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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) Somalia: Drought

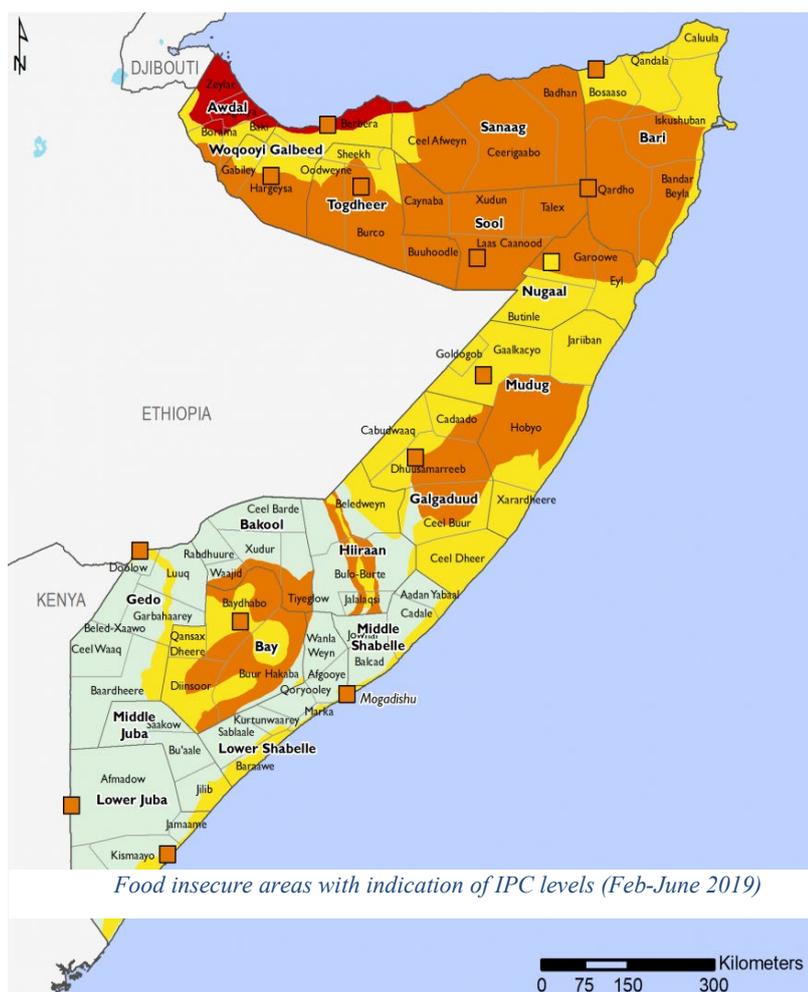
 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n°: MDRSO007 / PSO037	Glide n°
Date of issue: 13 March 2019	Expected timeframe: 3 months
Operation start date: 12 March 2019	Expected end date: 12 June 2019
Category allocated to: Orange	
DREF allocated budget: CHF 286,815	
IFRC focal point: Elizabeth Myendo, Senior Disaster Management Officer for Somalia Country Office, will be project manager and overall responsible for planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting and compliances.	NS focal person: Abdilaahi ELMI, Disaster Risk Reduction Manager, Somali Red Crescent Society
Total number of people affected: 1.5 Million	Number of people to be assisted: 5,100
Host National Society presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): The operation is limited to the Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) coordination office in Hargeisa. SRCS has 19 regional branches with 900 staff and 8,000 volunteers. This DREF operation will be implemented by the Hargeisa Coordination Office, which has 06 branches with 200 staff and 3,000 volunteers.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: Norwegian, German, Canadian, British, Swedish, Finnish, and Icelandic Red Cross	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: NADFOR (Somaliland), UNOCHA, UNHCR, UNDP, WHO, UNICEF, WFP, FAO CARE International, SCI, DRC, ADESO, TASS, ARC, NRC, Concern Worldwide, Islamic Relief, ADRA, ECHO, MSF, Oxfam, Candlelight, Havoyoco, Takulo, ADO, and GIZ.	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Dry hot conditions continue to prevail across Somaliland, leading to rapid deterioration in rangeland resources as well as access to water and food security across Somaliland ([FEWS NET Feb 2019](#)). The consensus forecast released at the end of August 2018 by the Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (GHACOF50), indicating a greater likelihood of normal to above-normal *Deyr* (Oct-Dec) rainfall, did not materialize. Indeed, the *Deyr* rains started late and were significantly below average across most of the country, with large parts of central Somalia and some parts of northern Somalia receiving 25 to 50 percent of average rainfall according to [IPC 15/02/2019](#). Driven by the impacts of below-average *Deyr* seasonal (October to December 2018) rainfall and large-scale destitution and displacement from the 2016/2017 drought and protracted conflict, more than 1.5 million people in Somalia are expected to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse through June 2019. In addition, 903,100 children under the age of five are likely to be acutely malnourished in 2019, according to findings from the post-*Deyr* seasonal assessment conducted in November and December 2018 by FNSAU,



FEWSNET, Government Authorities and humanitarian actors.

Pastoral populations face depleted rangeland resources and limited saleable animals, while agropastoral households harvested below average *Deyr* agricultural production. Little to no rainfall is forecast in the coming weeks, as is typical during the *Jilaal* (January-March) dry season.

