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Lessons learned:

Although Rosso has faced population movements for several years, the current influx is unprecedented in both scale and complexity. The number of people arriving and becoming stranded at the border now exceeds all previous peaks. With earlier projects such as the GRBP closing down and local authorities formally requesting the Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC) to sustain and expand its assistance, a DREF operation is the most appropriate mechanism to maintain and rapidly scale up the response. If the crisis continues, CRM will develop a longer-term response and recovery strategy, including the possible launch of an emergency appeal to support longer-term activities.

Lessons Learned:



1. Strengthen coordination with authorities and humanitarian actors to enable better preparedness and joint response planning.
2. Reinforce the Mauritanian Red Crescent's operational response capacity in Rosso by improving infrastructure, equipping the humanitarian service point, and ensuring coverage along key migration routes (Nouadhibou – Nouakchott – Rosso) to deliver consistent, life-saving assistance.
3. Scale up humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy efforts with national and local authorities to enhance migrant protection and ensure that humanitarian principles are upheld throughout the response.

Did you complete the Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis in previous operations, what was risk level? **No**

Current National Society Actions

Start date of National Society actions

01-12-2022

Livelihoods And Basic Needs	From January to June, approximately 1,700 migrants received meal assistance for a minimum of three (3) days at Rosso Humanitarian Service Point, through activities under the Global Route-Based Migration Programme, funded by the Italian Red Cross via the IFRC. It is important to note that this programme is scheduled to conclude on 31 July 2025. In the meantime, dozens of migrants continue to arrive in Rosso each day in difficult humanitarian conditions. This continuous influx has plunged the migrant population into a situation of acute humanitarian distress. Many lack access to clean water, food, essential medicines, and adequate shelter. A significant number are forced to sleep outdoors or in makeshift facilities, exposed to harsh weather conditions, particularly during Ramadan and periods of extreme heat.
Multi Purpose Cash	The activities include the provision of cash assistance to meet the basic needs of 600 households over a three-month period in Rosso. A training session will be conducted for 40 volunteers and staff members on the digitalization of cash assistance tools, with a focus on the RedRose platform. Additionally, 10 volunteers will be deployed for two days to carry out a Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) survey. These actions aim to enhance the effectiveness and accountability of the assistance delivered. Rosso has a large market that is permanently well stocked with essential goods.
Health	From January to June, through the Global Route-Based Migration Programme (GRBMP), first aid was provided to 340 migrants; psychosocial support (PSS) was offered to 170 individuals; and 255 migrants were referred to health centres for medical care.
Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	From January to June, Hygiene Kits has been distributed to 1200 migrants, through GRBMP.
Protection, Gender And Inclusion	From January to June, 1,700 migrants were able to reconnect with their families through Restoring Family Links (RFL) services provided under the Global Route-Based Migration Programme (GRBMP). Migrants with other protection needs including those related to gender-based violence, psychological support, legal assistance, or asylum applications—are referred to the appropriate specialized services and organizations.
Migration And Displacement	As previously mentioned, the Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC), through its Humanitarian Service Point (HSP), provides assistance to vulnerable migrants arriving in Rosso. This includes food support, hygiene and dignity kits, Restoring Family Links (RFL) services, as well as physical first aid and psychosocial support. Between January and June, approximately 1,700 migrants benefited from at least one of these services.



