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Emergency Appeal

Locust upsurge in East and Horn of Africa

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

(Revised) Appeal n° MDR60005

To be assisted: 75,000 people

Appeal launched: 17/04/2020

Appeal end: 31/01/2021

Glide n°: IN-2019-000149-ETH

DREF allocated: 350,000 Swiss francs

(If Appeal extended) Extended X months

Funding requirements: 1.8 million Swiss francs

This Emergency Appeal seeks a total of **1.8 million Swiss francs** to enable the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to support **five National Societies (Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda)** to deliver assistance to **75,000 people** affected by desert locust invasion for **9 months** with a focus on **Livelihoods and Basic Needs and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)**. The planned response reflects the current situation and information available at this time of the operation.

The operation also focuses on coordination and partnerships with technical lead agencies to inform community engagement strategies on public and environmental health safety especially access and utilization of food during pesticide-driven control of the locust infestation. In addition to community level preparedness actions, the operation will undertake cash and livelihood preparedness activities to enable quick scale up of appropriate responses as the acute food insecurity situation unfolds in areas where Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) Movement have ongoing programmes.

The disaster and the Red Cross Red Crescent response to date

- **November 2019:** Locust outbreak is reported ([report](#)) in parts of Somalia and Ethiopia. The locusts gradually spread to other parts of East Africa and the invasion is classified as an upsurge.
- **February 2020:** IFRC issues an [Information Bulletin](#) on the locust upsurge and likely food implications on food security in East Africa. This is followed by discussion with the RCRC Movement and non-Movement partners on potential preparedness and response interventions.
- **March 2020:** IFRC, in consultation with affected National Societies, develops an operational strategy to inform the it's preparedness, early actions and response planning.



Local farmer in Kitui County, Kenya tries to chase away a swarm of desert locusts. Photo: EPA

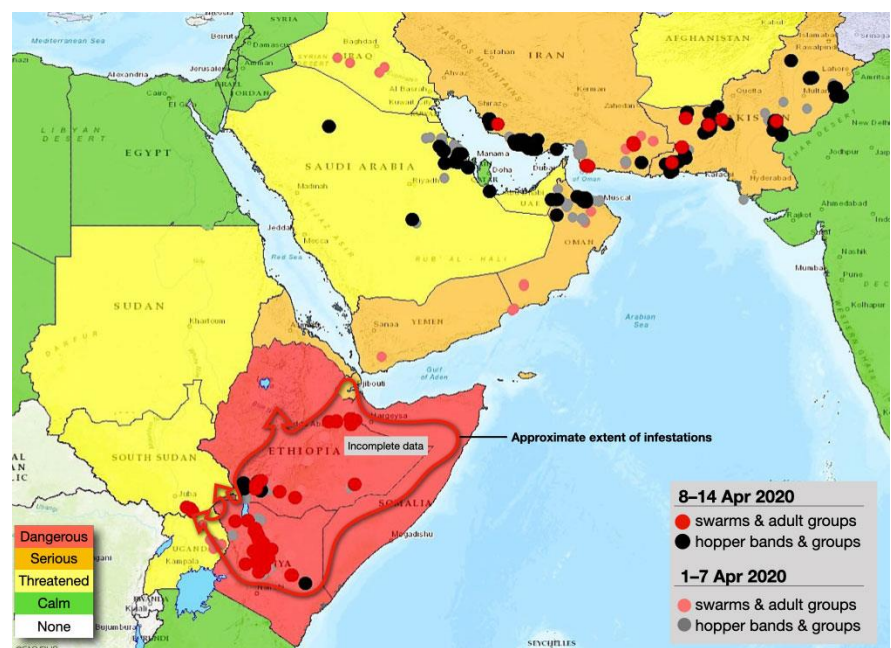
- **April 2020:** IFRC launches an Emergency Appeal for 1.8 Million Swiss francs for 90,000 people with a focus on preparedness and anticipatory actions. 350,000 Swiss francs allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF).

The operational strategy

The operational strategy focuses on anticipation and preparedness to prevent further deterioration of the fragile food security situation in the targeted countries, which will have important negative impacts on the livelihoods of millions of already highly vulnerable populations. The infestation is still evolving, with each new generation growing in numbers and spreading over huge territorial areas. Since early January 2020¹, the locust upsurge continues to spread especially in Kenya, Somalia, Ethiopia, Uganda, and South Sudan. Experts predict continued spread of the locusts in the coming months so more countries in the sub-region are expected to be affected. Given widespread locust upsurge destroying crops and pastures, especially as the most important cropping season (March-June) in East Africa progresses, the [food insecurity outlook](#) is projected to be severe affecting approximately 10 million people in the very likely event that hatched hoppers catch up with the newly planted crops. Projecting the possible regional food insecurity, IFRC proposes a forward-looking strategic intervention focusing on preparedness, surveillance, early action and ongoing analysis to inform response and early recovery planning to mitigate the likely impact on food security and livelihoods, especially for the most vulnerable households in communities where RCRC partners are already supporting community resilience interventions.