In view of the above, the food security situation in Awdal, Woqooyi Galbeed, Togdheer, Sanaag and Sool in Somaliland is worsening ([OCHA 13/02/2019](#)). Across Somaliland, 1,336,000 people are experiencing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) conditions, 673,000 are in Crisis situation (IPC Phase 3), while 52,000 are in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) conditions. Some of these regions have experienced drought for several seasons. Households have lost their means of survival, while others are still recovering from the damage caused by Cyclone Sagar in May 2018 ([OCHA 05/02/2019](#)). Areas of particular concern include Northern Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed regions, which are experiencing Emergency (IPC Phase 4) conditions, and Sanaag and Sool which are experiencing (IPC Phase 2) conditions ([USAID 29/01/2019](#)). This deterioration in food security outcomes is expected to continue until June 2019. Many northern agropastoral and pastoral livelihoods zones will deteriorate to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) by April ([OCHA 05/02/2019](#)). Food security outcomes are expected to deteriorate to Emergency (IPC Phase 4), while browse and water conditions are below average in parts of Northern Somaliland. Increased livestock migration is anticipated as surface water and pasture resources are depleted, until the onset of the Gu rains (April-June) which is expected to improve livestock productivity, increase the number of saleable animals, and improve agricultural labour opportunities. ([FEWS NET Feb 2019](#)).

To note, interventions classified as Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse require interventions aimed at:

- (i) Reducing food consumption gaps,
- (ii) Eradicating acute malnutrition rates,
- (iii) Saving lives and protecting livelihoods.

Some 180,000 children under age 5 in Somaliland are estimated to be acutely malnourished, including 26,000 severely malnourished (SAM), as per [FAO,FSNAU 03/02/2019](#). Aid agencies in Somaliland, where security and access are relatively good, have called for early funding to sustain aid operations as well as scaled-up development interventions. ([OCHA 05/02/2019](#))

Acute food security is projected to continue in Somaliland for (i) farmers and pastoralists who lost most of their livestock assets during the 2016-2017 drought, (ii) Populations affected by flooding and Cyclone Sagar in 2018 and (iii) IDPs, who constitute a significant portion of those in need and have lost their livelihood support through displacement. Through January - May 2019, the situation is expected to deteriorate further if humanitarian assistance is not provided urgently. Additionally, other vulnerable groups include female-headed households, children (particularly acutely malnourished children under the age of 5), the elderly, people with disabilities and marginalized communities. These groups are at risk and equally face protection concerns.

The following areas of concern are considered hotspots and in urgent need of nutrition and health interventions. They have a critical prevalence of acute malnutrition (>15% GAM) or >10.7 percent of children have a mid-upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) below the 125-millimeter threshold.

The below table shows the numbers of acutely food insecure people in Somaliland, from February to June 2019 and their various IPC levels:

Region	Population	Number of food insecure people			Number of acutely malnourished children under the age of 5	
		Stressed (IPC 2)	Crisis (IPC 3)	Emergency (IPC 4)	GAM	SAM
Awdal	673,000	195,000	142,000	31,000	33,000	4,000
Woqooyi Galbeed	1,242,000	480,000	192,000	14,000	51,000	6,000
Togdheer	721,000	283,000	123,000	6,000	27,000	3,000
Sanaag	544,000	245,000	116,000	1,000	47,000	9,000
Sool	327,000	133,000	100,000	-	22,000	4,000
Total	3,507,000	1,336,000	673,000	52,000	180,000	26,000

Fig: 1.1 Source: FSNAU - FEWS NET 02/2019

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society

The National Society has 19 branches spread across the country (6 in Somaliland, 3 in Puntland and 10 in South Central) with two coordination offices located in Mogadishu and Hargeisa.

SRCS has a long-term record in providing life-saving assistance to people in need in Somalia. SRCS' presence and local networks across the country are exceptionally well-established, which enables SRCS to also reach vulnerable populations who are not served by other humanitarian actors, for instance in highly remote and high-risk areas. SRCS has vast expertise with different types of programming through multilateral projects supported by IFRC, as well as through bilateral programs with Movement partners and with ICRC. This includes youth development, disaster risk management including epidemic prevention and response, community-based health and nutrition, community-based health and first aid, HIV programmes, restoring family links, community resilience (including WATSAN, Livelihoods, drought resilience and Climate Change Adaptation), dissemination of International Humanitarian Law (IHL), humanitarian values & RC/RC Principles, and rehabilitation for physically disabled people.

SRCS volunteers play a key role in the implementation of SRCS's programmes. This includes assessment, identification and registration of target communities, nomads and IDPs. In addition, volunteers service the Oral Rehydration Points (ORPs) and carry out hygiene promotion and community mobilisation. Branches in the targeted areas have teams of trained volunteers in Community Engagement and Accountability, epidemic control, PHAST, health and hygiene promotion.

Using the IFRC Resilience Framework, SRCS has built community resilience where changes in development and economic factors support this resilience. The methods that were used in achieving this success were participatory planning, training of staff, volunteers and communities in a wide variety of areas which led to the establishment of projects and networks for SRCS. Communities were supported in developing committees to lead in addressing and advocating for DRR issues. SRCS has been implementing emergencies programmes for over 15 years. The just ended Emergency appeal strengthened the NS on emergency response for Health, Food Security, Livelihoods, WASH, Shelter and use of Cash Transfer Programmes in emergencies.

