

## Regional Population Movement – Afghanistan | Preparedness and Response

<b>Appeal No:</b> MDRAFRPM21	<b>To be assisted: initially estimated 160,000</b>  <b>DREF allocated:</b> CHF 614,645 Tajikistan: CHF 348,761 Iran: CHF 168,483 Pakistan: CHF 97,401	<b>Appeal launched: 25/09/2021</b>
<b>Glide No:</b> <a href="#">CE-2021-000142-AFG</a> <a href="#">CE-2021-000133-PAK</a> <a href="#">OT-2021-000112-IRN</a>	<b>Funding requirements: CHF 50.5 million IFRC-wide of which CHF 24.6 million is through the IFRC Appeal</b>	<b>Appeal ends: 30/09/2022</b>

To enable the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to support the preparedness efforts of **National Societies in the region neighbouring Afghanistan** and provide humanitarian assistance and protection to people on the move from Afghanistan, this multi-country Emergency Appeal seeks a total of some **24.6 million Swiss francs** on a preliminary basis for **12 months** initially targeting and estimated **160,000** people.

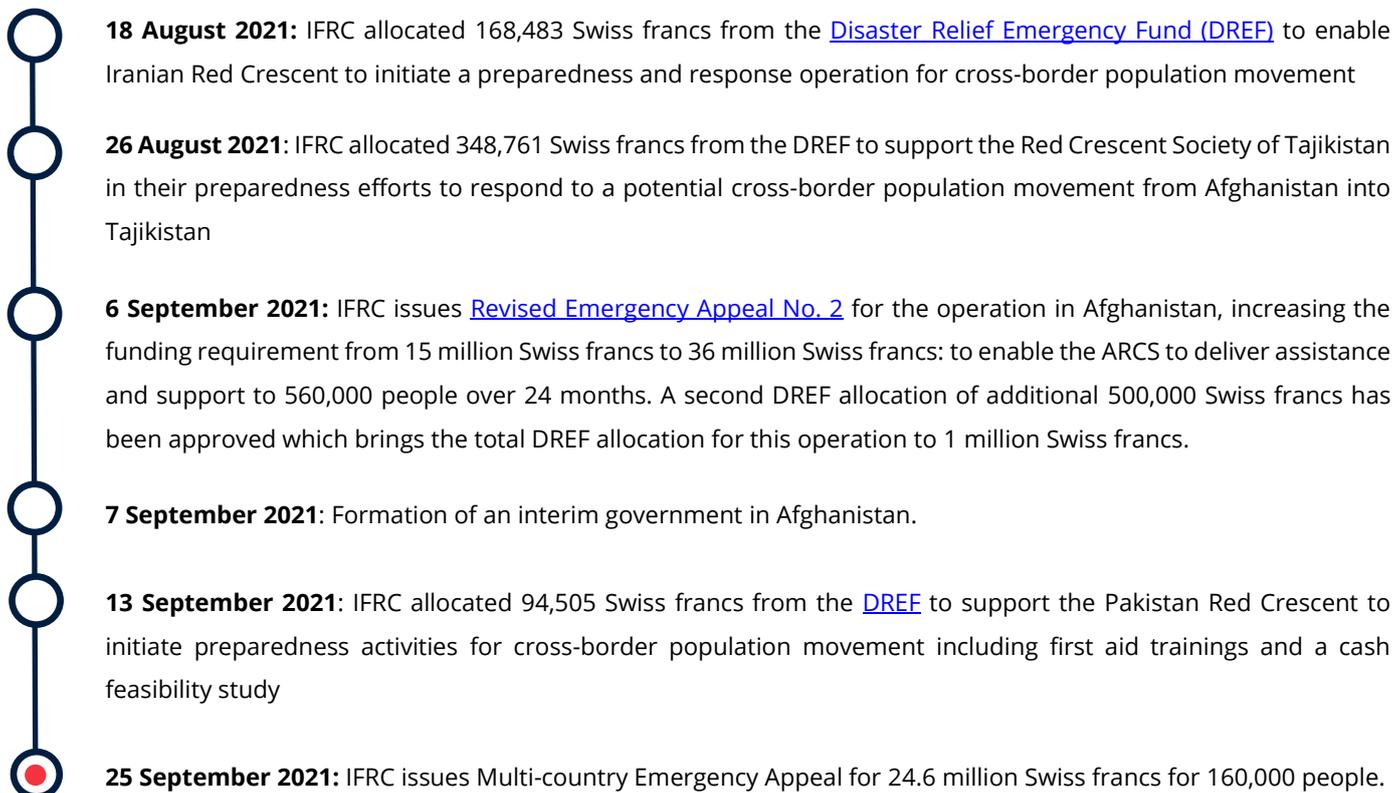
This Emergency Appeal is part of a **Federation-wide approach** with preparedness and response activities of all IFRC network members contributing to the evolving response. The Federation-wide funding requirements **of 50.5 million Swiss francs**.

### A. EVENTS TO DATE



Credit Iranian Red Crescent

**April 2021 – August 2021:** Following the announcement of the full withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan by 11 September 2021, territorial control is rapidly shifting. The number of displaced people begins to increase, and many seek refuge in larger cities across the country.