The preparedness actions will include provision of technical and coordination expertise at regional, cluster and country levels; technical guidance and support in community level preparedness and awareness, assessments and analysis to inform timely food security and livelihoods responses, and anticipatory livelihood support to affected people. The strategy is to focus on areas where National Societies have existing interventions in the locust affected areas, to protect the gains of the ongoing programmes, and mitigate the impacts of the impending disaster.

This forward-looking approach will provide an opportunity to inform preparedness, anticipatory actions, and prompt emergency response interventions as well as ensure strong coordination and align strategies for complementarity / synergy of response with other leading technical partners such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) at regional, national and community levels. Thus, the operation will focus on typical preparedness activities such as community awareness and mobilization and promotion of indigenous prevention techniques as the food insecurity scenarios unfold to inform design and scale up of response actions. All the preparedness and awareness activities will be undertaken with strict measures of training, PPE and advisories of physical distancing to protect volunteers and communities from spread of COVID -19.



Areas and scale of infestations

Source: <http://www.fao.org/ag/locusts/common/ecg/75/en/200414updateE.jpg>

Summary of Red Cross Red Crescent response to date

Since the escalation of the locust upsurge in East Africa, National Societies have been considering potential areas of intervention, like Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS), already engaging in community awareness, preparedness and surveillance activities. Although the level of actual engagement in the locust preparedness and control activities varies from country to country, the determination to contribute to mitigation efforts is obvious. IFRC has had consultations with respective National Societies on potential roles they could play in both anticipation such as messaging, community awareness, early detection and reporting, household level control actions, and later on when the impact of the locust upsurge on livelihoods are much clearer, in response such as provision of seed for replanting, food and cash assistance, livestock support activities, etc. Consultations with ICRC and partner National Societies (pNSs) have been ongoing to determine potential areas of support to the National Societies in the preparedness and response planning. In some countries partner National Societies, including German RC have placed support to preparedness and initiation response.

¹ <http://www.fao.org/emergencies/crisis/desertlocust/en/>

The operation will map out pNSs involvement in long-term programmes in those locust affected areas and explore complementarities for better impact, this mapping is still under development and will be presented in the Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA).

To date, the National Societies responses have been as below:

Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS)

Since January 2020, KRCS has been engaged in the locust preparedness, response and coordination activities which include early detection and reporting, national and county level coordination mechanisms, preparedness activities such as training of Red Cross Action Teams, and assessments to inform design of recovery interventions². KRCS has also offered to provide its Red Cross Action Teams to engage in locust control activities on condition that proper training and personal protective equipment (PPE) is provided by the relevant Ministries and technical partners like FAO. This request is under consideration, especially when the new generation locusts are expected to invade the crops and pastures on massive scale during the current cropping season. In addition, KRCS has been contracted by FAO to lead on impact evaluation of the locust situation in 16 priority counties which have been grouped in three clusters. KRCS was selected through a competitive process to undertake the impact evaluation with a focus on (a) efficacy of the locust control measures, (b) impact of the locusts on local livelihoods, and (c) identifying potential recovery interventions. This is a unique opportunity for KRCS to influence programming on recovery interventions, as well as policy issues related to longer term impacts of the locust upsurge.

Somalia Red Crescent Society (SRCS)

SRCS is actively engaged in the Government/FAO-led Coordination Taskforce on locust control, using this opportunity to advocate for timely recovery planning and positioning itself to support community level actions. SRCS is considering potential preparedness actions, including training of staff and volunteers, provision of PPE, supporting community level control actions such as deep ploughing to bury the locust eggs, and use of traditional methods for locust control. The government-led Locust Task Force is coordinating the participation of humanitarian agencies in the preparedness and control activities. The specific role of SRCS will be agreed through these coordination mechanisms but special attention will be in areas where the National Society is implementing long term programmes. The German Red Cross is working closely with SRCS Somaliland office to support preparedness and control measures in areas where resilience programming is ongoing. This puts SRCS Somaliland in a strong position for taking early action, influencing local actions, as well as visibility in the ongoing locust response. Parts of Puntland have been hard-hit by the locusts but there are currently no planned preparedness and response actions. These areas include Bosaso, Mudug /Towfic, Bari, Gardafi, Nugal and Galkayo. Support to these areas will be prioritized by this Emergency Appeal operation.

Ethiopia Red Cross Society (ERCS)

ERCS has been consulting with the government and partners on potential areas of engagement, but with special focus on areas where long term programmes are ongoing. Locusts have affected key areas where ERCS is implementing long term and emergency activities, including the location hosting Internally displaced Persons (IDPs) where an Emergency Appeal operation was implemented from April 2019 to March 2020. ERCS has updated its national preparedness and response plan for 2020 to include the locust upsurge, with potential preparedness and response actions. IFRC and in-country partners have been working with ERCS to encourage and support engagement in locust coordination mechanisms at national and sub national levels. The allocation of specific areas of intervention will be coordinated by the National Desert Locust Task Force, and ERCS will have a crucial role on community engagement and awareness raising tasks.

Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS)

URCS has been engaging in coordination mechanisms at different levels and working on its preparedness and response planning. URCS developed and shared a concept note (17 February) with a focus on preparedness activities (training, surveillance, etc.), supporting coordination mechanisms, conducting assessments to inform livelihood recovery activities, food/cash assistance for vulnerable households, and crop input provision in case urgent replanting is necessary. A national strategy for locust management has been developed by the government, with support from humanitarian partners and this will guide the URCS preparedness and response planning. The URCS preparedness and response plans have been aligned to the IFRC regional strategy of focusing on preparatory actions and analysis to inform design and scaleup of emergency response activities as the impacts of the locust upsurge manifest.

South Sudan Red Cross Society (SSRCS)

According to the FAO locust situation update of 2nd March 2020, the mature locust swarm that was seen on 23rd February near Laboni and the Uganda border dispersed into many small swarms. It is likely breeding is ongoing and this will result into larger numbers of new generation locusts, causing destruction to crop and pasture. SSRCS is monitoring the

² KRCS Locust update_ 14 February 2020

situation and would like to engage in preparedness and response interventions to mitigate the impact of the locust upsurge. The IFRC office in Juba is working with the National Society to identify support needs, in close collaboration with ICRC and in-country PNSs.

Needs assessment and targeting

What started as an outbreak has now developed into a locust upsurge causing serious threats on the food security and livelihoods situation of the sub-region. The current upsurge in East Africa has been described as the worst in 25 years for Ethiopia and Somalia, and the worst in 70 years for Kenya, and experts are predicting the situation could develop into a plague - the worst-case scenario that would result unprecedented destruction of crop and pasture leading to widespread food insecurity. The desert locusts move in large numbers and have the capacity to multiply in number by a factor of 20, every three months. This is a major cause for concern as they can destroy large areas of vegetation and crops, thus threaten food security and livelihoods of affected populations. Experts have predicted increased cross border movements of the locusts in Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia, potentially aggravating and already precarious food insecurity situation. The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) - Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) has predicted in the worst-case scenario up to 100% crop production loss could be experienced. Even in the event of mid-case scenarios being experienced³, localised damaged will be severe, requiring assistance.

The desert locust upsurge comes at a time when the region is facing severe food insecurity, with approximately **18 million people classified as in Crisis (Integrated food security Phase Classification Phase 3-IPC 3)** or worse in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan. The East Africa [IPC analysis](#) estimates that approximately 10 million people living in the areas affected by locusts in Ethiopia, Kenyan, Somalia and South Sudan are currently or projected to be in Crisis (IPC 3) acute food insecurity levels or worse. Recent shocks and hazards in the sub-region, including drought, floods, fall army worm infestation, Rift Valley Fever, conflict and displacement have already compromised livelihoods of much of rural populations in the region, so the additional shock of desert locust infestation simply aggravates an already precarious situation, and threatens long term negative impacts on the affected populations. The latest addition of COVID-19 crisis is likely to trigger severe restrictions on movement which will impact trade and contribute to increases in food prices, among other consequences. The IGAD – led (FSNWG), in which IFRC is an active member, has recognised the potential complex crisis that could result from a combination of severe locust and COVID-19 impacts, and has formed a Task Force to lead on developing potential scenarios for food security. IFRC is engaging in the work of this task force.

Up until the end of February, the impact of the desert locust upsurge was considered minimal mainly because the upsurge occurred towards the end of the cropping season when most of the crops had either been harvested or were at a stage where damage by locust was unlikely. The damage on pasture was widespread but partly offset by the fact that vegetation cover was very good due to the heavy rains experienced in 2019. However, the locusts have been breeding and their numbers are expected to increase exponentially from March onwards when the eggs hatch into new generation locusts (hoppers).

For most of East Africa the March – May rainfall season is the most important cropping season and therefore crucial for food security and livelihoods. Experts predicted above average rainfall for this season, so farmers are expected to be heavily involved in farming activities. Unfortunately, as the cropping seasons develops, the new generation locusts (hoppers) will be at the most destructive stage and if control measures haven't significantly reduced them, we expect severe damage to crop and pasture. The FAO update of 2nd March predicted increased cross-border movement of the locusts in Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya, indicating the likelihood of new swarms invading the three countries which are already experiencing massive locust infestation and spread. This is therefore the most sensitive period when farming activities are ongoing and pastures regenerating but, unfortunately, potentially coinciding with the newly bred locusts being at the most destructive stage thus threatening severe damage to crop and pasture.

Locust control interventions have been ongoing, led by respective Government line Ministries with support from specialised agencies such as the Desert Locust Control Organisation for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA) and FAO. The control interventions have been massive but with limited success for several reasons, including access issues due to insecurity in parts of Somalia and Kenya, ongoing breeding in Yemen with almost zero access for air/ground spraying, lack of adequate pesticides, protective equipment and trained personnel, as well as the difficulty of tracking the pests which keep changing direction, partly influenced by the winds. Despite the massive control efforts, millions of locusts have been breeding and therefore the upsurge is expected to escalate in the coming weeks, partly boosted by the expected new swarms from Somalia. The control interventions are largely on course, but community engagement and preparedness interventions are still weak.