An Emergency Appeal closed in December 2018 after three years of implementation. This Appeal mainly provided support in the areas of health, with a nutrition component. In the specific areas where the Appeal focused on nutrition, conditions have improved with no reported cases of malnutrition or AWD outbreaks from October to December 2018. Unfortunately, predictions from the GHACOF5 forecast at the end of August 2018 which indicated a greater likelihood of normal to above -normal *Deyr* rainfall (Oct-Dec) which did not materialize. In addition, the Appeal efforts were challenged by the effects of Cyclone Sagar and the failed Dyer rains, which have now led to some of these communities to fall back to Crisis (IPC 3).

Somali Red Cross Society (SRCS) has been part of the coordination meetings with Somaliland National Disaster Preparedness and Food Reserve Authority (NADFOR) and other humanitarian actors in planning and reviewing the feedback from the FSNAU-FEWS report. The Disaster Risk Reduction Manager (SRCS), Project Manager of the Canadian Red Cross and IFRC Health Delegate in Hargeisa conducted a rapid assessment in three villages of Awdal and Wogooyi Galbeed Regions, to establish existing gaps and the required interventions. These villages include Xagal (Woqooyi Galbeed) and Baki and Qaloc (Awdal). The villages were selected from regions in Crisis (IPC 4). The below table provides information on the number of households and needs in these communities, which confirms figures published by FSNAU:

Location	Village	Number of households	Immediate needs
Awdal	Baki	700	Access to food, water, latrines, livestock protection, farming inputs
Borama (Awdal)	Qaloc	450	Farming inputs through ploughing, financial support to local cooperative
Woqooyi Galbeed	Xagal	600	Access to food, water, latrines, livestock, farming inputs

SRCS, through support from IFRC conducted a meeting (end of February 2019) with partners to advocate for immediate emergency support that is linked to a long-term programming. This meeting was also to ensure there is good coordination as a Movement in designing, implementing and responding to the current food security situation in Somalia.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) supports SRCS through its Somalia Country Office and the Africa Regional Office, both located in Nairobi, Kenya. This involves technical support in areas such as programme identification, design and implementation, finance, logistics, Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), Information Management (IM), PMER, National Society Development Initiatives (NSDI) and operational support.

IFRC Disaster and Crisis (Prevention, Response and Recovery (DCPRR) technical team at the Africa Regional office works closely with IFRC Somalia Country office to provide technical assistance as requested. Direct responsibility of operations in Somalia, whether through an Appeal or longer-term programmes, is under the Somalia Country Office based in Nairobi, which also facilitates field visits of Movement partners to the country. It equally provides direct technical support to health, DRR and nutrition programs.

IFRC has an operations office hosted at the SRCS Hargeisa Coordination offices. In Hargeisa the IFRC office consists of a Health Delegate, who works with direct counterparts in the NS. With regards to the current situation, IFRC has already initiated discussions with other PNS towards supporting long term initiatives which will address the vulnerability of these communities towards food security. The current predictions expect the situation to improve towards the end of June 2019 from April - May rainfall.

ICRC has been present in Somalia since 1982. Its main delegation for Somalia is in Nairobi (Kenya), with 11 offices in Somalia, including sub-delegations in Mogadishu, Kismayo, Baidoa, Belet Weyn and Garowe, that implement its assistance and protection activities (Restoring family links, Protection of the civilian population, economic security, water and habitat, and health). Towards the end of 2018, ICRC established a presence in Hargeisa in order to have better proximity to its activities in line with its mandate in Somaliland. In 2019, the ICRC will concentrate on working with the Somali Red Crescent Society on National Society Development (NSD), maintain its common activities with the SRCS in a multidisciplinary response in both immediate, life-saving activities and longer-term support for livelihoods and basic services, prioritizing areas that few or no other humanitarian actors can reach.

In addition to IFRC and ICRC, there are seven partner National Societies (PNSs) supporting regular programs in the country including Norwegian Red Cross, German Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, British Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross and Icelandic Red Cross Societies. The Movement partners are working on Strengthening of Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) in order to provide effective and coherent support to the National Society, for example in terms of having a concerted approach to organizational development and capacity building as well as the operational response.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

Somaliland National Disaster Preparedness and Food Reserve Authority (NADFOR) is responsible for the management of national food reserves, developing policies and strategies for disaster management, emergency preparedness, the establishment of early warning systems, mobilising resources and coordinating humanitarian efforts in Somaliland.

NADFOR is leading on all coordination meetings supported by Food Security Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) and Famine Early Warning System Networks (FEWS NET) in Somaliland. SRCS is actively participating in these meetings. The need for immediate early action and targeting scale-up of humanitarian response was recommended by the inter-agency mission to Somaliland in early December 2018, in order to prevent a deterioration of the humanitarian situation due to the poor 2018 Deyr rains. The inter-agency mission comprises of the government, FSNAU, FEWS NET, local and International agencies as well as SRCS.

