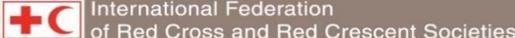




Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

Ethiopia: Tigray Population Movement



DREF Operation n°	MDRET024	Glide n°:	CE-2020-000229-ETH
Date of issue:	23 November 2020	Expected timeframe:	4 months
		Expected end date:	31 March 2021
Category allocated to the of the disaster or crisis: Yellow			
DREF allocated: CHF 357,391			
Total number of people affected:	Approx. 600,000	Number of people to be assisted	7,500 people (1,500HH)
Regions affected:	Tigray & Amhara	Regions targeted:	Amhara
Host National Society(ies) presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): 31 volunteers, 25 staffs and 2 zonal and 1 regional branch for now.			
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: Danish Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, International Committee of the Red Cross			
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: UNOCHA, UNHCR, IHP/ECHO and UNICEF			

<Please click [here](#) for the budget and [here](#) for the contacts>

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

09 September 2020: Tigray Regional Government holds parliamentary elections despite notice by the Federal Government on postponement of the national elections, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The tentative plan was to hold the elections in 2021, therefore extending the current government's term.

03-04 November: Fighting erupts between the Ethiopian Defence Forces and security forces of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) following an attack on a military base in Mekele, Tigray region's capital, and other fronts stretching near the Eritrean border.

06 November: Six-month State of Emergency declared for Tigray region, following approval by Ethiopian government parliament. Access in and out of Tigray by road and air is cut off and communication (both telephone and internet) shut down in the region. Banks and financial institutions in Tigray have limitations with access to cash, affecting normal functionality of markets and access to basic commodities

19 November: The armed clashes continues between the two forces reported in different areas, in Tigray and on the stretch of Tigray border with Amhara region of Ethiopia in the South and with Eritrea and Sudan as well as with the border with Afar region.

[According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs \(UNOCHA\)](#), approximately 600,000 people in Tigray region were already dependent on humanitarian relief assistance before the armed clashes. Tigray is also one of the regions which is affected by the swarm of desert locust which affected East African Countries in 2019/2020. Over 400,000 people are food insecure with 100,000 people internally displaced from previous armed clashes. The region hosts approximately 96,000 Eritrean refugees who are hosted across four refugee camps namely, Adi Harush, Hitsats, Mai-Aini and Shimeleba

The current humanitarian situation in the region is expected to worsen should the armed clashes persist. It has been difficult to establish the exact numbers of internal displaced people (IDPs) within Tigray region due to lack of communication and access. In addition, it is difficult to establish the movement trends of the populations inside Tigray, whether they are moving to the south to the Amhara region of Ethiopia or internally within Tigray to the main cities. So far, there has been reports of people in southern Tigray crossing into Amhara region, as well as people in areas in Amhara bordering Tigray moving further inland away from armed clashes zones. Ethiopia Red Cross Society branches in North Wollo and North Gondar in Amhara region report that 261 people were displaced from Alamata (southern zone of Tigray) and temporarily settled in Kobo town in North Wollo. 780 people were displaced from Kobo town and temporarily settled in Woldia town (capital of North Wollo).

Cross border movement of Ethiopian refugees into Sudan continues to increase. UNHCR daily new arrival update on 18 November indicates that over 31,353 people have already arrived in Sudan, fleeing the armed clashes. This number exceeds UNHCR projection of 20,000 asylum seekers expected to cross in Sudan in one month.

Summary of the current response

The National Society has an adequate number of ambulances strategically located in their different regions and zones for this response. ERCS also has readily skilled First Aid volunteers that serve as paramedics with the ambulances for the same deployment.

- 31 volunteers have already been deployed in the response to support evacuation of the wounded from the front lines.
- 13 ambulances were engaged to serve in the accessible areas on the Amhara /Tigray border. On 09 November, three ERCS ambulances were attacked in Dansha area. The drivers and paramedics escaped unhurt. ERCS [issued a press statement](#) calling for respect of the Red Cross emblem and respect for staff and volunteers involved in the response.
- The National Society has so far, evacuated 736 people of whom 25 females with injuries to medical facilities in Gondar.
- Some 62,417 people have received first aid service across all fronts. 391 wounded people from in North Wollo received medical treatment in three hospitals located in Kobo, Wolidya and Mersa towns. In north Wollo, 160 people received first aid service until they reached to the nearest health facilities.
- 21 people have received family unification service (RFL)
- ERCS north Wollo branch jointly with the community in Kobo town provided 261 people displaced from Alamata (southern zone of Tigray) and temporarily settled in Kobo town, with fresh food and bottled water.
- Shelter and NFI stocks distributed 280 HHs in North Wollo from the branch stocks
- The National society also provided 4 communal large tents to compliment shelters in hospitals for casualty management and for other displaced people that reached the region of Amhara.

The National society has good network of regional and zonal branches in the specific areas of concern. In Amhara region there are 8 zonal branches and 61 woreda (district) branches of which the North Gondar and North Wollo zones are adjacent to the Tigray region where the current armed clashes is taking place. ERCS Tigray region on the other hand has 4 zonal branches and 8 coordination offices. Apart from the eastern zone of Tigray, all zones are adjacent with Amhara region.

To note, the National Society has good experience responding to armed clashes in Ethiopia. In early 2018, close to 3 million people were displaced due to armed clashes to which ERCS responded with through both a [DREF and Appeal operation](#). The NS has also been implementing a [Civil Unrest DREF operation](#) in Oromia region since July 2020.

