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Emergency Plan of Action operation update

Ethiopia: Drought

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency appeal MDRET0016 EPoA update n° 1	GLIDE n° DR-2015-000109-ETH
Date of Issue: 25 January 2016	Timeframe covered by this update: 1-14 January 2016
Operation start date: 28 December 2015	Operation timeframe: 12 months and end date 28 December 2016
Operation manager (responsible for this EPoA): Andreas Sandin	Point of contact: Frehiwot Worku, Secretary General Ethiopia Red cross.
Overall Operation budget: CHF 2,211,085 Appeal Coverage 0%	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 181,521
N° of people being assisted: 35,371	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: Ethiopian Red Cross Society, The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Save the Children International, MSF Spain, Mercy Corps, ACF, Plan International, German Agro Action, APDP, Care, IMC, Concern Worldwide, UNICEF, OCHA, WFP etc.	

This update provides a brief overview on Ethiopia Red Cross Society actions to date in the preparations for the start of their drought response activities to be covered by the Emergency Appeal (in anticipation of pledges). Appeal coverage at the time of writing is 0%, donors are encouraged to support the appeal to enable ERCS provide assistance to the targeted beneficiaries through the planned activities as detailed in the Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA). A DREF loan of CHF 181, 521.49 is being processed to ERCS.

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

September/October 2015: In Ethiopia, consecutive failed rains (Belg rains (March – May), and Kirmet rains (June – Sept)) combined with erratic weather conditions attributed to El Niño, has resulted in severe food insecurity, especially in the north and north east areas of the country. Some 8.2 million people are in need of assistance across the country, and the number could reach as high as 15 million in 2016, with the level of need exceeding what was seen in the Horn of Africa drought in 2011.

November 2015: Following the recognition of urgent needs related to drought within Ethiopia, the ERCS requested support through an IFRC Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT), which was deployed to define the exact needs and to develop an appropriate, relevant plan and budget for the response. The FACT conducted field visits to Somali and Afar Regions, in addition to holding numerous meetings with Movement, non-Movement partners and other stakeholders.

27 December 2015: Emergency Appeal launched for CHF 2,211,085 to support 35,371 people, with CHF 181,521 allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) as start-up support for the response.

This update provides information regarding the first 14 days of the operation since the launch.

Summary of current response

Overview of Host National Society

ERCS continues to respond according to their National Drought Response plan and through available means. ERCS has taken steps towards setting up a combined reporting and updating system for sharing with movement and non-movement partners.

In brief, ERCs plans to reach 10% of the total identified beneficiaries by GoE for supplementary food. This amounts to 170,000 individuals across different hot spots in woredas. The National Society has sought support to reach this objective through PNS pivoting of existing programmes in Somali region and in partnership with ICRC in Afar region where such activities are on-going. In Oromia Region, West Ari Zone, ERCs in partnership with Austrian and Spanish RC is finalising plans for provide water trucking and supplementary food in West Ari Zone in an existing programme area.

Furthermore, through funding from Finnish and Canadian Red Cross, ERCs has conducted an initial CHBFA training for volunteers from the different kebeles in Budu woreda identified for interventions by the FACT team. This was done in cooperation with the Regional Health bureau in Semera and Bidu.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

There is an extensive PNS presence in Ethiopia, and all PNS's (Austrian and Spanish Red Cross; Canadian Red Cross) have different strategies to support the ERCS drought emergency response. All drought response activities should be harmonized with this EPOA that has been agreed between IFRC and ERCS. In a meeting with ERCS SG and IFRC Country Rep at the time of the launch of the Appeal, it was agreed that all drought response activities (ERCS Regional branches, ERCS own funded activities, ERCS with Movement partners, PNS's funds pivoted from program to drought response) should be monitored and evaluated through an consolidated structure at ERCS HQ level with support from IFRC.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The overall emergency response is led by the National Disaster Risk Management Coordination Commission (NDRMCC) which is a government structure above the Disaster Risk Management Food Security Services (DRMFSS) of the Ministry of Agriculture. Sector task forces have been established at national, regional, zonal and Woreda level with the participation of all stakeholders including the National Society. ERCS will ensure that technical coordinators from ERCS HQ Disaster Preparedness and Response Department participates in their respective clusters (health, nutrition, NFI and WASH) to allow for enhanced visibility of RC movement activities and warrant coordination with non-movement partner on the ERCS response. To date, the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) at federal and regional levels have allocated more than six billion Ethiopian birr (ETB) or ~US\$ 285 million from its strategic reserves for the drought response. National and sub-national committees were established to oversee the distribution of relief supplies, which include food distributions, water point rehabilitation, livestock support, health services, and non-food item distribution for the internally displaced families.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Please refer to the original Emergency Plan of Action ([MDRET016](#)) for information on the operation, including on the operational strategy and plan, and operational support needs.