The Federal Government of Somalia and aid agencies operating in the country called on donors to provide sufficient and early funding to sustain aid operations in Somalia in 2019. The Humanitarian Response Plan seeks USD 1.08 billion to provide lifesaving assistance and livelihood support to 3.4 million Somalis affected by conflict, climatic shocks and displacement across the country.

The below table indicates the various non-Movement partners in country, their locations and specific areas of intervention:

Partners name	Location	Type of support
World Food Program (WFP)	Awdal (Borama, Baki) and Woqooyi Galbeed (Berbera)	Conducting programs including nutrition for mother and child at health facilities in partnership with SRCS, Save the Children International and World Vision International.
Health Poverty Action (HPA)	Awdal (Borama, Baki) and Woqooyi Galbeed (Berbera)	Primary health care programs in partnership with Ministry of Health of Somaliland (MoH) and UNICEF.

CARE Oxfam, SCI, and WVI	International	Woqooyi (Berbera)	Galbeed	Somalia Resilience Program focusing on livelihood, WASH and capacity building.
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Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

Needs analysis

Based on the recent reports from the assessment conducted by FSNAU, FEWS NET, with active participation of the government and other humanitarian partners in November - December 2018, more than 1.5 Million people in Somalia are expected to be in Crisis (IPC 3 or higher) through June 2019, an additional 3.4 million people are classified as stressed (IPC 2), which brings the total number of people in Somalia facing acute food insecurity to 4.9 million ([FSNAU-FEWS NET February-2019](#)). The food security situation is worsening in multiple regions with over half the population in Somaliland stressed (IPC 2) or in higher levels of Crisis (IPC 3) and emergency (IPC 4).

Urgent needs are being highlighted in the below areas:

- 1. Food:** An estimated 673,000 people in Somaliland are currently in acute food security Crisis (IPC Phase 3 and 4) and struggle to meet their minimum food needs without food assistance. Households need humanitarian assistance through June 2019 to prevent further deterioration of situation. Households in urban areas in Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed regions are experiencing food consumption gaps and are in Crisis (IPC Phase 3), driven by high cost of living and local currency depreciation. Without assistance, these households could slide into Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Some 52,000 people are already experiencing Emergency (IPC Phase 4) conditions in Northern Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed. They require an immediate humanitarian response.
- 2. WASH:** - Water scarcity is a major concern in Northern pastoral livelihoods zones. It has already triggered earlier than normal water trucking at a high price. The scarcity is expected to worsen during the *Jilaal* dry season. The coverage for safe drinking water stands at 56% in Somaliland. Only 28% of households can access an improved water source in rural areas. Women and children often travel over 30 minutes to reach drinking water points. Scarcity and the inadequate quality of water in Somaliland is a leading cause of displacement and conflict.
- 3. Nutrition:** - Global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates of 10-14.9% are present in Awdal, Woqooyi Galbeed and Togdheer. GAM rates over 15% are present in Sanaag and Sool (UNICEF, Nutrition Cluster 04/02/2019). The following areas are considered in need of urgent nutrition and health support interventions. They have a Critical prevalence of acute malnutrition ($\geq 15\%$ GAM) or $\geq 10.7\%$ of children have a Mid-Upper Arm Circumference below the 125mm threshold. They are: Guban Pastoral, Northern Inland Pastoral and East Golis Pastoral livelihood zones.
- 4. Health:** People facing extreme food insecurity, malnutrition, and poor access to clean water and sanitation are at particular risk of diarrhoea and communicable diseases
- 5. Protection:** Drought has prompted negative coping strategies that lead to protection concerns, such as child marriage and labour, school dropout and family separation. Displacement is associated with protection concerns (including safety and security, child protection and sexual and gender-based violence), and IDPs are among the most vulnerable populations in Somaliland.
- 6. Livelihoods:** Significant livestock loss (up to 70%) occurred during consecutive periods of drought in 2016/2017, devastating the region's pastoralist economy and forcing tens of thousands of families to flee their grazing land for urban camps. The availability of animals that can be sold to markets remains low, constraining the ability of poor households to feed their families and purchase water and feed for their animals. Pastoral populations face depleted rangeland resources, while agropastoral households harvested below average Deyr agricultural production. Displaced and socially marginalized groups in urban, peri-urban, and rural areas – including pastoral and agropastoral communities – require livelihood support to prevent a deterioration of their situation and to help protect their livelihoods and increase their resilience against climatic shocks. As indicated in the figure below, in IPC level 2, actions are required for DRR and Livelihood protection.

Populations classified as Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or Emergency (IPC Phase 4), require immediate humanitarian interventions aimed at:

- protecting livelihoods
- reducing food consumption gaps,
- eradicating acute malnutrition,
- and saving lives.

These immediate interventions will support preventing the deterioration of the humanitarian situation currently been experienced. Groups which are more severely impacted by the food insecurity in Somaliland are:

- Farmers and pastoralists who lost most of their crops and livestock during the 2016/2017 drought,
- Populations affected by flooding and Cyclone Sagar in 2018 and
- IDPS who constitute a significant portion of those in need and have lost their livelihoods through displacement. (About 50,000 IDPs are living in Woqooyi Galbeed, Togdheer and Sanaag regions and over 100,000 in Sool ([OCHA 07/2018](#)).