Lessons learnt from the previous operations:

- Based on previous operations, ERCS noted that it is important to have stock pre-positioned instead of having to start procurement when a disaster happens. Learning from this, North Wollo have used their branch stocks to respond to the initial influx of displaced people in Amhara in the early stages of ERCS response to current crisis. Additional stocks have also been sent to North Gondar.
- Another lesson focused on the procurement process which needs to start early to avoid delays in implementation. To mitigate this risk, ERCS put in place procedures for emergency procurement for such situations. ERCS have also built their preparedness in Cash and Voucher assistance and have agreements with financial service providers, and volunteers and staff trained in cash. This has allowed flexibility for response in-kind or cash depending on the feasibility.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Actions in country

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) provides technical and financial support to ERCS through its Eastern Africa Country Cluster Support Team (EA CCST) and the Regional Office for Africa which are both based in Nairobi, Kenya. The IFRC also has a permanent representative delegation to the African Union (AU) in Ethiopia and an Operations Manager supported by the EA CCST in Nairobi who is domiciled with ERCS at its headquarters for all technical support of IFRC operations in the country.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has a large presence in the country with a sub-delegation in Tigray. The ICRC deputy head of delegation was on a mission to Tigray at the onset of the armed clashes and has since remained at the Mekelle ICRC sub-delegation. The ICRC field office is embedded with ERCS regional office and they work closely. All communication is suspended for Tigray; thus, the Movement relies on a single satellite call from ICRC for information. The ICRC has provided medical supplies to referral health facilities in Gondar border point to 100 seriously wounded and 250 mild/less serious cases.

There are several Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners in the country who are in different bilateral partnerships with ERCS on different long-term developmental programs in different parts of the country. The PNSs also support ERCS in different emergencies with some of them already supporting in floods operation as well as the current Tigray armed clashes. However, the PNS support for slow onset emergencies remains subsidiary and small scale while IFRC plays the major role through the DREF and appeal tools. The PNSs currently in country, include the Danish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, Finish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Austrian Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross and Qatar Red Crescent.

Danish Red Cross provided 1.1 million ETB or 29,100 USD to support the ambulance and first aid services under way in North Gondar by reprogramming the funds from migration project. Netherlands Red Cross/HIP ECHO provided 600,000 ETB or 15,873 USD for repair and maintenance of ambulances and Emergency Shelter/NFI including (840 kitchen set, 1,608 tarpaulin and 1,608 sleeping mates, 1,608 blankets) to be dispatched 60% to North Wollo and 40% to North Gondar

The Movement has robust coordination mechanism in Ethiopia, where the PNSs, ICRC and IFRC share operation updates during the weekly coordination meeting every Thursday and at the monthly Movement coordination meeting chaired by ERCS. These two fora which inform each other are adequate framework that have been successful since 2019.

Overview of other actors' actions in country

UNHCR Ethiopia is leading a daily inter-agency coordination cell in Shire to discuss the evolving situation, which involves both refugee issues and the emerging IDP situation.

According to [UNOCHA Situation Report 3](#), the Tigray Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) held a meeting on 12 November. Meeting participants, representatives from sector bureaus and humanitarian partners, agreed to hold physical meetings twice a week to discuss humanitarian situation and coordinated response. Partners decided to map available stock, updated respective contingency plans, and start implementing it. An information desk will be established for partners to access information during the communication blackout.

Inter-cluster coordination platforms were also established in Afar and Amhara to specifically coordinate the crisis in Tigray region as well as assist IDPs fleeing from the armed clashes. In Amhara, UN Bahir Dar team deployed for a joint road assessment mission to Woldia-Raya Kobo districts in Amhara, which are located at the border with Tigray region. The mission, which deployed on 13 November was forced to abort the assessment and return to Bahir Dar the next day following the reporting rocket attack in Bahir Dar and Gondar.

At Addis Ababa level, humanitarian partners finalized a Humanitarian Preparedness Plan projected to target 1.98 million people with multi-sector assistance in Tigray, Afar and Amhara regions. The 1.98 million target includes existing humanitarian caseload and additional 1.1 million people expected to need assistance because of the armed clashes.

At regional level, UNOCHA and the UNHCR Regional Bureau for the East, Horn of Africa and Great Lakes Office has been convening a weekly inter-agency coordination meeting to update on the situation in Ethiopia and refugee influx in Sudan.

The only other actor currently responding in Amhara is MSF in North Gondar but no other partner yet in North Wollo except ERCS. The government, through the zonal Disaster risk reduction and food security bureau are providing wheat flour to the IDPs in both zones.

Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

Needs analysis

Ethiopia has experienced multiple crises in the last three years because of consecutive disasters that have aggravated the humanitarian needs in the country. The country was just recovering from the armed clashes that resulted in population movement in 2018-2019 when it was compounded in 2020 by the COVID-19 pandemic. Other previous hazards include drought, cholera epidemic, desert locust invasion, floods and civil unrest. The latest armed clashes in Tigray region exacerbates the protracted and recurrent emergency situations of Ethiopia.

The lack of access to Tigray region and communication shut down has resulted in limited information on the scale of the needs within Tigray region, which will be most affected by armed clashes. The needs analysis will be updated once ERCS gains access into Tigray region and further needs assessments can be done.

This operation seeks to continue support with emergency ambulance and first aid services for those injured in the armed clashes along the Tigray-Amhara border areas, in addition to providing basic needs support to populations crossing over from Southern Tigray and those displaced along the border. The operation will be revised to extend into Tigray once access is possible.