³ Agencies like UN FAO are using the mid -case scenario to plan interventions, based on assumption of a good level of success in control operations

The Locust infestation is expected to have negative impact on food security resulting in increased needs in terms of food assistance, seeds for replanting, agricultural inputs such as fertilizer, and livestock support such as supplementary feed and fodder seed. The coping capacity of people dealing with recurrent droughts and floods is likely to be weakened because of excessive food insecurity and loss of livelihoods opportunities. Thus, the operation will support communities in strengthening preparedness and risk reduction capacities.

Targeting

The operation will target five countries where the locust infestation is already widespread or expected to worsen in the coming weeks (Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and South Sudan) and will closely monitor the situation in Djibouti, and Sudan for potential response actions if/when the locust situation worsens. The priority areas for Red Cross Red Crescent interventions will be in locations where emergency operations, recovery and long-term activities are being implemented or recently implemented (bearing in mind any bilateral support that may be applied). This will ensure investments in the ongoing programs are prevented from further deterioration due to the locust impacts, and livelihoods of the affected people are protected. However, the unpredictable nature of locust spread limits the current ability to define specific locations in advance. This means that the Emergency Appeal is designed with a wide geographical focus in preparedness interventions, and a more localised focus response plan will be presented in the coming EPoA keeping flexibility for adjustments depending on where the locust infestation expand and where impacts will be more severe. Alongside the localised support, the Emergency Appeal will have a wider focus on regional, national and subnational levels for coordination issues.

Coordination and partnerships

The governments in East Africa, with support from FAO and other specialized locust control organisations such as the Desert Locust Control Organisation - East Africa (DLCO – EA) have been carrying out operations to curb the spread of locusts, mainly through early detection and spraying. The task has been overwhelming, especially as the locusts keep moving, with their direction partly influenced by winds, making it difficult to locate and spray them. Other factors such as lack of equipment and pesticides, as well as limited access to some areas due to insecurity have hampered control activities. The FAO has taken a 'global approach' to locust control to include countries outside of Africa where the pests originated from, and continue to spread, and is also looking into strengthening coordination mechanisms, as well as support to livelihood recovery interventions in the coming months.

At the Regional level, UNOCHA and FAO are coordinating the humanitarian agencies/organisations involved in the locust control activities and looking to analysis of potential impacts and the recovery interventions that will be necessary. A Regional Task Force on the locust upsurge has been established and aims to ensure coordinated approaches in the preparedness and response planning. Related to this, a Regional Task Force on community engagement has been established, in which IFRC is already making contributions to guide the region and countries on community engagement components including sensitisation on community health and safety, design and translation of risk communication materials, etc.

The IGAD - FSNWG has been working to increase its desert locust related food security analyses, as well as support coordination on desert locust data collection and impact assessments. To this end, the FSNWG has established three sub working groups to deal with (a) remote sensing – to work on methodologies and share information on desert locust spread and impacts, (b) harmonisation of impact assessment methodologies and tools across organisations and countries, and (c) analysis and reporting on likely food security impacts of the desert locusts. An additional sub Working Group is being established to lead on scenario development in case of a complex locusts – COVID-19 crisis. IFRC is an active member of the FSNWG and will engage mostly in the latter two subgroups, as well as in the locusts – COVID-19 subgroup.

At the country level, government-led national task forces have been established to lead efforts in the control, preparedness and response planning for the locust upsurge. National preparedness and response strategies have been developed (with participation of some of the National Societies) and coordination mechanisms have been put in place at various levels. The level of engagement by National Societies has varied from country to country so this Emergency Appeal will contribute to strengthening National Societies' engagement and influencing in the coordination mechanisms, including ensuring community feedback is brought up for discussion and consideration.

Within the RCRC Movement, coordination amongst partners is ongoing to ensure preparedness and response interventions address the areas and communities where RCRC long-term programming is ongoing to protect investments in recovery and resilience programmes, as wells as contribute to maximising collective impact.

The Emergency Appeal will contribute to fostering partnerships with key organisations such as IGAD - FSNWG, FAO and WFP in the preparedness and response planning, as well as at design and implementation of community level actions. The KRCS partnership with FAO on impact assessment of the locust upsurge and analysis of potential recovery

interventions is an example of partnerships this Emergency Appeal will aim to build with key agencies in other countries. Key to the partnership approaches will be leveraging technical and financial resources, as well as exploring opportunities for capacity strengthening of the National Societies in preparedness and response. This will be harmonised with ongoing support on Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) to ensure coordinated efforts and better impact.

IFRC will play the main coordination role for the Emergency Appeal, working closely with in-country Movement partners to support specific activities at country level. A RCRC coordination mechanism will be set up to ensure regular updates, review of challenges and taking necessary remedial actions. Through the respective National Societies, the Movement coordination mechanisms will link into the national coordination mechanisms to influence humanitarian ways of work, as well as articulate the voices of the communities we serve.