	Phase 1 Minimal	Phase 2 Stressed	Phase 3 Crisis	Phase 4 Emergency	Phase 5 Famine
Phase Name and Description	More than four in five households (HHs) are able to meet essential food and non-food needs without engaging in atypical, unsustainable strategies to access food and income, including any reliance on humanitarian assistance	Even with any humanitarian assistance at least one in five HHs in the area have the following or worse: Minimally adequate food consumption but are unable to afford some essential non food expenditures without engaging in irreversible coping strategies.	Even with any humanitarian assistance at least one in five HHs in the area have the following or worse: Food consumption gaps with high or above usual acute malnutrition OR Are marginally able to meet minimum food needs only with accelerated depletion of livelihood assets that will lead to food consumption gaps.	Even with any humanitarian assistance at least one in five HHs in the area have the following or worse: Large food consumption gaps resulting in very high acute malnutrition and excess mortality OR Extreme loss of livelihood assets that will lead to food consumption gaps in the short term.	Even with any humanitarian assistance at least one in five HHs in the area have an extreme lack of food and other basic needs where starvation, death, and destitution are evident. (Evidence for all three criteria of food consumption, wasting, and CDR is required to classify Famine.)
Priority Response Objectives	Action required to Build Resilience and for Disaster Risk Reduction	Action required for Disaster Risk Reduction and to Protect Livelihoods	Protect livelihoods, reduce food consumption gaps, and reduce acute malnutrition	Save lives and livelihoods	Prevent widespread mortality and total collapse of livelihoods

Urgent Action Required to: →

Other vulnerable groups include, female-headed household, children (particularly those under 5), the elderly, people with disabilities and marginalised communities. These groups are at risk of facing protection issues if not targeted.

Targeting

Since there are other actors intervening, SRCS has prioritised villages that have not received any assistance and where they have heavy presence from past operations, especially in the health sector. The selection of these villages was also informed by the regional authorities who are monitoring the response and ensuring all the vulnerable communities have been reached.

As such, SRCS will be targeting 5,100 people¹ or 850 households in Xagal (Woqooyi Galbeed) and Baki villages (Awdal). A community-based approach will be used for targeting the people in need of this DREF operation. This will help to identify the most vulnerable people already in IPC phase 4 emergency situation. The number of households targeted in each village was informed by the numbers provided in fig 1.1 above, where there are more households in IPC 4 in Awdal than in Woqooyi Galbeed. As such, the NS has decided to target approximately 70% of the affected households in Baki, and some 58% of those affected in Xagal to ensure a positive impact of this response in these communities.

Region	Village/district	No of affected households as per RCRC Movement assessment	No of households targeted through DREF response
Awdal	Baki/Borama districts	700 HHs	500 HHs
Woqooyi Galbeed	Xagal district, (Berbera)	600 HHs	350 HHs

The most vulnerable will be prioritized by selecting only households whose heads female headed households, the elderly; children and persons with disability or chronically ill family members as the bread winners. Households meeting multiple criteria, as described in below table will be prioritized for assistance in these locations.

Scenario planning

If the next rainy season *Gu* (April - June) in the affected regions fails or is below average, the situation is likely to worsen. Prices of food will rise, existing water sources will dry up, pastures and grazing lands will deplete, and more families will be affected and likely to migrate to other locations in search of food, water, pasture and livelihood exposing them to additional risks and increasing the number of IDPS. The lack of food and water will increase the rates of malnutrition

¹ According to [Population, Composition and Demographic Characteristics](#), Somalia has an average of six (6) people per household.

especially among children under the age of 5, pregnant women and lactating mothers. Lack of water will affect the clinics, as they require access to water to continue operating.

Pastoral communities will continue to face depleted range lands resources, dry water sources and limited saleable animals, while agro-pastoralists households will have no harvest to sell or store for the next dry season. The lack of water, pastures and grazing lands will affect the number of livestock and milk production at household levels, hence increasing the rate of malnutrition and poor health conditions for livestock as well as communities. interventions that will be required

The latest predictions from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Climate Prediction Centre (NOAA/CPC)'S long range forecast indicates a greater likelihood of normal 2019 *Gu* (April-June) rainfall across Somalia, expect in coastal areas which may experience dry spells. As a result, pasture availability, crop cultivation livestock production, access to agriculture employment, water and food prices are expected to improve toward the end of the projection period.

The below table summarizes the various scenarios and actions which would be undertaken by NS to address the situation:

