A large-scale, climate-induced, humanitarian crisis is unfolding in the Horn of Africa, and in Somalia 4.1 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. The IFRC is revising its Emergency Appeal, increasing Federation-wide funding requirements to CHF 14 million, and extending the timeframe of the Appeal to 24 months. This Revised Appeal includes emergency humanitarian assistance and early recovery activities for the most vulnerable communities affected by food insecurity, in line with the IFRC’s Pan Africa Zero Hunger Initiative. Funding contributions are very urgently needed to enable Somali Red Crescent Society to scale up its humanitarian assistance to those most affected by the hunger crisis.
SITUATION OVERVIEW

HORN OF AFRICA

Across the Horn of Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia), millions of households now face multiple concurrent shocks to food security. Millions of men, women, and children are facing hunger and malnutrition in the Horn of Africa. People are missing meals, parents are going without food for the sake of their children, and families are struggling to find enough water to keep their livestock alive. There is serious concern that another failed rainy season will bring further devastation to the lives of people who have already endured multiple climate disasters. As of March 2022, 14 million people are severely food insecure in the Horn of Africa, and acute malnutrition rates have increased considerably, affecting 5.5 million children.

Intertwined with the drought, southern and south-eastern Ethiopia and the arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL) regions of Kenya and Somalia, have been affected by three exceptionally wet seasons, bringing widespread floods, displacement, and a locust outbreak that was the worst in 25 years in Ethiopia and Somalia, and 75 years in Kenya. The exceptional series of consecutive drought and flood shocks is having devastating impacts on agriculture, rangelands, and water resources, leading to a sharp decrease in food availability and access due to concerning food production shortages, an increase in staple food and water prices, and erosion of livelihoods, which in turn are driving an upsurge of food insecurity and malnutrition.

Sustainable livelihoods are rural people's best asset against hunger and malnutrition. Building more resilient livelihoods is one of the most powerful means to mitigate and prevent food security crises. Food security, nutrition, and livelihoods sustainable interventions can save lives, mitigate gender inequalities, strengthen resilience in disaster and conflict situations, and can contribute to generating peace dividends and sustaining peace.

While the large humanitarian needs are visible and must be addressed through life-saving humanitarian support in the shortest time possible, there is a recognition that its drivers are deeply rooted in a larger climate-induced hunger crisis that requires a holistic and coordinated approach.

In addition to the pre-existing shocks, the crisis in Ukraine will mean disrupted supply chains and even higher prices, which could have far-reaching and long-lasting consequences for people who are already facing acute hunger.

IN SOMALIA, AN ESTIMATED 4.1 MILLION PEOPLE ARE CURRENTLY IN NEED OF FOOD ASSISTANCE.

Nearly 90% of the country's districts (66 out of 74) are affected by a historic multi-season drought. Poor Somali households continue to experience significant reductions in food and income. Crisis outcomes for food security (IPC Phase 3) are already widespread. Accelerated depletion of livelihood assets indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes are expected through mid-2022 if humanitarian assistance is not scaled up.

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1 UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Resilience Strategy for East Africa,
2 FSNAU/FEWS.NET
3 OCHA
4 IPC (1) Minimal; (2) Stressed; (3) Crisis; (4) Emergency; (5) Famine.
Approximately 1.4 million children, or over 44 percent of the population of children under the age of five, are likely to be acutely malnourished, including nearly 329,500 who are likely to be severely malnourished.

The Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) carried out assessments through field visits in October-November 2021 in the Somaliland Region alongside a multi-agency assessment carried out by the Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management Agency (HADMA) and humanitarian partners in the Puntland region in November 2021. The results showed significant deterioration in the humanitarian situation in communities affected by drought. Across all regions, food and water scarcity have become increasingly critical as a third consecutive rainfall season failed in October-November-December. Data from SRCS health clinics show an increasingly high number of severely- and moderately acute malnourished children, and a rise in health-related needs of affected communities, particularly in hard-to-reach areas. SRCS is reporting increased abnormal migration and drought displacement, causing pressure on host communities, depletion of resources, increased health risks, and driving food insecurity and dependence on humanitarian assistance.