COVID-19 Preparedness and Response

On 31 January 2020, IFRC launched a global [Emergency Appeal](#) (further revised in February and March 2020) to support its worldwide membership to deliver assistance and support to communities affected or at risk of being affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. Besides critical components such as health interventions, risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) and other forms of support to medical services, the global Emergency Appeal has a strong focus on National Society institutional preparedness. This component considers how the humanitarian landscape is changing due to challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic and considers the development of effective and relevant guidance to ensure that ongoing activities will factor in these new risks. As auxiliaries to public authorities, Red Cross and Red and Crescent National Societies have a strong role to play in supporting national COVID-19 response focused on preparedness, containment and mitigation against the pandemic. Focus is also given to supporting National Societies to maintain critical service provision to people affected by humanitarian crises through new and ongoing Emergency Appeals, while adapting to COVID-19. This includes ensuring the health and safety of staff and volunteers and developing plans specifically for emergency health service provision where relevant. As such, the National Society actions dedicated to COVID-19 and those conducted through new or ongoing operations will be **mutually beneficial and built upon programmatic synergies**. IFRC continues to assess how emergency operations in response to disasters and crisis should adapt to this particular crisis and provide necessary guidance to its membership on the same. The IFRC revised global Emergency Appeal complements both the UN Global Humanitarian Response Plan and is linked to the Strategic Preparedness and Response (SRP) Appeal of the World Health Organization (WHO), launched in February and the WHO revised strategy from April 2020 to support countries improve prevention and response.

The COVID-19 outbreak turned into a pandemic, as confirmed by WHO on 11 March 2020 and the global number of cases continue to increase including in East and Horn of Africa sub-regions. Targeted countries have already taken international and domestic travel restrictions which, with other variables are expected to impact the timeline and implementation of activities of the operation. A contingency plan and scenario analysis will be developed to plan adequately in the geographic areas affected by a combination of COVID -19 and locusts. The strategies envisaged in this Emergency Appeal will need to be reviewed concurrently with COVID-19 prevention strategies ensure the compatibility and to maximise synergies. Up to date information on the activities of the supported National Societies as part of the national COVID-19 response and covered outside of this revised appeal is available on the [IFRC GO Platform](#).

Proposed Areas for intervention

In response to the widespread locust invasion in Eastern Africa, IFRC intends to support National Societies to prepare for, mitigate and respond to the impending food security and livelihood impacts.

This Emergency Appeal will address community level gaps on preparedness, awareness raising, traditional control methods, detection and reporting, and feedback mechanisms to inform planning for future responses. In addition to this, the Emergency Appeal will support early actions such as provision of seeds to support replanting, and assessments to inform design of appropriate emergency and early recovery interventions as the food insecurity situation evolves. This approach of engaging in preparedness, including monitoring and assessments will allow for design, gradual scale up and modifications in response activities as the situation evolves in each of the target countries.

Protection, gender and inclusion will be mainstreamed in sector interventions to ensure communities dignity, access, participation and safety. Assessments and analysis to be done by a gender balanced Red Cross and Red Crescent teams. Assessments and analysis to ensure participation of different groups in the community depending on context including women, men, persons with disabilities, elderly and youth. The trainings to National society staff and volunteers will include briefing on Code of Conduct, child protection and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.

Areas of Focus



Disaster Risk Reduction

People targeted: 75,000 (15,000 HHs)

Male: 33,750

Female: 41,250

Requirements (CHF): 190,000

Proposed intervention

Needs Analysis

The ongoing control operations have potential for side effects on the affected communities, but little has been done to address the situation. Community awareness building on potential effects of the pesticides, the minimum period to observe before entering a sprayed garden/ field or consuming crops or vegetables that have been sprayed is limited or lacking.

It is anticipated that as the locust upsurge continues, communities will engage in very localised and household control measures, including using traditional control methods. The role of communities in managing the locust invasion at community and household level will become prominent as cultivation and crop grows proceed, when the individuals and communities and households are confronted with the locusts.

In light of the impending humanitarian crisis that will come on the back of an already severe food insecurity situation in eastern Africa (millions of people are already in IPC 3 or worse), the operation supports the target National Societies in designing preparedness actions to mitigate the likelihood of widespread food insecurity crisis limiting the coping capacity to deal with recurring hazards such as floods and droughts. Experiences of some National Societies will be drawn upon to inform this activity.

Proposed Activities:

- Training of RCRC staff and volunteers (Action teams) in preparedness, early identification and reporting.
- Designing and dissemination of key messages on minimum time lapse before consuming sprayed crops and vegetables.
- Support to community surveillance, monitoring and reporting of locust movements, to enable timely control actions.
- Facilitating/ensuring RCRC Action teams involved in ground control activities are properly trained by the deploying Ministry/agency.
- Sharing learnings from community level locust management experiences.
- Strengthening National Society's engagement in coordination mechanisms at national, district and community levels.
- Provision of basic protective equipment for RCRC Action Teams involved in ground control operations. Given the overwhelming demand for personal protective equipment, efforts will be made to maximise utilisation of the equipment between the COVID-19 and Locust DRR activities



Livelihoods and Basic Needs

People targeted: 10,000 (2,000 HHs)

Male: 4,500

Female: 5,500

Requirements (CHF): 1,017,000

Proposed intervention

Needs analysis:

Despite the ongoing control interventions, the locusts will continue to breed and spread through June 2020, with a possibility they may stay beyond the current season. The additional threat to livelihoods resulting from COVID-19 impacts will compound the situation potentially leading to unprecedented food insecurity and failed livelihoods.

