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Emergency Plan of Action Operations update

Ethiopia: Drought

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency appeal MDRET0016	Glide n°: DR-2015-000109-ETH
Date of issue: 04 February 2016	Date of disaster: Sept. to Oct. 2015
Operation start date: 28 December 2015	Operation timeframe: 12 months and end date 28 December 2016
Operation manager (responsible for this EPoA): Andreas Sandin, Operation Coordinator EAIOI.	Point of contact: Hagos Gemechu; Deputy General Secretary for programmes.
Operation start date: 28 December 2015	Expected timeframe: 12 months
Overall Operation budget: CHF 2,211,085 Appeal Coverage 0%	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 181,521
Number of people affected: 10.2 million	Number of people to be 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.	

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 1 month information since the operation was launch.

Summary of current response

Overview of Host National Society

The National Society's drought response activities identified to be covered by the IFRC supported emergency appeal, have not yet started in detail as funding is still to be confirmed. A DREF loan has been processed, this will ensure that essential CBHFA and distribution trainings of volunteers, in addition to recruitment of ERCS staff allocated to the appeal operation at field and HQ level and an in depth health assessment with the aim of identifying specific areas for activities once funding has been secured for additional activities.

Through funding from Finnish and Canadian Red Cross, ERCs has conducted an initial CHBFA training for 60 volunteers from 15 kebeles in Bidu woreda identified for interventions by the FACT team. This was done in cooperation with the Regional Health bureau in Semera and Bidu.

Movement Coordination

In Ethiopia, the IFRC, ICRC and PNSs participate in regular co-ordination meetings convened by the National Society. All issues including potential bilateral and multilateral actions are discussed. Additionally, IFRC convenes regular co-ordination meetings in Nairobi with ICRC and PNS representatives to share updates on the situation in Ethiopia and neighbouring countries, and Movement action to date. ERCS is responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of the response with the support of IFRC, ICRC and PNSs.

Coordination with Government authorities and local

As auxiliary to the Government of Ethiopia, ERCS maintains a strong relationship with government bodies through participation or collaboration with (i) the National and Regional level response units.

Inter-agency coordination

Further to coordinating with the government authorities, ERCS Senior Management participates in the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) forums held both during disasters and non-emergency times. ERCS will also participate in relevant cluster meetings with technical staff to ensure that ERCs activities are reflected in the 4Ws issued by UN OCHA.

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. Operational Plan

As there has been no funding to date, minimal activities from the plan of action have taken place. See [Operation update no. 1](#) for more details on the planned activities.

C. Operational Support Services

An IFRC Operations Manager for the Drought Appeal has been deployed on 1st February and will be supporting ERCS HQ in the operations management, support to ERCS in consolidating of their national drought response plan (process started in November 2015) and support the set up and implementation at HQ and field level.

ERCS is also 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.

D. Budget and Funding Situation

A DREF loan of 181, 521 Swiss franc has been approved and transferred to ERCS. Canadian RC has pledged CAD70,000 earmarked for supplementary food whereas Netherlands RC has pledged Euro 250,000. 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 meet the needs of the most vulnerable and affected families.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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**
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