FEWS.Net reports food insecurity outcomes are expected to remain critical through at least the next six months, even if the upcoming March-April-May rains perform adequately. Water insecurity is ultimately affecting 3.2 million people with severe water shortages. Extremely arid conditions and water shortages are resulting in deteriorating livestock conditions, and increasing livestock deaths due to starvation and drought-induced diseases. Cereal output is forecast to be 50-70% below the 10-year average, which would lead to a fourth consecutive season with reduced cereal production.

All the above is contributing to reduced food availability and access, leading to increased food prices and reduced purchasing power of households. Negative coping mechanisms, such as skipping meals and selling productive assets to meet basic needs, are widespread. A critical shortage of water has forced families to migrate to urban and peri-urban centres. It is also reported that the severe drought has resulted in increased clan conflict and displacements, according to the UNHCR Protection and Returns Monitoring Network (PRMN). Overall, it is estimated that the drought has resulted in displacement which has more than doubled from 245,000 in January 2022 to about 554,000 people as of February 2022. If the next rainy season fails, the outcomes may be catastrophic.

5 OCHA – Key Messages
In July 2021, the IFRC launched an Emergency Appeal for 8.7 million Swiss francs to enable the IFRC to support the Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) to deliver humanitarian assistance to 560,000 people over 18 months to address the current hunger crisis in Somaliland and Puntland.

This Emergency Appeal has now been revised with a new funding ask of 14 million Swiss francs to enable SRCS to scale up their support to 560,000 people over an extended time frame of 24 months with immediate humanitarian actions and early recovery to ensure that the programmes enhance sustainability. Based on SRSC’s assessments, the revised Emergency Appeal will continue to target six regions of Somaliland (Maroodijex, Sahil, Awdal, Togdheer, Sool, Sanaag) and the three regions of Puntland (Bari, Mudug, Nugaal).

The targeted group is households that are food and water insecure and struggle to meet their basic needs due to climate shocks, and the compounding effects of other food insecurity drivers introduced above, with a particular focus on farmers, fishermen, nomads, and those living in remote areas, internally displaced persons and women-headed households. Community engagement and accountability, as well as protection, gender, and inclusion standards, will help further refine the targeting methodology, with attention to particularly vulnerable and/or most at-risk groups:

- Extended households with pregnant and lactating mothers and/or children under five
- Households nursing older people, and/or people terminally ill with HIV/AIDS or other chronic conditions
- Children or adolescent-headed households
- Households with specific social needs
- People with disabilities
- Internally displaced households
The intervention strategy for this Hunger Crisis Appeal aims to support the SRCS in responding to the climate-induced hunger crisis by saving lives, protecting livelihoods, and promoting early recovery of the most food-insecure people. In the proposed methodology, the phases of intervention will overlap, from life-saving humanitarian response to early recovery to enhance sustainability against the recurring climate-induced food insecurity.