Scenario	Dynamics	Intervention and impact of the SRCS
Best case scenario	<p>Drought: The predictions from long range forecast indicating greater likelihood of normal April-June 2019 rainfall is successful resulting to pasture, water and food availability.</p> <p>Needs coverage: Communities are made aware of Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and are supported on Early Warning (EW) and Early Actions (EA) to ensure they are well prepared for the next drought season.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communities are supported with drought tolerant crops and farming inputs to increase crop production. - There is increase in water catchment facilities as well storage tanks at household levels - Increase in alternative livelihood options to reduce the effect of negative coping strategies. <p>Impact: Households have enough food, cash, income to meet their livelihood protection threshold</p> <p>Early response decreases the needs for life-saving activities in the next stages.</p> <p>Increased resilience. SCRC continues to monitor the situation, coordinating with partners and raising awareness among volunteers on CCA, EW and EA.</p>
Most likely scenario	<p>Drought: The expected April-June rainfall is significantly below average with Somaliland receiving below average rainfall.</p> <p>Needs coverage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in number of communities under Emergency IPC 4 in need of immediate food, water, nutrition and health services; • low resource mobilization in the short term leading to delayed humanitarian response to needs. 	<p>SRCS requests for DREF funds, which will allow NS to respond immediately to the current needs for the most vulnerable communities in emergency IPC 4.</p> <p>Impact: Reduced access to food. loss of livestock, livelihoods and decrease in IDPs. Households have enough food, cash, incomes to meet their survival threshold.</p> <p>During the intervention, long-term planning of the activities of the Movement in the context of this crisis are carried out in collaboration with partners. The planning will be used to advocate for long term programming. This DREF operation will be addressing this specific scenario and may turn into an Emergency Appeal, should the situation worsen.</p>
Worst case scenario	<p>Drought: Rains totally fail, crop failure and elevated livestock death are expected, depleting completely livelihoods, and government declares famine.</p> <p>Needs coverage: High rate of malnutrition reported for children under 5, pregnant and lactating mothers, elderly and people living with disability, outbreaks of AWD due to poor sanitation and hygiene practices and death caused due to starvation.</p> <p>Loss of livestock and household's income generating options.</p>	<p>The DREF operation turns into an Emergency Appeal to support communities in mitigating the effects of the deteriorating situation and help in planning for the rainy season.</p> <p>Impact: Life-saving and livelihood recovery after the emergency</p> <p>SCRS will speed up bilateral agreements with Movement and non-Movement partners to undertake short, medium and long-term projects meant to implement longer-term strategies to address the food insecurity problem in Somaliland.</p>

Operation Risk Assessment

The risk of large-scale armed conflict between Puntland and Somaliland over the disputed Sanaag and Sool regions increased in 2018. The two states have fought over the disputed region for over 10 years (Garoweonline.com/en/news). If violence continues to 2019, it could lead to destruction of livelihoods and further displacement. Clan conflict remains a major concern as well, particularly in Sool region where violence has resulted in the loss of livelihoods and widespread displacement.

SRCS will continue to monitor the news and impacts in the communities where SRCS has presence. SRCS will develop a strategy of operation to ensure a steady and constant provision of food, safe water to clinics so that they can operate in a safe and effective way through the development of long-term proposals to traditional and non-traditional partners. The IFRC team will continue to provide remote technical support to the SRCS Branches and clinics in Somaliland as well as sharing the situation updates to Movement partners and potential donors.

B. Operational strategy²

Overall Operational objective:

The overall objective of this DREF operation is to protect and save the lives and livelihoods of 850 households (5,100 people) in Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed regions under IPC phase 4 by providing them the means to access basic needs.

This will be achieved by providing them with multipurpose cash disbursements, geared towards supporting the provision of food and basic needs. In addition, this operation aims to sensitize the affected communities against negative coping strategies contributing to issues on Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI). In details, this operation will seek to:

1. Reduce the impact of food insecurity to the most vulnerable communities in Somaliland through monthly multipurpose cash grants of targeting 850 households (approximately 5,100 people) in the affected regions of Somaliland under IPC 4. As per recommendations of the Cash Working Group (CWG) in Somaliland, these cash disbursements of 80 CHF will be done on a monthly basis for three months, to ensure maximum impact. The value of the cash disbursements is calculated based on the average food basket and basic needs at a household level as indicated in the Cash and Markets Quarterly Dashboard for Somalia. In addition, the markets conditions have fortunately remained favourable with availability of food. However, a market assessment is planned as part of the activities to evaluate the capacity of the markets to sustain this intervention.
2. Community sensitization will be conducted to promote healthy use of the cash transfer, explaining the objectives of the Red Cross Red Crescent response to support the families to have basic needs, such as food, water, clothing, etc, and provide a guidance of the recommended food utilisation or good practices to protect the family nutrition. This will encourage selected people in need to use the received resources on food and generally on basic needs of a household as recommended by FSNAU and prevent them from further slipping into acute food insecurity.
3. Provide necessary information to protect children and other vulnerable groups from further harm, by sensitizing against negative coping mechanisms such as early marriage, child labour, dropping out of school, etc.

SRCS will work closely with NADFOR the government coordination office leading the response, the Food Security cluster, Cash Intervention Cluster, Community Committees and other local actors in Somaliland to ensure proper coordination and collaboration in their response. The food cluster has published the acceptable rates for unconditional cash transfer, informed by the food cluster using the minimal food basket formula. SRCS will follow this guideline in their unconditional cash transfer.

SRCS will continue to monitor the situation closely in collaboration with other humanitarian stakeholders and provide updates to Movement partners on a weekly basis. The updates will cover regions under (IPC 3 and 4) on weekly basis and monthly for regions under IPC 2 which will include Puntland. These updates will be used to update SRCS EPP and as resource mobilisation tool for long term interventions. In regions where Movement partners are responding with other projects, the updates will help them in revising their projects to address the vulnerability of communities facing high risk of the drought effects.

² The plan should be prepared by the National Society, with support from the Secretariat technical departments and support services.