- 
- 18 August 2021:** IFRC allocated 168,483 Swiss francs from the [Disaster Relief Emergency Fund \(DREF\)](#) to enable Iranian Red Crescent to initiate a preparedness and response operation for cross-border population movement
  - 26 August 2021:** IFRC allocated 348,761 Swiss francs from the DREF to support the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan in their preparedness efforts to respond to a potential cross-border population movement from Afghanistan into Tajikistan
  - 6 September 2021:** IFRC issues [Revised Emergency Appeal No. 2](#) for the operation in Afghanistan, increasing the funding requirement from 15 million Swiss francs to 36 million Swiss francs: to enable the ARCS to deliver assistance and support to 560,000 people over 24 months. A second DREF allocation of additional 500,000 Swiss francs has been approved which brings the total DREF allocation for this operation to 1 million Swiss francs.
  - 7 September 2021:** Formation of an interim government in Afghanistan.
  - 13 September 2021:** IFRC allocated 94,505 Swiss francs from the [DREF](#) to support the Pakistan Red Crescent to initiate preparedness activities for cross-border population movement including first aid trainings and a cash feasibility study
  - 25 September 2021:** IFRC issues Multi-country Emergency Appeal for 24.6 million Swiss francs for 160,000 people.

## Situation overview

The evolving situation in Afghanistan is increasingly creating new potential drivers and triggers for cross-border displacement. The 2021 Afghanistan Humanitarian Needs Overview identified 18.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance with 6.3 million being in extreme or catastrophic severity of needs; this figure is now likely to have increased due to the recent events in country. The situation remains uncertain in Afghanistan and may evolve rapidly.

Afghanistan faces an alarming humanitarian emergency and a worsening economic crisis, both likely to be further compounded by the approaching winter season. Almost half the population faces colossal humanitarian needs wrought by a combination of crises: displacement, devastation of COVID-19 pandemic, drought, acute food shortages, a fractured health system, poor access to services, and restrictive social norms. More than 558,000 Afghans have been internally displaced by the conflict since January 2021, 80 per cent of these newly internally displaced are women and children.

According to the drought declaration by the Afghanistan government of 22 June 2021, the country's wheat crop will be reduced by nearly two million tons, and more than three million livestock are in danger of perishing due to a lack of fodder and water. IPC<sup>1</sup> new projections for the period June – November 2021 estimates that, 2,742,741 Afghans are likely to be classified in Phase 4 (catastrophic) in terms of Food Insecurity and 6,719,607 in Phase 3 (emergency). The compounding impacts of drought and conflict which escalated in July and the first half of August have exacerbated the hard living conditions in a country that is also grappling with COVID-19 and poverty. Access to banking services has been severely constrained, with cashflow crippled. Collapse of Afghanistan's economy would result in catastrophic consequences for vulnerable Afghans, including potentially fueling cross-border movements for economic reasons.

Therefore, based on analysis of the ongoing social, economic, political and security situation in Afghanistan, it is assessed that a further political and humanitarian deterioration in the country is likely to result in new population movements to neighbouring countries. A potential worst-case scenario – utilized by the UNHCR and inter-agency

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ipcinfo.org/ipc-country-analysis/details-map/en/c/1154300/>

partners - envisages the arrival of an additional 515,000 Afghan refugees into neighbouring countries before the end of 2021.

Any major population movement will require an immediate and sustained humanitarian intervention in neighbouring countries. This will include critical life-saving humanitarian assistance at border points and in designated sites in coordination with respective authorities.

There are up to six million Afghans living outside of Afghanistan<sup>2</sup> – in Europe, Asia Pacific and the Middle East - following several decades of instability in the country. New arrivals in 2021 will join more than 2.2 million registered refugees who have fled previous waves of insecurity, instability and violence to neighbouring countries. There are a further 3 million Afghans with varying status including many irregular migrants, who have been hosted in the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan over the past four decades. It will be important to maintain humanitarian assistance and protection for both new arrivals, and those previously displaced, as well as host communities.

Beyond the scope of this Emergency Appeal, there may also be onward movements and humanitarian needs in secondary countries, with Afghans taking routes to Turkey, Greece and the Western Balkans region. It will be critical to both monitor these trends and developments, as well as to be prepared and ready to provide increased principled humanitarian assistance and protection along existing migratory routes to those on the move – irrespective of their status – and to host communities in secondary countries.

## Summary of Red Cross Red Crescent response to date

### Neighbouring region

National Societies in the region neighbouring Afghanistan have initiated preparedness and readiness actions and where relevant response activities as of mid-August. Based on the mandate and role of the respective National Society in the countries, contingency plans have been developed and coordination mechanisms with national authorities have been established

### Central Asia region

**Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST)** has conducted negotiations with the Border Troops (BT) under the State Committee for National Security of Tajikistan (SCNS), resulting in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between RCST and BT SCNS in mid-August 2021. This cooperation agreement enables RCST to access border areas including Temporary Filtration Centres for undertaking humanitarian assistance to the affected people in the border areas within the capabilities of the RCST, carrying out risk preventive work, monitoring the sanitary and epidemiological situation as well as providing humanitarian assistance together with representatives of the BT SCNS of the Republic of Tajikistan, cooperating closely with restoring family links (RFL) teams at the RCST, to connect family members lost on the migratory route.

RCST has requested support from the DREF to be able to prepare for a larger population movement as well as responding to the needs of the current arrivals. The DREF was launched on 26 August 2021 with a five months' timeframe and the budget of CHF 348,761 to initially support 5,000 people.