B. Detailed Operational Plan

Programming/Areas Common to all Sectors			
Outcome 1: The management of the operation is informed by continued assessments and a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 1.1 The findings of evaluations lead to adjustments in on-going plans and future planning as appropriate		0%
Activities	Is implementation on time?		0% progress (estimate)
	Yes	No	
Carry out needs assessments		x	0%
Conduct EA revision based on on-going assessment and relevant new data to ensure activities remain in line with the needed response		x	0%
EA inception Workshop (set up PMER tools, structure and scheduled including SOPs) with ERCS Fields Coordinator, ERCS HQ Technical Committee and IFRC Coordinator		x	0%
Conduct Mid-term review including a beneficiary satisfaction survey with targeted population		x	0%
Conduct EA revision and adjustments based on outcome of MTR		x	0%
Conduct a final evaluation of the operation		x	0%
Progress towards outcomes			
Needs Assessments: None since the FACT team deployment.			
Inception Workshop: Anticipated to take place second week February			

Health & care			
Outcome 2: Critical nutritional status of the children under five is improved in Bidu, Afar region. Outcome 3: Households with children U5 SAM have access to health information on prevention of drought related diseases	Outputs		% of achievement
		Output 2.1 Screening and referral for acute malnutrition carried out for households with children under age five. Output 2.2 Target population are provided with rapid medical management of drought related diseases Output 3.1 Community-based disease prevention and health promotion is provided to the target households	
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes	No	
Output 2.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CBHFA health/hygiene volunteers in 15 kebeles are trained in reporting and engagement methods, including use of mobile phones. Deliver mobile phones for health/hygiene volunteers for reporting and other equipment for household screening Identification and registration of households with U5 SAM (including general HH health assessment) Health/hygiene volunteers report findings and data to health facilities Provide food support for mothers/fathers arriving to health facility with their children Two-month food support for households after discharge of child Health/hygiene volunteers continue follow up with households after successful treatment 		x	0%
Output 2.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning meetings to define roles between RC and Health centre staff Establish supervision system for volunteers and prepare reporting formats Support drought affected population with additional RC mobile health unit Equip and or replenish medicines and supplies of the mobile unit In coordination with regional health authorities, conduct a health centre capacity assessment Establish accountability mechanism for HH to report any shortcomings and follow up any complaints 		x	0%
Output 3.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of HH health situation based on information gathered during registration Identify and prioritize needs for increasing health knowledge and awareness at HH level Train volunteers in identified topics Establish supervision and reporting structure for longer term intervention and define roles between health centre and RC Implement promotion activities at community level Implement community conversation sessions (tea and coffee ceremony expenditure: once/month in 15 kebeles) Mid-term and final review meeting (two sessions for two days each) 		x	0%
Progress towards outcomes			
CBHFA and other volunteer trainings: Activities included in DREF loan.			
General Health Assessment and registration of HH with U5 SAM : Activity included in DREF loan			
Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion			
Outcome 4: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 4.1 Continuous assessment of water, sanitation, and hygiene situation is carried out. Output 4.2 Daily access to safe water in terms of quality is provided which meets Sphere and WHO standards to target population. Output 4.3 Adequate sanitation which meets Sphere standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population. Output 4.4 Hygiene promotion activities which meet Sphere standards in terms of the identification and use of hygiene items provided to target population.		0%
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	