Community Engagement And Accountability	The strategy adopted by the Global Route-Based Migration Programme (GRBMP) is based on a participatory approach, involving community engagement and the active participation of administrative authorities throughout the entire process including assessments, targeting, and distribution activities. The Mauritanian Red Crescent ensures that the operation effectively responds to the immediate needs of the most vulnerable migrants by involving representatives of migrant communities. These representatives help ensure the accountability of the intervention by supporting the MRC in addressing any potential complaints from migrant beneficiaries.
Coordination	The Ministry of Social Affairs, Childhood and Family, United Nations agencies, as well as other humanitarian community stakeholders, will be fully engaged in the implementation of this operation. Under the authority of the governor and the mayor, CRM will work closely with the security services of Rosso (police, gendarmerie, civil protection, etc.). To strengthen and complement the data gathered during the initial rapid assessment, a new, in-depth needs assessment and beneficiary targeting exercise will be conducted. This will involve 30 volunteers and 5 supervisors over a five-day period across the various settlement sites of the affected migrant populations. Following the completion of the needs assessment, the data collected will inform a coordinated and collaborative planning process for response activities, in close cooperation with other humanitarian actors. The goal is to contribute effectively to the authorities' action plan aimed at improving the living conditions of the affected populations. Partners of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement present in Mauritania—including the ICRC and Participating National Societies (PNSs) (French and British Red Cross) will also support Mauritania Red Croissant in the implementation of this emergency relief operation. Concretely, a specific complementarity could be established with the provision of essential humanitarian services at the Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) implemented in Rosso, through the Global Route Based Migration Program, funded by the Italian Red Cross via the IFRC, and which will soon be further strengthened by the British Red Cross.
National Society Readiness	The Rosso branch is equipped with a dedicated headquarters and a fully functional Humanitarian Service Point (HSP). It benefits from a qualified team, including a Migration and RFL Focal Point, a Volunteer Coordinator, and approximately thirty trained volunteers specialized in the management of HSP operations. Furthermore, the NS has been benefiting for past few months from technical support from Dakar/ cluster in logistics, through the permanent presence of IFRC staff in this position.
Assessment	A comprehensive assessment and monitoring process will also be an integral part of the operation, ensuring its alignment with the evolving context on the ground. In collaboration with the Disaster Management Department of the International Federation and MRC Program Coordination Unit, the Migration Focal Point will oversee the monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of activities. - A monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan will be developed and implemented to ensure regular tracking of activities. - Periodic reports will be produced and shared with relevant stakeholders. - A training session on basic principles of M&E and community engagement will be conducted for volunteers, coordinated by the Migration Focal Point. - The implementation of the DREF operation will require close collaboration with volunteers, state officials, and other humanitarian actors operating in the same intervention areas. At the conclusion of the operation, a workshop will be organized to consolidate best

	practices and lessons learned. The NS will produce a progress report and a final report.
Resource Mobilization	The MRC, through its technical departments (Disaster Management, Health and Care, Cash Transfer, Communication, Relief, and Volunteer Management), provides support to the field team. As an auxiliary to the public authorities, the MRC collaborates with government services, UN agencies, and both international and local NGOs operating in the country. It actively participates in coordination meetings with Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement partners and engages in relevant forums. It also seeks funding, in collaboration with the IFRC, to support its intervention efforts.
National Society EOC	The Emergency Operations Centre of Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC) coordinates interventions during humanitarian crises. It centralizes resource management, team deployment, and real-time monitoring of evolving emergency situations. The Centre facilitates rapid decision-making and the timely delivery of assistance to affected populations. It also ensures coordination with partners and national authorities. Finally, it contributes to planning, risk analysis, and the continuous improvement of operational response efforts.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) provide technical support from its office in Dakar, Senegal. Additionally, it assists the National Society in fundraising efforts through the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) and Emergency Appeals. Currently, a population movement Emergency Appeal has been underway since November 2024, with the IFRC actively involved at every stage of the process. However, this Emergency Appeal pertains solely to the Hodh El Chargui region, located over 1,000 kilometers from Rosso. Within the framework of this DREF, the IFRC will provide support to the National Society through the deployment of a Surge capacity.
Participating National Societies	Currently, four Partner National Societies (PNSs) are supporting the Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC): French and British Red Cross Societies through the Integrated and ICMPD projects; the Italian Red Cross through the Global Route-Based Migration Programme (GRBMP); and the Qatar Red Crescent through Ramadan and Tabaski operations. It is important to note, however, that none of these projects are currently being implemented in Rosso.