This revised Emergency Appeal will scale up the lifesaving and early recovery activities through the following three main implementing sectors: livelihoods and basic needs; water and sanitation; health and nutrition, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Integrated assistance (Livelihoods and multi-purpose cash) (Target: 125,000 people)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Urgent support is needed for rural families</strong> to help them meet their daily food needs during this lean season, and farmers and agro/pastoralists need support to safeguard their livelihoods and assets. There is strong evidence for the positive impact of multi-purpose cash on nutrition, food security, and livelihoods. This Appeal supports SRCS to scale up its lifesaving interventions, and immediate food security needs will be addressed by:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Focusing on averting acute food insecurity through <strong>unconditional cash transfers and in-kind food distributions reaching 125,000 rural people</strong> for up to four months, to support them through to the next harvest. The immediate impact of the cash assistance will be to increase the purchasing power of households, allowing families to cover their most urgent requirements.</td>
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<td>• The cash grants programme will be carried out in coordination with the Cash Working Group, through which market assessments and regular joint market monitoring will be carried out.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Safeguarding livelihoods support</strong> is needed for vulnerable communities to protect and adapt livelihoods (preferably through existing government schemes), diversify food production and nutritional intake, and generate opportunities for early recovery on/off-farm and non-agricultural livelihoods strategies, thereby improving food security. Through the Appeal, SRCS will undertake the following activities:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• In the short-term, targeted farmers and agro/pastoralists will also be supported to safeguard their livelihoods and assets by providing early maturing and drought-tolerant crops, livestock supplementary feeds and grass seeds for fodder, and facilitation of animal zoonotic disease surveillance, treatment, vaccination, and off-taking or restocking of livestock.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Training for farmers and agro/pastoralists to teach them how to maximize their productivity and reduce losses before and after harvest. Diversification of income sources through support for “non-climate dependent” income-generating activities including business training, value addition and marketing skills, and improving links with market stakeholders.</td>
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| Health & Care including Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) (Target: 560,000 people) |
Access to safe and clean water for household and livestock consumption is one of the biggest challenges that communities face. During droughts, overuse of water sources decreases water quality and shortages of water and also reduces good hygiene and sanitation practices, which augment the risk of epidemics. WASH activities aim to maintain access to safe water and support a sustainable reduction in the risk of waterborne and water-related diseases in the targeted communities. The immediate early recovery needs will be addressed by the following activities:

- Considering the risk that people are exposed to with the intake of unclean water, SRCS plans to embark on an extensive hygiene promotion campaign to reach 560,000 people to strengthen WASH knowledge and best practices including distribution of WASH non-food items and hygiene kits, as well as targeted provision of sanitary materials for women and girls, and provision of hygiene packs.
- To meet the immediate water needs, in schools, IDP camps, and host communities, and support the safeguarding of agro/pastoral livelihoods, vulnerable households will receive emergency safe water provision through water trucking, construction, and rehabilitation of borehole infrastructure (including troughs for livestock and standpipes for human water supply), key community water storage points (berkads), distribution and training on water treatment chemicals, as well as irrigation systems and solarization of boreholes to reduce the need for diesel.

Health and nutrition activities are essential in the context of acute and chronic hunger. Multiple diseases, including acute watery diarrhoea, cholera, malaria, and measles have a greater incidence in communities with high malnutrition rates. The Appeal will support SRCS activities to address malnutrition, promote the sustainable reduction of health and nutrition risks, and increase the overall nutrition practices of the targeted communities by:

- Helping to reduce the immediate health risks of the most vulnerable households including achieving a sustainable reduction of nutrition risks for at-risk children. SRCS will scale up health and nutrition activities which are essential in the context of acute and chronic hunger. SRCS will continue to support Emergency Mobile Health Clinics (EMHCs) deployed to serve the needs of hard-to-reach and remote communities. Static health clinics will be supported in the most hunger-impacted areas and areas with a high influx of climate-shock related internally displaced persons.
- Actions such as nutrition screening and referrals, nutrition promotion and Infant and Young Child Feeding practices, Community-based Health and First Aid, and Epidemic Control, are complementary to food security and livelihoods activities, by addressing malnutrition, promoting a sustainable reduction of health and nutrition risks, and increasing the overall nutrition practices of the targeted communities. SRCS collaborates closely with the Ministry of Health, and the implementation of health programmes and clinics by SRCS contributes to the authorities’ Health Sector Strategic Plan, strengthening overall health service provision through complementary efforts to meet the gaps in health service provision.