Output 4.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepositioning of adapted WatSan Kit in ERCS Afar branch • Ongoing assessment of Watsan needs • Identification and recruitment of 20 WASH volunteers (5 of each kebele in Bidu woreda). • Conduct a 5-day WatSan Kit training for 20 selected WASH volunteers of 4 kebeles in Bidu woreda • 70 CBHFA health/hygiene volunteers receive a basic 2-day WASH awareness training including WASH questionnaire when using mobile phones • 70 Health/hygiene volunteers record WASH gaps of households with SAM U5 and report WASH findings and data to Health/WASH project coordinator 		x	0%
Output 4.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 WASH volunteers address water related needs in identified households supplied with treatment chemicals, safe water storage containers and buckets as required 		x	0%
Output 4.3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 WASH volunteers address emergency sanitation needs in identified households Installation hand washing facilities at all sanitary structures 		x	0%
Output 4.4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 WASH volunteers conduct HP promotion campaigns in public places (markets, parks, etc.) on proper use of latrines and hand washing • 20 WASH volunteers conduct water treatment and safe water storage related HP promotion campaigns • 10 WASH volunteers follow up all previous WASH activities as required and conduct HP promotion campaigns in public places (markets, parks, etc.) on proper use of latrines and hand washing 		x	0%
Progress towards outcomes None to report.			
Food security, Nutrition, and Livelihoods			
Outcome 5: immediate nutritious supplementary food requirements are met for the targeted population of Somali and Afar region	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 5.1 sufficient nutritious supplementary food is accessed by children under 5 years, pregnant and breast feeding mothers in vulnerable IDP and host community households. Outcome 5.2 Livelihoods of affected populations are protected through targeted livestock interventions.		0%
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
Output 5.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement of supplementary food rations for 6,850 children under 5 and for 1,712 pregnant and breast feeding mothers for 6 months • Identification and registration of beneficiaries • Distribution of supplementary food rations for children U5 • Distribution of supplementary food rations for pregnant and breastfeeding mothers • Post distribution follow up visits 	Yes (x)	No (x)	0%
Outcome 5.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement of supplementary feed for livestock • Identification and registration of beneficiaries • Distribution of supplementary feed (molasses/multi nutrient blocks/"concentrate") to milking livestock • Treatment of livestock for the most vulnerable households • Provision of pasture and fodder seed for targeted communities 		x	0%
Progress towards outcomes None to report			

C. Operational Support Services

Human resources

ERCS has begun the initial stages for the recruitment of the operational structure at HQ and field level. Job descriptions and advertisement for the key positions have been advertised and interviews are expected to take place at the end of January.

Administration and Finance

The HR set up for the operations management of the EA activities by ERCs and IFRC, has been designed taken into account Lessons Learned from 2011 Drought Appeal and current Population Movement Appeal in Gambela.

An IFRC Operations Manager for the Drought Appeal has been recruited and will be supporting ERCS HQ in the operations set up and implementation at HQ and field level.

As such, IFRC in-country structure is going through changes and financial management will be supported from the Nairobi office whereas the IFRC Finance Officer previously supporting country office will support the Emergency Appeal as well as other IFRC programmes.

Logistics and supply chain

The logistics responsibilities will include sourcing the most urgent and relevant relief items, delivered and distributed equitably to those in need, in a timely, transparent and cost-efficient manner. Standard IFRC logistics procedures will be followed and reported upon while providing technical surge capacity support during procurement, training and advice to the host National Society and Federation delegates and staff.

An alert for an RDRT will be published on 25 January 2016 to announce a three-month engagement to ensure the ERCS is supported in the following tasks:

- Liaise and coordinate actions with National Society Logistics Department to ensure coordination with other key actors to ensure that the logistics operation is as efficient and effective as possible.
- Assess the possibilities for local procurement by conducting a market survey and pre-qualification exercise of potential suppliers of relief items. All procurement, local and international, mentioned in the EPoA will be carried out following International Federation procurement procedures.
- Support and plan warehousing needs for the program
- Maintain good practice around fleet management
- Contribute to the strengthening of National Society Logistics process and procedures

Africa Regions Head of logistical Unit is preparing a TOR for a support visit to ERCS to identify the most appropriate logistical set up for the Appeal. This is anticipated in the first week of February.