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

ICRC operates a regional delegation based in Dakar, Senegal, which oversees and supports its activities in Mauritania through a designated focal point embedded within the Mauritanian Red Crescent (CRM). Its primary areas of intervention include the dissemination and promotion of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and the Restoration of Family Links (RFL), aimed at tracing and reuniting separated or missing persons.
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Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	Yes
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National authorities	The response of the Mauritanian authorities combines heightened security and administrative measures, including biometric registration mechanisms. However, it continues to show significant gaps in the provision of structured humanitarian assistance in Rosso, leaving migrants in a state of persistent vulnerability.
UN or other actors	In May 2025, a joint inter-agency mission (OHCHR, IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, and UNODC), accompanied by the National Human Rights Commission of Mauritania, conducted a two-day visit to Rosso. The mission served to document the alarming conditions faced by expelled migrants, including a lack of shelter, food, and potable water, as well as the overstretching of local health services and coordination mechanisms. This mission recommended strengthening the coordination of migrant reception and return processes, as well as institutional capacity-building and training for relevant authorities. It also advocated for reinforced engagement and networking with regional political organizations such as ECOWAS, with a view to establishing a humanitarian transit corridor for returned migrants. In addition, IOM conducted training sessions on asylum procedures, child protection, trafficking detection, and both administrative and psychosocial management of migrants, particularly targeting frontline personnel.

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

Established coordination mechanisms include the creation of platforms, thematic clusters, and the conduct of joint assessment missions.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

The need for emergency shelter is both critical and urgent, as the majority of individuals currently residing in Rosso are living without any form of shelter or protective covering. Many people find shelter in makeshift shelters or unfinished buildings, a few are with host families. Households with women and children are particularly vulnerable, exposed to harsh weather conditions in deeply dehumanizing circumstances and extreme deprivation. Immediate intervention is required to restore a minimum level of dignity and protection for these populations.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Most of the migrants currently present in Rosso report having been stripped of all their belongings during their journey. They are now in urgent need of both food and non-food assistance, including hygiene kits and kitchen sets (such as cooking utensils, water storage containers, mats, blankets, mosquito nets, clothing, soap, tarpaulins, and other essential items).

This support is vital to restore a minimum level of dignity and ensure their survival under extremely precarious conditions.



Multi purpose cash grants

Cash transfer assistance enables households to meet their priority needs flexibly, such as food, shelter, and healthcare. However, gaps remain, particularly in beneficiary identification, distribution infrastructure, and monitoring of fund utilization. A lack of coordination among humanitarian actors can hinder the effectiveness of the assistance. Additional financial and human resources are often required. Lastly, coverage remains insufficient given the scale of needs on the ground.





Health

The affected populations are living without shelter and are exposed to malaria-transmitting mosquitoes as well as other pathogens responsible for respiratory illnesses. A portion of the migrants reside in informal settlements or are hosted by members of the local community, often in overcrowded households. This situation exposes them to multiple protection risks, including viral diseases such as cholera. Disseminating public health awareness messages and information on cholera prevention in the host areas is essential. Furthermore, families require basic items such as mosquito net, masks, disinfectants, and cleaning supplies to protect themselves and to help curb the spread of some diseases like malaria, cholera, diarrhea, etc.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Given the limited access to safe drinking water and adequate hygiene, the affected populations are at high risk of contracting various waterborne diseases. The assessment report highlights a locality with virtually limited access to potable water, hygiene or sanitation infrastructure an overall unsanitary environment highly conducive to the spread of epidemic-prone waterborne diseases such as diarrhea, cholera. Immediate action is therefore required, including awareness campaigns and the dissemination of preventive health messages. Most importantly, improving the living conditions of these communities is essential through the establishment of safe water supply points, the construction of latrines, waste disposal pits, and other basic sanitation facilities.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

As previously indicated, the only survival strategy available to these migrants who have been arriving in increasing numbers over the past several months in Rosso is to settle spontaneously within the community. The more fortunate among them find refuge with local host families. However, they remain exposed to numerous protection risks, and their most fundamental human rights are being systematically violated.

The most vulnerable groups include persons with disabilities, children, and women. Several individuals have reported multiple incidents of abuse, including gender-based violence (GBV), which urgently requires immediate care and support in accordance with the established Standard Operating Procedures applicable in such circumstances.