Primarily, the operation will conduct needs assessment after the humanitarian access is allowed by the authorities and the current communication lock downs are lifted. The assessment will inform elaborate and appropriate interventions by scope and scale, although the current DREF will focus on key needs that are apparent and immediate including the below:

- 1- **Emergency Health Services:** The National Society continues to provide evacuation, ambulance and first aid services to wounded casualty. There is apparent need to maintain and scale up this service, ensuring maintenance and running of the ambulance services. Mental health and psychosocial needs are also a concern for those affected by the armed clashes, including staff and volunteers in the response. Moreover, this plan anticipates the situation in Tigray once it opens up, to have urgent needs for medical supplies for the health facilities to cope with the demand since the region is cut off for all supplies since the start of the armed clashes.
- 2- **Shelter and NFI:** Displaced populations are crossing over with little or no belongings and being hosted in towns in Northern Amhara including like Kobo, Wolidya and Mersa. There is need for provision of shelter and household items as they settle in these areas. ERCS has already responded to 280 households in North Wollo and 75 wounded people with blankets and sleeping mats, detergents and laundry and body soap. with Shelter and NFI supply from its branch stocks.
- 3- **Food assistance:** ERCS will provide high energy biscuits and bottled water for immediate lifesaving support to the most vulnerable groups. Displaced populations often have cross over after walking for days with no food or water.
- 4- **Multipurpose cash:** A market assessment will be conducted to check feasibility of cash as well as actual prices of commodities in affected Amhara and Tigray regions. The market assessments will proceed within Amhara as operation kicks off, and later will be conducted in Tigray once ERCS gains access. ERCS in this initial operation seeks to provide multipurpose cash that will cover basic needs of a household for one month for 1,500HH in North Wollo, North Gondar and Tigray region. The exact numbers of people in need will be established when safety is guaranteed and humanitarian corridor opens in Tigray for humanitarian access and assessment are carried out.
- 5- **Reunification and Family Link (RFL):** Tracing services are apparent need in population moving from the armed clashes have left some of their family members behind, other lost each other on way and flew in different direction and in some cases, minors are lost from parents and received unaccompanied.
- 6- **Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI):** In a complex emergency where different armed actors are involved is susceptible to human right abuses and protection violation. During the needs assessment gender and diversity related questions will be included, Sex, age and disability disaggregated data (SADDD) will be collected and analysed, to better inform the emergency response. A continuous dialogue among the different stakeholders will be continued to ensure programmes mainstream Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety (DAPS) approach relevant to the needs and priorities of humanitarian imperatives on the ground.
- 7- **Water, Hygiene and Sanitation (WASH):** Currently, displaced populations are crossing over into Amhara and settling with host communities in different towns. The movement trends are still unclear, with some populations reported to be crossing back to Tigray. No IDP settlements have been set up for now, and the movement of people

makes it difficult to set up sanitation facilities. The situation and movement trends will continue to be assessed, and if needed, the operation will scale up and put in place water and sanitation facilities to address such needs that may arise.

Targeting

To kick off operation, ERCS will target an overall 7,500 people (1,500 households) affected by the Tigray armed clashes in Amhara based on below criteria. Once ERCS has access to Tigray, the operation will be updated and expand to equally cover Tigray.

Referral ambulance services target criteria: All in equal priority

- Injured unarmed combatants and civilians
- Antenatal mothers on Labour
- Person with emergency medical conditions

Psychosocial services (mainly Psychological First Aid and referrals) will be provided both for individuals and groups depending on the needs to the populations affected by the armed clashes and categorised as IDPs.

Displacement and migration services criteria

- i) Those in camp settings will be given priority, before those staying with host families for all shelter and NFI needs
- ii) Displaced households who cannot cope on their own are considered for multipurpose cash to meet their basic needs
- iii) Households with special protection needs and those classified under PGI needs are who are in category(I) and (II) are superseding given priority of targeting.
- iv) Tracing services will be provided to persons and or households voluntarily seeking the services

Note that the target could be revised in near future, as ERCS gains access and more information.

Estimated disaggregated data for population targeted; During the needs assessment, Sex, age and disability disaggregated data (SADDD) will be collected and analysed, to better inform the emergency response. Un-accompanied children will also be recorded as part of the data disaggregation. A continuous dialogue among the different stakeholders will be continued to ensure programmes mainstream Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety (DAPS) approach relevant to the needs and priorities of humanitarian imperatives on the ground.

Scenario planning

Scenario	Humanitarian consequence	Potential Response
Scenario One: Tensions and political situation improve in Ethiopia in the next 2 weeks, interrupting the migration flow and allowing some people to return to their places of origin.	No additional displacements linked with the armed clashes are registered. Displaced families begin to return home. Ambulance services needs for injured combats	The planned needs are responded within the planned time frame and no additional needs arise.
Scenario Two: The Armed clashes persists and continues for 4 to 8 weeks in different cities in Tigray, with increased casualties and increased displacement within and out of the region.	More casualties (combatants & civilians) increased demand for ambulance services and emergency medical services Increased population movement especially inside Tigray	The DREF operation is updated and the operational strategy revised based on the need's assessment. ERCS would then expand scope into Tigray region based on access and operational timeframe could be extended to 6 months with possibility to upscale to an Emergency Appeal.
Scenario Three: The fighting persists more than three months with increased casualties and displacement of people out of Tigray. Potential for armed clashes to spill over to other regions.	Increased loss of life and casualties Massive displacement of people.	The DREF operation is updated and the operational strategy revised based on the need's assessment. Operation timeframe is extended, and response transformed into an Emergency

	<p>Displaced people might move to IDP camps</p> <p>Loss of livelihoods, increasing vulnerability.</p> <p>Disease outbreak due to poor water, sanitation, and hygiene conditions.</p>	Appeal covering Tigray and other regions.
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To note, the operational strategy of the current DREF operation is based on the most likely scenario described above. ERCS will ensure that any changes to the strategy is informed by updated information obtained during detailed and continuous assessments, and all stakeholders duly informed through an Operation Update or Emergency Appeal published on IFRC website.

Operation Risk Assessment

The current operation is exposed to several risks highlighted below, for which NS and CCST have discussed mitigation measures to ensure targeted communities receive the needed support.

1- Security:

The major risk of the operation is humanitarian access issues especially to Tigray region. The region is currently cut off all communication, telephone, internet and road and air access. Currently ERCS does not have any restriction as entity from any of the actors but the general environment is risky.

ERCS will work with the rest of movement arms to advocate for respect for international humanitarian law and human right as well as access for humanitarian interventions for populations affected.

On 09 November, three ERCS ambulances were attacked in Dansha area. The drivers and paramedics escaped unhurt. ERCS [issued a press statement](#) calling for respect of the Red Cross logo and respect for staff and volunteers involved in the response. ICRC also issued a [press statement](#) on the situation in Tigray.