In light of the impending humanitarian crisis that will come at a time when millions of people are already in IPC 3 or worse, IFRC proposes to support the target National Societies in design of preparedness and anticipatory actions to mitigate the impacts of the locust upsurge on food security and livelihoods of affected people. The preparedness actions, including training and assessments will support design and implementation of timely emergency response

and early recovery interventions as the food insecurity situation evolves. The early and anticipatory actions will enable provision of quick support to the affected people for example with seed for replanting (in case locusts destroyed crops at early stages), and cash for emergency food assistance for vulnerable households who depend on own crops and provision of farming labour for food and income.

Assessments and analysis to inform design of food security and livelihood responses: As part of the preparedness actions for the expected food security and livelihood responses, IFRC proposes to support National Societies with monitoring the unfolding situations and conducting assessments to inform responses. The priority will be locations where National Societies are already supporting long term resilience-building projects. The objective being to safeguard livelihoods and protect the investments made in the resilience programmes. In the event of worst-case scenario unfolding, the provision of food assistance (cash, voucher or in-kind) will be necessary. The actual delivery modality will depend on the ongoing going COVID-19 impacts e.g. cash assistance may not be feasible in the event of total lock down or disruption of markets due to COVID-19. Activities such as markets assessments, revision of compliance with IFRC procurement procedures for already contracted Financial Service Providers (FSPs), or procurement and contracting of new FSPs, development of cash SoPs or protocols, and training of staff and volunteers will be emphasised. Anticipatory livelihoods support activities will also need to be assessed, for example prepositioning of seed/cash for seed to enable quick replanting, and support on livestock feeding.

Proposed Activities:

- Support in monitoring of the evolving food security situation (participation in regional, country and district level analyses), through task forces, working groups and technical forums.
- Feasibility studies in each country to better understand the most effective modality (e.g. cash or in-kind) and mechanisms (e.g. mobile money or commodity vouchers) for delivering the response
- Assessments and analyses to identify most vulnerable groups and support needs (cash or food). This will be in areas with ongoing emergency and long-term programmes and will recommend modalities of delivering the food assistance (cash, vouchers or in-kind).
- Registration of households for food security and livelihoods assistance.
- Training of RCRC staff and volunteers on mobile data collection, and cash and/or food assistance, and livelihood programming. Given the current restrictions of COVID-19 on meetings, gatherings and travel, online training courses will be considered. This will be supported by Livelihoods Resource Centre who already have livelihood programming modules that will be administered online.
- Revision of compliance with IFRC procurement procedures for already contracted FSPs, or procurement and contracting of new FSPs per National Society.
- Provision of early livelihood protection (anticipatory actions) such as cash, voucher or in-kind seed support to enable replanting

Strategies for Implementation

Requirements (CHF): 593,000

Based on the demand for the technical and coordination support required to deliver in these operations, the following programme support functions will be put in place to ensure an effective and efficient technical coordination: human resources, logistics and supply chain; communications; security; partnerships and resource development; and finance and administration.

Strengthen National Society

Requirements (CHF): 33,000

Finance and Logistics

Procurement and supply Chain Management (LPSCM): The IFRC Africa Operational LPSCM Unit will support the operation in its cash and livelihood preparedness activities. For cash-based interventions, the OLPSCM unit will support the procurement and contracting of financial service providers (FSPs). The OLPSCM unit will also support the efforts on seed provision by procuring and contracting agro-dealers as direct providers for the operation when seeds will be delivered in-kind to the targeted population, or as vendors for a voucher program. Logistics activities aim to effectively manage the supply chain and procurement, in accordance with the operation's requirements and following IFRC logistics standards, processes and procedures. The OLPSCM Unit will support capacity strengthening of the National Societies in implementing the IFRC protocols and procedures in emergency preparedness and response. The role will support in cash and voucher preparedness activities, including procurement of services, and in limited contexts, potential procurement inputs e.g. seed (where cash and voucher modalities are not an option).

Security

To reduce the risk of RCRC personnel falling victim to crime, violence or road hazards active risk mitigation measures must be adopted. This includes situation monitoring and implementation of minimum-security standards. All RCRC personnel actively involved in the operations must have completed the respective IFRC security e-learning courses (i.e. Stay Safe Personal Security, Security Management, or Volunteer Security). A security analyst officer based in the regional office will provide support and guidance on the security analysis of the country of operation to avoid/manage security risk.

Human resources

The operation will be managed by the Regional Office through East Africa Cluster, Somalia and South Sudan offices. A team consisting of Regional Operations Coordinator, Food Security Delegate, Operations Delegate, CEA officer, PMER Officer of East Africa Cluster, Regional Cash and Voucher Assistance Delegate, Regional Surge Logistics Delegate, Regional Finance Unit, Regional Security Analyst Officer, Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Officer, Regional Communication Officer, Disaster Risk Reduction/livelihoods experts of Somali and South Sudan Office and five National Societies are involved in the operation. While the Regional Operations Coordinator takes the overall operations management and coordination role, the Food Security Delegate will provide technical guidance and support in implementation strategies.