The IFRC is in close communication with **Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan** Red Crescent Societies which have borders with Afghanistan and continues to monitor the situation. IFRC is also working with Red Crescent Societies of **Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan** in addressing the necessary preparedness and possible response actions. Depending on how the situation evolves and based on requests for assistance for their preparedness and response actions, all five National Societies in Central Asia would receive support through this Emergency Appeal.

### Iran

The **Iran Red Crescent Society (IRCS)** three-month response plan to support 150,000 people (30,000 households)

---

<sup>2</sup> [UNDESA World Migration Report 2020](#)

was submitted to the Bureau for Aliens and Foreign Immigrants Affairs (BAFIA). This plan was presented on 1 August at a national donor conference attended by all Heads of Mission on UN resident coordinator/UNOCHA, WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF, Norwegian Refugee Council, MSF, IFRC, ICRC, and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The IRCS plan has been recently revised and scaled up to 36 million Swiss francs for 9 months, based on three phases.

Each phase has a corresponding list of indicators (triggers) that will help to recognize the situation. Each phase also includes foreseeable humanitarian consequences that will help anticipate the response - with different operational activities, measures and procedures specified under each phase. In parallel to preparedness efforts, the IRCS launched a [DREF](#) operation on 18 August which was activated initially to provide assistance and support to around 2,000 people.

### **Pakistan**

The **Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS)** initialized preparedness coordination toward the end of August with its branches and partners. A [DREF](#) operation for imminent crisis has been launched, which is further expanded through this Emergency Appeal. The preparedness activities for the DREF operation include trainings of staff and volunteers, a cash feasibility study, and equipment maintenance.

### **Red Cross Red Crescent response in secondary impacted regions/countries**

The National Societies based outside of the immediate neighbouring region of Afghanistan, especially along the main migration routes towards Europe, expect that the humanitarian crisis evolving in Afghanistan may have an impact on their operations. Currently, migrants and displaced people continue to arrive in the region in mixed flows, including people fleeing Afghanistan. Additionally, several countries in Europe host Afghan asylum-seekers and refugees whose status may also be impacted by the current crisis and will need longer term support.

On 26 August the IFRC launched a three-year programme to extend humanitarian assistance and protection by 34 National Societies to migrants and displaced people along land and maritime routes spanning Africa, the Middle East and Europe. The National Societies incorporated in this multi-year programme will continue to provide longer term assistance and protection to people on the move, as well as increasing their humanitarian preparedness and response to address the immediate emergency needs of people fleeing Afghanistan. This three-year programme is outlined in a new Case for Support: Humanitarian Assistance and Protection for People on the Move: A Route Based Approach spanning Africa, Middle East and [Europe](#).

### **Turkey**

As part of ongoing programmes (cash-based assistance programme, community-based migration programme) the Turkish Red Crescent (TRCS) is supporting 2.4 million people under temporary and international protection in Turkey. Following the latest developments in Afghanistan, TRCS continues to monitor the situation, in close consultation with Turkish authorities, through its branches and community centres, particularly those in the country's eastern provinces. In 2021 alone, national authorities have reported 41,536 arrivals from Afghanistan (42 % of the total) in Turkey<sup>3</sup>. The majority are arriving via Pakistan and Iran and this year has seen a reported increase in women, families and unaccompanied minors among these arrivals<sup>4</sup>. In anticipation of an increased number of people fleeing Afghanistan and arriving in Turkey, TRCS with the support of IFRC will aim at preparedness activities with a focus on humanitarian assistance, including the preparation of emergency kits, strengthening coordination and capacities of branches in the border areas and enhancing protection by improving capacities in active transit areas.

### **Greece and Western Balkans region**

As part of long-established activities (including as part of the Greece-Turkey and other countries: Population Movement Emergency Appeal ([MDR65003](#)), the Bosnia and Herzegovina: Population Movement Emergency Appeal ([MDRBA011](#)) and the three year programme: Humanitarian Assistance and Protection for People on the

<sup>3</sup> Directorate General of Migration Management statistics as at 9 September 2021: [IRREGULAR MIGRATION \(goc.gov.tr\)](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Situation Update - Afghanistan situation preparedness in Iran - 20 July 2021.pdf \(reliefweb.int\)](#)

Move<sup>5</sup>) over the past years, National Societies in Greece and along the Western Balkans route have continued to assist migrants who are newly arriving and those who remain stranded in the region. As part of these programmes the support by the National Societies to date has included life-saving humanitarian assistance, the access to contextualized two-way information channels, integration services, medical transports and health care support, restoring family link (RFL) and prevention of family separation, as well as awareness-raising with local communities and authorities. As of September 2021, in Greece the total number of arrivals was 5,692 with the largest number of arrivals from<sup>6</sup>. As of August 2021, in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the total number of arrivals was 4,600 with the largest number of new arrivals from Afghanistan<sup>7</sup> Several of those National Societies responding have recently started a process to assess their response capacities and aim to strengthen preparedness activities through an IFRC developed approach, which they will be able integrate should an increased number of people fleeing Afghanistan arrive in the region.

The ICRC with the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's Family Links Network will continue to address the needs of dispersed families in Afghanistan and abroad to restore contact by offering family-links services and coordinating with other humanitarian actors for unaccompanied and separated children. ICRC's Central Tracing Agency (CTA) has started gathering information about missing persons and those who have died. It will pursue efforts to ensure a safe return of their remains back to the families. The IFRC financially supports the RFL response of RCST which is technically handled and coordinated by the ICRC's CTA.