Protection and Prevention (Protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI), disaster risk reduction) (Target: 560,000 people)

Protection of communities, especially the most risk-exposed groups, and ensuring their safety and access to opportunities, is essential to meet the needs and rights of the most vulnerable both in emergencies and through the recovery pathway. Protection issues will be addressed by the following activities:

- SRCS will continue to ensure wide targeting of affected communities, including minorities, internally displaced persons, and marginalized groups, ensuring integration of protection gender and inclusion (PGI) minimum standards in emergencies through all sectors. Safe and...
equitable provision of services will be provided with consideration of needs based on gender and other diversity factors, and it will be aimed to provide sex-, age- and disability-disaggregated data in assessments and reporting.

- SRCS will continue to coordinate with local stakeholders to establish referral pathways for child protection and sexual- and gender-based violence (SGBV), and carry out child protection awareness-raising sessions, female genital mutilation (FGM) awareness-raising, engaging men in accountable practices (EMAP), with community leaders and community members to increase male engagement on SGBV prevention and response. SRCS will provide dignity kits, as well as psychological first aid (PFA), targeting mothers, caregivers, and SGBV survivors on a needs basis.

The operation will contribute to disaster preparedness through the mobilization of communities to conduct risk assessments for prevalent risks and provide mitigation strategies. The activities to be implemented under this sector will support households in protecting their livelihoods from shocks, to make food production systems more resilient and more capable of absorbing the impact of and recovery from disruptive events, as well as the chronic impacts of climate change. The following SRCS prevention activities will be undertaken:

- Support communities' resilience in the identification of risks and mitigations/plans of action for disaster risk reduction (DRR) by conducting community-led vulnerability and risk assessments. These will also be used to support sustainability and linkages to longer-term development programming. Support to organizational contingency planning response and coordination planning with national and regional authorities and stakeholders; and support to include food safety into their contingency response plans.
- Support communities with risk mapping, holistic monitoring, and integrated analysis of agriculture and livelihoods indicators.
- Engage more communities in the Tree Planting and Care Initiative to support reforestation, land restoration, and livelihood promotion, hence a diversified eco-system.

Community engagement and accountability (CEA)

- Community members in targeted communities will be involved as fully as possible, ensuring community engagement and accountability to acknowledge people's self-determined priorities, especially focusing on the most vulnerable to discrimination, exclusion, and violence.
- SRCS has toll-free hotlines at branch offices to respond to questions and feedback on activities carried out.

**Sustainability and linkages to longer-term resilience funding ask and programming**

This strategy is aligned with the IFRC-wide Pan Africa Zero Hunger Initiative that undertakes a holistic approach to food security, associating specific interventions for rapid nutrition, food security, and livelihood support for acute food-insecure communities with a long-term strategy working towards zero hunger and more sustainable development.

Through this Appeal, community-led vulnerability and capacity assessments will be carried out to design long-term plans to address the root causes of hunger and break the cycle of aid dependency. These plans and the interventions under this Appeal will be articulated in multi-year objectives in 2023 through the IFRC Somalia plan and lead to proposals for longer-term funding requirements, to maximize the impact of funds available for the emergency through this Appeal and long-term resilience programming.

SRCS will engage relevant Government and development partners to prioritize longer-term resilience activities within existing programmes. To ensure the longer-term impact and sustainability of the recovery and resilience-building component, this response is aligned with the authorities’ policies and strategies to address increased resilience, protect livelihoods and ensure sustainable development, particularly the *Somalia National*
Development Plan 2020-2024\(^6\) and the Somalia Recovery and Resilience Framework\(^7\). Both documents highlight the need to build resilience through disaster risk management efforts, to build resilience to and recovery from climatic shocks, and to strengthen the interface between humanitarian and longer-term planning. Climate change and adaptation efforts are aligned with the Somalia National Climate Change Policy\(^8\), which highlights the need to build resilience in climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, livestock, water, and forestry.