2- Food insecurity:

According to UNOCHA, the region is one of the worst-affected by desert locust infestation with threats of new swarms arriving in the coming weeks. The locusts are concentrated in the central and northwest zones of Tigray and are damaging crops, pastures and rangelands since intervention efforts are suspended together with prediction of la Nina in the horn of Africa, a widespread food insecurity looming. The threat of uncontrolled diseases and desert locust infestation reaching other regions of the country and neighbouring countries is high.

3- Water and vector borne disease outbreaks:

In August 2019, the [WHO Weekly Bulletin](#) on cholera outbreaks and other emergencies issued an alert on a cholera outbreak in several parts of Ethiopia, including Tigray and Amhara, which respectively accounted for 22 cases, 2% and 202 cases, 20% of the overall 1,005 cholera cases, 37 confirmed and 18 associated deaths registered from 12 April to 11 August 2019. A [Cholera DREF Operation](#) was launched and implemented from July to November 2019, targeting Amhara amongst other places, as it accounted for one of the highest caseloads. Given the influx of IDPs from Tigray into Amhara and the recent floods which have affected the region, measures must be taken to avoid outbreaks of water borne diseases such as dysentery, typhoid and cholera in addition to vector borne diseases such as malaria amid the current armed crisis. Mitigation measures will include implementing health and hygiene promotion measures and providing adequate water treatment solutions.

4- COVID-19 Pandemic:

This DREF operation, the needs assessment and its operational strategy considers the risks related to the current COVID-19 pandemic and is aligned with the IFRC global Emergency Appeal that supports National Societies to deliver assistance and support to communities affected or at risk of being affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The planned DREF activities will also follow the Ethiopian MoH and World Health Organization regulations on hygiene and social distancing especially during distribution of HHIs.

The number of COVID-19 transmissions continue to increase in Ethiopia. According to [Africa CDC](#), as of 17 November 2020, 103,056 people have contracted the virus in country, including 64,130 recoveries and 1,581 deaths. The CFR in is 1.5. The daily testing capacity in the region has been challenged by shortage of reagents and testing kits. Possible interruption of COVID-19 prevention and control is another humanitarian concern. To date, the following measures have been taken to curb the spread of the disease: mandatory mask wearing, closing of borders, set up of proximity screening sites, set up of treatment centres, risk communication and community engagement and providing updated information on the COVID-19 situation.

National Society's responses to COVID-19 are supported through the IFRC [global appeal](#), which is facilitating and supporting them to maintain critical service provision, while adapting to COVID-19. This DREF operation is aligned with and will contribute to the current global strategy and regional [Emergency Plan of Action](#) for COVID-19 developed by the IFRC Africa Regional Office, in coordination with global and regional partners. SRCS will therefore ensure, that even as it responds to the refugee's influx, all necessary COVID-19 prevention measures are adhered to, in line with the Africa Regional Office Plan of Action and Ethiopia's National COVID-19 Plan. IFRC continues to assess how emergency operations in response to disasters and crisis should adapt to this disaster and provide necessary guidance to its membership on the same. ERCS will keep monitoring the situation closely and revise the plan accordingly as required, taking into consideration the evolving COVID-19 situation and the operational risks that might develop, including operational challenges related to access to the affected population, availability of relief items, procurement issues, and movement of ERCS volunteers and staff as well as any international staff. For more information, please consult the [COVID-19 operation page](#) on the IFRC GO platform.

Below table indicates potential impact of the pandemic on this DREF operation and how ERCS will respond to the situation if COVID-19 mitigation measures are made more stringent in Sudan.

COVID-19 measures	Standard epidemic control measures	Temporary lockdown of society (schools, shops, public functions)	Sustained lockdown and restriction of movement during implementation period
Likelihood	High	High	Medium
Impact on operation	No impact on the operation. ERCS will ensure to adhere to the epidemic control measures in place.	ERCS is operating in close coordination with local government. There is no indication ERCS will not be able to operate even in the event of temporary lockdown.	ERCS is operating in close coordination with local government. The number of COVID-19 cases is rapidly increasing and additional measures are expected to be put in place. If sustained lockdown will be imposed, including restriction of Movement, this will cause operational delays. However, branches are expected to be able to continue responding.
Mitigating measures	As epidemic control measures were already in place before the armed clashes, the operation is designed to adhere to the measures. Trainings will be conducted in small groups outside, with due respect to physical distancing measures. Distribution exercises will adhere to physical distancing norms.	Same as under standard epidemic control measures. In addition, some delays might be experienced with the clearance and transportation of items. If this happens, a timeframe extension may be requested.	Same as under standard epidemic control measures and temporary lockdowns of society.

B. Operational strategy¹

Overall Operational objective:

To provide immediate lifesaving assistance to casualties of armed clashes along the Amhara/Tigray border through ambulance services and to **7,500 internally displaced persons** crossing into Amhara region through provision of first aid services, psychological first aid, psychosocial support, restoring family links, and multi-purpose cash grants/in-kind to support their basic food, shelter and WASH needs.

Information on the population movement trends within Tigray continues to be limited, hence details on projected displacement into Amhara region is not clear. ERCS will continue to monitor the situation and an Operations Update will be issued to scale up the response in the event of an influx of displaced persons or humanitarian access into Tigray region.

Proposed Strategy

Through this DREF, ERCS seeks to strengthen their ongoing response in Amhara region to support an estimated 500 people currently displaced and 7,000 people who may be displaced in the coming weeks, including in Tigray, once access is granted. The plan is based on the actions outlined in the ERCS Contingency plan and will be revised based on the outcomes of the proposed needs assessment.