### **Red Cross Red Crescent response related to evacuations**

Various European governments have been engaged in the evacuations by airlifting their citizens and Afghan nationals who have collaborated with institutions or organizations from EU countries, the United Kingdom, or the United States. National Red Cross Societies – without IFRC support - have been supporting authorities in welcoming people, conducting COVID-19 screenings, and ensuring basic humanitarian aid, from information to healthcare, legal assistance and psychosocial support.

## **B. THE OPERATIONAL STRATEGY**

This Appeal aims to support preparedness and priority humanitarian response for population movement from Afghanistan to the region neighbouring Afghanistan, focusing on Tajikistan and potentially other countries in Central Asia as well as Iran and Pakistan. This includes a focus on the response capacity and readiness of National Societies and host communities, particularly in the countries likely to be most affected by population movement.

This Appeal covers the period from September 2021 to September 2022, including winterization efforts. In the event of new, large scale population movement, this plan will be revised as needed and complemented with further activities to scale up the response.

### **Needs assessment and targeting**

The initial focus of the operation aims to support the preparedness and response activities of three National Societies – Red Crescent of Tajikistan, Iranian Red Crescent and Pakistan Red Crescent - with ongoing DREF operations where needs assessments are ongoing.

In **Tajikistan**, the priority needs for new arrivals from Afghanistan are assessed as access to food, basic household items, primary health care, First Aid, access to psychosocial support as well as support for identification and referral for protection. Such assistance will be provided by the RCST in the TFCs Temporary Filtration Centres along the border as per the agreement between National Society and the public authorities of Tajikistan.

---

<sup>5</sup> The National Societies who are part of the three-year Programme from this region include: Red Cross/Red Crescent National Societies of Turkey, Greece, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Slovenia

<sup>6</sup> <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/mediterranean/location/5179>

<sup>7</sup> Based on Operation Update no 8. on Bosnia and Herzegovina: Population Movement (MDRBA011)

Moreover, and beyond the immediate short-term assistance to new arrivals, RCST may engage in humanitarian assistance beyond the Temporary Filtration Centres, such as in eventual refugee camps as well as in host communities. In such scenario, linked to a significant increase in the number of Afghans crossing the border with Tajikistan, priority needs are likely to include, in addition to food assistance, emergency shelter and household items (especially in case this scenario materializes during the winter season) access to basic health services (including COVID-19 testing and prevention) in particular treatment of injuries, minor ailments, reproductive health assistance, and WASH services. In terms of target groups, special attention will be paid to children and women and their needs.

In **Iran**, most of new arrivals are temporarily hosted in three reception/transit centres: Kaligan, Mahroud and Jakgh. The situation may evolve if the inflow of people from Afghanistan increases; in that scenario, two proposed refugee camps have been identified so far in Darmiyan in Khorasan Razavi and Transhahr in Sistan-and-Baluchestan in which additional humanitarian assistance will be provided by the Government of Iran and IRCS. In terms of current and future needs as per the DREF needs assessment, short term priorities for new arrivals are i) emergency shelter solutions, such as tents and basic household items, ii) water hygiene and sanitation needs at transit centres, which severity has been exacerbated by the current drought, and iii) emergency food assistance, both 72h food and one-month food rations.

**Pakistan** has hosted Afghan migrants and refugees for over 30 years. There are currently approximately three million Afghans in Pakistan, including both registered refugees and unregistered and/or undocumented Afghans. Some displaced Afghans, especially those who are un-registered, face different kinds of vulnerabilities, as compared to registered Afghans. These vulnerabilities may include lack of access to legal services, limited access to healthcare services, comparatively low health literacy, lack of access to adequate housing and shelter arrangements, and lack of access to education. Consequently, pre-COVID-19, unregistered displaced Afghans often experienced reduced access to health care, and difficulty accessing other basic services including clean drinking water. COVID-19 has further exacerbated these challenges and the severity of the needs of the most vulnerable among the displaced populations. Registered Afghan refugees meanwhile do have access to essential basic services including health care, water and sanitation facilities and are allowed also to engage in employment and run businesses.

## Coordination and partnerships

National Societies in neighbouring countries and along cross-border displacement routes are key stakeholders to support population on the move and host communities. The National Societies provide humanitarian services, in close cooperation with Movement partners and external stakeholders in the respective countries, including the relevant national agencies, national and international humanitarian aid organizations and local as well as central departments of relevant ministries.

This Emergency Appeal is part of a **Federation-wide approach**, based on the response priorities of the National Societies of the concerned countries and in consultation with all Federation members contributing to the response. The Emergency Appeal will ensure linkages between all response activities (including bilateral activities and activities funded domestically) and assist to leverage the capacities of all members of the Federation in the countries and ensure a work complementary with ICRC to maximize the collective humanitarian impact.

The **Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan** cooperates with the state system that are the Ministry of Health, the Committee for Emergency Situations, Ministry of Internal Affairs and their substructures. The National Society coordinates its actions with respective Ministries which correspond to the population movement response plan. IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for Central Asia has been supporting RCST in coordinating with Movement partners on the DREF content and implementation of the DREF operation in Tajikistan. German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross and ICRC have been informed accordingly. ICRC and German Red Cross are present in the country and Italian Red Cross is working with RCST remotely from their Headquarters until the next deployment of their delegate. RCST is organizing a first Movement Coordination meeting in Dushanbe on 23 September 2021, where the RCST preparedness and response plan will be communicated. German Red Cross is exploring funding

support to RCST bilaterally in two locations (Dushanbe and Bokhtar) for increasing warehousing capacities as well as prepositioning household items.