Operational Support:**Human resources**

The Disaster Management Manager based in Hargeisa coordination office will provide leadership in the response. SRCS will be represented at all coordination meetings at regional and national levels. Feedback of these meeting will be provided through the weekly updates. The DM manager will provide technical and coordination support to the two branches involved in the response, through the SRCS CTP field officers in the two target branches. The NS team will be supported by IFRC Somalia Country Office Senior DM officer in ensuring quality, effectiveness and technical support and coordination is provided to the branch officers and volunteers. IFRC Somalia Country Office Senior DM officer will work closely with the regional DCPRR team to support the intervention as well as helping the planning and linking the intervention to long term projects.

Some 100 volunteers will be sensitized on the operation, to in turn support beneficiary sensitization. These volunteers (50 in each targeted village) will be deployed for a total of three (3) days in each location (including one day of travel because of the distances to be covered).

After the sensitization of both volunteers and affected population, 10 volunteers (5 in each village) will be deployed for three (3) months to ensure that selected people in need have received the cash disbursements. They shall equally support the market capacity assessment and monitoring, as well as the Post-distribution monitoring activities which will be conducted continuously.

Logistics and procurement

SRCS has a long-standing relationship with Telesom, the widest phone network coverage in Somaliland, with whom the NS and German RC have been working on current previous CTP programmes including the Emergency Appeal. SRCS will review the contract with Telesom based on the new assignment and work with volunteers to establish if selected people in need still prefer Telesom as their mobile money provider. The cash will be transferred through DahabShil Bank where SRCS banks and is the only established bank in Somaliland. These companies are already prequalified to deliver these services to SRCS. Their contracts will be reviewed based on the new assignment.

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)

CEA will be streamlined throughout the implementation of the project. Branch officers and volunteers will ensure timely feedback and response is provided and the response is effective. The project will be concerned with people's safety, dignity and rights, and avoid exposing people to further harm by ensuring selection of people in need, project activities and objectives are transparent. Affected persons will receive support based on need to ensure people receive appropriate assistance and are protected. This will ensure active and meaningful participation of the affected communities from the very beginning of the response to the transition phase into a longer-term programme.

Since the cash disbursements will be affected via mobile money, vulnerable households (children-headed households, the elderly and people living with disabilities amongst others), who do not own or cannot use a phone will be supported by respected members of their community to collect the money, in their presence. In such cases, CEA mechanisms will allow for them to be nominated by the community committees, to which they will be accountable to. A feedback and complaints desk will be set up to collect any complaints or feedback which may come up. In addition, IFRC will ensure monitoring of this activity through its CTP Regional Delegate. Feedback on this specific aspect during the first distribution, will inform any eventual change of strategy to ensure that the people in need receive the cash disbursements.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting

SRCS with support of IFRC Somalia Office will lead on reporting, monitoring and evaluation of this operation. SRCS will also ensure that lessons learnt, and best practices are captured to inform the planning and designing of the long-term projects towards improved ways of working and increasing effectiveness and efficiency to the communities.

Security

Access to Xagal (Woqooyi Galbeed region) and Baki villages (Awdal region) safe, although there is still the need to conform to security regulations, given the overall volatile security situation in the country. IFRC personnel presence and field movements in Somalia will be compliant with the IFRCs security management procedures, including the security clearance process for travel to volatile and insecure areas. The Country Office will closely monitor the security environment and ensure compliance with IFRCs minimum security requirements. 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). Road travel also presents a considerable safety hazard, which should be addressed appropriately. Contingency plans must be in place to manage any eventual emergencies.

Exit Strategy

SRCS will continue to carry out assessments and data analysis, supported by IFRC and Movement partners to inform the response and help in preparing for the recovery phase. The assessments and analysis will inform key messages to donors and Movement partners towards providing long term solutions to mitigate the impact of the current situation, protect and save livelihoods. These reports will aim at identifying the root causes of the increased vulnerability rates and influence in the designing and planning of the next projects which will aim at saving and protecting livelihoods through initiatives such as livestock vaccination, alternative farming methods, Natural Resource Management (NRM) and alternative sustainable livelihood options.

The IFRC and SRCS have embarked on several consultations with traditional donors advocating for funding to address the grass roots causes contributing to high vulnerabilities for communities in Somaliland. The meetings are coordinated through the Resilience Working Group which was recently formed under the leadership of SRCS President. The SRCS President chairs the working group supported by his two coordinators in the South and North. All Movement partners are invited to participate in this working group.

In addition, SRCS has partnered with IFRC in to develop a proposal which is anticipated to continue supporting activities started under this DREF operation in the long term for Woqooyi Galbeed region. The proposal is currently under review with the donor, King Salman Centre. In Awadal Region, SRCS will continue to work with German Red Cross (GRC) who have started a sustainable livelihood programme towards protecting and increasing community livelihood. This DREF interventions will thus contribute to protecting the achievements of the ongoing interventions by GRC and will be continued under the GRC project.

SRCS in partnership with Movement partners and IFRC will continue to seek for funding to support longer-term interventions for food security and livelihood (FSL), Disaster risk reduction (DRR) and Disaster Management (DM) areas.