Health (Target: 7,500 people or 1,500 households)

- Ambulance and first aid services- support to fuel and maintenance, installation of radio and VHF communication equipment
- Provision of PPEs (masks and sanitizer) for paramedics
- Conduct integrated refresher first aid and Psychological First Aid training for 100 volunteers (20 each in north Gondar and north Wollo Amhara region, and southern, northern and central zones of Tigray)
- Procurement of 500 first aid kits for North Wollo and North Gondar branches and ambulances
- Provision of psychological first aid and other psychosocial support services to adults and children,
- Psychosocial support for frontline staff and volunteers
- COVID-19 screening of communities crossing over at entry points and during evacuation and first aid provision.
- Identification of and carrying out safe referrals to basic and specialised services
- Purchase visibility gear for volunteers

Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) (Target: 7,500 people or 1,500 households)

During the needs assessment, sex, age, un-accompanied status of children and disability disaggregated data (SADDD) will be collected and analysed, to better inform the emergency response. A continuous dialogue among the different stakeholders will be continued to ensure programmes mainstream Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety (DAPS) approach relevant to the needs and priorities of humanitarian imperatives on the ground. Below activities will be implemented:

- Briefings to all staff and volunteers involved on Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, child safeguarding and code of conduct
- Ensure all volunteers are briefed and have signed the Code of Conduct
- Ensure gender and diversity analysis in all assessments
- Conduct PGI training for volunteers

Migration (Target: 7,500 people or 1,500 households)

Through this area of focus, ERCS seeks to cover overall needs of the IDPs including shelter and HHIs, livelihoods, WASH, and RFL. This is because available information does not allow for development of a full strategy for each of the mentioned sectors for now. Once ERCS obtains more detailed information, the operational strategy will be updated, and detailed activities developed for each of the relevant sectors. To kick start operation, activities to be implemented will include the below:

- Conduct detailed needs assessment in Amhara
- Support distribution of shelter and household items - truck rental, fuel, mileage, volunteer allowances. The distributed kits include Kitchen set (cooking pots, plates, cups), tarpaulin, sleeping mat, and blankets (2 per HH)
- Restoring Family Links services to affected people
- Protection services for vulnerable groups
- Provision of high energy biscuits and bottled water for immediate support to most vulnerable groups

¹ The plan should be prepared by the National Society, with support from the Secretariat technical departments and support services.

- Cash feasibility and market assessment
- Multi-purpose cash grants to meet the immediate basic needs for food, shelter and WASH of 1,500HH for one month. Total actual households in need will be determined after the assessment. This is an estimate based on the current influx.
- Replenishment of ERCS Shelter and NFI stocks distributed. NS has already distributed 280 HHs in north Wollo from the branch stocks. The items provided by Netherlands Red Cross/HIPECHO arrived in Gondar and are yet to be distributed.
- Procurement of Shelter and NFI items for 1,155HHs in north Gondar

Strategies for Implementation

ERCS will support use of its position to advocate for humanitarian diplomacy by implementing the below:

- Advocacy with federal army and police to create access to humanitarian assistance in Tigray using Red Cross mandate
- Continue lobbying for recognition of Red Cross emblem and adherence to Geneva Convention from all parties to protect volunteers and staff deployed for the operation

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA): Community engagement and accountability, will be integrated into the operation in the following ways:

- Planned needs assessments will include questions asking about preferred and most trusted channels of communication, information consumption habits (e.g. ownership of mobile phones), information needs and preferences for raising complaints and asking questions. This data will be used to inform community engagement strategies within the response.
- Establishment of safe and trusted feedback mechanisms to ensure that people assisted can give feedback and receive answers to their questions.
- Information on the scope of assistance and service will be communicated in a timely fashion, as well as clear roles and responsibilities will be agreed with representatives, community leaders and committees including on establishing selection criteria for distributions, agreeing on distribution processes, and planning and implementing response activities.
- ERCS volunteers will be engaged during the project implementation for identification and household registration, information sharing regarding response activities, coordination with local Financial Service Providers (FSPs) and collecting feedback from community members regarding the assistance.
- Communication and dissemination of RCRC Principles, as a key component of the CEA activities, will be undertaken to ensure access and acceptance as well as the expected behaviour of staff and volunteers.
- ERCS will also conduct a perception survey to obtain feedback on the assistance provided and to guide both the ongoing operation as well as future actions.
- Train 100 volunteers in CEA to support implementation of above-mentioned activities throughout the operation.

Human Resources: ERCS staff to be involved in the operation include 100 volunteers and 1 NDRT at the branch. North Gondar and North Wollo branch heads,, the Amhara regional head and the regional programs coordinator will support the branch while at HQ will be directly supported by the Deputy SG programs , manager Disaster management department and a focal operation coordinator to be delegated from the operations team.

ERCS will employ a project coordinator for this operation at the headquarters. The current regional and zonal branches staff and volunteers are adequate for the implementation. However, in the event of an operation scale up, IFRC surge support can be requested.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER): Emphasis is made on encouraging continuous assessment of the situation, monitoring of the services being provided as well as looking at monitoring of the feedback from beneficiaries. Analysis of monitoring observations will help with timely decision-making. Attention will be paid to data management (including collection of COVID-19 screening data, GBV and protection cases), inclusive of collection of disaggregated beneficiary data, storage, and analysis. Continuous communication with the field teams, along with issuance of necessary updates of the operation including the final report will be managed accordingly. Lessons learned workshop will be held towards the end of the DREF timeline using the new guidelines and templates. An inception workshop will be held in the early stages where Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (M&E Plan) and indicator Tracking Table (ITT) will be developed with all concerned bodies. A monitoring visit is planned to ascertain progress.

Communications: Ethiopia Red Cross will regularly share information and updates on the operation via a range of communications channels and the Secretary General will be the primary spokesperson for communications to external stakeholders within Ethiopia. IFRC will support the Ethiopia Red Cross communications team to communicate with external audiences with a focus on the floods and the Red Cross humanitarian action assisting people affected by the disaster. The communications will generate visibility and support for the humanitarian needs and the Ethiopia Red Cross response. Close collaboration will be maintained between the African regional communications unit, East Africa CCST and the National Society to ensure a coherent and coordinated communications approach.