IFRC and RCST coordinate with Movement partners as well as with UN agencies. Other countries in **Central Asia**, including Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan have been coordinating with their respective governmental and non-governmental agencies through the relevant established coordination mechanisms.

The **Iranian Red Crescent Society** is leading in coordinating the operation through its National Emergency Operation Centres at Headquarters and branch levels. The IRCS is also in contact with the national central authorities in Tehran, humanitarian actors, and local stakeholders, to coordinate their operations and manage dignified basic assistance delivery. At the Movement level, both, IFRC country team and ICRC country team have engaged in coordination meetings with the IRCS and developed a Red Cross Red Crescent Movement contingency plan to contribute to the IRCS main operational response/preparedness. This plan served as a foundation for building and mobilizing support for the IRCS main response plan. At the technical level, the IRCS, ICRC and IFRC will coordinate closely and identify potential areas of support for the IRCS response, as well as to conduct joint assessments/visits as the operational response progresses.

The **Pakistan Red Crescent Society** National Headquarters is in close coordination with its branches, IFRC, Movement partners, UN Agencies, and the government authorities. The IFRC Pakistan Country Delegation is providing technical support to the National Society and providing strategic coordination among the IFRC Membership with presence in the country. German Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross and Turkish Red Crescent can provide additional bilateral support to PRCS if there are any gaps to be filled in the preparedness measures for the forthcoming response. The ICRC is present in the country and providing support to PRCS on relevant areas along ICRC mandate. Regular Movement coordination meetings ensure a coordinated approach to support PRCS in their preparedness and readiness efforts for possible population movement.

## Capacity analysis of the National Societies in the countries, risk analysis and scenario planning

### National Societies capacities

National Societies in neighbouring countries and the region have a long history of providing humanitarian assistance to people on the move from Afghanistan – irrespective of their status. This is combined with a commitment to identifying the most vulnerable and ensuring that they are protected. National Societies engage in principled humanitarian diplomacy with decision makers, based on their auxiliary role, and on behalf of the most vulnerable of those displaced. National Societies also provide humanitarian assistance, including specific social cohesion initiatives, with host communities also affected by population movement in the region.

The National Societies have started to scale up preparedness as part of the Preparedness for Effective Response<sup>8</sup> (PER) process recently and have established Emergency Operations Centres, which can be an asset in case a larger number of people fleeing Afghanistan arrive in the region.

### Scenario & Risk Analysis

The current scenario & risk analysis is based on an internal and external secondary data review and analysis conducted by IFRC, with the support of the Italian Red Cross. It looks at historical refugees and migrants' trends from Afghanistan, neighboring countries asylum and repatriation legislation and/or policies, push and pull factors as well as population movement triggers.

---

<sup>8</sup> <https://go.ifrc.org/preparedness#global-summary>

### a. Worsening of the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan

Driving Factor	Trigger	Likelihood		Impact	Where
		Short term	Medium Term		
Disasters in Afghanistan	2021 drought humanitarian needs in Afghanistan remain largely unmet	Medium	Medium	High	Iran and Pakistan
	Seasonal disasters caused by natural hazards, such as floods, over-stretch Afghanistan in country response capacity	High	Low	Low	All neighbouring countries, based on where the disasters caused by natural hazards occurs
	Large scale disaster in high density population area (e.g., earthquake in Kabul)	Low	Low	High	Area affected by the disasters and neighbouring countries at proximity
Humanitarian Response Capacity in Afghanistan	Reduced humanitarian access in Afghanistan and/or funding for both nat'l and int'l actors	Low	Medium	High	Iran, Pakistan, and Tajikistan
	Increase in operational constraints for humanitarian actors in Afghanistan	Low	Medium	Medium	Iran, Pakistan, and Tajikistan

### b. Increase in violence targeting civilian population in Afghanistan

Driving Factor	Trigger	Likelihood		Impact	Where
		Short term	Medium Term		
Insecurity	Non-state armed groups (NSAGs) systematically target Afghanistan minorities	Medium	Medium	High	Iran, Tajikistan, Pakistan to a lesser extent
Political instability in Afghanistan	New Afghanistan government split into multiple rival factions	Low	Medium	High	Iran, Pakistan, and Tajikistan borders, based on which Afghanistan region/province is affected
	NSAGs effectively challenges new Afghanistan government territorial control	Low	Low	High	Pakistan and, to a lesser extent Iran

### c. Change in border-crossing and/or asylum and/or repatriation policies in neighboring countries, transit and/or final destination countries

Driving Factor	Trigger	Likelihood		Impact	Where
		Short term	Medium Term		
Increased opportunities for regional mobility	Changes in border crossing regulations in neighbouring countries	Low	Low	Medium	Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan
Increased opportunities to obtain	Changes in asylum policies in transit countries	Very Low	Low	High	Iran, Tajikistan, Turkey, other central Asia countries

<b>refugee status in transit and destination countries</b>	Changes in asylum and/or repatriation policies in destination countries	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Very high</b>	Iran, Turkey, Europe, Balkans' route
--	---	---------------	---------------	------------------	--------------------------------------

The IFRC security framework will apply to all IFRC personnel deployed throughout the operation. Area specific Security Risk Assessments will be conducted, with support from the respective IFRC Regional Security Coordinator, prior to the deployment of any IFRC personnel. Risk mitigation measures will be identified and implemented as necessary.