Education

Migrant populations and host communities lack access to education tailored to their specific needs. School infrastructures are often insufficient or unsuitable to accommodate all children. There is a shortage of educational materials and trained staff to manage cultural and linguistic diversity. Economic and social barriers limit the enrollment of migrant children. It is urgent to strengthen inclusive educational offerings to ensure equitable and quality learning.



Migration And Displacement

Vulnerable migrants need increased access to essential services such as water, food, shelter, and healthcare. They also require rapid identification and issuance of civil documents to guarantee their rights. The establishment of appropriate protection mechanisms is essential to safeguard them from abuse and risks. Effective coordination between Mauritanian and Senegalese authorities, as well as with humanitarian actors, is crucial for a harmonized response. Finally, local reception capacities must be strengthened to cope with the constant influx of migrants and reduce pressure on host communities.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Beneficiary populations express the need to be more actively involved in decision-making processes that affect them. Access to reliable and transparent information remains insufficient, limiting their effective participation. Feedback mechanisms are often weak or nonexistent, reducing communities' ability to voice their needs. It is essential to strengthen transparency and accountability of humanitarian actors towards the people they assist. This will help improve the quality and acceptance of interventions.



Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

The ongoing disembarkation of migrants places them in a state of acute humanitarian distress. They face a severe lack of access to clean water, food, medical supplies, and adequate shelter. Many are forced to sleep directly on the ground, in the open air or in makeshift structures, exposed to harsh climatic conditions.

The Mauritanian Red Crescent's (CRM) Humanitarian Service Point (HSP) is rapidly overwhelmed: it is already operating beyond capacity due to insufficient funding. Local associations and residents of Rosso are attempting to fill the gap, but their resources are extremely limited.

The humanitarian consequences are severe:

- Health: Migrants are at heightened risk of malnutrition, dehydration, and communicable diseases, exacerbated by the lack of adequate medical care.
- Protection: Many including women, children, and unaccompanied or otherwise vulnerable individuals report exposure to violence, abuse, and exploitation, particularly during arrest and expulsion processes.
- Access to rights: A large number of migrants lack documentation, preventing them from crossing the border into Senegal and obstructing their reintegration or transit.

Moreover, the crisis places increasing strain on the host community in Rosso. The town already faces serious limitations in public infrastructure especially in water, sanitation, and healthcare and the additional pressure threatens the viability of essential services. In sum, the migratory situation in Rosso reflects a severe local humanitarian crisis, driven by large-scale and recurrent expulsions. An urgent and coordinated response is required, encompassing:

- The strengthening of reception capacities (water, food, shelter, health).
- Rapid access to identification and documentation mechanisms.
- Protection systems for vulnerable migrants.
- A joint response by cross-border actors, including Mauritanian and Senegalese authorities and humanitarian organizations.

Without such measures, lives will remain at risk, and pressure on Rosso and its population will continue to escalate.

[Assessment Report](#)

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The objective of this operation is to provide immediate support to 8,100 individuals including 4,500 migrants and 600 host households in the city of Rosso, while conducting detailed assessments to address the basic needs of both host and migrant populations.

Operation strategy rationale

Need:

The most urgent needs include protection assistance, particularly through referral pathways (RPW) and temporary shelter. Migrants also urgently need food, adequate hygiene and sanitation facilities, and basic healthcare services.

The response priorities will involve emergency humanitarian support for migrants through the PSH (provision of food, hygiene kits, physical and mental healthcare, Restoring Family Links, and referral services), and cash assistance for host families. In-kind assistance will be prioritized for migrants due to sensitivities while cash will be provided to host families.

The National Society will carry out participatory assessments with affected communities to inform operational planning and crisis response strategies in the Rosso region. The outcomes of these assessments may serve as the foundation for a potential scale-up of this operation, either through a Federation-wide emergency appeal or a longer-term project aligned with the Red Cross Movement's migration strategy.

The Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC) has significant experience in emergency cash transfer interventions in collaboration with various partners. It has implemented several similar operations in regions such as Hodh El Chargui and Nouadhibou, which have strengthened its expertise in delivering cash-based assistance.



Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

The target population will include the migrants as well as a part of vulnerable host community.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

Selection targets migrants in situations of severe vulnerability (pregnant women, children, elderly persons, the sick, or those with disabilities).