Communications

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society, with support from IFRC communications, aims to coordinate various awareness and publicity activities, to sensitize the public, media and donors on the situation on the ground and the humanitarian response.

Anticipated activities include:

- Conduct press conferences, either in Addis Ababa, Nairobi or Geneva as warranted
- Produce monthly information bulletins, facts and figures, key messages and share with relevant stakeholders
- Work on advocacy messages to address the issues linked to the current situation (health, nutrition, etc.)
- News releases, fact sheets, videos, photographs and qualified spokesperson contacts are immediately developed and made available to media and key stakeholders. Facilitate media field trips to affected areas to create awareness
- Maintain a social media presence throughout the operation utilizing IFRC sites such as Facebook and Twitter and ERCS Facebook site.
- Support the launch of this appeal and other major milestones throughout the operation using people-centered, community level diverse content, including web stories, blogs, video footage and photos with extended captions.
- Share any communications material created through this appeal with IFRC for use on various communications channels including the IFRC Africa web page, www.ifrc.org/africa and @IFRCAfrica

ERCS has conducted press conferences in Addis Ababa on their National Drought Response and these are shared through ERCS PR and Communication Department. Recently a press conference was held with UN in Addis. IFRC Climate Centre shared the update and it is available through this link [UN and Red Cross Red Crescent systems step up appeals for worsening drought and 'El Niño shocks' in Ethiopia](#).

Security

As the areas of intervention, which is targeted by activities under the Emergency Appeal, is in a remote areas where some of the kebeles are bordering neighbouring Eritrea, monitoring visit will be confirmed and coordination with the Government of Ethiopia officials in Semera. ERCS Regional branch will be responsible for issuing travel authorisation accordingly.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

The EA will support an inception workshop which is planned to take place in mid-February at ERCS HQ when it is anticipated that some of the key staff would have been recruited. This workshop will include IFRC and ERCS technical staff and steering committee.

The needed outcome will be Standing Operations Procedures (SOPs) for the drought appeal operations with clear definitions of roles and responsibilities and reporting formats for all areas of concern. This will ensure that specific, practical and relevant systems (including formats) are in place and used from the onset of the activities in order;

- to prevent delays in cash advance clearances,
- to process new cash requests,
- to set up systems of linking financial and narrative reporting,
- to set up drought EA ITT and M&E plan and
- to ensure prompt revision and adjustment to EPoA as per plan.
- Planning, monitoring and post distribution monitoring plans for all distributions.

At the time of writing, ERCS was finalising the recruitment of Senior PMER Officer who will be engaged under the EA and work at HQ level with responsibility of the PMER structure and plans for the appeal and to support the field level PMER Officer (to be recruited). As part of the establishment of monitoring system, branch and volunteer staff will receive training in data collection through mobile technology and the data will be useful in monitoring and reporting.

The operation will ensure that all aspects of the implemented components are monitored and specific tools are developed/modified as necessary taking cognizance of gender and age disaggregation of data.

The IFRC EAIOI regional representation's Disaster Management and PMER units will provide technical support, and ensure that monitoring and reporting structures are established. This includes participation by IFRC PMER unit in the inception working to support ERCS in setting up the various required tools for IFRC supported EAs.

D. Budget and Funding Situation

So far, two donor teleconferences have been held awaiting confirmation of pledges to ensure activities beyond the DREF initial set up.

Swiss Red Cross pledge has covered the FACT team deployment. On behalf of the Ethiopian Red Cross, IFRC would like to thank this partner and their donors for their immediate response to this appeal.

In view of the extent of needs on the ground, IFRC is appealing partners and donors to provide urgent additional funds to enable the National Society to meet the needs of the most vulnerable and affected families.

A DREF loan of CHF 181, 521.49 has been approved and is being processed for transfer from Nairobi to Ethiopia Red Cross Society.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

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Please send all pledges for funding to zonerm.africa@ifrc.org

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

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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 (NGOs) 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**.