## C. PROPOSED AREAS OF INTERVENTION

The operational strategy described above will remain flexible, to respond to evolving needs and locations of displaced populations and host communities. This will include humanitarian assistance based on multi-sector rapid assessments in the fields of shelter, health, WASH, basic needs, and livelihoods. This will also include a focus on identifying and protecting the most at-risk individuals and groups among the displaced population, including women, children (including unaccompanied children), survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, persons who have been trafficked, older persons, people with disabilities, and marginalized groups. Lifesaving humanitarian assistance and protection will also be complemented with medium- and longer-term support in the fields of mental health and psychosocial support livelihoods, shelter, and social cohesion with host communities. Lifesaving assistance will include information as aid based on community questions and concerns (collected through feedback mechanisms and perception surveys) to make processes transparent and provide actionable information in accessible formats and through trusted channels. Throughout the operation, the epidemiological situation will be paid particular attention to, and COVID-19 safe programming will be ensured. National Societies are already involved in the COVID-19 response and will apply relevant actions and learnings to this population movement operation, ensuring prevention measures are included.

## STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION



### Shelter and essential household items

**People targeted: 88,000**

Male: 48,400

Female:<sup>9</sup> 39,600

**Requirements (CHF): 9,080,000**

#### Proposed intervention

Displaced people are in an increased vulnerable situation as they may not have a safe place to stay. The activities proposed and services provided under this sector will be focused on people from Afghanistan in temporary centres and refugee camps taking into consideration additional needs upcoming in the winter season.

Major activities under this sector are as follows: preparing of **emergency needs kits** as stock for potential population movement which might occur in harsh weather conditions, **pre-positioning** and if required **distribution of household items (including emergency shelter)** and **technical support and training** to National Societies. In specific countries short/mid-term **shelter support through cash and voucher assistance** (such as rental assistance especially for the upcoming winter season; support to host families) and

<sup>9</sup> Based on Afghans refugees and asylum seekers data from UNHCR, target groups' estimates are disaggregated with 55% male and 45% female representation.

**technical support** will be considered and facilities which may be suitable for accommodation of displaced population will be mapped and monitored in case of influx.



## Livelihoods and basic needs

**People targeted: 158,000**

Male: 86,405

Female: 70,695

**Requirements (CHF): 5,815,000**

### Proposed intervention

The population to be assisted - people leaving Afghanistan - will be people fleeing their home and traveling across the border via land. Many of them will have travelled far and may have lost their possessions and will need immediate support for basic needs including food.

National Societies preparedness, readiness and response actions will include **procurement and distribution of food items**, or the provision of **multipurpose cash grants**. Depending on the mandate and agreement with the respective governments National Societies will be providing food/cash grants to primary screening and refugee camps. In order to prepare for the provision of cash grants, **feasibility studies for cash and voucher assistance** (which typically include market analyses, assessment of Financial Service Providers, engagement with public authorities and humanitarian stakeholders, analysis on capacity of the National Society and needed support etc.) as well as **trainings for staff and volunteers** will be conducted to support National Societies to switch from in kind distribution to cash and voucher assistance when possible and appropriate in order to more effectively meet the basic food needs of the target population. The needs of host families and communities will also be considered.



## Health

**People targeted: 156,000**

Male: 85,800

Female: 70,200

**Requirements (CHF): 3,633,000**

### Proposed intervention

Refugees and migrants leaving Afghanistan face significant health burdens, both because of pre-existing disease, malnutrition and chronic illnesses untreated in Afghanistan due to their limited access to health services prior to departure, and due to precarious shelter and limited access to the necessities of life while on the move. Around 65 per cent of the Afghan population are children and young people, whose routine childhood care has been interrupted. Many of those on the move are women of childbearing age, who face barriers to accessing sexual, reproductive and maternal health services. Less than 5 per cent of Afghan population is fully vaccinated for COVID-19, coupled with poor coverage of routine vaccination among children.

Main health interventions for displaced people and host communities will focus around equipping communities on the move with the knowledge to trigger and sustain behavior change to protect their own health (through for example **health promotion, risk communication and community engagement approaches**), **preventing, detecting and responding to infectious disease outbreaks, including COVID-19 among the refugees and host communities** (focusing on shelters, reception centres and other relevant locations),

improving access to health services for migrant and host populations (**first aid, basic and primary health care services**, etc), as well as reducing mental health and psychological impacts (through **provision of PSS and referral for mental health and other activities linked with protection, gender and inclusion**). To enhance the preparedness and readiness to deliver those interventions, specific actions will be implemented such as the development of health and hygiene promotion messages, procurement of first aid kits, prepositioning of personal protective equipment and training of volunteers and staff. COVID-safe measures will be integrated.



## Water, sanitation and hygiene

**People targeted: 160,000**

Male: 88,000

Female: 72,000

**Requirements (CHF): 2,201,000**

### Proposed intervention

Safe drinking water, hygiene and sanitation facilities are key services needed by displaced population in temporary camps. Good sanitation and hygiene practices will also increase coping with and mitigating compounding risks of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Displacement of people has significant negative impacts on water access, sanitation, and hygiene

Main activities under this sector will focus on **procurement and provision of hygiene items** (such as hygiene kits, jerry cans, sanitary napkins, etc.), **water trucking/provision of safe drinking water, set up and maintenance of emergency latrines, water treatment plants, chlorine tablet/solution for household water purification, hand washing stations** as well as **laundry and shower facilities** through humanitarian service points. National Societies will be supported in their preparedness actions through **WASH trainings** to staff and volunteers and production/printing and **provision of WASH Information, Education and communication (IEC) materials**.