Priority is also given to migrants who are homeless, without means of subsistence, or recently deported. Vulnerable host families are selected based on their level of economic hardship, limited access to basic services, and reduced capacity to support migrants. Priority is given to low-income families, those living in unsanitary conditions, and single-parent households or those caring for elderly dependents. The selection process is carried out in coordination with local authorities and humanitarian actors, based on needs assessments.

Total Targeted Population

Women	1,296	Rural	-
Girls (under 18)	324	Urban	1%
Men	5,184	People with disabilities (estimated)	0.2%
Boys (under 18)	1,296		
Total targeted population	8,100		

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?	No
Does your National Society have child protection/child safeguarding policy?	No
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
Funding gap for sustained multi-sector response, given competing crises in the Sahel.	Launch joint Movement fund-raising and brief donors with real-time data. Phase activities to safeguard life-saving sectors if income lags. Seek local private-sector in-kind partnerships (water, transport).



	The risks of fraud and corruption associated with the implementation of this DREF operation will be mitigated through the capacity-building of volunteers and all operational staff in areas such as the Code of Conduct, governance, and the management and quality control of goods and services delivered to beneficiaries.
The involvement of the Mauritanian Red Crescent (CRM) in providing humanitarian assistance to migrants who have been forcibly returned by the Mauritanian authorities may be perceived rightly or wrongly as an endorsement or tacit approval of the refoulement policy, which may be inconsistent with humanitarian principles and international norms on migrant protection. This could result in: - A loss of credibility with technical and financial partners. - A deterioration of the organization's image among migrant communities and the general public. - Allegations of partiality or compromise of humanitarian independence.	1. Proactive communication and clarification of the humanitarian mandate - Develop and disseminate a clear communication strategy emphasizing that the CRM's intervention is solely aimed at alleviating the suffering of affected individuals, regardless of their legal status or political decisions. - Highlight the Movement's neutral, impartial, and independent mandate through public statements, information materials, and bilateral dialogue with authorities and partners. 2. Rigorous operational oversight in the field - Implement assistance activities (shelter, health, food, psychosocial support, etc.) within a strictly humanitarian framework, supported by independent monitoring, to ensure that aid provision neither facilitates nor legitimizes refoulement practices. - Systematically document the needs, vulnerabilities, and impact on beneficiaries, while sharing aggregated data (without directly implicating authorities) to promote a response grounded in dignity and protection.
Continued / escalating migrant expulsions (150 people/day) rapidly outstrip reception capacity, driving overcrowding, WASH breakdown and disease risk.	Set numeric caseload trigger for surge deployment of volunteers. Keep modular kits ready in Nouakchott logistics hub. Coordinate weekly with IOM/UNHCR to forecast supply needs.
Community tension and xenophobic backlash as host services strain and political discourse hardens against migrants.	Include host households in assistance (e.g., water-point rehabilitation). Run joint risk-communication sessions with local authorities. Operate two-way feedback/complaint mechanisms to defuse grievances
Government policy shifts or movement restrictions (e.g., sudden site closures, curfews) that limit humanitarian access to stranded groups.	Maintain continuous IFRC / MRC dialogue with regional and national authorities. Secure pre-approved staff access permits and standby customs clearances. Prepare remote support modalities (cash top-ups, phone-based PGI follow-up).
Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation: The main security concern currently reported in Rosso remains petty crime. This may pose a risk of looting of supplies and/or sabotage of distribution operations.	
Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?	No



Planned Intervention



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 44,049

Targeted Persons: 3,600

Indicators

Title	Target
# Host familie who received cash assistance to meet their basic needs following identification and eligibility screening for cash transfers;	600
# Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) exercises conducted;	1
% satisfied beneficiaries (disaggregated by sex) regarding the support received;	8
# households receiving cash transfers from CRM who report satisfaction with the amount received.	480

Priority Actions

- Cash distribution to cover the basic needs of 600 households over a period of three months across the four target areas.
- Training of 40 volunteers/staff members on the digitalization of cash assistance tools (e.g., the RedRose platform).
- Deployment of 10 volunteers for two days to conduct the Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) survey.