**Enabling approaches**

The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Coordination and partnerships</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Coordination of the response through a Federation-wide approach including reporting, management, and technical services.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Strengthen coordination and partnerships within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and with relevant external actors.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Coordination with the authorities, relevant ministries, and external partners to ensure harmonization of efforts and alignment with actions, policies, development plans, and assessments.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>IFRC Secretariat services</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• IFRC will facilitate an effective Federation-wide response, through support from the Nairobi Country Cluster Delegation and Africa Regional Office.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Human Resources; Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER); Information Technology (IT); Information Management (IM); Logistics; Finance and Administration; Communications and Advocacy; Security; and Resource Mobilization.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>National Society strengthening</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>• The IFRC will support the SRCS in strengthening policies, financial management, accountability, planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER) capacities, IT infrastructure development, and partnerships with relevant ministries.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Strengthening its supply chain management capacity, including adequate storage, maintenance of stock reports, transportation, and distribution of items.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• The National Society will also be supported to create and maintain a disaster preparedness stock.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Strengthening of the capacities of SRCS staff at the coordination office and branch level, as well as capacities of volunteers and youth.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Duty of care will be a priority for all staff and volunteers involved in the operation.</td>
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</table>

The planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the time of this Emergency Appeal revision. Details of the operation will be updated through the Operational Strategy to be released in the coming days. The Operational Strategy will also provide further details on the Federation-wide approach which includes response activities of all contributing Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and the Federation-wide funding requirement.

**RED CROSS RED CRESCENT PRESENCE IN-COUNTRY**

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The Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS) has 19 branches spread across the country (six in Somaliland, three in Puntland, and ten in South Central), with two coordination offices located in Mogadishu and Hargeisa, and with over a thousand staff. Throughout the 130 sub-branches, there is a strong network of 5,100 active volunteers and 20,000 community volunteers. SRCS has a long-term record of providing lifesaving assistance to people in need in Somalia. SRCS’ presence and local networks across the country are exceptionally well-established, which enable SRCS to reach vulnerable populations who are not served by other humanitarian actors, for instance in highly remote and high-risk areas.

IFRC Membership coordination
The IFRC supports the SRCS through the Nairobi Country Cluster Delegation and the IFRC Africa Regional Office in Nairobi. This Emergency Appeal promotes a Federation-wide approach to the response, inclusive of all partner National Societies present in Puntland and Somaliland: British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Icelandic Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent, Turkish Red Crescent, and Swedish Red Cross. German, Canadian and Norwegian Red Cross Societies are based in Somaliland while Qatar Red Crescent and Turkish Red Crescent are based in South Central Zone (Mogadishu). It builds on their expertise, capacities, and resources as active members in the targeted areas and supports SRCS. The National Society will develop one response plan, and a Federation-wide approach to resourcing and implementation will be adopted. The IFRC will emphasize building a holistic approach to programming, reporting, risk management, information management, external communications, resource mobilization, and peer-to-peer exchange between National Societies. The IFRC Nairobi Delegation initiates regular partners’ meetings for information exchange and updates on the Emergency Appeal response and other partners' National Societies’ activities in Somalia. A more comprehensive Federation-wide picture will be provided in the upcoming Operational Strategy document.

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination
The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is present in South Central Zone, Hargeisa in Somaliland, and Garowe in Puntland, focusing primarily on economic security, health, water, and habitat programmes. IFRC and ICRC coordinate regularly on the situation and support the National Society and have conducted joint visits to Somaliland.

External coordination
The SRCS has been working closely with local authorities, stakeholders, and other agencies to ensure that there will be no duplication of interventions or activities. The disaster response authorities, such as the National Disaster Preparedness and Food Reserve Authority (NADFOR) in Somaliland and Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management Agency (HADMA) in Puntland, have overall coordination of all responses to disasters and emergencies in their respective regions. The SRCS coordinates closely with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry
of Water Management in both Somaliland and Puntland and has a seat on the emergency committee for the acute watery diarrhoea outbreak in Somaliland. The UN, INGOs, and national NGOs have been responding to the drought emergency. The Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSL) is active and SRCS regularly takes part in cluster meetings.
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