C. Detailed Operational Plan



Livelihoods and basic needs

People targeted: 5,100³

Male: 2,040

Female: 3,060

Requirements (CHF): 269,310

Needs analysis: Drought conditions continue to prevail across Somaliland leading to rapid deterioration in food security, water and rangeland resources. Across Somaliland 1,3366,000 people are experiencing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) conditions, 673,000 Crisis (IPC phase 3) and 52,000 emergency (IPC Phase 4) conditions. Households have lost their means of survival while others are still recovering from damage caused by Cyclone Sagar in 2018. The food security situation and access to water are fast deteriorating.

Population to be assisted: Some 5,100 people (850 households) in Xagal (Woqooyi Galbeed region) and Baki villages (Awdal region) will be reached through cash disbursements to support food and other basic needs. These regions have experienced droughts for several seasons and are now experiencing Emergency (IPC 4). Each household shall receive the equivalent of 80 CHF, on a monthly basis, for three months.

Programme standards/benchmarks: The activities implemented under this section will be aligned to the recommendations of the Cash Working group in Somaliland, which all humanitarian partners working on CBI adhere to.

P&B Output Code	Livelihoods and basic needs Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods	Number of households which meet their basic needs through purchase from the local markets (Target: 850 HHs)
P&B Output Code	Livelihoods and basic needs Output 1.5: Some 850 Households are provided with multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs	<p>4. <i>Number of inception and coordination meetings held with government</i></p> <p>5. <i>Number of volunteers recruited to support operation (Target: 100 volunteers)</i></p> <p>6. <i>Number of livelihoods awareness sessions conducted (Target: 2 sessions)</i></p>

³ Female to male ratio in Somalia is 60%: 40%.

		7. Number of PDMs conducted (Target: at least 2)																
		8. Percentage change of food prices on the markets resulting from the operation (at least 5%)																
Activities planned		Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP010	Review of current agreement with Financial service provider (FSP) and update if necessary																	
AP010	Identification and sensitization of the project focal persons and volunteers																	
AP010	Inception and coordination with regional Governments																	
AP010	Rapid price and market capacity assessment																	
AP040	Mobilization and sensitization of target communities																	
AP040	Targeting and registration of people in need																	
AP008	Awareness and multipurpose cash distributions to 850 HHs in Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed targeted districts (Baki and Xagal)																	
AP010	Conduct pre and post distribution monitoring																	
AP010	Price and market capacity monitoring																	
AP055	Conduct lessons learned workshop and beneficiary satisfaction survey																	



Protection, Gender and Inclusion⁴

People targeted: 850

Male: 2,040

Female: 3,060

Requirements (CHF): 0

Needs analysis: Drought has prompted negative coping strategies such as early marriage and labour, school dropouts and family separation. Displacement has been associated with protection concerns including safety and security, child protection and sexual and gender base violence with IDPS been the most vulnerable groups in Somaliland.

⁴ This area of focus is a merge of what previously was Social Inclusion and Culture of Non-violence and peace. It is under development, so for now it represents the physical merge of three existing relevant outputs.

Population to be assisted: 5,100 people (850 households) in Xagal (Woqooyi Galbeed region) and Baki villages (Awdal region) of which female headed households, children headed households particularly those malnourished and considered to be of marriage age (13+), people with disabilities and marginalized communities will be targeted.

Programme standards/benchmarks: The activities to be conducted under this sector will seek to meet the IFRC minimal standards for protection, gender and inclusion (PGI).

P&B Output Code	Inclusion and Protection Outcome 1: Communities identify the needs of the most vulnerable and particularly disadvantaged and marginalised groups, as a result of inequality, discrimination and other non-respect of their human rights and address their distinct needs	<i>People in need are protected from causing more harm to themselves by resulting to negative coping mechanism such as early marriage, labour and school drop outs. (Target: 850 households)</i>															
	Inclusion and Protection Output 1.1: NS programmes improve equitable access to basic services, considering different needs based on gender and other diversity factors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Percentage of children and parents targeted with messages to prevent early marriage and school dropout (Target: 80%) - Number of community protection groups set up to disseminate violence prevention messages and referral information (Target: 4) 															
Activities planned Week / Month		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP031	Map out the categories under the section criteria needs of the affected population based on criteria selected from the minimum standard commitments on gender and diversity																
AP031	Support sectoral teams to include measures to address vulnerabilities specific to gender and PGI in their planning																
AP031	Hold basic ½ day training with IFRC and NS staff and volunteers on the Minimum Standard Commitments (or integrate a session on Minimum Standard Commitments in standard/sectorial trainings).																
AP031	Support communities in establishing Community self-help groups that deal with protection, gender and inclusion.																
AP031	Support sectoral teams to ensure collection and analysis of sex-age and disability-disaggregated data																
AP055	Conduct lessons learned workshop and beneficiary satisfaction survey																

Budget

The overall budget required for this operation is **CHF 286,815** as detailed in the attached.

MDRSO007: DREF Somalia Drought	
Budget Group	DREF Budget CHF
Cash Disbursements	204,000
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	204,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	13,640
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	13,640
National Society Staff	3,430
Volunteers	24,100
Total PERSONNEL	27,530
Workshops & Training	11,400
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	11,400
Travel	4,620
Information & Public Relations	2,000
Financial Charges	6,120
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	12,740
Programme and Services Support Recovery	17,505
Total INDIRECT COSTS	17,505
TOTAL BUDGET	286,815

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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.