Health

Budget: CHF 39,765

Targeted Persons: 5,525

Indicators

Title	Target
# Volunteers and staff trained in physical first aid;	40
# Volunteers and staff trained in Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS);	40
# Individuals receiving mental health and psychosocial support services in emergency settings provided by CRM;	900
# Volunteers and staff trained in community health, epidemic prevention, and psychosocial support;	40
# Individuals reached by volunteers with awareness sessions on health promotion and disease prevention.	25,050

Priority Actions

- Coordination with other partners operating in the field.
- Training of 30 volunteers in physical first aid.
- Training of 30 volunteers in psychosocial first aid.
- Organization of psychosocial support sessions for migrants.



- Training of 30 volunteers in epidemic prevention.
- Training of 30 volunteers in the screening and referral of malnourished individuals.
- Screening and referral of malnutrition cases.
- Provision of healthcare services to migrants through the health facilities in Rosso.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 67,023

Targeted Persons: 29,550

Indicators

Title	Target
# awareness sessions on WASH conducted, disaggregated by location and participant demographics.	24
# waste collection bins installed and operational in Rosso	600
# community-based waste management committees established and functional	480
# sanitation campaigns conducted, disaggregated by area and estimated population reached.	24
# IEC materials produced and distributed by type and language.	100

Priority Actions

- Organization of 24 awareness sessions on water, hygiene, and sanitation in host communities, including practical demonstrations.
- Installation of 100 household waste collection bins in densely populated displacement sites.
- Scaling up the strategy for establishing community-based solid waste management committees.
- Organization of 24 sanitation campaigns for waste management in high-density areas.
- Design and production of 100 IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) awareness materials.
- Implementation of post-distribution monitoring to assess the usage and relevance of the distributed items.
- Distribution of 8,000 hygiene kits (soap, towels).



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 17,843

Targeted Persons: 4,500

Indicators

Title	Target
# Volunteers and staff trained on PGI minimum standards (disaggregated by gender and function).	40
# Volunteers and staff trained on GBV prevention and response.	40
# migrants receiving dignity kits, disaggregated by age, and vulnerability criteria.	900
# awareness sessions conducted on social inclusion and child protection; number of participants reached (disaggregated by age and gender).	24

# migrants receiving psychosocial support services, disaggregated by age, gender, and vulnerability.	900
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Priority Actions

- Training of 30 volunteers and 10 staff members, on PGI: Minimum PGI standards will be applied to community awareness activities, as well as to awareness sessions and materials.
- Training of 30 volunteers on GBV.
- Distribution of dignity kits to 600 migrants
- Community awareness: organizing sessions on social inclusion and child protection for beneficiary communities.
- Providing psychosocial support to migrants.



Migration And Displacement

Budget: CHF 109,608

Targeted Persons: 4,500

Indicators

Title	Target
# volunteers and staff who completed refresher training on HSP operations (disaggregated by gender).	40
# infrastructure or equipment items improved or installed to enhance HSP functionality.	10
# people receiving assistance services through the HSP, disaggregated by type of service, gender, and vulnerability.	4,500
# visibility and communication materials produced and distributed to support HSP operations.	100
# individuals receiving food and water kits (disaggregated by sex, age, migration status, and vulnerability).	4,500

Priority Actions

- Identification of beneficiaries to ensure assistance reaches the most vulnerable individuals in need.
- Selection and contracting of a qualified service provider to ensure the safe and timely preparation and delivery of meals in accordance with quality and hygiene standards.
- Distribution of hot meals to migrants, aimed at addressing immediate nutritional needs in a dignified and efficient manner.
- Refresher training for 30 volunteers on HSP operations.
- Strengthening the equipment and infrastructure of the Humanitarian Service Point.
- Provision of assistance services (including all activities mentioned above).
- Supply of visibility and communication materials.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 2,273

Targeted Persons: 8,140

Indicators

Title	Target
# volunteers and staff trained in CEA approaches and tools (disaggregated by gender).	40
# migrants and host community members actively participating in the planning and implementation of project activities.	8,100
# functional community feedback mechanisms established and operational (e.g., help desks, suggestion boxes, hotlines).	3
# information sessions conducted with response teams, including documentation of community feedback and follow-up actions.	24

Priority Actions

- Training of 40 staff and volunteers in Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA).
- Involvement of migrants and host communities in the implementation process.
- Establishment of three feedback mechanisms.
- Organization of 24 regular information sessions for response teams to systematically listen to community questions and concerns and provide appropriate responses.