Finance: Financial resources will be safeguarded by high quality financial and administrative practices supported and monitored by ERCS and IFRC finance staff at national and regional levels. Compliance with IFRC logistics and financial procedures will be observed and continuous monitoring and technical support will be provided by IFRC to ensure agreed standards are met. ERCS is on funds transfer modality and IFRC Finance Delegate will conduct a spot check for the operation as per the framework agreement.

Logistics and Procurement: Local procurement will be carried out for the household items (plastic sheets, mats, blankets & kitchen sets), WASH items and volunteer PPE and visibility gear will be carried out in accordance with the IFRC standard procurement procedures. Procurement of items is carried out from ERCS HQ and IFRC Operations manager will support with compliance process. For the cash to be disbursed for food assistance, ERCS will conduct the market and cash feasibility assessment to determine mode of delivery (cash or voucher). ERCS has a pre-existing agreement with financial service provider Commercial bank of Ethiopia for provision services.

Security

There is risk of spill over of the current fighting in Tigray, into neighbouring regions including Amhara. On 13 November, two air strikes were reported in two cities in Amhara region, Bahir Dar and Gondar. The Tigray People Liberation Front admitted responsibility of the air strikes which targeted the military components of the two airports, killing two people and injuring at least fifteen. Historically, there have also been tensions between Tigray and Amhara communities over and land issues.

On 09 November, three ERCS ambulances were attacked while on duty in Dansha area, North Gondar. ERCS has called for all parties involved in the armed clashes to respect the Geneva Convention providing protection to its volunteers and its staff and medical team who are providing help to civilians who are not a part of the fighting. It also called on parties involved in the fighting to stop armed attacks on ambulances with the Red Cross emblem.

In order to effectively work in such and environment it will be necessary for the ERCS to review its standard operational procedures and contingency plans on travel in conflict areas. SOPs on checkpoint behaviour, field movement and communications should be drafted and contingency plans for loss of communication, actions under fire, kidnapping and death of injury of staff should be drafted or revised as needed. Support for this could come from the IFRC Regional Security Coordinator with support from the Global Security Unit in Geneva. Staff would also need to be trained on these procedures and plans.

Their front line medical teams and drivers should be given a refresher training in dealing with war wounds to be able to effectively treat themselves in case of attack but also in order to be better prepared to treat the wounded they will possibly be receiving.

ERCS has a security unit which provides with situation monitoring and providing timely security advise to field personnel. To enhance safety, ERCS operation team will clearly be identifiable by wearing the RCRC visibility gear.

The IFRC security plans will apply to all IFRC staff throughout. Area specific Security Risk Assessment will be conducted for any operational area should any IFRC personnel deploy there; risk mitigation measures will be identified and implemented. All IFRC must, and RC/RC staff and volunteers are encouraged, to complete the IFRC Stay Safe e-learning courses, i.e. Stay Safe Personal Security, Stay Safe Security Management and Stay Safe Volunteer Security online training.

Insurance coverage for all staff and volunteers working in the conflict affect region should be considered to be a primary objective in order to provide support for their families should they be killed or wounded whilst carrying out their functions in the region.

The IFRC will also continue to closely monitor the security situation in all regions.

Information Management

Information management will be required to ensure that everyone working for and with ERCS gets the precise information that they need, and for communicating essential and visual information to IFRC, donors, National Societies and other humanitarian actors in the region. IFRC IM will support and strengthening ERCS data focal point and IM personnel on alerts maps of the security movements, 3W infographics, analysis and live dashboards, snapshots, disaggregation of data and tables of beneficiaries and information bulletins. Emphasize support to ERCS on secondary data analysis and review (DEEP) and an accessible repository for pre, during and post disaster.

C. Detailed Operational Plan



Health

People targeted: 7,500 people (1,500 HH)

Male: 3,375

Female: 4,125

Requirements (CHF): 91,486

Needs analysis: Ethiopia Red Cross has deployed ambulances and first aid volunteers in the border areas of Northern Gondar and Northern Wollo to provide services to those wounded in the armed clashes, including civilians, armed personnel, displaced people, and detainees.

Population to be assisted: ERCS aims to support casualties of armed clashes along the Amhara-Tigray border and 7,500 people estimated to be displaced by the armed clashes.

Programme standards/benchmarks: This intervention will aim to provide assistance in line with the Sphere Standards and Minimum standards for PGI in emergencies

P&B Output Code	Health Outcome 2: The immediate risks to the health of the affected populations are reduced through improved access to medical treatment	% of target population reached with emergency health assistance (Target: 100% or 1,500 HH)															
	Health Output 2.1: Improved access to health care and emergency health care for the targeted population and communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of first aid kits procured (Target: 500) # of volunteers trained in first aid (Target: 100) # of ambulances available to support response (Target:20) # of branches equipped to respond with first aid services (Target: 2) 															
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP022	Procurement of First Aid kits																
AP022	Integrated First aid and PFA training to 100 volunteers																
AP022	Support to ambulance services- fuel, maintenance, equipment																
AP022	Purchase visibility gear for volunteers																
AP022	Purchase PPE (masks and sanitizer) for first aid volunteers																

P&B Output Code	Health Outcome 6: The psychosocial impacts of the emergency are lessened	# of people reached with PFA and PSS services (Target: needs based)															
	Health Output 6.1: Psychosocial support provided to the target population as well as to RCRC volunteers and staff	# of volunteers providing PFA and PSS services (Target: 100)															
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP023	Training for volunteers in psychological first aid and referrals																
AP023	Provide basic PSS to people affected																
AP023	Provide basic PSS to staff and volunteers																



Protection, Gender and Inclusion

People targeted: 7,500 people (1,500 HH)

Male: 3,375

Female: 4,125

Requirements (CHF): 3,949

Needs analysis: In a complex emergency where different armed actors are involved is susceptible to human right abuses and protection violation. During the needs assessment, Sex, age and disability disaggregated data (SADDD) will be collected and analyzed, to better inform the emergency response

Population to be assisted: Provide a short summary of the **target population, (the number, location etc.)**, including the selection criteria as they apply to their perceived or confirmed vulnerabilities and the sector. Include how they will or have been consulted and to what degree they have or will participate in the program implementation.