Outcome SFI 1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure the National Society has the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform

- Insurance of volunteers involved in the operation
- PPE and safety materials for volunteers and staff
- Orientation of National Society leadership on the operation management
- Orientation of staff and volunteers on implementation strategies

Ensure effective international disaster management

Requirements (CHF): 140,000

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)

The community engagement approach will be applied in aspects of IFRC support to the target National Societies, in the provision of continuous messaging on community level locust management (ground surveillance and reporting) through HH visits, community meetings, engagement of local leaders, FGDs, radio shows, etc. Advisories on aerial and ground spraying, collection and response to community feedback, suggestions, concerns and complaints, as well as roll out of branch level CEA trainings for the volunteer teams, will also be undertaken to strengthen ongoing National Society preparedness activities.

Additionally, IFRC will actively participate in the regional CEA taskforce on the locust upsurge, led by UNOCHA and FAO. Community feedback from the target National Societies, on information gaps and evolving needs, will be articulated on this platform to shape/reshape community level locust management approaches and well as underline messaging. Translation of key messages will also be undertaken through the collective support on this coordination platform.

In the case of the worst-case scenario, CEA will be incorporated into the assessments of the anticipated livelihood support interventions, development and dissemination of the selection criteria, community selection, satisfaction surveys, as well as continuous collection and response to community feedback and complaints. Support will be provided to National Societies to undertake community learning sessions in order to identify the lessons learnt and best practices that will be adopted into current and future DRR programming/projects.

Communications

The IFRC Regional Communications team will produce content to support the objectives of this Emergency Appeal. It will focus on gathering content on the emergency preparedness, early actions and response activities undertaken by the IFRC and in-country partners to mitigate the impacts of locust upsurge on food security and livelihoods. The content-gathering work will include audio-visuals materials, interviews and written content to be disseminated through media as well as IFRC and broader social media channels.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and reporting (PMER)

The IFRC Regional and Cluster PMER units will ensure compliance with expected deliverables and reporting requirements. The PMER units will conduct regular missions to guide the field on monitoring systems and activities and supporting community satisfaction surveys to inform future monitoring and changes to the operational plan. The IFRC PMER Units will work with National Society PMER teams to facilitate internal reviews and lessons' learnt sessions, Real Time Evaluations and final operational evaluations as required, to capture the performance, including the successes and challenges of the operation to inform future operational strategies. The PMER teams will contribute to maintaining of key project data by supporting data collection, analysis, storage and dissemination in collaboration with the disaster management and operations teams. The IFRC Regional PMER Unit will support PMER teams in the countries to create/strengthen data management systems to support data collection, analysis and reporting of project indicators. This will include introduction and strengthening of capacity in use of Kobo tools, in line with key IFRC Africa milestones for 2020.

Outcome SFI 2.01: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured

Activities:

- Refresher training of volunteers and staff on Code of conduct, rules and principles for humanitarian assistance
- CEA trainings for staff and volunteers: National Society branch level staff and volunteers will receive the CEA branch level training as a basic standard to harmonize the community engagement approaches and levels of accountability, within the interventions. The feedback starter kit will also be rolled out through the training.
- Production, translation and dissemination of IEC materials: Access to information will be enhanced through dissemination of public information, education and communication materials, to support community awareness and community actions in locust management. This will include support from the Regional CEA Taskforce in harmonizing messages and translation into regional languages.
- Community awareness activities (community meetings, FGDs, radio shows): Mass awareness will be undertaken through existing and preferred communication channels within communities. This will provide timely and needs based information through trusted sources.
- Community feedback mechanisms (information desks, HH visits, community meetings, satisfaction surveys): Two-way communication will be enhanced through establishment of feedback mechanisms, as guided by the IFRC standards on community engagement and accountability. Suggestions, observations and complaints will be documented, and responses provided, as well as inform operation changes within the interventions. Periodic analysis of community feedback and inter-agency actions will be deliberated within the Regional CEA Taskforce.

Outcome S2.2: The complementarity and strengths of the Movement are enhanced

Activities:

- Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation to create synergies in community-based risk reduction programming
- Ensure the participation of the IFRC and National Societies to the Movement Coordination meetings at all level

Influence others as leading strategic partners

Requirements (CHF): 420,000

The Emergency Appeal will contribute to fostering partnerships with key lead organisations, national authorities and main stakeholders in the preparedness and response planning, as well as at design and implementation of community level actions.

Through the respective National Societies and with the support of the Federation coordination mechanisms will link with the national and sub-regional strategies to influence humanitarian ways of work, as well as articulate the voices of the targeted communities.

Outcome S3.1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable.

Activities

- Ensure coordinated and harmonized approach for collaboration with government authorities at national and local levels
- Support National Society profile their comparative advantages in community-based actions using people-centred, community level compelling content, including web stories, blogs, video footage and photos with extended captions.
- Partner with non-Movement actors on advocacy messages to address recurring issues linked to the food insecurity situation.
- Maintain a social media presence throughout the operation utilizing IFRC platforms such as Facebook and Twitter.
- Ensure continuous needs assessments of the food insecurity situation to inform changes on operational strategies,
- Develop/use standard monitoring tools to capture real-time and track implementation progress
- Ensure timely deliverables of operations information briefs, updates and donor reports
- Gathering security information for analysis to undertake security measures as appropriate to the context.
- Ensure timely transfer of fund to National Societies and quality returns
- Ensure assessment of financial service providers for cash transfer
- Ensure procurement of materials as per the need of the operation

Funding Requirements

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

EMERGENCY APPEAL

APPEAL CODE – Regional- EA Locust Upsurge

Funding requirements - summary

Area of Intervention	Needs in CHF
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION	190,000
LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS	1,017,000
STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETIES	33,000
EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT	140,000
INFLUENCE OTHERS AS LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNERS	420,000
TOTAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS	1,800,000

Jagan Chapagain
Secretary General

Contact information

Reference documents

Click here for:

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

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

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For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

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How we work

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

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.