Coordination And Partnerships

Budget: CHF 0

Targeted Persons: 0

Indicators

Title	Target
# coordination meetings held with PNS, with documented action points and follow-up mechanisms.	3
# coordination meetings conducted with relevant government authorities, including participation rate and documented outcomes	2
# coordination meetings held with humanitarian actors, and percentage of agreed joint actions implemented.	2
# formal engagement initiatives (e.g., bilateral meetings, partnership frameworks) established with external stakeholders.	2
# joint planning or implementation activities conducted in coordination with Movement partners (IFRC, ICRC, PNS).	1

Priority Actions

- Coordination meeting with Partner National Societies (PNS).
- Coordination meeting with government partners.
- Coordination meeting with international and national humanitarian agencies.
- Engagement with external partners.
- Cooperation within the Movement.





Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 52,145

Targeted Persons: 40

Indicators

Title	Target
# coordination exchanges facilitated between the MRC and Movement partners (including ECHO and Sister National Societies), with evidence of harmonized planning or joint decisions.	2
% financial reports submitted in compliance with IFRC standards and timelines, and variance rate between budgeted and actual expenditures.	1
# Surge personnel deployed and missions completed, with documented technical support provided to the MRC field team.	1
# supervision visits and technical reports produced, disaggregated by sector, including quality assurance and compliance assessments.	2
Position filled within planned timeframe and performance milestones achieved by the recruited officer, as per terms of reference.	1

Priority Actions

IFRC will support the operation by providing coordinated operational and technical assistance to the Mauritanian Red Crescent (CRM). Specifically, Dakar Cluster Delegation will offer support in the following areas:

- Coordination with Movement partners: facilitating communication between the MRC and ECHO, other Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies involved in the response, ensuring a unified approach.
- Financial management: overseeing the financial administration and accountability of the operation, including budgeting, expense monitoring, and financial reporting to ensure transparency and efficient resource utilization.
- IFRC will deploy a Surge team (Operations Manager, Migration, and Logistics specialists), to support the planning, implementation, and monitoring of activities, ensuring that response efforts are well-coordinated and aligned with overall strategic objectives; and to support the MRC field team.
- Supervision and reporting: providing oversight and guidance on the progress of the intervention, including data collection and analysis, report preparation, and compliance with organizational standards and requirements.
- IFRC will recruit an Emergency Operations Officer and provide financial support to enhance the operation's effectiveness.
- The cluster team comprises specialists in programming, communications, finance, planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER), as well as National Society Development (NSD).



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 42,294

Targeted Persons: 40

Indicators

Title	Target
# project implementation teams established and operational at national and regional levels, with clearly defined roles and responsibilities.	10



# local committee offices rehabilitated or newly established and functioning according to minimum operational standards.	1
% planned equipment (vehicles, office, and IT) delivered and in use for project implementation.	1
Number of revitalized local committees demonstrating active participation in project implementation (e.g., meeting minutes, activities undertaken).	1
Number of volunteers trained in CDRT, with post-training evaluation scores above the established competency threshold.	30

Priority Actions

- Establish a project implementation team at the national and regional levels.
- Set up the office of the targeted local committee.
- Provide the National Society and its local committee with the necessary equipment for activity implementation (vehicles, office and IT equipment).
- Revitalize the MRC local committee involved in the project.
- Conduct Community Disaster Response Team (CDRT) training for 30 volunteers.
- Conduct National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) training for 15 volunteers, focusing on vulnerability and capacity assessments.
- Contribute to the retention of the National Society's human resources (Communication, Finance, PMER, Logistics, Disaster Management, Migration, Health and Care, etc.).
- Develop and update administrative and financial management tools for the National Society.
- Train staff and volunteers of the National Society in the various thematic areas of the project (Disaster Management, Migration, WASH, Health and Care, Livelihoods, RFL, PSS, CEA, PGI, etc.).