Program standards/benchmarks: IFRC minimum standards for PGI in emergencies

P&B Output Code	Protection, Gender & Inclusion Outcome1: Communities become more peaceful, safe and inclusive through meeting the needs and rights of the most vulnerable.	% of sectors to mainstream minimum protection standards (Target: 100%)															
	Protection, Gender & Inclusion Output 1.1: Programmes and operations ensure safe and equitable provision of basic services, considering different needs based on gender and other diversity factors.	# of volunteers trained on minimum protection standards (Target: 100%)															
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

AP031	Support sectoral teams to include measures to address vulnerabilities specific to gender and diversity factors (including people with disabilities) in their planning																	
AP031	Support sectoral teams to ensure collection and analysis of sex-age and disability-disaggregated data (see guidance in Minimum Standards)																	
P&B Output Code	Protection, Gender & Inclusion Output 1.2: Programmes and operations prevent and respond to sexual- and gender-based violence and other forms of violence especially against children.	% of volunteers to have signed the code of conduct (Target: 100%)																
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP033	Briefings to all staff and volunteers involved on Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, child safeguarding and code of conduct																	
AP033	PGI training for volunteers																	
AP033	Ensure all volunteers are briefed and have signed the Code of Conduct																	



Migration

People targeted: 7,500 people (1,500 HH)

Male: 3,375

Female: 4,125

Requirements (CHF): 239,613

Needs analysis: As the armed clashes continues in Tigray region, it is anticipated that population movement will occur, especially for communities living in areas close to the border. So far, approximately 500 people have been reported to have crossed over into Amhara region on foot in North Gondar and North Wollo zones. The movement trends in Tigray are still unknown due to the communication black out. However, ERCS will prepare to respond to an influx of internally displaced persons as the situation escalates.

Population to be assisted: ERCS aims to support 7,500 people estimated to be displaced by the armed clashes into Amhara region.

Program standards/benchmarks:

- SPHERE standards
- IFRC Minimum Standards on Protection, Gender and Inclusion

P&B Output	Migration Outcome 1: Communities support the needs of migrants and their families and those assisting migrants at all stages of migration (origin, transit and destination)	% of IDPs provided with relief and protection (Target: 100% or 7,500 people)
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Code	Migration Output 1.1: Assistance and protection services to migrants and their families are provided and promoted through engagement with local and national authorities as well as in partnership with other relevant organizations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of households provided with emergency shelter assistance (Target: 1,500) # of people reached with cash for basic needs (Target: 1,500) 															
		Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
AP036	Conduct detailed needs assessment in Amhara																
AP036	Support distribution of household items - truck rental, fuel, mileage, volunteer allowances																
AP036	Provide high energy biscuits and bottled water for immediate life saving support																
AP036	Cash feasibility and market assessment																
AP036	Multi-purpose cash grants to meet the immediate basic needs for food, shelter and WASH for one month																
AP036	Replenishment of ERCS Shelter and NFI stocks																
AP036	Assistance and protection services in the context of migration																
P&B Output Code	Migration Output 1.3: “Family links are restored for people separated from, or without news of, their loved ones as a result of the disaster”	# of people reached with RFL services (Target: based on needs)															
		Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
AP083	Restoring family links services																

Strategies for Implementation

Requirements (CHF): 22,343

P&B Output Code	S1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform	# of insured volunteers supporting the operation (Target: 100)															
		Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected	# of volunteers provided with PPE (Target: 100)															
		# of volunteers provided with PPE (Target: 100)															
		# of volunteers provided with PPE (Target: 100)															

AP040	Ensure that volunteers are insured																	
AP040	Provide complete briefings on volunteers' roles and the risks they face																	
AP040	Provide psychosocial support to volunteers																	
AP040	Ensure volunteers are aware of their rights and responsibilities																	
AP040	Ensure volunteers' safety and wellbeing																	
P&B Output Code	Output S2.1.3: NS compliance with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance is improved	# of feedback systems set up (Target: 1)																
	Activities planned Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP049	Advocacy with government authorities for humanitarian access in Tigray region																	
AP049	Lobbying for recognition of Red Cross emblem and adherence to Geneva Convention from all parties to protect volunteers and staff deployed for the operation																	
AP084	Community feedback systems (including rumour and/or perception tracking) are established, and feedback acted upon and used to improve the operation																	
AP084	Questions on communication channel preferences, information needs, information consumption habits and preferences on raising complaints are integrated in to needs assessments and used to inform community engagement strategies to ensure people are kept informed of operational plans and progress and have information to make informed decisions																	
AP084	CEA trainings are provided to 100 volunteers																	
AP084	Systems are put in place to involve communities in decision-making to ensure assistance is appropriate and relevant																	
AP049	IFRC monitoring of activities																	
AP049	Lessons learnt workshop																	

Funding Requirements

The overall amount allocated for this operation is CHF 357,391 as detailed in below budget.