## Additional Areas of Focus; Migration & Protection, Gender and Inclusion

**People targeted: 159,000**

Male: 87,450

Female: 71,550

**Requirements (CHF): 893,000**

### Proposed intervention

#### Migration and Displacement

All preparedness, readiness and response interventions under this Emergency Appeal will be guided by best practice and principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement related to assisting and protecting migrants and displaced populations and supporting host communities. This includes providing assistance and protection to people on the move on a purely humanitarian basis and irrespective of their status or category.

At the operational level, the IFRC and National Societies will take a route-based approach to assistance and protection, ensuring shared dialogue and analysis of evolving humanitarian needs and protection trends across

borders and across regions. This will also include support for the establishment of Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) at key locations. There will also be a strong focus on **cross-border and route-based cooperation and learning** between National Societies, including through sharing of **best practices**, and lessons learned.

Due to concerns about the worsening of the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan, as well as the high uncertainty about spontaneous cross-border population movements, IFRC will set up a **dedicated migration and displacement scenario and risk ongoing analysis process** to inform preparedness and early action interventions from National Societies.

### **Protection, Gender and Inclusion**

Due to displacement, affected people may be made more vulnerable and exposed to protection risks and challenges. Lack of access to shelter, health, and basic services can further expose them to violence, abuse, exploitation and harmful practices. People are impacted differently and groups such as women, children, older adults, and people with disabilities may be at higher risk. These groups face specific challenges and barriers concerning their access to basic supplies, their mobility, and other displacement-related risks.

There is a need to understand specific needs and resources these groups can rely on to self-protect them and remain resilient. Incorporating these specificities, it is paramount to protect them and avoid further harm, and guarantee that dignity, access, participation and safety, are prioritized. Major activities include **establishing safe and quality protection referral pathways; ensuring prevention and response to sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and child safeguarding; raising awareness on protection risks and mitigation measures, strengthening knowledge and competences of staff and volunteers on PGI, Restoring Family Links, Child Protection, SGBV and trafficking in persons; mainstreaming PGI standards in emergencies across sectors.** Items addressing specific needs of vulnerable groups will be explored (such as sanitation kits for women, etc.).

## **ENABLING ACTIONS**

**Requirements (CHF): 3,052,000**

### **Influencing others as strategic partners**

IFRC will support National Societies in effective coordination and engagement with respective authorities, and humanitarian partners, including UN agencies, NGOs, CSOs and other actors, ensuring sustained access and support to people on the move. The presence of Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies at local, regional and national level supported by IFRC as international organization, a global reach and access to regional and international fora will be ensured. Engagement with authorities and humanitarian partners will include a focus on leveraging and reinforcing the **auxiliary role of National Societies in the field of migration and displacement** which allows privileged access to governmental decision makers. This will also include dedicated support for principled **humanitarian diplomacy**, to influence decisions makers in favour of the most vulnerable among the displaced population. This humanitarian diplomacy will be built on a foundation of continued **monitoring and assessments, dedicated research** and constructing a **shared analysis** of evolving needs between National Societies across borders and across regions.

Support will also be provided for engaging in principled **partnerships** and ensuring mobilization of sufficient **resources** to meet all identified needs.

## Ensuring accountability

**Community engagement and accountability** approaches will emphasize a strong community engagement from the outset. It promotes resilience among the affected communities by ensuring they can access humanitarian assistance as necessary, have the required information on the services available to them, and are involved in the planning and delivery of assistance. The Movement-wide commitments and minimum actions for CEA will be mainstreamed throughout operations. National Societies will be supported to ensure that for example feedback and response mechanisms are in place. This will be supported for example through establishing CEA teams.

Management accountability will be ensured through IFRC support to National Societies through respective Regional Offices and involved field Delegations, and where necessary technical expertise will be provided by deploying Rapid Response Personnel from the wider IFRC network depending on need and evolving situation. Experts in Humanitarian diplomacy as well as communications, legal support – especially looking into challenges related to sanctions on specific countries – logistics, security and PMER are expected to be deployed who can support the National Societies and IFRC delegations on different thematic and operational areas. PMER staff will be recruited to support operational monitoring and donor's accountability.

The main relief activities will require a constant **supply chain**. The acquisition of the goods and services will be done according to the National Society and IFRC procedures and standards, in close coordination with IFRC Secretariat's Global Humanitarian Services & Supply Chain Management (GHS & SCM) and utilizing if required IFRC GHS & SCM structures and existing regional arrangements. The IFRC GHS & SCM Department in respective regional offices will provide technical support as required by the National Societies for all the procurement. GHS & SCM will also provide technical validation (quality assurance) of procurement processes according to the IFRC established rules and regulations.