About Support Services

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

A total of 30 volunteers and 5 supervisors/NDRT members will be engaged in this operation. Training and refresher sessions will be organized to strengthen their capacities in the management of Humanitarian Service Points (HSP), health-related matters, hygiene promotion, and water treatment. These trainings will equip them to effectively carry out activities across the different operational sectors. MRC will also ensure improved visibility and safety for staff and volunteers through the provision of visibility gear and personal protective equipment.

The 30 volunteers will be deployed for 3 days per week over a 12-week period, amounting to a total of 36 deployment days per volunteer throughout the operation. The 5 supervisors will be deployed 4 days per week over the same 12-week period, totaling 48 deployment days each. The additional days allocated to supervisors will allow them to ensure close monitoring of implemented activities, compile data, and consolidate activity reports.

IFRC will support MRC in the implementation of this operation by deploying a Surge delegate with expertise in emergency response within population movement contexts. IFRC Surge will be deployed for three months, with the possibility of extension if required. Furthermore, to ensure sound financial oversight throughout the operation, a finance team member from the IFRC Dakar Cluster will be designated to provide remote support (teleworking) for the operation.

The proposed MRC operational team is composed as follows:

- 30 trained volunteers.
- 5 supervisors.
- CRM Operations Manager.
- 1 driver.
- 1 Logistics Officer.
- 1 Cash Transfer Focal Point.
- 1 Psychosocial (PSS) Support.
- 1 Communication Officer.
- 1 Migration Focal Point.



Does your volunteer team reflect the gender, age, and cultural diversity of the people you're helping? What gaps exist in your volunteer team's gender, age, or cultural diversity, and how are you addressing them to ensure inclusive and appropriate support?

Yes

Will surge personnel be deployed? If yes, please provide the role profile needed.

Yes

The deployed Surge staff member should have a professional background and expertise specifically in Migration-related operations. He will support the planning, implementation, and monitoring of activities, ensuring that response efforts are well-coordinated and aligned with overall strategic objectives; and support the MRC field team.

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

All acquisitions will be undertaken by the Mauritanian Red Crescent (MRC), following the procurement procedures and guidelines of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

How will this operation be monitored?

A thorough monitoring and evaluation (M&E) process will be an integral component of the operation, ensuring alignment with the evolving context on the ground. In coordination with the Disaster Management Department of the IFRC and the MRC Programme Coordination Unit, the Migration Focal Point, supported by the Surge personnel, will oversee the monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of activities.

- A comprehensive M&E plan will be developed and implemented to ensure the systematic monitoring of all activities.
- Regular reports will be produced and disseminated to relevant stakeholders.
- A training session on the fundamentals of monitoring and evaluation, as well as on community engagement, will be conducted for volunteers under the coordination of the Migration Focal Point.
- The implementation of the DREF will require close collaboration with volunteers, government officials, and other humanitarian actors operating in the same intervention areas.

At the conclusion of the operation, a lessons-learned and best practices workshop will also be organized to ensure institutional learning and knowledge sharing.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

IFRC PMER/Communications Officer will work in close collaboration with the MRC's communications units to produce a comprehensive package of press releases, key messages, newsletters, radio and audiovisual spots, with the aim of ensuring public visibility and information dissemination through both traditional media outlets and social media platforms.



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRMR019 - CROISSANT-ROUGE MAURITANIEN

Population Movement in Rosso

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	280 560
Shelter and Basic Household Items	0
Livelihoods	0
Multi-purpose Cash	44 049
Health	39 765
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	67 023
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	17 843
Education	0
Migration	109 608
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	2 273
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	94 440
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	52 145
National Society Strengthening	42 294
TOTAL BUDGET	375 000

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

Internal

13/08/2025

#V2022.01

[Click here to download the budget file](#)



Contact Information

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IFRC Project Manager: Makan Sissao, Senior Officer Migration and Displacement, Makan.sissao@ifrc.org

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[Click here for the reference](#)