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

*all amounts in Swiss
Francs (CHF)*

DREF OPERATION

MDRET024 - ETHIOPIA - TIGRAY POPULATION MOVEMENT

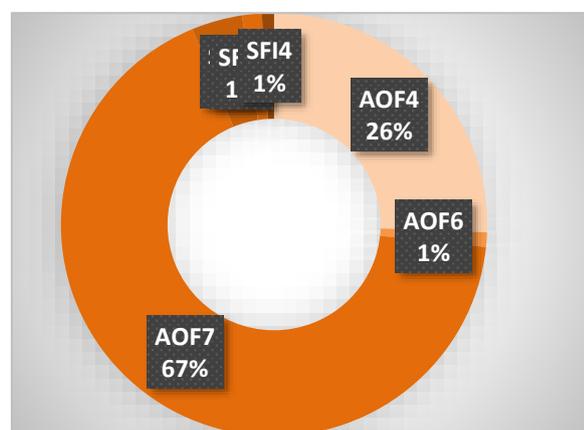
18/11/2020

Budget by Resource

Budget Group	Budget
Shelter - Relief	15,963
Clothing & Textiles	30,152
Food	41,715
Medical & First Aid	20,394
Utensils & Tools	15,963
Cash Disbursement	111,240
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	235,427
Storage	932
Distribution & Monitoring	1,483
Transport & Vehicles Costs	46,968
Logistics, Transport & Storage	49,384
National Society Staff	4,599
Volunteers	12,545
Personnel	17,145
Professional Fees	2,966
Consultants & Professional Fees	2,966
Workshops & Training	10,382
Workshops & Training	10,382
Travel	3,041
Information & Public Relations	3,337
Office Costs	13,596
Financial Charges	300
General Expenditure	20,274
DIRECT COSTS	335,578
INDIRECT COSTS	21,813
TOTAL BUDGET	357,391

Budget by Area of Intervention

AOF4	Health	91,486
AOF6	Protection, Gender and Inclusion	3,949
AOF7	Migration	239,613
SFI1	Strengthen National Societies	13,733
SFI2	Effective International Disaster Management	5,344
SFI4	Ensure a strong IFRC	3,266
TOTAL		357,391

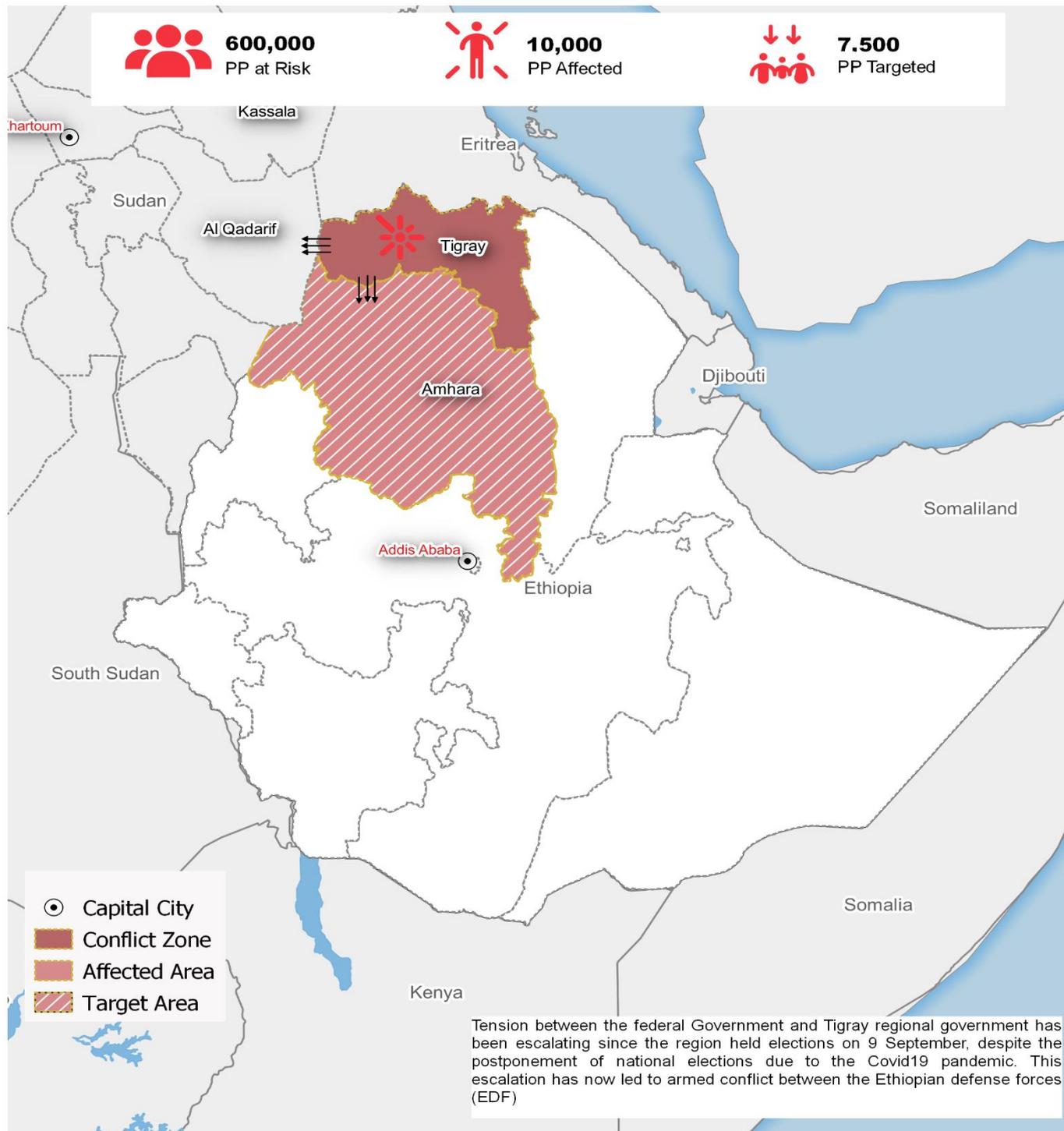
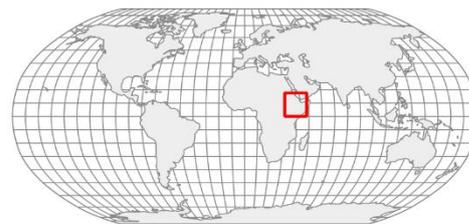




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The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.
Map data sources: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

0 100 200 300 400 km



Reference documents



Click here for:

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

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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.