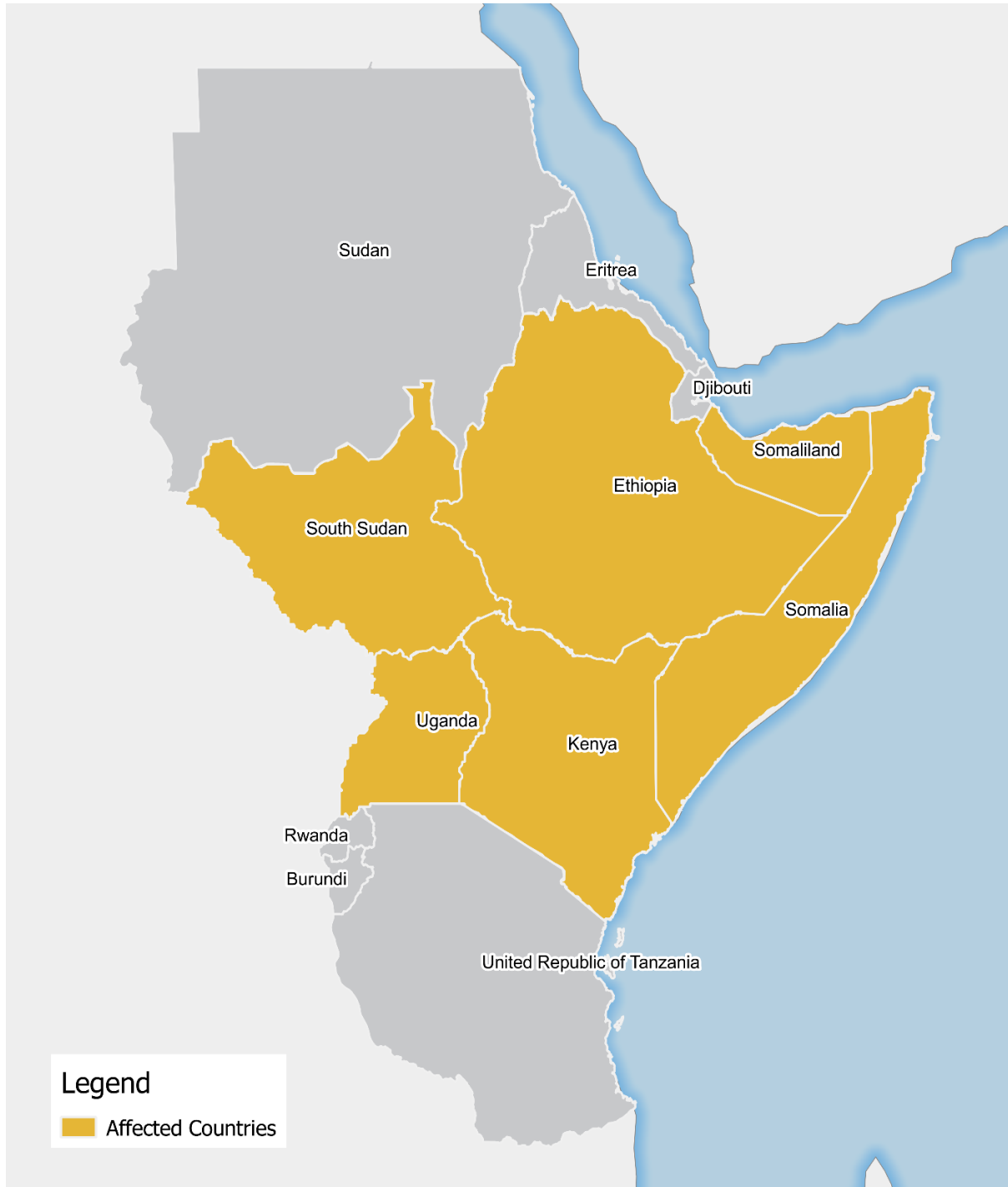
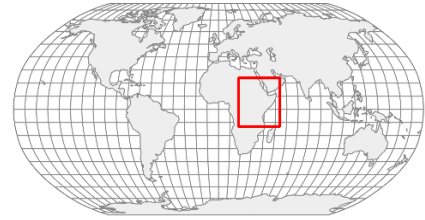


Promote **social inclusion**
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace**.



East and Horn of Africa: Locust Upsurge

15 April 2020 • MDRXX000 • IN-2019-000149-ETH



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.
Map data sources: GADM, IFRC. Map produced by: IFRC Africa Regional Office, Nairobi