## Strengthening National Societies

To deliver on the above operational objectives, it requires adequate **National Society institutional preparedness** and **response capacities** at Headquarters and branches (first responders). Based on a holistic analysis of areas requiring strengthening, specific aspects that require further enhancement will be prioritized. Those priorities will differ based on the evolving context in each of the country, and the role the respective National Society supported by this operation, has in the current humanitarian system. Specific focus will be put on enhancing cash capabilities but as well other areas such as reviewing volunteer management system. IFRC Regional Offices and delegations will support National Societies to address some assessed gaps with the view of further leveraging their mandate and capabilities as a key partner to provide timely and quality services to the affected population.

Throughout this Emergency Appeal, National Society staff and volunteers will be supported through **capacity building, the provision of basic equipment and clothes (suitable for winter conditions) and insurance**. To ensure programmatic sustainability beyond and during the Emergency Appeal timeframe, National Societies will receive dedicated support in resource mobilization capacity building.

## D. FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

### EMERGENCY APPEAL

#### MDRAFRPM21 - Regional Population Movement

#### – Afghanistan / Preparedness and Response

#### Funding requirements - summary

Area of Intervention	Needs in CHF
SHELTER	9,080,000
LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS	5,815,000
HEALTH	3,633,000
WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE	2,201,000
ADDITIONAL AREAS OF FOCUS	893,000
ENABLING ACTIONS	3,052,000
<b>TOTAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>24,674,000</b>

*all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)*

#### Funding Requirement breakdown per region

TOTAL	CHF 24.6 million
Asia Pacific Region	CHF 5.1 million
MENA Region	CHF 10.4 million
Europe and Central Asia Region	CHF 8.8 million
Geneva HQ	CHF 300,000

Support to those National Societies based outside of the immediate neighbouring region of Afghanistan but that may see impact in migratory routes and humanitarian needs, will continue to be channelled through **other IFRC mechanisms and tools**. For further details in those please see table below.

	Funding requirement (CHF)	Funding Gap (CHF)
<a href="#">Case for Support: Humanitarian Assistance and Protection for People on The Move, A route based approach spanning Africa, Middle East and Europe (covering 34 countries)</a>	58,000,000 per year	57,000,000 per year
Emergency Appeal: <a href="#">Humanitarian Service Point @ Sea</a>	2,000,000	1,957,607
Emergency Appeal: <a href="#">Turkey, Greece &amp; Other Countries - Pop. Mvt</a>	11,000,000	3,876,446
Emergency Appeal: <a href="#">Bosnia and Herzegovina - Population Movement</a>	3,800,000	1,395,054

In Afghanistan, Afghan Red Crescent is repurposing some of its existing services to address the needs of internally displaced people (IDPs). These activities are being scaled up through the IFRC revised Emergency Appeal, [Afghanistan - Humanitarian Crises](#), which has a funding ask of CHF 36 million and a funding gap of almost CHF 35 million.

## Contact information

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

### In the Iranian Red Crescent Society

- Ms. Mansooreh Bagheri, IRCS Under Secretary General, International Affairs & IHL; email: [intdep@rcs.ir](mailto:intdep@rcs.ir)
- Operational Coordination: Hasan Esfandiar, Operational Coordinator; email: [intdep@rcs.ir](mailto:intdep@rcs.ir)

### In the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan

- Secretary General: Bahodur Kurboniyon; email: [kurbonion@gmail.com](mailto:kurbonion@gmail.com)
- Operational Coordination: Shuhrat Sangov, Head of DM Department; email: [sshukhrat@mail.ru](mailto:sshukhrat@mail.ru)

### In the Pakistan Red Crescent Society

- Dr Adeel Nawaz, Secretary General; email: [sg@prcs.org.pk](mailto:sg@prcs.org.pk)
- Operational Coordination: Atif Ali DD DR; email: [dd.response@prcs.org.pk](mailto:dd.response@prcs.org.pk)

### In the IFRC in Asia Pacific

- **IFRC Regional Office for Asia Pacific:** Jessica Lee Letch, Acting Head of Disaster, Climate and Crisis unit; email: [jessica.letch@ifrc.org](mailto:jessica.letch@ifrc.org)
- **IFRC Country Delegation in Pakistan:** Peter Ophoff, Head of Country Delegation; email: [peter.ophoff@ifrc.org](mailto:peter.ophoff@ifrc.org)

### In the IFRC in MENA

- **IFRC Regional Office for MENA:** Dr. Hosam Faysal, Head of Disaster, Climate and Crisis unit; email: [hosam.faysal@ifrc.org](mailto:hosam.faysal@ifrc.org)
- **IFRC Country Delegation in Iran:** Atta Durrani, Program Manager; email: [atta.durrani@ifrc.org](mailto:atta.durrani@ifrc.org)

### In the IFRC in Europe and Central Asia

- **IFRC Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia:** Andreas von Weissenberg, Head of Disaster, Climate and Crisis unit; email: [andreas.weissenberg@ifrc.org](mailto:andreas.weissenberg@ifrc.org)
- **IFRC Country Cluster Delegation:** Seval Guzelkilinc, Head of Country Cluster Delegation; email: [seval.guzelkilinc@ifrc.org](mailto:seval.guzelkilinc@ifrc.org)

### For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- **IFRC Geneva:** Gabriela Arenas, Senior Officer, Emergency Appeals and Marketing, email: [gabriela.arenas@ifrc.org](mailto:gabriela.arenas@ifrc.org)

### Reference documents



Click here for:

- Previous Appeals and updates
- Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

## How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to

**Principles of Humanitarian Action** and **IFRC policies and procedures**. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

**Jagan Chapagain**  
Secretary General

---